

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

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps
<b>Last Updated</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Les Creus circuit from Tavernes
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Tavernes de la Valldigna Street parking above Mercadona supermarket
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	10
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	535
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	4hr 5hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	MS/A
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat: 39.077431, Long: -0.261454
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Follow the N332 N past Xeraco to reach a junction with the CV50. Follow this to a roundabout on the edge of Tavernes and turn R here to lead on to Mercadona. Turn R beyond this and park at the top of the street.
<b>Short walk description</b>	A lovely round of the initial peak of the Ratlla range with glorious coastal views in the first half and a dramatic mozarabic trail leading down to the village to finish.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
Turn L at the top of the street that runs uphill from Mercadona and walk a few metres to find a track on the R and a sign board about the Y/W paths in the area.	
Take this track and pass the entrance to the tennis club and beyond this find a junction with a track on the LHS which we follow uphill.	340m, 8min
At the top turn R and some 130m along this find a finger post on the LHS showing our initial path. Take this and at a junction with another finger post keep R.	
Follow this as it crosses a slightly dangerous viaduct and then a second more dangerous one (both of which are avoidable by walking down and up the respective barrancos) to reach a set of concrete steps which we climb with difficulty to reach a water deposito.	1.1km, 29min
Turn L around the fence and then L again to follow a track a short distance along.	

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Just a few metres along this you reach a further finger post indicating the continuation of our footpath up to the L.	
Follow this as it ascends steadily before reaching a L turn where we climb more steeply to reach a finger post where we turn R.	2.2km, 1hr 10min
Now we walk generally level along the flank of the mountain with regular short climbs and descents for several kilometers until we reach a point where the path descends more steeply to a junction (with yet another finger post) and here we turn L and uphill.	4.3km, 1hr 49min
Now we climb much more steeply than before with short sections of easy scrambling until finally the ascent levels off and we begin to traverse R along the flank again before curling L up towards a col. Below on the RHS now there is a dramatic barranco	
Finally we are in easier woodland walking and we reach a junction with a path joining us from the L. Turn slightly R.	5.3km, 2hr 13min
Only a few metres further on there is a second junction (with finger post) where we keep more or less straight on soon to reach a track where we keep R and uphill.	
This quickly reach its high point and we continue ahead now descending to find a footpath leaving the track directly ahead as the track swings R.	5.9km, 2hr 26min
Follow this down towards a ruin and just short of this the path swings L and begins its zig-zag descent down towards the valley floor. This is one of the most impressive sections of the walk.	6.2km, 2hr 29min
The going now is generally straightforward but when we reach a much lower finger post we turn L.....	7.3km, 2hr 51min
..... and now encounter slightly tougher going again as we traverse around the mountains steadily descending with Tavernes soon in sight on our RHS.	
Eventually this path doubles back to the R to drop to a track where we turn L.	8.4km, 3hr 17min
Now we are following an old water collector and (regrettably) a dog shit track (!) which continues steadily onwards above the village before descending slightly to reach street level just before our parked cars.	
<small>Spanish maps included within these descriptions are provided courtesy of the Spanish IGN and remain © Instituto Geográfico Nacional</small>	

### **Walk Recommendations or restrictions**

One section of steep ascent before the halfway point requiring stamina and easy scrambling ability.

See map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red

