

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Colin and Brenda Read, 18th March 2018	
Last Updated	19th May 2023	
Title of Walk	Penyes Blanques Rollercoaster	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Senija, Beside a small, children's play area with an electric sub station next to it.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	14	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	600	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hr 5.5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.729233, Long: 0.042244	
Directions to Start	From CV-745 enter Senija at the eastern end and drive up the Av de les Corts Valencia which bypasses the village centre. Park on the side of the road near a play area for small children, which has an electric sub station next to it. (There is another large play area further up the road).	
Short walk description	A circuit over the rolling hills to the north of Senija, to reach the Rio Gorgos. Heading back over another low hill, with some complicated route finding, to reach the tough and steep slopes, with some awkward steps, leading to the summit of Penyes Blanques. Along the undulating ridge to reach the cross of Senija and the descent to the village. The route crosses six tops on mainly good paths and tracks, though some are rugged, especially on the ascent of Penyes Blanques, which comes late in the day! The route passes through lovely varied countryside and there are fine views and scenery all along it.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Opposite the small play area there is a road forming a 'T' junction, go over the road and up it to enter the village, ignore a road on the L and continue to a 'T' junction. Turn L pass the church and turn first R beside Casa Manola. Go uphill ignoring side		

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roads to arrive at a traffic island with twin pines and a bench seat, beside a sports complex.	400m , 5min
Continue up to a three way junction and go straight ahead onto a concrete track, which soon becomes gravel. About 20 metres before reaching the gates of a Finca turn R up a rough footpath. It winds uphill then passes between old walls and over the crest of a small dome, covered with terraces, then descends zig zags down to the level of a small finca on the R. The path turns L, then descends to a concrete track beside steel gates. Turn L, go down to a bend where a track goes L. It has a signpost 'Cami Vell de Lliber' and a R/W route marker.	1.46km, 25min
Turn L along the track, pass behind terraces and a finca and head up towards a saddle (ignore a path off L) pass an information plaque and head between old walls and in a few minutes reach the col. On the R beside a stone wall is a path with cairns (red arrow plus blue and yellow dots) ignore this and continue for about 9 metres to a less obvious path on the R.	1.89km, 30min
Follow this path passing beside two small pines (heading initially north west). In a short distance ignore a path on the R and bear L to reach a shoulder where a hunters path goes L. Turn R on the main path to climb over another dome to terraces at the top. Then, down towards a col and a 'T' junction with a broader path (blue cross and dot on rock). The path to the R leads directly back to Senija but turn L and in a few metres reach a cross roads of paths (you will return to this junction via the path on the R on the descent)	2.67km, 47min
Go straight ahead (green arrow, plus red, blue and yellow dots on rock). In a couple of minutes pass a small ruin on your R as you descend into a shallow barranco (which you will shadow all the way down to the river). Then up the other flank, to cross a shoulder, descend a few zig-zags to join a rough track passing between walls, to reach a Villa and a surfaced road. Ahead is a 'T' junction, turn R and then R again at a bend, signposted 'Cami del Morteret' (blue dot on corner of wall and red dot further along on wall to L). Continue to the second pylon on the R (with yellow dot)	3.81km, 1hr 03min
Turn R onto a path (red and green arrows on road) which descends towards terraces. Turn L along a path (red paint on rock) to descend the 'Hidden Valley' (beware mountain bikers). Ignore a path cutting back R and continue down the flank of the barranco, which is aligned with attractive cliffs. As you approach the bottom the path becomes a track (beware bee hives off to the R) and shortly arrives at a 'T' junction. Ahead are almond groves with a water deposito in amongst them.	4.88km, 1hr 17min
Turn L along the track to where the way ahead is cordoned off. Turn L along a path to reach a surfaced road (Cami Xaquera) close to some villas. Turn R and follow it ignore side turns to reach the main road CV-748.	5.98km, 1hr 22min
Cross the road onto the Cami Font D'Aixa and follow it ignoring all side turns to arrive at a hairpin bend. Go across to reach the opposite bank of the (usually dry) Rio Gorgos, to where there is a side road on the R, leading to villas.	7.05km, 1hr 30min
Turn sharp R immediately onto a track (Y/W on post), which runs parallel to the river. It passes a vineyard then turns sharp L to swing down across a little baranco. Continue as the path rises up to beside a ruin (ignore a path on the L) continue above the river. The path soon bends L across a terrace to a junction beside a large olive tree (Y/W) marker and blue dot on rock). Turn L and soon pass a renovated finca on your L ignore path on R and go straight ahead to join an unmarked track.	7.84km, 1hr 41min

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<p>Turn R along the track, ignore path (Y/W) going off L and continue to a 'T' junction. Turn R, ignore a track on R and cross the concrete (usually dry) river ford and go up to the main road CV-748.</p>	8.43km, 1hr 49min
<p>Turn L, then immediately R across the road onto a track. Ignore a steep concrete track with chain on the L. After a bend branch L up a concrete ramp towards a finca and just before reaching it look for a vague path on the L (cairns). For the next 15 minutes route finding is complicated and requires concentration. The path goes steeply up L and soon, just above a fallen tree, turns L then up again on a steep concrete path. When it ends continue up a vague path. (white cross on rock) In a short distance (black cable running across path) ignore the path continuing up and turn L along a terrace. After several metres turn R up over several bancals to reach a terrace where a wall descending from above terminates. Turn R along the terrace passing below a ruin on your L and in about 50 metres turn L up the edge of terraces. At the fifth terrace ignore a path continuing up and branch L onto a vague path amongst shrubs, to reach a clearing on the top.</p>	8.92km, 1hrs 57min
<p>At a broad band of stones which cross the way ahead turn L and after several metres turn R along a more defined path. Ignore a vague path going R, bear L then steeply down towards cultivated fields. Pass a few terraces, then at a wall which blocks forward progress turn R across a small olive terrace to pick up a path going L. This leads to a track which then junctions with a surfaced road at a bend. Turn R and at the next bend turn R onto a track, follow it to a tunnel where the track goes under the motorway.</p>	9.77km, 2hrs 13min
<p>Ignore the tunnel. Go straight ahead onto a path (red and blue dots plus yellow letters on rock). After about 15 minutes of steep climbing, with some awkward steps you reach a shoulder with a ruin. Continue upwards on slightly easier terrain until it kicks up steeply again. Here, an alternative path loops around to the right, to the same destination. Soon the slope eases as the summit is reached (388m) where there are wide ranging 360 degree views.</p>	10.87km, 2hr 42min
<p>Continue across to the saddle, passing along the L edge of terraces and on to the second slightly lower top (382m). Descend (beware bee hives on L) via a small ruin and join a track. Follow it to a junction on a bend.</p>	11.95km, 2hr 56min
<p>Go L along the track, ignore a track on the R and a path with red arrow on the L, where immediately ahead there is a lay-by/turning place, beyond which the track becomes a surfaced road. At the start of the lay-by there is a path on the R (yellow & green dots). Follow it up through bancals. As the angle eases look for a branch path going L along a terrace (green dot). This leads in a short distance to the Cross of Senija and a fine view towards the sea.</p>	12.55km, 3hr 07min
<p>Continue ahead past the cross, then down to a junction with a path (just to your R there is a deep well enclosure). Turn L downhill passing a ruin on your R. At a junction turn L downhill (yellow cross on R) continue to arrive at the crossroads of paths, which you visited on your outward journey.</p>	13km, 3hrs 15min
<p>Turn L (single blue dot on rock on R) and in a few metres ignore path on the R (blue cross on rock, this was your outward path). A short distance further ignore a second path on the R (blue dot and arrow). Continue L parallel to terraces, then down around zig-zags, past a finca on your R. Finally, it goes down an eroded section to join a track. Bear L down to pass between walls onto a concrete section and on to a 'T' junction with a surfaced road.</p>	13.9km, 3hrs 27min

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Turn R, follow the road, bear R at a 'Y' junction then L at the next junction, go past the larger play area and continue back to the parking place.

14.3km, 3hrs 32min

Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional

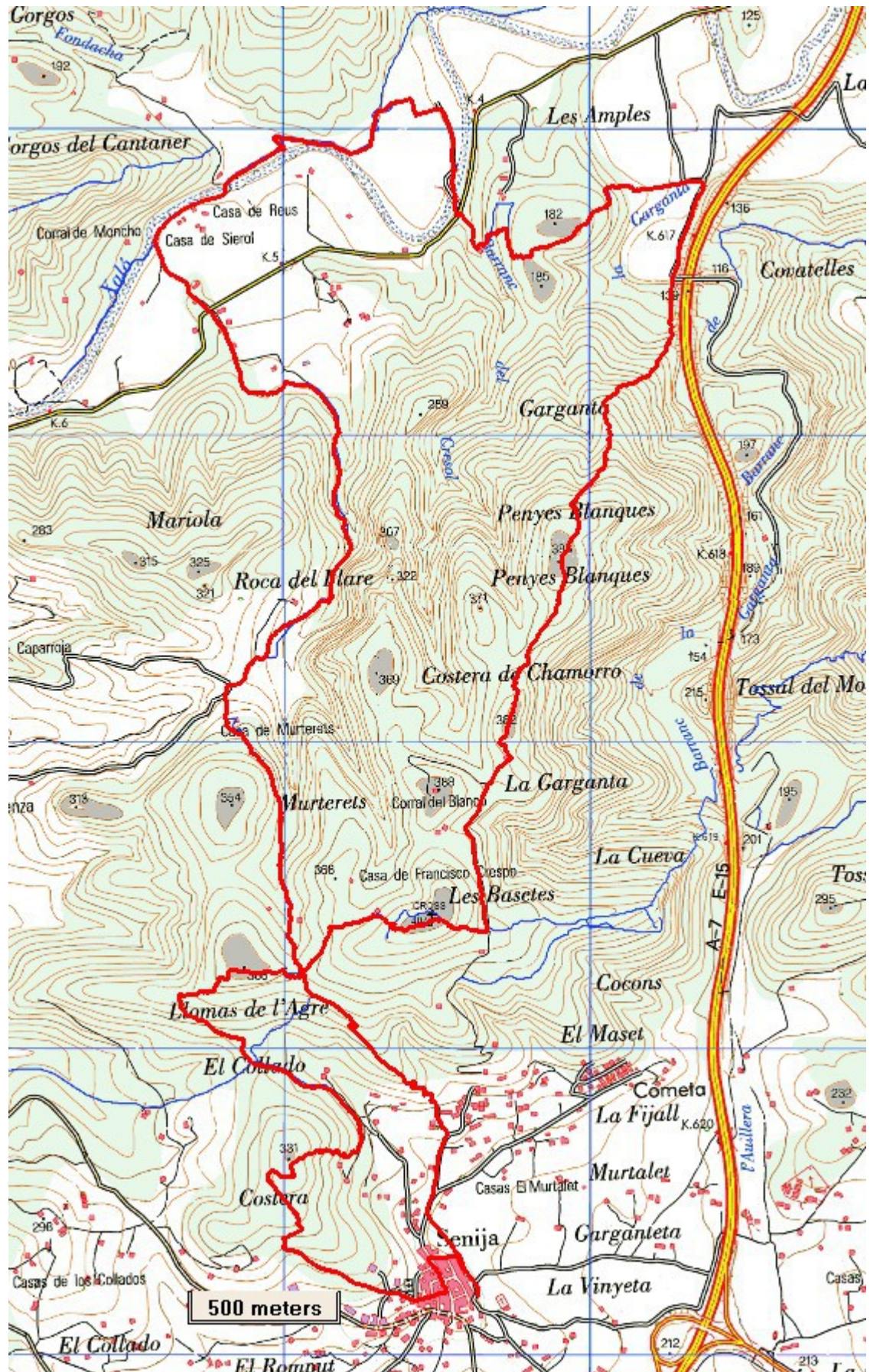
Walk Recommendations or restrictions

River fords may not be passable after very heavy rain.
Will be muddy for a couple of days after rain.

see map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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