

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Mary Gough and Ralph Phipps
Last Updated	19 th April 2015
Title of Walk	Rio Valleseta
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Facheca
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	12
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	440
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hr 4.5hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/C
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.734227, Long: -0.272395
Directions to Start	The CV720 runs from the coast inland through a series of towns and villages including Benichembla, Castell de Castells and then Famorca and finally Facheca. At the far side of Facheca turn L onto the CV754 towards Quatretondeta and park on the LHS beside a small fenced football court with an (often closed) bar beyond it.
Short walk description	A country walk along lanes, footpaths and with some "rough stuff" across country with deeply eroded valleys and sweeping views.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Start by crossing the road opposite the bar and walking up a concrete track along the flank of the hill.	
When this reaches a rough track, turn L and continue.	200m, 3min
At a fork in front of a small ridge keep R down the more major track.	1km, 13min
At the next junction with a more minor track continuing ahead on a small ridge turn R still downhill.	1.8km, 22min
Where this ends walk onto the terrace slightly to your R, cross this and turn L downhill, soon turning back across the terrace to the L to find the	2.5km, 32min

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easiest descent route passing below a slate/shale slope towards the valley bottom and a red roofed building.	
This building is a deserted mill and you climb up the bancal to reach it and then turn L to follow a rough footpath up L to join a track.	2.8km, 39min
Turn L down the concrete track.	2.9km, 40min
At a junction keep L and run down parallel to the valley bottom.	
Cross a small barranco and keep ahead across terraces but still on a clear line.	4.1km, 55min
Drop into a broader second barranco and instead of continuing to follow the main track rise a little to pass through 2 posts with a chain across them and across a terrace.	
At the far side of the terrace leave the track and work slightly uphill to the R on a path that quickly zigs back to the L and starts to climb a small ridge.	4.5km, 1hr
Work steeply up this for about 50m and look out for a footpath line leaving the ridge and moving R across the flank of the rib which continues steeply uphill before finally levelling out in some trees with a small cairn.	
Now climb steeply by the cairn to the next terrace and turn R along the edge until you meet a track where you turn L and still uphill.	5km, 1hr 12min
The track curves around the head of a barranco to the R but before doing this leave the track and clamber up the bancales for a few metres before crossing to the LHS of them and walking up a clear footpath which meets a track where we walk ahead and uphill.	5.3km, 1hr 16min
When you meet a track junction turn L downhill and then at a small casita double back in the other direction still downhill. This continues for some time either gently down hill or level until it meets a tarmac road where you turn L directly across the terrace.	7.2km, 1hr 42min
At the far side of this cross to the LHS and then scramble down into the barranco below. As you proceed down this you will need to avoid water slides. The first obstacle is best passed on the RHS by rising a few metres to cross a rock rib and then descending across slabs of rock.	
The next obstacle has to be passed on the LHS through trees and across terraces which you must descend to re-join the barranco as soon as you can.	
At the next much higher water slide you pass out to the RHS and climb over rocks to emerge below a large building. (You can walk up to explore this if you wish)	7.8km, 1hr 58min
Pass below the building and keep above on the descending rock slab bank of the barranco until you can easily descend to join it. Continue ahead until you can see again the mill building that you passed earlier on. (at 2.8km)	
At the barranco junction below the building turn R and follow its winding course gently uphill.	
After approx 750m (or 15mins) look out for a Y/W marker on the RHS where you improbably scramble steeply up a bank and emerge on a rising track with a building above you on the RHS.	9.1km, 2hr 25min
Only a short way up the track and before a bend to the L look out for a tiny cairn on the RHS indicating a thin descending path which descends to cross a barranco before	

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climbing out the other side.

Climb up rough ground to reach the first intact terrace wall and here move a little left to continue by winding your way up through broken walls generally aiming for the summit of the hill with a barranco off a little to your L. This is a difficult section to navigate and there is no obvious track. You are best staying to the L as the walls tend to be lower or it is open scrub land. Use the gps track to help identify the best route up.

Crest the hill and drop down a little on the far side to join a track where you turn L.

At the next junction keep R and shortly after this at a further junction keep L until a little way along you meet your outgoing concrete track with views across to the town of Facheca. Turn R to descend this track back to your cars.

10km, 2hr 50min

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Some easy scrambling in the barranco after km 7.2 and small navigational challenges at times. The bottom of the barranco could be problematic after rain. The route from the barranco is best tackled with the aid of a GPS.

See map on next page

Route followed is outlined in Red

