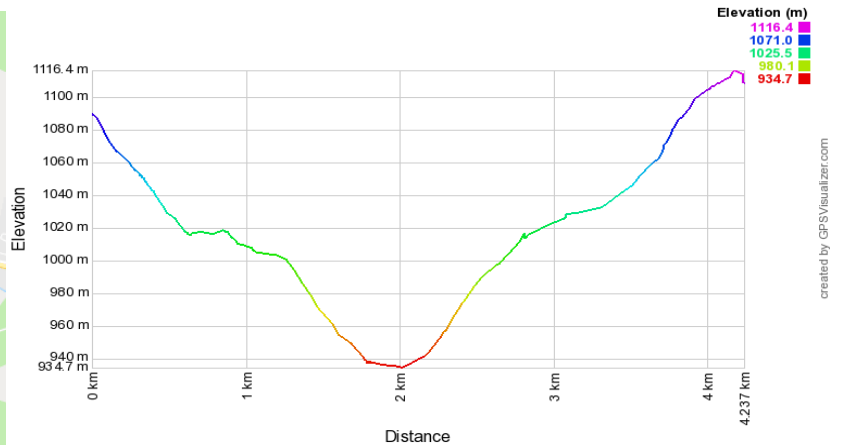
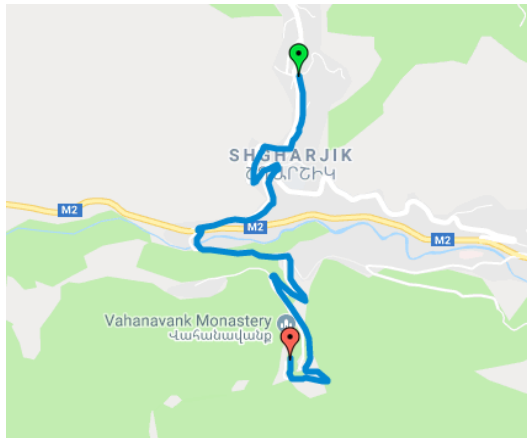


Section Five Shxarshik - Vahanavank

Distance 4.2 km **Time** 1 hour **Difficulty** Low



General Description This short junction is a necessary connection between the trails on the left and right banks of the river Voghchi. The trail leads from the village of Shxarshik, across the valley, to the Vahanavank monastery on the opposite side. For more long-distance hikers, this section can be completed in combination with ones before and after.



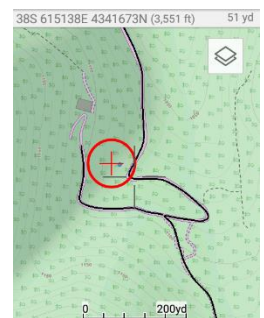
It begins on a gravel path for cars, as indicated by the sign. When you reach the main road at the bottom of the valley, turn left, walk for 30 meters before turning right on the paved road leading up to Vahanavank.



It is mostly free from traffic and takes about 25 minutes.



On the turn just before you reach the monastery there is a fresh water source hidden in the trees, as shown on the map. 300m before the monastery is a big space on left where people have picnics. It is also possible to camp here, but can get busy during summer weekends.





There is also a shop nearby that sells refreshments. Open at irregular hours.



You then reach the monastic complex Vanavank, about which you can find more information at the start of the following section.

Coming closer to the monastery, you will see signs going left, which marks the start of the next section, number 6, of the trail. The monastery itself 200m up the road.