

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	18 th September 2021
Title of Walk	Roques de Benet from Horta de San Joan
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Horta de San Joan Cruilla de las Eres. At the junction of the tarmacked road heading S into Els Ports and the track rising up towards the Roques
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	8.5
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	530
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	2.75hr 3.75hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B/Scr
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 40.90115, Long: 0.31537
Directions to Start	The road which runs along the top edge of the Ports crosses the border from Aragon to Catalunya. In Aragon it is the A231 but it changes to the T333 as it enters Catalunya. Either way travelling from the SW turn R just before the turning to Horta on a small tarmacked road signed to "Els Ports".
Short walk description	A delightful walk up through woodland with wide views of many of the Ports tops before embarking on a challenging scramble up to the summit of the Roques from where there are frequent sightings of vultures and goats along with spectacular views.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Start by walking up the ascending track and reach a set of information boards about an interpretative walk around an old Masia (walled farm) – Mas Burot - where we turn R onto a footpath.	170m, 3min
Follow this a few metres before reaching a junction where we keep R.	
Now continue uphill until you drop into the barranco with water pipes visible where the path steps up to the R along a rock ramp and up a small wall to continue in woodland.	

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

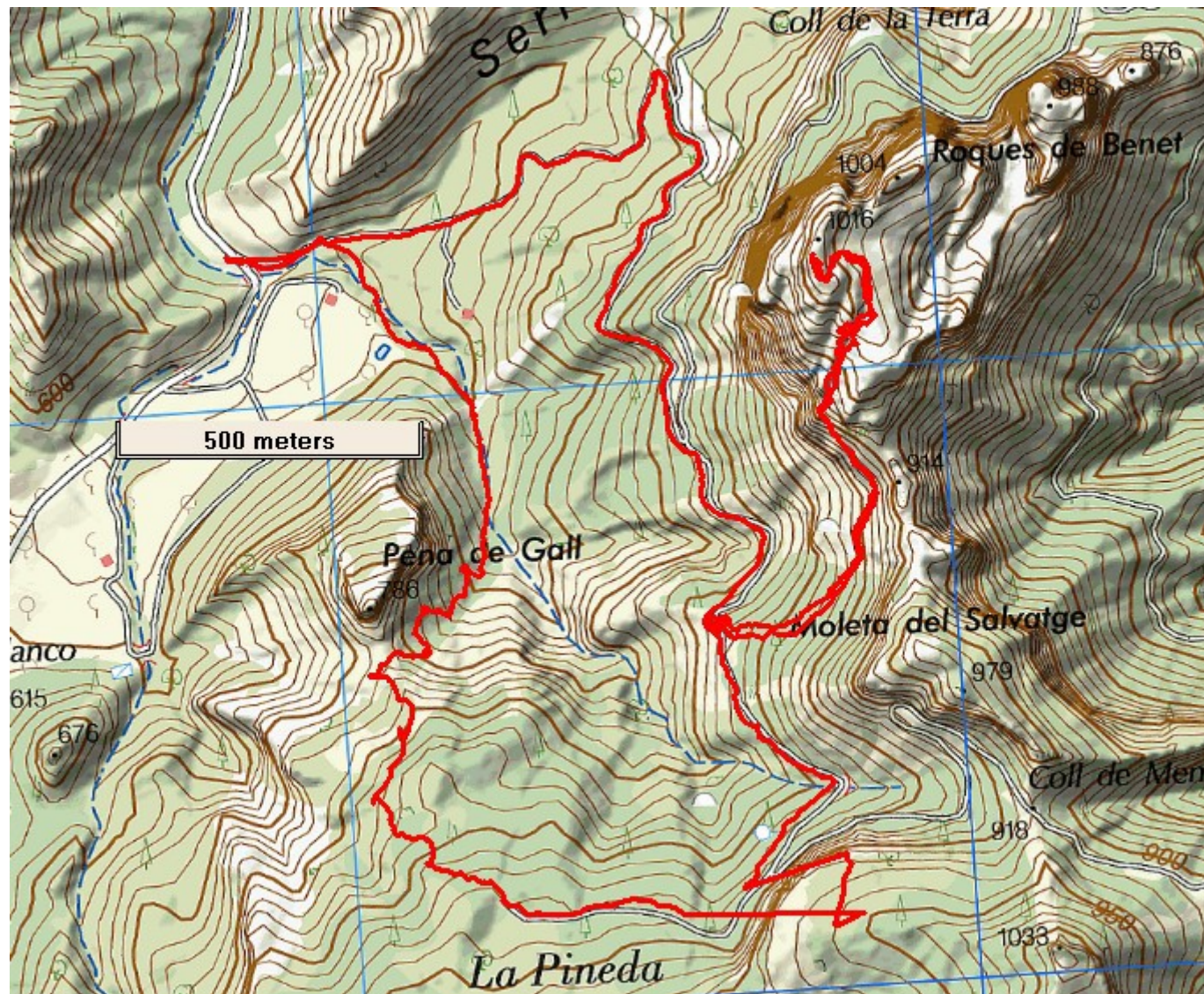
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On the map a path junction is marked after some 800m which the author did not see. If you find it then then turn R and keep ascending now in zig-zags.	
Reach a small rock bound col which you cross and turn to the L soon rising again.	1.3km, 30min
Reach and indistinct junction marked with cairns. This marks a path turning back to the R and a second – less obvious – going ahead over a small rib before turning more steeply up a gully. Take this.	
As this starts to flatten out you join a track and then continue ahead.	2.3km, 50min
Reach a track junction and keep L descending.	
A little way down this and after swinging around a bend to the L watch carefully for a sign in green paint on the rocks on the R just before a zig-zag R and L. The sign says "Benet" and a few metres below this is a green paint arrow pointing up a clear footpath. (But no finger post!)	3.7km, 1hr 6min
Take this path rising steeply up through woodland and across scree to eventually reach a spur where you turn steeply up to the R and into the jaws of a rocky gully.	
Part way up this steep ascent there is a boulder under which you crawl and then a section protected with a rope to aid your ascent (and descent!).	
Keep up this to emerge on a wide and level col with fantastic views into the heart of the Ports.	4.7km, 1hr 32min
To reach the summit walk off to the L keeping just below the conglomerate rock to find a rocky and scree filled path working uphill and then turning to the L up a gully to finally emerge just to the L of the summit.	4.9km, 1hr 37min
When your senses are saturated return the same way down to the wide and level col and then back down the gully and finally drop down to reach the broad track.	6.2km, 2hr 5min
Here turn R and follow this downhill ignoring several more minor tracks going off to the R (2) and then L (1) to reach your parked car.	
<small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small>	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	None

See map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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