

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

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps
<b>Last Updated</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Font del Raco de Llobet circular
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Muro de Alcoy, at junction of Calle de Les Llorenses and unnamed track.
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	17.7
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	868
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	4.5hrs 6hrs
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	VS/B
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 38.712907, Long:- -0.48357
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Travel north from Cocentaina on N340. Pass km 804 (at a set of traffic lights) and then take the next L (also at traffic lights). To do this you have to filter off to the R and go around a roundabout affair. Once around take Calle Les Llorenses (to the L of a yellow wall). Follow this up about 1km to a gravel turn on the RHS with bins. Park here. If you pass Belda Decoracion (at the turning with the traffic lights) you have gone too far on the N340!!
<b>Short walk description</b>	A fine high level visit to the Sierra Mariola and some excellent neveras; perhaps spoilt by a little too much tarmac.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
From your parking area walk away to the NW from the cars along the rough track, go around a small bend and straight across a cross roads to eventually reach a stop sign at Carrer del Sant Salvador. Turn L up a road with white line down the middle.	830m, 10.5mins
Past the tennis club the road diminishes and crosses the railway line.	1.5km, 21mins
Continue ahead on the tarmac to pass a picnic table in the RHS.	
When the tarmac eventually gives out turn L, go around a zig-zag bend and continue.	2.7km, 40mins
At a fork with a No Entry sign high up on the LH branch take the R fork and when it	

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reaches the entrance to a small farm on the RHS continue ahead on a footpath up the barranco.	3.4km, 53mins
After a few metres you pass the back entrance to the farm, cross to the other side of the barranco and continue ahead on the footpath.	
Just after a bend in the footpath re-join the track and turn R uphill.	
Continue ahead to reach a junction to the L	4.2km, 1hr 11 mins
which runs out level to a small plateau with cultivated terraces to a ridge line beyond. Take this track, pass a ruin on the LHS and just before reaching the terraces watch out for a footpath continuing uphill to the R. (Y/W)	
The path turns back on itself and runs up parallel to a barranco on the LHS, descends a little before rising to eventually meet the barranco bottom. In the distance you soon see the Mas de Raco de Llobet above you.	
Soon the path reaches the terraces, continues on a back to the RHS, curves around to the L before rising up to quickly meet a track at a water deposito which we ascend for a few metres to the corner of the fenced enclosure where we turn L to continue on the footpath.	5.3km, 1hr 32mins
This quickly reaches the old building with seats outside. This is used by a local group of hunters, but you are welcome to borrow the seating.	5.5km, 1hr 35mins
Continue ahead around to the L past a small building with a water pipe (normally with running water) and about 100m ahead there is a path going steeply uphill to the R which you take.	5.7km, 1hr 38mins
Follow this relentlessly uphill for several hundred metres before it levels a little, meets a second path joining from the L and then soon starts to track leftwards and more gently uphill out along the flank of the mountain.	
Soon you get clear of the trees and can see that your path is going to take you to the crest the ridge.	
Once you reach at a fingerpost then turn right and continue back along the ridge line on the LHS of the crest on a very clear path.	6.4km, 1hr 49mins
A little way along this the path turns to the R and you will see a track coming up to join you from a barranco and you quickly reach a col with fingerpost. (this marks your descent point so take note!!)	7.4km, 2hr 3mins
Here move slightly ahead and then leftwards on a broad track trending across the slope.	
Round a shoulder still on this track and at a gate continue uphill to the R to quickly reach a col with a building – Refugio Montcabrer and just to the R of this a nevera (ice house) with explanatory info board.	7.9km, 2hr 10mins
Once soaked in the history of this activity return the way you came past the Refugio and towards the gate, but instead of going through this take the downward R turn on a broad track to reach the Cava Gran and even finer example of an ice cave.	8.2km, 2hr 14mins
Now return uphill to the gate, go through it and retrace your steps back to the col.	
Here cross the col to continue on a Y/W path with fingerpost.	8.9km, 2hr

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<p>This descend steeply at first but then more gently using an engineered path to reach a level terrace which you cross directly in front of you to reach a track descending to the house – the Mas de Raco Llobet.</p> <p>Continue on the track you used earlier but do not take the footpath to the R.</p> <p>Ignore all side tracks going off which are entrances to houses/fincas.</p> <p>Walk through a closed gate with a No Entry sign behind you as you pass through it, go round a spur and continue on the main track downwards.</p> <p>Just past the Font de la Barrona the track leads into a surfaced road, passes a gated track on the RHS and then leads on to a junction where you take the L downward sloping road.</p> <p>After many zig-zags you reach an area with a barranco on your RHS and the ridge line on your L just beginning to reach its end with terraces in front of you on the LHS and just on a corner a concrete chamber on the LHS with a small cairn marking the beginning of a path going L.</p> <p>At a fork after 50m take the RH line slightly descending. (large red house visible below)</p> <p>This leads round to a large and collapsing ruined building and you pass this on the LHS ignoring other paths leading to the R.</p> <p>Walk round the head of a barranco with some imposing crags on either side and on the far side cross to the right across rock slabs to find the continuation of the path which you follow ahead rising again.</p> <p>This reaches a junction with a Y/W path and you turn R downhill here and return almost to reach the prior barranco before turning down to the L between terraces and the edge of the barranco.</p> <p>Finally this reaches a track with a fingerpost where you turn L.</p> <p>Go slightly uphill for a few metres and then at a fork go R and level.</p> <p>Just at a red and white casita turn R at a junction and pass under the railway.</p> <p>Continue directly down this road to reach your car.</p>	<p>24mins</p> <p>9.4km, 2hr 34mins</p> <p>10.8km, 2hr 53mins</p> <p>11.7km, 3hr 4mins</p> <p>14.3km, 3hr 39mins</p> <p>14.7km, 3hr 46mins</p> <p>15.8km, 4hr 2mins</p> <p>16.4km, 4hr 10mins</p>
<b>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</b>	None



**Route followed is outlined in red**

