COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION		
Visit <u>www.walksinspain.org</u> for more walks descriptions in Spain		
Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	27 th September 2018	
Title of Walk	Ibon de Col de Toro from La Besurta	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Benasque La Besurta parking area	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	10	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	420	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hr 5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.678763,Long 0.64988	4
Directions to Start	From Benasque town drive N on the A139 NW through the Vall de Benas. Pass a reservoir on the RHS and then drive through a series of avalanche tunnels. After these look for a signed turning on the RHS to Hospital de Benasque and take this road as it drops a little and passes a large parking area on the LHS. Just before reaching a large hotel down on the LHS leave this newly tarmacked road in favour of a continuation that forks R and has a more broken surface. Follow this as it deteriorates until the end and find a parking spot just before or after a small ford.	
Short walk description	A walk past an unusual feature (Forau de Aguallat) and on into the overwhelmingly beautiful valley to the Ibon. (lake) The route returns the same way.	
		I
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From your parked car use the footbridge to the L of the ford and continue ahead on the track which soon diminishes to a footpath signed (amongst other things) to the Refugio Renclusa and the Forau.		
Cross a couple of small bluffs and then a more major (mostly dry) stream to climb up to a small plateau where there is a fork with a finger post.		600m, 14min

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Take the L of these signed to the Forau and start to climb upwards soon passing a small bothy on the RHS just before a large and imposing depression also on the RHS.

Soon crest the ridge and descend slightly into a large grassy plain within earshot of water!

Continue ahead to reach a wooden fence which guards the edge of the Forau – a large hole – into which flows the river to disappear into the ground!

980m, 22min

Follow the fence L and uphill to reach another even larger plateau and here keep to the L edge of the grassy basin.

Cross several scree patches and aim generally for the LH stream ahead of you which you reach through boulders to cross a bridge.

3km, 1hr 12min

Now climb more steeply to soon reach more level ground and then drop a little to join the stream for a short way.

Generally you keep up to the R of this and when the valley levels again you can see ahead and to your L about a kilometre in front of you is a large gully which marks the route to the col.

You can if you wish cross one of the moraine bridges to the stream

3.9km, 1hr 32min

to avoid descent and work along the LH flank of the valley t crossing some minor crags and scree o reach the gully (the gps follows this route) or if you prefer continue ahead to drop into the valley bottom and watch out for a thin footpath leaving on the L, climbing a little and then doubling back to the L to also reach the top of the gully.

Either way the Ibon (lake) is at the top of this gully and on the other side of the col flanked by dramatic peaks on both sides. Unexpectedly it drains to the far side and not into our approach valley.

4.5km, 1hr 48min

Once satisfied with the views and the scenery all around including the Maladeta ridge and Aneto descend the same way initially using the footpath to rejoin the main valley path.

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Route followed is outlined in Red

