

Route from Gökçeören to Çukurbağ via Hacıolan and Phellos - 6hrs 55mins

This long but easy route follows tarmac along the Gökçeören valley to the Hacıoğlan stream then turns and rises steeply up a ridge on good mule path. It circles the great bowl of the Dereköy valley, running through ancient mixed woodland and finally follows the old ridge-top path to the site of Phellos. From here it descends to Çukurbağ, a large village on the edge of an ova above Kaş.

From the graveyard, walk NE on G6 asphalt on the L bank of the stream along the valley. On either side are fields, green and lush in early summer but dry and sparse in autumn. Houses are dotted through the fields at intervals, most only inhabited in summer. The road descends through pine forest, passes a spring and eventually crosses the stream and passes a house to the junction of the two streams. Turn R/E and cross the shallow stream on stepping stones.

2hrs 20mins

Head E on faint G2 track across wide meadows then R/SE/upwards towards the hill on the R. The path becomes a wide G2 track as it climbs steeply up the hill between pines. At a fork, keep L/E on G3 mule-track and continue on a distinct path with the steady gradient, occasionally turning around a rock. Pines and maquis give variety and shade and in spring the red anemones form a trail of brilliant bloodspots all up the path. Gradually, you rise above the valley and are rewarded with views over the forests and towards Akdağ. The path curves R/S to the saddle of Gedikağzı, passing through scrub to a walled, terraced area with a scattering of crab-apple trees. Walk with the wall on the R, passing across fields then turn R/S onto a G2 path. It passes through trees then rises R/SW, around a side valley, heading uphill along a wall to a cottage.

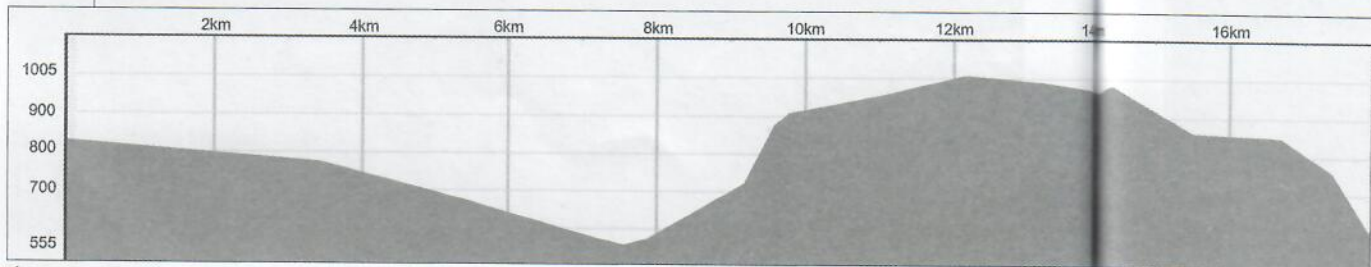
1hr 40mins

Pass the cottage and continue SW/upwards on a clear G3 path running around the head of fields into woodland, where the path is less clear. The G2 path rises slightly then contours the hillside, through abandoned terraces and patches of forest. Suddenly it breaks out of scrub onto a bare slope where a huge plane tree guards a gushing spring and the ruins of a house show that the owners have long since abandoned this heavenly spot. In the distance, the range of Susuz Dağı guards the skyline above the flat lush plains of Kasaba and the forested depths of the Dereköy valley; the ridge on your L is capped by the Phellos forest watchtower. Continue contouring the valley on a G2 path and turn L/S at an indistinct junction into a clearing. Past here the forest is a mixture of cedars, old oaks, bay, liquidamber and strawberry trees with doricum and many bulbs below. Still level, the path turns L/SE around the valley head then emerges onto a G4 grassy track which, after 300m, meets the G5 forest road on a bend.

1hr 15mins

Turn L/E /downhill onto the forest road and pass a cistern tucked under the cliff R of the road. After nearly 1km, on a L bend, turn R onto an old G3 path which follows the ridge-top into the W end of Phellos.

1hr



Phellos is perched precariously on the Dereköy valley. Phellos was listed in the Periplus as connected to Cyanaea, to the E, via the Lycian Way. Charles Fellows saw the tombs but they were mostly along the old road, and must have been an old tomb has a faint Lycian inscription on a curved lip on the upper edge. The tombs in a sheltered position, apart from the Lycian ones, hardly reaching the ground, are mostly of the Greek vases. From its position, it is sure around the tomb. There seem to be no good as anyone's!

Further along the N slope, huge houses were free-standing saddle-back type. One, situated inside the walls, had a round shield. Another is carved with sphinxes on the ends and lions on the sides. They may have been baths or cisterns.

Phellos was never a large city - more like a village. There is no obvious site for a theatre and the decorated buildings of the Roman period are in favour of its sister city of Antiphe. The period of the Persian occupation is marked by the period of the Persian occupation of Meis with its scattering of small

The clear G2-3 path to Çukurbağ is marked by short hairpins then with a fence on the N slope towards the square, white mosque and the black mosque and turn R/downhill through

