

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

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<b>Walk description originally prepared by:-</b>	Ralph Phipps
<b>Last Updated</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2017
<b>Title of Walk</b>	Mediodia ridge from Tormos via rock ramp
<b>Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)</b>	Tormos Public piscina.
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km</b>	16
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m</b>	870
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops</b>	4.5hr 6.25hr
<b>Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)</b>	VS/C/Scr
<b>Grid reference of start point (if known)</b>	Lat:- 38.799165, Long -0.076525
<b>Directions to Start</b>	Coming from the south (Orba) on the CV715 at the outskirts of the village turn L (signposted to Costera del Moll) into Calle Pozo. Take the next L (Carrer Val de Llaguart) and then take the 2 <sup>nd</sup> turn on the RHS just after the bins. Drive to the end opposite a plaza and turn L into Avenguda Joan Carles I. Drive a few hundred metres along this and park in the large car park on the LHS opposite the public piscina.
<b>Short walk description</b>	A demanding mountain day with panoramic views and interesting features.
<b>Full Walk Description</b>	<b>Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far</b>
Walk out of the car park to the L and gently uphill pass a few small cabins on the RHS. As the road descends a little turn L at a pumping station and rise up over a small hill.	
Descend to reach and follow a track on the RHS just <b>below</b> a large concrete wall. (Ignore earlier track)	330m, 4.5min
Follow this until you enter a narrower barranco full of orange groves and here swing around to the L on a track which drops into a barranco and doubles back to the L. This becomes rougher going as it has been eroded.	
Join a tarmac road where you turn L.	760m, 10min
At a T-jnc turn R and walk up into a large wall which you surmount and work L to find a set of steps which you walk up to reach a track where you continue uphill to arrive at a	

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col. Walk over this and slightly L to descend again. Cross a small barranco and at a junction turn R (doubling back) on a track and look out for a footpath sign .....	1.5km, 20min  1.9km, 25min
taking you R across an orange grove and soon alongside a barranco. Cross this and continue on the rougher path to emerge up a small rock wall on a grassy plateau. Continue ahead and soon zig back to the L climbing to reach a junction where you continue ahead now soon descending again and swinging L near the bottom. Reach a track/road .....	3.1km, 41min
where you turn R and soon pass on your RHS a set of abandoned building works and turn L at a track immediately after these and then immediately R across an abandoned terrace through trees and some undergrowth. Keep L on this to arrive at a rock wall descending to the river bed and here descend carefully ahead to cross the river and emerge on the other side of the river beyond a large pool (rarely with water) and reach a terrace. Walk along this to find a crag in front of you which you scramble up to find occasional cairns and a semi-ruined mozarabic trail going off to the L. Follow this climbing up where vegetation prevents onward progress but not gaining too much height. After 150m arrive on a track just where it crosses the barranco on your L and before it enters a tunnel on your R.	4.1km, 58min
Join the track and turn R through the tunnel to emerge once again above the main barranco below you to the R. Continue on this track until it joins the river bed. Ahead of you now a short walk ahead is Isberts dam – an impressive structure whose purpose is somewhat lost in the mists of time – but we turn directly R and cross the river to the L to join the bank on the other side just before a large pumping station. Continue ahead on the track. Ignore the first turn on the LHS and descend to cross the river on the track soon rounding a bend on the RHS and facing a large rock ramp leading up to the L below an imposing crag.	4.5km, 1hr 5min
Soon you can cross easily to gain this ramp which we ascend jauntily and with care. At the top of this the path becomes broken and less clear but by trending slightly R (NW) we can continue ahead soon finding a clearer line ahead which reaches the ridge line and turns L. Follow this to a small col .....	5.1km, 1hr 12min
and find the continuing path ahead and to the RHS of this as it soon swings L and becomes a little indistinct.	5.7km, 1hr 27min

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<p>You reach a rocky plateau and continue ahead to a second small col..... where the path continues on the RHS of this trending slightly R and above a barranco on your RHS.</p>	6.1km, 1hr 36min
<p>As you round a spur on your L you can see it has crags on its far side and your barranco reaches a level open point with ruins visible ahead. (If you reach a font you have gone too far). Here turn L uphill in woodland with the crags visible but about 50m away and follow this improving path to reach an open area just above the crag line.</p>	6.6km, 1hr 47min
<p>Now the path continues R still in trees to emerge on an open spur (6.7km, 1hr 50min) where you swing R and at a fork 50m up keep R on what appears to be thinner line again in trees.</p>	6.7km, 1hr 50min
<p>Soon you are following red paint marks steadily uphill through rough rocky ground and you emerge in an open corrie with a rough path zig-zagging up above you.</p>	6.9km, 1hr 55min
<p>Follow this for only 5 minutes to join an indistinct mozarabic path which turns L and starts to rise much more steadily. This can be difficult to follow but it is best to hunt out the correct line which will take you up and L to a rocky corner.</p>	7.1km, 2hr 1min
<p>Here clamber over small rocks to emerge in thick palms which surprisingly have a route ahead and 10m further on the path becomes much clearer.</p>	7.2km, 2hr 1min
<p>Follow this uphill to reach a semi-ruined enclosure above a rock wall on the LHS which very occasionally acts as a waterfall.</p>	7.6km, 2hr 12min
<p>Drop down the small enclosing wall and just before the stream bed turn R uphill on a clear line in the woods.</p>	7.7km, 2hr 12min
<p>This emerges at a grassy col where we trend L following cairns to continue uphill on the LHS soon spotting a large walled cave above us on the RHS.</p>	8.4km, 2hr 30min
<p>Beyond this we emerge at a spur which we crest and pick up a path just on its far side which turns R and through a clump of trees to a more open area where you continue rising slightly in open ground.</p>	8.5km, 2hr 30min
<p>Keep R on a path until just below the summit of Mediodia on your RHS and here turn L a few metres in trees to emerge at a small grassy plateau.</p>	8.9km, 2hr 40min
<p>Cross this directly to immediately start descending to the NW soon with a corrie bowl below you to the L. Continue down to cross this before it drops off more steeply ahead.</p>	9.0km, 2hr 40min
<p>Once across this our line - thin path - continues WNW down the slope with occasional cairns on a thin footpath. The objective is to drop down to meet a track below at its highest point which is to the RHS of a large visible water tank.</p>	9.8km, 3hr 1min
<p>Follow the track uphill to crest a ridge  and drop down the other side. Zig R and then L on the track which is now on a much vaguer line and turn R at a cairn across a terrace to follow a footpath line. After the few metres across the terrace this mounts the slope on the RHS and rises briefly.  Continue along this path now with Y/W markers along the northern side of the Mediodia ridge. There are fantastic views up the mountain through crags on your RHS and over Pego and the marshes on your L.</p>	9.8km, 3hr 1min

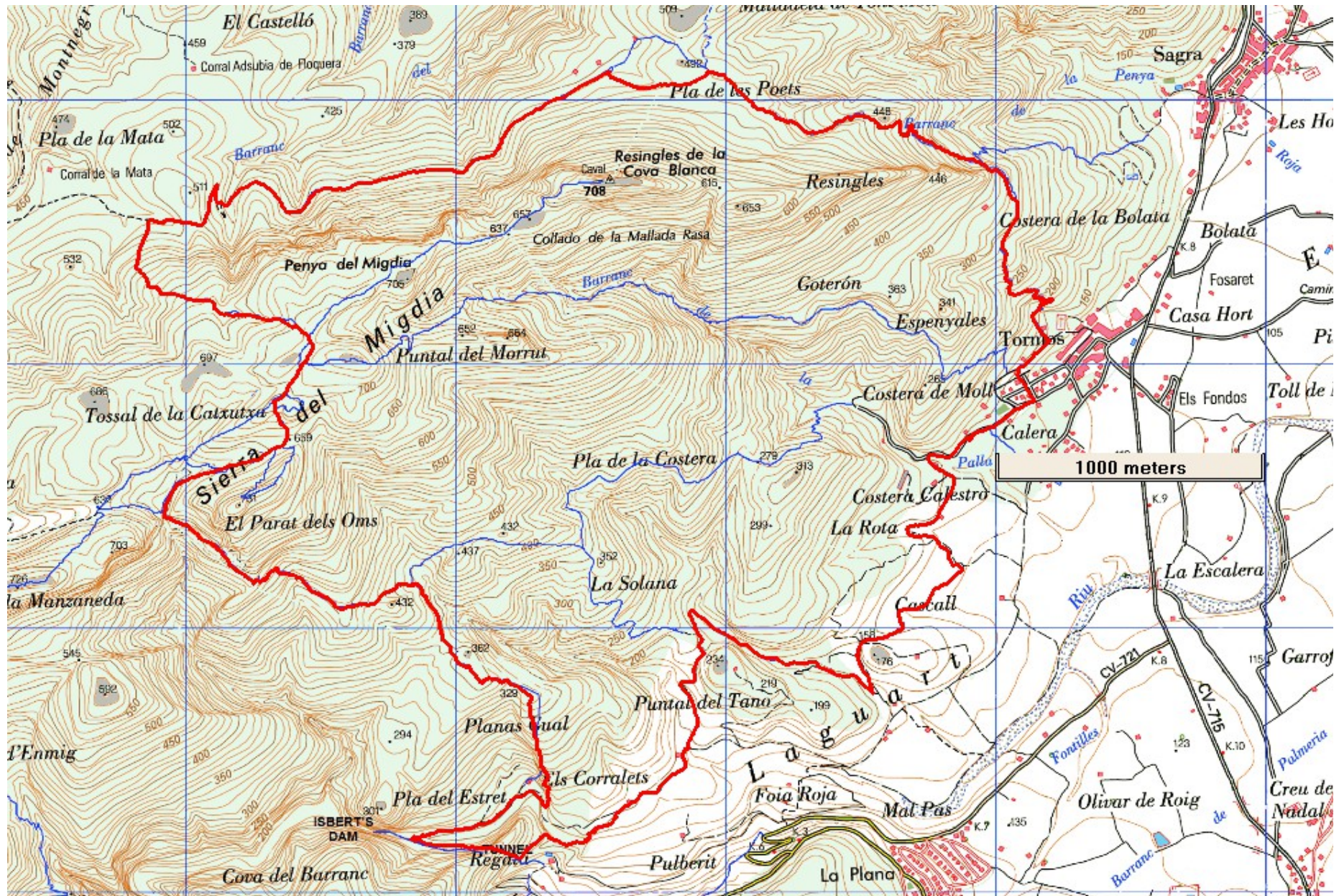
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<p>The going here is straightforward and there is nothing for it but continue easily for a while.</p> <p>Occasionally you drop down a bancal wall requiring care and soon after the last of these you arrive at a short patch of scree where you are rising slightly. At a junction above this there are options.</p> <p>The most straightforward of these is to turn abruptly R doubling back on yourself and following Y/W markers as you push on over a col and drop to a ruin.</p> <p>When you reach the ruin turn R along a clear path with Y/W markers. This becomes easy to follow although there are patches of palms requiring effort to push through. Descend briefly to arrive at a platform with baths old and new – one ceramic, and two old stone troughs.</p> <p>Turn R here with crags up above you on the RHS and soon start to descend.</p> <p>Near the end of the crag line arrive at an indistinct Y-jnc where you turn R and slightly uphill in zig-zags to arrive at a rock gate.</p> <p>Pass through this and descend again until you reach a fingerpost where you could take a L turn towards Sagra.</p> <p>Instead take the R turn towards Tormos and rise a few metres to round the end of a spur.</p> <p>Soon you will be able to see Tormos in front and below you as we start to descend steadily.</p> <p>At an indistinct junction aim L downhill along a heavily eroded path with fascinating rock scenery and soon arrive at the bottom with stations of the cross on a track. Turn R here.</p> <p>Follow this as it turns into a road with houses either side and (disappointingly) climbs steeply. Continue to the top, turn L and drop downhill steeply.</p> <p>At the bottom turn R and return to the car park.</p>	<p>12km, 3hr 34min</p> <p>12.4km, 3hr 41min</p> <p>13.3km, 3hr 55min</p> <p>13.8km, 4hr 5min</p> <p>15km, 4hr 26min</p>
<b>Walk Recommendations or restrictions</b>	Minor scrambling and arduous day

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Route followed is outlined in Red



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