

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	18 th March 2013	
Title of Walk	Barranc del Cinq circuit	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Alcoy	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	16.4	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	708	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4.25hrs 5.66hrs	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.71282,Long - -0.483656	
Directions to Start	<p>From Cocentaina head S on the N340 towards Alcoy the road forks R to pass the railway station. At traffic lights just before a petrol station Turn R and immediately L at a T-jnc into Carrer Olivar de la Bassa. This street narrows at a junction but continue ahead through factory buildings until you reach a T-jnc where you turn L. Swing slightly R to reach a roundabout in a partially completed housing estate and go straight across. Take the second L and follow to the end. Turn R and R again to enter a street which makes a loop back to the street you have just left. When you reach it again, park.</p>	
Short walk description	A dramatic barranco start with fantastic rock scenery leading out onto the mountain range with stupendous scenery and long range views.	
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
From the street in which you park your car, walk to the end of the street and turn L slightly downhill to pass a small electricity substation building on the RHS. Immediately past this take the track off to the R.	100m, 2mins	
This widens considerably and passes a large excavated quarry on the RHS before narrowing to a footpath and rising steadily uphill. It passes some ruined quarry buildings on the RHS and then levels to enter the start of the barranco.	774m, 11.5mins	

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Once you have finished admiring the dramatic cliff scenery walk ahead up the barranco.	
The path switches from side to side occasionally and uses a paved walkway that looks like a wall. At times you can see a small disused water channel cut into the rock on the RHS.	
Rise steadily to reach a set of corrals on the L of the barranco followed immediately by a substantial finca – the Mas del Potro - accessible only on foot.	1.8km, 27mins
As you go up on the LHS of the barranco bottom the path widens and there is a split where a track goes steeply uphill and a second track goes almost level and rightwards towards the barranco. Take this track after first examining the info board about the micro reserve.	2.2km, 35mins
The route crosses the barranco and trends up the R bank to emerge at a water pumping station on a track.	3.0km, 47mins
Follow this track up and reach a tarmac road where you turn L uphill. Ignore all subsequent tracks to the R and L as these are entries to houses.	
Follow this for some time until, as it swings around to the L and there is a large finca in front of you, there is also a track doubling back to the R with R/W markers (GR7). Ignore this and pass the house to start descending and in a few metres look for a footpath descending to the R.	4.3km, 1hr 6mins
Merge onto a track and continue ahead to reach a track junction and turn R.	
Just past a tree with Y/W marking and an electricity pylon look out for the Y/W track turning off to the L and follow this uphill.	4.4km, 1hr 9mins
After some steep climbing the path eases off a little and reaches a fingerpost with complex junction. Turn L following the Y/W markers.	4.8km, 1hr 16mins
A few hundred metres further after the path has descended a little you reach a junction with a track.	5.1km, 1hr 22mins
Here turn L downhill and shortly zig back to the R. Cross a barranco, climb a little and zag back to the L. Within a few metres you reach a footpath going off steeply uphill to the R which we follow.	
This climbs steeply for some 10/15 minutes before levelling off to a more modest slope with a rounded hill to the L and the barranco on the RHS with a large house visible to the R and behind you.	
As the path starts to descend a little take care to pick out the waymarked route as there are myriad lesser tracks wandering through the woods.	
Soon you descend a little to reach a track where you turn R and continue.	6.7km, 1hr 49mins
At a complex junction with a L turn at 90 degrees and a L fork, take the fork to the R. Soon continue ahead as a track joins you from the L.	
Descend a little and as you see some terraces in front of you in the middle of the barranco look out for a footpath (Y/W) turning off R to cross the terraces and start to climb.	7.3km, 1hr 57mins
Within a few metres this reaches the idyllic Font de Mariola with several varying sized	

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tanks or pools normally with plenty of water.

The footpaths are a little thin here and you push through the bushes going steeply up at times and resting on level sections for short periods. After a while you reach a spur where there is an alternative path to the R which you ignore and continue ahead.

Within a few metres you can see a large valley opening up in front of you and as you start to pass a high point there is a second footpath joining you from the L. Continue ahead.

Your path drops a little and just as it reaches the line of the water course there is a path junction where you turn R. (Y/W)

8.1km, 2hr
14mins

This rises and falls around the hillside passing several fuentes and through fire cleared scrub before finally starting to fall significantly and reach a marked junction with the GR7 coming down to you from the L.

10.1km, 2hr
45mins

Follow the path downhill to reach a track at a col where there is still evidence of fire.

Follow the track around to the L of the hill to reach a col in front of a significant climb. Take the track to the L which descends.

10.9km, 2hr
56mins

Soon you will see a track coming up from the L to join you.

11.5km, 3hr
5mins

Take this track and drop down towards a beautifully situated semi-ruined finca shortly after which the track doubles back to the R.

Just before you reach the next fully ruined finca look out for a footpath which crosses the ridge to the R

12.8km, 3hr
22mins

and drops steeply downhill across walls to re-join the track – hence cutting out a loop. Turn R onto the track and pass a fenced well on the RHS and then go around the head of the barranco to the L and continue ahead.

Carry on down to pass a huge ruin on the RHS – the Mas de Serrelles -and follow the track around to the R to reach a junction where the track ahead goes up to a fuente and our track continues downhill to the L.

14km, 3hr
37mins

After taking a bend which leaves you going due south reach the next bend to the **R** and look out for a footpath descending to your L and avoiding a long dog-leg.

14.7km, 3hr
46mins

Cross a track to the R and find the footpath continuation to the L and downhill.

Finally emerge on the track ignoring a further footpath dropping off to the L and follow down to a sharp LH bend in the track.

Just after this look out for a footpath going off to the R with G/W marker. Take this and generally trend rightwards.

15.2km, 3hr
54mins

Just past a pine tree there is a significant footpath to the R which drops to cross a barranco and then forks beyond this. Take the RH branch and emerge on a road where you turn R up and then L at the top directly towards your car. At the next road junction you again have to turn R uphill and then L at the top to drop down to find your car.

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Route followed is outlined in red

