

## COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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| <b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>  | John E. Mail  |   |
| <b>Last Updated</b>   | 30/04/15  |   |
| <b>Title of Walk</b>  | Llomas de Silim and Barranco Selinas.   |   |
| <b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>     | Xixona  |   |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>   | 10.4km  |   |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>  | 550m  |   |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b> | 3.25 hours<br>5 hours   |   |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>                                  | MS/C/Scr  |   |
| <b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>   | Lat:- 38.500441, Long: -0.538854  |   |
| <b>Directions to Start</b>  | <p>Just off the CV 819 ;This rather difficult back road - not recommended for Ferraris - runs from near to Mutxamel to near to Xixona. It is easier &amp; quicker to get there by going to Xixona (Jijona) and taking the CV810 towards Tibi and turning left after about 3km onto the CV 819 signposted "Montnegre". After 4.5km park on the left. There is a big painted arrow in the road.</p> <p>If you come from the Mutxamel end then measure 12.5 km from where you cross the motorway AP7. This road is slow and difficult so give yourself plenty of time!</p> |   |
| <b>Short walk description</b>   | <p>After a difficult but stunning walk along a ridge between the Mont Negre &amp; Salinas Barrancos we descend, with a bit of scrambling into the spectacular gorge for a walk along the valley floor. Passing spectacular rock formations and after scrambling over a dam we enter a narrow section of the gorge which is almost cave-like in parts. After a short tunnel we scramble out of the water course and follow well defined paths back to the cars</p>   |   |
| <b>Full Walk Description</b>  |   | <b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b> |
| Leave the cars and follow the road in the direction of Alicante                             |   | 0km<br>0hrs                                 |

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| After 190 metres turn left onto broad track  | 2min,0.19 km          |
| Ignore fork to the left and stay on track  | 0.33 km, 4min         |
| At "no through road sign" turn left and head towards ridge   | 0.61 km, 8min         |
| At a cluster of pine trees take a faint path to your left up onto the ridge. (A more defined path to your right traverses the slope of the ridge – but is a bit exposed and loose underfoot – but it can be used too).   | 0.7km, 9 min          |
| Once on the ridge turn right and follow the ridge line to the next small col between the undulations   | 0.8km, 10 min         |
| Continue along the ridge line but take the lower path to your left to the next small col   | 1.35km, 20min         |
| Go between two pine trees and get up onto the crest of the ridge. Follow the ridge and you will get to a ring of stones – probably a hunters hide  | 1.77 km, 30min        |
| Continue following the crest of the ridge and at the next small col you will cross a marked footpath from the gorge below to the village of Mont Negre   | 1.91km, 33 min        |
| Cross the footpath and follow the line of the ridge to the next summit   | 2.21 km, 40 min       |
| Stay on crest of ridge to the highest point on the ridge   | 2.38km, 44 min        |
| Stay on the centreline of the ridge and descend carefully to a flatish area. Some scrambling needed  | 2.68Km, 54 min        |
| Stay just to the left of the crest of the ridge & descend further. More scrambling at times and care needed as it is loose underfoot. As the gradient eases the path has yellow paint markings on it.  | 3.21km, 1hr 5 min     |
| Follow the yellow marked path but keep to the higher option where there are multiple paths leading back up to just below the ridge line. After the last mini col on the ridge the path descends sharply to a "tee" junction with a well defined path.  | 3.7km, 1hr 15 min     |
| Turn left on new path and follow it down into the barranco bottom. A new marked deviation has been provided to lead you down a more manageable slope into the valley.  | 3.8km, 1hr 16min      |
| In the barranco turn right and walk to the dam where we have lunch.  | 4km<br>1hr 20 min     |
| Having looked over the dam retrace your steps to the point where you came into the valley bottom and continue walking upstream until you reach a crossing of ways and a signpost.  | 5.42km, 1hr 40min     |
| Continue along the barranco following the direction "barranco de las Salinas" until you reach the next dam. Cross the dam using the rungs & chain at the left (Western) side.  | 6.32km, 1hr 55min     |
| Follow valley until you reach a major junction. There is a cairn here.   | 6.9km<br>2hr 07min    |
| Take the right hand valley and head upstream. This part of the route is wet underfoot in parts and bamboo can be a problem. The gorge gets narrow and often overhangs. Eventually you will get to a short "tunnel" after which you take a path up on the L and out of the watercourse through a forest of bamboo. The climb up is short but steep and some scrambling is needed. | 7.7 km<br>2hrs 30 min |

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| <p>Once out of the barranco you will be on a terrace of old almond trees. Turn left and you will see a ramp up onto the next higher terrace. Go up the ramp and move in the "upstream" direction of the main barranco for about 25 metres and you will see a steep route to the next level terrace. Go up and continue along this terrace until you can go no further. A steep path to your left turns back "downstream" (L) and rises to get you up onto much higher ground. The track turns sharply to your right at the top and you will head for an old abandoned finca with storage caves underneath.</p> | <p>7.9km<br/>2hrs 35 min</p>  |
| <p>Walk above and past the farmhouse to reach a track which we follow from behind the house. Follow the track away from the barranco.</p>  |   |
| <p>After 5 min on the broad track a series of footpaths go off to the L uphill. Take any one of them.</p>  | <p>8.2km<br/>2hrs 40min</p>   |
| <p>Follow the path up the hill and over the other side until you reach a broad track where you turn R.</p>   | <p>8.5km<br/>2 hr 50min</p>   |
| <p>Stay on the broad track, follow it round and up the hill and down the other side and up again until you reach a wall which is under construction.</p>   | <p>9 km<br/>2hr 58</p>  |
| <p>Turn L by the wall and take the path down the other side of the valley you have just ascended. 30M down this path ignore the track going down into the fields and stay on the narrow path.</p>  |   |
| <p>Follow the path for 17 min and stay around and steeply down to cross the cross the barranco bottom.</p>   | <p>10.14km<br/>3hr 15min</p>  |
| <p>From the barranco follow the path uphill and this will take you directly back to the cars 4 mins later we are back at the cars.</p>   | <p>10.4km<br/>3.hr 18min</p>  |
| <p><b>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</b></p>   | <p>Do not attempt this walk if there is any chance of heavy rainstorms.</p> <p>The ground is quite loose in parts and walking poles are useful.</p> <p>Bring gloves for the chains for the dam scrambling if you need them.</p> |

See map below.....



Route followed is outlined in Red

