

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

Cortes de la Frontera Visitor's Centre. Av. de la Democracia s/n. Cortes de la Frontera. Málaga. Tel 952 15 45 99.

ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de
Las Nieves

MÁLAGA
Trail

Quejigales
Torrecilla



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

OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

7,2 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

3 hour and 15 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

High

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Rocky

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Rugged and broken relief modelled on the limestone rock, with a succession of plant formations in which the centuries-old Spanish firs and gall-oak groves stand out. Ethnographic heritage elements (snow well). Speleological interest. Panoramic views of exceptional breadth.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Ronda y Tolox

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1051 - Ronda

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 41' 24,94"N – 5° 2' 42,3"O

36° 40' 33,3"N – 4° 59' 45,78"O



HOW TO GET THERE

From Ronda take the A-397 south towards San Pedro de Alcántara. From Ronda take the A-397 south towards San Pedro de Alcántara. After about 15 km, take the left track. Along this track, which is asphalted at first, we will walk for about 8 km until we come to a fork where we turn left. After 800 m we find the Quejigales recreation area, right at the start of the trail.



PARKING

There is a car park with some 100 places at the start of the trail.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

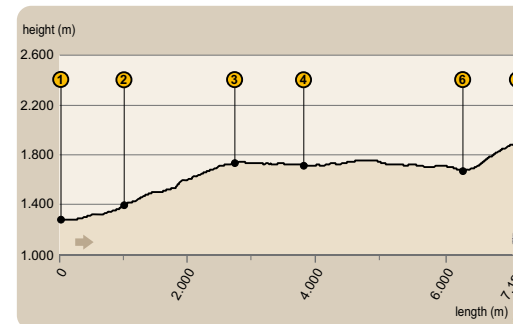
The main companies running regular bus routes in the area are Los Amarillos (tel. 952 18 70 61), Comes (tel. 952 87 19 92) and Autobuses Lara (tel. 952 87 22 60). The nearest train station is in Ronda (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es or tel. 902 24 02 02).



OTHER TRAILS

The trail shares the final section of its route with the Puerto Saucillo-Torrecilla trail. Other nearby trails are Caucón-Peñón de los Enamorados and Las Escaleretas trails.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

634 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.917 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

1.283 m

PLANT SUCCESSION

Along the way you will find a great variety of plant formations.



The itinerary starts in the Mesomediterranean floor, with typical vegetation of the thorny fringe surrounding the Spanish firs: hawthorn, barberry, wild rose, blackberry and butcher's-broom, interspersed with maritime pines and black pines.



Later on, Spanish firs can be found and, above 1,600 metres, the cushioned thorny scrub dominates, with species such as barberry, broom, creeping juniper and juniper. Then the scattered high mountain gall oak groves can be found, with specimens that are hundreds of years old, as well as isolated stands of maple, yew and whitebeam. The Torrecilla foothills are mainly covered by creeping junipers dotted with gall oaks.





Cañada del Cuerno

The route starts at the Los Quejigales recreational area (check [1] on the map), the starting point of the trail.



After the first kilometre, we enter one of the most beautiful areas of the Sierra de las Nieves. La Cañada del Cuerno [2] has such a large number of old Spanish firs that they form an indescribable ensemble. Their heights, their twisted branches, their ghostly shapes... We really are in an enchanted forest, with the ground covered in moss. The old trunks, stripped of their leaves and bark, provide a counterpoint to the explosion of life in this forest.



The snow pits were slight excavations in the ground, with walls reinforced with stone. They were used to preserve the snow that fell in winter, transforming it into ice and then using it in summer. The work of the neveros, as the men who carried out these tasks were known, began at the end of the snowy season. The snow was then carried to the pits, where it was pressed into ice. It was then covered with plants and earth to keep it until the summer. When the time came to sell, the necessary ice was cut and packed on the backs of mules to be taken to Ronda, the coast of Malaga or even further afield.

Pilones Pass

Once past the Cañada, we reach the Pilones pass [3], from where we have an excellent view of the surrounding area: Torrecilla and Cerro Alcazaba in the foreground and in the background the coast and the Mediterranean Sea.



At the Pilones pass we will begin to see specimens of the mountain gall oak, a species in danger of extinction. Historically, this species has been mistreated by intense charcoal extraction and cattle browsing, reducing its populations to very old individuals. At present, the area has undergone significant restocking and protection of natural regeneration, which aims to ensure the survival of this species.



On the high plateau of this mountain range, at an altitude of around 1,700 metres, the old gall oaks are proud of their age.

Continuing along the path, shortly after passing the Pilones pass, we will come to a snow pit [4], restored to show how this mountain resource was used in the past.



We then climb a hill from where we can see the Torrecilla peak, the goal of our excursion.

Halfway between the snow pit and La Torrecilla, and to our right, is the Sima GEM [5]. If in the Sierra de las Nieves the outdoor heritage is of great interest, the underground is not far behind. It is not in vain that this mountain range has the deepest chasms in Andalusia. The first to be discovered and explored was this one, back in the 1970s, a cave more than 1,100 m deep.



Continuing on our way, we will descend to the Pilar de Tolox [6], where we will find water and can rest for a while before the last ascent. We will attack the summit of Torrecilla by skirting the mountain in the direction of the Valientes pass. We must take it easy, as there are 100 metres of steep slope, which are well worth the effort, reaching the summit of Torrecilla [7] on the left side of the ridge and enjoying wide panoramic views.

Trail

Quejigales Torrecilla



Puerto de los Quejigales (1.354 m)

Area recreativa Los Quejigales
 Cortijo de los Quejigales

Las Turquillas (1.386 m)

- Landmark (see text)
- Parking
- Panoramic views
- Spring
- Geological formation of interest
- Recreational area
- Interpretive panel
- Rural House

- Quejigales-Torrecilla Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Livestock Track
- Path

1.354 m

SIERRA DE LAS NIEVES

1.707 m

1.814 m

Cerro Alto (1.786 m)

1.668 m

Cañada del Cuerno

1.782 m

Antena Nieves (1.785 m)

Pozo de la nieve

3 Puerto de los Pilones (1.750 m)

1.724 m

Sima GESM

1.753 m

1.521 m

1.726 m

1.756 m

1.761 m

Campanario

La Alcazaba

Cerro de la Alcazaba (1.699 m)

Pilar de Tolox

SIERRA DE TOLOX

Torrecilla (1.917 m)

