



FOOTPATHS OF THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

FROM STAVRONIKITA TO IVIRON

Distance: 3.2 km Journey Time: 1 hour

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This is an attractive route offering fine views up and down the coast. Note that sections of the path are narrow and involve some scrambling near the edge of a cliff.

Note: All distances given (in metres) should be taken as approximate. The numbers shown in the form **1** are Waypoints to be found in associated GPS tracking. The route described is liable to unpredictable change: for example, forestry work, road or track construction and plant growth may alter the route, or its appearance. Signposts may disappear or new ones appear. The Friends of Mount Athos strives to keep this description correct and up to date but cannot take responsibility for its accuracy.

Abbreviations: L = Left; R = Right; KSO = Keep straight on;
FP = Footpath; K = *Kalderimi* (stone-paved FP or track)

Transliterations: *Ιβήρων* = *Iviron*; *Σταυρονικήτα* = *Stavronikita*;

Description of Route:

Walk (m) And then . . .

15 Turn R out of **Stavronikita Monastery** gate and proceed with aqueduct to R. At the end of the aqueduct, turn L and cross the paved area with 4 separate roads ahead.

100

14 Take the second road on the L, (signed *Iviron* and *arsanas*) which is initially paved/concreted. Ignore tracks to L and R.

300

13 Opposite a yard with 3 tin roofed buildings, turn R onto FP (signed *Iviron*) which soon becomes coastal path. The FP continues over cliffs and descends to cross two coves.

- 1100 **12** Descend steeply from cliffs to beach just before derelict fountain (now dry).
Caution: This descent may require some scrambling and needs care.
KSO along beach towards the large tower at far end. (This is **Kaliagra**, the *arsanas* of **Koutloumousiou Monastery**.)
- 240 **11** Immediately in front of **Kaliagra** tower turn R off beach up track for 30 metres. Then turn sharp L at red fire hydrant (signed *Iviron*), onto track initially past **Kaliagra** **10**, then with sea to L.
- 200 **9** Track descends onto beach. KSO along the beach.
- 120 **8** Bear R onto track before boat-house visible ahead at end of the beach. At junction where track becomes FP, turn R uphill onto FP (signed *Iviron*) which soon bears L into trees.
- 80 **7** Ignore FP coming from back R.
- 160 **6** FP emerges at track, with metal gates to L. Turn R along track.
- 80 **5** Track meets Karyes-Iviron road. Cross road and continue uphill on track on further side (look for red and white arrow).
- 120 **4** At fork, bear L on level. (R continues ahead into vineyard.)
- 270 **3** Pass remains of shrine or fountain on L. Track, now showing traces of *K*, begins to descend.
- 350 **2** Arrive at junction of tracks – Monastery is ahead. KSO, passing kiosk on L.
- 50 **1** Arrive at the entrance of **Iviron Monastery**.

This description has been produced by **The Friends of Mount Athos**, a charitable organisation which, among other activities, works with monasteries to keep this, and certain other footpaths on the Holy Mountain, open. Copies of this and similar descriptions are available, free, from the Friends website, www.athosfriends.org and in a number of places on or associated with the Holy Mountain.