

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

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps
<b>Last Updated</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Alt del Xap and El Passet circuit from Benirrama, 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2015
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Benirrama Park near the Barret de la Vall
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	12
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	450
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	3.25hr 4.5hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	MS/A
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 38.830702, Long: -0.196329
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Follow the CV700 from Pego, past Adsubia and turn L at the sign to the village. Keep R into the village to find parking along the street leading up to the Bar.
<b>Short walk description</b>	A lovely outing with fantastic views forwards to the Forada and R across to the far side of the Gallinera valley with the unspoiled villages below you.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	
<p>From the parking in the village pass the Restaurant Miro on its LHS and then turn R gently uphill.</p> <p>At the next junction turn R more steeply uphill on a concrete track.</p> <p>Look out for the G/W markers indicating the point where you leave this track and follow a level footpath to the L with finger post "R3".</p> <p>Continue on this uphill until it joins a broad track which you follow R and around a bend to the L to reach a more level section.</p> <p>Continue along here until there is a further G/W sign on the RHS indicating the footpath which you now follow also signed "R3".</p> <p>If here at the right time of year (early April) you will find many naked men orchids whose flowers resemble the obvious!</p>	<p><b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b></p> <p>380m, 9min</p> <p>520m, 11.5min</p>

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Eventually this reaches a short rocky defile where you emerge at the top of the ridge.	1.2km, 31min
Now turn slightly L following the G/W path downhill to pass a ruin on the LHS and soon join a road.	1.4km, 35min
Now turn R and follow this along under the peak of Xap until you start to descend and see a large walled finca in front of you.	
Just before this there is a Y/W footpath which passes the building on its RHS and continues uphill.	2.5km, 50min
Join the road at the Mirador and gaze out over the valley before turning L.	3.7km, 1hr 9min
It is best now to follow the road, although you can if you wish turn R up rough ground just before the first bend to the L. (If you do this then continue over the hill over increasingly tough terrain before dropping to reach a set of 3 semi-ruined houses in front of you.)	
Assuming you have followed the road then continue passing a water deposito on the L and starting to drop downhill passing clumps of trees on both sides until you reach 2 tracks on the RHS in a "V" formation. Take the L most of these.	5.2km, 1hr 30min
Drop down to cross a level terrace and then walk up towards the building ruins. Turn L to descend slightly on a rocky footpath soon emerging on a track where you turn R to pass another ruin on your LHS. errace to continue ahead and pass the final house on the RHS– in better condition than the others.	
Now there is a newly bulldozed track above you and you follow this for only a few metres before leaving it uphill across rocks (no clear markers) on the RHS to find large cairns and Y/W markers indicating the vague footpath.	
Follow this for 150m and reach a col – El Passet (ignore a path continuing L)	5.6km, 1hr 36min
- where the path continues directly ahead downhill and then to the L.	
Continue down this amongst dramatic scenery with views of the unspoiled villages below you until you reach a point where there is a manhole cover in the middle of the track.	6.2km, 1hr 52min
Now turn R and follow this as it zig-zags gently downhill to become a broader agricultural track.	
When you reach a junction with a concrete track turn R briefly uphill and then continue level with boulder plantations above and below you!	6.8km, 2hr 7min
This track continues without interruption for 1.2km with occasional more minor tracks going to the R and L which we ignore to finally arrive at a junction with tarmac and slightly below us to the L a road with a No Entry sign.	8km, 2hr 24min
Take this and continue downhill until it passes a large round water deposito and reaches a bend to the L.	
Here a track goes R and we follow this as it drops gently at first and then more steeply downhill to reach a terrace where it appears to end.	
Now take the rougher footpath which drops down to the L and after 150m reach a track where we turn R.	

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Continue on this as it drops downhill to reach a road where we turn R.

Now follow this for several kilometres passing a further water deposito and fuente before reaching the outskirts of the village. Turn R to find your parking place.

9.1km, 2hr 40min

### **Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

Best in April for the orchids.

**NB-GPS track attached overestimates ascent**

See map below.....



**Route followed is outlined in Red**

Note – map shows route over rough ground – not the road alternative described in the text.

