

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Jean & Bob Hall, 01/11/12	
Last Updated	17 August 2019, Colin Read	
Title of Walk	Passet del Golero from Rincon de Pepe	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Benimantell Rincon de Pepe Restaurant on CV70 between La Nucia and Benimantell / Guadalest.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	15.3	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	800	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.5hr 6.5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.654166, Long: -0.177222	
Directions to Start	From La Nucia drive along the CV70 towards Benimantell to the restaurant and bar of Rincon de Pepe on the RHS near km 35, which is about 2 km past the house on the left with a big snail on the roof. Park in the ample car park. Check in with/use the Bar.	
Short walk description	Circular walk with fine varied scenery. Generally straightforward but with a few short steep & rough sections (there is an easier but longer alternative). The route goes over Contador, continues to & descends Passet del Golero, over Col de Basses to reach Casa La Carrasca, passing above the Buddhist colony to cross a col on Sanxet, then traversing beneath the cliffs of "Rooms of God".	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Cross the CV-70 and go up a short concrete road passing to the R of Restaurant Ponsoda to pass close to a casa on its north side, to find an old often overgrown path/track zig zagging up (W) to a green cylindrical water tank which is visible ahead.		330m 6min
Alternative start: Longer but less steep. Turn R onto the CV-70 and walk for 400m, then take the minor road which branches sharply L to reach the water tank.		

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Turn L (S) along surfaced road to a water deposit/fuente on RHS. Complete with fish!	500m 9min
On the LH side of the Fuente find a path going up (it can be a little overgrown) at a large boulder go around the back of it, bear L and up to meet a track.	700m 16min
Turn R up the track (ignore a path with cairn going off L) to reach a casita with steel garage door.	900m 19min
Just before the casita find a track going up L, which immediately becomes a path going to the R. Follow it (ignore a minor path on the L) continuing up until it meets a cross track.	1.4km 29min
Turn L (S) up this main track and as the views begin to unfold, stay on it up to the "Paso de Contador". This pass was, until recently a narrow gap where shepherds could count their flock as they passed through single file, now alas no more. It has been bulldozed into oblivion, that's progress !!	2.2km 43min
Continue down this main track and just before the first sharp bend, find a path on the L which cuts the corner (cairn) to rejoin the main track and at the next sharp bend on the main track, find another clear path (cairns) descending on the L.	2.7km 49min
Follow this path passing a casita, which is off to the R. Near here it joins a wider path. Turn L along this and continue to where it joins a track.	3.7km 1hr 05min
Turn L up a wide path which traverses the mountainside (cairn and red mark on rock) to join a track above a bend. Continue, passing above a finca with solar panels down on the R (ignore tracks on the R and a path on the L with cairn and red dot on rock). The track now descends a little passing an open area of grassland (ignore a vague path on the R which crosses it, blue dot on rock). Ahead, the main track bends R where it becomes overgrown.	4.6km 1hr 18min
From the bend a path goes straight on (Yellow dot on rock and blue dots en-route). Follow it to a shallow col with rusted hunting signpost. Continue straight on descending, to eventually pass a ruined rustic gate, with path on the R which leads to a cafe, ignore this! Continue through pine trees to a junction where there is a red painted sign on a rock, ignore a path off R to "Sella" bear L towards "Finestrat" and in a short distance arrive at a cairn and another painted rock sign, indicating your route on the L towards "Finestrat" down the amazing "mozarabic path of the "Passet del Golero". But first continue a few meters straight ahead to a rocky lookout with a spectacular view, which also makes a lovely rest stop.	5.9km 1hr 40min
Return to the cairn. Turn R and descend the zig-zagging path and marvel at the ingenuity of the Moors. Soon after reaching the bottom, ignore a path going down R. Bear L up the path (blue dots) go over recent rock fall boulders, to arrive at an area littered with lumber and junk to reach on your R a small rocky knoll with more fine views. Continue beneath a ruined casita on your L to reach a cross track.	6.6km 1hr 55min
Alternative: The best and more direct line goes L from here. However, a longer easier way on broad tracks is possible. (It adds 1.55km & 13min). For this turn R and in a few meters pass between steel barrier posts to reach a junction with a track on a bend. Turn L signed "Finestrat". Eventually at the beginning of a nicely wooded area find track off L with a chain (Y/W cross) (7.4km 2hr 05min)	

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Take this track passing a casita on your L to arrive at another chain. Cross it and continue up track to 'Y' junction with tree in the middle of junction. (9.3km 2hr 31min)	
Take L branch to Casa Carrasca & junction with the direct route. (9.8km 2hr39min) *	
The Direct route: Which is the way of the GPS track, turns L along the track which leads towards the Buddhist Community. Passing on your R beneath the first of two huge pinnacles. Ignore a track cutting back L. Soon a short track on the R leads to a fence with gate, ignore it and continue with the fence on your R to a second more obvious track, branching off R. Turn onto it and almost immediately turn R down to a gate in the fence (there is a sign on it permitting access and asking that you close it securely, please do so).	6.95km, 2hr
Go straight across the terrace near the top edge of a bancal to find a small path. Follow it up through the trees as it bears L to reach another gate (also with polite sign, so please close securely). Continue ahead, the path turns uphill and continues southeast skirting the base of the cliff to reach the Col de Basses between a huge pinnacle on your R and a cliff on the L.	7.30km, 2hr 7min
The rather faint path (which can be overgrown in places) continues up passing the towering pinnacle on its south side (R) to reach a track with a cairn.	7.45km, 2hr 10min
Turn L up this track and continue to a sharp right hand bend. (This track is part of the alternative route which could be joined here, but you are about to diverge from it).	7.75km, 2hr 16min
On the left hand side of this bend find a cairn and a faint goat path. This path is very steep and rough. Go up gradually trending R, heading towards the bottom left corner of old bancals, work up past a couple of terraces to find a font on a terrace.	7.95km, 2hr 23min
At the font take a vague path up on the L which soon bears R and then L again before becoming a track which leads rightwards to Casa de la Carrasca (possible lunch stop).	8.25km, 2hr 26min
*Both routes merge together again here. With your back to the front door of the casa turn L. Straight ahead find a path which crosses a terrace to reach a 'Y' junction. (On the Direct route you retrace your steps for a little way here).	8.45km, 2hr 29min
Take the path up R (blue dot on rock) it rises to a col. Continue down the other side, to reach an old cross track at the edge of a field, stop here. Ignore the track going L it continues to a 'T' junction, where there is a large building off to the L.	9.75km, 2hr 50min
From the edge of the field take the track which goes off sharp R (blue dot on rock) it becomes a path and eventually passes a ruined casita on your L. Continue to the col on the lip of Sanxet. There are superb views of the cliffs ahead!	10.65km, 3hr 3min
The path now zigzags down and L (NNW) to pass below "waterfall" cliff.	11.05km,3hr 11min
Continue beneath the colourful towering cliffs of "Rooms of God" and reach a cairn at a path with blue dots which goes off R.	12.35km,3hr 35min
Ignore this path and continue straight on. (From here on when in doubt, follow the black water pipe). Arrive at a 'Y' track.	13.75km,3hr 56min
Turn R (E) and soon arrive at a cross track.	13.85km,3hr 58min

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Turn L passing a couple of villa's, where the track becomes surfaced and passes the Fuente, to rejoin your outward route and just before reaching the green water tank. Turn R down the rough zig zag path and concrete road back to Rincon de Pepe.

14.45km, 4.13min

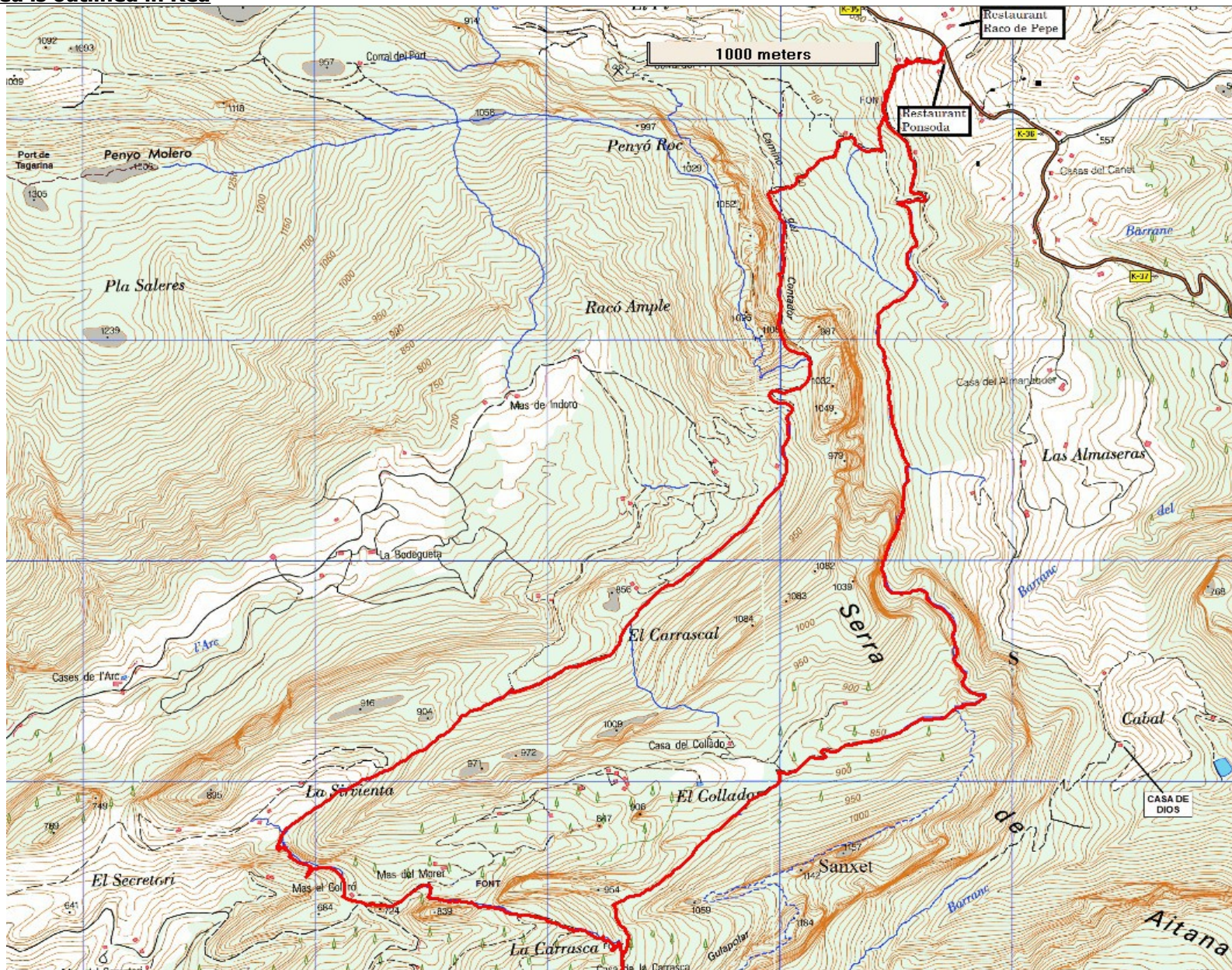
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Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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