

i i

HELIÓPOLIS BEACH

BENICÀSSIM

 $\dot{\triangle}$ i

ALMADRABA BEACH

RRE SANT VICENT BEACH

i

ELS TERRERS BEACH

Route: CYCLE TOURISM

The Benicassim cycling and landscape route is the busiest, used both by athletes and visitors alike.

This route is approximately 16 km long and has minimum slopes making it accessible for both adults and children to enjoy. It has seating areas and informative panels, providing a comfortable and

This route allows you to appreciate some of the delights of Benicassim in a calm and healthy manner. You will be able to see the beaches along its extensive promenade, its historic centre and the former rice paddy marsh area, which today is full of reeds and

pampas grass. In addition, from this nature and landscape cycling

route you can tie in with the Via Verde del Mar greenway.

DESERT DE LES PALMES NATURAL PARK MARKED ROUTES

The Desert de les Palmes is one of the most emblematic places in the Valencian Community. In fact, it was declared a Natural Park in December 2013, due to its ecological, scenic and recreational interest. With a total protected area of 3,200 hectares, its highest point is the Bartolo Peak or Mount San Miguel at 729 m high.

The denomination 'desert' has a historical origin, since this was what the Carmelite Order called places dedicated to spiritual retreat away from urban centres and where silence prevailed, which is why they chose to build their monastery here in 1697. Of course, the abundance of wild palmettos contributed to the place name too.

The park offers all kinds of leisure options: cultural visits, hiking and cycling routes. The abundant vegetation in contrast with the typical reddish sandstone, as well as the multiple springs, make it a unique setting for practising sports and recreational activities.





ROADS SUITABLE FOR CYCLING IN DESERT DE LES PALMES **NATURAL PARK**











Benichssim

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www.turismobenicassim.com

of the municipality synchronized with the official website Tourist information, meteorological and cultural agenda

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More information on the APP of Turismo Benicassim

AND HIKING ROUTES CYCLE TOURISM

GREENWAY - BENICÀSSIM TO OROPESA DEL MAR



The route between Benicassim and Oropesa del Mar is 5.6 km long (11.2 km round trip). It can be done on foot or by bike. There is a bicycle lane and another for pedestrians, as well as several seating areas with places to park bikes and viewpoints. Recommended and accessible for ever-

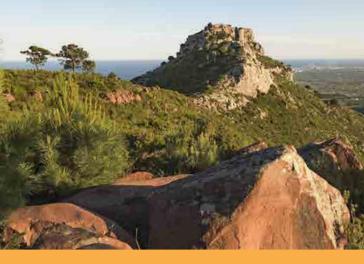
Route: GREENWAY

yone.
The first part goes through a small tunnel, at km 1, and then passes close to the first watchtower at around km You will be able to see the pines reach the edge of the sea, 1.5, at a beautiful cliff overlooking the sea. Km 4 passes forming landscapes of a calm paradise.

through a long tunnel, about 600 m long.

The undeniable charm of walking along just a few meters from the virgin cliffs and being able to reach almost deserted beaches has already turned this greenway which joins these two localities along the old stretch of railway, into a favourite for visitors. Its path, open to the Mediterranean and with stretches between trenches, is a delicious beauty.





LEGEND

- - - Municipal boundary Route with high Difficulty stretches Route itinerary Hiking route Cv-147 Route suitable For children Information centre Cycle route Hermitage or monastery Disabled Accessible route Castle/towe TRAIL SIGNS

Rest area

Interesting view

Change direction

Wrong direction

Continuity

Town Hall (+34) 964 30 09 62 **Local Police** (+34) 964 30 35 00 Fire-fighters 085

TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF INTEREST

Interpetation centre PN Desert de les Palmes "La Bartola"

(+34) 964 33 36 87

WALK WITHOUT LEAVING A TRACE

Respect the silence. you are in a space of spiritual retreat.

notes or photos instead.

Use the hotel and tourist establishments in nearby

CLIMBING TO THE BARTOLO PEAK CIRCULAR ROUTE BY THE INTERPETATION CENTRE TRACK

Duration: 1:45h · Distance: 6,8 Km.

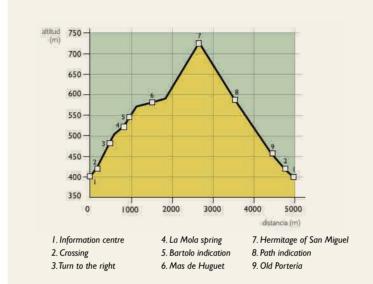
Gradient: 320 m · Height difference: 400/729 · Difficulty: Moderate

The route starts at the back of the interpetation centre building. From this point there is a path that gets steeper little by little. After a few minutes we find a crossroads, where we have to go towards the left. The path leads into a dirt track that we have to follow upwards A little further on we take the path that turns a little bit to the right following the Bartolo signal. Next to the track you can see the Mas de Huguet a traditional home

We now find a crossroads. Both paths take us to the same paved track. To keep walking towards the peak we have to continue to the left. We also have the possibility, at this point, to start the descent if we turn to the right and we follow

If we choose to continue towards the peak, we will climb 1500 m approximatel leaving the Bartolo cross on your left, we continue on the track during 300 m, and we will arrive to the highest point of the journey (730 m) and of the whole natural park. Once on the peak, between the aerials we can find Sant Miquel's hermitage which belongs to the Discalced Carmelite Monks

The descent connects with the asphalted track, to take the Mas de Huguet which will take us to one of its crossroads towards the interpetation centre



Route 2: CLIMBING TO THE BARTOLO PEAK CIRCULAR **ROUTE BY THE SUMMITS**

Duration: 2:20h · Distance: 7 Km. Gradient: 380 m · Height difference: 400/729 · Difficulty: High

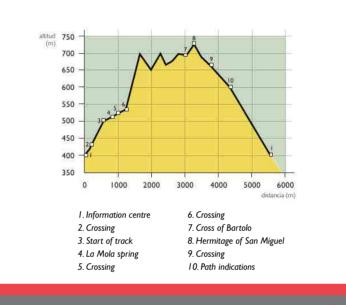
diately we will find a signal that points out that we have to con left until we arrive to a dirt track. We continue following the track, which gets a little steep, then we pass by Mola spring, leaving a dirt track on the right which would take us to the Bartolo peak. Once on the mountain pass, on the track curve we will continue on a path that comes from the right, starting a big climb towards Cantal Gros with 698,7 m height. We will continue during all the journey on the mountain dividing line, with a view to Benicassim, the Mediterranean sea and the Columbretes islands to the right, as well as La Pobla Tornesa and Penyagolosa's summit to the left. We will walk on all the different summits following the vellow and white signals painted on the rocks which indicate de path PR-CV422 until we arrive to the Bartolo cross with its impressive 18 meters height enclosed in one of the highest points of the natural park.

We start at the interpetation centre, on a little path at the back of the building

If we keep going during 300 m on the path, we will arrive to the highest point of the itinerary and of the whole park (729 m). Once on the peak, between the aerials we will find the San Miguel hermitage.

The descent connects with the asphalted track, heading to the right, towards the

Mas de Huguet track which will take us in one of its crossroads to the interpetation



CIRCULAR ROUTE BY THE
HERMITAGE OF LES SANTES

Duration: 1:39 h · Distance: 4 Km.

Gradient: 130 m · Height difference: 297/392 · Difficulty: Easy

Circular route suitable for all visitors. To access the Hermitage of Les Santes first reach

road CV-148 that communicates the villages of Cabanes and Oropesa, at the stretch closer to Cabanes. The entrance is marked with an information panel. Start at the rear

of the hermitage of Les Santes" (Sta. Águeda and Sta. Lucía). Start out on the dirt road towards the village of La Pobla Tornesa, along a stretch of the PR-CV-422 combining areas of natural vegetation with some cultivation terraces, where you can see large

holm oaks and one of the geologically oldest areas in the Valencian territory, with Paleozoic formations of slate over 230 million years old.

Leave the track in La Pobla Tornesa and turn to the left, pass by a fork that would lead directly to the summit of Bartolo and continue through a leafy lane that, at a certain

point, will reward you with a beautiful view of the Penyagolosa. Continue along the

Les Santes. Before reaching the spring of the hermitage there is a detour to the right

that leads to a viewpoint from which you can enjoy one of the most interesting botanical singularities of the area: two Quercus cerrioides oaks.

The Quercus cerrioides is a hybrid of the Quercus faginea and Quercus humilis,

endemic to the Prepyrenees and very rare in the Castellón areas.

path until reaching a track, which turns to the left and returns you to the Hermitage o



Duration: 4 h · Distance: 15,5 km Gradient: 700 m · Height difference: 297/698 · Difficulty: High

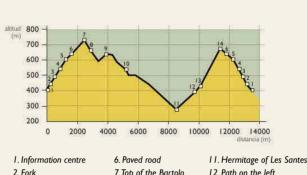
The route leads us from the Interpetation centre to Les Santes hermitage (in Cabanes) passing through the Bartolo summit. The path is located at the back of the interpetation centre. A few meters away we turn to the right and before arriving to the wall (portería alta), we have to turn left. A very steep path will take us to a dirt track, we will continue on the left, until we arrive to a dirt path and we will continue on the right path towards the asphalted track which take us to the peak. From here it starts a strong descent through a forest track.

A few meters away the path splits off in two, we advise to take the left one, as it goes through a dense pine forest of black pine.

This path descents first to the bottom of the ravine so afterwards it climbs a little bit until it arrives to a pond which is used as a drinking trough. We will now go to the left on the track, until we arrive to Les Santes A little bit before arriving to it we can enjoy one of the botanic singularities from the natural park; two oak trees (Quercus We will follow the path on the back of the hermitage. Soon, we will see how on our

right the vegetation is substituted with vegetable patches full of almond and carob rees. The track continues surrounded by holm oak and pine trees. Soon we will arrive to one of the most interesting geological places, with slate outcropping from the Paleozoic. We will arrive to a mountain pass where we will take a path to the left and between rockroses we will penetrate a pine tree forest, a little bit ahead of us we will see a path on the right that is going to take us to the Bartolo peak.

Once we have arrived we will follow the asphalted track to descent towards the dirt track which is situated on the right. This will take us to the interpetation centre.



8 Fork

PR-CV-397.1, FULL ROUTE AROUND LAS AGUJAS DE STA. ÁGUEDA

Duration: 3:35 h · Distance: 10,01 Km

9. Crossing

10.Turn to the left

This route travels the full distance of PR-CV-397 that circles round Las Agujas de

Sta. Águeda. Depart from El Señor spring, in front of the parish church of Benicàs-sim. Head toward the Sta. Águeda public school and walk along the upper side of

the railway track. Go through the AP-7 motorway tunnel and go past an antenna.

Leave La Comba corral ruins to the right. During the ascent, you can see numerous remains of the former activity of sandstone block production and stone cutters.

Reach the Miravet asphalt road. Take the ascending path, which at the beginning is just a soft slope and at the end is more complicated, that leads to Las Agujas hill

known as El Rojal. The descent starts at a municipality cairn. First turn to the right and at the second crossroads, turn to the left to find the path of Els Covarxos. Reach

a very modernized farm, continue on to a paved road that, after passing through two

nfrastructure tunnels, takes you to the the cemetery area, and after a few meters,

3. Old porterio

4. Wooden sign

5. Dirt track

12 Path on the left 13. Path on the right I 4. Antenas

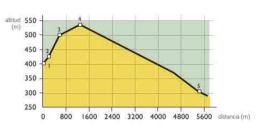
Route 4:
INFORMATION CENTRE-LA POBLA TORNESAINFORMATION CENTRE

Duration: 1,34 h · **Distance:** 7,4 km Gradient: 160 m · Height difference: 296/560 · Difficulty: Easy

We start at the information centre, on a little path at the back of the building. Right away we find a signal which points us towards the left path, that we have to follow. The path shows us the different types of floors that we can see on the natural park red sandstone and limestone (limestone rocks). We arrive to a track that we will follow until we arrive to Coll de la Molla (537 m).

From here we can see La Pobla Tornesa to the West, the Bartolo to the Northeas and on a clear way if we look to the Northwest we have the Penyagolosa massif. As soon as we start to descent the vegetation gets wider range. The ravines are very humid and they give rise to different Mediterranean species, such us the honeysuckle (Lonicera implexa), ivy (Hedera helix), holm oaks (Quercus ilex), heathers (Erica multiflora and Erica arborea), oak (Quercus faginea), pine trees, which show us that this part of the setting has not suffered from fires during the last 30 years. This plant variety makes a great habitat for the birds.

At the end of the track we find a slate outcrop (230 million years old). Once we arrive to the end of the track we turn right, and a few meters away we will find a tunnel which takes us directly to the village. The return will be in the same path that we took at the start.



1. Information centre 2. Crossing

3. Start of track 4 Coll de Mola

5. End of track

PR-CV-397.2, SHORT OPTION
ALONG THE BASE OF LAS AGUJAS

Gradient: 441 m · Height difference: 9/402 · Difficulty: Moderate

Duration: 2:28h · Distance: 6,89 Km. Gradient: 237m · Height difference: 8/205 · Difficulty: Easy

This is the shorter version of the PR short-length trail that starts at El Señor spring in the centre of Benicassim. It is indicated in the opposite direction to route 9. Go to the cemetery, continue on an asphalt road and go through the AP-7 motorway tunnel up to the PR sign. Go into the orange groves, take the first path on the lef and go through the door. Walk along a track that goes up and widens to become path. At the highest part, take the variant named El Reboll. At the ruins of the La Comba corral, turn to the left in the direction to Benicassim and take the path that is the beginning of route 9, in the opposite direction

Route 7: TO THE TALLADA SPRING FROM BENICASSIM

Duration: 2 h · Distance: 5 km · Difficulty: Moderate Gradient: 300 m · Height difference: 30/333

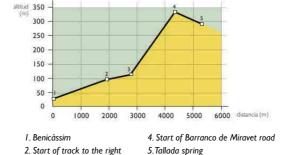
We start at Benicassim, walking by the CV-147 road which takes us to Desert de les Palmes Natural Park. After crossing the motorway bridge, on the right, there is a road that we will follow until we find a signal where we have to turn to the left following the PR-CV-397.1

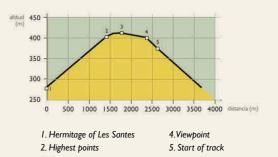
The ground that prevails in this area is siliceous, commonly known as red sanstone. As we get closer to the Miravet ravine the vegetation lushes and we can see pine trees (Pinus pinaster), strawberry trees (Arbutus unedo), honeysuckles (Lonicera implexa), junipers (Juniperus oxycedrus), which indicate us the humidity of the place.

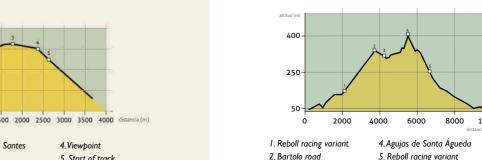
The path ends in a road that goes next to the Miravet ravine, where we find the aleppo pine (Pinus halepensis)

We follow the paved road until we arrive to the Tallada spring, on the left side of the same road, where we can see the Agulles de Santa Águeda in its fullness. These mountain range foothill are full with beautiful cork oak.

We can also see, on the middle of the slope, a tiny mountain house which was used as a warehouse and refuge for the local peasants. On the surroundings of the previously mentioned house, we can find remainders of an old coal oven, where the coal was made through burning.







3. Tallada spring

8000 10000

6. End of track (Benicassim)



Leave the place cleaner than when you arrived, put your waste and, if possible, any you find, in the

Respect the paths and take note of the track signals. lo the ecosystem a favour and do not take short cuts

Fire is the greatest enemy of the mountains, do not light bonfires or smoke. Breathe pure air.

Contemplate the plants without destroying them, do not pick, break nor uproot plants or flowers, take

Observe the animals without disturbing them, ng is prohibited in the entire natural park.

Camping is not allowed in the natural park.

Take care of the springs, they are the most precious asset of our mountains, do

Respect the historical-cultural heritage, avoid doing anything that could damage the terraces or MONTORNÉS CASTLE FROM INTERPETATION CENTRE PN DESERT DE LES PALMES DESERT DE LES PALMES SPRINGS

CASTELL

DE MONTORNES

古

Duration: 3 h · Distance: 7,3 Km. Duration: 1:30 h · Distance: 3,5 km · Difficulty: Moderate Gradient: 251 m · Height difference: 248/470 · Difficulty: Moderate Gradient: 140 m · Height difference: 390/417

E LES SANTES

FONT DEL PERELLÓ

DF MIRAVET

ONESTIR VELL

MAR MEDITERRÁNEO

Circular tour that passes by some of the main springs of El Desert de les Palmes

Natural Park. It starts from the parking area located at San José viewpoint, located on the road CV-147 on the stretch that rises from Benicassim. By the side of the

road, go towards the spring (usually dry) and to the hermitage of the same name.

Take the fork to the left along a path that runs leaving other intersections to right

and left: the Hermitage of Montserrat, the way straight up to Bartolo, until

reaching a crossroads, from which the route will be circular. Turn left to go toward

the Pla de les Muletes. Continue on the wide track that climbs the Bartolo, but

shortly abandon it toward the right, at a signal that indicates the direction of the Roc spring. Continue down another track that, after going through a dovecote,

leads to a curve near a small farmhouse, fork left here and go down to the Roc

spring along a narrow and steep path (it usually carries water all year round).

Leave the spring behind and, after passing by a water cistern and a traditional

washing area, continue along a path that leads to the Miravet asphalt road. Turn right and continue along the same road until, on the right hand side, you see the

Tallada spring, crowned at the top with a monumental eucalyptus. Continue along

the Miravet asphalt road until, at the pediment of the Els Baladres villa, turn right

to follow a path that passes through a stretch of asphalted road. Turning to the left takes you back to the dirt track, leading back to the crossroads where the circular

route started. From this point, head along the section already done on the way to

San José spring and the parking area at the beginning of the route.

We start at the interpetation centre from PN Desert de les Palmes, located at the 8th km from the CV-147 road. We start walking on the road that heads towards the monastery, we go through a viewpoint where we can enjoy the views of the coast. We continue on the road, until we find the path that goes directly to Montornés castle. This path goes through a dense scrubland in which we can see lots of different species like black rockrose, white rockrose, mastic tree, junipers and

ERMITA DE MAGDALENA

LA POBLA TORNESA

LA BARTOLA

FONT DE SANT JOSEP

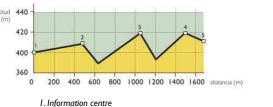
CASTELL VEL

Stop 1: From this point we can see de castle and the watchtower. We can also see la Plana and Benicassim and Castellón beaches. The cluster pine from this viewpoint have big pine cones and large leafs which makes them different from other pine trees. From this point, the path descents a little bit, but then it gets steep when we are

close to the castle. After passing by the watchtower, our path will take us to cross the wall and we will penetrate at the inside of the castle ruins. Between bladder senna, albaidas, Antyllis cytisoides, fan palm and olive trees we keep walking on the north part of the mountain until we arrive at the end of the route in the East part of the castle.

Stop 2: At this point we find one of the two wells that the castle has, constructed by the Muslims, which was used to provide water to all the inhabitants. Built on the 10th century in the middle of the Muslim domination period. It has been a silent witness of really important events like the meeting between Pedro I de Aragón and Rodrigo Díaz de Vivar, el Cid Campeador in 1094. A little bit after in gell into the hands of the Saracens until it was re-conquered by Jaume I in 1242 to end up in the christian people power.

We will do the descent following the same signals that brought us here.



2. Nuestra Señora del Carmen Station 3 Viewboint

4. Ruins of Montornés Castle 5. Cisterns of Montornés Castle

1. San José viewpoint 2. San José spring 3. Hermitage of Monserrat 4. Wooden sign

6. Wooden sign 7. Asphalt road 8. Wooden sign

5. Fork

3. Start of track to the left