

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	19 th October 2015
Title of Walk	Ermita de Pineta to Espierba
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Bielsa, Ermita de Pineta is due W along the HU-C6402 beside the river Cinca.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	15.5
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	850
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.25 5.66
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.678308,Long- 0.085042
Directions to Start	From northern Spain, E of both Jaca and Sabinanigo take the A138 north to find Bielsa village. There turn L on a minor road towards La Pineta. The car park is down a small lane on the LHS and across a bridge just before the Ermita and the Parador. There is an Ordessa Park information office and a small bar here.
Short walk description	A magnificent round with wide views of the high tops to begin with followed by an open ridge traverse and descent on wide tracks to Espierba.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p><u>This walk requires a car shuffle.</u></p> <p>Leave the first car at Espierba on the way up the valley from Bielsa. Look out for the R turn which leads via tight zig-zag bends up to the village and a little way up you encounter a wider space with a couple of locked water cabinets at ground level where there is space for parking a couple of cars. Leave the first car here and then drop back down to the main road and turn R up the valley to reach a large car park on the LHS just over a bridge. (payment sometimes necessary)</p> <p>From the car park walk up a track with the NP office just on your LHS and signs to Llanos de Lalarri.</p>	
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Stay on this track ignoring a couple of footpaths going off L and cross several bridges spanning grand waterfalls.	
Eventually you walk up a couple of zig-zags to reach an information board about the glaciers	4.2km, 1hr 2min
and shortly after that after a level section you reach a wide open valley.	4.5km, 1hr 6min
Turn R to pass an old farmhouse and up on the RHS of a gully.	
Look out for a cairn and yellow paint splash indicating a route crossing the gully to the L and continuing to ascend across the flank of the hill.	
Reach a waterfall on the LHS	5.4km, 1hr 31min
and here double back to the R still uphill and following R/W markers.	
Take care here to pick out the R/W markers which are intermittent and tricky to spot as you double back to the L and then the R again rising through trees.	
The slope eases as you enter grassland and you cross a ruined fence and walk L into an open corrie.	5.8km, 1hr 43min
Zig-zag steeply up to crest the col on the RHS.	6.2km, 1hr 52min
Walk slightly down the other side and along through pastures till you cross a stream where you ease to the L (with water troughs above you on LHS) and steadily uphill to intersect the track which has been visible in front of you for some time.	7.3km, 2hr 14min
Now turn R along this track as it swings around to the L passing a walled enclosure slightly above you and then starts to descend steadily.	
After 2 zig-zag sections	10.2km, 2hr 54min
you resume your course parallel to and down the valley and eventually reach the road leading to your parked cars at Espierba. The views across the valley and ahead to higher mountains make this excursion worth while.	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	None

Route followed is outlined in Red

