Day trip "Hike around Agiassos"

(Level of difficulty: Easy)

Circular walk Karini – Agiassos - Karini

Total Distance of the hike: 9 km
Duration including stops: 6-7 hours

The trip: We start our exhilarating hike in the tiny hamlet of Karini, which looks like an oasis with over 600 year old plane trees. From here we walk along passing an old olive press and through an idyllic river valley with big, shady trees and natural pools. We continue on old tracks through olive groves towards the traditional village Asomatos. If we are lucky, the small village shop is open for chilled drinks and we can rest a while at the fountain in the shade.

From Asomatos we hike through a diverse landscape of olive groves and woods to Agiassos - with Mount Olympos always visible in the background. In Agiassos – perhaps the most fascinating mountain village of the island - we have time for a nice stroll through the village shops. We especially like the handmade ceramics (be careful: there are also cheap ceramics from China, which can be easily identified if you look at the price). We also find locally collected herbs and tea, excellent olive oil, cheese and honey and many other culinary delights. We stop in one of the traditional kafeneia for a tasty meze (delicious snacks, traditionally served with ouzo or wine).

After the meal we would like to show you the famous church of the Virgin Mary (visited by many Orthodox pilgrims for its miracle working icon). Then we head back down to Karini on old pilgrims' tracks. In Karini we finish our trip with a cool drink or a coffee.

Minimum of 2 people required, start time, meeting point or pick-up from your accommodation by arrangement.

If you want to see the church in Agiassos you need to wear appropriate clothes - long trousers or skirt and no bare shoulders or midriffs! (wear a sleeved top, or you could bring a cotton scarf to cover up)