

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

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	John E. Mail
<b>Last Updated</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2021
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Pal Ski Station to Col de la Botella and back
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	La Massana Pal Ski Station, La Massana, Andorra
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	10.2 km
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	380m
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	3 hr 3.5hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	M/B
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 42.53729, Long: 1.49157
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Car park at pal Ski Station reached by following CG4 from Erts passing Pal and then turn left after approx 2.5km at ski lift to rise up to main car park. Alternatively by using cable car from La Massana.
<b>Short walk description</b>	A moderate out and back walk which avoids the ski runs to a scenic col with a nice restaurant for a snack or an ice cream. Great walk for acclimatising to Andorra's altitude.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
From the area in front of the cable car station cross the piste areas (passing a tourist information office on your right) and the Pal Arinsal Estacion De Ski Snow complex of shops and cafes and head for the ski piste furthest left (south), which is also used as an unsurfaced road. Follow this piste for a short distance passing a magic carpet kids lift on the way.	0km 0min
A narrow path enters the woods to the left of the ski piste. Do not take the first path to the left which drops of the ridge and heads down into the valley. Our path now runs parallel to the piste up a ridge. The path is marked with distance markers. From time to time you will get short side pathways to impressive viewpoints down into the valley to your left.	390m 7 min
The path rises more steeply as it progresses and ends by rejoining the piste just beyond	1.9km, 36 min

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a "magic carpet" kids lift machine. Turn left and continue up the piste.	
At sign post to Col de la Botella turn right onto narrow path which is shared with mountain bikers. Another downhill mountain biker trail crosses at this point – be vigilant – they travel at speed!	2.5km, 45 min
This narrow path is well marked, has distance markers and undulates to the Col de la Botella. There are occasional seats along the route to take in the views!	
At the Col de la Botella drinks, ice creams snacks or even lunch is available in season.	5.1km 1hr 30m
From here we retrace our steps back to the car park.	
Turn left to descend drivable piste	7.6km, 2hr 15m
Leave drivable piste to take path to the right through the woods – unless you want a more gradual descent in which case stay on the drivable piste.	8.2km , 2hr 24m
Return to the car park where refreshments are available	10.2km, 3hr
<small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small>	
<b>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</b>	Part of this route is shared with mountain bikers – stay vigilant!

see map below.....

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**Route followed is outlined in Red**

