

## GOOD PRACTICE



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked paths



Please respect private property



The capture of animals is not permitted



Starting fires is strictly forbidden



Fishing is prohibited



Plant collecting is not allowed

Teléfono de emergencias: 112

GRANADA  
ALMERÍA  
SIERRA NEVADA  
PARQUE NACIONAL  
PARQUE NATURAL

## MORE INFORMATION

Laujar de Andarax Visitor's Centre  
Carretera Laujar de Andarax-Berja, km.1.  
Laujar de Andarax (Almería). Tel. 950 51 35 48.

Administrative Centre National park and nature park  
Sierra Nevada. Carretera. Antigua Sierra Nevada, km 7.  
Pinos Genil (Granada). Tel. 958 98 02 38.  
usopublico.sn.cmaot@juntadeandalucia.es

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UNIÓN EUROPEA



Junta de Andalucía  
Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería,  
Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible

SIERRA NEVADA  
PARQUE NACIONAL  
PARQUE NATURAL



La Ragua-Aldeire  
PR-A333



## OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



### • ROUTE

Linear

### • LENGTH (OUTWARD)

11,6 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

5 hour and 30 minutes

### • DIFFICULTY

Medium

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Forest path and track

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

In a landscape dominated by the eastern peaks of the Sierra Nevada, the trail runs alongside streams and torrents through dense reforestation pine forests and high mountain ecosystems, finally leading us through poplar groves, alders, centenary chestnut trees, pine forests, pyramid forests, pastureland, hawthorns and riverside vegetation to the outskirts of Aldeire.

### • SHADE

Scant

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

You must wear hiking boots and know the weather forecast. Recommended season: Spring, summer and autumn. In summer, avoid midday. 200 m away from La Ragua in the direction of Laroles, we can find water in the Pilar de las Yeguas.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Ferreira y Aldeire

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1028 - Aldeire

### • START / END COORDINATES

X 497.340 / Y 4.107.441

X 493.565 / Y 4.112.356



## HOW TO GET THERE

To get to the Puerto de La Ragua on the northern slopes of the Sierra Nevada, take the A-92 motorway towards Almería and leave it at the turn-off for La Calahorra. From this village we must continue along the A-337 which takes us up to the mountain pass of La Ragua. From the southern slope, you can take the A-337 from the village of Laroles.



## PARKING

Next to the information point at the Puerto de La Ragua -annexed to the start of the trail- there is a wide esplanade where vehicles can park.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The main service provider for the area is Alsa (Tel. 902422242); [www.alsa.es](http://www.alsa.es).

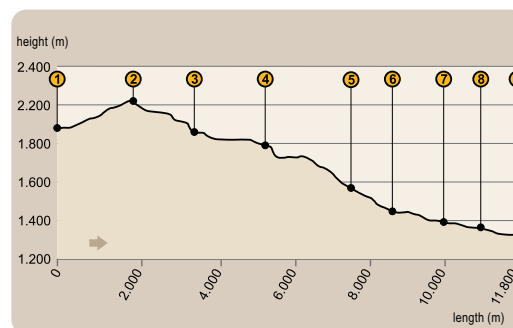
There is no public transport to Puerto de La Ragua.



## OTHER TRAILS

The natural park offers other routes, the first 5 kilometres share a section with the GR-240 and the starting point of the PR-A 334 La Ragua -Lagunilla Seca (Acervo 1137) is practically next to the beginning of this path.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

900 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

2.200 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

1.300 m

## FAUNA OF THE PORT OF LA RAGUA



The pass of La Ragua and its surroundings are home to a great diversity of wildlife that cohabits, in these idyllic spots, with a large herd of cattle. In this way, if we remain attentive and silent along this trail, we will have the opportunity to enjoy this rich biodiversity.

Among the birds we can see chaffinches, great tits, jays, blackbirds, blackbirds and wood pigeons, present in the wooded areas of this route and whose population increases during the summer with the presence of gnatcatchers and warblers, with the Serrano greenfinch standing out for its singularity. The riverbanks and ravines are home to wagtails, kingfishers and dippers, among others.

Insects are very abundant, especially the large and colourful Nevadense butterfly garden, among which there are some unique endemic species.

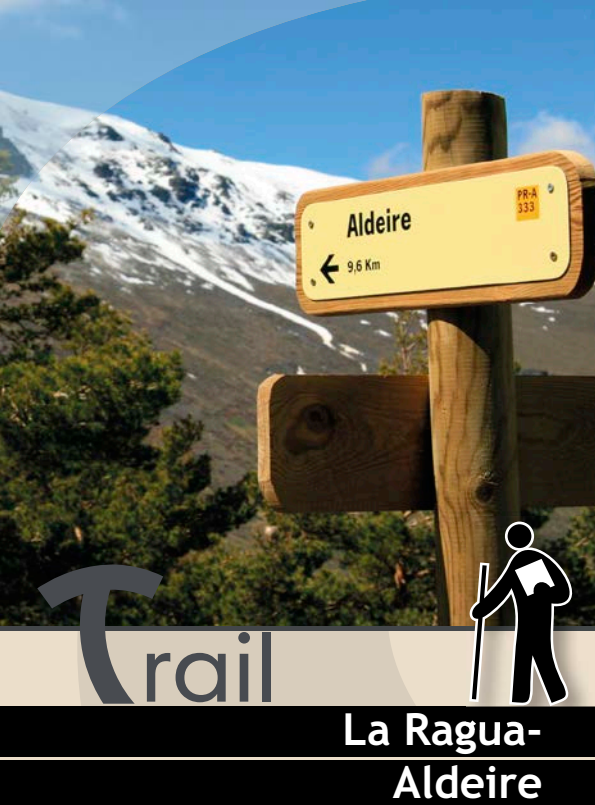


Small tortoiseshell  
(*Aglais urticae*)

Among the mammals we can find foxes, weasels, genets, badgers, wild boars, wild and common voles and, of course, the mountain goat, symbol of the Natural Park and the Sierra Nevada National Park.

The most representative reptiles in the area are the ocellated lizard, the viper, the ladder snake and the smooth snake, as well as the viperine snake, present in the riverside areas.

We must not forget that our relationship with wildlife must be one of total respect, without disturbing or interfering with their behavioural habits, so we will refrain from chasing or feeding the animals.



## La Ragua-Aldeire

This trail runs along the easternmost edge of the Sierra Nevada in Granada, on its northern slope. The first part of the path is an ascent, alternating between the reforested pine forest and the pyrenaea, until we reach the Collado de las Cabañuelas, where we have spectacular views of the east-west line of peaks. An intermediate section, above the reforested pine forest, leads us to the shepherds' shelter of Las Chorreras, under the Morrón del Mediodía cliffs. The final part of the route is a vertiginous descent to the Horcajo, where the Los Tejos Ravine meets the Los Pasillos Ravine, forming the River Benéjar, which we follow in parallel along a comfortable path to the village of Aldeire, but not before visiting the centenary chestnut trees of La Rosandrà.

### Towards the Collado de las Cabañuelas

We start the itinerary at the Puerto de la Ragüa recreational area (check [1] on the map), at an altitude of 2,041 metres, a strategic place situated between the two slopes of the Sierra Nevada and on the provincial boundary between Granada and Almería.



*The Puerto de la Ragüa recreational area is a beautiful cross-country ski resort during the winter season*

We leave behind the recreational area to begin a gentle and progressive ascent next to the ravine of the Tío Caco sheepfold, where we can observe two different types of vegetation; to the right an abundant mass of Scots pine from the reforestation that took place between 1950 and 1960, and to the left a magnificent pyramid forest, which shows us the unique adaptation of mid-mountain vegetation.

Along this ravine we will have the opportunity to find some of the endemic insects of the Sierra Nevada, such as the *Pycnogaster inermis* - a cricket with unique adaptations - and flora such as the Sierra Nevada thyme and the yellow broom, also endemic to the Sierra Nevada.

At an altitude of approximately 2,200 metres we reach the Cabañuelas pass [2]. From here we can contemplate the Marquesado region at our feet, while to the left we can see the chain of aligned



peaks that are gaining height following the east-west direction of the sierra. From left to right we can find the Morrón del Hornillo, the Morrón

Sanjuanero, the Morrón del Mediodía, the Cerro de San Juan and in the background the Cerro Pelado and the Picón de Jérez, the easternmost three peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

### The Cortijo de las Chorreras

From this point, we can also see part of the route that remains to be done, above the edge of the pine forest. We can see the shepherds' shelter of Las Chorreras, located at the base of the Morrón del Mediodía, from where we start the steep descent to the village of Aldeire. After observing this perspective of the route, we enter the pine forest to cross the Pasillos Ravine and its stream [3].



*In spring meltwater flows everywhere*

The trail continues in a westerly direction above the forest mass, flattening out at the foot of the Morrones peaks along the Meseta de los Tejos.



This brings us to the cortijo de las Chorreras [4], located in a meadow below the gorges and streams of the Morrón del Mediodía. This small building was a forest shelter during the repopulation of the Marquesado and today it serves as a refuge for shepherds who keep their livestock in the vicinity and for mountaineers who walk the GR-240 Sulayr path.

### With Aldeire at our feet

From here we leave the Sulayr long distance trail (GR-240), with which we have shared the same route since the beginning, to take the descending path that takes us to Aldeire, descending along the PR-333.



The path winds through the pine forest to join a descending path that will take us to the old pens of Haza de la Meina [5]. From here there is a magnificent panoramic view of the village of Aldeire and its valley, with the Llanos del Marquesado in the background.



*El Horcajo, source of the River Benéjar*

We continue our vertiginous descent walking through a thyme field, with the Tejos Ravine on the left and the Pasillos Ravine on the right, until we reach the Horcajo [6], where the two streams converge to form the River Benéjar.

In this cool place we can find abundant riverside vegetation, among which poplars, alders and willows stand out.

We continue along the track that runs alongside the River Benéjar and which will lead us to cross it twice [7]. In less than an hour we will find ourselves in the recreational area of La Rosandrà [8], located among centenary chestnut trees of

extraordinary beauty and interesting history. From here, all that remains is to continue along the track that leads to Aldeire. Then, in a few minutes, we will arrive at Barranco de la Luna, the end point of our route [9].







Umbria del Pajarillo

Trail

La Ragua-Aldeire

La Ragua - Aldeire Trail

Other trails of the natural park

Livestock trails

Road

Path

Natural Area Boundary

1

Landmark (see text)

i

Information point

Recreational area

Viewpoint

Interpretive panel

Bridge

Farmstead

