

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKS

PLA DE LA CASA FROM FACHECA (Fageca)

N37

WALK SPECS: DISTANCE 9.5km – **WALKING TIME** 3 1/4-4hrs - **ASCENT** 600mtrs - **GRADE** MS
(Walking time only add time for breaks and lunch)

WALK DESCRIPTION BY: Jean & Bob Hall hallbobandjean@aol.com **UPDATED** Nov 2014

LEGAL NOTICE: Although we strive to make descriptions as correct as possible, use at your own risk.

WALK DESCRIPTION

PLA de la Casa is the highest of the peaks which make up the magnificent Sierra de Serrella - the handsaw of mountains which flank the north side of the Guadalest valley. Seen from the valley floor they appear to be a vertical impenetrable wall of rock. But there are several routes which negotiate the ravines and slopes, making use of ancient livestock trails and paths hewn out by men who would scale the peaks to make use of the snow wells. The routes have been established over centuries and this one starts in the village of Facheca (Fageca). The climb alternates from gradual to steep but is rarely punishing and constantly stimulating. The views on reaching the narrow plateau close to the summit would melt the soul of all but the most hardened individuals. Much of the route follows the PRV- 182 path and is waymarked.

For those who want to skip trip up to plateau, an alternate circuit walk is described

TO THE WALK

Take the CV720 from Castells de Castells to Fageca. Pass through village, turning **L** at sign for Quatretondeta. Drive approx. 300 mtrs down the road to tennis/sports centre and park up on the **L**.



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THE WALK.

**NOTE: TIMES QUOTED ARE WALKING TIME ONLY – NO BREAKS.
UNDERLINED LETTERS ARE MAP REFERENCES.**

**Total distance and
 % of walk completed
 based on total time**

From parking spot walk up road towards the village of Fageca (Facheca) and turn R on first minor road signposted 'Cami del Comte Meieral'. (3min .2km)	.2km 1%
Walk up the road to the end. A narrow path starts where the road ends A . (11min .8km)	1.0km 6%
Head uphill following the shape of the ravine. After a few minutes turn R at a cairn. (4min .1km)	1.1km 8%
After bearing to the L the path heads directly up the mountain before drifting to the R and flattening out. The next point of reference is the 'Barranco del Ginebrar' and the path passes over the head of this short ravine. Soon the Y/W waymarks of the PRV-182 route appear to help with orientation. The path passes over the top of another ravine before crossing the head of the more spectacular 'Barranco del Bou'. There is a grey rock face on the far side which the path passes under. A relatively flat section follows which leads to an attractive grey-stone well and a drinking spot for livestock B . (39min 1.9km)	3.0km 24%
Here the path turns uphill and then across the slope. The next reference point is the widest of the ravines - the 'Barranco Hondo'. The path skirts the side of it and offers spectacular views into the ravine. At its' end is the Font Roja natural spring. Here water canteens can be filled and there are a couple of picnic tables for a sit down C . (28min .9km)	3.9km 36%
From the 'font' follow the sign for Pla de la Casa summit (1,379 metres) which is 2km away.	
At the next signpost turn L , and at the next continue to follow the sign for Pla de la Casa to arrive at the beginning of the very steep uphill climb to the summit D . (9min .4km)	4.3km 40%
To continue circuit walk and skip hike to summit, continue straight on to reach signpost at bottom of summit return path (25Min.). Go to POINT E below.	
To reach the summit take path going up NNW and slanting across the scree and after a strenuous climb reach the undulating open grass meadow of Pla de La Casa strewn with flowers in spring & early summer. Follow the path passing the west and middle summits on your R to reach the nevera at the foot of the main summit (1379m). (25min 1.1km)	5.4km 51%
To climb the summit continue along the path a short way and before its crest take the path off R which ends with a short scramble to the top to find a cross and visitors book. The view alone is worth the effort. Return to the main path and turn R . over the edge. (30min .6km)	6.0km 63%
Zigzag down this steep path across scree veering R to reach a sign post and cross path E . (15min .3km)	6.3km 70%
POINT E (continuation if you skipped trip to summit) At the signpost continue to descend, now entering the 'Barranco del Moro' ravine. Reach a small water hut half way down F , with a cave (Cova de Bernat) which can be seen on the far L side of the ravine. (25min .9km)	7.2km 80%
Continue down and at the bottom of the ravine turn L onto a track. (30min 1.3km)	8.5km 93%
Continue round to the village of Fageca, passing the wash house on the way back up to the main road. At the road turn L and head back to the car. (16min 1km)	9.5km 100%

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