

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Ortíz-Pino Choya-Barranco La Puente Circular (Arico)

Route Summary

A short walk with a moderate overall ascent on mostly good paths in wonderful open country and pine forest. The barranco landscapes are very pleasing on the eye, and the final section in the Barranco La Puente has many interesting rock formations, making it popular with climbers.

Duration: 3 hours.



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: If you are prepared to add about 5 km to the walk, start at Villa de Arico. Titsa 111 to San Isidro from Las Americas/Los Cristianos, then 408 to Granadilla, then 35 to Guimar (1.5 hour journey). Parking options by the side of the road at the start of the walk..

Length: 5.360 km / 3.35 mi

Height Gain: 331 meter

Height Loss: 331 meter

Max Height: 1045 meter

Min Height: 775 meter

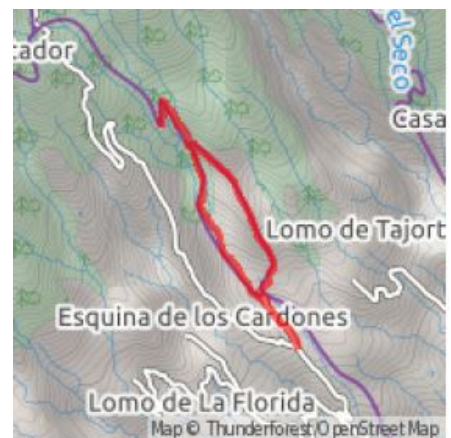
Surface: Moderate to rough. Some drops in the path on the final section in Barranco La Puente require a little scrambling using your hands.

Child Friendly: Yes, but only if children are used to energetic hill-walking and can cope with a little scrambling over smooth boulders, in the final section.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate in places.

Dog Friendly: Yes. However, the final section along the bed of Barranco La Puente requires agility and obedience.

Refreshments: We recommend Cafe Geronimo on the main street in Villa de Arico.



Description

The rural area of Ortíz is about 2.5 km above the pleasant and very Canarian little town of Villa de Arico, in the east of Tenerife. It provides access to the Barranco La Puente, whose cliff faces are very popular with rock climbing locals from Tenerife, and visitors from across the world who like to "wrestle rocks". This is a very enjoyable walk, in "big sky country", mostly on open hillside and pine forest, dipping in and out of a couple of very scenic barrancos along the way. Features of the walk also include walking alongside open water channels and encountering an example of a large Canarian pine (the "Pino Choya"). The final section snakes along the sometimes very rough bed of Barranco La Puente where it is likely that you will encounter little groups of climbers stretching their bodies to the limit on the low cliffs.

The odd bit of scrambling, with hands, that the path demands here, is of fairly low difficulty, and nothing compared to the exertions going on above your head!



Waypoints

(1) Start walk at El Contador-Ortíz junction

(28.18402; -16.51771)

The walk starts at the El Contador-Ortíz junction on a minor road leaving Villa de Arico on Calle Calvario. This is about 2.5 km uphill from the centre of Villa de Arico. Walk in the direction of Ortíz, soon passing the "Base Camp" climbing centre on your left.

Note: There are a couple of spots here at the side of the road where you can park. Alternatively, drive on about 500 m and you will find rough off-road parking used by the La Puente Barranco climbing fraternity. In that case, the walk starts at Waypoint 2.

(2) Carry on across bridge here

(28.18728; -16.52023)

In about 500 m, pass the walks information board just off the road on your left, and carry on over the bridge crossing the barranco. (448 m)

(3) Right and down to follow path

(28.18800; -16.52070)

In another 100 m, take the signed path down and to your right which soon starts to rise up the hillside. (547 m)

(4) Cross rough road and up here

(28.18884; -16.52006)

In about 150 m, the path crosses a rough road. Carry on upwards on the path. (691 m)



(5) Veer left down here

(28.19567; -16.52288)

After ascending on the path for around 900 m, veer left and down as the path starts to enter an area of open pines. (1.6 km)



(6) Pino Choya

(28.19744; -16.52499)

In 300 m, you will pass the large pine tree (a large Canarian pine) with the name-plate of "Pino Choya" on the reverse side from the path. Carry on from here on the path. (1.9 km)



(7) Take El Contador route uphill

(28.19810; -16.52623)

In another 200 m the path twists round to a signed junction. The the path uphill and to your right signed for El Contador. (2.1 km)



(8) Turning point

(28.19977; -16.52876)

In about 600 m from Waypoint 7, having entered and then ascended out of Barranco La Tosquera the path will take you to a natural viewpoint looking down to the faraway coast at Abades, with Barranco La Puente on your right hand side. There are suitable large stones by the path to sit on here to take a refreshment and a snack, and admire the views all around. When you are ready to move on, re-trace your steps back to the junction encountered at Waypoint 7. (2.7 km)



(9) Take right for return route

(28.19804; -16.52622)

In 600 m, at the walks signpost, go right and down in the direction signed for Ortiz. Following a water channel for part of the way, you will enter the bed of Barranco La Puente. Expect to see rock climbers in this area, and for the path to involve some minor scrambling with hands to negotiate a few stony drops. (3.4 km)



(10) Right onto rough road

(28.18719; -16.52027)

In 1.5 km, the path you are on rises out of the bed of the barranco just before the bridge you crossed at Waypoint 2 near the start of the walk. Turn right at the walks information board and follow the road back towards your start point. (4.9 km)



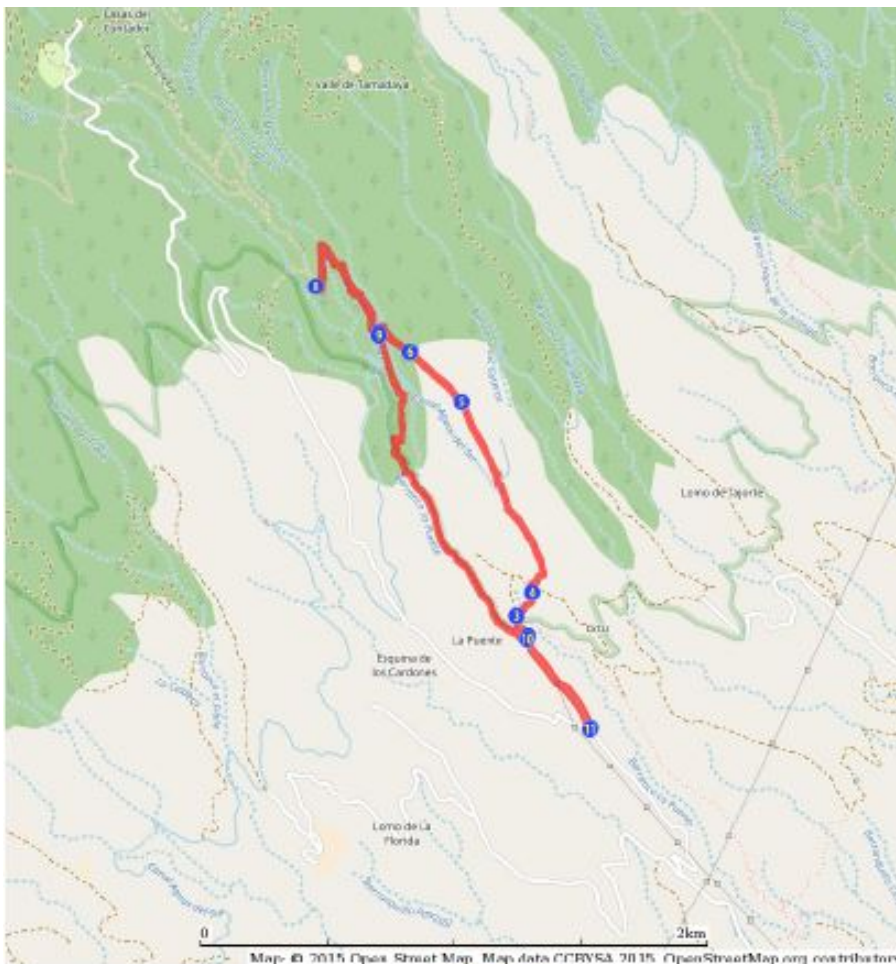
(11) End of walk after passing climbing centre

(28.18398; -16.51775)

In about 500 m, after passing the "Base Camp" climbing centre, you will arrive back at your start point.



Route Map



Links:

[Photos from walk](#)

[Download Route Guide](#) (PDF with illustrated Waypoints)

[Download GPX file](#) (GPS Exchange Format)

[Access Walk on Viewranger](#)

[Access Walk on Wikiloc](#)