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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps		
Last Updated	23 rd June 2018		
Title of Walk	Refugio d'Amitges circuit from Estany	y de Sant Maurici	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Espot, Taxi stop at end of Estany (lake) Sant Maurici		
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	11		
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	570		
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		
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.582199, Long: 1.011710		
Directions to Start	From the mid N of Spain find the C13 road heading N from Sort. Turn L on the LV50014 at the S end of Panta de la Torrossa – a large reservoir and drive to Espot.		
Short walk description	Using the many 4 x 4 taxis from Espot makes it easie for us to gain access to these high mountai fastnesses quite easily. The scenery all day stunning.		
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
Before commencing the walks proper you may care walk to take some photos of the lake and surround			
From the taxi stop continue ahead on the track to a turn R continuing up the track.	a wooden information cabin and here		
This soon doubles back to the L again and now we occasional views out to the L over the lake to the d			
Pass 2 finger posts to the L pointing towards the Ca which we ignore to arrive at a wooden bridge over the track up to the R and soon beside the Estany do R turn simply drops down to the lakeside and the L	the stream which we cross and follow e Ratera. Keep L at a fork where the		

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Soon after the end of this lake you arrive at a fork in the track with a finger post and here turn R to cross a stream and continue to ascend towards the Refugio d'Amitges.

Zig-zag up this track to reach the Refugio (manned during summer months with cafe and restaurant) and continue ahead – ignoring the track off to the R towards the sam wall - on the ascending track to cross a small col and drop down to the RHS of the next lake – Estany dels Barbs.

Follow the track as kit ends and then becomes a footpath which rises up a rocky spur towards a col slightly to the L. Stop anywhere here for impressive views and a breather before retracing your steps back down past the Refugio.

The track descends to a steep bend to the L where you can walk ahead and clamber up a few rocks to join a footpath with yellow painted posts marking the route. (This starts from higher up the track at a finger post but it is easier to walk down to this bend to access it)

Follow this complex but well marked path steadily down until it reaches the Ratera stream and here you meet the GR11 path with its R/W markers and turn L.

Make your way past the Estaby de les Obagues de Ratera and follow the clearly marked R/W footpath until you cross a couple of stretches of boardwalk and arrive at a junction with a track where you turn L.

You soon reach the junction with your outgoing route (off L) and turn R to descend across the wooden bridge.

Just after this there is a finger post on the RHS indicating the Cascada de Ratera and Estany de Sany Maurici.

Take this descending footpath to a junction where you turn R down to the bottom of the waterfall.

Continue down a little lower where there is a better viewpoint of the whole waterfall and then follow the path to find yourself above the visible Estany de Sant Maurici below you on the R and soon on this path you reach the end of the lake and the track leading a few metres to the taxi rank. The last taxi leaves here at 6pm

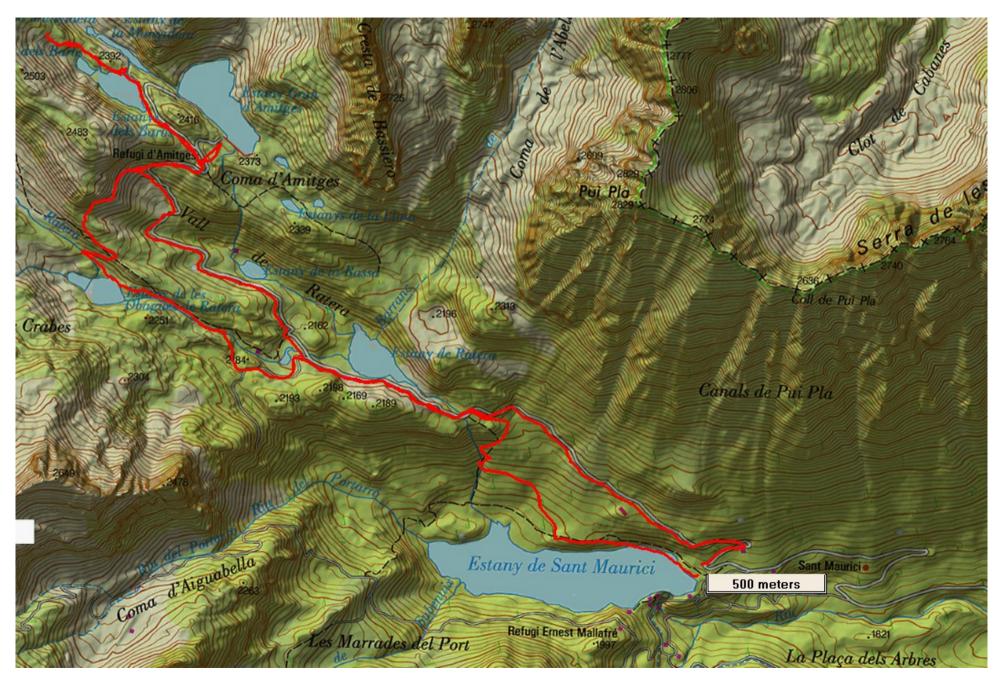
Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Use group taxi from Espot - €9 rtn in 2018

see map below......

Route followed is outlined in R	<u>ed</u>		
	Remember that you use these walk guides	s at your own risk. Take precaution	s and if unsure – turn back!



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