

## COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps	
<b>Last Updated</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Serrella castle and Aixorta flanks from Castell de Castells	
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Castell de Castells Car park in village centre	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	15	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	780	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	4hrs 5hrs	
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	S/B	
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 38.723827, Long: -0.194761	
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Take the CV720 through Pedreguer and Parcent to reach the village of Castells. On entering the village the car park is on the L at a T-jnc. Turn into calle Jose Antonion and drop down a ramp into the car park.	
<b>Short walk description</b>	A good stretch almost entirely on good tracks and paths to the castle (optional scramble) and on to the flanks of Aixorta with panoramic views out towards the coast.	
<b>Full Walk Description</b>		<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
<p>Leave the car park the way you came in and turn R, taking the leftmost fork ahead of you. Walk along this leaving the town and crossing a barranco to reach the main road to Tarbena. Turn L here.</p> <p>Take the first turn R.</p> <p>Walk up this road and at a T-jnc go straight ahead dropping briefly to cross a barranco and then rising steeply for a while.</p> <p>When you reach a building on the RHS cross the rough gravel area towards it and then take the track going uphill to its L. signed with Y/W markers</p> <p>Follow this with several zig-zags to the L until you reach a junction where you can continue ahead on a track. Take this ignoring the Y/W markers on the track to the L.</p>		<p>480m, 7mins</p> <p>1km, 15mins</p> <p>1.6km, 25mins</p>

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Drop a little to reach a barranco bottom where the track ends. Walk a few metres up the barranco to the L and turn R on a clear mozarabic footpath. Follow this uphill in zig-zags to reach a track.	2.4km, 42mins
Cross this and continue ahead still on a zig-zag footpath. Just as you reach the ridgeline torn R and drop a little before intersecting a track running along the ridge.	2.8km, 51mins
Turn sharp L here and follow this track up to a col.	3.4km, 1hr 3mins
Here there is an optional ascent to the castle and return to the same spot. <b>(Not included in gps track)</b>	
Now continue ahead dropping steeply. Reach a corner where there are views to the R and follow the track down to the L until you reach a cross-roads.	4.4km, 1hr 17mins
Here turn R uphill to quickly reach a view point over the Guadlest valley. Come back a little to find the ridge going directly up to the R and pick out a thin footpath rising up this.	
It remains clear until you reach a small crag which you have to find your way up across rough ground aiming for a larger crag above and off slightly to your L.	4.9km, 1hr 33mins
Aim for this and find a clearer track leaving the crag to the L which we follow level for a while and then rising sharply to reach a major and better defined track where we turn R uphill.	5.3km, 1hr 40mins
Follow this for a few hundred metres to find a footpath arriving from the L and then almost immediately leaving to the R to avoid a long loop of track.	
Take this and continue ahead winding up along the flanks of Aixorta with views opening as you clear the tree line. Wind around to the R to find an enclosed cultivated area which we pass.	6km, 1hr 51mins
Continue ahead on the track to reach a col with junction and a 20kph speed limit sign on the L. Take this track which quickly starts to descend.	6.5km, 1hr 57mins
Follow this down and at a junction keep L.	
After a further 4 sharp bends you can drop off across open ground with a thin path to reach a clear track that runs steeply down through the woods and cuts out a long track loop.	7km, 2hr 5mins
At the bottom of this descent turn R to join the better track and continue down in zig-zags.	
Just above the plateau near the bottom reach a junction with fingerpost with Y/W markers and turn L.	8.9km, 2hr 31mins
Reach a further jnc and turn R still following the fingerpost directions.	
Rise over a small brow and head past a refurbished house on the RHS.	
At the next junction turn L.	9.9km, 2hr 43mins
Drop down to a junction with a notice board and turn L towards Pena Escoda steeply downhill.	

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

Once down nearer the valley floor the track turns almost due W for about 800m and at the end of this section turns obliquely R heading almost NE and descending. When the main track then turns to the L again (SW) ignore this and continue ahead still on a track.

12.3km, 3hrs  
15mins

This drops to pass several ruins and when the track narrows ahead watch out for a cairn on the LHS which signals the path we take.

Follow this down a little vaguely for a few metres before it becomes a clearer mozarabic track and runs just above the valley floor.

Drop into a barranco and cross the directly on a level bancal.

Reach a larger barranco and walk along it briefly exiting on either side on a path before moving to the LHS as a dam comes into view.

Rise up to pass the LH corner of the dam and then as you descend you join a broader track.

At a Y jnc turn L uphill and soon rejoin the major track you left earlier.

13.8km, 3hr  
39mins

Turn R and follow this down to the road retracing your steps back into the viallge and the car park.

**Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

None

Route followed is outlined in Red

