

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	25 th June 2019
Title of Walk	Queralbs from Nuria via Font d'Alba
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Queralbs Santuari de Nuria rack railway station
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	16
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	350 (1100m descent)
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.66hr 6.5hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.397541, Long: 2.154548
Directions to Start	The start can only be reached by using the rack railway that starts in Ribes de Freser and stops at Queralbs where there is a large car park at the station. Cost in 2019 was €19.50 return.
Short walk description	A high level traverse across the face of Puigmal and down to the Riu de Tosa before returning to Queralbs.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>Assuming that you start from the railway station then make you way out and down towards the lake and pass along the shore of this to reach a small Ermita. (San Gil)</p> <p>Here turn L at a finger post rising slightly away from the lake and ascending to a col beside a rocky mirador (viewpoint) on your LHS.</p> <p>Here turn half R at a finger post signed to the GR11 (Font d'Alba) and Cami de les Coves and zig-zag up the hill before turning more steadily across the slope to the L and steadily upwards.</p> <p>Avoid the zig-zags to protect the line of the original path.</p> <p>Arrive at a finger post where you continue ahead towards Font d'Alba.</p> <p>Undulate along mostly through trees for some considerable time until you emerge onto open pasture with a view out to the L of a long ridge with (sometimes) parked cars visible at the LH end. Cross a couple of streams to walk out towards this.</p>	630m, 10min

Remember that you use these walk guides at your own risk. Take precautions and if unsure – turn back!

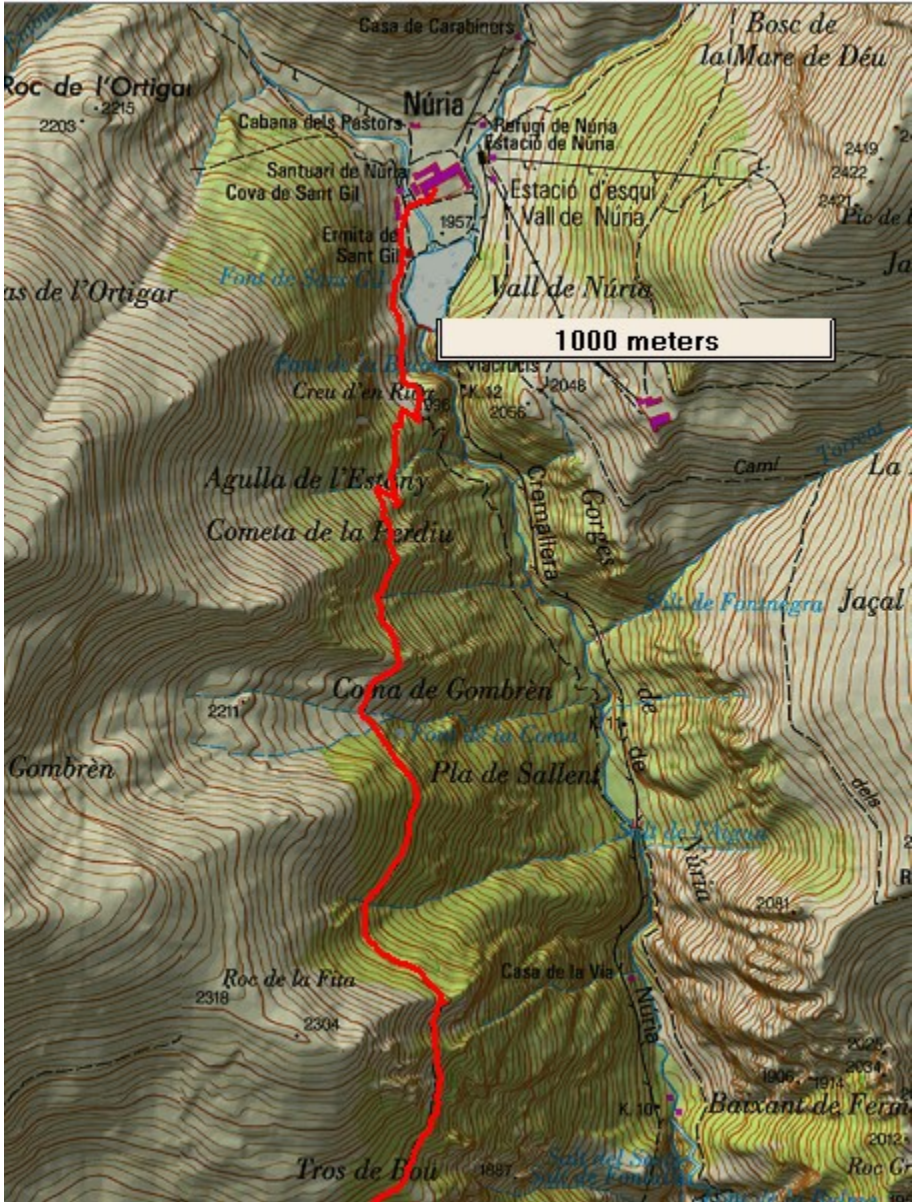
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<p>However before reaching the parking area look carefully for Y/W and R/W waymarks indicating a rising line on your LHS away from the obvious path and follow this up to crest the ridge and drop down almost immediately on a traversing path downhill overlooking a spectacular valley on your LHS.</p>	5.2km, 1hr 44min
<p>Along this section there are several slightly vague sections across grass where you must carefully hunt out the continuing waymarks and in particular as you reach a small ruin on the LHS you must drop down beside this to find the ongoing path.</p>	
<p>Finally arrive above the river with a footbridge visible below you and follow the path slightly beyond this before doubling back to reach the bridge which you do NOT cross.</p>	9.9km, 3hr 6min
<p>Instead, stay on the same side and look for the R/W markers which lead you out onto a grassy ledge and from this the path starts to descend steadily mostly in woodland.</p>	
<p>After a short while this section also has some slightly vague sections especially after rounding a spur so it pays to keep hunting out the waymarks.</p>	
<p>After you cross a rocky promontory there is a short section of paved path and a little further on a signed font on the LHS quickly followed buy a building on the RHS. In the distance you can see a track descending down the valley in front of you.</p>	
<p>A short steep section leads down to a track where you turn L.</p>	13.1km, 4hr
<p>Walk around a doubling back curve to the R and then take care to look out for a footpath leaving on the LHS only a few metres ahead dropping steeply and follow this down to meet a concreted track again at a building.</p>	13.6km, 4hr 9min
<p>Cross this directly to find the footpath continuing to descend.</p>	
<p>Rejoin the track and continue ahead ignoring a footpath going off to the R and continue R at a finger post at a track junction.</p>	
<p>Ignore a further track going off L and continue descending to go around a hair pin to the R and immediately look for a signed footpath leaving downhill to the L and take this.</p>	14.7km, 4hr 24min
<p>Reach a building immediately after which is a concrete track and set of gate posts and you pass to the R of these to continue on a grassy footpath.</p>	15km, 4hr 30min
<p>Meet the concrete road again and continue ahead quickly passing a tower on the RHS and walking ahead on a crazy paved road ignoring any side turnings and walking into the village.</p>	
<p>When you meet tarmac descend to a junction where you find a footpath continuing straight ahead descending on wooden steps to meet the main road.</p>	15.6km, 4hr 40min
<p>Turn L here and make your way back to the rack railway station at Queralbs.</p>	
<p><small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small></p>	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	Beware the substantial amount of descent!

See maps below.....

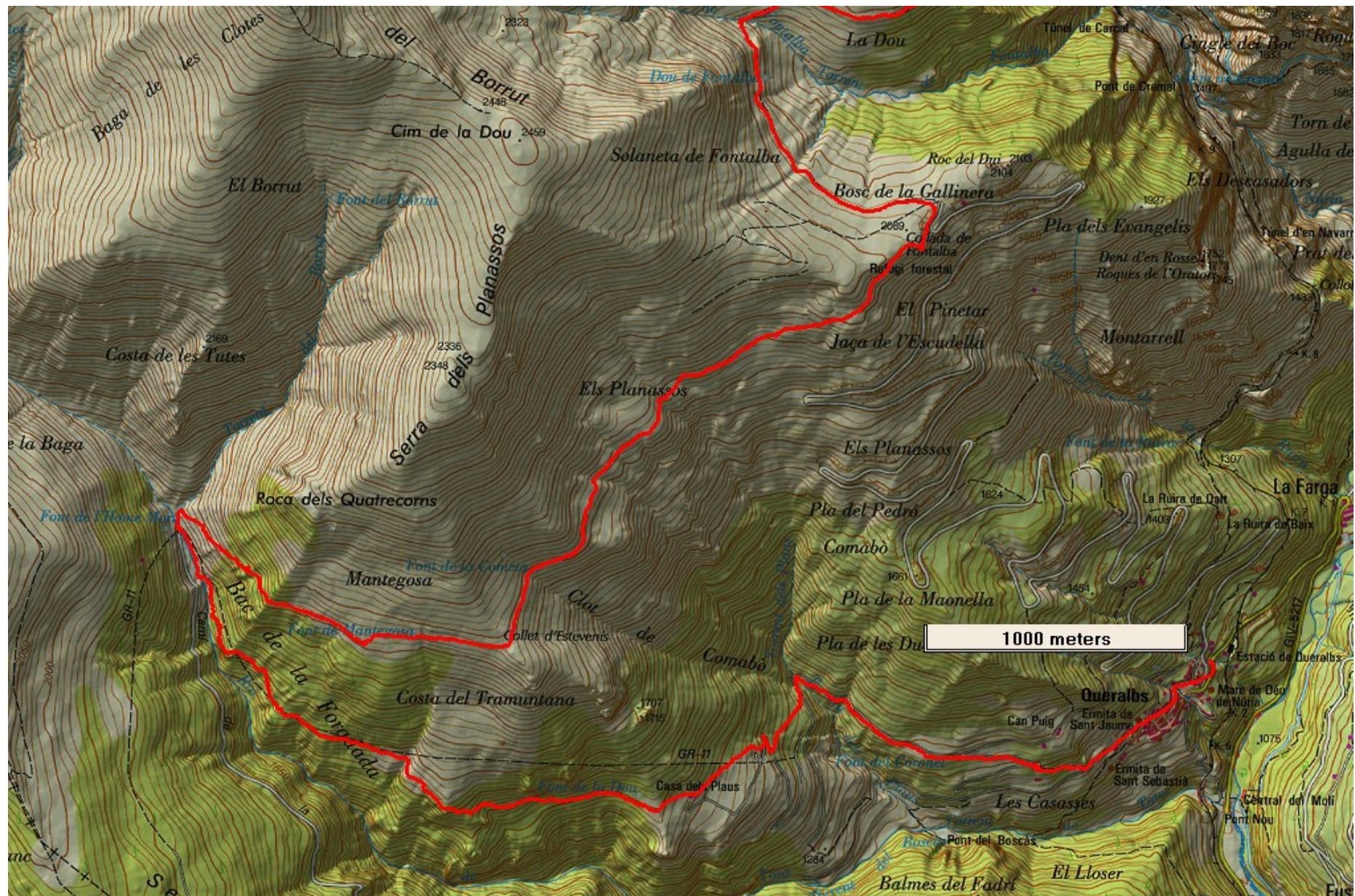
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Route followed is outlined in Red – map 1



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Route followed is outlined in Red – map 2



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