COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Visit www.walksinspain.org for more walks descriptions in Spain

Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	21/10/15
Title of Walk	Tella circuit
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Bielsa, Cortalavina A small hamlet just to the N of the A138.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	12
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	610
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.75hr 4.75hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/A
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.563619, Long: 0.172558
Directions to Start	From northern Spain, E of both Jaca and Sabinanigo on the N260 take the A138 north to reach the small hamlet of Hospital de Tella and here take a minor road directly towards Tella. A little way along here you reach a winding set of tight zig-zags at Cortalavina. When you reach a track junction -signed Mirabal - on the L park just past this on the RHS or on the start of the track.
Short walk description	An interesting loop taking in a set of Ermitas, a Dolmen and wide views.

Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From your car walk uphill around several sets of zig-zags to reach a footpath with finger post leaving on the RHS to Tella. (PR-HU39)	480m, 8min
Take this uphill following its delightful route with views to the front and R of distant mountains and soon an antenna in front of you.	
Emerge onto pastures just below the village and if (as the author found) the footpath is covered in nettles you can avoid these by working a little higher across the field parallel to the footpath to emerge onto a track.	2.6km, 1hr
Turn L and walk up the crazy paved road (following R/W markers) through a couple of bends to reach a T-Jnc where you turn R.	

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Quickly reach the first of the Ermitas opposite a National Park information office.	2.7km, 1hr 5min
Just before this a footpath with green sign takes off below the Ermita to the L signed "Circuito de las Ermitas". (3 more to come!)	
Follow this uphill in a few zig-zags and cross a shallow col before turning L up along a wooded path (box bushes) that can be muddy. (Views of the 3 sisters and Anisclo).	3km, 1hr 12min
Reach a junction just above an open plateau with Ermita (Ermita de San Juan y San Pablo) in the middle distance on a small hill – which you can visit.	3.5km, 1hr 21min
Otherwise turn L and continue on the circuit uphill to reach a second col with an Ermita on the LHS (Ermita de la Virgen de Fajanillas) and another on the RHS (Ermita de la Virgen de la Peña)	3.8km, 1hr 26min
When finished with your visits drop downhill from the col on a paved but steep footpath soon to return to the village streets where you keep ahead to arrive back at Tella and the first Ermita.	
Pass between it and the NP Office………..	4.5km, 1hr 38min
and descend on tarmac to soon reach a footpath descending on the LHS.	
Take this with R/W markers and drop down in zig-zags to rejoin the road where you turn L.	4.8km, 1hr 44min
Work your way around a set of zig-zags where you can take a footpath to cut out the loop and soon reach a junction with a footpath on the RHS which leads down a small barranco and then ahead past a R/W footpath on the LHS to reach the dolmen -a pre-historic burial site with supported rock roof.	5.5km, 1hr 55min
After viewing return a short way to the R/W path and turn R downhill on this.	
Descend on this to reach a section of paved path before reaching a road where you turn L and then immediately R to descend on a track between farm buildings.	6.3km, 2hr 14min
This reduces in size to be firstly a paved footpath and then an open path through meadows with views ahead to Castiello Major.	
Soon you descend directly onto a spur (ignoring side tracks) and continue descending through woodland to eventually reach a broad forest track.	8.5km, 3hr
Turn L here and follow this through bends and undulations to eventually reach the road and your parked car.	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	None

Route followed is outlined in Red