

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Jo Fletcher
Last Updated	25 Sep 22
Title of Walk	El Portalet to Ibones de Anayet and Corral de Mulas
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Formigal The start is at the last skiing car Park El Portalet, less than 1km from the French border. The walk requires a car shuttle as the finish is at the gate to the closed road to Anayet.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	12.6km
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	600
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4 hr 5hr 55 mins
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/A
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.80032,Long: -0.414186
Directions to Start	From Formigal continue up the hill to the roundabout and enter the top of the large ski car park. Try to park close to the bridge and the entrance to the ski lifts.
Short walk description	This walk requires a car shuttle. Start at the Portalet car park and finish at the entrance to the Anayet carpark road.
Full Walk Description	
<p>From the car park cross the bridge and turn L. Pass the buildings and then bear R between the two chair lifts. From this point look up and spot your first objective which is the top of the left-hand chair lift. You now have a choice of following the more direct path up the green ski lift runs or to follow the road which increases the distance but reduces the gradient. Follow the track or ski runs until you reach the top of the chair lift.</p> <p>Here you will find a further chair lift. On the R of the top flat area there is an information board showing the ski runs of the area. Pass to the L and behind on an obvious track and after 200m you will find a small lake which makes an excellent 'banana stop'.</p>	
Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
1hr/3km	
1 hr 5mins/3.2km	

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You now leave the small lake and continue to follow the path which shortly enters a small bolder field. Navigate yourself carefully through the boulder field following the track and several cairns. The path soon becomes easier as it drops down before then ascending more steeply. You will see the valley ahead and a spur coming down from your R. Continue following the path up and round. The path is on a steep slope at times but is easy to navigate. You continue to climb up towards the valley head while making your way around a mountain called Espelunciencha. You will soon start to see below a path in the valley bottom which is GR11. Continue along your track until you eventually meet up with the GR11 with obvious R/W markings.

1hr52min/5.2km

You have now nearly reached your midway objective. The path now becomes better and wider and the going is easy. It is not long until you reach a crest and the Ibon Anayet is in front of you surrounded by mountains on all sides.

2hrs/5.5km

It is now worth circumnavigating the lake to take in the views with the best lunch spot being at the far end of the lake with extra views into the valley beyond and below.

2hrs10min/6km

Following lunch continue around the lake and start to descend on the GR11. Be careful not to miss the junction where the GR11 drops off to the R and descends steeply down a rocky path.

2hr25mins/7km

This is a major path but beware as it drops steeply in places and requires attention over large rock steps. Descend on the GR11 following the stream down for 3kms until you reach a major ski station/restaurant/carpark.

3hr30min/10.2km

This is where you pick up the road which continues to descend for about 2km until you reach the main road and your pickup point. This road is closed to traffic in the non-skiing months.

4hr/12.6km

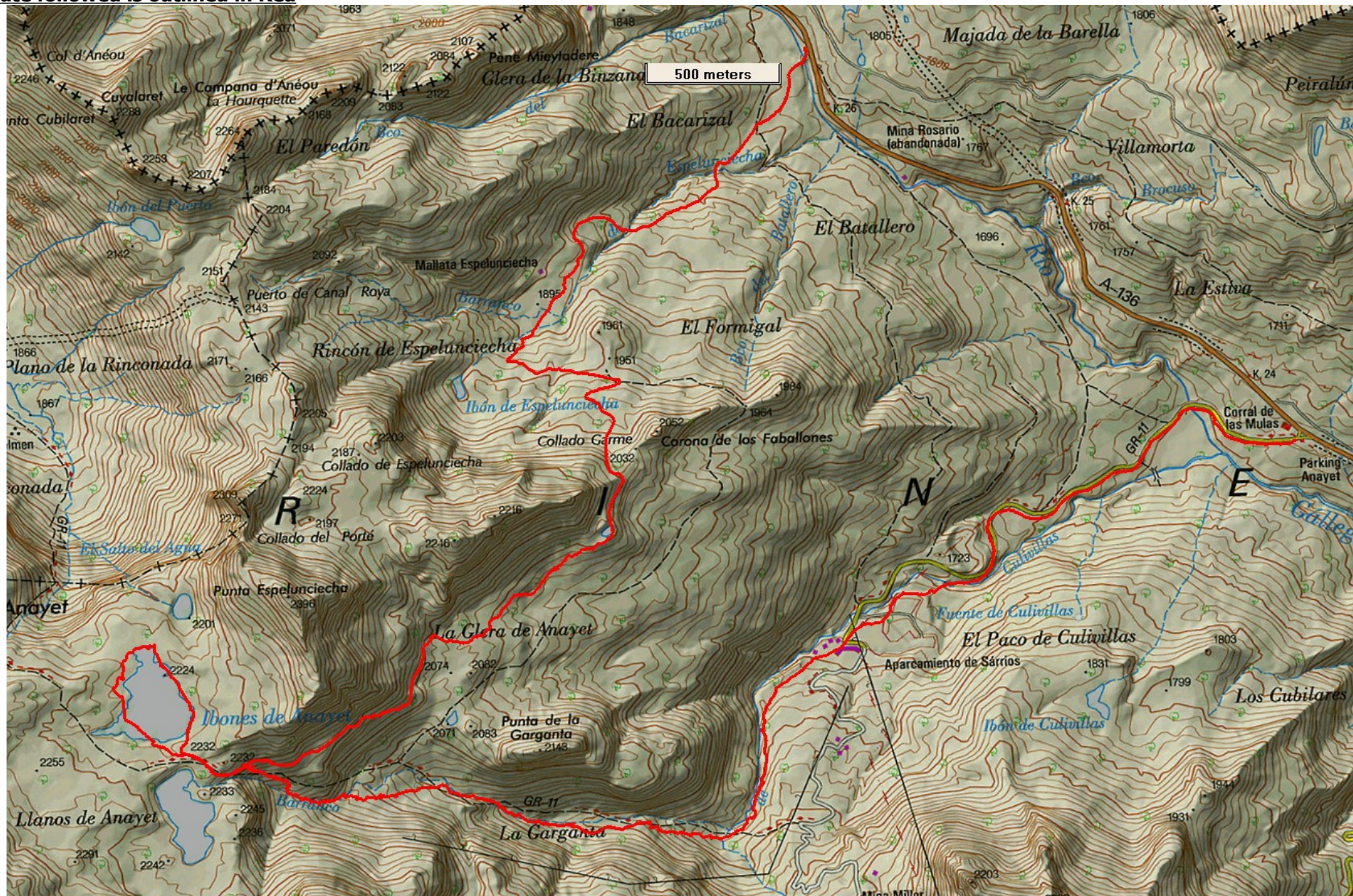
Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Requires a car to be left at the end point unless you are willing to walk an additional 2.5km uphill. Not recommended.

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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