



Report #4

October 2012

A project of:



K.I.P.A

Κυθηραϊκό Ίδρυμα Πολιτισμού & Ανάπτυξης

Kytherian Foundation for Culture and Development

SIGN-POSTING OF 6 TRAILS

During June and July 2012, our team has sign-posted with wooden arrows and informational boards the first 6 hiking trails in Kythera. The trails are:



M1: Chora - Kapsali (and back)
3km, 2h, Easy trail



M11: Kapsali - Livadi
8.2km, 3h, Easy trail



M15: Lourantianika - Kapsali
4.7km, 2h, Easy trail



M19: Avlemonas – Agios Giorgis
3km, 1h30', Easy trail



M31: Potamos - Paliochora
3.4km, 1h30', Easy trail



M41: Mylopotamos Waterfalls
2.6km, 2h, Easy trail



SIGN EXPLANATION



Arrow, indicating the direction to be followed

Code-name of the path

Hiker, showing the path is only for hiking (no cars or bicycles)

Name of the place the path leads to or passes by (both in Greek and English)

Hiking time to destination



Code-name of the path

Path name

Scenery photos

Technical information about length, time, difficulty, facilities etc.)

Aquarelle map by Lena Kovotsou

Text about the path, both in Greek and English

Contact details for Kythera Hiking

Emergency numbers

QR-code

Mention of the Trail Sponsors

Logos of the main organisations involved in the project

TOURISM

According to our calculations, about 300 people came this year in groups, in order to walk the Kythera Hiking paths. If every person spent an average of 6 nights @ 30€/room, 25€/day for food and 10€/day in transportation (hired coach) this means that hiking tourism from groups, brought to Kythera about **117.000€**, which is a very good amount of money for this first few months that the project is running.

Below, there are several photos from groups that have been guided in Kythera



EDUCATION

We have presented the project, and offered a guided tour to the “Allcomers Music” a group of musicians who come every year in Kythera to practice and to teach classical music to people from all around the World.



Scene from the concert given at the end of the music festival

We have organized reforestation events with the primary school of *Potamos*, and are currently commencing a new project with grain collection and reforestation with the school kids



Mrs Eirini Valaniatou, Biologist/Botanist, Member of the Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature, gives a lecture to the primary school students in Potamos, en vue of the new programme for reforestation with seeds

The annual Conference about the Development of Kythera was held on October 8th, in collaboration with the Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature and the European Centre for Environmental Research and Training of the Panteion University.

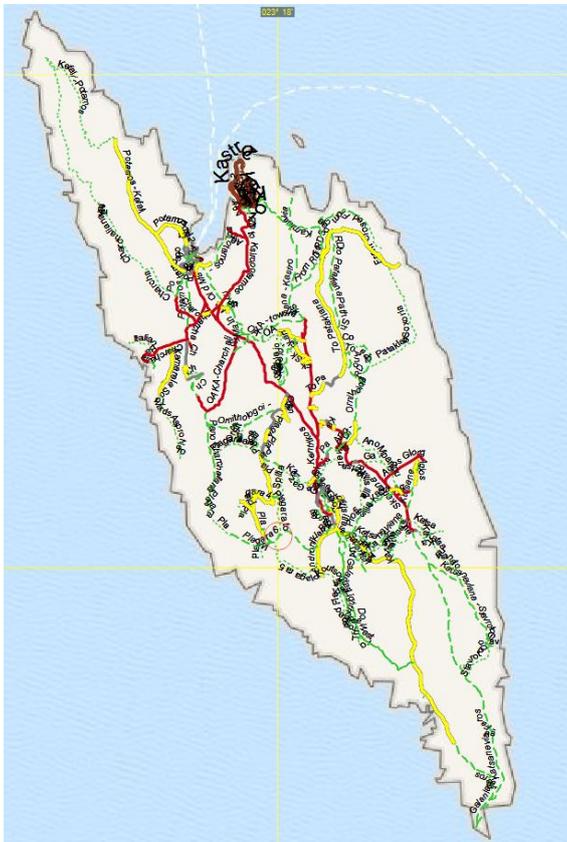


Last year we were concerned about the vandalising of signs in the *Mylopotamos* trail. We have organized a small campaign of information to the inhabitants of the village, with a small presentation given on the central square, as well as tete-a-tete discussions. The KIPA provided an official paper ensuring people that the path passing through the creek in *Mylopotamos*, does not intend to change the state of properties in the area. For about three months now, no signs have been removed!

A brutally destroyed pylon boasting a new sign. The pylon was vandalized two times last year.

ANTIKYThERA

In October 2012, we walked and mapped Antikythera island, in order to implement a few paths there as well. The first trails on Antikythera should be put up in Spring 2013.



Mapping Antikythera, and a beautiful view on the Lighthouse



NEXT STEPS

For Spring 2013, we plan to clear and sign-post another 4 trails in Kythera, and 3 in Antikythera. Thus, we will have a complete network of 10 trails in Kythera, plus a possibility for people to explore Antikythera in a weekend through walking!

In Kythera, we have already cleared the beautiful path from the *Kolokotronis Monument* to *Diakofti*, and have started clearing the path from the springs of *Karavas* to the Lighthouse in *Moudari*. The other two paths will be the *Aroniadika – Katrisianika – Paliochora* as well as the *Trachilas Cap* near Kapsali. We are also attempting to implement the first bicycle route from *Mitata* to *Paliopoli*.



Walkers on the path from the Kolokotronis monument to Diakofti.

After discussing with several people on the island, we realized the need to create a small hiking team. You are all welcome to participate, and contribute your ideas and suggestions. Please contact us at the email: info@kytherahiking.com



An olive oil tasting session in Karavas, offered by Charis Tzortzopoulos. Activities like this one will soon be developed around the Kythera Hiking paths! Stay tuned!