



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the



Please respect private property



Plant collecting is not allowed

The capture of animals

is not permitted

Starting fires is

strictly forbidden

Fishing is

prohibited

Emergency phone: 112



PARQUE NATURAL Slerras de Cazorla. Segura y Las Villas

JAÉN

MORE INFORMATION

Torre del Vinagre Visitor's Centre. Ctra. A-319 Cazorla - El Tranco km 45. Santiago Pontones. Jaén. Tel. 953 71 30 40 ventanadel**Visitante**









OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE Circular

• LENGTH

1,7 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

45 minutes

DIFFICULTY

Medium

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Path, carved steps.

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Vertical ravines. Quarry. Waterfalls and wide panoramic views of Mediterranean and riverside forests. Dam.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Risk of falling stones from the start of the walk to the viewpoint.

HOW TO GET THERE

From Cazorla take the A-319 northwest towards the Tranco de Beas reservoir. After about 17 km and having passed the Las Palomas pass, we descend to a junction called Empalme del Valle. From this point turn off onto the JF-7091 towards Vadillo de Castril. After about 3.5 km we find the turn-off to the village. At this crossroads, on our left, we find the start of the path.



PARKING

There is a car park with some 10 places at the start of the trail.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The principal companies running regular bus routes in the area are Alsina Graells (tel. 953 75 21 57), and Autocares Carcesa (tel. 953 72 11 42)



OTHER TRAILS

This trail shares its final stretch with the beginning of the Central Eléctrica trail. In addition, the natural park offers other routes for hikers. Among the closest are those of Empalme del Valle and Fuente del Oso-Puente de las Herrerías.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

156 m

MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.112 m

MINIMUM HEIGHT

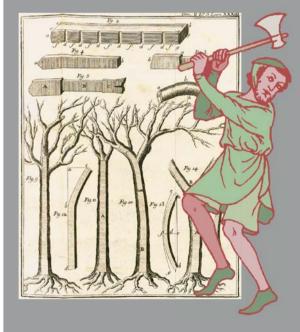
956 m

TIMBER RESOURCES

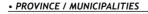
The wealth of timber in these mountains has always been exploited by men and women and was the most important economic activity for its inhabitants.



However, the difficult terrain made the transport of the wood to the places of consumption a difficult obstacle to overcome. The solution was simple and inexpensive, although it did not become widespread until the mid-18th century: to use riverbeds as a transport system.



The logs (mainly of Norway spruce) were floated down from the wharfs or *aguaderos* to the railway stations in the lower areas such as the shipyards of Seville, Cadiz and Cartagena where they were mainly used for shipbuilding. To negotiate the waterfalls and falls, complicated temporary scaffolding or fixed masonry structures, called *lanzaderas* or *tiros*, were built to propel the timber from great heights to huge dams to break the fall.



Jaén / Cazorla

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

928 - Cazorla

START / END COORDINATES

37° 55' 25,16"N - 2° 55' 35,92"O 37° 55' 25,83"N - 2° 55' 44,14"O



The Cerrada del Utrero trail is one of the most spaectacular in the park. It runs along the slopes of the leafy riverbed that the River Guadalquivir has carved out of the limestone rock over the centuries.

The landscape that can be enjoyed in the interior of the Cerrada consists of large cliffs and high crags where a generous vegetation grows and where birds of prey such as griffon vultures nest. Throughout the journey we are accompanied by the pleasant murmur of the river as it flows by.

Action of water

We start the trail at the Cerrada del Utrero information point (check [1] on the map) where we can park our car.



For the first hundred metres we will ascend through a terrain full of rocks carved by the erosive action of water over the millennia. These are small parallel grooves in the limestone rock, called limestone pavements [2], which gradually become deeper. The inhabitants of the area know all these forms as quarries.



We enter the ravine and descend some two hundred metres, along a path carved into the wall, towards the River Guadalquivir, which is responsible for the formation of the cliffs and crags we are enjoying. The vegetation here is very abundant, and the holm oaks, turpentine trees and mastic trees that we see cling to the rock with their powerful roots, defying the force of gravity.

The presence of the Utrero Reservoir [3] can be guessed as we approach, due to the babbling of the water. This infrastructure allows, through a pipeline, to channel the water kilometres down to the now abandoned Utrero hydroelectric power station.

La Cola del Caballo

We continue our journey down the reservoir wall via the nearby stairs. From here, the ravine opens up slowly, allowing us to enjoy a few metres



further on, and on the opposite bank, the Cola del Caballo waterfall [4].



The depth of the gorge cut into the rock by the river means that the tributary streams of the River Guadalquivir form beautiful waterfalls such as this one in the Linarejos stream.

Next to this waterfall are the remains of an old structure that allowed the waterfall to save the logs that were transported down the river.

The water here is very pure and hosts a wide variety of aquatic fauna, from fish such as trout, barbel and bogue to birds such as the dipper. Even if we have gone quietly, and with a bit of luck, we might spot the elusive otter.



Ascending slowly, we continue our journey. We are skirting the 1,089 metre high Peñón del Lanchón, the great



limestone mass on our left. The trail, which has been made easier, offers several places to sit and watch the beautiful scenery. The gorge has opened up and the birds make the skies above the site their own.

Some six hundred metres further on, there is another path called the Central Eléctrica, which, as its name indicates, leads to the Utrero power station. This construction can be seen looking north from a viewpoint built in stone [5].



From here the path enters an area with abundant vegetation in which we can see specimens of turpentine trees, junipers, junipers and pines, some of which are hundreds of years old.

In about four hundred metres we reach the end of our path [6], which coincides with the JF-7091 road. After the walk we can go to the kiosk-bar where we parked the car to rest.

