

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	John E Mail / Jo Fletcher	
Last Updated	26th February 2020	
Title of Walk	Confrides Castle Circuit from Partagas - longer	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Benifato, Partagat Picnic area at the end of the road up from the village signed Fuente Partagat.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	11.2km	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	500m ascent 690m descent. Note, the finish is 190m below the start point.	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3hr 19mins 5hrs 7mins	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.65783,Long: -0.24182	
Directions to Start	From Benidorm take the CV 70 in the direction of Guadalest and Acoy. After Benimantell near to Km 28, take the road signed to Benifato. As you enter the village where the village name sign is turn right. There is a sign to Fuente Partagat on the wall. Follow this minor road to the Fuente. This is a ten min drive up a steep and winding road.	
Short walk description	Mostly good paths. The semi-scramble to the castle is optional for those without a head for heights. There is a need to car share to avoid a long road walk at the end.	
Full Walk Description	Before starting the walk you need to arrange for a car/cars to be positioned at the end point to avoid a long walk uphill on the roads that you have just driven up. Use the map at the end of this description to find your way to the end point which is at coordinates 38.66519, -0.24388. ----- Starting from the parking at the picnic site Fuente Partagat, leave up hill on the track signed Port de Tudons 10,7k PR CV21. Almost immediately the track turns L and you join a path straight ahead, marked blue spots. You soon pass a casita on your L and continue up to re-join a track. Turn R. (5mins/280m)	
	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	5min/280m

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After 300m the track comes to a chain across the track with a path leading off on the R. Take the path (5min/300m)	10min/580m
Follow the path which is now marked Y/W plus blue dots. The path initially climbs before contouring below the ridge. Shortly the path passes between the ridge and a large rock promontory. There is a signpost and you need to bear L continuing on the main path. The path is now heading towards the mast on the top of the ridge. There are several paths leading up off the main track but you should remain on the major path that climbs steadily. You will reach a point on the path where you are able to look down at a font that has now been built into a deposito but looks like a swimming pool. (23min/1.2km).	33min/1.8km
Continue uphill. The path shortly becomes a rough track. The rough track then joins a more major track. You will spot ahead that this track splits and re-joins so it doesn't matter which route you take. The track then reaches a flat area where on your R you will spot a nevera and another water source above you. (14min/1.4km).	50min/2.6km
From the nevera head go straight ahead following the sign post Confides 10.5km GR330. Stay on the track which climbs gently, following Y/R/W. You reach a track junction, go straight ahead and continue up. At the next junction there is a track that heads half right and downhill. Take this track which takes you off the Y/R/W.	1hr/3km
Follow the track downhill for 24mins until you reach a track junction where the main track goes L, you go straight ahead.	1hr24min/4.6km
At the bottom of the hill you are in light tree growth and the there is a track junction with the main track turning R, you need to go straight ahead.	1hr32min/5.2km
The track heads uphill and starts to become less obvious. At the top of the rise there is a small open area with a cairn. The track goes L but you need to find the path near the cairn and go straight ahead.	
The path descend gently until you reach a flat area with trees and at this point the path bears L and back on itself.	1hr 44min/5.9km
You now descend further into a valley/barranco before arriving at a cultivated area. At this point the path crosses from the L flank to the R flank of the valley. The path stays above the cultivated area with a finca and follows the line of a boundary fence. The path then reaches some rocks and descend onto a concrete track.	2hr2min/6.7km
Descend on the track until the track takes a sharp L turn. At this point leave the track and take the path which is marked by a cairn.	2hr10min/7.1km
Continue along the path which takes you to Confrides castle which you should see ahead of you. You eventually reach the col below the castle, marked by a large cairn.	2hr22min/7.9km
There is then the option to scramble to the top and get some fantastic views of the surrounding area. This is not a difficult scramble but adds about 30 mins to your time.	2hr34min/8.4km
With the castle behind you, turn L and descend down a stony slope to the track. You now follow this track down until you reach a 4 way junction by a small wind generator. You turn R.	3hrs/10km
Follow the track which gently rises and heads in towards the mountain. As you pass the vineyard on your R the track ends. Go straight ahead for 20 m until you reach a boulder on your L with faint red arrows painted on it. At this point you turn L in the direction of the arrow.	3hr10min/10.7km

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The path is now difficult to follow . you need to cross the stony area and drop down towards the barranco. As you reach the bottom of the stony bank, 20-30m the faint path bears L and then R into the stream bed. Cross the stream and climb the bank on the other side. You now pick up a slightly better path. Make your way along this path until it joins a track.

3hr15min/11km

If you turn R you can visit the font which is only 50m away or turn L and descend down to the road where you pick up your cars for the shuttle.

3hr19min/11.2km

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Note comments about car share above.

