

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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

Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps, 28 th February 2014	
Last Updated	23 rd March 2019	
Title of Walk	Tarbena circuit to Font d'Olbis - short - anticlockwise	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Tarbena Car park in village centre	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	14	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	675	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5 5	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.695, Long -0.1038	
Directions to Start	From the North, take the CV715 from Parcent, over the Col de Rates and onwards towards Tarbena. Pass the turning to Castell de Castells and at the outskirts of the village on a bend continue straight ahead and uphill into Avenida Eusebio Signes. At the top of the rise, turn sharp right and park.	
Short walk description	A delightful walk with constantly changing scenery along generally easy tracks and paths with a finish looking over Paso Tancat – a wonderful gorge.	
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
Walk down the Avenida D'Eusebio Signes to the main road and turn R downhill. Pass a bar on the LHS and shortly after this turn L uphill on a concrete road.	325m, 4.25mins	
At the top of the hill turn L to join the main road and R along it for a few metres before turning R again to leave the road heading downhill on a minor road.	580m, 8mins	
Follow this down with impressive views behind you of the Castell dels Moros – the high craggy top – and a set of smaller craggy mounds along the terraces on the R.		
Arrive at the Fuente Benisallim and thread your way between the trough and the tank along a track which proceeds level for a while before starting to descend more steeply.	1km, 15mins	
Soon it changes in character a little to have mozarabic steps and when you reach a junction on your L, ignore this and continue ahead.		

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

<p>This drops steadily downhill with views below you of a walled hotel. Eventually above this the track widens to be a concrete track which descends to join a main road.</p>	<p>2km, 32mins</p>
<p>Ignore the immediate turn on the RHS and take the second furthest away from you and continue along this road ignoring a turn to the R.</p>	
<p>Work your way steadily uphill past a run down house on the RHS with delightful terrace and soon after this you arrive at the top of a spur where the road turns sharply to the L. Immediately before this there is a concrete track going more steeply uphill on the LHS which we take.</p>	<p>2.8km, 44mins</p>
<p>Ignore a turn L very soon after leaving the road and continue ahead.</p>	
<p>Pass a couple of ruins and ignore a track going off L towards a clump of trees continuing ahead on the rough track.</p>	
<p>Continue up around a sharp L bend to a fork. Ignore the sharp R and continue ahead on the L fork that continues to reach a made up track at a small breeze block building with a couple of coloured arrows on it. Turn R here.</p>	<p>3.3km, 52mins</p>
<p>Continue ahead soon moving L to pass a couple of houses and emerge on the main road between Parcent and Tarbena. Turn R here.</p>	<p>4km, 1hr 3mins</p>
<p>70m up the road turn L up a concrete road and follow this steadily uphill.</p>	
<p>Pass what looks like a small altar on the LHS with rugged picnic table and bench and continue ahead.</p>	
<p>The track twists and turns a little and there are one or two side turnings on the LHS which go only to terraces. Continue ahead as you find yourself only on rough ground with no further sign of concrete until you reach a sharp RH zig-zag with a ruin on the RHS.</p>	<p>5.2km, 1hr 22mins</p>
<p>Do not follow the track around to the R but instead continue ahead on a level terrace (slightly R) with cairn.</p>	
<p>Soon this roughens and deteriorates into a rugged footpath whose line is easy to follow.</p>	
<p>The path falls and rises to cross several barrancos to finally emerge through a small palm forest, passes a ruin and emerges onto a broader (but rough) track.</p>	<p>5.9km, 1hr 36mins</p>
<p>Follow this up and eventually join a subsidiary track coming from the LHS. Turn R uphill.</p>	
<p>Soon the zig-zags end and you can see the track going straight uphill on the RHS of a barranco with a view of a house at Font d'Olbis above you on the L of the barranco.</p>	
<p>When you have climbed to the level of the house the track turns abruptly L and soon passes the font and the house.</p>	<p>6.5km, 1hr 48mins</p>
<p>Now the track is wider and better defined and we continue along it to pass a shoulder and start to descend. Below us is a view of the road between Tarbena and Castell de Castells.</p>	

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

<p>Follow this track down, ignoring side turnings, until it joins the main road and turn L here for a few metres before turning up L again to a broad level area with pic-nic tables for lunch!</p>	<p>8.2km, 2hr 10min</p>
<p>Lunch over, return to the road and turn L for a few metres before crossing to the other side and heading off on a tarmac side road for a few metres.</p>	<p>8.3km, 2hr 12mins</p>
<p>At the first opportunity turn R again now on a rough track.</p>	
<p>A little way down this ignore a less defined and smaller track going off to the R downhill.</p>	
<p>Follow the broad track downhill, follow a bend around to the L and soon start climbing.</p>	
<p>Crest a col, and soon join tarmac to continue downhill with great views off to your RHS.</p>	<p>9.9km, 2hr 32mins</p>
<p>As the road joins some terraces look out for a path doubling back lower to the RHS marked with a cairn and take this.</p>	<p>10.7km, 2hr 42mins</p>
<p>This proceeds around the head of a barranco, climbs in a few zig-zags and follows the other flank of the barranco before cresting the ridge and dropping to a small plateau.</p>	
<p>As you reach this, take a path going off half right and level to quickly arrive at a viewing platform looking deeply into the Paso Tancat – preserve of mountaineers.</p>	<p>11.8km, 2hr 59mins</p>
<p>Once you have soaked up the views retrace your steps to the plateau and follow the emerging track as it heads off slightly North of East to soon start dropping in zig-zags down towards a barranco.</p>	
<p>Soon it levels off, follows the head of the barranco to the L and passes under some crags (which explain why it had to drop!)</p>	
<p>When you reach a fork go R and slightly downhill for a few metres on a concrete track before finding a smaller rough track going uphill to the L.</p>	<p>12.8km, 3hr 14mins</p>
<p>Follow this up only a few metres before finding a footpath going off R with cairn and paint splashes. Take this and turn L after 80m and then a further 20m up go R onto a path across terraces. Pass 3 small buildings and reach a fuente on the RHS with interesting supply tunnels (worth a look).</p>	<p>13.1km, 3hr 20mins</p>
<p>Here turn L uphill on man made steps of concrete and other random materials. Cross a track and continue on the footpath to reach a road where you turn L immediately past a pylon.</p>	
<p>At the col go straight ahead and slightly R to start your descent into the village and your car.</p>	
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>None</p>

Route followed is outlined in Red

