

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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| Walk description originally prepared by:- | John E. Mail |
| Last Updated | 11 th February 2021 |
| Title of Walk | Ruta de los Pantaneros and Val Figueras Circuit |
| Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description) | Chulilla Car park before entering village near urbanizacion Sta Barbara |
| Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km | 13 km |
| Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m | 500 m |
| Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops | 4.5 hr 5.5hr |
| Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system) | MS/B |
| Grid reference of start point (if known) | Lat: 39.659523, Long: -0.891334 |
| Directions to Start | From Valencia bypass (A7/E15) take C35 towards Ademuz for approximately 44km (30 minutes) and leave C35 at Loso Del Obispo. At roundabout pass under C35 and follow signs for Chulilla (CV 394) passing though Loso Del Obispo. After approx 6km you will arrive at Chulilla and park in car park before entering village near urbanizacion Sta Barbara |
| Short walk description | A circular walk on good paths which follows the Turia river upstream to the embalse Loriguilla through a spectacular gorge. The return route climbs to a col before descending via another picturesque barranco passing the site of some prehistoric cave paintings. |
| Full Walk Description | Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far |
| From the car park follow the CV 394 away from the village | 0 km 0 min |
| Turn left onto footpath at sign Ruta de Calderones. Go past the hut and down to the viewpoint area. From here the path continues to drop into the gorge following the river upstream. | 580 m, 9 min |
| From the path as you descend into the valley you will see impressive views to your left to the "Charco Azul" - a man-made lake to provide water for a hydro-electric plant. After approx. 1 km you will reach a crossing point of a tributary to the river Turia. Cross the river and follow the signpost pointing left to the "Ruta de los Panatones" (SL-77) | 1.5 km, 25 min |

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| Follow the path along the left bank of the river Turía until you reach a signpost directing down into the gorge and to a suspension bridge spanning the river. | 1.9 km 30 min |
| Take the steps down to the bridge cross the river, turn right and continue upstream to the next bridge where you re-cross the river onto the left bank and continue upstream. | 2.1 km 36 min |
| Pass an impressive area with overhanging rock. There is an information board here explaining how these natural rock shelters were used by early settlers. | 3.4km 57 min |
| Continue upstream and you will reach a dam with a hut at the side with a red roof. You are now leaving the gorge and will follow a broad track. | 3.7 km 1 hr 2 min |
| Follow the broad track until it meets a paved road next to a bridge - Turn right and continue uphill. | 4 km 1hr 5 min |
| At the top of the hill turn left past the gate towards the main dam following signs SL-77 to the "Embalse Loriguilla". | 4.6 km 1hr 15 m |
| After crossing the dam continue until you reach a fork in the road where there are 3 storage garages. Take the left-hand fork signposted to Chulilla (PR CV-77). This road goes up then crosses a bridge and head up towards a col. | 5km 1hr 22m |
| At road junction keep left and follow sign to Chulilla (PR CV-77) . | 5.2km 1hr 24 m |
| Follow the broad track uphill until you reach a junction. Take the track to the left with the sign "pinturas" painted onto a rock. | 7.3km 1hr 55 m |
| At the next junction Turn Left | 8.2km 2hr 8m |
| After passing some ruins you will reach a junction with a narrow path to your left signposted "pinturas" and to Chulilla. Take this path which follows a barranco downstream. There is a bit of minor scrambling to do and the path in the bottom of the gorge is quite dramatic. | 9km 2hr 19m |
| After following the watercourse for approx 400 m the yellow and white signalled path turns left and climbs out of the barranco bottom. | 9.4 km 2hr 26 m |
| To visit the prehistoric paintings (pinturas) stay on the watercourse for approx 100m, scrambling down some dry waterfalls until you reach a staircase to your right, accessed through a cleft between two large rocks, which rises up to the paintings which are secured behind an iron grill. | 9.5km 2hr 29m |
| After viewing the paintings, go back down the staircase and head back up the barranco for about 20 m. Climb up a rock ledge and take the path to your right which rises quite steeply up to rejoin PR CV-77 at a signpost. Turn right in the direction of Chulilla. | 9.6 km 2hr 30m |
| This path follows the left-hand side of the barranco providing spectacular views. After approx 2km you will reach a junction with a footpath to the right from "Sot de Chera". Continue straight ahead towards Chulilla. | 10.5 km, 2hr 47 m |
| Continue to descend and at junction with concreted road turn left to return to the village. | 11.7 km, 3hr 7 m |

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| Ignore footpath to the left and follow broad track across the bridge over the Turia River | 11.8 km, 3hr 11 m |
| After the bridge turn left then right up the concreted road to the right of the sewage treatment plant. | 12 km 3hr 14 m |
| Climb up Calle Turia following the Green and white signals for SL CV-74 until it joins the main road through the village (CV 394). At the central square (Plaza de la Baronia) there are bars/cafes to provide you with refreshments. | 12.5km 3hr 22m |
| From the Plaza de la Baronia follow the CV 394 north past the tidal flow traffic light system back to the car park | 13km 3hr 30 m |
| <small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small> | |

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| Walk Recommendations or restrictions | <p>There are no drinking water sources on this route. The trail takes us through the village of Chulilla at the end of the walk where refreshments can be enjoyed if needed.</p> <p>This is a very popular walking area and weekends should be avoided if you like tranquillity.</p> |
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Route followed is outlined in Red
(apologies for split in map)

