

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Los Poleos-Views of Montana Chinyero Circular (Santiago del Teide)

Route Summary

This is a fairly undemanding walk in a unique natural environment where life flourishes despite the depredations of fairly recent volcanic eruptions and forest fires. Great views of Montaña Chinyero, El Teide, and the southern flank of the Teno Mountains.

Duration: 2.5 hours



Route Overview

Duration: 2.5 hours

Transport/Parking: No Titsa bus service. There is a small parking area at the Los Poleos viewpoint.

Length: 7.960 km / 4.98 mi

Height Gain: 265 meter

Height Loss: 265 meter

Max Height: 1469 meter

Min Height: 1383 meter

Surface: Moderate to good. Mostly good forest trails and roads.

Child Friendly: Yes.

Difficulty: Easy to medium.

Dog Friendly: Yes.

Refreshments: There are a couple of roadside bar/restaurants on the TF-38. Alternatively, in Chio.



Description

This walk provides a gentle introduction to hiking in the highlands area of Montaña Chinyero, in the Corona Forestal, just below the Teide National Park. The volcanic cone of Montaña Chinyero is the site of the last eruption on Tenerife in 1909 when the villages of Valle de Arriba, Santiago del Teide and Las Manchas were in danger of being overwhelmed by lava flow. The walk is mostly on easy forest trails and roads amongst the pine trees, many scarred by forest fire. There are some fine examples of large Canary Pines (Pino Gordo) along the way. The walk crosses one of the main lava fields emanating from Chinyero and, on a gradual ascent, there are marvellous views of Montaña Chinyero, El Teide, Pice Viejo, the Chinyero lava fields, and the southern side of the Teno Mountains, with various aspects towards Arguayo, Puerta de Erjos and San Jose de los Llanos. There are some old photos of the Chinyero eruption in the PDF guide.



Waypoints

(1) Start at Los Poleos viewpoint

(28.28079; -16.76758)

The walk starts and ends at the Los Poleos viewpoint, which is 14 km from Chio on the TF-38 road to the Teide National Park. After taking in the view from the mirador, and with your back to the road, turn right and follow the path alongside the road, behind the barriers.



(2) Veer left into trees

(28.28451; -16.76568)

In 500 m, veer slightly left to take a track into the trees. Keep following the track as it becomes a narrow path and eventually emerges out of trees. (506 m)



(3) Left onto rough road

(28.28469; -16.76169)

In another 450 m, or so, go left, joining the rough access road from the main road. (942 m)



(4) Follow road round to left

(28.28600; -16.75949)

In about 360 m, you will come to a clearing, with a couple of large pines (Gordo pines) on your right. Follow the road as it bends left here. (1.3 km)



(5) Left onto marked path

(28.28636; -16.76019)

In less than 100 m, go left onto the marked path with stones on either side. (1.4 km)



(6) Follow path through x-roads

(28.28862; -16.76310)

In 400 m, follow the path as it crosses over the forestry access road.
(1.8 km)



(7) Right onto road through lava field

(28.29016; -16.76564)

In 300 m, with the lava field on your right, go right at the signed junction,
taking the rough road through the lava field. (2.1 km)



(8) Carry on walking along the forest road

(28.29468; -16.76563)

In 600 m, having crossed the lava field and re-entered the pine forest,
carry on walking along the forest road past the walk signs on your right.
(2.7 km)



(9) Continue following forest road

(28.29688; -16.76643)

In another 300m, again continue following forest road, passing the path
with walk signs on your right. (3.0 km)



(10) Take forest road on left uphill

(28.29806; -16.76716)

In just 100 m, take a sharp left turn to take the forest road on your left,
gently ascending uphill past the wire gateway. (3.1 km)



(11) Turn here

(28.29493; -16.76957)

After 900 m gradual ascent, during which time you will have enjoyed marvellous views of Montaña Chenyero, El Teide, Pice Viejo, the Chinyero lava fields, and the southern side of the Teno Mountains, make a turn, re-tracing your steps. You will be, approximately, at a point where you are looking far away and down towards Puerta de Erjos and San Jose de los Llanos, with Garachico beyond that, hidden, of course, on the North coast. Of course, you can go further up the forest road if you wish. (4.0 km)



(12) Turn right re-tracing outward steps

(28.29818; -16.76716)

Having descended on the forest road for 900 m, turn sharp right to re-trace your steps back towards the lava field you crossed earlier. (4.9 km)



(13) Veer right to forest road from lava road

(28.29019; -16.76573)

In 1 km, having crossed the lava field, veer right at the signed junction and take the forest road. (5.9 km)



(14) Veer left off marked path

(28.28985; -16.77185)

In 700 m, with the edge of the lava field on your right, veer left off the forest road to take a path into the trees. Now follow this path, indistinct at times because of the extent of fallen pine needles, as it gently ascends through the forest, around the side of Montaña Poleos, towards the main road where you started the walk. (6.6 km)



(15) Veer left then go right at main road

(28.28444; -16.76757)

In 900 m, as the path emerges from the trees, veer slightly left then go right before you meet the barrier at the main road. You are now walking back to your start point, with the main road on your left. Ensure that you stay behind the barrier at all times as vehicles can be fast-moving as they descend from the Teide National Park area. (7.5 km)



(16) Back to start at Los Poleos viewpoint

(28.28078; -16.76752)

In 500 m, you will returned to the Los Poleos viewpoint. Take great care crossing the road here due to the possibility of fast-moving traffic. (8.0 km)



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](#)

Old Photos of the Chinyero Eruption in 1909





am 18. Novbr. 1905



