


NEWSLETTER



Othrys Geomythological Park: From Vision to Design



The strategic initiative to revitalize the rural landscape of the Municipality of Domokos is now entering a new, decisive phase. With steady steps, the Othrys Geomythological Park is being transformed from an ambitious plan into a project with solid foundations. We are currently in the stage of technical maturity, finalizing the studies and designs that will innovatively bridge scientific Geology with the epic myths of the Titanomachy.

At the heart of this effort lies the conviction that the Park is not a static point on the map, but a Dynamic Process. It is an evolving network of historical and geological sites that will constantly breathe and grow, incorporating new sub-projects and collaborations with authorities such as the Ephorates of Antiquities and local organizations.



The Living Memory of Othrys

Alongside the technical aspects, the heart of our project beats within the local community itself. Through the mission "Chasing the Myth," we have launched our first oral history collection initiatives. We aim to record the inexhaustible wealth of mythological content preserved by the region's inhabitants, firmly believing that living memory is the key to interpreting our natural environment.

◆ THE MOUNTAIN OF THE TITANS



Mount Othrys, the mythical stronghold of the Titans, was shaped by intense prehistoric volcanic and seismic activity. The triumph of the Olympian Gods in the Titanomachy symbolizes the transition to a period of environmental stability, allowing humanity to survive and dominate the once-wild natural landscape.

◆ THE DELUGE OF DEUCALION

The myth of Deucalion reflects the historical rise in sea levels following the melting of the glaciers, which forced people to seek refuge in the high plateaus of Mount Othrys. According to tradition, the new human race was born from the stones (laas) thrown by the survivors, giving its name to the people ("Laos").



◆ THE MYTH OF HELLEN

Hellen, the son of Deucalion, founded the city of "Hellas" near Ancient Melitaia, which is considered the historical cradle of the Greeks. From his children emerged the great Greek tribes (Dorians, Aeolians, Archaean, and Ionians), while his tomb in the agora of Melitaia bears witness to the deep connection between the forefather and the land of Domokos.



◆ THE ROARING ENIPEAS: MYTHS OF WATER AND LOVE



Enipeas, the "fairest of all rivers" according to Homer, flows from Mount Othrys, and its name signifies the "roaring" and "menacing" one. Within its rushing waters, myths of love and transformation are entwined, such as the abduction of Tyro by Poseidon, a union that gave birth to great rulers like Pelias and Neleus. The river's presence symbolizes both the life-giving and the untamable force of nature that surrounds the region.



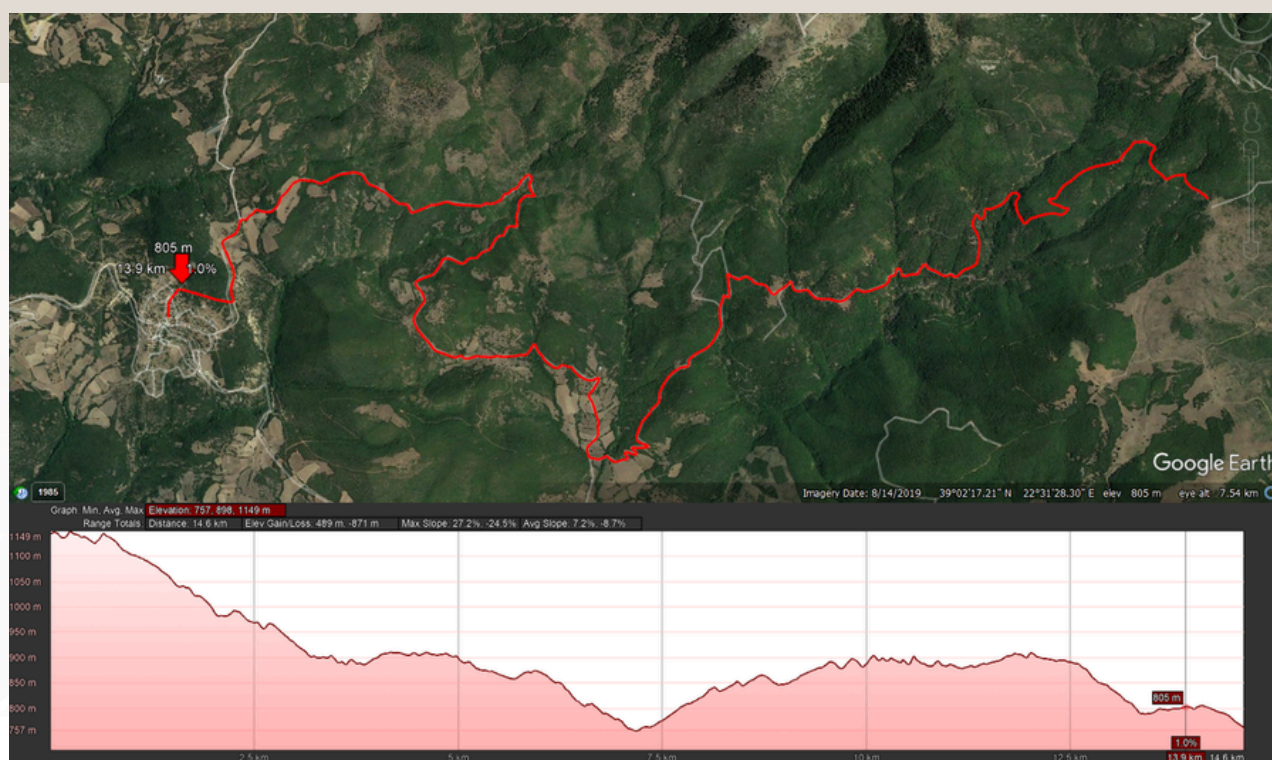
◆ ACHILLES & THE MYRMIDONS OF PHTHIA

Achaea Phthiotis, the land of Achilles, extends across the slopes of Mount Othrys, which served as the strategic stronghold of the fearless Myrmidons. In "deep-soiled Phthia" (eribolos Phthia), the mountain's rugged terrain sculpted the character of the Trojan War's greatest hero, while the springs and forests of Othrys are considered the natural setting where Achilles led the peoples of Phthia and Hellas.

◆ MELITEUS & ASPALIS: THE GORGE OF TARTARUS

This is one of the most powerful local myths of the region. The tyrant Meliteus, also known as Tartarus, was slain by Astygites, who sought revenge for his sister, Aspalis. The tyrant's body was cast into the river, which has since been named Tartarus (known today as Skourtsorema). Aspalis was "transformed" into a statue beside the goddess Artemis, symbolizing purity protected by the forces of nature.





The First Geomythological Trail

This specific route serves as the spearhead of the proposal submitted for funding. It was selected as the first to be implemented, as it acts as the connecting link for the entire geomythological experience of the Municipality of Domokos.

- The proposal envisions the transformation of an existing network into a modern, fully signposted 14.9 km trail. Its implementation will serve as the blueprint for the subsequent stages of the Park.
- Necessary routing adjustments have already been studied to ensure optimal access to unique geological phenomena and historical landmarks, making the trail highly attractive for international sports and cultural tourism.

- With the approval of the funding, this trail will serve as the starting point for the development of the remaining routes, creating a new economic dynamic for the region.

Every great journey needs a station worthy of its history. The old stone school of 1930, a landmark of Fyliadona, is destined to become the "Gateway" to the Park. The space will be transformed into a "lighthouse" of geomythological knowledge, preparing visitors for the experience that awaits them on the mountain.

The school and the trail will become the first living cells of a project that aspires to reshape the map of Domokos.

