

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



ALMERÍA



MORE INFORMATION

Las Amoladeras Visitors' Centre
Ctra. AL-3115 Almería-Cabo de Gata. km 7. Almería. Tel. 950 16 04 35
ventanadelvisitante.



ALMERÍA

PARQUE NATURAL
Cabo de
Gata-Níjar



Cerro del Cinto-
(short route)



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

OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura



Biosfera de España de Reservas de la Biosfera



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



Cabo de Gata-Níjar UNESCO Global Geopark

• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

4,4 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

1 hour and 30 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Low

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track and Path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Anthropized landscape with the marks of an old mining area with abandoned mines. There is also an interesting landscape around the volcanic crater of Valle de Rodalquilar.

• SHADE

None

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

There is a stony section of the trail in the rambla so appropriate footwear such as hiking boots, is advised. Do not leave the trail as there is a danger of falling into uncovered wells and mining galleries.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Almería / Rodalquilar (Níjar)

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1046 - Carboneras

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 51' 4,61" N – 2° 2' 41,2" O

36° 51' 4,53" N – 2° 2' 41,3" O



HOW TO GET THERE

Head for Rodalquilar, in Níjar, where we find an administrative office of the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park. There is extensive parking available and an informative panel and exhibition space.



PARKING

Parking for twenty vehicles is available at the Natural Park Administrative Office and exhibition space.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

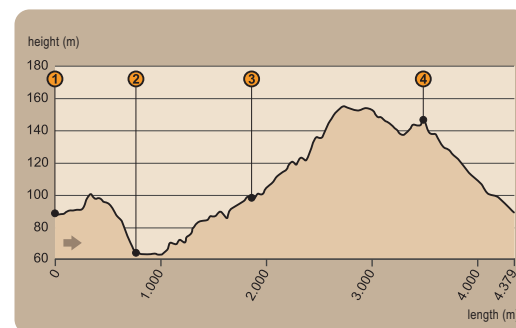
Regular bus services are run by Alsa/Alsina Graells (tel. 950 28 16 60). The nearest main station is Almería (tel. 902 24 02 02).



OTHER TRAILS

The Natural Park offers different routes. This trail can be completed by taking the long route which runs all the way around the Cerro del Cinto.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

92 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

155 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

63 m



Mineral basins in Rodalquilar alongside the Casa de Los Volcanes

GOLD MINING IN RODALQUILAR

The mining reserves of Rodalquilar have been exploited by man for centuries. The gold rush began in 1880 and ended definitively in 1990. There were a number of companies involved in the extraction of gold during that time.

The mineral extracted from the different mines of Cerro del Cinto were processed, in 1956, by Empresa Nacional Adaro at a cyanide plant using American technology, known as Plant Denver.

The mineral was weighed on the scale and emptied into hoppers. From here, conveyor belted transported it to the grinding mills and water was added to produce a fine-grain paste. The paste was passed to tanks, where it lost part of the water and a second series of tanks called "shakers" where sodium cyanide was added to turn the gold into liquid form. The resulting substance was transported to basin washing tanks where a mixture rich in gold was obtained and brought to the precipitation building where the ingots were obtained.



La Rambla de las Yeguas

As we set off from the starting panel, we can observe a large area with old dumps from the gold mining era, later restored with vegetation. (See [1] on the map). We start alongside the Exhibition Space and on our left is the Denver Plant, which we later pass below. We'll find brooms, albardine, prickly pear, pines, cotton lavender, lentisk, silver broom, Phlomis purpurea, carob and esparto grass.



A small track takes us through the area known as Playazo, with old stone walls or balates supporting the terraces used in their day for cultivation.

We reach a fork where the trail splits into two versions in the Rambla de las Yeguas [2]. We take the track on the



left along the side of the rambla until we reach the ruins of an old farmstead with a number of elements of the traditional architecture of the area. We cross the mostly dry river bed of the rambla before exiting it for a rack that continues along the left bank.



Mining remains in the lower part of the Cerro del Cinto

At this point we can really take in the Cerro de Cinto, with its peculiar appearance due to the marks left by mining activity. Areas where there are still uncovered galleries or mines are suitably fenced off to avoid any risk of fall. The ruins of the old mining buildings [3] are visible on both sides of the trail, also protected by wooden fencing.



Past the La Felipa Rambla, which also gives its name to one of the mines, on our left we see the well-preserved remains of the old basins used for washing and decanting the mineral extracted from the Abellán mines, the purplish and white colours that contrast starkly with the green vegetation of palm shrub, esparto grass, Spanish lavender, olive trees and cornicabras.



Passing by the entrances to several mines, we begin to ascend towards the trail that links Rodalquilar and Los Albaricoques and we turn left, joining the longer route of the trail for a section.



Plant Denver

We continue along the trail for a section to the point where the mineral was weighed on scales and transferred to hoppers. We can stop for some brief respite here to see the interpretive panel on the landscape of the valley [4]. We descend to Plant Denver and the ruins of the mining facilities. There is an information panel on the gold extraction and processing. Further on, we reach a paved section of the trail that takes us to the Casa de los Volcanes, an interpretive centre on the geology and mining history of the area and the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Geopark. There we can see a large model illustrating the mining operations of Cerro del Cinto we have just passed. After that, it's short walk to the end and start point of the trial.



There are two versions of this trail around the hill Cerro del Cinto. The longer route reaches the highest point of the hill while the shorter route takes us through the Las Yeguas rambla at the foot of the hill. On this tranquil walk through the old horse trails and service roads of the Abellán mines, we encounter abandoned old farmsteads, significant stone wall constructions or balates and the ruins of old mining buildings.

On the upper part of the trail, we can observe the imposing landscape of the volcanic crater of the valley of Rodalquilar, and Plant Denver, used for the extraction of the gold.



Cerro del Cinto- (short route)



Cerro del Cinto

Rambla de las Yeguas

Cerro del Cinto variante larga

Lavaderos de mineral

Casa de los Volcanes

Sala de Exposiciones

Oficina Administrativa del Parque Natural

Cortijada la Pedrera

Aula de la naturaleza El Bujo

Área de acampada Rodalquilar

Jardín botánico El Abardinal

Punto de información Rodalquilar

Iglesia

Casa rural Villa Cepillo I

Casa rural Villa Cepillo II



Arroyos del Cuchillo

- Landmark (see text)
- Interpretive panel
- Camping area
- Botanic garden
- Information point
- Rural House
- Nature room
- Farmstead
- Church

- Cerro del Cinto Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Road
- Path