

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	1st July 2014	
Title of Walk	GR11 – Day 8. From Larrun to Hirriberry.	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Larrun – Mendilatz hostel	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	16	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	840	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.25hr 5.25hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/A	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.998645, Long:- -1.219977	
Directions to Start	The small family hotel of Mendilatz lies in the Irati valley on the NA2030, NW of Pamplona and close to the F/Sp border. Between the villages of Orbaizteta and Fabrica de Orbaizteta.	
Short walk description	High moorlands, deciduous woods and sweeping views leading to the delightful village of Hirriberry.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>From Mendilatz retrace your steps for the prior day by:-</p> <p>Turning L out of the hostel and L again at the cheese shop.</p> <p>Climb steeply, zig-zag and walk over the brow of the hill.</p> <p>Walk through the staggered cross -roads, L then R and into the village.</p> <p>Continue ahead past the church on the RHS and drop down to cross the bridge.</p> <p>Turn R and after the last building turn L at a gate (no waymark) on the L and climb diagonally up to enter the woods on a path. (Glancing back to the track you can see a finger post below you - GRT8 - and later than the gate you used)</p> <p>Walk up 100m and go through a gate a up slightly to the L to find a good path. Continue into the woods rising steadily.</p>		2km, 27min

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<p>Pass 2 finger posts and continue ahead with crags above you on the L at the second finger post.</p> <p>The path thins and turns partially L with more frequent R/W markers and runs level between a fence on the LHS and a small crag on the RHS.</p> <p>Cross the fence on the L and walk at the edge of the trees with views L over pastures.</p> <p>Emerge onto a pasture and continue beside the fence soon moving R when a fence on the R joins us. Walk through a gap and turn R now on a good track descending with a fence on the RHS.</p>	4.2km, 1hr 2min
<p>Reach a finger post off to the RHS behind a fence which we ignore and continue ahead.</p>	4.5km, 1hr 5min
<p>Go over a rise and swing R at an indistinct col and at a second col again swing R, now uphill.</p>	
<p>Reach a track junction with a finger post and turn L towards Hirriberri. (9km)</p>	6.3km, 1hr 30min
<p>Climb slightly and cross a fence on the RHS</p>	6.7km, 1hr 37min
<p>and then zig-zag up on a footpath with open pasture and broom higher and then trend R up across pastures to reach a fence with we cross.</p>	
<p>Now work L again in woods ascending to our high point and drop off into open pasture.</p>	7.6km, 1hr 54min
<p>Walk down a grassy spur and then swing R into woodland where after a few metres we curve around to the R ignoring a footpath dropping down L into a barranco and continue ahead to open pastures where we turn L and downhill.</p>	8.1km, 2hr
<p>This footpath broadens to a track and when it zig-zags first R and then L, do not follow the L but continue ahead through a small field, through a gate and onto a broad track. (All marked , but slightly obscure)</p>	8.4km, 2hr 5min
<p>Turn R and follow this to a junction with a road and finger post where we keep ahead rising slightly.</p>	9km, 2hr 12min
<p>Go through a gate and descend briefly in a wooded glade, cross a small pasture on the LHS and as you re-enter woodland look for markers swinging R. Follow these (even though there is a clearer path ahead).</p>	9.6km, 2hr 20min
<p>Your route swings R, level for 50m and then gently up across a barranco to continue ahead. (Care needed here to find the correct line – hunt the R/W markers down)</p>	
<p>Reach a finger post and turn L down a dry barranco.</p>	9.8km, 2hr 23min
<p>Exit this by turning R and keeping level for a while before turning back L to a ruin. The footpath on this section is clear, but thin and needs concentration to stay on the correct line!</p>	
<p>This zig-zags down on a limestone pavement soon with small crags dropping off on your RHS. Soon you have views of Orbara below you.</p>	
<p>At a clear junction go L for 5m and then R.</p>	
<p>Emerge from the woods to join a track coming down from the R and continue towards the village directly below you.</p>	11.5km, 2hr 48min

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Pass the church, bar and water trough to arrive at a main road which we cross to drop down onto a concrete track and turn L.

This runs into a paved road which zig-zags down to open again onto a track.

At a fork continue L and down to cross a bridge over the river.

12.9km, 3hr 6min

75m after the bridge as the main track turns L we turn half R up a grassy and leafy ride.

100m up zig R and a little while later zag back to the L.

Now follow this steadily up on this grassy path with broom to cross a fence and continue ahead.

After a second fence meet a wide gravel track and turn R.

14.4km, 3hr
31min

Ignore 2 junctions on the L and meet a track joining you from the R and continue.

At a finger post at a tarmac road continue ahead,

15.1km, 3hr
40min

drop a little and swing L past a viewpoint of the craggy summit above to reach the outskirts of the village.

Continue ahead on a cobbled road.

There is a bar (Berrendi) on the L with tables and chairs outside and an obscure wooden name plate.

The author returned to stay at Hostal Mendilatz in Larrun – see Day 7.

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Route followed is outlined in Red

