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## GUIDED MOUNTAIN WALKS IN THE COSTA BLANCA

### Easy Walks

**Guadalest Reservoir Circuit & visit to the Guadalest village – 8 km** – We start at the impressive dam of the Guadalest reservoir below the village. The walk is relatively flat and takes in the village of Beniardar, where we stop for some refreshments. From there you've got a clear sight up to the Aitana - the highest mountain here in the area - and back towards Guadalest. On our way back we walk below the impressive Serella mountain range. Back at the dam we take you into the tourist village of Guadalest and you've got the possibility to stroll through this ancient mountain village on your own or have a lunch menu in one of the many restaurants.

**Sella-Relleu-Circuit – 10 km** – A nice walk which connects the picturesque villages of Sella and Relleu. The first part of the walk leads you up the terraced slopes. These dry stone terraces has been recognised as one of the most important terraced areas in the world. After some refreshments in Relleu we come back on a nice leveled path with beautiful views towards the sea and the second highest mountain in the area – the Puig Campana.

**Tàrbena – 8 km** – We start in the mountain village of Tàrbena - its population are descended from migrants from Mallorca which is unique to the area. During the walk we visit an ancient Iberian village and an old Moorish fort which oversees the area. The walk offers brilliant views into the rugged countryside and the coast. After the walk we stop in a nice traditional restaurant with stunning views for a typical Paella menu which is an additional 7,50 €.

**Peña de Sella & Divino – 10 km** – This walk takes in the summit of the Divino which dominates the entrance to the Barranc de L'Arc with beautiful views over the dry stone terraces and up the Aitana – the highest mountain range in the Costa Blanca. Furthermore, we walk along the steep mountain cliffs above the picturesque mountain village of Sella which nestles into the countryside a few hundred meters below.

All walks incl. transport, guide, packed lunch & water. Not included: Day pack, walking poles.

For all walks we highly recommend walking shoes / boots and a light (rain) jacket.

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## GUIDED MOUNTAIN WALKS IN THE COSTA BLANCA



### Easy/Moderate Walks

**Val de L'Arc - 11 km** - This is a low level valley walk starting at the small village of Sella with views across Castelletts Ridge and the Puig Campana Mountain. Although only a few miles from the coast this remains one of the least populated valleys in the area. You will have an excellent day out at an easy pace walking through cherry and almond orchards as you steadily gain height. On the way back the path is bordered by vegetation typical for the area, i.e. juniper, Spanish oak, pine and strawberry trees. Near the end of the walk you pass the climbing crags, where climbers hone their skills on the vertical limestone formations.

**Bolulla Castle - 11 km** - This walk takes you up the Bolulla valley with beautiful fauna, superb views of the cliffs of the Sierra de Aixorta and at the highest point you can see the castle at Serrella. This walk offers the chance of seeing birds of prey such as Kestrels, Bonellis Eagles and Golden Eagles. Furthermore, we will see rock arches and during spring time the almond and cherry blossom. Towards the end of the walk there are good views of Bolulla Castle perched on top of the rock.

**The Olta - 11km** - This walk features fantastic sea views looking to the south as well as wonderful views across the Mascarat Gorge with it's three tunnels. On clear days you will always see Ibiza in the distance and, of course, the outstanding "Peñon de Ifach" of Calpe. Furthermore, this moderate walk has the peaks of the Sierra Bernia Mountain and Puig Campana as its backdrop as well as a stroll through the pine trees and terracing.

**Sella to Finestrat - 14 km** - This walk is a beautiful linear walk between the mountain village of Sella and Finestrat. It takes in an old shepherds pass with zigzags down a steep gully and the "Pass of the fox" which cuts through the Castelletts ridge. The walk finishes walking down gently around the west face of Puig Campana to the "Font de Moli" of Finestrat with beautiful views towards Alicante, Villajoyosa and the coastline.

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### Moderate Walks

**The Bernia – 11km** - The “Sierra de Bernia” is a long ridge that dissects the coast line and runs from the coast to Callosa d’en Sarrià. The circular walk includes the ruins of a 16<sup>th</sup> century fort and a natural tunnel “El Forat” that goes straight through the base of the ridge. Furthermore, you’ll get a first impression of Costa Blanca’s diverse landscapes – Its coast lines where beautiful beaches alternate with soaring cliffs and its green and fertile valleys which are interrupted by the craggy “Sierras”.

**Sanchett - 10.5 km** You have to be there to appreciate this lovely walk. A must if you are only wanting to do one or two walks. It combines stunning mountain vistas with dramatic gorges and because it is a moderate walk it suits most levels of walker. On The Sanchett you can see along the way all the highest peaks of the local area including the Puig Campana and the Aitana Mountain as well as passing along the 'Buddhist Valley', a working retreat.

**Puig Campana Circuit – 11 km** - The Puig Campana really is the most stunning landmark and can be seen from all corners of the Costa Blanca. Starting point is the fonts at Finestrat from where we do a complete circle of the second highest mountain on the Costa Blanca (1408m). The walk begins with a steady ascent to the Col de Pouet where as we turn right it brings into view the Benidorm Coastline and magnificent views as you traverse round the Puig. You walk through the charred pines (from forest fires 2008) and a steady descent takes us back to Finestrat where you can take a well earned drink in one of the numerous bars.

**Ponoig – 10 km** – This walk leads you from the outskirts of the village of La Nucia up to the “Leon Dormido” – “The Sleeping Lion”. You pass beautiful rocky scenery while the path ascends slightly to the “Coll de Llamp” from where you start your walk up to the summit. A very different view of the summit with its sloping terrain awaits you at the top of the mountain, as well as views of the remarkable Costa Blanca coastline between Calpe and the Sierra Gelada.

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## GUIDED MOUNTAIN WALKS IN THE COSTA BLANCA



### Moderate/Strenuous Walks

**Aitana High Walk - 11 km** - Starting from the north side of the Sierra Aitana at the 'Partagat' spring, above the village of Benifato, this walk takes you from 950m to the highest point on the Costa Blanca - The Aitana 1558m. There are good examples of the 'Neveras', deep holes in the ground at high altitude where snow was compressed into ice, an early type of refrigeration. A short scramble leads to the broad summit of the Aitana, close to the military base used by the Spanish army. Along the ridge of the Aitana you are treated to the most panoramic and awesome views on the Costa Blanca

**Puig Campana - 8 km.** Standing at 1408 metres high and 7km from the sea, Puig Campana is one of the major landmarks that can be viewed from Benidorm. The walk starts on the cooler northern slopes with some excellent views to catch your eye. The rewards when you reach the summit make the walk so worthwhile. Spectacular views of the Aitana Mountain on one side and on the other the beautiful coastline stretching from Calpe to Alicante.

**Montcabrer (1.308 m) – 18 km** – This walk takes in the forest above Cocentaina where you will see the Castillo de Cocentaina. Passing by many natural springs and limestone outcrops on route to the summit. This walk is also well known for its variety of medicinal herbs, trees and plants. On the summit you maybe lucky enough to meet the goats that are resident there, and throughout the walk you will have the opportunity to see eagles and vultures flying overhead.

**Cabezón de Oro - 15 km** – This sierra runs north to south inland and has a summit of 1209m, it is a dramatic Sierra with soaring cliffs and pine forests. During the walk you see the cities of Alicante, Villajoyosa and Benidorm in the distance. At the end of the walk there is the opportunity to visit the Caves of Canelobre, a show cave with exquisite limestone formations and guided tours.

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