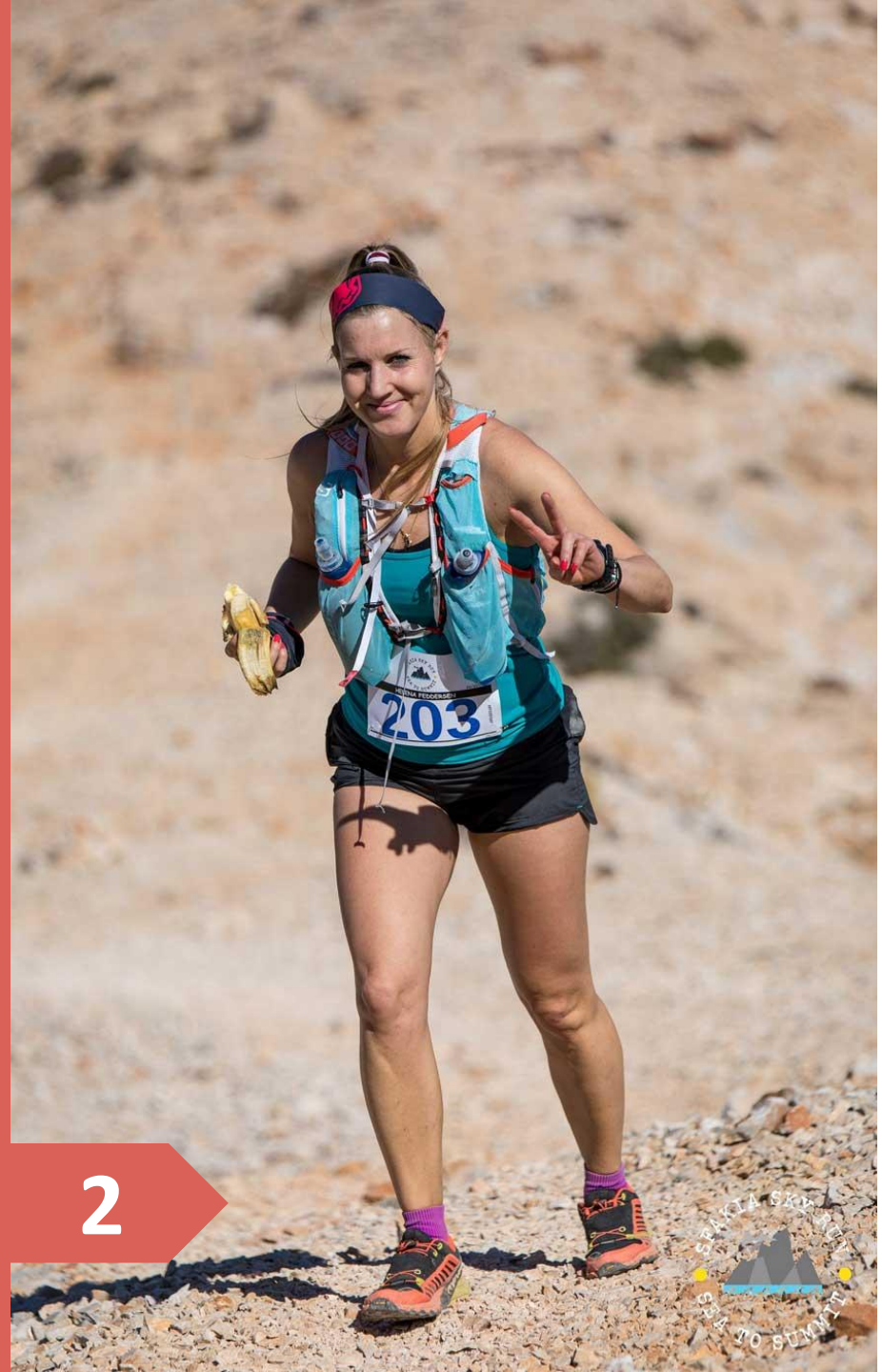


23-25.10.2026

Sfakia Sky Marathon

Technical Briefing



Event date and time

- **Sfakia Sky Marathon – 24.10.2026 / 8.00**
- **Aradena Trail – 24.10.2026 / 14.00**
- **Vertical Run – 25.10.2026 / 10.50**

Bib numbers collection

- **Friday 23.10 > 18.00-20.00 Anopoli**
- **Saturday 24.10 > 6.30-7.15 Chora Sfakion**
- **Saturday 24.10 > 11.00-13.00 Anopoli**
- **Sunday 25.10 > 8.30-10.00 Chora Sfakion**

3 Detailed Timetable

Friday 23/10

18:00 - 20:00 - Bib pickup for the Sfakia Sky Marathon at the race office in Anopolis.
19:30 - Pasta Party (Anopolis Tavern, Anopolis).

Saturday 24/10

6:00: Bus from Anopoli to Chora Sfakion for runners.
6:30-7:15: Bib pickup for the Sfakia Sky Marathon at the race office in Chora Sfakion (port).
7:15: Boarding the ferry boat to Loutro.
7:30: Disembark at Loutro.
8:00: Start of Sfakia Sky Marathon 44k.
11:00–13:00: Bib pickup at the race office in Anopolis for Aradena trail 10k.
12:50: The 1st athlete expected at finish line in Anopoli.
14:00: Start of Aradena trail 10k.
16:00–17:00 The women of Anopolis prepare traditional Sfakian pies for you (Anopolis Square).
17:30: Awards ceremony (Anopoli Square).
18:00: Bus from Anopoli to Chora Sfakion for runners
18:30: Film screening in the primary school courtyard
19:30: End of event.

After the race, each competitor will receive a traditional meal in one of the taverns in Anopoli, after presenting his starting number.

Sunday 25/10

8:00: Transport of Athletes from Anopoli to Chora Sfakion.
8:30-10:00: Secretariat for receiving the athletes' numbers at the port of Chora Sfakion.
10:20: Boarding for Loutro Sfakion.
10:30: Free guided walking tour around the ancient village of Anopolis, covering a distance of 3 km (starting from Anopolis Square).
10:35: Arrival in Loutro.
10:50: Start in a groups of 50 people from the ferry boat!
13:00: Start of the free children's race, ARKALAKI 2026, covering a distance of 1,000 metres.
14:00: Awards ceremony.
14:30: Traditional meal from the Cultural Association of Anopolis and unlimited draft beer Solo Your Cretan Craft Beer! That is, the perfect Pilafi party!!!
15:30: Transport of Athletes from Anopoli to Chora Sfakion.
16:00: End of event!



4



Start Procedure

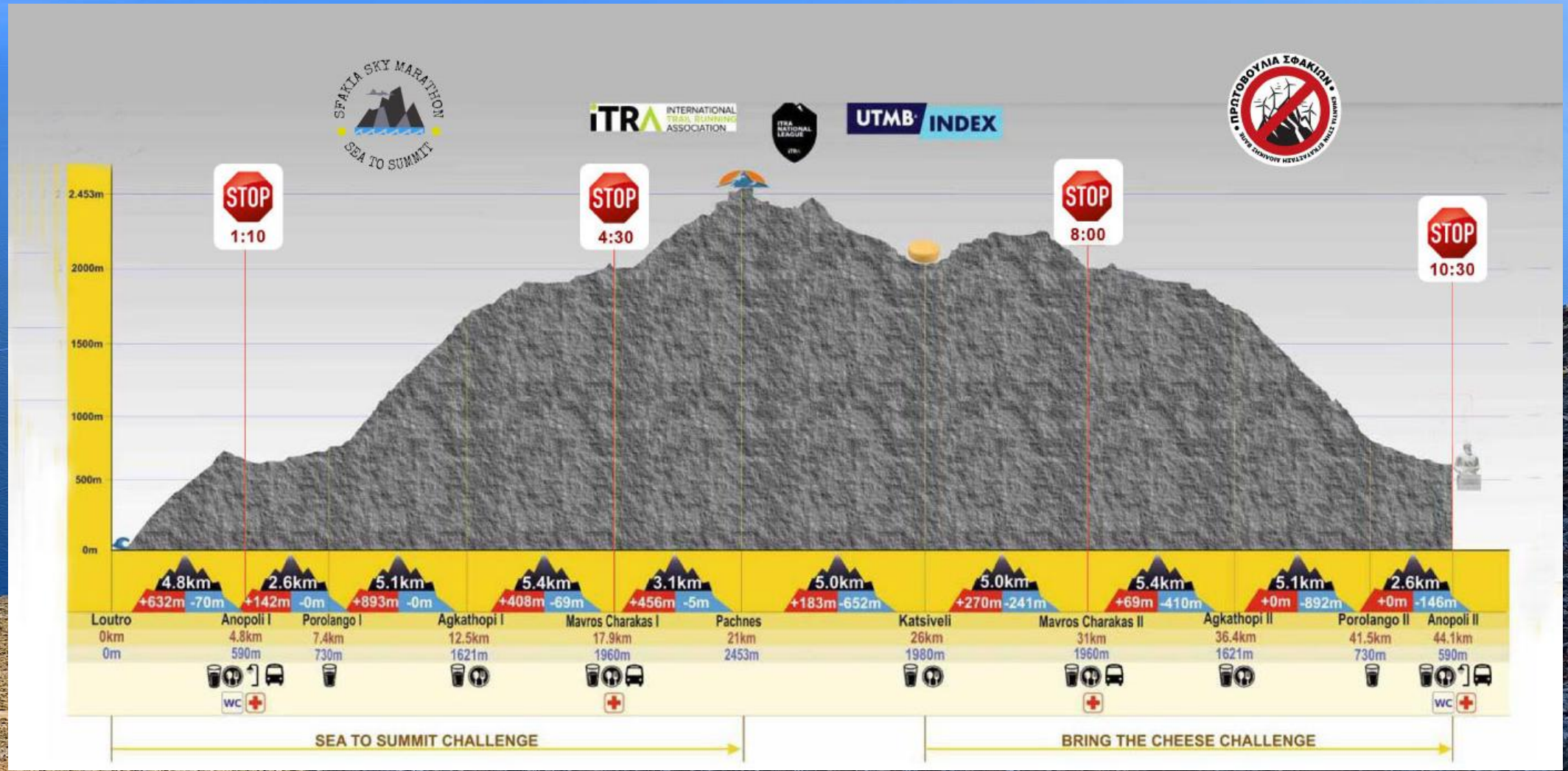
- **Aradena Trail:** start and finish line in Anopoli
- **Sfakia Sky Marathon and Vertical Run:** start in Loutro, finish line in Anopoli

Since there is no asphalt road leading to Loutro, participants in the Sfakia Marathon and Vertical Run gather in Chora Sfakion and travel to Loutro by ferry.

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Sfakia Sky Marathon

– distance, elevation gain, time limits

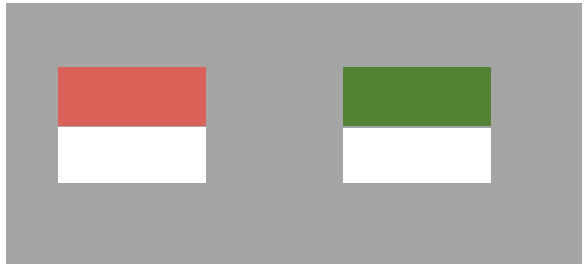




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Course Markings

Almost all Sfakia Sky Marathon routes are marked with orange-and-white signs.
The only exception is a 5-kilometer section between the summit of Pachnes and the Katsiveli aid station, which is marked with green-and-white signs.



7 Checkpoints and Aid Stations

– detailed informations

RACE DATA : SFAKIA SKY MARATHON 2024 (44,1Km +3.050m)								
Station/check point	Total distance (Km)	Total ascend (m)	Total descend (m)	Split distance (Km)	Split ascend (m)	Split descend (m)	Altitude (m)	Time limit (h:min)
Loutro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Anopoli	4,8	632	70	4,8	632	70	590	01:10
Porolango (entrance)	7,4	774	70	2,6	142	0	730	
Agkathopi	12,5	1 667	70	5,1	893	0	1 621	
Mavros Charakas	17,9	2 075	139	5,4	408	69	1 960	04:30
Rousies	18,9	2 221	139	1	146	0	2 108	
Pachnes	21	2 573	144	2,1	310	5	2 453	
Mavros Gourgouthas	22,5	2 616	251	1,5	95	112	2 435	
Katsiveli	26	2 704	791	3,5	88	540	1 980	
Rousies	30	2 974	897	4	270	106	2 108	
Mavros Charakas	31	2 974	1 032	1	0	135	1 960	08:00
Agkathopi	36,4	3 043	1 442	5,4	69	410	1 621	
Porolango (exit)	41,5	3 050	2 334	5,1	0	892	730	
Anopoli	44,1	3 050	2 480	2,6	0	146	590	10:30

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Aid Stations

– drinks and food

AID STATIONS : SFAKIA SKY MARATHON 44,1Km +3.050m														
Station/check point	Total distance (Km)	WATER	COCA-COLA	ELECTROLYTES	DRIED RAISIN	DRIED APRICOT	SALTY CRACKERS	POTATO CHIPS	HARRIBO SWEET	MIRANTA BISCUITS	OREO BISCUITS	BANANA	BOILED POTATO	ENERGY BAR	JEL CARBOHYDRATES
Loutro	0														
Anopoli	4,8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Porolango (entrance)	7,4	X													X
Agkathopi	12,5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Mavros Charakas	17,9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rousies	18,9														
Pachnes	21														
Mavros Gourgouthas	22,5														
Katsiveli	26	X			X	X	X	X		X			X		
Rousies	30														
Mavros Charakas	31	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Agkathopi	36,4	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Porolango (exit)	41,4	X													
Anopoli	44,1	X										X			

Mandatory and recommended equipment

For safe movement in the mountainous terrain, the following equipment will be mandatory:

1. **Special backpack (vest type or belt) for carrying water bottles**
2. **Water bottle of at least 500ml**
3. **Aluminum blanket**
4. **Water container (THERE WILL BE NO PLASTIC CUPS)**
5. **Mobile phone**
6. **Windproof jacket**

The following are recommended to be brought with you:

gloves, batons, cap or other type of special scarf for the neck and head or hat, waterproof jacket, 600 kcal solid food, headlamp, bandage





Final Classification

-and additional race challenges

The top three finishers in both the men's and women's categories will receive awards. Additionally, two challenges will take place during the Sfakia Sky Marathon:

- **Sea to Summit Challenge – a prize for the first runner to reach the summit of Pachnes.**
- **Bring The Cheese Challenge – a traditional wheel of Graviera cheese will be waiting at Katsiveli for the first runner who decides to carry it all the way to the finish line (18 km). The Cheese Challenge offers more than just cheese; the full package also includes a beautiful, traditional Cretan knife and a small backpack.**

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Course Safety

– emergency contact numbers

For the majority of the Sfakia Sky Marathon route, there is no mobile phone coverage. However, emergency calls can still be made. In the event of a serious accident, participants should call the emergency number

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In areas where mobile coverage is available (the first 8 km of the race and the summit of Pachnes), participants may call the organizers at:

+30 697 404 5596



Course Safety

-movement on the paths, overtaking

- **On public roads (asphalt or dirt), participants must keep to the left side of the road and comply with all traffic regulations.**
- **On paths, runners should avoid forming large groups and must allow faster runners to overtake—faster participants should pass on the left side of the path.**

Withdrawing from the race

- **Due to the technically challenging and inaccessible nature of the mountainous terrain, the time limits at each checkpoint are final and non-negotiable.**
- **Any competitor who decides to withdraw from the race outside of a checkpoint must notify the organizer as soon as possible by calling the number provided on their race bib +30 697 404 5596**





Finish line,

awards ceremony, additional finish-line attractions

- **Finish line – Anopoli, Main Square**
- **Award ceremony:**

  17:30, Main Square

- **Additional attractions:**

  16:00 – Workshop on preparing traditional Sfakian pie, followed by a tasting

  18:30 – Screening of a film about the local traditions of the Sfakia region

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Contact Informations

Organizer: Arkalos Team, Chania

Website: www.sfakiaskymarathon.com
Email address: info@sfakiaskymarathon.com

Contact persons



Vagelis
+30 693 424 4000



Antonis
+30 697 404 5596