

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

**Walk description originally prepared by:-** Ralph Phipps

**Last Updated** 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2012

**Title of Walk** Raco de Tabac

**Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)** La Senia  
About 10km to the N on roads and forest tracks.

**Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km** 15.5

**Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m** 850

**Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops** 4.25hrs  
6hrs

**Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)** VS/B

**Grid reference of start point (if known)** 40.721344, 0.244805

### **Directions to Start**

From La Senia drive north through the village on the CV105 and on towards the Abad and the embalse. Drive up through two tunnels and on past a reservoir wall and continue over a bridge over a second (sometimes dry) reservoir. Once over the bridge turn immediately R on a forest track and continue on a rough track for several km heading for the parking at La Fou. Part way along this there are signs indicating 4 wheel drive only, but most people just keep going! The parking is on the LHS just after passing a small building at the end of a ridge coming down from the L.

### **Short walk description**

A delightful walk through forest with initially dramatic rock scenery and later fantastic views across the peaks of Els Ports and out to the coast and Ebro delta.

### **Full Walk Description**

Walk ahead up the track through spectacular gorge scenery to arrive at a sharp bend where the path turns to the E (and continues E).

### **Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far**

37mins  
2.6km

Here there is a choice. The easiest is to continue along this track up zig-zags for some way. The more entertaining is to cross the river bed here and follow a cairned thin path as it rises steeply to the R and then levels a little under crags and into the barranco bottom where there is some fantastic scrambling under and around boulders. This path eventually becomes more straightforward and mounts steeply to arrive back at the same track that you left somewhat higher and just after a gate.

1hr 5mins  
4km

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THE GPS TRACK WITH THIS ROUTE FOLLOWS THIS SCRAMBLING LINE.

If you do not fancy the scramble then just follow the track as it zig-zags its way up the hill and reaches the gate. There is little to choose in time to reach the gate between the 2 routes.

Just above the gate a path rises up a steep embankment to the R and soon levels to a more normal slope wending through trees to eventually emerge at a fuente – normally water here where it re-joins the track. 1hr 27mins  
5.2km

Continue now ahead and up the track avoiding 2 tracks that turn off L and finally reach a small col at the top. 2hr 7mins  
7.7km

Pass through this and down to a signposted route to the L which we ignore.

A little further on at a jnc follow the RHS track ahead (time is to here) and through Zigzags before reaching a sharp LH bend. 2hr 13mins  
8.2km

Soon after this there is a path (signposted) on the RHS which we take. 2hr 26mins  
9.3km

This rises steadily to reach a special tree (El Teixet) and after viewing this old yew, continue on the Y/W marked trail to the R rising up to crest the escarpment. Here there are magnificent views to the W and a little further on when you crest the ridge there are equally spectacular views out over the mountains and down to the Ebro delta.

3hr 12mins  
11.8km

Follow the Y/W markings as the path descends along a scree covered trail to reach a further signpost to a well (pou – time to here) which you ignore and pass around a small hill before cresting a ridge to the R.

3hr 22mins  
12.5km

Once on the top of this ridge the path falls sharply to a jnc.

Here you turn R and re-gain a little of your height to arrive at the top of a steep crag – the Raco de Tabac – and the path improbably zigzags steadily down – steeply at first to finally arrive at the river bottom. Cross this directly and ascend a little to join the track you drove down. Turn R along this and in a few hundred metres you arrive back at the car park.

**Walk Recommendations or restrictions**                      None

Route followed is outlined in red

