

3 circular walks on Hydra

Walk 2 Hydra – Agios Nilolaos – Agia Triada – Hydra

Grade: moderate

Duration: 3 hours

Start at the East corner of the harbour (photo 1) just past the Nana Mouskouri Art Gallery and follow the concrete road (photo 2) to Mandraki and then up to the rubbish tip. On the way you pass a small taverna (photo 3) and interesting old buildings including a small monastery (photo 5).

At the rubbish tip the concrete road ends and a bulldozed track goes off right up to the peaceful monastery of Agios Nikolaos (photo 4) from where there are dramatic views of both sides of the island

From Agios Nikolaos follow the obvious wide track to the right (West) towards the monastery of Agia Triada which is perched on the shoulder of the hill off to the right (photo 7)

When you get close to the turn off to Agia Triada a path leaves the track and goes up to the Agia Matrona monastery higher up the flank of the hill. Carry on along the track and you come shortly to a couple of old stone windmills. From here there is a choice:

• turn right, along the shoulder of the hill, towards a small chapel on the ridge (photo 6). This path is in some places indistinct but the chapel is always in view. There is an amusing donkey-mounting platform at the chapel. From here there is a clear path down to the town. **or**

• turn left immediately downhill on a clear path back to town

The walk can obviously be done clockwise or anticlockwise but it is suggested to do the walk this way round for four reasons:

- the walk along the road is over and done with early
- the climb is less severe
- the views coming down into Hydra are more dramatic
- it is easier to find your way into the town than out of it



1 View of the corner where you start



2 The Concrete Road



3 Taverna



4 Agios Nikolaos



5 Monastery



6 Chapel

Walks on Hydra
by Barry Hankey



7 The path towards Agia Triada (on the right) Ag Matrona (on the left) and the windmill (centre horizon)