

The Madroneros Circular Walk

LENGTH: 8 km.

DIFICULTY: Easy/Moderate.

COMMENTS: A beautiful short walk through the largely abandoned village of Madroneros.

DIRECTIONS: Walk through the entrance gate of the Molino and turn left. Cross the bridge and bear left past the monument on your right. After 400 metres turn right on the asphalted country road.

After 800 metres, ignore the trail signposted Los Madroneros on your left, and continue for a further 1 km downhill until you see two iron gates on either side of the road. Take care here to find the left hand trail. You continue for another 50 metres and should spot an arrow on a tree pointing to the left, just before a traffic sign showing maximum speed limit 40km.

Leave the road here. (2.8 km on your walk) Follow the direction of the arrow and you come to a narrow track bearing left with a stone wall on your left. Soon after (approx 100 metres) the path turns to the right. At 3.5 km cross/climb a stream then bear right and 400 meters along you reach a T junction. Turn right and you will arrive in the hamlet of Los Madroneros.

At the entrance to the village turn left (pass a spring on your right) Walk uphill along the edge of the hamlet, you pass another spring on your right. The path goes uphill rather steeply. After approximately 2 km you will see the first glimpses of Alajar, continue for another 200 metres and turn right. To enjoy better views of Alajar leave the obvious path going straight on and turn right at the brow of the hill where there is a bench and a Park explanation board. Take the narrow path along the side of the hill for spectacular views of Alajar and surroundings. You eventually descend to a wider concrete path. Here turn sharp left 6 km in the walk.

Turn right again after 400 metres past the old Cooperative Olive Mill and walk into the village. Take the first turning to the left then turn right into Calle Colon and left again into Calle San Antonio past the Guardia Civil. At the end of this street you continue straight on a path for about 700 metres until reaching the asphalted road - bear left and here you will see ahead of you the signpost for Casas Rurales Molino Rio Alajar - 400 metres. Follow the path back to your house.