

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Mary Gough
Last Updated	11 th November 2013
Title of Walk	Vall del Estre
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Calpe Side road north of N332 at km 167.5
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	19
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	850
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	6hrs 7hrs
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/B/Scr
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.644026, Long:- 0.028274
Directions to Start	N332 south of Calpe Norte and Sur signs, km 166.6, look out for a wide surfaced road on right with bins-ample parking, but no left turn across N332 from Altea direction !
Short walk description	A varied circular walk through the 'secret barranco' and an interesting return around the flanks of Olta.
Full Walk Description	Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>From car park walk up road for 50 mtrs. Turn L across small wooden bridge (G/W) Follow this path – after 20mtrs, ignore path at R and follow G/W. Wind up and around head of small barranco then level off and continue on path running parallel to N332 until it meets road turn L for 10 mtrs then R onto path round lower perimeter fence of villa (G/W) (15 mins)</p> <p>A broad path (ignore path on L into Mascarat gorge) undulating slightly until shooting range appears in sight – follow path across and turn L. (10 mins)</p> <p>Then R at signpost – Cepeller (G/W) after 20mtrs, ignore track on R and walk in front of Club area still following G/W (5 mins).</p> <p>Wind round the barranco and upwards then 10mtrs. later turn sharp R (small cairn) around RHS side of Calpe refuse area and continue down keeping L of farmhouse (Masia des Calvos) and then R onto road.</p> <p>Under the motorway tunnel and R on track in front of white restored house (25 mins).</p>	<p>1.2kms, 19mins</p> <p>3km, 50mins</p> <p>3.3km, 53mins</p>

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<p>Continue looking on LHS for large mound of earth and small cairn in front of pine tree and turn L down small windy path turning R into barranco (10 mins).</p>	4.3km, 1hr 5mins
<p>Follow the barranco, keeping L of the first and second waterholes ,climb the 'wall' up RHS, continue passing metal borepipe, another waterslope to ascend then look for cairn on LHS and leave barranco up this path.</p>	6.8km, 1hr 58mins
<p>A steep ascent zig zagging up the mountainside following old red markings and small cairns to the col (lunch !!) (35 mins).</p>	7.5km, 2hr 18mins
<p>Follow the small forest path forwards and downwards into Pinos valley until reaching the olive bancales. The path goes L of the first bancale then through the centre of the next few and winds R to meet a broader path. Turn R towards a small finca then L in front of the finca and zig zag down faint path through bancales to meet road.(15 mins).</p>	8km, 2hr 28mins
<p>Turn L and down crossing dry riverbed. Veer R and take first path on R. Now L at the climbing restriction sign,climbing slightly round to R (cairn) and follow path through trees. Round the small slope on R through the bushes follow path forwards (15 mins).</p>	
<p>Up the low wall (cairn) and follow faint path in valley bottom. Wind up the forested barranco then across bancales ,on the last cultivated bancale turn R (cairn). Follow small cairns round to wider path below more olive bancales (15 mins).</p>	
<p>Meet road and turn R and upwards to cairn with green paint on RHS (7 mins).</p>	
<p>Climb R onto the bancales - after 50 mtrs keep to lower well pruned path through the trees and out onto farm track – follow this past vine field and back into trees. At the top of slope just past concrete marker post veer L onto mozarabic path downwards to meet broad track (30 mins).</p>	
<p>L on track with bancales on RHS , at 2nd to last bancale before farmhouse turn R and cross bancale (regular cultivation means no obvious path) to join faint path at far side, follow this round to meet tunnel/drain pipe (8 mins).</p>	11.8km, 3hr 8mins
<p>Go through tunnel and immediate L up slope follow for 20 mtrs and meet path. Climb up flat rocks on L onto track. At metal barrier posts stay L and follow until next junction. Turn R and climb over low branch hurdle wind L round corner and over next 'hurdle' and still winding L up path through forest, over last 'hurdle' onto track. Turn R until junction then turn L ,signpost PR340 'zona acampado'.</p>	
<p>Follow round passing cycle posts to announce next junction (35 mins).</p>	
<p>Ignore first R turn and take second R , up hill until cairn with green paint on RHS. Turn R and follow path until scree ,veer R and downwards to meet broader path. Turn L by ruin onto onto track and follow to brow of hill with signpost. Turn R for Ermita ,continue on main track to Ermita -slightly undulating (30 mins).</p>	
<p>Pass the Ermita and turn R by signpost – Estacio -ignore next turning on R and follow zig zag track back to cars. (25 mins).</p>	
Walk Recommendations or restrictions	None

