



## Field trip to Imbros gorge

Thursday 30 September 2021

Departure from MAICh: 08:00

Arrival at entrance of Imbros gorge: 09:00

Length of gorge: 8 km

Hiking hours: 4-5

Difficulty rate: easy

Equipment: hiking shoes or boots, daypack, sunhat (most of the walk is in the shade but there are also open stretches), trekking poles (optional)

Lunch: 14:00-15:30

Return to MAICh: 17:00

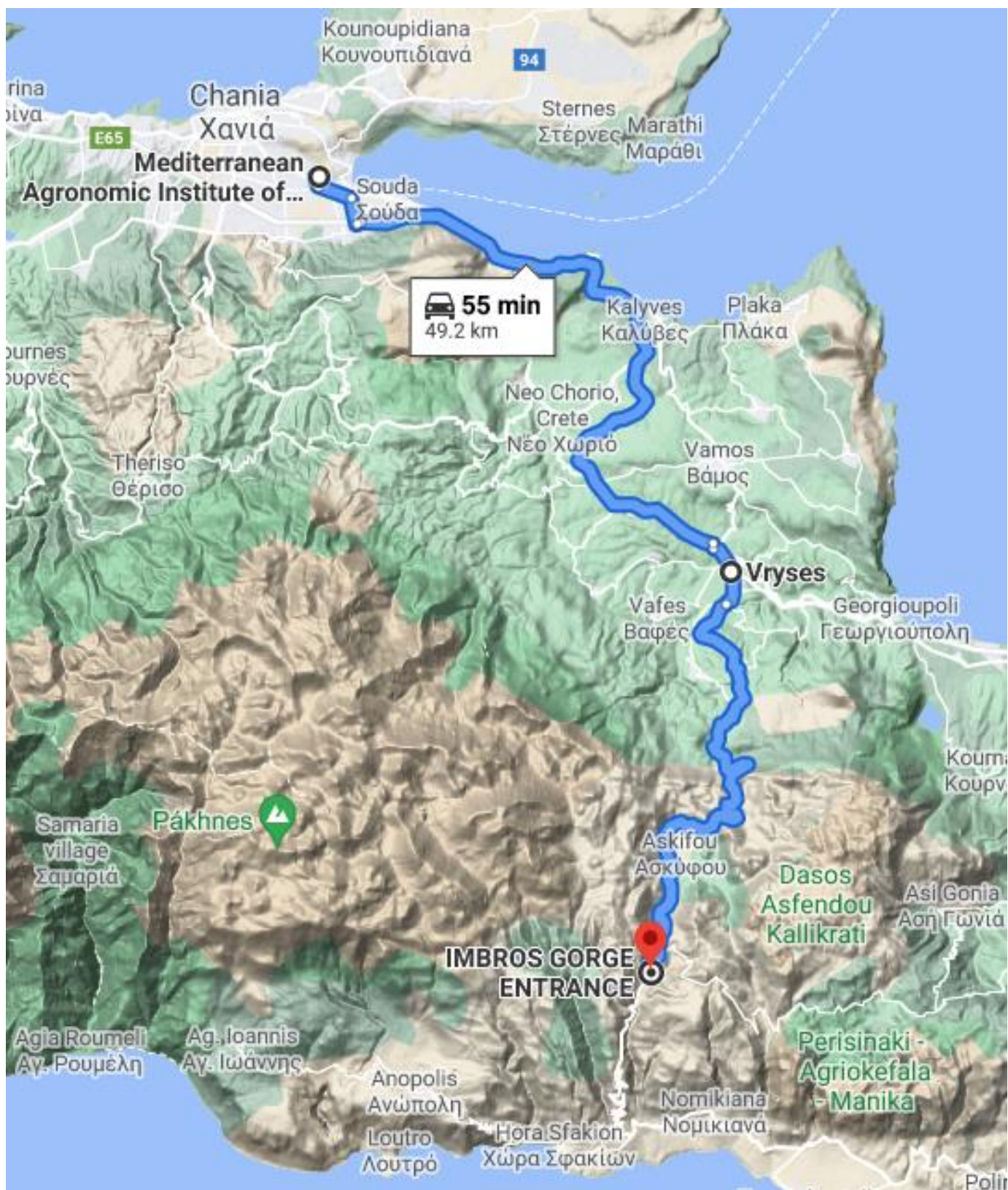
**Note:** Water and a light snack will be provided to all participants before departure from MAICh. Lunch will be offered at a taverna/restaurant near the gorge exit. All are included in the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week registration fee.

### **Brief description of Imbros gorge:**

Imbros gorge begins just south of the village of Imbros in a small plateau next to the main road to Chora Sfakion. Before the entrance of the gorge there are patches with the Cretan endemic *Prospero minimum*. The initial part of the gorge is quite open with well-spaced trees of *Acer sempervirens*, *Cupressus sempervirens* and *Quercus coccifera*. Further down, the rock walls become higher and are closer together, and a rich chasmophyte flora appears. At about one third of the way into the gorge there is a series of narrow passages where the smooth, solid limestone cliffs rise vertically from either side of the dry streambed and the scenery is impressive. In one stretch the passage is only 1-2 m wide and the gorge meanders with great overhangs of rock on the bends. About two thirds of the way, the gorge becomes shallower and wider. After the exit of the gorge we reach the main south coast road just to the east of Komitades village.

List of Greek endemic, rare and threatened plants in Imbros gorge:

Plant Name
<i>Allium tardans</i> Greuter & Zahar.
<i>Anchusella variegata</i> (L.) Bigazzi, Nardi & Selvi
<i>Arenaria muralis</i> (Link) Spreng.
<i>Biarum davisii</i> Turrill
<i>Calamintha cretica</i> (L.) Lam.
<i>Campanula tubulosa</i> Lam.
<i>Carthamus leucocaulos</i> Sm.
<i>Celtis tournefortii</i> Lam.
<i>Centaurea argentea</i> L. subsp. <i>macrothysana</i> (Rech. f.) Turland & L. Chilton
<i>Centaurea idaea</i> Boiss. & Heldr.
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i> Sm. subsp. <i>raphanina</i>
<i>Centaurea redempta</i> Heldr. subsp. <i>redempta</i>
<i>Cerastium scaposum</i> Boiss. & Heldr. subsp. <i>scaposum</i>
<i>Crepis neglecta</i> L. subsp. <i>cretica</i> (Boiss.) Hayek
<i>Cyclamen creticum</i> (Dörfl.) Hildebr.
<i>Cyclamen graecum</i> Link subsp. <i>candicum</i> letsw. ex Grey-Wilson
<i>Dianthus juniperinus</i> Sm. subsp. <i>heldreichii</i> Greuter
<i>Ebenus cretica</i> L.
<i>Eryngium ternatum</i> Poir.
<i>Erysimum candicum</i> Snogerup subsp. <i>candicum</i>
<i>Erysimum raulinii</i> Boiss.
<i>Euphorbia sultan-hassei</i> Strid & al.
<i>Ferulago thysiflora</i> (Sm.) W.D.J. Koch
<i>Lactuca alpestris</i> (Gand.) Rech. f.
<i>Linum arboreum</i> L.
<i>Melica rectiflora</i> Boiss. & Heldr.
<i>Ononis spinosa</i> L. subsp. <i>diacantha</i> (Sieber ex Rchb.) Greuter
<i>Origanum dictamnus</i> L.
<i>Petromarula pinnata</i> (L.) A. DC.
<i>Petrorhagia candica</i> P.W. Ball & Heywood
<i>Petrorhagia dianthoides</i> (Sm.) P.W. Ball & Heywood
<i>Prospero minimum</i> Speta
<i>Ranunculus creticus</i> L.
<i>Ranunculus cupreus</i> Boiss. & Heldr.
<i>Ricotia cretica</i> Boiss. & Heldr.
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i> L.
<i>Salvia pomifera</i> L. subsp. <i>pomifera</i>
<i>Sanguisorba cretica</i> Hayek
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i> Willd.
<i>Securigera globosa</i> (Lam.) Lassen
<i>Sedum creticum</i> C. Presl
<i>Silene pinetorum</i> Boiss. & Heldr. subsp. <i>sphaciotica</i> Oxelman & Greuter
<i>Silene sieberi</i> Fenzl
<i>Solenopsis minuta</i> (L.) C. Presl subsp. <i>annua</i> Greuter, Matthäs & Risse
<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i> (L.) Chevall.
<i>Staelhelia petiolata</i> (L.) Hilliard & B.L. Burttt
<i>Symphytum creticum</i> (Willd.) Runem, ex Greuter & Rech. f.
<i>Teucrium cuneifolium</i> Sm.
<i>Teucrium microphyllum</i> Desf.
<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i> Dufr.
<i>Verbascum arcturus</i> L.
<i>Verbascum spinosum</i> L.



Route from MAICh to Imbros gorge entrance (Google map)



Trekking route of Imbros gorge (Google map)