

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Michael T Davies, Bob Hall and Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	14 th March 2023	
Title of Walk	Sierra de Helada circuit from Albir	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Albir Lighthouse car park, used by many for a more or less level stroll out to the lighthouse and back.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	11	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	735	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.75hr 5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.567764, Long: -0.063429	
Directions to Start	From Albir take the road which goes to the Lighthouse of Punta Albir & park in the ample car park at the barrier to vehicles. (Incidentally the walk along this road to the lighthouse is very pleasant. 60mins return).	
Short walk description	A walk underestimated by many. A ridge walk surrounded by civilization but far enough to feel remote. Countless ups and downs along cliff edge with views of things to come will keep your adrenaline flowing. Return along good paths and a little street walk passing the SHA (resort of the rich and famous) will help you forget the depuradora you passed earlier.	
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
From car park walk into woods to R of information booth and head up to meet a path. From here the main path is well marked by yellow and white flashes. The climb is steep and generally follows the route of the electric cables to the summit and surfaced road (Ignore side paths).	1.9km, 45min	
Turn down the road and look for the official path marker on the LHS and turn L to pick up the cliff edge path.	2.6km, 55min	
This well-worn path now follows the often-steep drops and rises along the ridge, with steep cliffs on the LHS . Continue until you arrive at a summit with a spur and large cairns.. Find a side path going off R .	5km, 1hr 51min	

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Note: The path straight on leads to Benidorm and is easy to follow as an alternative and shorter walk.(1.8km to cross – total walk 6.8km+ road walk into Benidorm)

Take this path which goes down through some trees to a cross path.
(NOTE : basically, from here to depuradora just keep bearing **R**)

Go straight ahead and up to pass a hunters blind. Continue ahead ignoring side paths and trending right at minor Y junctions to essentially follow the spur down. It rises once or twice to pass small summits but essentially continues downhill until you can see the sewage farm on your RHS and here turn slightly and more steeply **L** to reach a tarmac road. **L**.

6.8km, 2hr 25min

Cross the road and find a path going down the bank and across a small barranco. On the opposite bank follow the path along the RH edge and along a bancal until it turns **L** and descends to reach a track.

7.2km, 2hr 31min

Turn **R** for about 20 meters to a Y junction. Go up **R**, reach knoll with cross tracks and go straight on keeping to the track which soon turns **L** beside a breeze block wall, (ignoring a path going up straight ahead) to pass a house on your **LHS**. Arrive at a surfaced road. (

Turn **R** to reach a **T** junction with another surfaced road . Cross the road slightly **L**, and take the track a few metres down to a Y junction. Take LH track which bears **L** to arrive at a horse stable.

7.7km, 2hr 40min

To avoid the private area continue **L** around the perimeter of the riding arena turning **R** at the fence end and then continue ahead to arrive at a surfaced road.

Turn **L** and walk down the road to a track going **R**. Take this track, ignoring side paths and tracks, to a large yellow casa on **L**. (Casa Amarillo). Path goes a few meters **R** to cross the streambed. Reach a surfaced road.

Turn **L** passing Casa Amarillo and go straight on along C. de Verderol to the first road up **R**, just past Casa En el Bosque. Turn **R** up C. Rossinyol past Casa Simona on your **LHS** to the corner of its wall. Turn **L** along the wall and then **L** again now descending beside its perimeter wall soon swinging **R** and level into the woodland.

This soon regains a breeze block wall on its LHS and then emerges at a T jnc where you continue directly ahead steeply up a concrete road.

8.4km, 2hr 50min

Continue ahead as this becomes a tarmac road (C/Merla) and take the first **L** now descending (C/ Lloro) to reach a T jnc where you turn **R** into Cami de la Cantera.

9.3km, 2hr 57min

Follow this as it ascends to the **R** and at the end of this turn **R** uphill into C/Estrella Polar.

Curve around a bend to the **L** and then walk straight ahead onto a track which rises up to a small playground with the quarry above (and steel stemples to ascend the face!)

Continue ahead on a footpath now descending and arriving back in due course at your car park.

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Arguably a lot of road walking near the end of this walk arising from additional development makes it less attractive than in the past!

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