

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	3 rd November 2015	
Title of Walk	Miranda de Sant Jeroni	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Monistrol de Montserrat	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	10.5	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	680	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.25hr 5.25hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	S/A	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 41.592049, Long 1.835490	
Directions to Start	From anywhere near Barcelona take the A2 in the direction of Igualada and Lleida and leave this on the C55 at junction 582A heading N. Continue to arrive at Monistrol de Montserrat where you take the BP1121 towards the Monasterio de Montserrat. Wind up this road past a junction to reach the barriers to the Monastery. If you proceed past here you will have pay for parking. Either way, continue walking ahead towards the Monastery until you reach the plaza with the fountain and the garden.	
Short walk description	A delightful walk up the highest point within the park and around some of the rocky promontories that abound here.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>From the highest point on the road past the monastery at low level, there is an about turn to enter uphill through some gates and up to the basilica and the hotel. IGNORE this and instead walk straight ahead past a fuente with multiple taps and up some steps to the left of these. A few metres up turn right and cross a bridge across a barranco and now continue on steps mounting steadily up on the RHS of the barranco. Soon you have tremendous views.</p> <p>You arrive at the Placa de Santa Anna with a cross roads.</p> <p>The path doubling back to the R is the GR and is a little obscure. The path to the L a</p>		725m, 17min

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<p>few metres ahead is easy to spot and drops down to an ermita. We take neither of these and instead continue on a rising track straight ahead signed to Sant Jeroni.</p>	
<p>This rises and contours for a while before dropping to rejoin the barranco below us on the L and crosses it at a junction (Pla dels Ocells)</p>	1.2km, 28min
<p>and turns north both sometimes in and sometimes beside the barranco. As we weave our way up here the main views are to the R with rocky spires appearing between trees.</p>	
<p>Eventually immediately after a set of steep zig-zags we emerge at a T-jnc with a new paved path and turn R (still uphill!). Ignore a finger post at an obscure junction (L to Colbato) and continue ahead.</p>	54min, 2.5km
<p>This twists through a narrow defile before continuing uphill to reach the ermita of Sant Jeroni (locked).</p>	3.2km, 1hr 7min
<p>Here the path doubles back and continues uphill to the L soon joining another paved section which passes some fantastic viewpoints and emerges at the top of a long flight of steps at the top of the Miranda de Sant Jeroni – the highest point in the Montserrat group at 1237m.</p>	3.6km, 1hr 18min
<p>After soaking in the views we return by the same route for a while and when we reach the junction at which we emerged on the paved path we now continue straight ahead.</p>	4.8km, 1hr 40min
<p>This heavily engineered path – the Cami Nou de Sant Jeroni – was designed to allow the easiest possible access from the top of the Funicular de Sant Joan for less experienced walkers. It can be very busy! However it provides fantastic views over the pinnacles both opposite and in front and many of these will hold climbers stretching their ropes and their legs. In a few places there is the opportunity to rise to the top of the ridge (on the RHS) along which this path runs and many of these – including the constructed viewpoint – provide good lunch stops.</p>	6.1km, 2hr 3min
<p>Within a short distance of the funicular there is a finger post to the R to the Ermita de Santa Magdalena</p>	6.7km, 2hr 13min
<p>and for a short but strenuous challenge with some exposure you can take this route which starts off roughly but soon has steps that become ever steeper, finally rising between two rock pillars to arrive at a level section.</p>	
<p>Beyond this the path rises again to arrive at a col with a second finger post pointing up R to the Ermita. View these ruins and the magnificent views that the monks would have enjoyed and then return to the col and turn R downhill in a steep gully.</p>	7.1km, 2hr 22min
<p>Descend roughly down this for a few metres before turning L with a protecting rope and then R steeply down steps with rope protection to arrive at a junction where you keep L.</p>	
<p>Soon arrive at a track where you turn L.</p>	7.3km, 2hr 27min
<p>Arrive at the funicular station and turn R on a concrete track.</p>	7.8km, 2hr 33min
<p>If you do not fancy the strenuous scramble starting at the finger post at km 6.7 you can just continue down the path to quickly arrive at the funicular station There is no café and only a single toilet, but there are a number of vending machines and an exhibition showing the natural highlights of the park. Times, distances and the gps track for this route INCLUDE the scramble.</p>	

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This climbs briefly before dropping steadily and at times steeply away from your destination. Fear not – you soon reach a small plateau with several paths exiting from here from where you turn L

9.1km, 2hr 51min

still on a track to soon reach the Ermita de Sant Miquel.

Now you are firmly heading directly towards the monastery. Human traffic increases the nearer that you get to it. Along this path there are all sorts of things to entertain you including some very interesting sculptures.

Back at the monastery after some 3.25 hours.

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Route followed is outlined in Red

