

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Robbie Jackson	
Last Updated	23/05/16	
Title of Walk	La Torre de les Maçanes – La Grana Loop	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	South of La Torre de les Maçanes, near the Ecopark (supposedly a recycling centre)	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	13.5km	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	493m	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	Walking time 3 hours 40 mins Total time 4 hours	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat: 38.598676, Long: -0.417710	
Directions to Start	<p>You start on the quiet road going south from La Torre de les Maçanes. From the CV-782 south of La Torre it's signposted to Ecopark.</p> <p>Go down this road until where the road bends right there's a minor road on the left with signs for El Carrascal, Ecopark 200m and a board with the walk shown.</p> <p>Alternatively (and probably better) drive up this minor tarmac road on the left, past the Ecopark, until at a bend left with a Via Pecuaría sign there's a wide stretch of gravel where you can park, (point A on the map)</p>	
Short walk description	Some nice views over the valley from the quiet road, and also over the hills from the higher loop track.	
Full Walk Description	<p>The walk along the road to the El Carrascal finca at the end is easy, quiet and with lovely views over the valley. There's then a short fairly steep climb up a path to get onto the higher loop, where the going is once again easy on tracks and unsurfaced roads, with intermittent spectacular views of the mountains to the south and east (eg Cabezón de Oro and Puig Campana).</p> <p>Navigation is straightforward, and apart from the steep little climb up to the loop and down again, the walking is easy.</p> <p>Walk up the side road, signposted to Ecopark (0.2km) and El Carrascal. After a broad right hand curve you reach a sharp left hand bend with a Via Pecuaría sign and a stretch of gravel, which is the alternative parking spot (Point A, 17 mins).</p>	<p>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</p> <p>17 min, 1.2km</p>

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<p>Continue along the road to where the tarmac ends at point B (8 mins).</p>	<p>25 min, 1.7km</p>
<p>The road now becomes unsurfaced, but the lovely views over the valley to the right continue on. Continue along the unsurfaced road till the end, just before the gates of the El Carrascal finca. (Point C, 37 mins)</p>	<p>1h 2min, 4.1km</p>
<p>Head up the little path on the right, to where you come out at the top onto a track (Point D, 15 mins).</p>	<p>1h 17min, 4.6km</p>
<p>When you reach the top of the path you see a track to the left – this is your return track, as you're doing this loop at the top in an anticlockwise direction. Ignore this track on the left and instead go forward about 20m and you see another track on the left – this is the one to take. Initially it looks as if it's going to join up with the other track, but it gradually bends away to the right.</p> <p>The track offers great views over the mountains to the south and east, before leading into a stretch of woodland, and then once again out into the clear.</p> <p>You arrive at a section where the track curves gently right, with a couple of broad terraces below on the right, and a junction with a track to the left, with a couple of black and white hunting signs, a barrier across it and a yellow/white crossed symbol. (Point E, 36 mins).</p>	<p>1h 53min, 6.5km</p>
<p>Take this track going left, which descends into woodland, and offers some bumps that seem to have been just made for mountain bikes.</p> <p>As you get towards the bottom of the track you see a farmhouse appear across the valley on the right. Continue until you see a chain across the track (Point F, 15 mins)</p>	<p>2h 8min, 7.6km</p>
<p>Cross the chain barrier and continue on the track. About 50m later you see a track off on the left, with a Via Pecuaría sign on a tree – however, ignore this track. Instead continue another 40m down your track and you see appear an unsurfaced road going left, with a no entry sign.</p> <p>Take this unsurfaced road, which leads you back to the col at the start of the loop. (Point D, 20mins).</p>	<p>2h 28mins, 9km</p>
<p>You now retrace your steps, going back down the little path to the road, and then turning left at the road and returning to your car. (1h 12 mins).</p>	<p>3h 40min, 13.6km</p>
<p>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Web link to GPS file (if appropriate)</p>	<p>http://es.wikiloc.com/wikiloc/view.do?id=13275537</p>

Route followed is outlined in Red

