

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps and Mary Gough
Last Updated	20 th April 2022
Title of Walk	Competa to Canillas de Albaida figure of eight
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Competa Start outside the Hotel Balcon de Competa
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	16
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	760
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.5hr 6hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/A
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 36.83496, Long: -3.977715
Directions to Start	Competa lies N and inland from the coast road along the southern coast. Start from Torrox and head N on the A7207 northwards to reach the village of Competa. The hotel lies high up in the village towards the NW corner.
Short walk description	An excellent wander through the foothills of the Sierra Tejada between 2 idyllic villages.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>Start by turning L out of the front door of the hotel and walking along past the Ermita.</p> <p>Follow the main road as it swings up to the R and continues to climb up Ave Canas and Plaza Carmen.</p> <p>Pass a lavanderia on the L and the Cortijo Restaurante Paco.</p> <p>Reach a barranco with the Coviran supermarket and a small quarry.....</p> <p>and continue around to the R for a short distance before turning L into a small square and then take the 2nd L (Jatar) again up a road.</p> <p>A little way up this continue directly ahead on concrete and as this bends off to the R take the steep and gravelly footpath going directly up the hill.</p>	780m, 13min

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Rejoin the concrete road and follow this uphill in zig-zags to curve around to the RHS of the Campo de Futbol where you find a footpath going off on the RHS soon with concrete steps.	1.4km, 23min
Reach a track where we turn L now following R/W markers of the GR249.	1.5km, 27min
At a track junction keep ahead slightly downhill.	
When you reach a prominent spur keep ahead on the main track (now with the village of Canillas visible ahead of you) ignoring a minor one going off L.	
Soon after you walk around a deep barranco with a track going off and down the barranco to your L keep track of footpaths which you pass and at the second of these (with a cairn) turn L downhill.	4.2km, 1hr 6min
Zig-zag down this to join a tarmac road where you turn L downhill.	
As you follow this around to the L look out for a footpath going off R and dropping to join the next tarmac road where you continue ahead.	4.6km, 1hr 12min
When you reach the Ermita directly in front of you keep L of it and then double back to the L descending and then around to the R where you take the first turning R.	4.9km, 1hr 16min
Turn L down some steps in Calle San Anton and at the bottom of this turn R still descending.	
When you reach the "Salida" sign turn L down calle Alta and now weave down to reach the main Plaza with Posadas either side and a fountain you turn R along Calle Malaga.	
Aim downhill through the village aiming for a large pylon where just off to the R is a descending roped walkway.	5.7km, 1hr 29min
Follow this down in zig-zags to reach the road where you turn R and cross a bridge.	6.1km, 1hr 37min
Turn R just over the bridge and down a concrete ramp to a track. Ignore the signed footpath on the RHS and continue up the track beside the river.	
This soon becomes a footpath with occasional wooden bridges across the stream and we follow this for some time initially level before it starts to climb more steeply and then eventually emerges on a track where we turn L.	8.7km, 2hr 28min
Follow this around the head of several valleys with occasional ascents to reach a prominent spur where there is an obvious track junction.	10.3km, 2hr 53min
Here turn L descending and soon pass Villa Estrella (no. 8) and then curve around to the L ignoring a steeper track going off R.	
Walk around the head of a barranco and shortly downhill where there is a drive to a hidden house on the LHS keep R and start uphill again for a short distance.	
Reach a spur with a set of pylons crossing where there is a track junction. Ignore the track going off uphill to the R and instead follow the gravel track off L.	12.1km, 3hr 20min
As this curls around to the R there is a chained driveway ahead of you and as you follow the track back to the L look out for a footpath descending off to the R.	

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Follow this down in zig-zags to reach a barranco bottom where you walk out L to cross a tarmac road and continue descending now on a cobbled path with rope hand rail.

12.5km, 3hr
28min

Cross the Roman Bridge, walk up to the road and turn R to meet the ascending footpath on your L which you used earlier to descend from the village. Climb this to the village. Retrace your steps exactly through the village until you reach the top of Calle Carnero (which we joined from the L) and here walk ahead onto an ascending footpath.

13.7km, 3hr
56min

At the top of a concrete ramp turn R soon on a gravel track and soon keep R on a footpath now with R/W waymarks.

Cross a barranco, climb to a tarmac road.....

14.4km, 4hr 5min

where we turn R and then shortly in front of Villa Markez turn up L and onto the waymarked path once more.

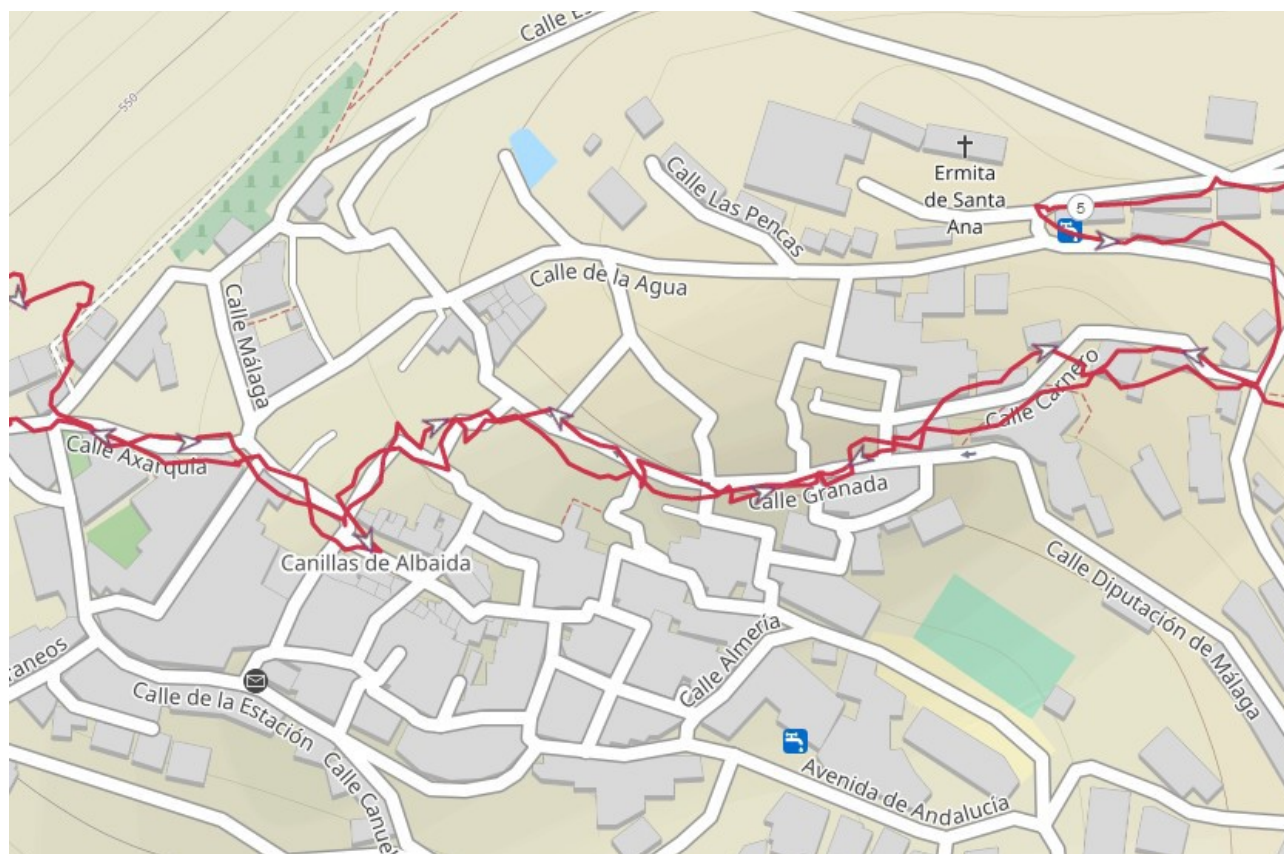
Follow this to emerge on the outskirts of Competa where if you keep ahead for a few metres you will reach the Ermita and then the doors of the Hotel Balcon de Competa and the welcoming bar nearby,

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Detail of street map for Canillas



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Route followed is outlined in Red



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