

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps, CBMW, 30 th December 2013	
Last Updated	10 th December 2017	
Title of Walk	Penyo Roc and Sanchet flanks circuit	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Guadalest. Parking on a small rural camino off from the road to El Trestellador Restaurant.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	16.5	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	1040	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	5.5hr 6.5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/C	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.65651, Long -0.19681	
Directions to Start	Follow the CV70 from Benidorm towards Guadalest. At km 33.5 look out for a left turn with generous signposting to Hostal El Trestellador. Take this and after a few hundred metres take a L turn doubling back. Follow this around a RH bend and as soon as you have a fence on the LHS look for parking on a track on the RHS.	
Short walk description	A fabulous walk through lonely territory with great views south towards Aitana and Castelletts, but requiring good navigational skills. It is complex and tough, but very rewarding.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Walk up the track where you have parked curving around to the L and just as the track appears to end you are in the corner of a barranco with a clear path continuing ahead.		
Ignore this path and instead work up a thin path on the RHS of the barranco. The initial intent is to stay close to it but there are many brambles and it is best take zig-zags of some 5-10m on each terrace to find the best way up, keeping in mind the need to stay as close to the barranco as you can.		50m, 1min
Soon you arrive on a large grassy and level plateau on the RHS of the barranco with views up above you to crags. Move half right across this with evidence of a path and then still heading half right up through pine trees until you meet a small ridge heading		260m, 6.5mins

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<p>more directly up the mountain. Take this. There is little vegetation to detain you on any of this first section.</p> <p>Now you can see a small rocky knoll above you which you must avoid by working L. Behind the knoll slightly L there is evidence of a gully trending up to the R to reach the ridge line.</p> <p>To reach this you must first trend L going steadily up until you reach a small patch of scree more or less directly below the crags. Do not be tempted here to take the more direct line up the steeper part of the gully as it is very hard going.</p>	425m, 10mins
<p>Once under the crags there is a clear footpath working up and you follow this for a short while until you can see the end of the immediate crags on your LHS as they give way to scrub and here the best line moves R (still uphill) away from the gully and soon levels as it traverses out on the shoulder of the mountain, now looking down on the rocky knoll that you earlier looked up to.</p>	680m, 16.5min
<p>Continue on this ever improving footpath until it arrives at a cultivated terrace which you cross and continue on a track.</p>	1.2km, 31min
<p>Reach a building (breeze block) with a track junction and here turn L steeply up still on a track.</p>	1.4km, 34min
<p>This soon ends on a further terrace which you cross to the L to find a thin footpath slanting up hill to the R.</p> <p>Follow this as it gains height and shortly before cresting the ridge watch for it turning R through bushes and ascending more directly to the ridge line.</p>	
<p>Crest the ridge and drop directly over it for a few metres to find a well established cairn with footpath coming down from the ridge on the RHS and a further footpath continuing in front of you steeply down on the RHS of a barranco.</p> <p>Follow this down for some considerable time and you will soon see a track far below you which we are making for.</p> <p>As the path nears the track it trends R towards some terraces with buildings.</p>	1.9km, 45min
<p>The path becomes a little broken as it reaches the terraces but essentially you should keep to the LHS of them and soon the path becomes clearer and enlarges before joining the major track just to the L and below the buildings.</p>	3.4km, 1hr 16min
<p>Turn R here and continue past several junctions before reaching a track (roughly defined) on the LHS opposite a single pine on the RH verge.</p>	3.9km, 1hr 23min
<p>Follow this downhill towards the valley bottom. It twists and turns a little and just as you stand facing a 4m earth wall of the bottom of the valley there is a junction with a second track which turns L uphill.</p>	4.3km, 1hr 27min
<p>Follow this as it twists and turns and pass a track junction where we keep L uphill and it then starts to diminish in stature with some undergrowth masking its line. With concentration it is straightforward to follow it uphill, but look out for a section where it turns R for a few metres with a mud bank at the LH side and then turns onto a terrace on the L.</p> <p>There is a section of rocky scramble (quite easy – but not pathlike!)</p>	

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

<p>As you work up one terrace wall you can now see a ruin above you and when we arrive at this there is a clear track going up from directly behind it to reach a second ruin above.</p>	5.1km, 1hr 45min
<p>Here pass to the RHS and find an engineered footpath going off R and rising steadily.</p> <p>Pass a trough and large empty tank and continue on the same line to emerge on a plateau with terrace walls. The path continues up the valley easily working up through the walls until you can see across to the LHS a track working up to join us.</p>	5.6km, 1hr 55min
<p>Walk over to this and turn up to the R.</p> <p>This soon diminishes to footpath status and goes steeply up to crest a col.</p> <p>Continue ahead now dropping with good views down into the valley below on your RHS.</p> <p>Pass a couple of turns on the RHS, the last of these with a gate and ruined sign to La Sirvienta and soon after this there is a third junction on the R with Y/W markings.</p>	6.9km, 2hr 19min
<p>Ignore this and trend around to the L on your path to arrive at a col with a small rocky knob on the RHS. It is worth visiting this as it provides spectacular views across to the Castelletts and Sella.</p> <p>Continue over the col to descend down a seemingly impossible path that is well graded and passes without incident down to a more level path trending L.</p> <p>Where this joins another footpath turn L uphill. Follow this to pass by an outdoor encampment and pass by a dry concrete water tank and then up around to the L to arrive at a finca. At a fork you can go either way - on the lower path to drop to a track and turn L uphill, or towards the finca and then on a track to join the lower track as it rises towards you. Either way you can see some fantastic flakes of rock directly ahead of you.</p>	7.5km, 2hr 33min
<p>From either route way follow the track uphill until you start to pass terraces on your RHS and then at the 3rd terrace (this section is now fenced with unlocked entry and exit gates. Polite notice from farmer attached : Walkers welcome -please close gates behind you)</p> <p>turn across this almost ahead until you can turn R and level along the edge of the wall and when you face the tree line work up directly ahead for a a few metres to arrive at a clearer track going uphill to the L with crags above you on the RHS.</p> <p>Follow this up on a clear line to pass the end of the crag on your R and thread through a gap in front of the next flake ahead which you pass on the RHS. The path here has been cleared a little and is easier to follow.</p>	7.7km, 2hr 36min
<p>As it levels off and wanders along abandoned terraces it joins a track where you turn L uphill.</p> <p>When this reaches a corner where it doubles back to the R there is the opportunity to avoid a long loop by leaving the track and taking a thin line directly ahead on the LHS of a barranco. This is rough going for a while and when it steepens you arrive directly below a solitary skeletal tree in an open area where you can turn L still trending upward to soon arrive at a much better path.</p>	8.2km, 2hr 49min
	8.8km, 3hr 4min

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Turn L along this as it turns almost immediately R to thread through a col and then follow this gently downwards with a valley on your LHS to arrive at a large open plateau with with a dramatic house with arched windows behind it.	9.8km, 3hr 20min
Here turn R briefly on a wide track, but quickly on a footpath that continues gently down and rightwards. Follow this to a ruin and then R of this to go level on a terrace.	
Ignore an inviting path trending slightly R and continue ahead to arrive at a natural rocky gateway with ruin where the path continues ahead and immediately starts to descend in zig-zags downwards with fantastic scenery over to your L.	10.7km, 3hr 31min
	11km, 3hr 38min
Soon the path levels and passes by a font (sometimes dry)	
and then climbs a little to round a spur before starting to descend once more beside the crags.	
You are following a black water pipe now which is almost constantly in evidence.	12.2km, 4hr
Ignore a T jnc where you could turn R downhill and continue ahead.	13.2km, 4hr 14min
At a cross roads at the top of a small rise (2m) turn L uphill	13.3km, 4hr 16min
for a while until you arrive at a fork with a large boulder between the paths where you turn R and more level.	13.9km, 4hr 26min
Soon this descends gently to arrive at a track where you turn L briefly uphill and past a finca.	14.4km, 4hr 32min
At a junction where the clearest track goes off L and that ahead is feint, turn L.	
At a house called El Benifet turn R along the track to join a major track from the L and continue directly ahead.	
Descend passing a few junctions to soon join tarmac and follow this pack to the car park.	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	<u>Requires good navigational skills for the rough sections. Best walked using a gps and referring to the route constantly during the "rough" sections.</u>

Route followed is outlined in Red

