

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	John E. Mail
Last Updated	01/02/20
Title of Walk	Sanchet Circuit from Rincon de Pepe
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Guadalest Restaurant "Rincon de Pepe" carpark at Km 35 on CV 70 between La Nucia and Guadalest.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	13.8 km
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	680
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	Walking time 4h 28min Total time 5.5 hours
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.6540, Long: -0.1775
Directions to Start	Car park at restaurant "Rincon de Pepe" on North side of CV 70 very near km 35.
Short walk description	A 3km walk along pleasant paths to the start of the trail around Mt Sanchet (Sanxet). After the circuit return to car park by the same route. A spectacular walk along well defined and marked paths. A small amount of scrambling with some exposure.
Full Walk Description	Park in the hotel/restaurant car park away from the restaurant so as not to cause a nuisance. Drinks might be available before and after the walk depending upon the time of year. The first part of this walk (360 m) is the trickiest to navigate as the short section uses some faint paths which zigzag (55m ascent) up the hill opposite the car park to get you to a paved lane. Leave the car park and cross the CV70. Turn left and then right almost immediately up a concreted lane to the right of Restaurant Ponsoda. Where concreted lane turns left and ends at a gate take the faint path to the right of an electricity pole straight on up the hill. Ignore the unpaved broad track to the house slightly to the right.
Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	200m. 3 min.

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After approx 20m uphill, the path crosses a broad track which goes to the house on your right.	220m, 4 min
Keep straight ahead and follow the path which soon turns gently left and then you turn sharply right uphill.	240m, 7 min
Continue to ascend towards wall which is the boundary of a swimming pool terrace. The path swings left and passes alongside a wall with an iron access gate in it. You will then be walking towards the terrace of another house with mature pine trees. After passing a large rock turn sharply right.	290m, 10 min
Continue uphill until you emerge onto a paved lane near some mature pine trees and an electricity pole.	340 m, 12 min
Turn left (you will be following this lane for about 660 m.)	
Pass a pond (with fish at the time of writing) on your right hand side	500 m, 16 min
At fork in the road take the broad track to the right. There is a stone cairn at the fork	936 m, 20 min
The track rises and turns sharply right.	
At stone cairn leave the broad track and turn left onto narrow track (there are two points at which you can join this path – the second access is less steep).	1.1 km, 26 min
Stay on this well defined narrow track. You will share the track from time to time with a black plastic water pipe.	
At stone cairn (yellow & white marks at this point) turn left and go downhill. You will return to this point later in the walk after circumnavigating Sanchet.	2.4km, 48 min
Follow the path steeply down until the path turns right and crosses a terrace of olive trees. There is a white house with a red roof above you on the right.	3 km, 55 min
The narrow path meets a broad unpaved track. Take the downhill option	
The track meets a concrete paved track at a junction. Go past the chain across our track and turn right uphill.	4 km, 1hr 11m
Follow this broad track for about 900 m until you reach a junction of paths next to a single story house "casa de dios". Just before the house we turn right passing a chain and signposted to Finestrat and Collao de Llam on PRCV 13 and PRCV 17. The terrace of the house "casa de dios" provides a great place for a banana break!	4.5 km, 1hr 19m
We follow this track in total for about 2km. The track narrows from a broad track to a narrow track by a finger-post. The path descends for a short distance before continuing its ascent. There are some mature pine trees here providing useful shade on a hot day.	5.6 km, 1.40 h
At path junctions we leave PRCV 13 & 17 and turn right ignoring crossed yellow and white sign.	6.4km, 2h

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Continue uphill to the brow of the col where there is a path to your left going back to a cave which you might want to visit if you have time.	6.5km, 2h 2m
Continue for a short distance until you get to a fork in the track with a stone cairn. Take the right-hand track and not the track ahead which descends into the valley ahead.	6.6km, 2h 5m
Follow this track along fairly level ground through pine woods. From the track you can see Mount Puig Campana to your left and then as you leave the woods you will see the spectacular formation of "Els Castelletes"	
The track now is rocky in parts and there is some exposure to your left. At one point a rope is fixed to the rock face to give you extra security – but I recommend not using it as it was frayed on my last visit. There are plenty of good handholds on the rocks.	7.5km, 2h 22m
As you leave the rocky section the path is not well marked. Try not to climb or descend and once on softer ground you will pick up the track which turns gently right and then drops down to a large isolated house "La Carasca". Before descending to the house the path splits – take the right hand option it is less steep.	7.7km, 2h 25 m
Facing the house take the broad track to the right which is fairly level to start with.	
After a short descent the broad track continues to descend but you take a narrow track to the right.	7.8km 2hr 30m
Follow this track across level ground and then it climbs up a rocky section.	
The path makes a sharp right-hand turn marked by a cairn	8km, 2h 36m
Continue to climb and pass over the col and then the path is fairly level as you get good views down to a Buddhist retreat to your left and an impressive finger rock up to your right.	8.26km
As you emerge from the woods onto a grassy area where to your left there is a large isolated house with an impressive enclosed arched terrace take the track to your right which almost doubles back on you before it continues down the valley.	9km, 2h 54m
After descending gradually and passing a ruined cottage you will reach a col with fine views over the Guadalest Valley. From this point the path descends steeply with a few zigzags to ease the gradient.	10km, 3h 12m
After the steep descent you will pass what can be a waterfall in wet seasons. From here the path then follows the base of the cliffs, sometimes with spectacular overhangs.	10.5km, 3h 24m
After the undercliffs the path is shared with our old friend the black water pipe again and we will arrive at the cairn which we passed on our way out. Keep straight ahead and retrace your route back to the car park	11.4km, 3h 42m
The narrow path meets the broad track – turn right and follow it downhill and retrace your outward journey	12.7 km, 4h 4m

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After passing the fish pond look out for the electricity pole and the paths back to the carpark

13.5km, 4h 18m

Note in wet weather you might want to avoid the steep descent and getting muddy boots at this stage of the walk so you can opt for the longer route of staying on the paved road which meets the CV70. At the CV 70 turn right and follow it downhill to the carpark.

After the steep descent cross the CV 70 to the carpark and hopefully enjoy a nice refreshment at the bar to thank the restaurant for the use of there parking spaces!

13.8km, 4h 28 m

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

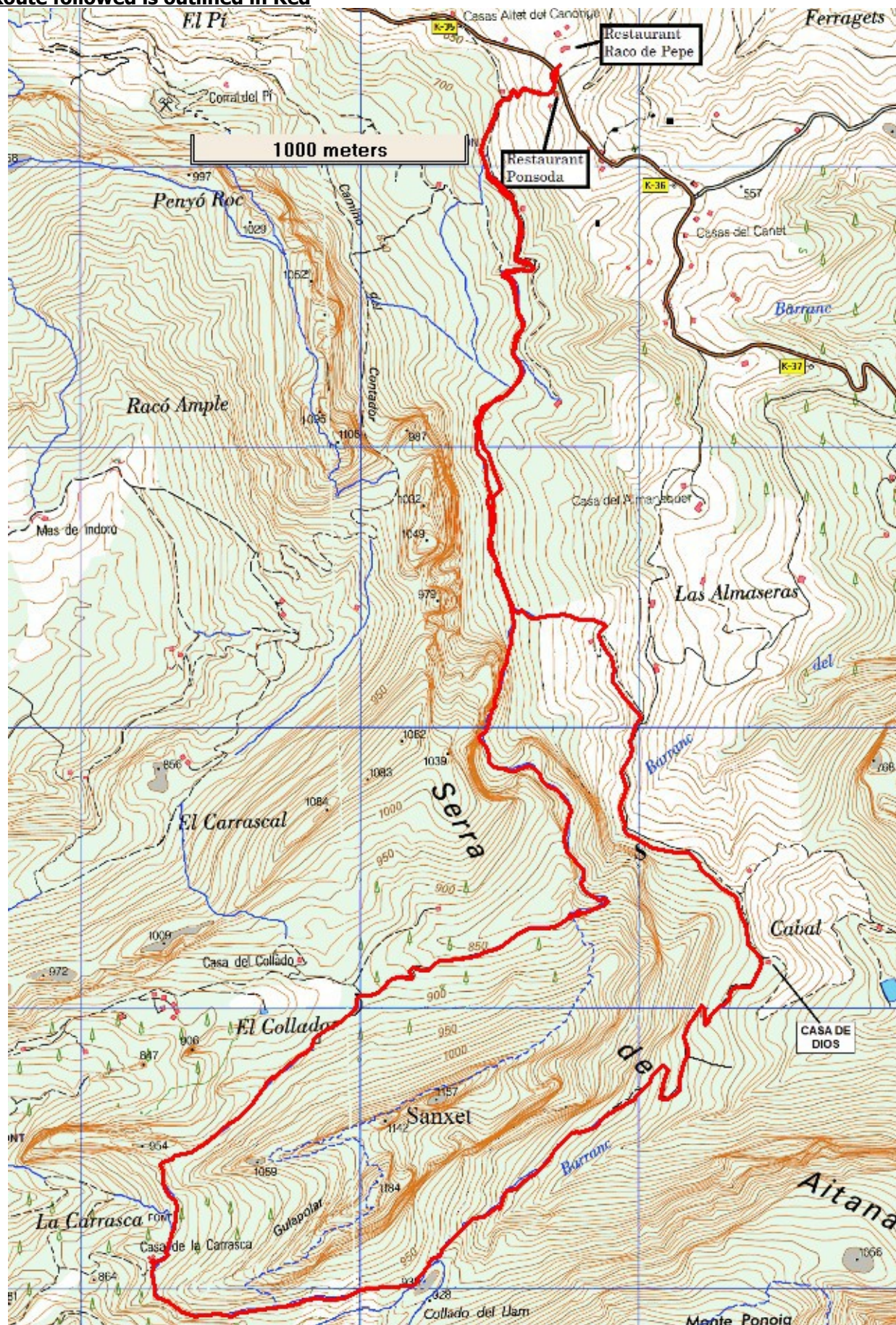
Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

see map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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