

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	10 th September 2020
Title of Walk	Bescaran circuit from Estamariu
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Estamariu village. Square in village or outskirts at side of road
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	10
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	490
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3hr 4hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/A
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.374164, Long: 1.523560
Directions to Start	Using the N260 cross Pyrenees road 5 km to the E of La Seu de Urgell a minor road runs N towards the village of Estamariu. Follow this and park within the village square or on the outskirts.
Short walk description	A delightful walk between 2 villages with great views across a deep valley once a steep start has been left behind. Interesting features along the way.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>Approaching the village drive into the narrow lane that leads tow square with limited parking for about 6 or 8 cars, although some will be taken by residents of course.</p> <p>Now walk back out of the village until you reach the bend doubling back to the right and here turn left under an arch - actually an aqueduct. Then turn steeply up and almost immediately right at a fork now working steeply uphill on a cobbled tack with occasional orange and green paint marks avoiding turns into fields and driveways.</p> <p>Pass a newly renovated small cabin on the RHS with extensive views now back to the village and over to Cadi Moixero.</p> <p>Cross several tracks keeping ahead steeply uphill on the original cobbled track which eventually reduces its slope as it enters woodland. (with occasional indistinct paint waymarks).</p>	

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Descend slightly to cross a (normally) dry barranco and then climb steeply but briefly to a rocky corner which makes a good refreshments stop and from where you have get views of your destination and across the gorge our return path high above the crags.	2.4km, 53min
Round a second spur.....	2.8km, 1hr
..... and cross one or two fences soon descending towards the village and ignoring side turnings soon curling left and then right to be below the edge of a large field where you also pass a water trough.	
Join the tarmac road and keep ahead soon reaching a bridge at what was a water ill and doubling back to the right towards the lower edge of the village.	4.3km, 1hr 24min
To visit the quaint village soon turn left up a concrete ramp after 150 meters which weaves between buildings before becoming steps with overgrown vegetation climbing steadily towards the village houses. At the top of the steps join concrete and continue a little to the first junction where you turn left and curl around on a road under the village church and with a metal sculpture adorning one wall.	4.6km, 1hr 30min
Keep ahead on this road to a T junction in front of the Soa hotel and turn right now downhill. A few meters further join a footpath descending on the right and at the bottom of this turn left on concrete, cross the tarmac road and continue downhill to pass the bell tower for the church and the cemetery.	5.1km, 1hr 40min
Beyond this keep ahead downhill and cross a small stream working slightly uphill and pass several tracks off to the left that look as if they went up to some crags (for quarrying?). A few meters below this look out for a turn to the left which we do take (with paint mark) and then this track continues ahead delightfully for some time. Ignore a path which crosses our line and continue ahead steadily downhill.	
Reach a rocky corner from where there is a tremendous view down into the gorge and turn left on the track now between walls. 50m later where you cross a stream take care to turn right immediately and still downhill.	7km, 2hr 11min
Cross a water collector (leet) and follow along its left flank briefly before crossing it again to pass a junction with a sign to a dolmen (which we ignore)and descend to reach a finger lost where we turn right down to the river.	
Cross this on the Pont del Moli and then turn left passing the ruins of the Moli and soon starting to ascend.	8.2km, 2hr 30min
Soon you are working up under some crags and the in zig zags to reach more level ground with a fenced viewpoint from where you get sight of a farm on the outskirts of the village.	
Now follow this easy lane across terraces and field edges to reach the road where your turn left and walk down past the church to the edge of the village. Walk back up to your parked car.	
Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	None

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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