

BEST PRACTICES



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked trails



Please respect private property



Please refrain from making noise



It is not allowed to catch animals



It is strictly forbidden to make fires



It is forbidden to collect plants



It is not permitted to collect rocks and minerals



Fossil collecting is not permitted

Emergency phone: 112

CÓRDOBA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierras Subbéticas

MORE INFORMATION

Santa Rita Visitor's Centre.

Ctra. A-339 Cibra-Priego km 11.2, Cibra. Córdoba.

Tel. 636 30 79 00. cvsantarita.amaya@juntadeandalucia.es

ventanadelvisitante.es



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Sostenibilidad,
Medio Ambiente y Economía Azul

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierras Subbéticas



Pinar de Rute

OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

8.3 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

4 hours and 40 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Forest trail and path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Aleppo pine forest and panoramic views of the Iznájar reservoir, the main peaks of the Sierras Subbéticas and other neighbouring provinces such as the mountains to the north of Málaga, Sierra Nevada (Granada) and the vast olive groves to the south of Córdoba and east of Seville.

• SHADE

Well shaded on two thirds of the route

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and sun protection in summer and wear suitable clothing and footwear. The use of walking sticks is also recommended.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Córdoba / Rute

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1007-Rute / 989-Lucena

• START / END COORDINATES

37° 20' 11.95 " N - 4° 21' 25.83" W



HOW TO GET THERE

From Málaga take the A-45 towards Córdoba. From Córdoba take the A-45 towards Málaga. From Seville and Granada take the A-92 until you get to the junction with the A-45 and continue in the direction of Córdoba.

Then, from all directions, take exit 72 in the direction of the A-344 Rute. Having arrived in the town turn onto the A-331 heading towards Rute.

From the village of Rute, follow the signs to the Fuente Alta recreational area and the Rute Tennis Club on the Rute-Carcabuey road (A-3226).



PARKING

The start of the route is at the Fuente Alta recreation area, where there is a car park.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

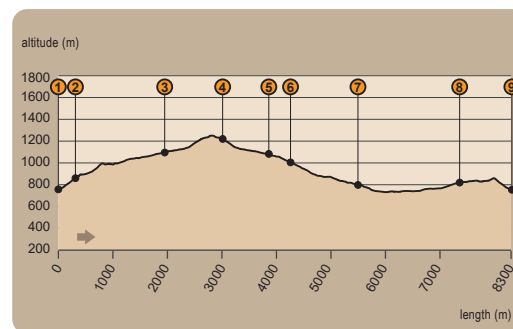
The main company operating in Rute is Autocares Carrera, (tel. +34 957 500 302, www.autocarescarrera.es.)



OTHER TRAILS

There is a shorter (5.5km) and less steep alternative route, which is signposted and takes you halfway up the pine forest without having to climb to the top. The Sierra Alta and Sierra Horconera routes in Sierra de Rute offer two other options for the most demanding visitors.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

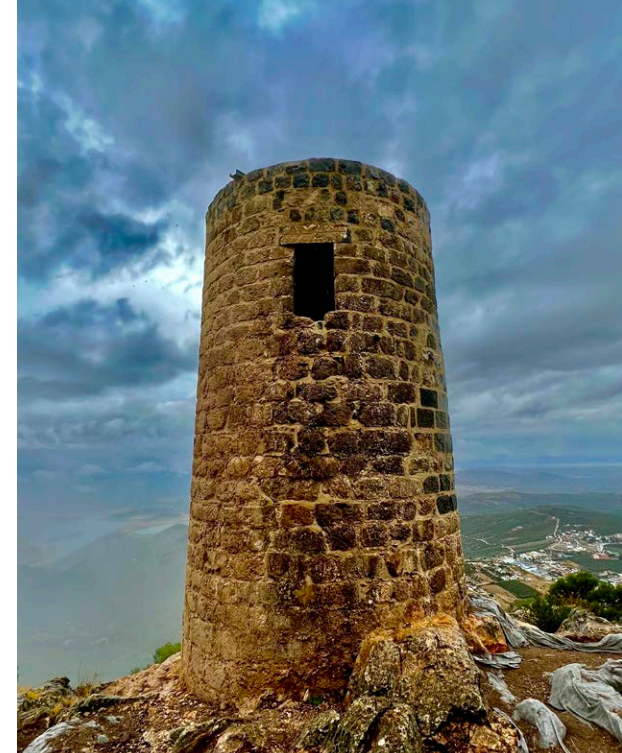
158 m

• MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

855 m

• MINIMUM ALTITUDE

697 m



THE CANUTE TOWER

Located on Mount Hacho, at an altitude of about 1,000 metres, the Canute Tower is a medieval fortress dating from the Nasrid period. Built with limestone blocks, it has a circular base with a diameter of around 5 metres and a height of 8 metres, giving it the stylised morphology from which it takes its name.

When it was declared an Asset of Cultural Interest in 1985, some 200 square metres of the surrounding area were also protected, a decision that was to provide some surprises in the future. Restoration work in recent years has uncovered what may be the plan of an outbuilding that stood until the 19th century, and the theory that the tower is all that remains of a larger fortress is gaining support. Therefore, it would not be a watchtower, but rather a watchtower and possibly a defensive structure related to the protection of Rute el Viejo, the ancient site of the town, which was abandoned between the 15th and 16th centuries.



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El Pinar

From the recreation area [1], take the well-signposted path to the west, which climbs through a dense Aleppo pine forest until it joins a forest track, which we take to the right [2]. This section is slightly downhill for just over 2 km.

Shortly after the start of the route, on the left, we come across a group of buildings that currently house one of the ADEBO (Association for the Defence of the Borrico) reserves, an original initiative that has made Rute known internationally and that focuses on the need to conserve species of indigenous fauna that are in danger of disappearing due to rapid changes in the world's climate, societies and production methods in the Andalusian countryside.



Panoramic views

A little further on, the view opens to the right, offering a truly spectacular

panorama, as indicated by a landscape sign [3]. From the vantage point you can see the olive groves and pine forests of the area, as well as the unmistakable silhouette of the Iznájar reservoir. On a clear day, up to four different provinces can be seen: in addition to Cordoba, the geographical centrality of the Sierras Subbéticas allows us to see the Sierra de Loja in Granada to the SE, the Sierra de las Nieves in Málaga to the South and, to the right (W), the province of Seville.

Continue through the pine forest for about 100 metres until the forest track reveals a rocky wall on the left with a huge oval cavity. This is the Cueva de los Grajos, a large shelter about 5 metres in diameter, used by shepherds as a refuge. If we decide to visit it, in its surroundings we will see that there are several routes open for the practice of sport climbing, which are included in the Park's climbing plan.



Climb

We return to our comfortable path for about 1km. Along the way we are sure to see plenty of pinecone tracks, which have been eaten by squirrels. About 3km from the start, you must turn west along a path [4] that goes uphill and has some small steps to help you climb. We are entering the area of the purest and densest Aleppo pine forest, thanks to the reforestation carried out on its slopes in the 1950s [5], planted mainly to stop erosion in the vicinity of the city. There is little vegetation under the canopy of

the pine forest, but we can find specimens of juniper, matagallo and broom.

Climbing higher, you will see the distinctive Canute Tower, recently restored. Gradually, the forest opens, and the scrub becomes more abundant, although without reaching great heights, since we are at an altitude of more than 1,000 metres and the effect of the climate is felt in the vegetation. A well-signposted junction [6] gives us the option of returning to Rute (3km) or continuing to the fire station at the summit, taking an easy forest path with spectacular views, until you reach Cerro las Cruces [7], at 1,269 metres.

This is one of the best viewpoints in Andalusia, from where you can see the Iznájar reservoir, the Sierras Subbéticas and even the Sierra Nevada massif.

We return along the same path as before until we reach the crossroads, where this time we must head towards Rute, stopping halfway at the foot of the Canute Tower [8] to admire its majesty and the special position in which it stands.

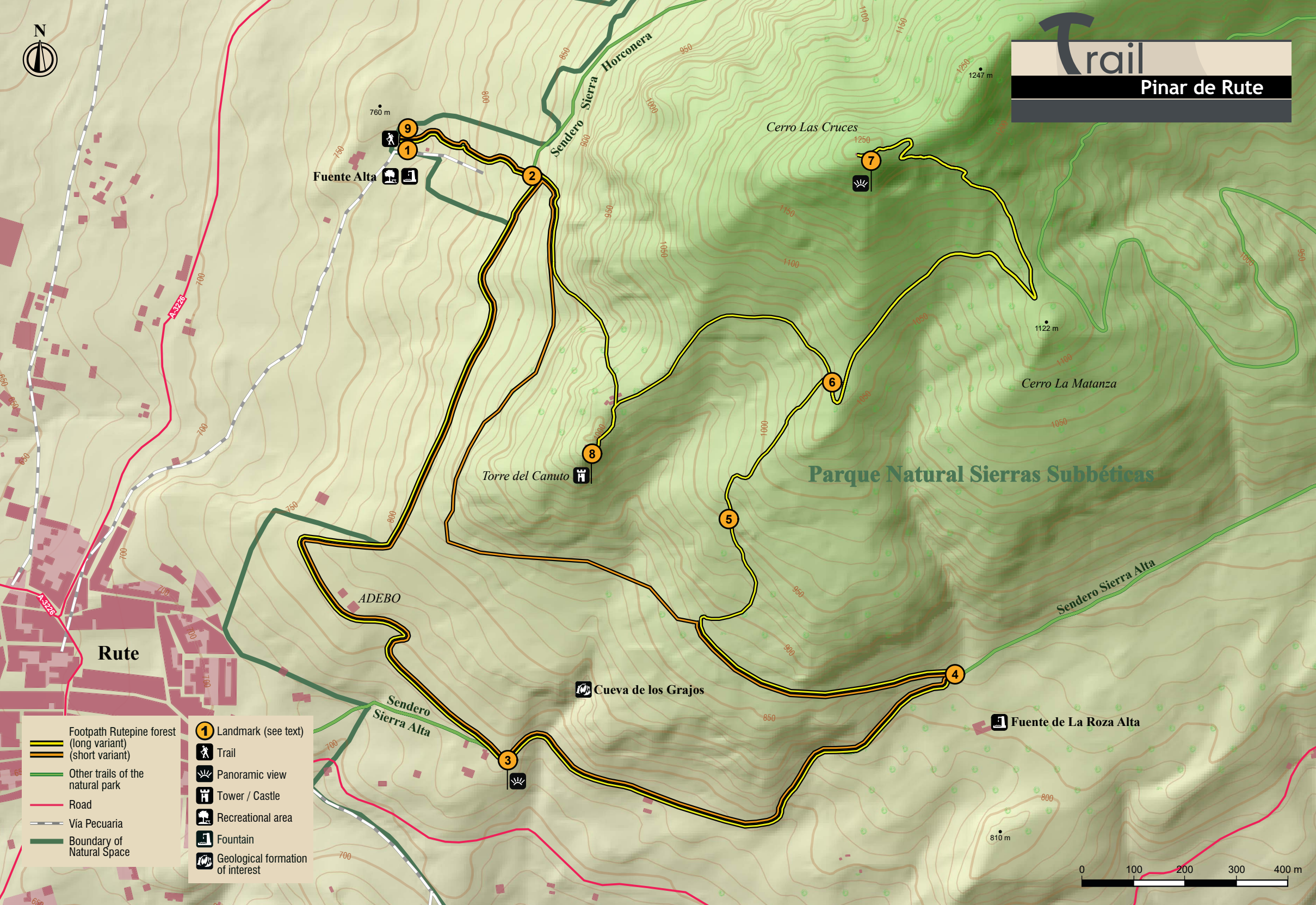
From here, the path takes you down through the pine forest until you reach the forest track that you took at the beginning of the trail. Now we only have to go down to the Fuente Alta Recreational Area, our starting point.





trail

Pinar de Rute



- Footpath Rutepine forest (long variant)
- Footpath Rutepine forest (short variant)
- Other trails of the natural park
- Road
- Via Pecuaría
- Boundary of Natural Space

- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Trail
- Panoramic view
- Tower / Castle
- Recreational area
- Fountain
- Geological formation of interest

