

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	13 th November 2017
Title of Walk	Barranco de Dalt and Clot de la Llacuna circuit
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Benichembla. Castell de Castells road. (CV720) Park at bridge 4 ½ km beyond Benichembla. Park at side of hrs road, not below bridge.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	13
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	520
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4hr 6hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B/Scr/X
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.750579, Long: -0.158159
Directions to Start	Castell de Castells road. (CV720) Park at bridge 4 ½ km beyond Benichembla. Park at side of hrs road, not below bridge.
Short walk description	A sustained scramble up a barranco with 3 more difficult pitches, then mostly broad track via a sunken llacuna (depression).
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From the parking area walk back in the direction of Benichembla and almost immediately descend to the R down a track towards the barranco bottom.	
Soon cross this and work up on the LHS of it soon passing a semi-ruined building and continuing ahead.	
Drop to cross the barranco and continue up on its RHS to reach a fork where you turn L and walk level for a short while.	920m, 11min
Just before reaching a set of bee hives descend to the L to drop into the barranco bottom.	1km, 13min
Now work steadily up this tackling whatever scrambles come your way. You will quickly reach a set of sluices in front of a dam and you work up some "hidden" steps on the LHS	

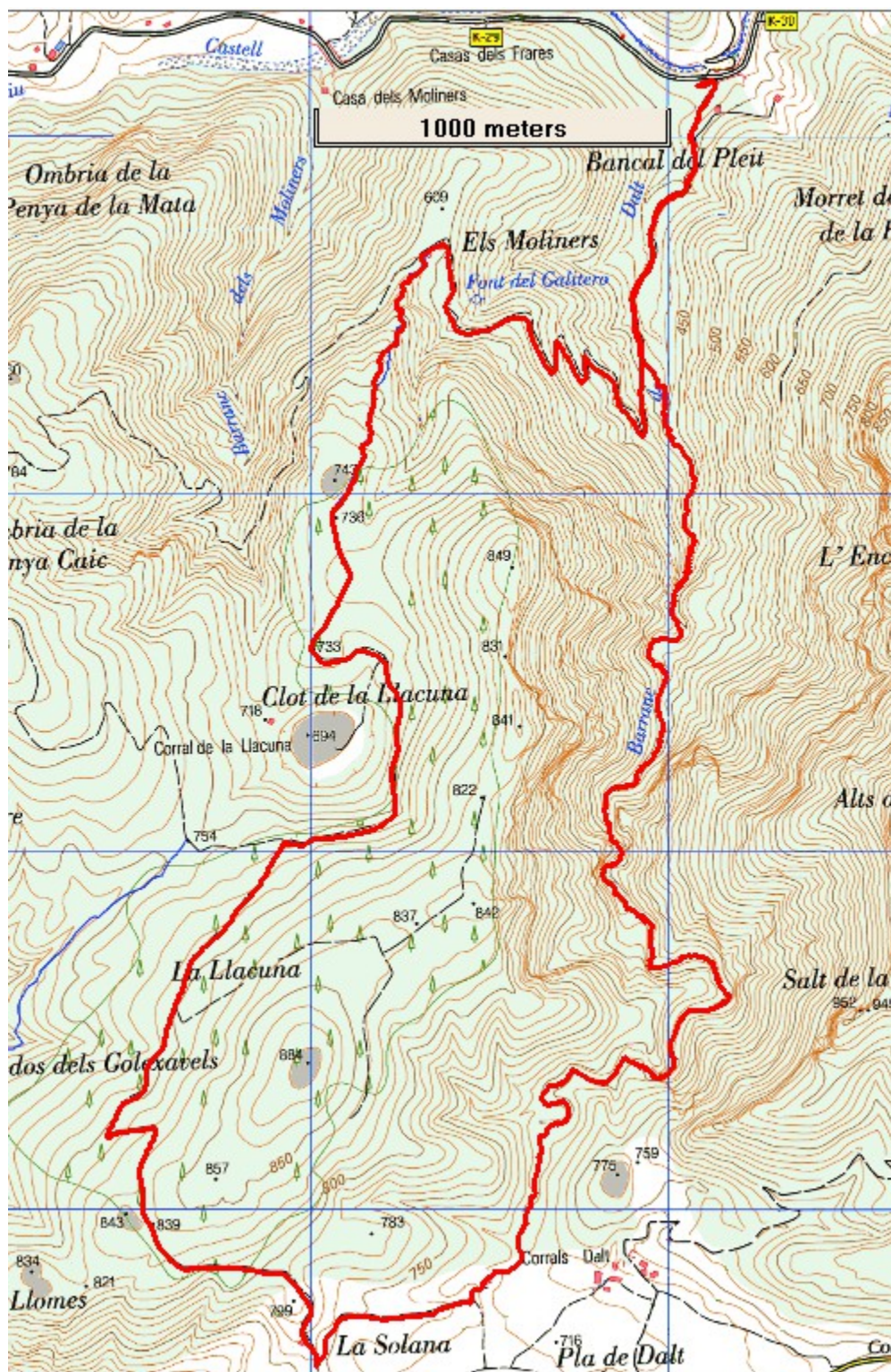
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<p>to pass the dam on the L and then drop down easily into the barranco bottom again to continue.</p> <p>There are 3 significant scrambles further up the barranco. The first is up a water shoot which is awkward at the bottom and then requires a bit of agility to exit as far up as you can manage to reach a good crack on the LHS.</p> <p>The second is a slab plumb in the middle of the water course. Reach this by dropping into the gravelly pit in front of it and then again work hard to get started and then more easily up a crack. All of this can be avoided by exiting to the RHS just before dropping into the gravel pit and working around above the crag.</p> <p>The third requires you to edge along a ledge on the LHS before exiting above and then to the R across a smooth rock face with small cracks. (it is possible to tackle this more directly if capable)</p> <p>Just above the third major scramble you reach a second dam and again pass up to the L of this passing it just at its L edge to descend on steps and back into the barranco at a n open area (good for a break)</p> <p>Now continue up the barranco through more scratchy vegetation until you reach a small cairn on the LHS with several green dots.</p> <p>Work up this path a few metres and then cross an open area to the R to re-enter the barranco and then proceed along this to reach a broad track just after some bee hives.</p>	<p>4.5km, 1hr 33min</p>
<p>Continue along this until you can see a large house above you on the RHS.....</p> <p>and then work easily up a line to pass the far RH corner where you turn L to join a track in front of the house.</p>	<p>5.5km, 1hr 53min</p>
<p>Turn R up this and follow it to a junction where you turn R still uphill and then around bends and steadily uphill to eventually reach a more major track where you turn R steeply uphill.</p>	<p>6.2km, 2hr 3min</p>
<p>Follow this over a col and then ahead steadily downhill ignoring a track joining you from the R.....</p>	<p>7.9km, 2hr 24min</p>
<p>and continue to reach a major junction where you turn R just in front of a large open (and cultivated) depression.</p>	<p>8.4km, 2hr 31min</p>
<p>Follow this track now until it ends and then pick up a footpath with cairns continuing ahead.</p>	<p>9.8km, 2hr 48min</p>
<p>Take care with this as it is a little vague (though well cairned) and it becomes a little scratchy before reaching a large era (threshing circle) in front of a ruined house. Just beyond the house you reach a track and turn R.</p>	<p>10.8km, 3hr 7min</p>
<p>Follow this ahead now as it descends occasionally steeply to pass you ascending track (on your RHS) and reach the tarmac road.</p>	
<p><small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small></p>	
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>Familiarity and comfort with challenging scrambling is a necessity in tackling this route</p>

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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