

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



CÁDIZ
MÁLAGA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de
Grazalema

MORE INFORMATION

El Bosque Visitors' Centre. Federico García Lorca nº1.
El Bosque. Cádiz. Tel. 956 70 97 33
ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de
Grazalema



El Torreón



Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería,
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OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



NATURA 2000



Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura
Red Española de Reservas de la Biosfera

• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

3 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

2 hours

• DIFFICULTY

High

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Varied, rocky

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Sharp ascent to the province's highest peak through a karst field with sinkholes, limestone pavement and rocky crags. Vegetation depending on altitude. Unbeatable views of much of the park and western Andalusia. Remains of medieval road at the start and ruins of old kiln.

• SHADE

Little or none

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Authorisation required. Individuals: cvelbosque@reservatuvisita.es, 956 709 733. Companies, associations, clubs, federations and official groups: contact the office of the Sierra de Grazalema Natural Park on 600 161 916 / 600 161 906.

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Take precautions on the final section which is across a rocky surface with barely a trail. Closed from 1 June to 15 October due to danger of fire, as indicated on the sign at the start of a trail.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Cádiz / Grazalema

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1050 - Ubrique

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 45' 18,17"N – 5° 26' 8,56"W

36° 45' 56"N – 5° 25' 20,72"W



HOW TO GET THERE

From Benamahoma take the A-372 east towards Grazalema. After some 5 km the trail begins on the left.



PARKING

There is a car park with some 18 places at the start of the trail.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

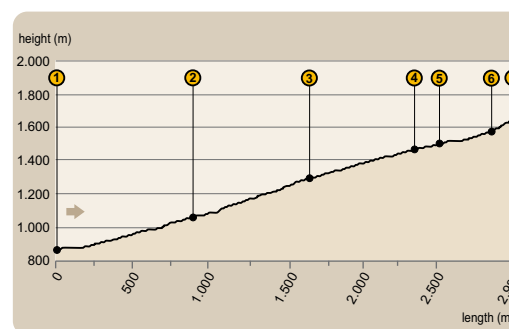
The main companies running regular bus routes in the area are Los Amarillos (tel. 902 21 03 17) and Transportes Generales Comas S.A. (tel. 902 19 92 08). The nearest train stations are in Cortes de la Frontera, Jimera de Líbar, Benaóján and Ronda (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es or by telephone on 902 24 02 02).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural park offers a number of routes for hikers. Those nearby include El Tesorillo, Llanos del Rabel and the Arroyo del Descansadero trail, which coincide at the Llanos del Campo recreation area.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

779 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.643 m

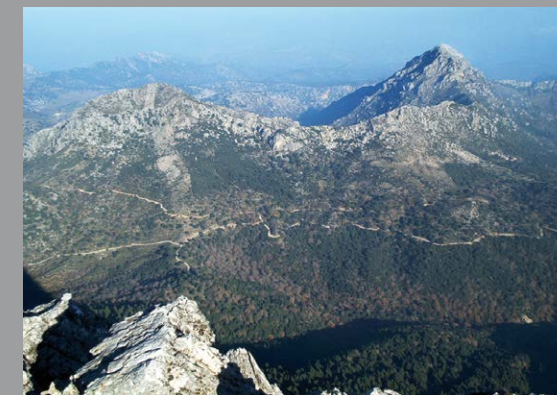
• MINIMUM HEIGHT

864 m



EL TORREÓN: THE CEILING OF THE PROVINCE

This peak, the highest peak in the province of Cádiz, offers an exceptional viewpoint of western Andalusia. From here we can see the Garganta Verde chasm and part of the province of Seville to the north; parts of Málaga and Granada to the east; much of the province of Cádiz and the neighbouring Los Alcornocales Nature Park to the south and the Bay of Cádiz to the west. With good visibility, views can even stretch as far as the Sierra Nevada, El Torrecilla (the highest peak in Málaga), the Straits of Gibraltar, north Africa and the city of Seville.



These are the views enjoyed by the birds of prey that nest in these parts, like the royal eagle and the griffon vulture. A nearby colony of the latter, in the Garganta Verde, is one of the biggest in Europe. Another frequent visitor, in search of food, is the Alpine hedge sparrow.





Trail

El Torreón

Starting the ascent

We find the sign of the start of the trail at around km 40 of the road between Grazalema and Benamahoma (see [1] on the map).

The path runs through the Reserve Zone of the natural park, a space with an environment, of forest and rock formations and a landscape requiring special protection through restrictions on certain uses of natural resources.



After passing through a gate we begin to climb a moderate gradient. The trail has stones placed in the form of steps on this first section. If we stop for some air, we will see that we are surrounded by myrtle, mastic and juniper.

The vegetation is plentiful and the gradient quite pronounced. For this reason, this route is closed in the summer months due to the risk of wildfires.



Vegetation changes to adapt to the altitude

The path changes direction, taking a more gentle slope uphill, crossing a splendid Mediterranean forest [2]. Gradually, the views open up and behind us we can see the Sierra del Aljibe and Bornos and its reservoir [3]. Once again the trail rises steeply and zig-zags to overcome the gradient. Around us, the blackcaps, tits and larks flutter about.



Alpine accentors and northern wheatears keep a watchful eye on our ascent, as do the queens of these mountains, the mountain goats.

As we gain altitude, the vegetation changes. These are known as storeys of vegetation. From 1,400m up, the holm oaks and juniper colonise the soil, with the omnipresent gall for company [4]. Its branches are thick, due to the tough climate conditions of the area. A little further up, we begin to see plants native to these peaks, such as piornos and maples. On the rocky crags and stony areas there some botanical gems.



1.648 m above sea level

The trail crosses a number of sink holes [5], depressions where water infiltrates the groundwater, and the soil is formed of karst landscapes.



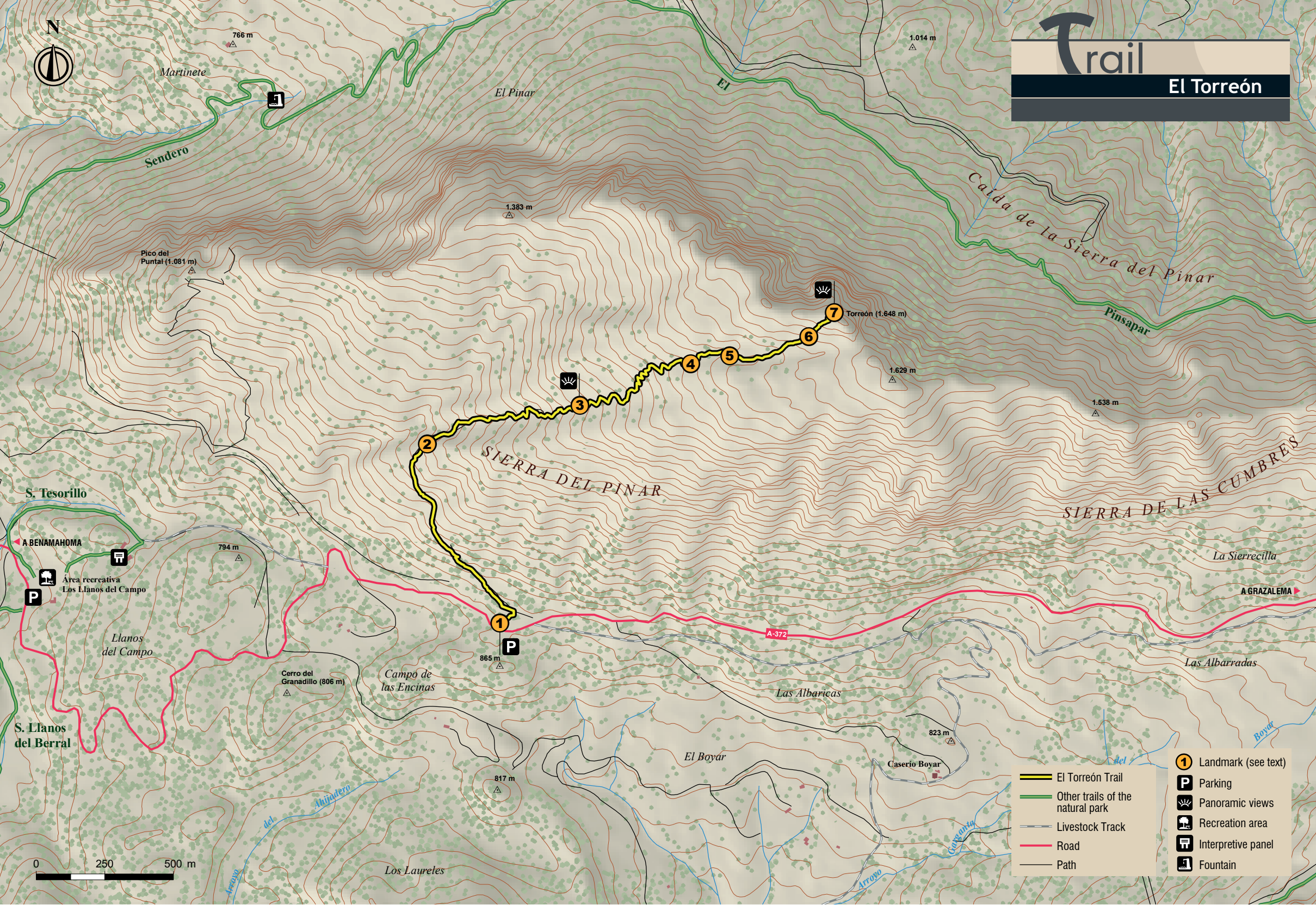
We reach a crag [6] where we should take extreme caution. Mounds of stones and the odd paint mark point the way to the summit.

Finally, and possibly exhausted, we reach the summit of el Torreón [7]. We can carefully lean over the northern face for a birds' eye view of the Spanish fir forest of El Pinsapar.



Trail

El Torreón



- El Torreón Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Livestock Track
- Road
- Path
- Landmark (see text)
- Parking
- Panoramic views
- Recreation area
- Interpretive panel
- Fountain

Martinete

766 m

Sendero

El Pinar

1.383 m

Pico del Puntal (1.081 m)

S. Tesorillo

A BENAMAHOMA

Área recreativa Los Llanos del Campo

794 m

Llanos del Campo

S. Llanos del Berral

Cerro del Granadillo (806 m)

Campo de las Encinas

865 m

Los Lauretes

817 m

El Boyar

823 m

Caserio Boyar

Arroyo del Ahijadero

Arroyo

SIERRA DEL PINAR

Caida de la Sierra del Pinar

SIERRA DE LAS CUMBRES

Torreón (1.648 m)

1.629 m

1.538 m

La Sierrecilla

A GRAZALEMA

Las Albarradas

Arroyo

Arroyo