

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps
<b>Last Updated</b>	1st July 2014
<b>Title of Walk</b>	GR11 – Day 9 from Hiriberri to Ochagavia
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Hiriberri, aka Villanueva de Aezkoa
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	21.5
<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>	5.5hr 8hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	VS/A
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 42.946619, Long:- -1.228595
<b>Directions to Start</b>	In the Irati valley on the NA140, NW of Pamplona and close to the F/Sp border. Turn off this road in Aribe to follow a small road directly to the village In the village very street is known as Calle San Salvador. Make your way to the NE corner of the village to find a large sign illustrating today's route.
<b>Short walk description</b>	Excellent walk up Berrendi (with first views of high mountains) and then high moorland walking before descending past the delightful Ermita and equally pretty village of Ochagavia.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
At the sign board go steeply up on grass, cross a concrete runnel and when the track curves L go up to a gate on the RHS.	
Go through the gate and steeply up by a fence on the LHS seeing occasional post markers.	130m, 3min
When the fence ends continue steeply up aiming for a very long water trough (with water supply).	700m, 15min
Pass to the R of it and find a track ascending.	
200m up move slightly L to a marked boulder and then continue parallel to the original line.	

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<p>This is a very eroded route but becomes clearer and then levels to run beside a fence.</p>	
<p>Pass a second trough after a tank (also with water supply).</p>	2.1km, 36min
<p>Curl around a barranco to the R and quickly find a post marker as the start of an ascending footpath into the woods in the L.</p>	
<p>At the next open area the path swings back to the L still rising steeply.</p>	2.6km, 45min
<p>Cross a fence and go through a gap in the limestone crag.</p>	3.1km, 56min
<p>Descend a few metres and then turn R – ignoring a path ahead – to find a vague path soon with markers (R/W) ascending in woodland.</p>	
<p>The going becomes rockier as you rise and a series of clear knolls appear on the RHS. The last of these is the highest, but any of them are good vantage points and provide fantastic views to the higher peaks in the W. (Pena Arrondoa)</p>	4.9km, 1hr 32min
<p>From the last knoll drop off L weaving with the markers to find the easiest route and once in pasture cross a fence and begin to ascend again following posts (R/W).</p>	5.2km, 1hr 38min
<p>As you approach a corral move L to join a track and pass to the L of the corral (despite there being a R/W on the RHS of this).</p>	5.8km, 1hr 37min
<p>Follow the track down and just before a small water deposito turn R on a lesser track.</p>	
<p>Cross a fence and drop to a col.</p>	6.9km, 2hr 3min
<p>Continue ahead as the track improves and zig-zag up the hill to pass the summit on your L (Abodi Bekoa and Goniburu to its N) and descend gently to cross a gate.</p>	
<p>Drop down to a finger post with troughs and a water supply to the L of it,</p>	8.5km, 2hr 23min
<p>but continue ahead to soon reach a road.</p>	
<p>Cross this and walk directly ahead on grass aiming for a clear track a little way above which zig-zags up and the final bend R soon crests a limestone ridge.</p>	10.3km, 2hr 50min
<p>Follow this now swinging slightly L and then over open ground with post markers aiming for the top to find a trig column on a square concrete base. (Abodi Bikel or Alto de Irati)</p>	11.6km, 3hr 7min
<p>Follow the markers down to a col and then keep slightly L of the ridge as you pass a sinkhole on your R.</p>	
<p>Quickly leave the track following post markers slightly R to pass to the R of a second sink hole at a col and here at finger post turn R for a few metres and then L on an improving path.</p>	12.8km, 3hr 23min
<p>(Ignore the 2<sup>nd</sup> finger post on the R as you are crossing the col which is close to a large hut with 2 rooms)</p>	
<p>As you reach a grassy rib drop downhill steeply to cross a stile and further down reach a parking area at the end of a track where you turn L, following the grassy track downhill.</p>	14.4km, 3hr 47min
<p>Cross a stream and follow the track slightly uphill to the R to crest a small ridge and</p>	



**Route followed is outlined in Red**

