

## COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps	
<b>Last Updated</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	
<b>Title of Walk</b>	La Safor circuit from Beniali	
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Beniali On the CV700 west of Pego and Adusbia	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	20	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	900	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	5.25 7	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	VS/C	
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 38.821886, Long -0.219876	
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Follow the CV700 from Pego and around Adsubia and past Benirrama (high up on your L) to arrive at the outskirts of the village. The gravel car park is on the L just as the road bends to the R.	
<b>Short walk description</b>	A tough day's outing over one mountain range to reach a second that is rough and unforgiving. However the top has volcano like characteristics and view N and W that are unparalleled.	
<b>Full Walk Description</b>		<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
<p>From the car park follow the main road a few metres to the W and turn right past the Bar Nou Terrassa (good venue for a drink at the end!) and down a steep hill. Thread through the railings half way down and keep ahead and steeply down to join a tarmac road where you proceed directly ahead further downhill and across a bridge over the river.</p> <p>Immediately past this turn right on a track past a corral and follow this initially beside the river and then drop down into the river bed and continue ahead.</p> <p>Go from side to side here to find the best line with tracks clear in some parts.</p> <p>A more major track descends from the R to cross the river bed and continue on the L side below a large stone block wall (with building above). Continue on this and ignore it when it turns L into the building yard to continue ahead on a grassy track.</p>		<p>480m, 7min</p> <p>1.7km, 23min</p>

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Keep going along here as the track diminishes to footpath status and then drops back into the river and just opposite a large white house on the RHS above the banks of the river make your way up diagonally L onto a terrace and intercept a large stone bank. On top of this is a footpath which we follow L and uphill.	2.5km, 32min
This widens to become a track and at a cross roads continue ahead across a staggered line to continue across a small boulder field which becomes easier as you ascend.	2.7km, 36min
Go around a tree/bush obstruction to the R and then swing back L to find a footpath continuing ahead with G/W markings.	
Follow this as it climbs steadily with zig-zags taking care to stay on the right line as there are short cuts which tend to obliterate the engineered path.	
As the track climbs it moves to be above a barranco with a ruin on your L and then soon emerges to join a track at a well and second building.	4.8km, 1hr 14min
Continue ahead on the track to join a broader gravel track where you turn L.	5km, 1hr 17min
Follow this to the crest of the ridge and continue directly ahead at a junction and then soon start to descend.	5.7km, 1hr 25min
Now you have views ahead of La Safor in the distance and down on the R towards the enclave of Lacuna – a broad spread of summer houses without shops, churches or bar!	
After several Km along the track you emerge on a tarmac road where you turn L for a few metres and then spy out a cairn on the RHS indicating the start of a rough footpath climbing towards the summit of La Safor.	7.9km, 1hr 50min
Take this and be sure to spy out the cairns which are hard to spot in this rocky wilderness but by perseverance you will mount initially to the L of a deep barranco and then after reaching a short level spur cross to the L around a corrie before continuing the assault upwards.	8.7km, 2hr 10min
There is little respite here but eventually you reach the main ridge line and find yourself on a much broader path continuing L along the undulating ridge.	9.4km, 2hr 29min
Care is still needed to avoid deviations but you will find occasional Y/W markers now to guide your way.	
At one point you descend briefly down a shallow barranco to the L and then turn R again to recommence the climb up the mountain.	
You should now be able to see the main summit above you guarded by crags and by determination you reach the summit slopes where you encounter a very large cairn on the L on top of a small crag (0.5m).	10.5km, 2hr 54min
This indicates your return route but first you should pop up to the summit with its concrete pillar and wide views. (From here you can drop a few metres to your R to gain views down over a ruined nevera (ice house))	
Once sated return to the cairn and turn R.	
Now follow this footpath down taking care again to find the zig-zags indicated with Y/W and ignoring other minor paths where others have mislaid the route.	

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As you descend there are one or two minor ascents and once over the last of these you will see below and directly ahead a broad track leading out to a road. This is where we will emerge.

Finally on the level you reach a track junction and turn L, ignore a large "parking area" soon after on the L and climb up to the road.

13.1km, 3hr  
43min

Turn R for a few metres cresting a hill and then turn L on a very broad gravel track.

Follow this now until you reach a large stone well on the R with a building further back on the R and at the well there is a track junction where you turn R.

14.5km, 4hr

Follow this ignoring the track going around to the building to crest a small rise and then start descending with great views of the Forada ridge and further south to the Serellas.

The track turns L briefly before continuing on the R flank of a deep barranco.

Follow the track until just before it ends when you will see a continuing footpath ahead to your L.

15.7km, 4hr  
14min

Take this footpath and follow it faithfully ever downwards with the village of Beniali sometimes in view now.

There are one or two twists and turns on this and a disappointment as you briefly turn away from the village, but soon you descend to meet a water pipe coming down the hill and a short concrete track running down to a road.

17.6km, 4hr  
45min

Turn L along the road and at a bridge over the river meet your outgoing track.

Cross the river, keep straight ahead and slightly R to ascend the steep concrete and steps back up to the main road in the village.

On the main road turn L to find the car park.

### **Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

Care following thin mountain paths and stamina for a long day out.

Map shown below.....

Route followed is outlined in Red

