

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	11 th September 2020
Title of Walk	Tristaigne cirque
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	El Serrat Restaurant la Borda de la Coma
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	7
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	550
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	2.75hr 4.25hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/C/Scr
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 42.631676, Long: 1.481539
Directions to Start	Starting from the CG2 main road through Andorra, take the CG3 from Les Escaldes through the tunnel (free) and on to Ordino. Follow this road on through El Serrat shortly after which it mysteriously becomes the CS380. In summer months it is often shut at the Arcalis ski station from where you should take the telecabina up to the higher station at the restaurant la Borda.
Short walk description	Fantastic scenery all around the Tristaigne cirque comes at the cost of challenging rock hopping and difficult terrain. Don't be fooled by the low stats – this is a challenging walk, but worth the effort!
Full Walk Description	<div> <div> Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far </div> <div> <p>From the cable car station take the cable car (€12 return in 2020) to the Restaurant la Borda de la Coma at the top of the road. Here walk up beside the restaurant on its LHS on a footpath that ascends gently towards a spur over on the right.</p> <p>Reach the spur and a finger post.....</p> <p>..... and turn left to descend a little and find a wooden finger post indicating the Cirque de Tristaigne going off to the left.</p> <p>Follow this path which soon starts to ascend.</p> </div> <div> <p>780m, 17min</p> <p>855m, 19min</p> </div> </div>

Remember that you use these walk guides at your own risk. Take precautions and if unsure – turn back!

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Pass a finger post indicating Port de Creussons on the LHS which we ignore and keep ahead still rising.

Take care to diligently follow the yellow paint marks as at one stage when the path doubles back uphill to the left there is a clear path line going directly ahead. Ignore this. Zig zag up through scree and crest a spur.....

2.1km, 51min

..... from where descend awkwardly through a boulder field before starting to climb again. A section of boulder hopping follows before you finally see our continuing zig zag path below you rising up from a shallow valley. We descend down zigzags on grass and work round a crag to finish across a small boulder field from where we start to climb again.

Crest the spur and pass a huge cairn.....

4.3km, 1hr 46min

..... before working out below one finger post and arriving at a second almost immediately where we turn right and start to descend on a broad and eroded path.

At a fork with yellow "Y" turn left aiming steadily downhill towards the second lake.

Keep going down here following yellow paint marks until just before a small knoll in front of you you can turn right on a clear path down towards the lake.

5.1km, 2hr 3min

After 50m or so just in front of a small knoll turn left more steeply downhill and now chose your line to aim to reach the outflow from this lake at its LH end.

5.5km, 2hr 12min

Here cross a wooden bridge and start ascending again in several stages to reach the spur you crossed on your outward journey.

Turn right and follow the path back to the car park and top of the cable car.

Andorra maps:- Source: Ministeri d'Ordenament Territorial, Govern d'Andorra

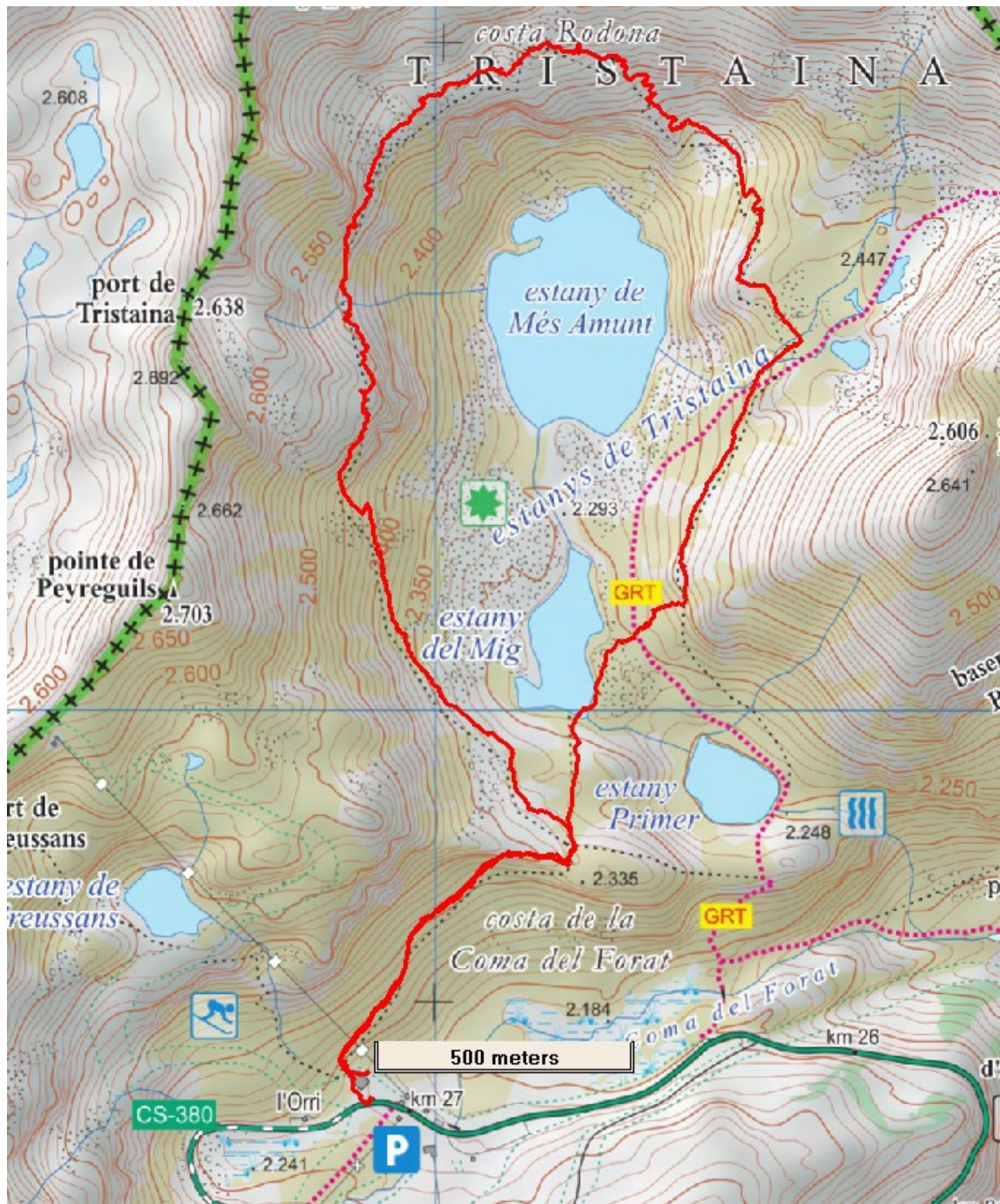
Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Some simple scrambling required

see map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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