IV+/V- | 500 m. ★★★☆

Mount Ortholithi

1st Ascent:16/2/2020

**1st Ascensionists:** Olympus Mountaineering, M. Tsokas, M. Karagiannis

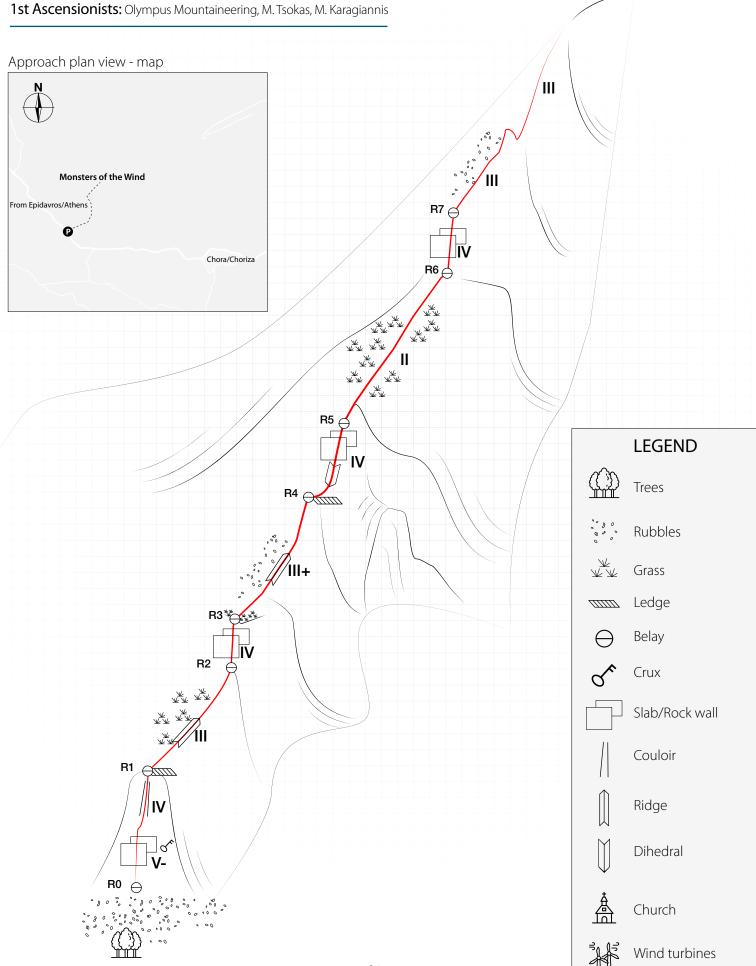


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## General route information

"Monsters of the Wind" (IV+/V-, 500 m.) first ascent was made on 16/02/2020 by Olympus Mountaineering, M. Tsokas and M. Karagiannis.

The route follows the **south-western ridge of Mount Ortholithi**, offering an atmospheric climb overlooking the Saronic Gulf and Ermionida. The route can be described as an "**adventure route**" with great potential for free route selection and does not present any difficulties in terms of safety with the use of temporary protection.

## **Approach**

The route is located on **Mount Ortholithi** and specifically on the **south-west side** of the mountain.

Its orientation is southwest. Approaching the R0 requires 25 minutes of hiking through goat trails and low vegetation.

Parking lot coordinates: 37.522190, 23.230152 Beginning of the route: 37.525356, 23.234392

## Route description

### R0 - R1

The route starts with the first pitch (35 m.) exactly at the base of the **south-west ridge** (37.525356, 23.234392) of a well-secured **IV slab**. Shortly before the slab is climbed, and as we enter a couloir, there are 3 meters of climb with **grade IV + / V-** and with a large loose boulder (attention!). The couloir is a bit shabby with loose rocks and the difficulty is **IV UIAA**. Having completed the couloir, we exit onto a ledge with rocks and make a belay with a large sling or a kevlar cordelette.

#### R1 - R2

From R1 to R2, the degree of difficulty is significantly reduced and until we find a characteristic slab of IV we can proceed without any rope protection.

#### R2 - R3

From R2 to R3, there is a IV UIAA grade passage on a slab about 4-5 meters tall. This passage is not very exposed and with a little care we reach a grassed slope. At this point, the view towards the Argosaronic sea is becoming unique.

#### R3 - R4

From R3 to R4, we follow (without being roped) the aesthetic ridge with stunning view to the Argosaronikos (east) mainly with scrambling of III+ grade. This part is almost 150 meters up to an obvious ledge, and it has a fairly low degree of danger and difficulty.

#### R4 - R5

From **R4** to **R5**, there is another **IV grade** pass that starts as a dihedral (the first 3 m.) and ends to a rock wall/slab of about 4-5 meters. This passage can be well secured and protected.

#### R5 - R6

From R5 to R6, the terrain becomes very easy with a slope of up to 40°, and is essentially a fairly uphill walk (with minimal scrambling).

#### R6 - R7

From **R6** to **R7**, we'll find a short slab (3m.) of IV degree difficulty that can eventually be climbed unroped (for experienced climbers), because it only has **2 IV degree moves**.

#### R7 - Peak

Having reached **R7**, essentially the route has been completed and we have about **90 m** of hiking and **scrambling of maximum III degree**. At the top, we will find the old church of Profitis Elias, but also the "**Monsters of the Wind**" (wind turbines)

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### Return

The return starts from the peak and aims to descend to the village of Chora.

We start with an eastern course for about 450 m. and at point 37.527323, 23.247323, we turn right and descend to the couloir that leads us to low vegetation up to the goat trails. From there, we follow the goat trails that lead us to **Chora** village.

The descent takes about 75 minutes.



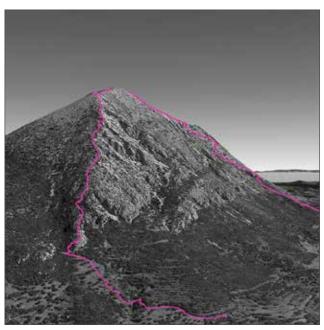
The entire route on the map

## Necessary equipment

For repeating the route one needs the following items:

- Wire nuts 1-10
- Friends/Cam up to #3
- Slings/Lanyards
- Kevlar cordelette
- 1 x 60 m. rope or 2 x 60 m. 1/2 ropes

The route was done by using temporary protection. Belays are done with temporary protection



The entire route in 3D

## **Useful coordinates**

Parking lot: 37.52219, 23.23015

Beginning of the route: 37.52535, 23.23439 Highest peak: 37.528360, 23.245420 Point of descent: 37.527323, 23.247323 Chora village centre: 37.519246, 23.247238

## Retreat

In case of emergency you can always retreat from the route by moving towards the west -from the ridge- to easier terrain.

## Mount Ortholithi general information

Ortholithi Mountain is situated in the prefecture of Greece, Argolis. One part of the mountain is in Argolis and the North face is in Troizinia. The highest **Peak of Ortholithi is 1.105 meters** above sea level. From the top of the mountain the view of the sea side is breathtaking and you can easily see the capital of Greece, Athens.

Mount Ortholithi, is divided by a deep ravine into two parts, the southern and the northern. The southern one, which is also the highest, looks from afar as a huge rock that rises sharply, having an almost conical shape. The mountain owes its name to this shape.

## **Disclaimer**

No guarantee is given about the correctness or accuracy of the information contained in this document. Anything that happens to you while trusting a part or all of the information contained in this post is your sole responsibility.



