

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Visit www.walksinspain.org for more walks descriptions in Spain

Walk description originally prepared by:- Ralph Phipps, 1st October 2012

Last Updated 20th October 2017

Title of Walk Murla Peña Roja short circuit

Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)

Murla

Sports Centre on outskirts of village

Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km 8.7km

Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m 606m

Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops 2hr 35min
4hr

Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system) S/B/Scr

Grid reference of start point (if known)

Directions to Start

Follow the CV719 to the village and just at the entrance to the village there is a sharp RH turn signposted to Polideportiu. Follow this to the Polideprtui (sports centre) and park here.

Short walk description

A demanding rocky ridge ascent and scramble with paths, tracks and country roads for the return.

Full Walk Description

Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far

From the car park at the sports hall walk back along the road towards Murla

After 150m turn right up a road directly opposite a large walled villa.

3 mins

At the end of the surfaced road where there is a driveway on the LHS continue straight ahead on an indistinct vehicle track across the groves.

5 mins - 460m

Follow this up 2 clear banks going up to the next walled level and then less clearly trend SW to find the next bank and shortly after this the track becomes more distinct again and emerges on a road where you turn R.

9 mins - 660m

Follow this around several bends and at a walled house – Casa de las Almendras – turn L on a concrete road (signposted Ermita Sant Sebastia).

12.5mins - 920m

Follow this steadily uphill and after 7/8 minutes arrive at the ermita which you pass on the LHS. Immediately past it turn R and follow the signed path route to the Cruz (you will be quicker than their claimed 43mins!)

26 mins – 1.7km

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Follow this up with Y/W markings which pop up when you least need them! As it twists and turns and climbs up across scrambly rocks to reach a further signpost just where the slope finally relents and point you to the Cruz (L) or the summit (straight ahead). 37 mins – 2.1km

(The Cruz is a metal structure which you can easily see as you drive towards Murla on the road. There is nothing much to gain by visiting it, except of course the views of the town below your feet)

Now follow the red dots of the CBMW which in some cases have been overpainted by zealous officials with an excess of Yellow and White markers.

On a few occasions the path trends to the R to avoid the steeper crags, but if you feel adventurous you can stick rigidly to the crest, although you will not enjoy the benefits of a path up there.

There are several rocky obstacles to be overcome and most of these are easily passed, even though you may need to use hands as well as feet.

Near the top you pass through a narrow defile and then descend a little to the R before scrambling up a staircase of rocks to emerge on the first summit. 1 hr 3mins – 3.05km

Now you have a clear view of the second summit directly in front of you and guarded by some impressive rocky buttresses. You will avoid these by dropping down to the col – crossing a small crag of 1m as you do so – and then following an indistinct line to the L which does have waymarks. Essentially here you must keep below the crags without losing too much height and regain a shoulder which you can see in front of you. This you tackle from an easy corner where you follow up and around to the L.

From here you can ascend to the summit following a scramble up the shoulder and through the rocks with waymarks. But you will have to return to this point to proceed along the ridge. 1hr 11mins – 3.4km

Assuming that you do not go up the ridge then look ahead from the shoulder to see a small cairn marking the start of a steep descent on slabs. Keep to the rightmost cleft here sliding and scrambling down as you will until it levels just in front of a cliff. Here turn R and continue over broken ground until you reach a corner in front of you where you can descend a little and then continue to the R.

Shortly you come to an aided descent with bolts, metal steps and a new chain (2017) to give you aid. If you are confident you will not need the rope at all and will curse the metal steps for getting in the way. However you achieve it once you are at the bottom you continue to trend R to arrive at a clear col. 1hr 18mins – 3.6km.

Here turn R still following Y/W markings down a scree covered path to emerge on a track where you turn R and follow this down hill a short way. When it turns R again there is a small hill in front of you and to the LHS of this there is a waymarked path (Y/W) which goes over the brow and descends in zig-zags to rejoin a path where you turn R and continue downhill. You soon reach the road which you left earlier as it descends by a longer route.

Turn L here and after 100m look for a signposted path route off to the R. Follow this down to cross a different road and continue down a path to emerge on a road yet again. 1hr 33mins – 4.4km

Turn L here and after 50m look for a path going downhill to the R (not signed or marked) which descends through terraces to reach the road yet again.

Now turn R and follow this road without interruption down zig-zags until it reaches a T-jnc. Turn R on an even better tarmacked road. 1hr 53mins – 5.9km

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

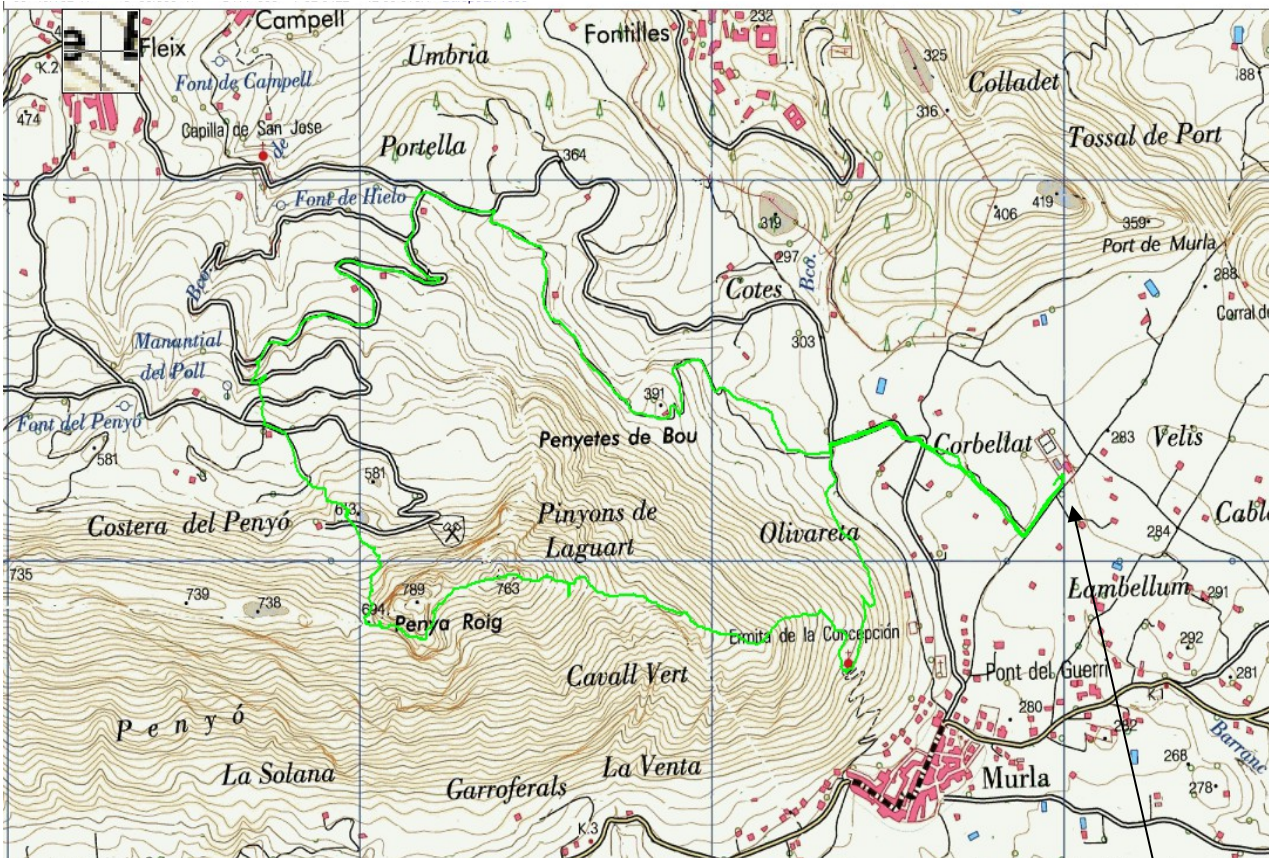
After 200m turn R back on yourself and downhill on a track marked with a BTT sign which meanders down a little and then ascends steadily to cross a col by a semi-ruined finca. 2hrs 8mins–
6.95km

Now the track swings to the L and descends more rapidly through zig-zags. Once on more level ground it takes a final swing to the L just before a small building (pumping station??) At the bend before you reach this continue ahead across a wide terrace which swings to the R and stays level. Continue ahead on this through rough grass until it reaches a track where we turn L to shortly return to Casa de las Almendras. 2hr 21mins –
7.75km

Retrace your steps back to the car at the sports centre. 2hr 35mins –
8.7km

Walk Recommendations or restrictions Scrambling and a good for heights essential

Visit www.walksinSpain.org for more walks descriptions in Spain



Park here at Polideportiu