

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Colin Read
Last Updated	20th October 2024
Title of Walk	Alt de Petillo & Mirador Pantano
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Orxeta. Large gravel car park at northern end of village. Beside Carrer Barranquet.
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	10km
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	577m
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4hr 5.5hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/C
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.56527, Long: -0.26233
Directions to Start	Coming from the coast near Villajoyosa (junction 658 on AP7) follow CV-770 north to Orxeta. Drive through village to northern end. Turn right into Carrer Barranquet (beside walk information boards) then immediately left into car park. If arriving from the north on CV-770, turn left off the righthand bend as soon as the village is reached and left again into the car park.
Short walk description	This hulk of a mountain, towers over Orxeta. This is a circuit of its northern end, leading up to the summit and along to the mirador Pantano, then back over the summit and down the western flank. The terrain is very rugged and often steep. Some paths, especially on the descent are eroded and loose. The views from the approach are superb as are those from the Mirador Pantano.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From the car park exit turn L and L again in front of Bar El Pal onto Camino De l'Horteta and follow the road going downhill. Go straight ahead at a righthand bend. Continue straight ahead a short distance to a junction with a track on the R. Here there is a signpost.	143m, 2min

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Turn R signed 'PR-CV 353 Mirador Cumbre & Mirador Pantano'. Follow the broad track, ignoring all side tracks to reach a junction with a path on the R at a signpost.	960m, 16min
Turn R signed to 'Mirador Cumbre & Mirador Pantano' Descend a steep eroded path beside a finca fence (Y/W marks) to and across the river by a bridge. Go past a signpost, ignoring a very steep path on the right. Continue climbing steeply up via steps to emerge onto a surfaced Cami near a signpost.	1.4km, 27min
Turn L along the surfaced road, leaving the Y/W marked route. Continue to reach an unsurfaced track on the R, follow it to a 'T' junction beside a finca.	1.7km, 26min
Turn R past a chain. Go along the track, ignoring a track on the R, continue straight ahead into woodland to reach a junction with a track which cuts sharply to the R (chain on track straight ahead). Turn R uphill until a 'T' junction is reached.	2.4km, 49min
Turn R. The path winds up to a finca. Here a vague path traverses up R onto a cross path. Turn L and up this rough path, which then turns L and traverses more pleasantly through the woodland to reach a junction with a cross track.	3km, 1hr 6min
Turn R. In about 100 metres just as the track bears up right towards a finca, leave the track and go straight ahead across a wide terrace of almond trees. Continue to the far end and look for a narrow path which exits up R into the woodland. The path becomes steeper, until at a small shoulder the angle eases and there is an open view to the left towards Benidorm. Turn sharp R (cairn). Continue, now leaving the woodland onto the stoney open flank with dizzying views towards the coast and to the north. The path zig zags. Stay on the easiest line and beware of false trails, to eventually reach a 'T' junction with a path on the ridge. You have now re joined the Y/W 'PR-CV 353'.	4.4km, 1hr 56min
Turn L and ascend the ridge, to reach the trig point on the summit (675m).	4.8km, 2hr 14min
Continue along the ridge keeping R at a fork, go over another lower top and continue to reach a third top with views of the dam below and wide ranging views south and west. This is the 'Mirador Pantano'.	5.3km, 2hr 23min
Return along the ridge and at a fork take the path on the R which avoids the second top. Ignore a path which descends steeply to the right and shortly after a second path branching right, keep L to return to and cross back over the summit. Continue down the Y/W route to the junction with the path where you joined the ridge earlier.	6.4km, 2hr 46min
Ignore your outward path and continue descending the ridge path straight ahead, (Y/W which in places is not always clearly marked). It turns sharply L then zig-zags down over steep loose terrain. It requires sure footedness and concentration to find the correct route, as there are many false trails. Ignore a path which traverses off left and continue steeply down, to reach an offset crossroad of paths, just after passing a pylon.	8km, 3hr 25min
Turn L (Y/W cross) and follow an unmarked path. Ignore a path on the left. Then go along a low ridge passing a cairn and ignoring a path on the right, continue to where the path turns to the R and descends to a junction with a surfaced cami.	8.4km, 3hr 35min
Turn L and follow the cami to reach a junction with a track on the R marked with two large cairns. You are now opposite the village.	9.1km, 3hr 46min
Turn R and follow the track/path, which crosses the edge of a cultivated terrace, then descends above eroding cliffs to reach a rickety bridge. Go across it (one at a time) and	

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climb up into the village onto C' Major, turn R then L along C' La Parra' to return directly to the car park.

10km, 4hr 04min

Alternatively, turn L along C' Major and L again at Bar Gregorio, go past the 'Lavadero' then R, then L to reach Placa Doctor Ferrandiz with its church and Cafe in the village centre. Here you can have some well earned refreshments.

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

See map below.....

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Route followed is outlined in Red

