

Pelion: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea

Pelion is a mountain in the Prefecture of Magnesia next to the city of Volos, with a height of 1,624 meters (peak Purian Cross). According to Greek mythology, it was the summer residence of the gods and the homeland of the Centaurs.



10.12.2023 -Day 1: Arrival at Portaria

Best arrival airports: Volos, Thesaloni, Athens (check the Rates & Remarks tab for travel hints, incl. public and private transfer options).

10.13.2023 - Day2: Circular hike to Makrinitza

You start your first walking day with a circular hike around Portaria. It will take you to a village called Makrinitza - famous with its characteristic traditional mansions and houses that look like embroidered on the green hills. On your trail, you will be accompanied not only by beautiful views but also by the fragrance of thyme and oregano. Your path will take you to a small rustic church. The trail alternates gentle ups and downs and from the top, you can admire an idyllic panorama with a look towards the Pagasitic Gulf and the town of Volos. Before ending back in Portaria you will pass a small green gorge.

10.14.2023 - Day 3: From Hania to Agios Ioannis

Your day will start with a transfer provided by your hotel to the starting point of the trail – a kalderimi path. This track will descend through a beech forest. After a while, the kalderimi path and tarmac road will alternate each other until you reach the remote and calm village of Kissos – sunk in lush vegetation. Take your time to admire this little piece of heaven, have lunch and once you are ready to continue, follow the picturesque trail to Mouresi village and from Mouresi you descend to Agios Ioannis where you stay overnight.



10.15.2023 – Day 4: Relax day, spend our day on a beautiful beach in Pelion

10.16.2023 - Day 5: Walk from Agios Ioannis via Damouchari and Fakistra beach to Tsagarada

The morning will start fresh and light along the beach of Agios Ioannis. A very pleasant, cobbled stone path will take you to the hamlet Damouchari – another tiny settlement with its own charm greets you with the calm and turquoise waters of the sea. Back in the centuries, the village was from great importance, as it was the only natural harbor on the entire coast between Volos and Katerini. Today it attracts people who prefer to stay away from the crowds. Even it is located off the beaten track there are places where you can shop or stop for a rest. From Damouchari you continue along the coast to Fakistra beach – a fabulous place isolated by two rocky capes. There is a possibility to visit the 'Hidden School' in a cave. It is three sites located in one place – monk's cave, church and a magnificent cave with impressive stalactites. You continue your walk uphill on a path now and then crossing the tarmac road, to Tsagarada, a wide stretched village with numerous churches and squares. From the terrace of your hotel, you can see the village square with a 1000 year old plane tree with an incredible diameter

10.17.2023 - Day 6: Walk Tsagarada-Milies

Today you leave the beach behind and get back to the forest. You cross a mountain range at 700m elevation towards the south. The walk will start from the village of Tsagarada where you can explore the old churches. Then you leave the village and ascend through a forest and cross the ridge. The trail matches old mule tracks, mainly built for merchandise. Along the trek, you will admire the thick shades of the chestnut and beech trees underneath where you can make short stops to admire the calmness that surrounds you. You descend to the picturesque mountain village Milies whilst enjoying great views over the sparkling waters of the Pagasitic Gulf. Around Milies there are many old olive groves – a typical Greek scenery.



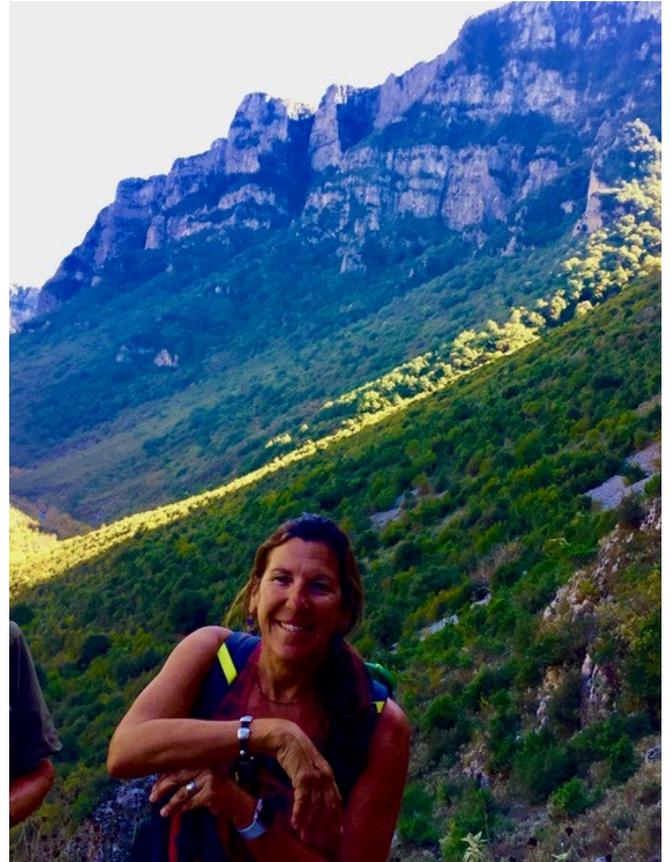
10.18.2023 - Day 7: Walk Milies – Koropi - Milies

A circular hiking trek today will let you admire for one last time the salty air of the coast and the freshness of the forests. You descend via a cobbled stone path from Miles towards the sea and great panoramas will open up on every step ahead. The last part of the trail before reaching the village of Koropi is a dirt road through olive groves. From Koropi you continue to the nearby touristic village of Kala Nera where you can enjoy your lunch in the square of the village, under the branches of an old plane tree. Then you ascend along similar paths and via a hamlet until you reach the narrow-gauge railway tracks – the only one in Greece where a steam train runs! During the summer months, the steam train operates once per day only on Saturday and Sunday. Continue along the trail and enjoy interesting civil engineering features from the past – stone road bridges! The final day will be very colorful from the beauty of the trail to its rich history. You will even feel the mystic energy around this place represented in the face of an old cave, where, according to the mythology, the Centaur Cheiron taught Asklepios about medical plants and herbs.

10.19.2023 - Day 8: Departure

Possibilities for extensions from Pelion to:

- 1. Sporades islands, Skiathos – Skopelos – Alonisos, by ferry boat from the city of Volos (2,5 to 5 hours)**
- 2. Thessaloniki – 2,5 hours’ drive in a highway (220km)**
- 3. Athens – 3,5 hours’ drive in a highway (330km)**



October 12-19,2023

Includes:

- Transfers: Athens to Pelion, Pelion to Athens
- All necessary transfers in Pelion
- All meals while in the tour B-L-D
- 7 nights accommodation

Exclusions:

- Alcoholic beverages, sodas
- personal expenses
- trip insurance

Pricing: \$1600 pp based on Dbl occupancy, single supplement available for \$200
Deposit \$1000 upon booking the tour. Balance due 60 days prior.
Group size limited to 12. Call Stef at 208-315-5536 to reserve your space.