

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	23 rd October 2017
Title of Walk	GR11 – Day 43. Oix to Albanya
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Oix Can Pei accommodation 1.2km NE of the village centre.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	28.5
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	1710
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	6hr 9hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.275644, Long 2.541096
Directions to Start	Using the N260 road which goes E – W to the S of the Pyrenean chain, take the A26 motorway section to reach Castellfollit de la Roca and then the GIV 5221 N to reach Oix. Can Pei (accommodation) is 1.5km to the NE of the village.
Short walk description	A long and demanding day not to be undertaken lightly. High ridges to cross, a famous ermita, lonely villages and a long and punishing concrete track descent to reach your final destination.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>Leave Can Pei (the only accommodation in Oix?) and turn left up the track. Keep left at a fork to wait under some dramatic cliffs and descend to cross a bridge swinging right and then a second high bridge to the left after a finger post and ascend to a second finger post where you turn left.</p> <p>After another track joins you from the left continue to drop down and cross a cattle grid by a parking spot and into a meadow.</p> <p>Turn right at the finger post and cross the bridge.</p> <p>Turn slightly right ascending to reach a second finger post where you turn right towards Talaixa.</p>	3km, 33min

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Quickly reach a track and turn right uphill.	3.3km, 36min
50m up turn right up a footpath that looks more like a gully to rejoin the track higher up and turn right.	
Zigzag up the track and just before a ruin (Can Vaquet) turn left up a steep footpath. Take care to hunt out the correct line and higher pass a ruined building and leftovers of a gate.	5km, 59min
Pass a rudimentary fence and a little higher walk around a dry gully. Finally reach the col where there is a large house - Talaixa - which may be able to sell you drinks and bars.	6km, 1hr 13min
Descend over the col and arrive on a terrace with many ruined buildings which we walk behind and then ascend. Once you start to descend look out for a short ramp up one terrace to the left.	6.9km, 1hr 23min
Pass some sticks masquerading as a gate and shortly keep ahead at a finger post on the path which now has multi coloured waymarks.	
Round a small exposed spur with a chain for protection and continue uphill for sometime before starting to descend in zigzags. Following this is a long traverse left until you reach a fork with waymarks where you go right and zigzag down.	
Turn around to the left on front of a ruin with other buildings now visible and cross a small stream to reach a junction.	
Ignore the GR11 sign and turn right to pass to the left of the church (Sant Anioli) and cross a swing bridge.	9.5km, 1hr 56min
Turn right at the far side of the bridge and walk down the river bank.	
As you round a spur to the left take care to take the lower of two paths which descends a little before rising again where you ignore a fork where a path descends to the river.	
Two finger posts now appear in rapid succession and turn left at the second of these signed to Albanya.	
A short way forward cross the river, walk a little way up the far bank before starting to climb steeply in zigzags.	10.3km, 2hr 6min
Reach an open spur with limited views out over the valley on the left before contouring around with a little respite before recommencing the climb. Cross the col Roig (no marker).....	12.4km, 2hr 40min
and drift off left along a path. Drop down in stages to cross a stream bed and work uphill (very steep) to reach a track at a ruin.	13.5km, 2hr 56min
Turn right along the rising track (500m or so) to meet a finger post where you turn right descending slightly onto a footpath, soon climbing again.	
Eventually reach a track again with a finger post where you turn right uphill.	14.2km, 3hr 7min
150m ahead fork left steeply up a footpath at a finger post. Quickly walk through an	

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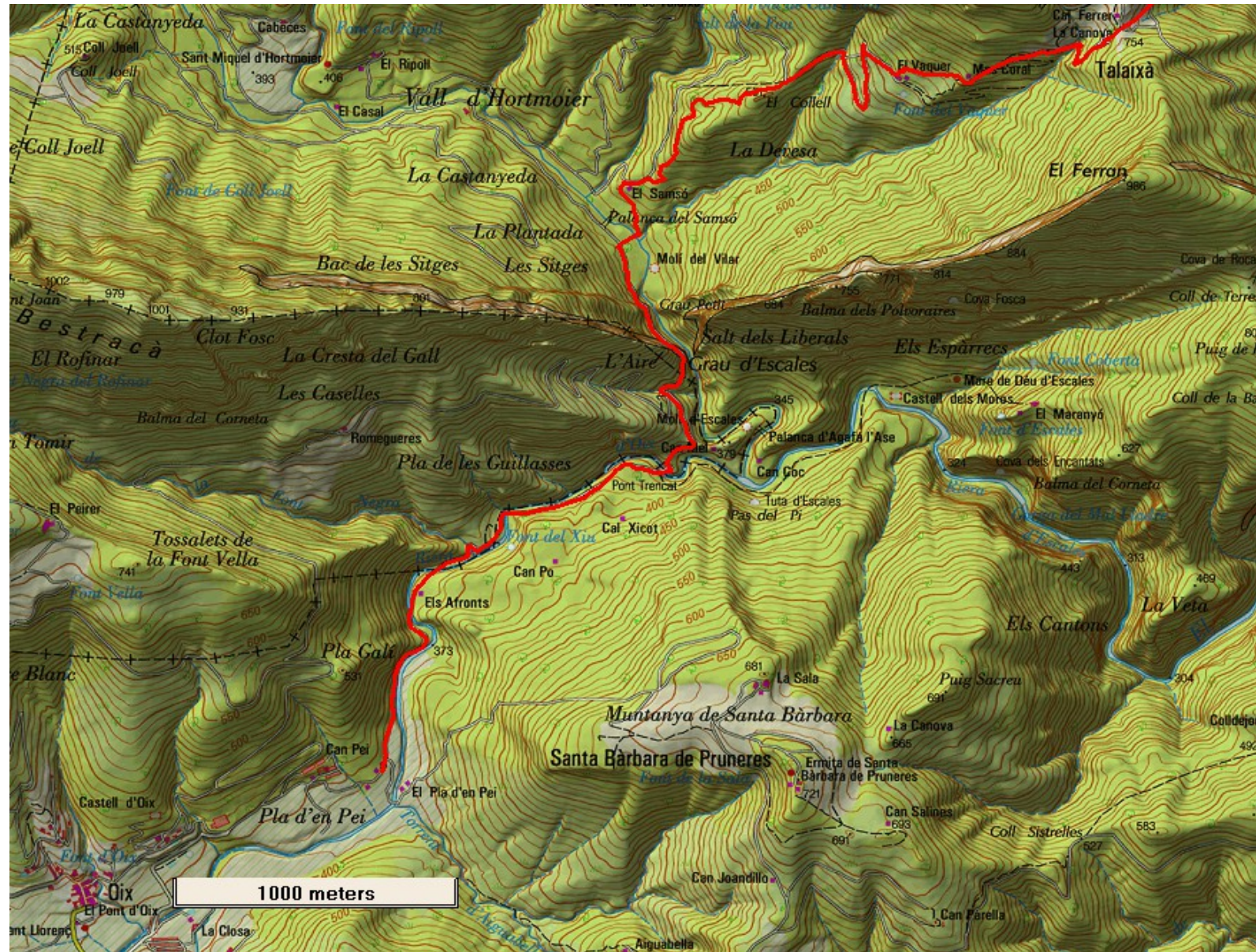
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<p>open area where you swing back to the left rising very steeply to reach a track where you turn right.</p> <p>Finally thread through the col de Principi to the right and fork left at a junction.</p> <p>Pass a finger post opposite to some road signs and then a little further another finger post but keep ahead on the track.</p> <p>After a short distance there is yet another finger post where we turn left onto a footpath descending on zigzags signed to the Refugio de Bassegoda.</p> <p>When you finally reach it.....</p> <p>turn left in front of it to follow a level path towards Can Nou.</p> <p>Walk down on the right of this and turn left onto a track that passes through the buildings. It is occasionally open for refreshments.</p> <p>Continue down this track till it runs into concrete and then left at a T jnc and now you are faced with a long walk down to Albanya, which generally shows no signs of life.</p> <p>Your journey can be relieved a little by taking some of the yellow way marked shortcuts down, starting with the second of these where there is a large cairn. When you reach the river keep ahead at a junction.</p> <p>Finally, pass a large campsite to arrive at the village.</p> <p><small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small></p>	<p>15km, 3hr 24min</p> <p>16.9km, 3hr 48min</p> <p>17.3km, 3hr 54min</p>
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	Long and very demanding day!

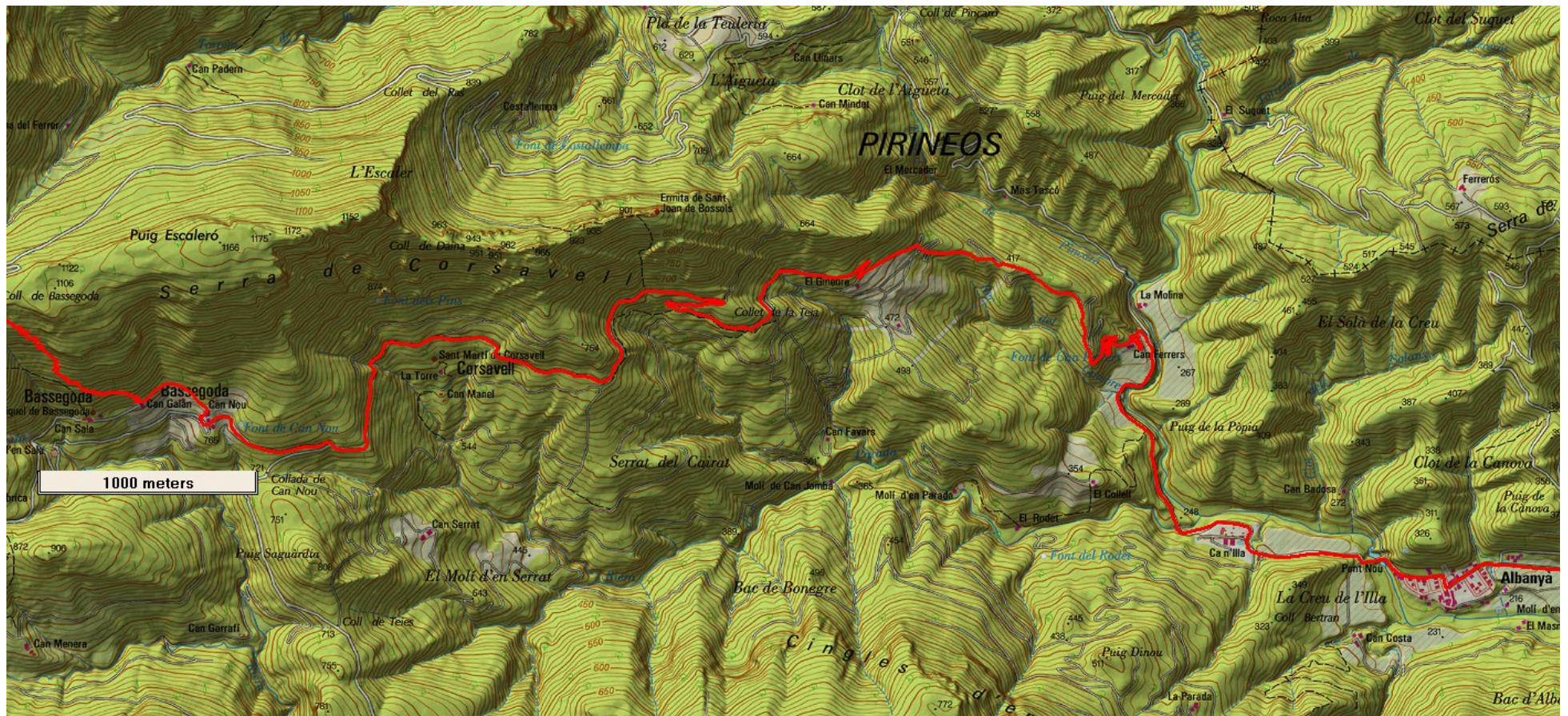
See maps below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red (generally moving from bottom L to top R)



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