



# The Corfu Trail 2

## another four (or five) days

from [weekwalks.co.uk/walks.htm](http://weekwalks.co.uk/walks.htm),  
which also links to a photo album

We enjoyed the first part of this trail so much we had to come back!  
This section has the splendid finale of Mount Pantokrator.

### 1. Walking days and practicalities

We took four days but five might have been better (see below). We did it in late September 2019, the water was warm and everything was still open, but the temperature was in the high twenties.

### 2. Getting there and away

We flew to Corfu Town and walked to the Blue bus station in San Rocco Square (*Landscapes of Corfu* has a useful map), where we caught Bus 11 to Pelakas and **Madalena's** lovely B&B.

After the fourth day we walked the final section into Agios Spiridon, ate and swam, caught Green Bus A12 back to town and afterwards walked to the airport for a late flight.



### 3. Navigation

Again, we used the *Companion Guide to the Corfu Trail*, available from [thecorfutrail.com](http://thecorfutrail.com); and the *Corfu Tour and Trail* map from Discovery Walking Guides. We thought the waymarking in this northern section to be very good, and as before we always found a mobile signal, so maps on a smartphone helped us to find the B&Bs. There are slight variations in the exact trail; if Guide, map and waymarks disagree you can make your choice!

### 4. The Route:

**Day 1: Pelakas to Paleokastritsa** (6½ hours, total ascent 350 metres; starts from the *Guide*). Not being walked-in we found this a long and tiring day. We could have missed out Mirtiotissa beach. At Paleokastritsa you really do walk through the grounds of the hotel, past the cars and the swimming pools, over a grotty floor to the path up the woods. The first part is steep but not exposed. We stayed at **Phivos Hotel**, 300 metres left of the trail on the second road you come to. There is a pool, and an excellent restaurant next door.

**Day 2: Paleokastritsa to Valanio** (8 hours, total ascent 650 metres). This day is supposed to stop at Agros but we found no accommodation there, so added a further two hours to Valanio which made the trail impossible for us. Alas, we had to omit the spectacular walk down to Agios Gorgios, and instead took the beautiful road from Vistonas to Prinilas. At Valanio the landlord of the Taverna opposite the church and shop speaks good English, and helped us locate the delightful **airbnb** house hosted by **Spiros**.

**Day 3: Valanio to Spartylas** (3 hours, total ascent 350 metres). A very pleasant walk. At Sokraki we took a long lunch at Emily's, but found ourselves envying the comfortable chairs of the Taverna opposite! Later, we couldn't find the old path, so took the new one which led us straight to Spartylas. We stayed at **Villa Elia**, but would suggest walking down to **Pyrgi** and taking a taxi back the next morning.

**Day 4: Spartylas to Almyros beach** (6½ hours, total ascent 600 metres). We started early, but it wasn't really necessary. Most of the climbing is in the first hour, in shade. After that there is a lot of easy walking, and the descent is gentle and mostly shaded.

The waymarking is excellent. At the start the path is left off the concrete road. After the saddle there is a splendid balcony path; at the first fork, where there is a tourist shelter, take the unprepossessing waymarked path between the main tracks. It takes you down to Old Perithia. We stayed at **Glou Glou Studios**, very near George's Taverna.

### 5. Next Time...

We would stay an extra night at Agios Georgios and do the full trail. So the stops would be: **Pelakas - Paleokastritsa - Agios Georgios - Valanio - Pyrgi - Almyros beach**.



Leaving Paleokastritsa (day 2)