

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKS

SIERRA BERNIA : CIRCUIT.

S13

BERNIA BARBECUE CAR PARK – FORT - BANCAL LARGA – “FORAT” - BARBECUE CAR PARK.

WALK SPECS: DISTANCE 9.8km - WALKING TIME 4hrs - ASCENT 450mtrs. GRADE MS

(Walking time only – add time for breaks and lunch)

WALK DESCRIPTION BY: Jean & Bob Hall hallbobandjean@aol.com **VERIFIED** Dec. 2014

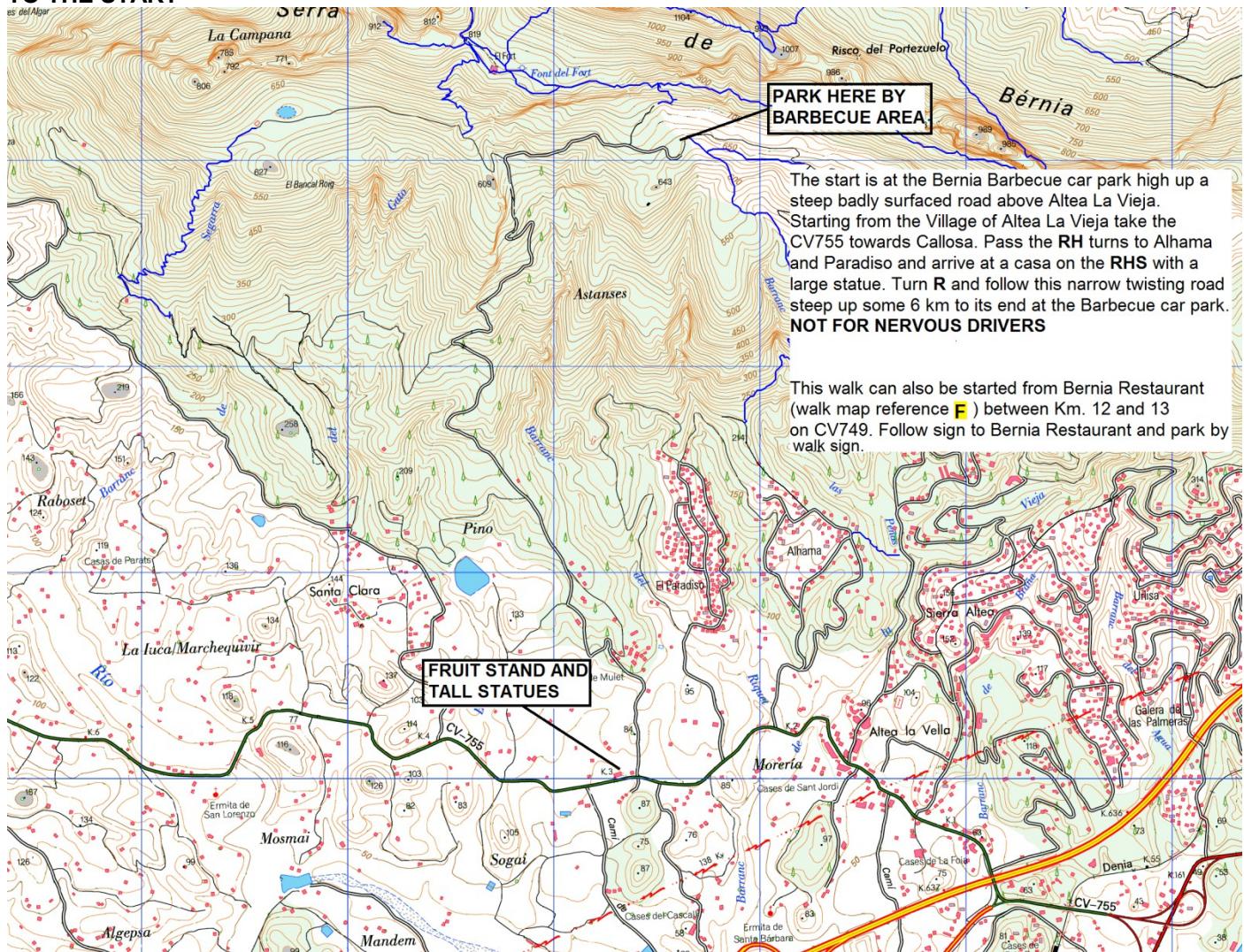
LEGAL NOTICE: Although we strive to make descriptions as correct as possible, use at your own risk.

WALK DESCRIPTION

This is a popular walk and deservedly so. It is a circuit encompassing the main part of the Sierra but excluding its Eastern end. Starting at an altitude of 650 meters gets you into easy contact with the higher part of the mountain. Yet the walk is quite challenging involving some easy short rock scrambles, short traverses across or slightly up scree, some steep climbs and a 30-meter long semi stoop/ crawl through the "Forat". Views are magnificent especially from the Fort onwards. The ruined Fort is interesting and the "Forat" is a curious feature. This is a tunnel through the "rock spine" of the Sierra some 30 meters long and in part approx a meter high and wide, not claustrophobic as daylight shines through and taken with care, no hazards. Sometimes muddy.

This walk can also start on the opposite side of Bernia at the Bernia Restaurant. See note on map below.

TO THE START



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WALK DESCRIPTION BY: Michael Davies davies.mt@googlemail.com **VERIFIED** Dec. 2014

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THE START

Note that times quoted are walking time only. - no breaks.

Underlined letters are map references.

**Total distance and
% of walk completed
based on total time**

Walk back up the road for approx 300meters to it crest and take the surfaced road going up **R** passing by casitas and ending at a deposito **A**. (There are 5/6 car spaces here if you want to shorten the walk, but road is rough). **(10min .6km)** **0.6km 4%**

Find path going up to Font Runar **B**. **(5min .1km)** **0.7km 7%**

Continue going up **L** to reach a signpost **C**. Follow the clearly marked path **L** to the Fort. **(30min 1.0km)**
1.7km 20%

From the Fort there are many paths. Our aim is to pass below the summit to the **W**. you will soon come across the main path again which continues to the “Rock Gate” **D** gap between Severino and shoulder of Bernia. **(5min .2km)** **1.9km 21%**

Continue down the path bearing **R**, (Do not miss the stupendous views of the cliffs of Severino on the **L** and the “leaning” peak of Cerro de Parados far to the west; the village of Bollula in the valley below, with Tarbena on the heights to the **R** and to the north the nearby 2 peaks of Ovenga divided by the deep cleft of the Paso Bandoleras from the jagged range of the Sierra Ferrer beyond). The path continues to the broad col **E** between Orenga and Bernia. **(15min .8km)** **2.7km 28%**

From the col look **NNE** to sight buildings, amongst trees, some 1.25km away. These are your next objective. Ignore the track going from the col and find a path going down on the **LHS**. Follow this path across a small valley to where it rejoins the track. Turn **L**. **(7min .3km)** **3.0km 39%**
(If you miss this path continue along the track to arrive at the same place.)

Ignore minor track off **L** and continue on main track to T-junction with surfaced road and walk information board at Bernia **F**. **(18min 1.4km)** **4.4km 47%**

Turn **R** along road, which soon becomes a track winding round to the Fuente **G**. **(15min 1.2km) 5.6km 53%**

Do not continue along the track.Climb up the steps at the Fuente and find a path on going steep up. Follow this path with short rock scrambles to eventually, and thankfully, reach the Forat. Stoop/crawl some 30 meters through the mountain to the sunny side of the Bernia Ridge. **(40min 1.4km) 7.0km 71%**

From the Forat the main path goes **W**, slowly descending at the foot of the ridge and crossing rocky outcrops and scree to pass a large evergreen oak on your **LHS**. Continue along the clearly marked path to arrive at the signpost **C** of our outward path.**(45min 2km)** **9.0km 90%**

The main path continues on but you turn **L** (Direction Font del Garreferel) to reach Font Runar and on down to the deposito. **(12min .2km)** **9.2km 96%**

Retrace your steps down the road to your car(s). **(10min .6km)** **9.8km 100%**

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