

Paths in the mountains of the Sierra Espuña

Path *El Berro*

PR-MU 79 and GR 252

Circular Itinerary

Approximate Distance: 10,5 km.

Approximate Time: 3h without stopping

Starting Point: El Berro, next to the Camping of Sierra Espuña 30S/X632630/Y4194672

Arrival Point: The same (circular itinerary)

Ascent Drop: 297 m.

Descent Drop: 297 m.

Cartography: Esc. 1/25.000 of the IGN: 933-III Alhama de Murcia

We take the road next to the camping that cross the ravines of El Berro and we go up into the Sierra Espuña, following the white and yellow signs of the PR-MU-79.

We leave the road and the beautiful scenery of El Berro and the Morron de Alhama, to follow with caution the signs that lead us to the mountain by the passes of *Camino del Agüica* and the *Camino del Lomo*. This continuous ascent is lower when, after the fence of the park, we reach the road towards La Perdiz. Keeping in this direction and on the left side, we take an old forest track on the left through a pine forest and cross two firebreaks with aromatic rosemary growing alongside.

After the second firebreak, we follow an easterly narrow path, seeing in the distance the majestic *Paredes de Leyva* and the Morrones de Alhama and Totana. When we pass a third firebreak, next to an old cultivation terrace, we arrive to the historic *Casa Leyva* and its recreational area, and we take the road towards the Visitors Centre. A few metres later, we turn right to take a track that leads us to an old *Sanatorio Antituberculosos*, a building that had accommodated and treated in the 30s of the past century, the people who suffered from tuberculosis.

From there, and next to the old athletic field, we could take the Path Siete Hermanos (PR-MU-41) to access to *La Perdiz* or to the Huerta Espuña zone. We leave the PR to follow the red and white signs of GR-252. Now, our path keeps on the right side, leaving the road and going deep into *Barranco de Leyva* (next to an old house). Upon arriving at the firebreak that links the ravine's slope, we arrive to the forest track of *Valle de Leyva*. Next to it, we can see the remains of an ancient kiln for firing plaster. We have to walk on the PR-MU-57 (Path of Valle de Leyva-Collado Mangueta) for a few minutes. Afterwards, we have to leave this latter to enter in the GR-252 towards the *Barranco de las Brujas* or *Barrancos de la Mojonera*. We cross a field of almond trees, to walk into the dry and sandy bed of the ravine. We follow the bed until leaving the ravine, next to the fence of the Park. We then have to go up the path that we can see behind almond trees to arrive at El Berro.

Sendero de El Berro

PR-MU-79  GR-252 

