### Overview

This very nice section follows the ravine of Kotza Dere stream on the footsteps of mountain Paiko. There are several highlights along the route to sustain interest.

### Description

From Skra head south following signs to Kataraktes Skra (Skra waterfalls). The paved road ends on a parking lot and a path will lead you to the bottom of the ravine. Cross the bridge and continue for 200m uphill to visit the famous waterfalls with their beautiful blue pool. ideal for bathing during the summer. Return to the trailhead and turn left along a shaded track on the left bank of Kotza Dere stream. After about 7km you approach the artificial lake of Metalio (Limni Metaliou) in a tranquil environment. The road continues to the base of the small dam where there is a camping spot and water tap ideal if you want to break the route.

The road becomes paved now but soon you have to leave it bearing right along a track descending to the ravine. Cross the stream to join the old footpath now a rough track and cross the stream once again by a large water pipe. Continue along the stream. A paved side path leads to a kiosk, a magnificent viewpoint of the gorge. You will also see two wooden bridges on you right giving access to some nice water pools. Gradually the valley opens up and the track becomes smoother joining eventually the paved road below Pigi village before a bridge.

The official route now continues across the bridge on the paved road to Pigi and after the village follows a dirt road directly to Axioupoli. Alternatively you may continue along the stream following the old "French road". Before the bridge bear left across fields and once you get close to the bushes look for the path (difficult without GPS) that is unfortunately blocked for a few meters. Once you find it continues in a good condition high above the river to join a track coming from Pigi by the stream. Now there is a beautiful paved path that continues along the stream crossing it two time over wooden bridges. On this route you pass from the remains of the piers of the old railway light railway line built by the French during the first world war. The path ends on a dirt road. Turn right along it to join the paved road to Axioupoli.

### Signposting

A few non-informative signs only.

### Amenities

Axioupoli and Polikastro ahead offer all small town amenities including accommodation.

### Transportation

There is a regular bus service from Polikastro to Kilkis and Thessaloniki.

### Notes

You have to cross the stream a couple of times. Early in the season or after heavy rain the water can be knee deep.