

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	22 nd Sep 2015
Title of Walk	GR11 – Day 18. Refugio Bujaruelo to Refugio Goriz
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Torla Refugio de Bujaruelo to the N of Torla along a gravel track in good condition.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	25
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	1680
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	6.5 8.5
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.694446, Long: -0.106945
Directions to Start	Starting from Jaca in northern Spain, travel E towards Sabinanigo and then N and then E on the N260 taking care to turn off to follow it at Biescas. Follow signs to Ordessa, drive through Torla and where the road to Ordessa crosses the river to the R, look out for a turning on the L immediately after the bridge which soon becomes a gravel track following the river to the refuge of Bujaruelo where there is ample parking.
Short walk description	A demanding day that starts with a lengthy walk down the valley followed by an increasingly steep walk up a delightful valley culminating in steep climb up to the remote refuge.
Full Walk Description	
<p>Walk across the old bridge and immediately turn R along the bank of the river.</p> <p>This path is tricky in its early stages crossing several rocky and tree root lined stages which are treacherous when wet.</p> <p>Pass a footbridge across the river - Puente de los Abetos (to a campsite) - and continue ahead.</p> <p>Reach a gravel track and bridge across the river to the R (Puente de Santa Elena). Cross this and turn L to continue on a footpath.</p>	<p>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</p> <p>3.1km, 47mins</p> <p>4.5km, 1hr 4min</p>

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<p>This rises more than you would like before traversing under some crags and then finally falling back down to the road.</p>	7.7km, 2hr 8min
<p>There are one or two signed paths joining us. Keep ahead on the GR11 with its R/W markers.</p>	
<p>Turn L along the road and quickly cross an old bridge on the L (closed for repair in 2015) or alternatively the newer road bridge.</p>	
<p>At the far side of this turn R steeply down under an arch of the new bridge for a few metres to regain the river and cross by a concrete bridge before starting to climb more steeply uphill on the LHS.</p>	8.5km, 2hr 23min
<p>(There are 2 alternative paths here – either will do)</p>	
<p>Slowly you gain height and the steepness abates a little as you wander along a woodland path on the R bank of the Ordessa gorge.</p>	
<p>There are several turnings to the L down to viewpoints which you can visit if you wish and as you reach a track an anonymous bridge on the LHS would lead you out to the parking and a bar restaurant!</p>	
<p>However we continue ahead to meet a junction where a path joins us from the L after crossing a bridge and we continue directly ahead on a surfaced path with board edgings.</p>	13.2km, 3hr 37min
<p>(At this junction you could also turn R soon very steeply uphill to meet a path along a Fajada which undulates high above the valley and eventually to the Cola de Soaso – a waterfall resembling a horses' tail)</p>	
<p>After a while in a slightly confusing area the path ends and we cross a bridge on the L to reach a track and almost immediately a junction where we turn R gently uphill.</p>	14.1km, 3hr 48min
<p>This soon climbs in zig-zags in the woodland and passes a number of viewpoints for waterfalls on the main river – Rio Arazas – and eventually emerges in clear high pasture.</p>	
<p>Potentially ahead now you will be able to see the Cola or at least its probably position and the path keeps to the L bank of the river to wind up to a bridge over the river immediately below the waterfall.</p>	21.8km, 5hr 30min
<p>Cross this and keep low for a few metres to find the continuing R/W path which soon starts to climb.</p>	
<p>There is a fork which has both arms going to Refugio Goriz – one by the Clavitas (a scrambling route with stemples) and the other by the footpath. The footpath is longer but quicker.</p>	
<p>Zig-sag through some crags to the R of the waterfall and then walk level towards it before turning back R and starting to ascend steeply again and only after several kilometers do you reach the Refugio standing lonely on a small promontory.</p>	
<p>(Although there is a constructed addition to this it is not open and the wardens anticipate several more years before completion. In the meantime the cold showers and toilets are in a portacabin outside the main refuge. You have to be very determined to wash!!)</p>	
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>Hard and gruelling day with fantastic scenery. A world heritage site!</p>

Route followed is outlined in Red.



