

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	11 th March 2015
Title of Walk	Montduver figure of eight
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Xeraco Almost due W of the village in the Barranco de Ruta at the Font de Lull parking area.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	12
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	870
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.25hrs 5.5hrs
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 39.021034,Long: -0.252267 Spanish OS grid ref:- 0737930 4322901
Directions to Start	At km 231.2 on the N332 going N look for a Patri supermarket on the RHS. Take the next turning L into a campo road and follow this over the motorway and up into the valley until just before the tarmac ends where there is parking in front of a ruin on the LHS.
Short walk description	A route up to the summit of this attractive mountain and then back above some imposing crags to return to the valley.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Continue W along the tarmac for a few metres until it runs out and then follow the track slightly uphill from here.	
At a junction ignore the turning to the R and continue ahead.	730m, 12mins
When the track ends continue ahead on a footpath with Y/W markers.	1km, 17mins
This starts as a clear mozarabic path but the snakes up sometimes steeply for a few metres and then with relief along rocky pathways as it slowly gains height and finds a way through and around the rocky bands that guard the summit area.	
Soon it turns through the rocks and arrives at a track where we turn L.	2.1km, 43mins

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<p>Follow the track generally towards Xeresa ignoring paths to the R and the L before arriving at the end of the track at a large open area. A few metres before this there is a sign and footpath making its way uphill along a clear ridge.</p> <p>This path continues through a scrubby area before turning R slightly downhill for a few metres under some crags just at the top of a small rock band. Follow the path around to the R until you are clear of the crags above and then watch out for a thinner path going up more steeply to the L with blue paint flashes.</p> <p>Take this as it climbs quite steeply and soon becomes clearer before turning uphill L to reach some easy scrubby rocks with a rope to get in your way.</p> <p>Once up these the path meanders out to the L along rocks before turning R as it reaches the ridge line and continues uphill.</p> <p>There are several other areas with rope protection although you are unlikely to need them going up. (They would be very useful for a descent!). The ridge continues to steepen until finally you emerge on a spur leading down from the main summit. Great views to the E. S and W</p> <p>Turn R initially level and then climb up towards the summit.</p> <p>Keep L of the first fenced enclosure to find a small bas relief of the Virgin Mary and turn R immediately past her to find a concrete path descending to meet a concrete road.</p> <p>Follow the road down. After the first zig to the R there is a "shortcut" footpath leaving on the L by a cairn, but you can more easily (and just as quickly) follow the concrete road down.</p> <p>Arrive at a small col with a small summit in front of you and continue down the concrete road to the R. After the next bend to the L the road rises slightly and there is a fingerpost indicating a footpath going off steeply to the R.</p> <p>Follow this down until after some zig-zags you arrive at a junction where you turn R and walk slightly uphill.</p> <p>Walk around a set of small bluffs before looking out for a cairn indicating the start of your steeper descent down a ridge and follow this down to reach a large ruin on a plateau just above a track. Continue to reach the track and turn R.</p> <p>In a few metres there is a signboard on the RHS and on the LHS a footpath with Y/W leaves the track. Take this.</p> <p>Follow it level for a while before starting to drop down to a large walled ruin at the edge of a spur.</p> <p>Pass the ruin and then follow the path (still with Y/W) back downhill to the R to the head of a rough barranco.</p> <p>Now turn L and rise slightly to reach a finger post where at a cross roads of paths.</p> <p>Turn L and rise up the flank of the hill a little before starting to descend again in zig-zags and at the bottom of the hill at the start of a large flat col look out for a flattened sign board (Mar 15) where you turn L and rise initially steeply uphill.</p> <p>This path soon reaches the crest of a rib where it turns down steeply with vegetated crags on your LHS and a large drop off on the RHS.</p>	<p>3.3km, 58mins</p> <p>4.5km 1hr 28mins</p> <p>4.8km, 1hr 37mins</p> <p>6.1km, 1hr 45mins</p> <p>6.4km, 2hr 2min</p> <p>8km, 2hr 35min</p> <p>8.6km, 2hr 46min</p> <p>8.8km, 2hr 52min</p> <p>9km, 2hr 55min</p>
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Soon you are walking almost level again and heading directly for a large crag. Just before you reach this there is a white arrow indicating an improbably path down to the R. Take this.

(If you go to far you will reach the craggy corner with finger post but nowhere else to go!!)

Drop down to cross the barranco and then start to rise again soon finding the resumption of faded Y/W markers.

Again you cross a few gentle spurs with fabulous views ahead and deep into the barranco where your cars await you.

However to reach them it is necessary to execute a series of more demanding descents down greasy slopes where the original line of the path appears to have been lost.

Fumble down these as best you can and then recommence your route out to the L towards the head of the barranco.

Watch carefully now for a junction. Before you reach this you will have seen a pair of paths one above the other and you need to watch for the junction where you turn abruptly R to drop down to the lower of these.

Follow the zig-zags down with your car now clearly in view and pass directly across a cross roads of paths where you re-join the Y/W path.

This soon descends to the barranco floor and in a few metres joins a track which you ascend to the L to re-join your outgoing route.

Turn R and find the car park in a few metres.

10.1km, 3hr
11min

11.1km, 3hr
32min

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

The rough path descents near the end of the day are difficult. (This route might better be undertaken as a loop. Reverse the finish, join the track, ascend the summit, descend to the track again, turn L and descend by the indicated ascent route.)

See map below.....

Route followed is outlined

