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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps and Philip Freakley	
Last Updated	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2016	
Title of Walk	Pauls circuit to Punta de l'Aigua	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Pauls village cemetery above the villa	age
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	14	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	950	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	4hr 6hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 40.922647, Long: 0.397622	
Directions to Start	Driving N from Tortosa on the C12 road beside the Ebro river turn L signed to Pauls and Xerta. Continue up the road to arrive at a large rusty metal town sign and here turn R. As you enter the village you pass through the Plaza Major and double back to the R steeply uphill on a narrow road with a "P" sign. This brings you face to face with the entrance to the cemetery and by turning L and dropping a few metres you find a large open parking area.	
Short walk description	A gentle beginning leads to a stiff climb up to the ridge and then an exploration of the ridge line follows before descending back to the village. Great views all day and fascinating terrain.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
From the parking area walk back in front of the cer metres to a track with a finger-post which we follow		
At a large metal finger-post a few metres ahead ke	ep R towards Montsagre.	
At a track fork a few hundred metres further on kerstar and repeat this several hundred metres further		320m, 4.5min
At a metal finger-post turn turn R downhill signed s	till towards Montsagre and then	

## **COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION**

almost immediately L picking up a signed R/W path.

Now go R and quickly L following signs with a red diamond.

Zig-zag down on the RHS of some terraces on a partially cobbled path with occasional R/W which trends L towards a corrie.

Drop R to cross a stream and a few metres higher at the far side of this meet a track junction where you turn R uphill.

1.2km, 16min

A few metres further fork L uphill on a footpath with R/W markers.

Several hundred metres above this keep L at a T-jnc still uphill.

Zig-zag up below a fan of scree and work out R below it in woodland steadily gaining height.

Walk around to the L into an impressive barranc – de les Fonts – and then exit on the RHS.

Continue zig-zagging uphill for some time to crest what appeared from below to be a col on the ridge but then find that you have arrived at a grassy plateau where you continue up to a font with trough and large metal finger-post. Turn L signed to Montsagre d'Horta.

4km, 1hr 15min

At the wooded col move a few metres L to be just above a small ruined rock wall above which you continue in the same direction on a level path through the trees.

4.9km, 1hr 30min

Descend slightly on the other side of the trees to soon reach set of 3 large log troughs and a potable water source – Font del Montsagre d'Horta.....

5.5km, 1hr 40min

- and continue up on the R on rocks.

Keep up on RHS of bank of trees and at a small col the view opens up the R across the plains to the N and a peak behind you called Tossal d'en Grillo. (1073m)

Continue steeply uphill on the RHS of the woodland to turn around a corner L to be within the woodland still rising gently.

At the next spur swing L again on an initially indistinct path which becomes clearer as you emerge from the trees on rocky ground.

6.2km, 1hr 50min

Cross a small rocky rib where the views open up ahead and L to the Punta de l'Aigua as we descend across rocky ground on the RHS of a ridge descending towards trees.

Reach the Col de la Gilaberta and a metal finger-post and ignoring all of the signed paths continue directly ahead steeply up towards the Punta de l'Aigua.

7km, 2hr 6min

Swing around to the R still rising and making for a wooded gully which crests the ridge at a small col.

7.4km, 2hr 14min

From here an optional ascent of the Punta can be made by turning L and working through rocky ground and more or less directly up the ridge to arrive at its tree clad summit. The views in all directions are sublime. (included in gpx file and stats)

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPT	<u>TON</u>
Retrace your steps to the col and then turn L to descend across rough ground soon swinging L across the flank of the ridge with cairns and occasional Y/W markers.	
Enter woodland and reach a grassy barranco where we turn L and continue gently uphill on an indistinct path soon passing yet another metal finger-post at Vacarrisal and follow the line towards Pauls.	8.9km, 2hr 43min
A little way up this look L to see a clear grassy line aiming for a break in the ridge and we follow this and desert our line going directly ahead to a higher col.	
The break in the ridge may be the narrow Col de l'Avenc, although it is marked higher up the ridge on the map - and there is a pothole (Avenc in Catalan) a few metres to the R – take great care, it is a long way down!!	9.3km, 2hr 51min
Drop down the other side on a delightful zig-zag path in the woods to reach a secondary col where a path joins us from the R at a post with a red diamond on it and we turn L to continue our descent.	9.7km, 2hr 58min
Reach a finger-post at a T-jnc where we turn R towards Sant Roc.	
Emerge past a ruin with pastures on the LHS and views back up to the summit ridges.	
The path meanders above a track for a few metres and then drops to join it soon before a T-jnc where we turn L still downhill.	11.2km, 3hr 26min
Ignore a track jnc to the R and keep ahead.	2011111

Follow this down through many zig-zags with the village seeming never to draw nearer, but eventually after rising a few metres we crest the hill and look down on our parked cars near the cemetery.

Reach tarmac at a T-jnc and turn L.

cars near the termetery.		
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	A head for heights is required to make the optic excursion to the summit of Punta de l'Aigua.	onal

12.2km, 3hr 41min

## Route followed is outlined in Red

