



The 5 day program in Chios during the period of orthodox Easter (14/4-18/4/2023) gives you the opportunity to visit the most important locations (medieval villages, museums, mastic trees, monasteries, caves), to do hiking next to streams, lakes as well as to climb to the highest peak of mountain Pelinaion (1297m), to ride bicycle and walk inside the traditional area of Kambos, to watch the rocket war on Saturday night, to learn the history and the customs of the island, to taste the local gastronomy and buy local products. During that period the sun is setting late (2030), the average temperature during the day is around 18-20C and the nature flourishes (ideal conditions for sightseeing).

The event during Easter took place again with great success in 2019 and 2022.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY (14/4)

1. WE LEAVE FROM THE HOTEL IN THE MORNING AND WE WILL DISCOVER THE NORTH EAST PART. WE WILL VISIT THE CHAPEL OF SAINT ISIDOROS, THE VILLAGE OF PITYOS WITH ITS TOWER AND KARDAMYLA WITH ITS MARINE TRADITION



2. WE CONTINUE BY REACHING KAMBIA VILLAGE AND WE WILL DO HIKING INSIDE THE GORGE. AFTER 1.5H WE WILL REACH THE SEA AND WE WILL DESCEND 330M. THE LANDSCAPE IS VERY GREEN AND WE WILL SEE A STREAM, BRIDGES AND SMALL LAKES. WE WILL ALSO SEE THE REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT CASTLE ON TOP OF A ROCK.



3. AFTER HIKING WE WILL VISIT BEAUTIFUL SEASIDE LAGADA FOR LUNCH



4. LATE AFTERNOON WE ARE BACK TO THE HOTEL AND YOU HAVE FREE PROGRAM. IF YOU WANT YOU CAN GO TO THE CITY CENTRE FOR THE EPITAPH.



SATURDAY (15/4)

WE LEAVE AT 930AM AND WE VISIT THE SOUTH PART OF CHIOS WITH ITS MEDIEVAL VILLAGES

1. FIRST STOP AT THE BYZANTINE CHURCH OF PANAGIA KRINA DATED FROM THE 12TH CENTURY WHICH IS DECORATED WITH ARCHED WINDOWS AND MANY EMBROIDERED MARBLES.



2. SECOND STOP TO START HIKING FROM THE VILLAGE OF ARMOLIA UP TO THE CASTLE OF APOLICHNON ON TOP OF A HILL. DURING THE TREKKING WE WILL STOP TO SEE THE MASTIC TREES WHICH EXIST ONLY IN CHIOS AND NO WHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD!!! THE TOTAL DISTANCE OF OUR HIKING IS 2.7KM (ASCEND-DESCEND) AND WE WILL ASCEND IN TOTAL 155M. THE CASTLE WAS FOUNDED BY THE GENOVESE IN 1440 AND ITS EXISTENCE WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR STRATEGICAL REASON.



3. NEXT STOP AT THE MUSEUM OF MASTIC.



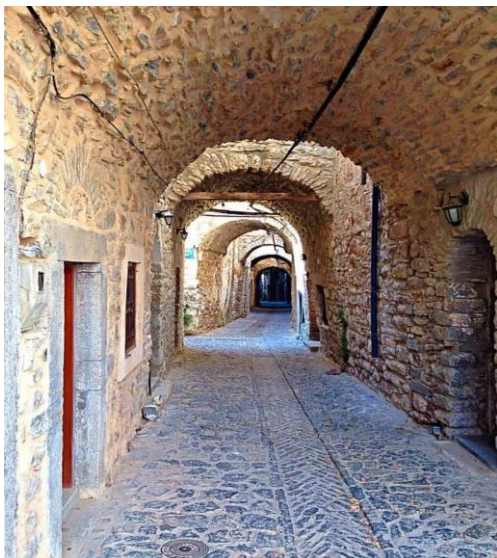
4. WE WILL VISIT MEDIEVAL PIRGI WHICH IS FAMOUS FOR ITS FACADES (SKETCHES ON CEMENT). IT IS SAID THAT COLOMBUS LIVED HERE 1.5 YEAR IN ORDER TO PREPARE HIMSELF FOR HIS TRIP IN 1492.



5. WE VISIT MEDIEVAL OLIMPI AND WE WILL HAVE LUNCH.



6. WE VISIT MEDIEVAL MESTA, THE MOST WELL PRESERVED MEDIEVAL VILLAGE. WE FEEL GOING BACK TO THE PAST



7. WE VISIT MEDIEVAL VESSA AND THEN WE RETURN TO THE HOTEL.



8. AT 2300 WE WILL GO TO SEE THE ROCKET WAR



AFTER MIDNIGHT WE RETURN TO THE HOTEL. WHO EVER WANT WILL GO TO A RESTAURANT TO EAT LAMB AND TRADITIONAL SOUP (COORDINATED BY THE ORGANIZER).



SUNDAY (16/4)

WE LEAVE AT 10AM

1. FIRST STOP AT THE DESERTED MONASTERY OF MOUNDON TO SEE THE OLD FRESCOS



2. SECOND STOP AT A WINERY



3. THIRD STOP AT THE CAVE OF AGIO GALAS WHERE A LOCAL GUIDE WILL SHOW US THE INTERIOR OF THE CAVE AS WELL THE BYZANTINE CHURCH WITH ITS HALF PART LOCATED INSIDE AND ITS WOODEN ICONOSTASIS DATES FROM 1721.



4. WE NOW STOP OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF NEA POTAMIA AND WE WILL DO HIKING FOR THE NEXT 3 HOURS (9KM). DURING THE HIKING WE WILL SEE THE DESERTED VILLAGE OF PALAIA POTAMIA WITH ITS STONE HOUSES. THE TRACK PASSES FROM A SMALL STREAM AND WE WALK BETWEEN 2 MOUNTAINS.

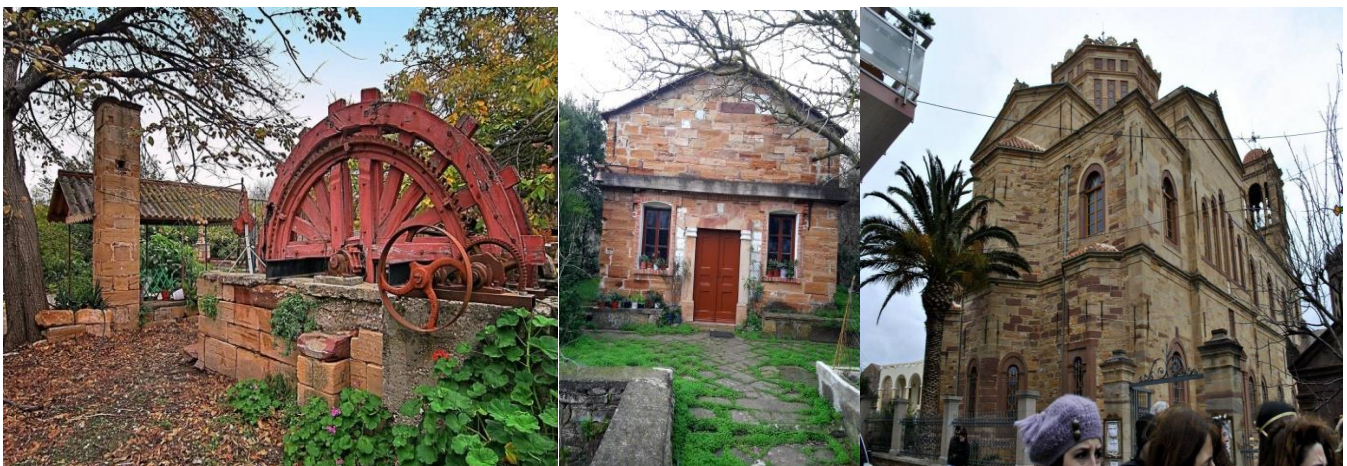
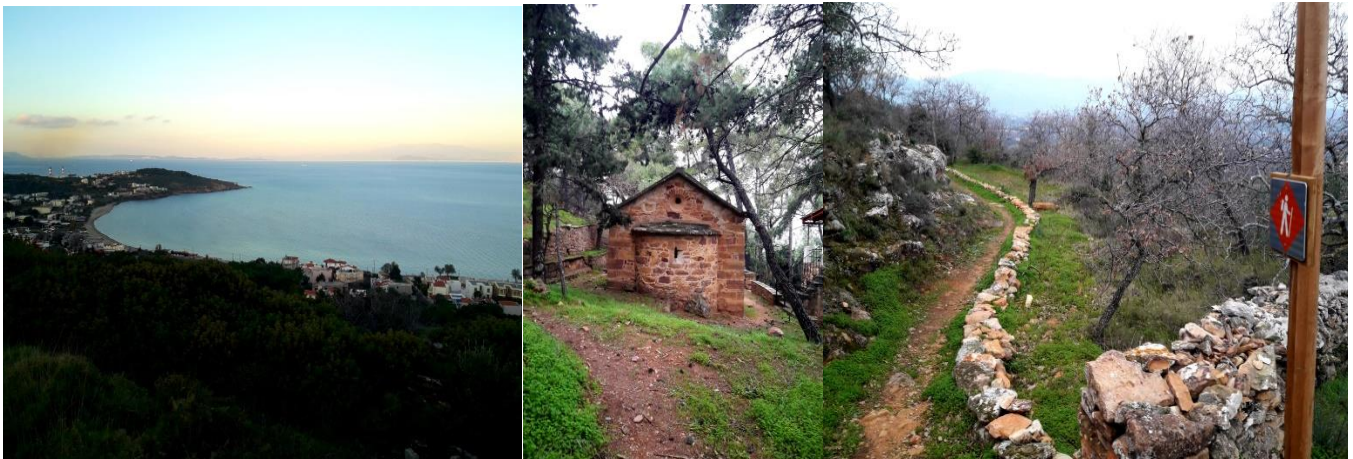


LAST STOP AT VOLISSOS WITH ITS BYZANTINE CASTLE. HERE WE WILL HAVE DINNER.



MONDAY (17/4)

1. DEPARTURE FROM THE HOTEL AT 1000. WE GO TO THE TRADITIONAL AREA OF KAMBOS. KAMBOS HAS BIG OLD ESTATES WITH CITRUS TREES AND MOST OF THE BUILDINGS AS WELL AS THE WALLS SURROUNDING THE ROADS ARE BUILT WITH THE LOCAL STONE. THE GENOVESE WHEN THEY RULED THE ISLAND (1346-1566) FOUNDED KAMBOS. WE WILL DO A CIRCULAR HIKING WHICH WILL LAST 3 HOURS. DURING OUR TREKKING WE WILL SEE THE BEAUTIFUL AREA OF KAMBOS, LATER THE SEA, THE TURKISH COAST AND THE QUARRIES FOR THE MINING OF THE LOCAL STONE. WE WILL MAKE A STOP AT THE CITRUS MUSEUM WHERE WE WILL LEARN A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF KAMBOS AND WE MAY HAVE REFRESHMENTS.



2. WE THEN GO TO CENTRAL CHIOS TO HAVE LUNCH AT MEDIEVAL AVGONIMA



3. AFTER LUNCH WE HEAD TOWARDS THE CENTRAL PART OF CHIOS IN ORDER TO VISIT MEDIEVAL ANAVATOS WITH ITS GLORIOUS HISTORY. DURING THE REVOLUTION OF 1822 ALL ITS RESIDENTS COMMITTED SUICIDE BY JUMPING TO THE CLIFF.



4. FINALLY WE WILL VISIT THE MONASTERY OF NEA MONI WHICH IS DECLARED AS A WORLD HERITAGE MONUMENT BY UNESCO AND IS ONE OF THE 3 MOST IMPORTANT MONASTERIES FOR GREECE FOR THE PERIOD 1000-1200. IT IS FAMOUS FOR ITS MOSAICS.

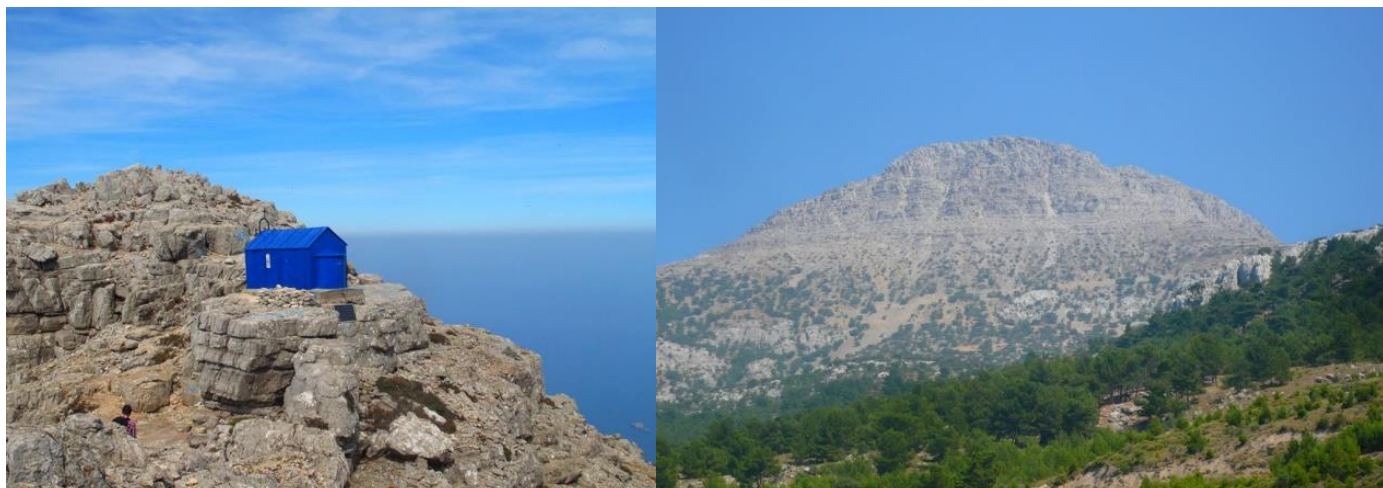


5. RETURN TO THE HOTEL BEFORE SUNSET.

TUESDAY (18/4) – 2 OPTIONS

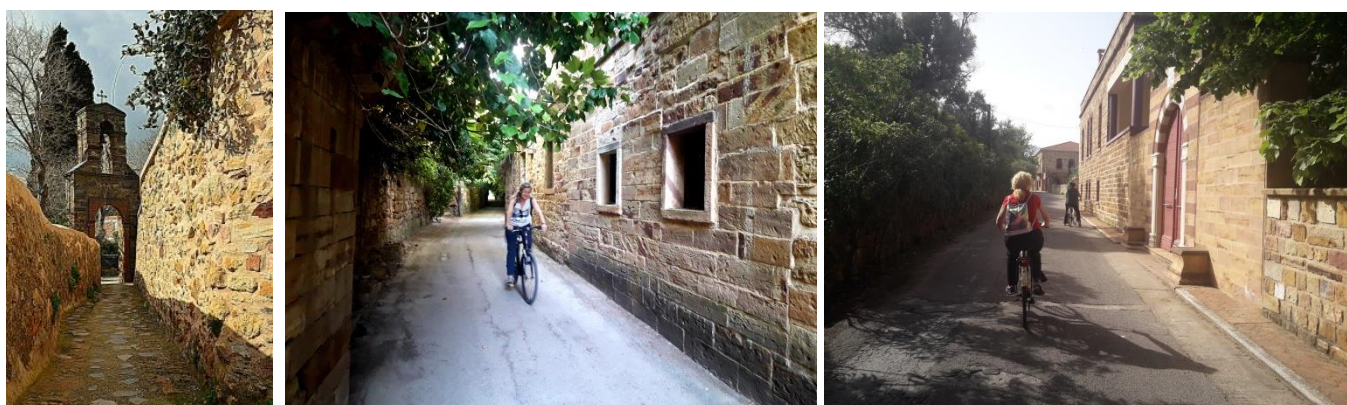
A. WE DEPART AT 930AM AND WE WILL GO TO THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN, THE PELINAIO (1297M). WE WILL FIRST STOP AT SPARTOUNDA VILLAGE AND THEN WE WILL START TO ASCEND STARTING FROM AN ELEVATION OF 700M.

AFTER 2.5 HOURS WE WILL REACH THE PEAK. THE TRACK HAS VARIATIONS (BUSHES, PINE FOREST, ROCKY ENVIRONMENT). ON TOP WE WILL SEE THE CHAPEL OF AGIA TRIADA. WE WILL RETURN FROM SAME TRACK AND WILL BE BACK AROUND 1530. THE HIKING REQUIRES GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION.



2. WE GO TO NEARBY FITA VILLAGE FOR LUNCH AND WE WILL BE BACK AT THE HOTEL AROUND 1800. YOU WILL HAVE TIME FOR A LAST STROLL AT CHIOS TOWN BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE IN THE NIGHT.

B. AT 1030AM WE LEAVE FROM THE HOTEL FOR THE PORT OF CHIOS IN ORDER TO PICK UP THE BICYCLES. WE WILL VISIT THE TRADITIONAL AREA OF KAMBOS WHICH IS LOCATED 6KM AWAY.



DURING OUR SIGHTSEEING WE WILL VISIT THE CITRUS MUSEUM WHERE WE WILL LEARN A LOT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF KAMBOS AND HAVE REFRESHMENTS.



AFTER 1300 WE WILL BE BACK TO CHIOS PORT AND THE PROGRAM ENDS. YOU HAVE TIME TO VISIT THE CENTRE OF CHIOS TOWN WITH ITS MUSEUMS, ITS LIBRARY AND ITS CASTLE AND BUY LOCAL PROGRAMS.





ACCOMMODATION AT SEAFRONT STUDIOS AND APARTMENTS & HOMELY STUDIOS
(www.chios-seafront-studios.gr www.homelystudios.gr)



COST: 300€ (FOR A STUDIO FOR SINGLE USE +100€)

THE PACKET INCLUDES:

- 4 NIGHTS OF ACCOMMODATION WITH BREAKFAST (check in 14/4 - check out 18/4)
- TRANSFERS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM TILL ITS END
- RENT OF BICYCLE
- ENTRY AT THE MASTIC MUSEUM, THE CAVE, THE WINERY AND CITRUS MUSEUM

NOT INCLUDED:

- YOUR TICKETS TO REACH CHIOS
- LUNCH/DINNER/SNACKS/DRINKS
- TRANSFERS FROM AIRPORT/PORT AND VICE VERSA
- **TO REGISTER: DEPOSIT 100€**
- **FOR PAYMENT OF THE DEPOSIT AFTER THE 1ST OF APRIL THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE OF 50€**
- **IF YOU COME BY FERRY EARLY HOURS OF FRIDAY THERE YOU CAN HAVE FREE OF CHARGE EARLY CHECK IN**
- **IF YOU WANT TO COME BY PLANE ON THURSDAY THERE IS EXTRA CHARGE**

INFORMATION HOW TO REACH CHIOS:

1. **WITH BOAT** FROM PIRAEUS PORT. PRICES START FROM 31.50€ (BLUE STAR FERRIES TEL. 2108919800). SCHEDULES:

FROM PIRAEUS 13/4 2000 – ARRIVING AT CHIOS PORT AT 14/4 0415

FROM PORT OF CHIOS 18/4 2130 ARRIVAL AT PIRAEUS AT 0655

2. **WITH AIRPLANE** WITH AEGEAN AND SKY EXPRESS FROM ATHENS, WITH AEGEAN FROM THESSALONIKI

FROM ATHENS

SKY EXPRESS THURSDAY 0720, 1435, 2035 & FRIDAY 0720

AEGEAN THURSDAY 0700, 1045, 2030

FROM THESSALONIKI (NO INTERMEDIATE STOP)

AEGEAN FRIDAY 1715

FROM CHIOS TO ATHENS

SKY EXPRESS MONDAY 2155 & TUESDAY 0840, 1555, 2110

AEGEAN MONDAY 2110, TUESDAY 1220, 2110

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