

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



MORE INFORMATION

Lagar de Torrijos Ecomuseum
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ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARQUE NATURAL
Montes de Málaga

Trail

Pocopán



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

OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

2,7 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

1 hour and 30 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Moderate

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track or path with a compact surface

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Hilly terrain with reforestation pine forests and the presence of holm oaks, cork oaks, strawberry trees, etc. and Mediterranean scrub. Interesting views of the park. Remains of buildings related to traditional activities, *Casa las Contadoras* dedicated to environmental education.

• SHADE

Plentiful

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Care should be taken to watch out for traffic when crossing the lane.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Málaga

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1039 - Colmenar; 1053 - Málaga

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 49' 27,92"N – 4° 23' 0,11"W
36° 50' 10,26"N – 4° 23' 53,03"W



HOW TO GET THERE

From Málaga take the A-7000 north towards Colmenar. After about 20 km, we arrive at the Fuente de la Reina fountain, where we take the path that goes off to the left, in the direction of the Las Contadoras nature classroom. After about 2 km we reach the monolith of Contadoras, where the trail begins.



PARKING

There is no car park at the beginning of the trail, although it is possible to leave your vehicle at the Llano de Contadoras.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

As there are no urban centres along the route of the road, there are no buses or trains with stops close to the access, which means that access must be by car. In Malaga, bus station: tel. 952 35 00 61; railway station: www.renfe.es, tel. 902 24 02 02.



OTHER TRAILS

The Umbria de Contadoras trail starts at Llano de Contadoras. In addition, the natural park offers other trails, such as El Cerrado and Torrijos trails.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

98 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

852 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

754 m

THE REASON FOR THE PINE FOREST



Originally, the Montes de Málaga were made up of typical Mediterranean forest species (holm oaks, cork oaks, strawberry trees, mastic trees, rockroses, thyme and rosemary, and in the cooler and wetter areas, gall oaks). This vegetation was gradually replaced by almond trees, olive trees and vines from the end of the 15th century onwards to cultivate the land.



However, in the 19th century, a plague (phylloxera) killed off the vines, which led to the abandonment of the countryside and the immediate bareness of the soil, which was left at the mercy of the strong floods that quite frequently swept through the city of Malaga (seventeen recorded in the 19th century, and four more in the 20th century). Hydrological restoration was then planned, with the construction of the Limonero reservoir and reforestation, the species chosen for its rapid growth being Aleppo pine. The devastating floods were then stopped, while the original Mediterranean vegetation recovers. This is the origin of the landscape that the path crosses.

We can imagine the terrible effects of rain erosion on bare soils in some places such as firebreaks.



Towards the viewpoint

We start the trail next to the well-known Contadoras monolith (check [1] on the map) located in the Llano de Contadoras, which can be reached by following the asphalted track for about two kilometres that starts at the very well-known La Reina fountain. These monoliths are distributed throughout the Malaga Mountains, at important crossroads, and mark the distance to significant points such as wine presses, houses and even nearby towns, such as Colmenar or Casabermeja.



From the path, in the clearings left by the forest, we can see the Las Contadoras nature school, also immersed in the pine forest.

Views from the lookout point, from left to right: La Peña del Águila, Sierra de Camarolos and El Chamizo



The path will lead us in just over two kilometres to one of the best natural viewpoints in the whole park. We pass the entrance to the Las Contadoras nature classroom [2], leaving its access lane on our left. caused by fire. We are currently witnessing the regeneration of the Mediterranean vegetation, the pine forest and its characteristic scrubland.

A path descends parallel to the track, then runs along a section closed to motor vehicle traffic and crosses a thick pine forest and an area without trees due to a fire, on a sunny slope, where we can find typical Mediterranean scrub.

We cross the track again, paying attention to vehicle traffic going to private estates, to climb up to the Pocopán viewpoint along the steep slope of the firebreak.



From the viewpoint, before the return journey

With a camera, we will be able to take excellent panoramic pictures of the landscape and the sunset.

We will also see a large part of the limestone arc of the province of Malaga, formed by: the Pedrizas pass, the Jobo and Camarolos mountain ranges, the Gorda and San Jorge mountain ranges, the Gomer and Doña Ana gorges in Alfarñate; while to the west we find the Sierra de las Cabras, the Torcal de Antequera, the Sierra de las Chimeneas, the Sierra del Valle de Abdalajís; and to the south the city of Malaga, as from here we enjoy a 360-degree panoramic view.



At this point the trail ends, from where we must return along the same path to the starting point, once again enjoying this itinerary and its views over the Guadalmedina river basin.

Before starting the return journey, the viewpoint offers great views. Its elevated position above the Frailes stream, on the summit of Cerro Pocopán [3], allows us to contemplate a large part of the Montes de Málaga Natural Park.



This path leads to the viewpoint on the hill of Pocopán through a dense pine forest, dotted with cork oaks and holm oaks that are now timidly recovering their original location.

In the clearings left by the forest we can anticipate the immense views that we will enjoy at the end of the route. From the top of the hill, we will understand the reason for this forest landscape and the need to protect it.

Along the way we can enjoy the singing of birds or their majestic flights.

Trail Pocopán

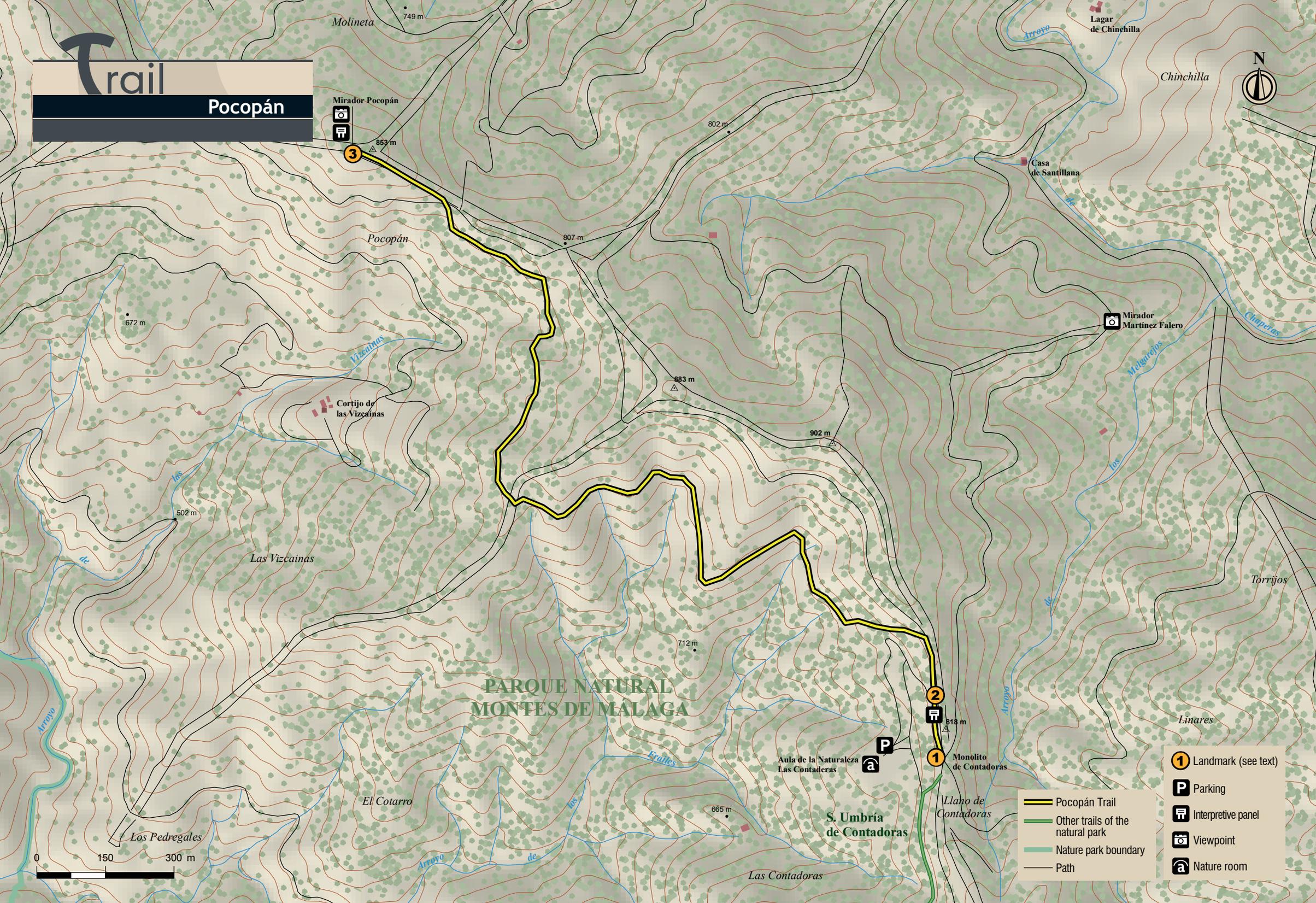


PARQUE NATURAL MONTES DE MÁLAGA

Mirador Pocopán
853 m

- 1 Landmark (see text)
- P Parking
- Interpretive panel
- Viewpoint
- a Nature room

- Pocopán Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Nature park boundary
- Path



Molineta 749 m

Lagar de Chinchilla

Chinchilla

Casa de Santillana

Mirador Martínez Falero

Pocopán

Cortijo de las Vizcainas

Las Vizcainas

Torrijos

Linares

Aula de la Naturaleza Las Contaderas

S. Umbría de Contadoras

Monolito de Contadoras

Llano de Contadoras

El Cotorro

Los Pedregales

Las Contaderas