

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

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Emergency phone: 112



MORE INFORMATION

El Estrecho Information Point.
Carretera N340. PK 77,5. Tarifa. Cádiz. Tel. 697 95 55 40.
ventanadelvisitante®



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARQUE NATURAL
Del Estrecho

Trail

La Peña



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)

0,9 km

ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

30 minutes

DIFFICULTY

Average

TYPE OF TRAIL

Dirt road and footpath

LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Scrubland and pines. Spectacular views of the Strait of Gibraltar and the African continent.

SHADE

Frequent on the second part of the route

SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Caution with stray cattle

PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Cádiz / Tarifa

SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1077 - Tarifa

START / END COORDINATES

36° 3' 31,00" N – 5° 39' 49,15" O

36° 3' 31,92" N – 5° 39' 37,78" O



HOW TO GET THERE

On the N-340 coming from Tarifa and past km 79 and the campsite, we take the first turning on the right, towards the information point of the natural park, next to which the trail begins.



PARKING

There is a car park for 4-5 vehicles next to the information point of the natural park.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

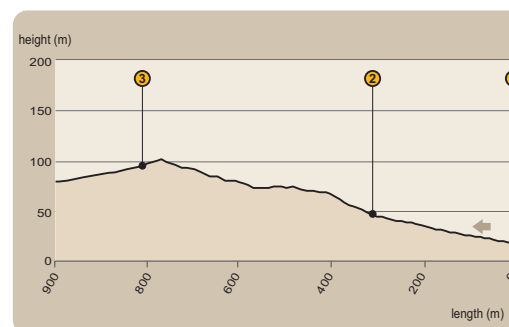
The principal companies running regular bus routes in the area are: Transportes Comes (902 19 92 08; www.tgcomes.es), Portillo (902 14 31 44; www.ctsa-portillo.com) and Linesur (956 66 76 49; www.linesur.com). Algeciras has a railway station (956 63 20 87; RENFE customer service: 902 240 202; www.renfe.es) and a harbour station (956 58 54 63). Tarifa also has a harbour station (956 68 18 30).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural park offers other routes for hikers, the closest being Algarbes - Betijuelo and Los Lances. The GR-7 international long-distance footpath starts in Tarifa and goes to Atenas.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

83 m

MAXIMUM HEIGHT

101 m

MINIMUM HEIGHT

18 m

TOURISM AND NATURE

For various reasons, tourism development came to the area of the Strait and its vicinity later than in other areas of the Andalusian coastline. In addition to the restrictions derived from the undoubted strategic interest of this border area and the relevance that public property has always had in it, the wind was pointed out as a limiting factor for tourism, and therefore for urbanisation. And curiously, it was precisely the wind that attracted a relatively massive tourism: windsurfers.



The wind is just one more manifestation of nature, and many others have joined it to form a tourist offer different from the one that predominates on the rest of the coast.





Trail



La Peña

Torre de la Peña

Approaching the coast, the Sierra de Enmedio separates the coves of Valdevaqueros and Los Lances, leaving a narrow corridor through which the N-340 national road passes at kilometre 78, dividing the campsite of La Peña into two parts, taking this name from the watchtower we can find next to it on a rocky outcrop. Passing it on the road coming from Tarifa, we must take the first turning on the right, where there is a signpost with information about the natural park, next to which this path starts (check [1] on the map).



The first stretch of the path, about three hundred metres long, continues along the track that we have turned off the road. Shortly after, we will pass a fork where we will take a forest path on the right that will lead us to an old sack track [2], which we will have to cross to start the second part of the route.



Mountains and sea

Before leaving the path we can stop to contemplate the views from here, taking advantage of the height we have gained, which, although not very high, is enough to have a good view of the Valdevaqueros inlet, crowned by its spectacular dune at the foot of the San Bartolomé or Bartolo mountain range, as it is known here. Between it and the Enmedio mountain range, where we are, the River del Valle flows along a plain that extends into a coastal strip parallel to the beach, mainly dedicated to pastureland that feeds cows and other livestock. Tourism has left its mark on the landscape, especially on the roadside, where hotels and shops abound.



Once we have recognised the landscape, we will set out on the second stretch of the path, which, although more difficult, is short and easy to walk. We therefore cross the forest road [2] and enter a relatively dense mass of stone pines and the odd eucalyptus tree, a forest that we have already seen from the start, next to the information point of the natural park.

Viewpoint

This second section, which is just over half a kilometre long, takes us through the interior of the pine forest to a height above the tower of La Peña. There is a viewpoint herein from which we can continue to enjoy new and splendid views, at the same time as exercising our skills in recognising and interpreting the landscape.



Now our view can reach as far as Tarifa to the east, where we can recognise the island of Las Palomas, the most southerly point in Europe. Between us and the city, Los Lances beach, a place known as a natural area due to its special ecological richness. Inland, a hilly area of grassland and crops, and across the sea to the south, the outline of the Rifian foothills in Morocco may well be on the horizon.

The path ends here at the viewpoint [3], but not our trail, as we will have to retrace our steps and return to the information point, and thus have the opportunity to visit it again, if we have not already done so previously.

Between the cove of Valdevaqueros and Los Lances lies the Sierra de Enmedio, the southernmost slope of which is partially traversed by this path to reach places, or viewpoints, from which we will have splendid views of the last stretch of the Atlantic coast of the Iberian Peninsula, from Punta Paloma to Tarifa. After this historic town, we may be able to make out the profile of Jebel Musa on the Moroccan coast. The trail, short and easy, is more than rewarded by the views and the route itself.



Trail

La Peña

PARQUE NATURAL DE LOS ALCORNOCALES

PARQUE NATURAL DEL ESTRECHO

PARQUE NATURAL DEL ESTRECHO

OCEANO ATLANTICO



- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Information point
- Parking
- Tower
- Farmstead
- Recreational area
- Viewpoint
- Observatory
- Beach
- Camping

- La Peña Trail
- Long-distance trail (GR-7)
- Nature park boundary
- Road
- Path