

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
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Title of Walk	Puerto del Fuenfria and Pena del Aguila
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Cercedilla The long road leading up to the Fuenfria valley car parks (A – G) is accessed just to the E of Cercedilla railway station on the M622. The walk starts from car park G. which is at the head of the valley road.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	14
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	780
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.25hr 6hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 40.771055, Long: -4.068116
Directions to Start	Cercedilla is reached to the NW of Madrid from the AP6 motorway at junction 47. The M614 and M622 lead to the village with the railway station on the outskirts.
Short walk description	An interesting walk up an old Roman road before a high mountain ridge and easy woodland return. Extensive views.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From car park G walk back down the road and turn L under the archway and along the broad forest track.	
Pass through a gate to continue along a rougher track and then a large wooden sign board at a complex junction. Pass the sign on its R to continue on the roughest track directly ahead and ignoring the broader forest vehicle track.	1.3km, 27min.
Soon this narrows a little and threads through broom bushes with a barranco down on your RHS before reaching a large and wide reconstruction of a Roman bridge.	2.2km, 50min
Cross this and continue to a zig bend where you double back to the L and climb steadily to reach a col with multiple tracks departing from here.	3.2km, 1hr 18min

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<p>After resting here (?) take the first broad forest track to the L (marked in the R/W of the GR10) which climbs very gently to pass a peak on your RHS and after a while descends steadily with a further peak now visible ahead of you with a rough track winding up to its summit.</p>	
<p>When you reach a small grassy plateau pass a vehicle gate in the wall on the RHS and just beyond this a pedestrian gate which you pass through to the R and once through the gate turn L and quickly start your steep ascent.</p>	5.6km, 1hr 53min
<p>There are more level breaks in this but it takes some time to reach the summit with its cairn slightly off to the R overlooking a view down the valley.</p>	7.9km, 2hr 46min
<p>From here follow the wall as it turns L and quickly pass through a gap in the wall marked with a cairn for an easier and cairned descent path.</p>	
<p>Eventually after you have worked back into the scattered trees you reach a small plateau with a gate in the wall and you pass through this to the R and then continue along beside the wall for a further 100m or so to find a cairn on the wall marking where you must cross it again to the L (just before the path ahead rears up over the next major hill) to find a large cairn and the beginning of a path which descends slightly to the N of E. (You may not have to bother with the last 2 wall crossings!)</p>	9.3km, 3hr 21min
<p>Descend this rough path which eventually turns slightly R and heads downhill to the S to intersect a broad forest track.</p>	9.6km, 3hr 30min
<p>Turn L along this track slightly uphill and just after you swing L around a bend look out for a finger post on the RHS signed to Vereda de la Pinuela. Take this descending footpath.</p>	10.1km, 3hr 38min
<p>At the second bath that you pass take care to descend just a short distance down beside the water course before finding the continuing path going off to the L towards a barranco.</p>	
<p>When the path doubles back to the R and descends more steeply look out for a junction with a less obvious track on the LHS with a small cairn and take this now more gently downhill to cross a footbridge and continue ahead.</p>	10.9km, 3hr 54min
<p>After a couple of short sharp ascents emerge on a slightly featureless col covered in broom and here look out for cairns descending slightly to the R which lead you to a more obvious descending path again and then quickly doubles back to the L.</p>	12.3km, 4hr 21min
<p>Follow this as it descends to reach a stream where it turns sharply to the R to follow the water course downhill and a large square building foundation appears just at the point where you cross the stream to the L to join a broader descending track.</p>	12.6km, 4hr 27min
<p>Follow this down to reach tarmac which you cross directly to follow a short path down in a gully to again reach tarmac where you turn L and continue down to the car park.</p>	
<p><small><u>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</u></small></p>	
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>Avoid attempting this at week-ends, public holidays and during summer months when ALL of the nearby car parks will be packed to capacity.</p>

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Route followed is outlined in Red

