



will be sprinkled with a carpet of wildflowers, making a delightful contrast with the azure-colored waters hundreds of meters below. On the western side of Skaros' rocky butte, the narrow path leads down to the Mother of Lord Theoskepasti Holy Orthodox Church. Perched precariously and overlooking the caldera, this impossibly scenic chapel makes for an idyllic spot to take a break.

Returning to the Fira to Oia Trail, you'll soon reach the Cavo Tagoo Hotel and bus stop, which marks the journey's halfway point. Beyond here, the buildings become scarcer, as do the number of people you'll likely encounter. As you pass through the outskirts of Imerovigli, take a moment to look back toward the village. The perspective over Santorini's precipitous, multitiered cliffs is mesmerizing. After almost a kilometer, you'll reach a fork just before the Profitis Ilias Church. Take the path less traveled on the left. It's a little rougher and steeper than the option on the right, but the outstanding views more than compensate for your efforts. Over the next couple of kilometers, you'll contour around the caldera's rim, mostly on trails of dirt, gravel, and cobblestones. It's one of the only stretches of your Fira to Oia journey where you may have the trail all to yourself.

Continuing west, you'll reach the village of Oia around 1.5 hours after leaving Imerovigli. Many walkers make a beeline for one of the town's restaurants. For those who can put aside their hiker hunger a bit longer, consider descending past Oia Castle to the gorgeous Ammoudi Bay. From there, it's a further 10 minutes around the point to Armonia Beach, where you can celebrate the end of your Santorini adventure with a refreshing swim. (Tip: For the best cliff jumping, swim out to the nearby rock of St. Nicholas.) ▲

↑ Along with its abundant natural and architectural wonders, Santorini is no slouch on the gastronomical front.
 ↓ Cliff jumping at Ammoudi Bay.



Following the cliff-hugging path out of the village, you'll be afforded stunning coastal vistas toward the rock promontory of Skaros.

↑ Caldera-gazing over cross-topped blue domes.
 ← The not-to-be-missed side trip to Skaros Rock, one of the island's most famous landmarks.