

GOOD PRACTICE



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked trails



Please respect private property



Please refrain from making noise



Capturing animals is not permitted



Starting fires is strictly forbidden



Fishing is prohibited



Plant collecting is prohibited

Emergency phone: 112

GRANADA
ALMERÍA
SIERRA
NEVADA
PARQUE NACIONAL
PARQUE NATURAL

MORE INFORMATION

El Dornajo Visitors' Centre.
Carretera Sierra Nevada, km. 23. 18196 Güéjar Sierra (Granada).
Tel. 958 34 06 25.

ventanadelvisitante®



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

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PARQUE NATURAL



Trail

Lanjarón - Tello



OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



• ROUTE

Linear walk

• LENGTH (ONE-WAY)

5,6 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (ONE-WAY)

4 hours

• DIFFICULTY

High

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Footpath and stony roads

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Panoramic views. Chestnut forests.
Mediterranean scrub. Reforested areas
Riparian vegetation. River and ravine.

• SHADE

Scarce, although depending on the time of day and season, shade will vary.

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and sun protection in summer and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Check that the water from springs is safe to drink.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Lanjarón

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1042

• START / END COORDINATES

36°55'20.00"N, 3°28'19.02"E

36°57'30.29"N, 3°27'40.46"E



HOW TO GET THERE

The path starts at the north-eastern end of the village of Lanjarón, 120 m from the exit, at a bend in the A-348 road, just after passing the river Lanjarón.



PARKING

There is no car park at the beginning of the trail, although you can park your vehicle nearby.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

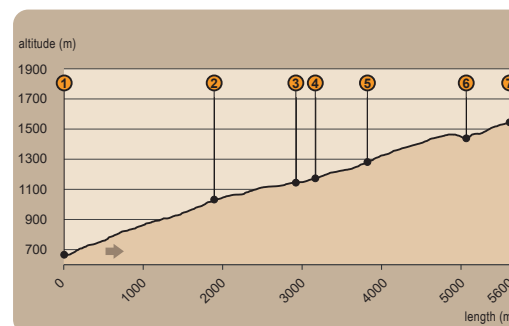
It is not possible to access the trailhead by public transport. The main company running regular bus routes in the area is Alsa (tel. 902 42 22 42; www.alsa.es).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural park offers a number of routes for hikers. Among the closest is the Puente Palo, Acequias del Poqueira or La Cebadilla footpath. Also, section 4 Tello- Puente Palo and section 3 Rinconada de Nigüelas- Tello of the GR-240 SULAYR.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• DMAXIMUM GRADIENT

892 m

• MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

1546 m

• MINIMUM ALTITUDE

654 m

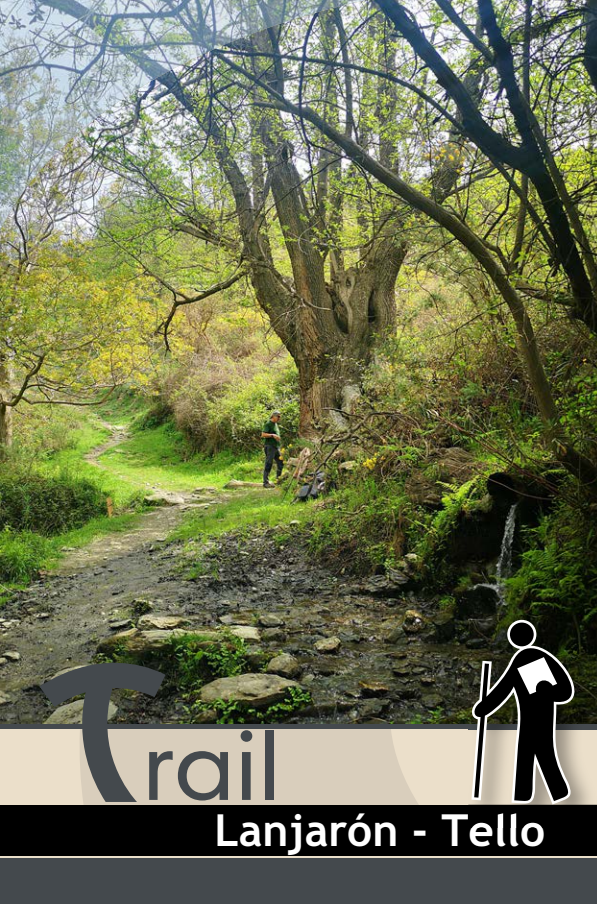
THE MINERAL-MEDICINAL WATERS OF LANJARÓN

The river Lanjarón flows impetuously through the snowy peaks peppered with lagoons, waterfalls and crystalline streams, carving out the ravine, recharging aquifers, filling the arid slopes with greenery and gushing forth in abundance from Lanjarón's numerous springs, each with different minerals, temperatures and qualities. There are icy, thermal, acidic, basic, hard, soft, oxidising, reducing, gaseous water springs; some with purifying properties, others sedative, diuretic, digestive, etc.

But how is it possible for the same water to give rise to such different springs?

In Lanjarón there are two main types of water. Some circulate on the surface, on the *nevadofilábrides* mica schists (one of the main rock complexes that make up the Sierra Nevada). And a second group of waters, which seep through the fissures in these materials and then emerge from the depths through large fractures (originating in the encounter with another of the large groups of rocks that make up the massif, the Alpujárride Complex). The former is soft and light, give rise to a large number of sources and are used for bottling. The latter are those that circulate through underground fractures, absorbing and assimilating minerals from the rocks through which they circulate, and have a high temperature and a high saline content.

Pedro Antonio Alarcón, Federico García Lorca, Manuel de Falla, Virginia Wolf, Bertrand Russell, marquises and counts, kings and queens, and many other characters from all walks of life frequented this "land of springs" (Al-Lanchar), as the Arabs called the spa town of Lanjarón, for its mineral-medicinal properties.



And from Lanjarón, going up the ravine that the impetuous waters of the snowmelt have carved out of the snowy massif, this path takes you to the Tello forest house: an old area of forestry experimentation which was built at the beginning of the 20th century, using multiple species of pine, spruce, oak, larch, cedar and chestnut trees to hold back and protect the slopes from runoff and erosion caused by rainfall. In 2005, the valley suffered a devastating fire. Despite the tragedy, the Lanjarón ravine is still one of the most interesting and beautiful places to visit in the Sierra Nevada.



The Camino de la Sierra

Take the path [1] along the old Camino de la Sierra, 120 metres from the bend in the A-48 road over the river. It is a path paved with local quartzite, schist and serpentine, which zigzags up the hillside. These roads were paved to withstand the hooves of animals, loaded with the agricultural products that were planted in the mountains. In 340 metres, you will come to a tarmac track, where you can catch your breath and take a look at the beautiful view of the river, the village of Lanjarón and the Sierra de Lújar. Take the track on the left and continue 120 metres along the asphalt. At a sharp bend, retake the footpath and, as it ascends, the perspective widens and the Rules reservoir, the foothills of the Sierra Tejeda and the white village of Salobreña, on the Costa Tropical, come into view.

You will come to the first chestnut trees [2] in an hour. Like blackened spectres, many of these trees were frozen in time after the 2005 fire. But life always finds a way to make its way; among the burnt remains, new chestnut trees sprout again and, as you will see later, there are still some imposing specimens that are hundreds of years old.

Following the signs, continue the ascent surrounded by walls, threshing floors, terraces and farmhouses where only blackberry bushes, gorse, silver broom, long-tailed lizards and the odd ladder snake live. These traditional constructions were built with local materials, such as the flexible and durable chestnut wood and the schist and slate of the Nevado-Filábride Complex.



The chestnut grove of Patatún

As you advance, the ravine narrows and the murmur of the water and the singing of frogs, finches, robins and chickadees will accompany you to the chestnut grove of Patatún [3]. Nourished by the Matomarque spring [4] and the filtrations of the Mezquerina irrigation channel, these chestnut trees formed a paradisiacal forest, which was destroyed by the flames, although the preciousness of the old survivors can still be enjoyed. In the bucolic surroundings of the spring, it is possible to distinguish mammal tracks, perhaps of badger, marten, wild boar or ibex. Further on, you will come to a chestnut tree whose fire wounds give it a unusual appearance; a whim of nature, neither

alive nor dead, which stands different and striking at the side of the road.

The Mezquerina *acequia* (irrigation channel)

At an altitude of 1250 metres, you will come to the Mezquerina acequia [5]. Its impressive flow once moved waterwheel of a flour mill and irrigated the terraced orchards of the sierra. Above it runs the Encinillas acequia and opposite, on the other slope, the Nueva acequia. These irrigation channels constitute an ancestral water distribution system and an important ethnological heritage, which also plays an essential ecological role by allowing the development of riverside ecosystems outside the rivers.

You will come to the river Lanjarón [6] in 1.2 kilometres along a signposted path. The river flows deep into the ravine in a spectacle of energy, freshness and life. The waters of the Lanjarón, which come from the snow and rain in the high mountains, are extremely pure and cold. The path crosses the river over a bridge and then crosses the Nueva acequia Leaving the sound of the water and the riverside vegetation behinds you, follow a steep slope towards the Tello forest house [7], where the path ends. This is also the end of section 3 and the beginning of section 4 of the GR-240 SULAYR.



Cortijo Mayoral

Trail

Lanjarón - Tello



Lanjarón - Tello Trail

Other trails of the natural park

Road

Path

Drovers' road

Protected Natural Area

Municipal Boundary

1

Landmark (see text)

Georesources

Trail

Interpretive panel

Viewpoint

Fountain

Panoramic view

Bridge

Ditch

Spring

Forest House