COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-Jean Russell

2nd September 2012 **Last Updated**

Title of Walk Alternative Olta circuit from Calpe

Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)

Calpe, Tennis Club

Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km

14.5 500

Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and

4.33 5.5

total completion time including any stops **Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW**

system)

MS/B

Grid reference of start point (if known)

Lat:- 38.648055,Long: 0.050081

Directions to Start

From the N332, take the road towards the centre of Calpe. At the roundabout, just before the (Mas y Mas) Plaza Central complex, take the left turn. At the next small roundabout continue straight and 75m later you will see the Tennis Club on the LHS. Park there or on

the waste ground opposite.

Short walk description

A circular walk, through the countryside from Calpe up to the campsite and then, following little used tracks, in an anti-clockwise direction, the route runs parallel to the traditional wide-track Olta circuit and returns via Calpe railway station.

Full Walk Description

Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far

Walk to the rubbish bins and turn right. Follow the tarmac track to the road junction, cross over and keep straight ahead ,past the brightly coloured school on RHS. Ignore the broad track to the Botanic Gardens on RHS and follow the track as it bears left, Ignore any narrow tracks off to the right and keep following the broad track, until after 15 mins you arrive at a junction.

15 mins

Turn right. When you arrive at a finger post follow the narrower track to the left, ignoring a narrow track on the RHS. You will come to a tunnel under the N332.

25 mins

Walk to the end of the rough lay-by, ignore the road on the left and walk along the N332 behind the metal barrier to the Casa del Maco (Lleus) road and turn left.

30 mins

Take the second wide track on LHS and where it forks, keep left. Look for the "yellow banana" sign on an old tree on the right.

35 mins

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Where the track forks again keep left and left again at the next fork. This takes you down to a tunnel under the railway line. Go through the tunnel and follow the track, passing a ruined finca on the left and you will come to a chain. Here you turn up to the right following a track with red and white waymarks, up through the trees, ignoring any side tracks to the right and you will arrive at a tarmac road.

50 mins

There is also a finger post. Look left and take the red/white way-marked track up through the trees, again ignoring any tracks off to the right. Arrive at a wide road and bear left for a few metres. Go through the gap between the road and the wooden fence and this will bring you to the Olta campsite with toilets, tables and benches etc.

1 hr

Head to the childrens play area and follow the sign PRCV340. Follow yellow/white way-marks and take the broad track, pass the information board and at the finger-post take the La Canal/Olta Nort direction. At the next finger-post take the wide track on the left signed La Canal.

1hr 20mins

At the next finger-post (900m from the camp-site) take the narrow track up to the left and keep following this upwards. Some scrambling is involved but only for a short section. After 15mins you will arrive at a flat area between Olta and Little Olta.

1hr 35mins

Ignore a large cairn on the right and follow the track to the finger-post. Turn left on to a wide track, taking the Zona Acampada/Olta Sur direction. There are good views to the Bernia ridge on the RHS.

1hr 40mins

When you come to a broad track on the left with a cairn and green dot follow this track. and when you come to another track on the left marked by a cairn on the LHS take this.

1hr 55mins

The track narrows and is quite over-grown, it crosses some areas of scree. Continue following green signs and where the path forks keep right. When the path forks at a large boulder, climb over this and take the narrow track down to the right. Cross another scree patch and take the track going down to the right.

2hr 15mins

When the path forks, take the right turn (marked by a green dot) In a couple of minutes you will arrive at a broad track. (part of the main Olta Circuit). Turn left and continue to the next finger-post.

2hr 25mins

Take the Cim Norte direction and follow the narrow track upwards until you arrive at another finger-post where you turn right.

2hr 35mins

Keep to the left of the old finca and follow the narrow track. Soon you will cross some scree patches. There are 2 cairns where the track continues. Once you are out of the trees, there is a clear section with good views down to the motorway tunnels and the Maryvilla development.

2hr 45mins

When the track divides keep to the upper track. As the track continues round there are excellent views across to the Salinas and the Penyon. The narrow track ends at a flat area where there is a large rock in front. Follow the broad track to the left and you will arrive at another finger-post. Take the right turn down to the Ermita, ignoring the broad track coming in from the right which is the tradional circuit route. At the Ermita there are picnic tables and toilets.

3hr

On leaving the Ermita, turn right and retrace your route back to the finger-post. Turn right in the "Cim" direction and ignoring a broad track on the left, continue to the next finger-post. A track to the left here would take you "up the gully" to the summit but continue straight along to the end of the broad track where there is a large rock slab on the right (blue horseshoe marking). Follow the narrow track which is eroded and slippery in parts and you will arrive at the water station where you rejoin the main broad Olta

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Circuit track. Turn left. Continue over the chain.

3hrs25mins

t the next finger-post keep to the Zona Acampanada direction and when you come to a broad track on the right marked by a yellow and white cross on a stone. turn right.

3hr 30mins

This track becomes narrower. Follow this ignoring any side tracks. Cross a small patch of scree and continue through sawn off tree trunks.

3hr 35 mins

The narrow track joins a wider one. Keep going right and when the broad track forks, ignore the left turning, look for a cairn on the RHS. You will arrive at a junction with another broad track and finger-post . Turn left heading for the station, just over 1km away. Keep straight on, ignoring a track on the RHS. You will arrive at a chain and the edge of the Urbanisation.

3hr 50mins

At Casa Pequena Flor follow the road down to the left and keep following this road ignoring any roads off to left or right. You will arrive at a junction where you turn right, cross over the railway line and continue to Calpe station.

3hr 55mins

Opposite the station, look for the small track to the RHS of the last house. Follow this to the finger-post and take the small track at the RHS of Casa La Terraza. This takes you to a small lane which then brings you to a road. Follow the road down to the right and you will arrive at the N332, opposite the Rocinante Hotel.

4hr 10mins

Cross the N332 and take the track to the right of the hotel. At the finger-post continue straight ahead. When the road bends to the left, keep on the track straight ahead of you which then joins a road. Follow down to the left and you will arrive at Calpe bus staion on the RHS.

4hr 15mins

Cross the road just before the traffic lights and take the road left between Victoria Rentacar and the Chinese restaurant. Then take the first road on the right until you arrive at the roundabout. Turn left and you will arrive back at the tennis club.

4hr 20mins

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None