

COSTA BLANCA MOUNTAINWALKERS - WALK DESCRIPTION

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Walk description originally prepared by:-	Ralph Phipps, 9 th March 2013	
Last Updated	7 th February 2024	
Title of Walk	Tormos circuit via Isbert's dam, Campell and Fontilles.	
Location of Start (include name of nearest village/town at start of description)	Tormos piscina car park	
Key Statistics for walk - Distance in km	13km	
Key Statistics for walk - Ascent in m	485	
Key Statistics for walk - Walking time and total completion time including any stops	3.5hr 4.5hr	
Key Statistics for walk - Grade (using CBMW system)	MS/A	
Grid reference of start point (if known)	Lat:- 38.799170, Long:- -0.076560	
Directions to Start	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 nd turn on the RHS. 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.	
Short walk description	An opportunity to explore the lower hills of the Llaguart.	
Full Walk Description		Elapsed Walking Time/Distance so far
<p>From the car park, turn L and walk up the road passing some stone "huts" on the RHS.</p> <p>At the jnc at the bottom of the hills turn L and go up and pass a water pumping station on the RHS.</p> <p>Take the 2nd turn on the R after some 50m and at the foot of a large concrete wall.</p> <p>Follow this around to the R and into a barranco with orange groves.</p> <p>At a point where you can see over on the LHS some steps going up through terraces you will also see a less clearly defined track crossing the barranco below the steps and returning the way you came on the other side of the barranco. Take this. It becomes a little rougher and is effectively a stream bed.</p>		300m 4.5mins

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<p>Soon this joins a tarmac road where you turn R and move steeply uphill and under some pylons.</p> <p>The tarmac runs out but the track continues past a large well and ruined finca on the RHS.</p> <p>When this thins still further it becomes a simpler engineered path with a mountain bike sign (triangle with 2 circles under it) and this runs 20/30 metres up a a few terraces. Behind a small conifer in front of a wall there is the mountain bike sign to show that you turn L along the terrace.</p>	<p>870m 12mins</p>
<p>Follow this to the end and join a broad track where you turn R uphill for a few metres and then take the L track ignoring the continuing track going steeply uphill.</p> <p>As this descends there are zig-zag bends and then a complex set of intersections. The objective is to continue ahead until you have a small hill <u>directly</u> in front of you and there turn R downhill. (Before this there are several other turns to the L and R which you ignore)</p>	<p>1.3km 20mins</p>
<p>Cross a valley bottom and up a rise and then keeping a fence on your LHS follow the main track down to reach a tarmac road where you turn R.</p> <p>Ignore the next set of junctions and follow the tarmac road.</p> <p>Ignore all turnings R or L and follow the main road as it becomes a gravel track on the RHS of the valley.</p> <p>Work around and across a barranco with a walled finca on the RHS and a set of poly tunnels on the L.</p> <p>Just past a ruin on the RHS pass a visible set of foundations on the RHS for a house that has not been built and sometimes in the trees on the LHS a caravan covered with canvas sheeting and ignore side turnings as you continue on this side of the valley.</p>	<p>2.0km 29mins</p>
<p>Pass a gated cattle ranch on the RHS</p> <p>and descend on a concrete track to cross the main valley bottom with fantastic rock scenery all around you. Continue ahead to cross the valley again with a building up on the RHS. Continue beside an avenue of conifers and ignore a track on the RHS continuing into the mouth of the valley with steep sided crags on either side.</p>	<p>3.6km 50mins</p>
<p>Pass a pumping station on the LHS and drop into the valley bottom.</p> <p>Cross this and work up to the LHS of the valley to emerge on a broad path (originally the path used to bring materials for the construction of the dam). Turn L and uphill here back in the broad direction from which you have come.</p>	<p>4.2km 58mins</p>
<p>Pass through a short tunnel where a torch is helpful but not essential. As you continue ahead you pass a large white house on your LHS.</p> <p>Immediately past this turn R up a short set of steps and join a track where you turn R steeply uphill. Follow this around to the L and further up where the track follows around to the L and onto a terrace and towards a small building there is a continuation of the path going steeply uphill which you follow.</p>	<p>4.7km 1hr 8mins</p>

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<p>Soon you reach a junction where a path goes almost directly ahead of you across a terrace with a sign for mountain bikes (orange triangle with 2 circles).</p>	<p>5.0km 1hr 13mins</p>
<p>Ignore this and turn R for a few metres across a small ditch and then turn uphill to the L across a little rough ground but soon becoming easier on a engineered path with a Y/W marker.</p>	
<p>After a couple of zig-zags you will be able to see a fine restored stone finca across the terraces on the L and after a few more zig-zags you reach a junction with a manhole cover beneath your feet and a fingerpost. Turn R towards Campell (PRCV 181).</p>	<p>5.1km 1hr 18mins</p>
<p>In 15m or so reach a concrete track/road where you turn L uphill and at the next track junction after 210m turn R uphill.</p>	<p>5.2km 1hr 19mins</p>
<p>This quickly levels off, the concrete runs out and the track reaches a rise to the L up through a wall with a less clear track continuing slightly rightwards across a terrace with concrete posts on the RHS. Take this track.</p>	
<p>As you cross this track take time to enjoy the views rightwards to the Mediodia range and hard right you can make out the ramp that you looked up from the valley floor – not so imposing now as we are almost at the same height as the top of it!</p>	
<p>This track peters out at the far end of the terrace but a very clear footpath continues slightly left and rising quickly.</p>	
<p>Eventually you emerge on the tarmac road leading to the village.</p>	<p>5.7km 1hr 31mins</p>
<p>Turn right here and pass some benches suitable for a pause. Bend L and immediately R to follow the high street slightly uphill. At the end of this road there is a large wall in front of you with a cross in front of it where the main road bends R. We take the L fork here which almost immediately levels out.</p>	<p>6.1km 1hr 37mins</p>
<p>Pass the newly restored Font de Campell with washhouse and then the Vall de Laguart campsite with waving flags.</p>	
<p>Just before you reach a large bend L you cross a watercourse (not always flowing) and a few metres before this is a concrete track doubling back uphill to the R. This leads to an Ermita which is a good spot for a break. After you cross the watercourse the road goes slightly uphill to reach a junction where you turn L and in a few metres reach the Font De Gel – a source of pure water if you need it. People drive here from miles around to fill their water containers.</p>	
<p>Go 250m further up a slight rise and just before this levels out look for a footpath on the L which drops down a bank before and then continues ahead sometimes dropping over short eroded walls to make its way down through the trees.</p>	<p>7.1km 1hr 51mins</p>
<p>Soon a track joins us from the L and we continue ahead to reach</p>	
<p>At about 210m from the junction with the track turn hard L on a concrete road and shortly at a bend to the L turn R downhill on a path/track just past a small building – The Music House.</p>	<p>7.9km 2hr 4mins</p>
<p>Follow this down in zig-zags and through large boulders and after a steeper section cross a terrace to join what looks like a gully where you drop down between walls to reach a road.</p>	<p>8.1km 2hr 10mins</p>

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<p>Cross the road rightwards and cross a large parking area immediately opposite looking for a tree with Y/W rings which make the continuation of the path down.</p>	
<p>This drops in zig-zags and finally turns leftwards to make for the stream bed which you cross with varying degrees of difficulty depending on whether there is any water flowing. On the other bank turn R.</p>	<p>8.3km 2hr 14mins</p>
<p>Follow the footpath as it enjoys long zig-zags passing a couple of ruined casitas to arrive directly below imposing crags. Here the path moves leftwards and still uphill along the base of the crags before finally falling a little to reach a road.</p>	<p>8.7km 2hr 23mins</p>
<p>Turn L to see a fork going off R in a few metres and at the fork turn downhill more steeply on a concrete road/track.(with signpost – Presa d'Isbert - PRCV181)</p>	
<p>Follow this to reach large water deposito and walk either around the top or the bottom to reach the far L corner from where a footpath continues through a tunnel of vegetation with a house on the RHS.</p>	<p>8.9km 2hr 27mins</p>
<p>At the footpath junction turn R downhill and cross a small eroded/landslip area where you turn R over a small drainage ditch and reach a further junction where we continue straight ahead. There is a mountain bike sign here indicating our route along with a Y/W cross!</p>	<p>9.1km 2hr 32mins</p>
<p>Follow this through a marshy area and under a bamboo tunnel (Dec 17) and then along a path past a landslip to reach a concrete farm track going uphill to the R. After the concrete has given out and been replaced by gravel there is a turning doubling back on the R (concrete) which you ignore. At the top of a small crest there is another track descending steeply straight ahead. Ignore this and go uphill to the R to arrive at a second crest with a further concrete track doubling back to the R and our footpath continuing ahead and slightly downhill.</p>	<p>9.8km 2hr 43mins</p>
<p>Follow this down ignoring all side turnings and 5m before a large telegraph pole at the main road there is a path going off to the L and level across a terrace strewn with rubbish and plastic bottles which you can take or if you miss this then 5m beyond the telegraph pole there is a steeper (but clearer) path down to the L and this continues as an engineered path downhill.</p>	<p>10.1km 2hr 47mins</p>
<p>50m further ignore the turning off to the L and swing a little around to the R to arrive at a large concrete domed well. Take the track R and out to the road. Turn L down the road for some 60m and look out for the Y/W marked path leaving this to the LHS and going more steeply downhill.</p>	
<p>At a road go straight across and down a broad track downhill for 30m and find a continuation of the engineered path off L again also with Y/W. This soon joins a wider track which you follow downhill ignoring a turn to the R and arrives at the valley bottom.</p>	<p>10.4km 2hr 52mins</p>
<p>Cross the river (sometimes dry) and turn R and then keep level to the R near to the valley bottom, ignoring a steeper track going uphill.</p>	
<p>Walk past a small finca on the LHS used as a stud with a fenced enclosure beyond it with horses normally in occupation. At the end of the fence cross the river and continue ahead on the other side of the river bed.</p>	<p>11.3km 3hr 5mins</p>
<p>Take a slight L fork and re-cross the river, go directly up a short bank and after approx 300m turn R on good road/track.</p>	

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Continue on roadway, ignoring tracks left and right until large gravel track on LHS, just before (dry) stream crossing. Take this track and follow above stream bed.

At track end by water pumping station, turn right and retrace to car park

Walk Recommendations or restrictions

None

Route followed is outlined in Red

