

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

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| <b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>                                            | John E. Mail                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Last Updated</b>                                                                         | 02/04/20                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>Title of Walk</b>                                                                        | Barrancos Selinas and Selim                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>     | Jijona (Xixona)<br>Montnegre                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>                                             | 7.3 km                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>                                                | 202 m                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b> | Moving 4 hrs 6 min<br>Total time 4 hrs 30 min                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>                                  | M/B/Scr                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>                                             | Lat: 38.5005, Long: -0.5387                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <b>Directions to Start</b>                                                                  | <p>From CV800 just inland from Campello near km 3 (just North East of where CV800 passes under Autopista AP7) take roundabout exit to Mutxamel (norte).</p> <p>You will soon arrive at a roundabout with olive trees and sign "Mutxamel". Go around this roundabout and go back the way you came!</p> <p>After about 50 m take the left-hand fork towards "aerodromo de Mutxamel"</p> <p>This road runs parallel to the autopista for a while before reaching a road junction with CV 819. Turn right towards Montnegre and the road crosses the autopista on a bridge.</p> <p>You will stay on this CV 819 to the start of the walk – but the drive is not straightforward. The road in parts is narrow and very winding. To start with you will pass through a modern urbanisation (where there is a bar/bodega "CJ5") which is useful for refreshments after the walk (if it is open!).</p> <p>After the Urbanisations the road soon narrows and there is a global ban on overtaking and a 30km speed limit. Sign informs you that the road is narrow and in danger of sinking.</p> <p>Where there are drainage crossing sumps the speed limit is 20km/hr. You will stay on this road for 9.5 km and it should take you about 25 minutes from here.</p> |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>Just before the village of Montnegre there is a T Junction where the road turns right (signposted Jijona) and a sign "Camino Muy Peligroso – PRECAUTION)</p> <p>Drive down the hill and cross the narrow bridge. The road turns sharply left and then continue to the village of Montnegre.<br/>Pass through the village, over the concreted sump-bridge and past the chapel.</p> <p>As you pass the village name sign at the end of the village, take the right hand fork signposted to Jijona.</p> <p>Drive up the next hill around several bends and pass a large abandoned farmhouse on your left (3 floors high)</p> <p>Drive around the next bend right then one to the left and after a 100m or so you will reach a flat unpaved area to your right with a single mature pine tree – this is the car park. The drive from CV 800 will take you at least 35 minutes. (17 km)</p> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Short walk description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>From the car park the walk follows faint paths along the top of a spectacular ridge before meeting a well defined and marked trail down into the barranco. The descent is steep and slippery in places. Once in the barranco we travel "downstream" through dramatic gorges to reach a dam. We then back-track up the barranco, passing our point of entry to reach another concrete dam which we cross the the aid of iron rungs and fixed chains. We continue up stream through more dramatic landscapes to a point where we can take a well defined (but rather worn) path back to the car park.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Full Walk Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| From the car park find a track that runs parallel with the road in the direction of Montnegre.                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| This track meets a broad track after a short distance and you should follow this track to your left.                                                                                                                                                                           | 100m / 2 min                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| After about 500m the track turn sharply left                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 515 m/ 7 min                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| The track soon fades and a faint narrow path heads up towards the ridge                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 616 m/ 9min                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| There is a track which traverses the right-hand side of the ridge in front of you – but it has a steep camber and a considerable drop to its right hand side. This track takes you to the next col in the ridge crest line. A safer option is to make your way up to the ridge |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| crest and to turn right and follow the crest to the col.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                            |
| At the col the route is then to follow the ridge crest until you meet the marked trail. There is no recognised path but a series of animal trails. In general keep to the crest or to the left-hand side of the ridge After a small col you will see a living tree that was blown over – go to the left of it as the trail there is less steep than along the crest. Some parts are steep and loose – but there is little exposure. | 754m / 12 min              |
| The ridge undulates – the views are awesome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                            |
| At the well used and well defined trail which crosses the ridge at the first deep col turn left.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1.5 km / 35 min            |
| This path winds its way down into the baranco. At times it splits into parallel trails but they all go to the same point. The path has severe water damage in parts and gets steeper and more difficult as you near the barranco.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                            |
| In the baranco there is a signpost. Turn right and follow the water course downstream.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2.4 km /55 min             |
| Enjoy the magnificent rock formations on this section. There is no path - but the gravel in the "riverbed" makes for easy walking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                            |
| When the barranco-bed starts to get overgrown you will be near to a concrete dam which is as far as we go. Choose a path through the bushes on the left-hand side so that when you get to the dam you can take a path up the side of the barranco to get you to lip of the dam. Go up and take a look into the gorge on the other-side – it is impressive (gorgeous?).                                                              | 3.5 km /<br>1hr 30 min     |
| Retrace your route back to the point at which we entered the barranco-bed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4.7 km /<br>2 hrs          |
| Continue "upstream" and you will reach a concrete dam across the valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                            |
| To pass over the dam use the iron rungs on the left-hand side with the assistance of the fixed chain. The descent on the other-side is also equipped with iron rungs and a fixed chain.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 5.6 km /<br>2hrs 20 min    |
| Once over the dam continue "upstream" and enjoy the scenery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                            |
| You will reach a junction a smaller barranco to the right – this is a very interesting valley and is used on a longer version of this walk. Today keep left and continue upstream.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6.1 km /<br>3 hrs / 32 min |
| The barranco narrows and twists and turns. You will eventually reach a marked, well used path joining the barranco-bed from the left. Turn sharply left and follow this track up the side of the valley.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 7 km /<br>4hrs             |
| This track is used by motorbikes and in parts has been eroded – take care. Follow the track back to the car park.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 7.3 km /<br>4 hrs 6 min    |
| To get home you have two options. Continue along the CV 819 towards Jijona. The road is very "interesting". It eventually joins the CV 810 where you turn right and go to Jijona and then onto the CV 800. There are bars in Jijona – but parking is sometimes a real                                                                                                                                                               |                            |

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problem.

Option 2 is to retrace your route through Montnegre on the CV 819. If the bar "CJ5" is closed then alternative watering holes can be found in Mutxamel

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

### **Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

Do not attempt this walk if heavy storms are forecast.

Walking time for this trail is approximate as you will no doubt want to stop and admire the many geological features on display. You could march around much more quickly – but what would be the point?

Gloves are useful for climbing over the dam.

See map below.....

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**Route followed is outlined in Red**

