

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

Visit www.walksinspain.org for more walks descriptions in Spain

Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps	
Last Updated	6 th January 2014	
Title of Walk	La Pedrissa de Sierra Bernia	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Calpe Tarmac road S of Calpe with signs announcing an Ayuntamiento de Calpe construction project and also their Servicio de Proteccion and Recogido de Animales	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	11	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	820	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hr 5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	VS/C	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.648170, Long: 0.003840	
Directions to Start	Follow the N332 S from Calpe and pass the entrance to the Maryvilla estate on the LHS. At km 165.7 there is a tarmac road on the RHS with signs to Ayuntamiento de Calpe construction project and also their Servicio de Proteccion and Recogido de Animales. Turn R up this road and follow it keeping as close to the motorway on the LHS as you are able. Once you go under the motorway, park where you can on the LHS verge.	
Short walk description	A mountaineer's day out with a ridge route up the end of the Bernia and panoramic views all around. We cross and recross the Meridian several times in the day!	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
Continue ahead on the road and turn L downhill at a fork signposted to Barranc Salat. Once you reach the bottom of the barranco turn R up a track. Fork L around a gate and continue uphill on a concrete track to a second gate which you pass on the RHS now on a footpath with double green waymark paint stripes. Continue uphill in zigz-zags soon passing around to the L of a large barranco and		270m, 4min

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

continues up under some light orange crags still with double green markers.

Eventually arrive at a col (Coll del Fatxuc) with an explanation board and a pylon where you join a track and turn R.

1.9km, 39mins

Follow this as you look down on blocks of flats below you until you reach a sharp L bend and here continue ahead on a thin footpath at a cairn and with red paint splashes.

Rise about 50m to a small col and here turn L directly uphill on rocks and to the L of a rocky buttress.

2.4km, 47min

Once you are clear of the buttress turn R and quickly reach the main ridge line. From here you have terrific views north to Montgo and other peaks arrayed around you.

Now you are going to follow the ridge up L for some time and all that remains is to find the best line. There are occasional cairns and paint splashes to guide you up and a 12inch diameter paint splash adorns a large boulder a little way above you!

Once the steepness has eased off a little you can aim for a pole on the RHS of the ridge line and still following red paint splashes.

The ridge levels and drops very slightly before rising up again towards the main Bernia ridge which is arrayed before you.

There is a second dip and after this there are a number of options on route here with plenty of opportunities for easy scrambles off to the L and easier lines further R. The cliffs on the far L are very steep and a fall would be fatal. Make your own choice!

After the craggy ridge section you reach a further col directly below the main Bernia ridge and here there is a cairn and a mozarabic footpath going off R.

4km, 1hr 24min

The first 15m are a little indistinct but after this it is easy to follow as it descends towards an obvious lower track.

When you reach the track turn R

4.8km, 1hr 43min

and go uphill for a few metres before levelling off and descending. Follow this past a quarry and 5m beyond this look for an indistinct footpath going down rocks to the L marked by a cairn and red paint splash. Looking down you can see the clearer footpath line traversing R along a terrace.

5.1km, 1hr 48min

Pass a well on the RHS and follow this rough path downhill until you can look down steeply into a deep barranco in front of you and here turn L down the still clear path.

5.3km, 1hr 51min

At a large cairn a little below this there is a path fork and we take the LH line marked clearly with cairns.

Now below you on the LHS you will spot the line of a clear mozarabic footpath and soon we join this as we move L along the flank of the mountain.

5.6km, 2hr

Thread around several barrancos with strange stone walls and continue on the footpath until you emerge on the ridge line with views ahead of a cliff edge on the LHS and the mountains of Cau on the L and Olta on the R and soon you reach a junction where the options are either to turn directly L or R. Turn R.

6.5km, 2hr 19min

Follow this cut path steeply down the flank of the ridge soon traversing extremely tricky limestone requiring physical care and vigilance to follow the red paint dots.

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAIN WALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

<p>Right at the end of this section there is a rock ramp and then as you pass some pine trees there is a potentially slippery muddy section before finally arriving at the valley bottom where we turn R.</p>	7.2km, 2hr 40min
<p>Almost immediately pass a waterslide on the RHS and turn R beyond it and then 50m further on look out for a cairn in the middle of the barranco and a red paint splash on a rock on the LHS where you double back on a overgrown track.</p>	7.3km, 2hr 42min 7.5km, 2hr 46min
<p>As this rises it becomes more open and you quickly arrive at a T-jnc where you turn R on a track.</p> <p>Follow this past a ruin and then soon uphill to a col.</p>	8km, 2hr 54min
<p>Beyond this the track descends to the L but there is a footpath marked by a large cairn which we take directly ahead without losing height. There are impressive views to the R of the slopes of Bernia which you traversed earlier in the day.</p> <p>Follow this to the L of a breeze block building and soon arrive at a track where we turn R.</p> <p>When you join the tarmac, turn R and now follow this broad track ahead ignoring side turnings to arrive back at your start point.</p>	8.4km, 2hr 59min

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

Ability to cope with rocky ground and navigational ability required for this route.

Route followed is outlined in Red

