

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	1st July 2014	
Title of Walk	GR11 – Day 12 From Zuriza to wild camp either at La Mina or – better – at Aguas Tuertas.	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Camping Zuriza. About 70km S of E from Pamplona and N of Anso on the Rio Veral – a spectacular gorge drive.	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	20	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	1220	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	6.25hr 8.75hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/A	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 42.864677, Long:- -0.813231	
Directions to Start	From the N240 E-W road from Pamplona take the A1602 N to Anso and from here follow a minor road N through the Veral gorge to reach Camping Zuriza.	
Short walk description	Almost the whole day is spent in open countryside with mountain scenery, a high pass and demanding terrain.	
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far	
From the campsite walk south a few metres to turn L (E) up a broad track for several kilometres with grand scenery all around.		
When you reach the point where the track swings completely around to the R to cross the river, follow the grassy footpath L uphill signed to Collado de Petraficha. (R/W)		2.2km, 31min
Quite soon pass a ruined bothy/shepherds hut to reach a second hut which you pass on the L to follow the path up into some woodland.		3.2km, 54min
After a level patch there is a fork with the L turn going steeply up a bank. Ignore this and keep R across what can be a muddy wet patch.		
Cross a rocky stream and descend slightly with R/W markers and great views opening up to your R across the valley. Keep up L as you cross meadows and pick out the path that continues along the L bank of the dry stream bed.		

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<p>After crossing a bank of scree descend to cross the stream bed and continue up a grassy rib. (There are several alternative paths here – it won't matter which you follow, as you are aiming for the col above!)</p> <p>Pass a tin hut below you on the RHS and keep rising L of it towards the collado.</p> <p>Go over the col and straight down ignoring a path that contours around the the L. Keep L of the water course to soon find better R/W waymarks and a clearer path and then double back to cross the stream to your R on a more level path for a few metres with fantastic cliffs above you.</p> <p>(The col can still have snow quite late in the season so care may be needed. You may also see your first Gentians, hear your first Marmots and see Asphodels from July onwards)</p> <p>At a fork in the path keep L descending again with clear R/W markers.</p> <p>Walk down the RHS of a grassy spur descending into a bowl and continue ahead after 4/500m with fantastic views of rocky spires in the distance on the LHS.</p>	7.7km, 2hr 37min
<p>Arrive at a finger post indicating 2 dolmens on the L. Ignore this and turn R.</p> <p>Soon you have views across to the far side of the valley in front of you with a track leading up to the L. We will reach this later in the day.</p> <p>Pass above a ruined barn/ bothy (on your L – Ref. Saburcal) with roof sheets likely to blow away and a second (??) with roof tiles looking as if they might leave the premises any time soon.</p> <p>(This area is called La Mina and is the recommended camp site spot for this journey. However it does not look all that attractive and all the grassy areas are liberally dotted with boulders to ensure an uncomfortable night!! Our route continues.)</p> <p>Reach an enormous pole (purpose??) and swing around to the R to follow an improving path on the RHS of a grassy ridge which soon swings L and then descends on a zig-zag path or simply take the direct line down the spur to reach a collapsed stile and then a bridge across the river and a sign board.</p>	10km, 3hr 30min
<p>Keep ahead on the track for 50m and take a footpath forking half R and beside a ruined wall aiming for a barn.</p> <p>Soon drop down to the R and cross a bridge and work up L to intercept an improving track going diagonally L uphill to reach the main gravel track where you turn L.</p>	13.8km, 3hr 56min
<p>After several kilometres walk through a parking area using a bridge to the R and continue ahead.</p>	18km, 4hr 56min
<p>Once you start to climb around to the L in a steep sided bowl there is the opportunity to avoid a long track loop by following the way-marked footpath more directly uphill.</p>	20.7km, 5hr 33min
<p>Take this to reach a gate which we pass through and then quickly re-join the track and walk past a bothy on the LHS.</p> <p>Now take the way-marked footpath working R through boulders on the way-marked footpath to soon drop into an idyllic meadow where camping sites are numerous.</p>	21km, 5hr 43min
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>None</p>

Route followed is outlined in Red – part 1



Route followed is outlined in Red – part 2

