

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	John E. Mail
Last Updated	1 st June 2021
Title of Walk	Abdet Hills and valleys
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Abdet Remote roadside parking.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	15.6
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	670
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	Walking time 4hr 29 min Total time 6 hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.69833, Long: -0.26565
Directions to Start	Take CV70 from Guadalest towards Alcoy. At Km 25.1 turn right towards Abdet on CV 7560. At km 1 turn left and continue uphill taking left hand fork, for 1.3 km where there is a signpost for footpath GR330. Park at side of the road. Do not block forestry track.
Short walk description	A tour of the hills and valleys above Abdet and below the Serella Ridge. Well defined paths throughout and a tough climb to a spectacular lunch location (Mela Ridge 1122m) with views down to Guadalest and the Algar valley to the sea.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From car parking area turn right along broad track (GR 330) signposted towards Castell de Castells. (18.8km)	0km, 0 min
Pass security chain across track and continue to track junction next to old stone built single story house on right. Keep straight ahead downhill.	538m, 8 min
At junction of tracks turn right towards 2 storey house. There is fenced olive grove to your left. At this point we leave GR 330.	627m, 10 min
Continue past house (Casita Demela) to junction where you turn right downhill.	914m, 14 min

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This broad track ends up at a man-made flat semicircular area (an – used for threshing corn) where we turn sharply right and then left downhill, passing a big rock to your right, towards a ruined stone built building.	1.1 km, 17 min
After 40 metres pass through a wooden gate at the side of the old building, cross the orchard, pass through another gate (closing both behind you) then cross the stream bed and follow the path the short distance to a junction with a broad track. Turn Right.	1.2km, 19 min
At Junction with asphalted road turn left.	1.6km, 25 min
We shall climb approx 100m on this road. After about 400m we will pass a homestead area with assorted dogs, donkeys and ponies.	2.1 km, 32 min
At fork in the road keep left (concreted surface) signposted to Casa Rosa Montagne	2.3km, 37 min
At the top of the hill where broad track ends, turn sharply left and pass by house to your left. Track passes garden area of house and turns into narrow path descending through terraced fields. After a loose stony descent you will reach a flat almond orchard.	3 km, 51 min
Turn right and keep to the right hand side of the orchard until you get to a rocky gully. The path turns left and drops steeply to cross the watercourse about 30m further on.	3.1km, 53 min
After crossing the watercourse the path is far more defined and follows the right hand side of the valley downhill. The path broadens and at the next junction with another broad track keep left and continue your descent.	3.4km, 1hr
At the next junction with a broad track turn right and start climbing up the valley. (at this point we start back-tracking along our earlier trail).	3.6km, 1 hr 3m
The path narrows and we now pass to our left the junction with path that we came on. Keep straight ahead.	3.9km, 1hr 8m
The path initially keeps to the right of the watercourse before crossing it. We then climb up through pinewoods to rejoin path GR 330 where we turn right. (turning left provides an emergency route back to the car park if needed).	4.2km, 1h 15m
We follow GR 330 to the next junction with a narrow path to the right. At this point turn right and leave GR 330.	4.4km, 1h 19m
This path is marked with a mixture of yellow dots, coloured blobs and the odd unofficial yellow and white stripe! We climb about 85m up this meandering, quite steep path until we reach a junction with a signpost to "Mas de la Canaleta" where we take path to the left.	4.9km, 1h 30m
The path has been quite well defined so far but when we reach some terraces it becomes less clear. Climb up two terraces and then stay at the same level as you continue along the side of the valley and cross a gulley coming down from the mountainside. The path then becomes far more defined again from here.	5.1km, 1h 34m
After passing a small, circular water tank the narrow path meets a broad track. Keep right and continue to head up the valley. (The broad track to the left leads to a path down to meet GR 330 (km 14.2 on this walk) where you can make a return to the car park if necessary)	5.3km, 1hr 39m

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At a junction with an unused broad track to the left, take the left hand track instead of the main track which goes uphill.	7.1km, 2hr 6m
This unused broad track leads to an agricultural terrace. Stay level and follow the terrace until the track becomes more defined. The track then rises and rejoins the drivable forest track where we turn left and continue up the valley.	7.5km, 2hr 13m
At the head of the valley you will meet a junction of 5 tracks. We take the second broad track to our left (marked with a red and white cross and a graffiti defaced sign by the Valencia Generalitat. We now start a loop climbing 200m and returning here. If you want to shorten the walk then take the first turning left (GR 330 to Confrides) which goes back to the car park. (follow directions from Km 12.2 on this walk)	8km, 2hr 21m
Follow the broad track until you get to a sharp bend to the left where the track starts to descend. There is a stone cairn here and we turn left and start to climb up the ridge.	8.3km, 2hr 24m
The narrow path is well marked with stone cairns and we climb up until the path opens out into a broad unused forest track.	8.7km, 2hr 35m
Continue to ascend along the ridge following the broad track which becomes more defined as we ascend. As we get higher we will get spectacular views down to Guadalest and beyond. We will now take a deviation to the left to a rocky outcrop only about 50m away with superb views – the perfect place for lunch!. At a stone cairn turn left and head into the woods. This area has a lot of fallen tree damage and you will have to pick your way through the debris. Scramble up to the Mela ridge (1122m) where there is a weather station. Relax and enjoy the stunning views!	9.2km, 2hr 46m
	9.3km, 2hr 48m
Now that you are fully refreshed you have to get back down to the broad track below. You can return to the track by the way you came or there are other options further east. None of the options offers good paths!. Once you reach the broad track again, turn left and walk towards the Guadalest Valley.	9.4km, 2hr 52m
The broad track heads towards Guadalest (East) before turning right and descending in a loop to pass the cairn where we started to climb the ridge.	12km, 3hr 30
We continue back to the junction of 5 tracks where we rejoin GR 330. Turn right downhill towards Confrides.	12.2km, 3hr 32m
After a long straight descending trail down the right hand side of the valley the path, now narrow, zigzags to lose altitude.	14km, 4hr
The path now joins the watercourse (Barraco Manicillo). There is a ledge to the right which can be used when there is water flowing – but it can be slippery.	14.2km 4hr 3m
After a mini gorge take the path that rises steeply to the right and continues parallel to the watercourse. Before long you will be back in the streambed. Continue downstream and before long take a path to higher ground to the right. This path soon crosses the watercourse from right to left.	14.3km, 4hr 5m
The path then meanders down the watercourse crossing it finally from left to right.	14.4km, 4hr 8m
We now pass a junction with a path to the left that was part of our outbound route.	14.5km, 4hr 9m
At the next junction with a path that also formed part of our outbound route we keep right.	14.7km, 4hr 13m

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Our narrow path (GR 330) now rises steadily, turns into a broad track passes a crystal clear pond to the right and reaches a junction with another broad track to the right which formed part of our outbound route. Keep straight ahead.

15km, 4hr 19m

We are now back tracking along our outbound route and soon arrive back at the car park

15.6km, 4hr 29m

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Bring plenty of water as there are no water sources on the trail.

As the trail is a series of loops the walk can be shortened easily.

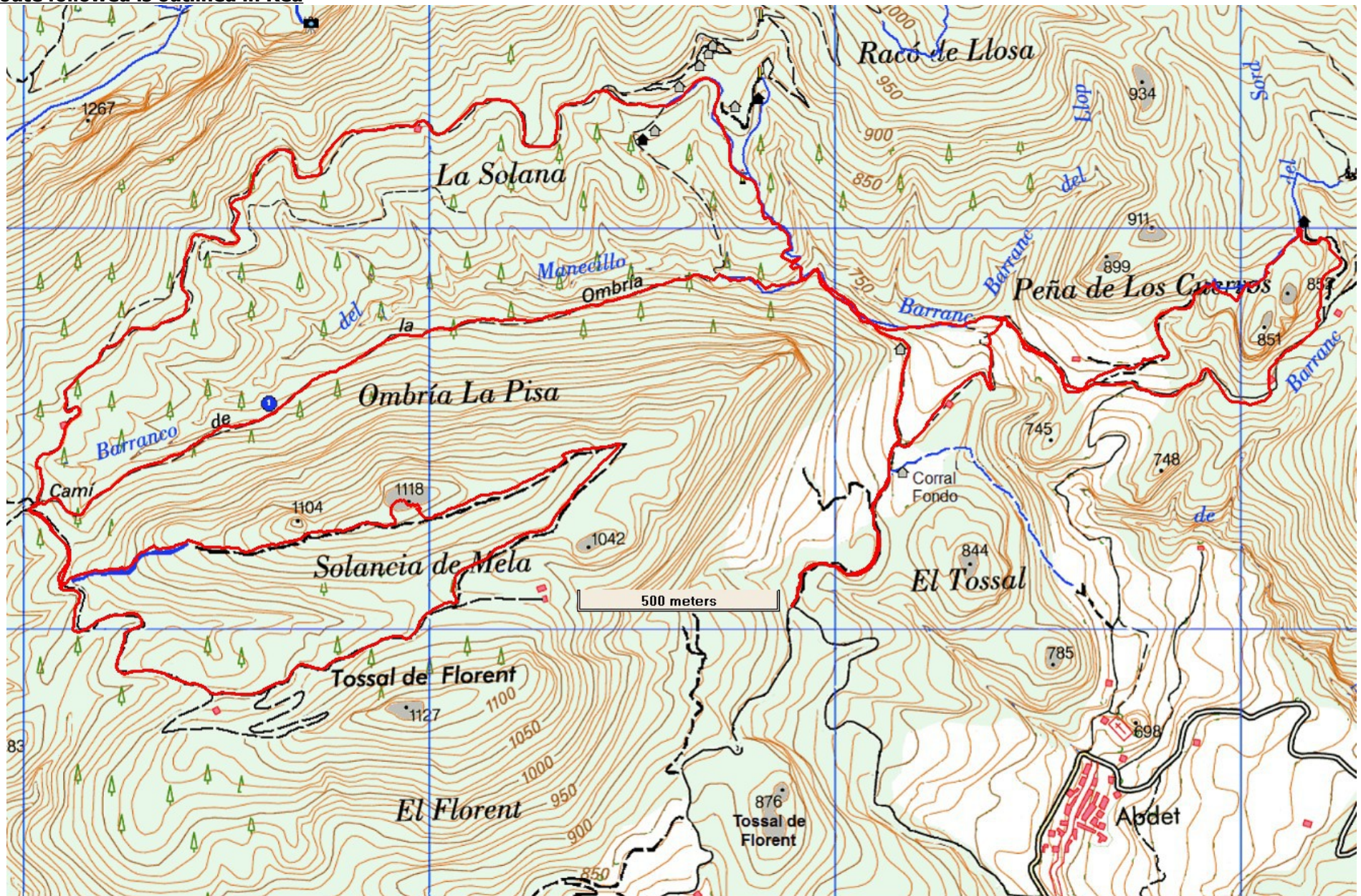
For refreshments after the walk there are bars in Abdet and Benimantel – but they all close at 4pm.

The “wooden hut” near Xirles is a reliable and economic watering hole!

see map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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