

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	4 th December 2013	
Title of Walk	Aixorta summit and ridge from km 7	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Castell de Castells km 7 on CV 752 between Castells and Famorca	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	13	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	600	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hrs 5hrs	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B/X/Scr	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.715268,Long -0.160786	
Directions to Start	Take the CV720 from Pedreguer, through Parcent and on to Castell de Castells. Here turn L onto the CV752 and proceed uphill in zig-zags. When you reach a plateau area look out for the km 7 marker and park on the track beside a notice board.	
Short walk description	A walk around one of the highest ridge lines on the Costa Blanca with a terrific scramble if you fancy it!	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From the car park walk up the hill heading directly south. Very quickly ignore a fork to the R and continue ahead following the track.		
Turn to the R following the main track and a little way ahead at a building on the LHS take the turn L onto tarmac.		700m, 9mins
Reach a junction where you turn R signed to Els Arcs – 1.8km.		1.3km, 16mins
A few hundred metres beyond this turn L onto a track which runs up the RHS of a barranco.		1.5km, 18mins
Follow this to the end at a terrace and walk straight ahead uphill onto a footpath.		
Arrive at a small plateau at the head of the barranco and here turn L steeply uphill on a clear path heading up through trees.		2.6km, 38mins

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<p>When this levels out and drops a little you must continue ahead until just before it drops more steeply and here look out for cairns indicating the start of a smaller footpath on the RHS which you take.</p>	3km, 45mins
<p>Follow this as it winds through a scrubby area and soon as it levels a little you will see a ruin ahead of you and more open ground.</p>	
<p>Pass the ruin on the L and continue now on a track to reach a terrace where the track disappears you must turn half R towards a fenced enclosure and up some gentle bancales to arrive at a track. There are fantastic views now across to the R.</p>	
<p>Turn L here for 2/3 metres and look for a continuing footpath going steeply uphill on the RHS. Take this and emerge</p>	3.4km, 54 mins
<p>on a second track where you turn R uphill.</p>	3.6km, 1hr 1min
<p>Reach a fork and turn L uphill.</p>	4.2km, 1hr 10mins
<p>Follow steeply up in zig-zags until you pass a large water tank and turn R uphill here now on concrete.</p>	4.5km, 1hr 15mins
<p>When you reach a fork with signpost the Cima de Aixorta is indicated R uphill (suggested time 45 mins!)</p>	5km, 1hr 21mins
<p>Follow this up to pass a refugio (always open) and find a Y/W footpath working up a gully to the ridge on the LHS.</p>	
<p>When you reach the ridge, you turn to the R still on Y/W and scramble uphill to the summit.</p>	5.6km, 1hr 36mins
<p>What now follows is a tricky scramble with considerable exposure. Follow the ridge line to the W. At first it is relatively easy going, but you soon come up against very exposed descents across slabs and boulders where a fall would be extremely serious.</p>	
<p>(If this is not for you you should retrace your steps back towards the col and then turn R (Westwards) along a Y/W footpath to avoid the scramble)</p>	
<p>In fact the scramble is only 2/300m in length but it requires considerable care. For those who enjoy scrambling it is excellent and near the base you will pass over (unknowingly) a hole in the rock which forms an arch.</p>	
<p>Once the ridge runs into easier (but still rocky) ground you can descend any where on your L to a tree adorned gully running downhill to the RHS.</p>	
<p>Once in this cross to the other side under some crags and follow the line down beside these and then around to the L as they end.</p>	5.9km, 1hr 46mins
<p>You emerge back on a ridge at a ruin and turn R on a footpath which drops a few metres to col and then climbs L a little before crossing level below some fearsome crags above on the RHS.</p>	
<p>Soon you arrive at a second ruin and here a clear track (overgrown) runs downhill in the same direction.</p>	6.9km, 2hr 4mins
<p>Follow this until you reach a small white casita with cultivated fields where you turn R on a wider track and back uphill on the far side of the ridge line.</p>	7.5km, 2hr 13mins

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<p>At the top of this track there is a junction on the L with a speed limit sign!!</p> <p>Take the track with the speed limit sign and take care to soak in the views before it descends rapidly. Ignore all side tracks and continue ahead on the main line sometimes on concrete.</p> <p>After wandering slightly leftwards the track turns R across the slope once more and rises slightly to reach a junction where a broad footpath/track strikes steeply uphill. Ignore this and continue ahead.</p> <p>The track continues North for a while before swinging out to the East and then round a bend where it drops more steeply to the West than before on concrete to reach a bend turning back to the East. Ignore this bend and instead continue westwards on a clear footpath.</p> <p>After 50m at a fork take the R fork and emerge on a rocky promontory with fantastic views of a rock arch down below you.</p> <p>Once you have sated your need for views continue ahead on a thinner path and rejoin the forked path that you left 50m before.</p> <p>Now there is a steep descent – the most difficult of the day -which required care as it turns under some crags. In only a few hundred metres it joins a much clearer path running out to the arch and here you turn R away from the arch.</p> <p>This is now Y/W marked and generally level. It reaches a set of terraces and crosses them to the L before turning right now on a track. Follow this about 100m and at a junction turn L now going slightly uphill.</p> <p>Pass a newly restored finca on your R</p> <p>and then crest a small rise before descending again to a cross roads.</p> <p>Here turn R and follow this downhill until you pass a very large house on the LHS</p> <p>and here when the main track turns L continue ahead on a thinner line and cross a terrace to work around the RHS of a fenced enclosure before climbing slightly directly ahead to intersect the main track you used at the start of the walk.</p> <p>Turn L for a few metres to your car park.</p>	<p>8km, 2hr 20mins</p> <p>9.2km, 2hr 35mins</p> <p>10km, 2hr 44mins</p> <p>10.2km, 2hr 50mins</p> <p>11.1km, 3hr 1min</p> <p>11.9km, 3hr 11mins</p>
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>Experienced scramblers only. (But the scramble is avoidable)</p>

Route followed is outlined in Red

