

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Colin Read
Last Updated	27th September 2024
Title of Walk	Cliff Top Circuit (Via del Escaleron & la Raya)
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Una. Car park beside CM 2105 on edge of town in Una
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	10.4
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	460
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	2.5hr 4.5hr
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 40.22347, Long -1.97910
Directions to Start	From Cuenca follow the CM 2105 to Una. Park at the edge of the town beside walk information boards, opposite a bar and Hostel, at the junction with C' de los Martires de Africa.
Short walk description	This superb route follows the Y/W marked PR - CU37 throughout. Weaving up via El Escaleron to reach and follow the cliff top (the home of many Vultures). To circle around the valley which surrounds the attractive lagoon, via numerous miradors, before descending via La Raya, through impressive cliff scenery. Mostly good paths and tracks. Some steep ground both up and down the cliffs. The traverse across the cliffs of La Raya is a little exposed, though the ledge is quite wide and level. A very photogenic route.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Facing the walk information boards turn R and follow the Y/W marks of PR - CU37 along and onto C'de los Martires Africa. Soon, at a junction, bear L along the paved road overlooking on your left the Lagoon. Ignore a road on the R then at a 'Y' junction keep R to pass the Interpretation Centre (open seasonally, it has a film available in different languages). Continue to a junction with a road on the right.	573m, 9min

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Here, you can turn R to make a short diversion to reach in 100 metres the 'Cable de Una' which is signposted. After about 50 meters, at a junction, go R onto a track to reach the large timber structure and oven. Here formerly pitch was produced, to be used in the waterproofing of boats and leather containers etc.	711m, 11min
Return to the previous road junction. Bear right (straight ahead) to almost immediately reach the Mirador de la Laguna, which you can visit off to the L.	947m, 16min
After viewing return to the road and turn L signed to "Ermita Virgin del Espinar" which is soon located just above the road on the R.	1.2km, 20min
After viewing return to the road and turn R. Continue ignoring tracks on the L, until you reach a path rising up on the R. Signposted to 'El Escaleron PR - 37'.	2km, 34min
Follow this stoney but well graded path uphill. After a series of hairpin bends you emerge onto a plateau, from which there are views over the valley.	2.8km, 1hr 05min
Continue up the path through trees. Go L at a junction to reach the top of the upper level of the cliffs. Go along the path with the cliffs below on the left passing a lookout point. Then, just before a right hand bend bear L and down at a signpost to reach the 'Mirador del Refrenton'.	3.3km, 1hr 15min
Return to the path and continue, now heading back into the woodland away from the cliffs to a junction with a (fallen) signpost.	4.1km, 1hr 30min
Turn sharp L and continue to another similar junction. (Here a sign points to the R to 'Fuente del Tobila 400m' this is optional and not included in these statistics. If you decide to visit it, return to this junction).	5.3km, 1hr 50min
The principle route turns sharp L (PR signpost was broken down). Continue and as you emerge from the woods and regain the cliff top, look out on the L for a rock promontory with a natural rock bench seat. This is 'Mirador del Punta de la Tola' and if you are lucky there may be Vultures circling overhead and roosting on the rock ledges just below the cliff top.	6km, 2hr 02min
Continue along the track above the cliff top, passing a number of other look out points, before reaching 'Mirador Rincon de Una'	7.1km, 2hr 48min
Again, continue along the track now climbing up and passing even more look out points, to reach a junction with a path which descends to the L. Signposted 'La Raya' *	8.3km, 3hr 20min
Turn L down this steep path. It winds through a narrow defile between the walls of a fissure through the cliffs, to emerge onto a spectacular ledge on the face of the cliff. Turn sharp L and follow the wide ledge (some exposure) which runs right across the cliff face, continue along it until a signpost is reached.	8.7km, 3hr 31min
Descend steeply for a few metres and turn sharp L onto a path, which runs along beneath the cliffs. It then descends to the R to reach a cross path. Turn R to reach a junction and in a few more metres a second one beside a Refugio (birds of the woods).	9.9km, 3hr 59min
Turn L signposted to 'Una' going across a bridge, continue straight ahead (at the time of writing the path was diverted to the left, due to construction work, it followed the canal side and then a path to the R near the lagoon back to the car park)	10.4km, 4hr 8min

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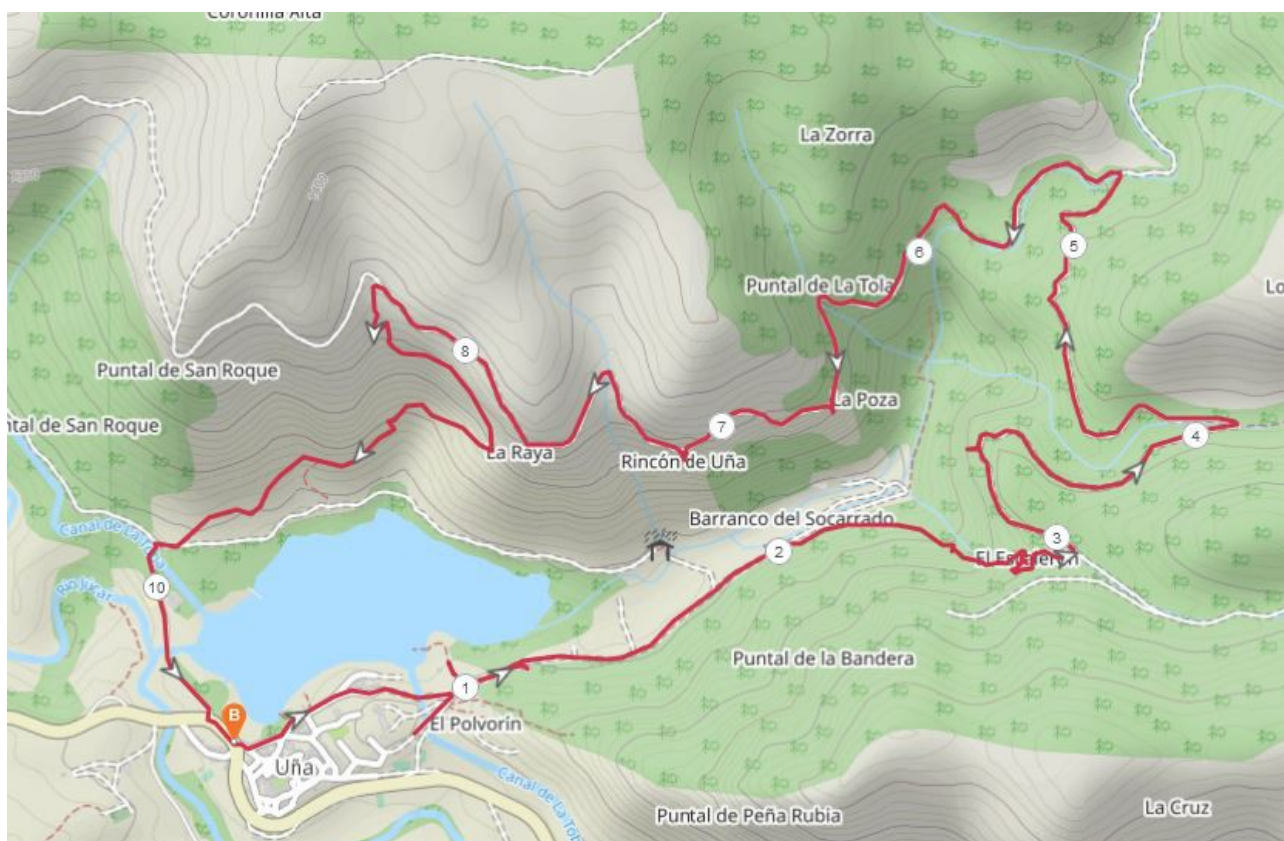
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- It is possible to extend the walk from the 'La Raya' signpost, by continuing along the path to reach another mirador at 'Punta de San Roque'. Then retrace your steps to the 'La Raya' descent footpath. This would add about 1.6 km.

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

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Route followed is outlined in Red



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