

# Walk option 2 – to Oros Diavatis

Nisyros

START POINT: Evangelistra

GRADE : strenuous

TIME : 2-3 hours (to the top + back)

This is an optional addition to the walks from Nikia and Emborios to Mandraki via Evangelistra (Walks 1, 3 & 4). Oros (Mount) Diavatis is the highest mountain on Nisyros and forms part of the rim of the caldera of the volcano. Close to the top is the small monastery of Diavatis and right on the top is the small, well kept, simple church dedicated to the Prophet Elijah. Because these are traditionally places of pilgrimage there is an exceptionally good path up the mountain, much of it stone-paved. The ascent from Evangelistra is 433 metres, but if you start on the caldera floor the total ascent on the walk is 660 metres. The walk is therefore strenuous and you need to be well provisioned. But it is very much worth the effort

- From Evangelistra take the concrete road 50 metres to a path rising upwards to the left, indicated by a finger post <sup>ref</sup> (1).

N 36° 36' 06.0"  
E 27° 09' 02.8"

- Follow the clearly defined, volcanic gravel path with the Diavatis monastery and the church on the mountain top in view far above (2). When the path reaches a small cluster of ancient buildings it becomes a good paved kalderimi.

- Just past the old settlement the path forks <sup>ref</sup>. Go uphill to the left (3) on a wide and increasingly clear and enjoyable path, much though not all of it stone paved (4).

N 36° 35' 52.6"  
E 27° 09' 02.8"

- A few sections of path are steeper than the usual kalderimi but it is mostly on a very good surface and at a comfortable gradient for the height gain.

- Soon it climbs above the surrounding mountains and comes into a lightly wooded section with spectacular views down to the harbour and across the pumice island of Yiali to Kos (5).

- The top section of the path is loose and less well defined but the monastery is now in view a short distance above and is soon reached <sup>ref</sup>.

height: 610 metres N 36° 35' 28.0"  
E 27° 09' 21.3"

- From the monastery courtyard the church of Profitis Ilias can be seen on the top of the mountain. From the well at the side of the monastery go up a broad, high step and then straight ahead to a built gap in the wall (6). Go through it and turn left around a rock outcrop. Follow the rock outcrop around to the right, through the gap in the wall at the corner of the field and go straight ahead across the next field to a gap in the wall onto the open hill <sup>ref</sup>.

N 36° 35' 25.5"  
E 27° 09' 18.6"

- Turn leftward and find your way to the top of the mountain on loose gravelly paths marked by a few red spots between low spikey plants. As you come to the top pass the small church (7) to reach the trig point which marks the highest point on the island <sup>ref</sup>.

N 36° 35' 19.8"  
E 27° 09' 19.5"

height: 680 metres



Walks on Nisyros  
By Barry Hankey

GPS references are given using the common GPS default datum WGS 84 (World Geodetic System 1984) – degrees, minutes and seconds. The final digit is included for completeness but is shown in grey to indicate that it cannot be relied upon as accurate due to the degrading of the satellite data.