

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

Emergency phone: 112

MÁLAGA

PARAJE NATURAL
Los Reales de
Sierra Bermeja

MORE INFORMATION

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UNIÓN EUROPEA
Estado Limpio Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARAJE NATURAL
Los Reales de
Sierra Bermeja

Trail

Los Realillos



OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

1,7 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

45 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Moderate

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Spanish firs, pine forest, crestings, peridotites, views.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Take a mobile phone with you. It is suggested to bring binoculars for bird watching.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Estepona, Casares, Genalguacil

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1071 - Jimena de la Frontera

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 29' 5,95" N – 5° 12' 28,15" O

36° 29' 26,25" N – 5° 12' 25,85" O



HOW TO GET THERE

The best access is from Estepona, along the MA-557 road towards Jubrique, looking for the Puerto de Peñas Blancas. Once the pass is reached, take the narrow tarmac track that climbs up to Los Reales. The track is in a bad state at its final stretch.



PARKING

There is no car park. It is possible to park about 3 vehicles at the beginning of the route, although the access from the recreational area is on a poor road.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

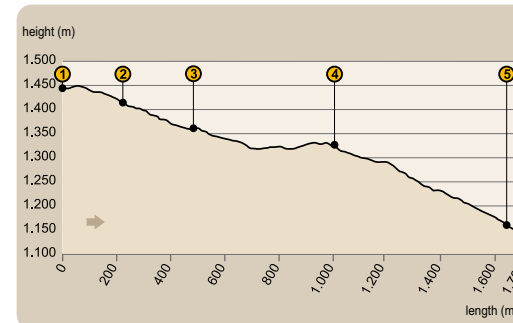
It is possible to reach Estepona by bus. There are several bus companies that operate to this destination depending on the origin. Estepona Bus Terminal, www.ctsa-portillo.es / tel. 902 45 05 50. There are train stations in Málaga and Algeciras, (check services and timetables at www.renfe.com / tel. 902 32 03 20).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural site offers other trails. On the access road to Los Reales, the Paseo de los Pinsapos trail can be found. From the recreational area of Los Reales you can access the Salvador Guerrero trail, a short and comfortable route with excellent views.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

306 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.448 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

1.142 m

PERIDOTITES

The Paraje Natural Los Reales de Sierra Bermeja is a mountainous massif of volcanic origin, which gets its name from the reddish colour of the peridotites, a type of igneous rock really usual herein. The Sierra Bermeja peridotite outcrop is one of the most important in the world. Peridotite rocks are rich in iron which, when oxidised, stain the area red. They are also the most important source of chromium extraction.

The mineralogical complexity of these rocks means that a soil develops on these substrates, the composition of which is rich in heavy metals such as nickel, chromium, cobalt, magnesium, etc., creating a soil that is toxic for most plants.

Peridotite rocks are rich in iron which, when oxidised, stain the area red



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Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible



Trail

Los Realillos



Views

The trail starts very close to Los Reales peak, a majestic vantage point from where the views are magnificent (check [1] on the map). On a clear day you can see the Sierra de Grazalema, with the Torreón as the highest peak in the province of Cádiz, the Sierra de las Nieves, El Torrecilla (highest peak in the province of Málaga), the Sierra Palmitera, La Concha with Marbella at its feet, the Rock of Gibraltar and the mountains of northern Morocco. A spectacle to behold.



Pine trees offer protection to small Spanish firs

The trail descends gently through a pine forest, where we can see many small Spanish firs interspersed [2]. This shows that the Spanish fir forest is regenerating well in this area under the protection of the pine trees. Soon we reach the ridge, and the tree cover disappears [3] almost completely. To our left is the Pinsapar de la Mujer Spanish fir forest, one of the three groves of Spanish firs that grow in the mountain range.



Forest fires are the worst enemy of the Spanish fir forest

Spanish fir forests

Forest fires, pests and other factors have divided the Sierra Bermeja Spanish fir forest into three forests, close to each other but with little chance of being reunited: the La Mujer Spanish fir forest, the Los Reales Spanish fir forest and the Real Chico Spanish fir forest.



Strong winds on the ridges prevent the development of trees

The Spanish firs are of great scenic and scientific value. This species of Spanish fir can only be found in certain areas of the province of Malaga and Cadiz, which are under some form of protection to guarantee its conservation, such as the Natural Park in the case of Los Reales in Sierra Bermeja.

On this ridge between Los Reales and Cerro del Castellón, we can observe the degradation of the Spanish fir forest and the numerous clearings occupied by cushion and thorny vegetation, more adapted to the harsh conditions prevailing here, which shows the enormous difficulties for the recovery of the pure Spanish fir forest. The Spanish firs that reach the crest diminish in height and eventually become only thick trunks with little bearing. The strong winds that often blow over these ridges do not allow them to grow.



The trail takes us to the pass between Los Reales and Los Realillos [4], from where we have good views of the Genal valley. We change slopes and the path begins to lose height through the peridotite slopes (check box), while some specimens of Spanish firs and pines grow scattered among the rocks. To our right we will see a steep ravine that descends from the peak of Los Reales, in which there is an enclosed Spanish fir forest.

Plazoleta de Genalguacil

We quickly lose altitude, entering a pine forest that soon gives way to the Spanish fir forest. The vegetation is more abundant than on the crests and, after a few moderately steep stretches, we reach the end of our trail, the Plazoleta de Genalguacil [5].



This is a small plain with several large Spanish firs, where we can see a stone wall on which is inscribed in ceramic a poem that Federico García Lorca dedicated in 1919 to the Spanish firs. It is a quiet place, in darkness, due to the lushness of the Spanish firs, where the silence is only interrupted by the wind over the treetops or the chirping of some birds. A delight for the senses.

There are several trails in the vicinity, with which we can continue to discover the nooks and crannies of this mountain range. The Paseo de los Pinsapos trail is a comfortable walk through a Spanish fir forest and pine grove that also goes to the Plazoleta de Genalguacil. And the Salvador Guerrero trail, with a short itinerary that leads to a splendid viewpoint with excellent views of the Costa del Sol.

The Los Realillos path runs along part of the crest of Los Reales, a windy place exposed to bad weather, which causes an almost total absence of arboreal vegetation on the crests. It is a route with excellent views that ends in the middle of the pine forest, in the Plazoleta de Genalguacil.



Trail

Los Realillos

Cerro del Castellón

1385m

1336m

1343m

1332m

1366m

1233m

1260m

1447m

1442m

Reales 1452m

1412m

Cursanta de la Fuente Santa

Paseo de los Pinsapos

Paraje Natural Los Reales de Sierra Bermeja



- Los Realillos Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Path
- Electricity line
- Los Reales de Sierra Bermeja Nature site

- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Interpretive panel

4

5

3

2

1