



La Cosalba Circular



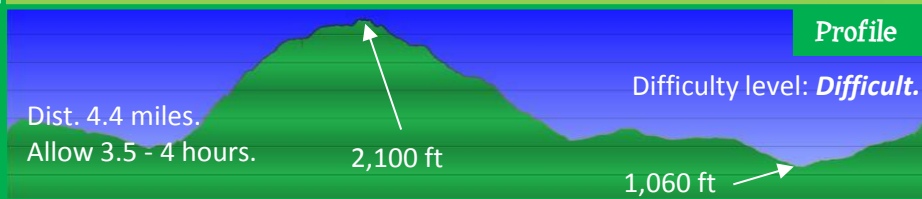
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LINKS

GPS trail	Video	Larger Map	General
			

The centrepiece of this picturesque 4.4 mile walk is the La Cosalba viewpoint at 2,100 ft in the Sierra Crestellina. There are spectacular long distance views, and closer to hand there are the indigenous Griffon Vultures with their 2 metre wingspans, gliding and wheeling above. The ascent and descent go through pretty woodland. Their steepness and the surfaces underfoot make this a route for the more experienced and fitter walker. Walking poles and boots with good ankle support are advised.



Conditions: medium distance, some rocky surfaces, steep inclines, some slopes with loose soil underfoot during the descent.

The walk starts and ends at ① on the main road above Casares, by the side of a steep path down to the town. We follow the road northwards and carry on to ②, where we turn right along a concrete track. This is the start of the steep ascent to the Refugio (mountain hut).

The path is waymarked with the Council's green and white colours. On the way up there are fine views of Casares. The Refugio at ③ (30 S 295564 4036935) gives the opportunity to rest and catch one's breath.

Continuing to the La Cosalba viewpoint, we turn left off the main path and follow the track up the hill to our destination at ④ (30 S 295425 4036694).

We begin the descent by retracing our steps until we reach a left turning at ⑤ (30 S 295382 4036773). This path takes us in a southerly direction, and eventually approaches the main road near the carpentry workshops. The path is waymarked with the colour yellow, as well as cairns and rock edgings. It is steep in places, and some inclines in the wooded area require special care as the earth is loose underfoot. Emerging from the wooded area, the path turn westwards to traverse the contours for about 300 metres before doglegging back in a south to south-easterly direction, eventually arriving at a fence with a bedstead serving as a gate. At the time of writing there was some barbed wire across this opening which requires crawling underneath. The path turns right along the fence and on reaching a concrete road we turn left. Before reaching the main road we reach a track to the left which we follow. This takes us to the tourist centre at Puerto de Ronda at ⑥ where refreshments and a wealth of information about Casares and its environment are available.

After the tourist centre a side track descends to follow a route parallel to the main road but below it. This was originally a Roman road, used to carry minerals from the Sierra Bermeja to the ancient city of Lacipo. On reaching an old Moorish bridge at ⑦ the track doglegs back towards Casares and carries on to join the Camino de Gaucín. The route then follows Calle Carreras to the Plaza de España and turns left along Calle Monte. It mounts the second set of steps to be found on the right hand side, and so upwards to the place from which we started.