

# - The Southern Defense Line route -

# CAMINO CID

[www.caminodelcid.org](http://www.caminodelcid.org)

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

UTM Desarrollos

This route takes you to the last borderland region conquered by El Cid: Orihuela. The ideal seasons to undertake the route are autumn, winter and spring. Get on your bike and pedal through a diverse and surprising territory. Get to know the interior region of the provinces of Valencia and Alicante. If you have still not visited this region, you are unaware of what you have missed.

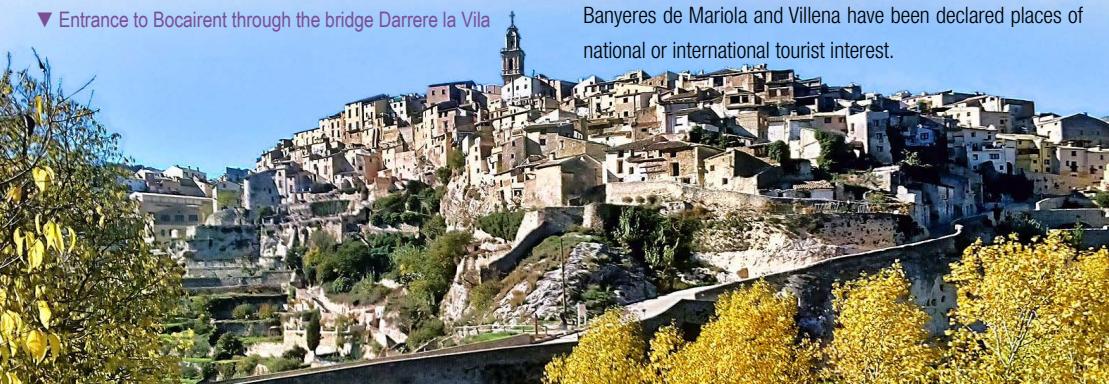
## Blood and fire

This route has two main plot lines: a literary and a historical plot. The literary plot is related to **Valencia**, which was where El Cid, according to El Cantar, married his daughters to the princes of Carrión. In addition, the area surrounding Valencia is said to have been the scene of several battles against the Muslim army, whose members fought to conquer again the city. El Cid obtained the sword Tizona during one of those battles; more specifically, in the battle against the King Búcar. The second plot line is of a historical nature. In November 1088, before conquering Valencia, El Cid moved from **Xàtiva** to **Ontinyent** to wait there for King Alfonso VI. The king was on his way in order to come in the aid of the fortress of Aledo. The armies never met each other and Alfonso exiled Rodrigo for the second time. El Cid spent Christmas Day in **Elche**: surrounded by enemies, he decided not to serve any knight and to act instead on his own account, imposing his own law along his way to **Orihuela**.

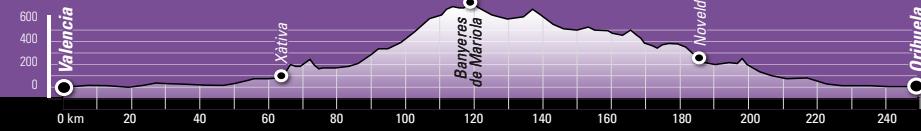
▼ Entrance to Bocairent through the bridge Darrere la Vila

## What there is to see?

This route is characterized by sharp **contrasts**: there are route stretches along residential areas, where the route runs largely on paved agricultural roads and green routes; but it also runs along lonely paths, in mountainous regions. You will come across large areas of fruit fields, purely Mediterranean mountain ranges, dry landscapes, palm groves and fertile valleys. Valencia has two environmental and social icons: **Albufera and the orchards**. There are eight harmonious heritage-rich towns, to the point that they have been declared Historic and/or Artistic Sites: **Valencia, Alzira, Xàtiva, Ontinyent, Bocairent, Villena, Elche and Orihuela**. You will see the spectacular castles of Xàtiva, Banyeres de Mariola, Biar, Villena, Sax, Petrer and Cox. There are four Muslim towns that have been declared World Heritage Sites: **Lonja de Valencia, Tribunal de las Aguas, El Misteri de Elx, and Palmeral de Elche**. Depending on the time of the year, you may have the chance to enjoy the traditional **Moors and Christians Festivals**: Bocairent, Ontinyent, Banyeres de Mariola and Villena have been declared places of national or international tourist interest.



Consortio Camino del Cid is an entity supported and financed by the following provincial governments:



## Fact Sheet

Distance 249 km

Estimated time 4 días

Cumulative ascent 1.650 m

Cumulative descent 1.590 m

Physical difficulty Low

Technical difficulty Low

## Information for bicycle tourists

This route runs along bike paths, paved agricultural paths and roads. As for traffic volumes, traffic is low in some roads but there are also high-volume traffic roads (check the information on your topo-guide). In these cases you should take extreme care: self-confidence may lead to severe accidents. We recommend that you travel with a bike mirror: they can be easily removed and, in general, they are very useful.

## Singular Road

The term "Road with Symbolic Significance" along The Way of El Cid refers to stretches of road of high symbolic value in terms of their cycling, landscape, historic or artistic significance. The stretch of CV 81 road that runs in between Ontinyent and Bocairent (7 km) is a road with symbolic significance.

## Road surface condition and traffic

This section contains information about hard shoulders, road surfaces, traffic lanes and traffic volume. Note that the condition of hard shoulders and road surfaces can vary depending on maintenance work, which means that there may

E	F	M	A	M	J <sub>N</sub>	J <sub>L</sub>	A	S	O	N	D
Average temperature Máx/Mín 0°	14° 1°	17° 3°	19° 5°	23° 8°	27° 12°	31° 14°	31° 15°	28° 12°	22° 8°	17° 4°	13° 1°
Total daylight time for any day 09:45	10:45	11:56	13:14	14:17	14:52	14:36	13:40	12:27	11:12	10:04	09:29
Average rainfall 31	21	35	40	46	36	6	16	47	55	38	35

Monthly average data for Villena, which may serve as a reference for the stretch of route that runs through the interior

## The Passport

The Passport is an identification card used by travellers to collect stamps from the towns and villages along their way. If this identification card is shown at any of the 200 accommodation facilities belonging to The Way of El Cid route, you can get a minimum of 10% off. The Passport is free and you can get it either at a Tourist Office or at our office:

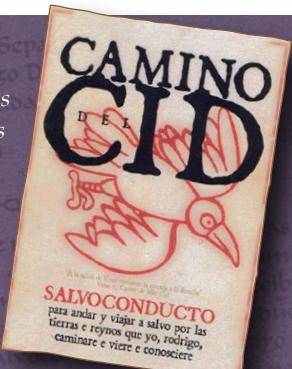


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be some improvements that are not recorded here. Traffic alerts are subjective for they are based on the authors' experience and may vary depending on the period of the year and the days of the week (for example, weekends and bank holidays).

## Weather

The coast of Valencia offers one of the most benign climates of the Iberian Peninsula: the Mediterranean climate. Summers are dry and hot, winters are mild and autumns are rainy. It is at the beginning of this season when the so-called Gota Fria (literally, "cold drop") occurs, causing heavy rainfall in the form of torrential storms. Except for this weather condition, cycling along the route is possible all the year round. Summers, because of the heat, are the least recommendable cycling season. Note, however, that in the stretches along which The Way gets into the interior and climbs towards the heights, you will encounter areas where the climate is similar to the continental climate in the plateau; that is, tough winters and dry summers.

## Passport offices

### VALENCIA

#### ALFARRASI

AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Lepanto, 2 - 962297125

#### ALGEMESÍ

OFIC. DE TURISMO / MUSEU: C/ Nou del Convent, 71 - 962018630

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 3 - 962019000

#### ALZIRA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza del Reino s/n - 962419551

#### BOCAIRENT

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. de Ayuntamiento, 2 - 962905085

CASA RURAL MIRADOR: C/ Mirador, 19 - 678575488

H L'ÀGORA: C/ Sor Piedad de la Cruz, 3 - 962355039

#### MONTAVERNER

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 6 - 962297008

CENTRO DE INFORMACIÓN JUVENIL: C/ Nou, 18 - 962297008

#### ONTINYENT

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza de San Roc, 2 - 962916090/962916303

CR LA MORERA: CV-655 a Fontanars km10, 692670560/692670560

HS MONTERREY: José Gironés, 1 - 647155879

#### SILLA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Castell, s/n -

#### VALENCIA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Paz, 48 - 963986422

O.T. AEROPUERTO: Manises - 961530229

O.T. AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 963524908

O.T. VALENCIA JOAQUÍN SOROLLA: C/ San Vicente, 171 - 963803623

O.T. MARINA REAL: Puerto de Valencia - 961207745

O.T. VALENCIA PLAYA: Paseo de Neptuno, s/n - 963555899

MUSEO MILITAR VALENCIA: C/ General Gil Dolz, 6 - 961966215

H CONQUERIDOR: C/ Cervantes, 9 y 11 - 963522910

H MEDIUM VALENCIA: General Urrutia, 48 - 963347800

H PATILLA: C/ Pinares, 10 - 961830382

CAMPING DEVESÀ GARDENS: El Saler, km. 13 - 961611136

H CASUALVALENCIA DE LA MÚSICA: Padilla, 4 - 963511284

HS EL CID: C/ Cerrajeros (Manyans), 13 - 963922323

ACCOM HOSTEL PALACIOS: C/ Daoiz y Velarde, 6 - 963629689

#### XÀTIVA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pº de la Alameda Jaime I, 50 - 962273346

CR CASA DEL CIGRÓNER: C/ Santo Domingo, 26 - 634514277



### ALICANTE

#### BANYERES DE MARIOLA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Parque de Villa Rosario s/n - 965567453

MUSEO DEL PAPEL: Parque Villa Rosario, 2 - 965567770

MUSEO ARQUEOLÓGICO: Carreró de la Torre, 6 - 966567896

H MESÓN EL CASTILLO: Alcoy 8 - 965566746

#### BENEIXAMA

AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Cardenal Pallá, 41 - 965822101

CASA DEL RIU: Polígono de la Estación, 22 - 689808912/649338111

#### BIAR

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Cura Reig, 1 - 965811177

MUSEO ETNOGRÁFICO MUNICIPAL: C/ Mayor, 1 - 965812029

HR LA FAÇANA: Pl. Constitución, 2 - 965810373

#### CALLOSA DE SEGURA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor, 31 - 966198451

#### COX

AYUNTAMIENTO: Plaza Glorieta, 1 - 965360000

POLICÍA LOCAL: C/ La Acequia, s/n - 649864000

#### ELCHE

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza del Parc, 3 - 966658196

H HOLIDAY INN ELCHE: Miguel Servet, 25 - 966651551

H HUERTO DEL CURA: C/ Porta de la Morera, 14 - 966610011

#### ELDA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Nueva, 14 - 966980300

PUNTO DE INFORMACIÓN TURÍSTICA: Pl. Sagasta, s/n - 966980300

#### MONFORTE DEL CID

OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. de España, 1 bajo - 965626417

ÍBERO MUSEO DE HISTORIA: Pl. Bonifacio Amorós, 10 - 966186345

POLICÍA LOCAL: Plaza de España, 1 - 900161717

#### NOVELDA

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor, 6 - 965609228

ECAALBERGUE LA MOLA: Partida los Molinos, 151-965376231/965975754

#### ORIHUELA

OFICINA TURISMO CENTRO: C/ Soleres, 6 - 965304645

OFIC. TURISMO PLAYA: Pl. Oriol (Urb. Playa Flamenca) - 66760000

MUSEO DE LA MURALLA: C/ del Río, s/n - 965304698

HS REY TEODOMIRO: Avda. Teodomiro, 10 1º-965300349/ 966743348

#### REDOVÁN

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 966754025

BIBLIOTECA MUNICIPAL: C/ San Jerónimo, 1 - 966754263

#### SAX

OFIC. DE TURISMO: CEAHM Alberto Sols C/ Mayor, 30 - 966313351

CRUZ ROJA: Asamblea Local, Avda. Reyes Católicos, 1 - 965474669

H FUENTE EL CURA: C/ Regino Soler, 6 - 966969013

#### VILLENA

OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. de Santiago, 5 - 966150236 / 966150066

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Santiago, 1 - 966150236

H SALVADORA: Constitución, 102 - 965800950

P LA CASA DE LOS AROMAS: C/ Arco, 1 - 965343566/666475612

## Stages

Passport stamping offices

Accommodation  
(hotel, hostel, ...)

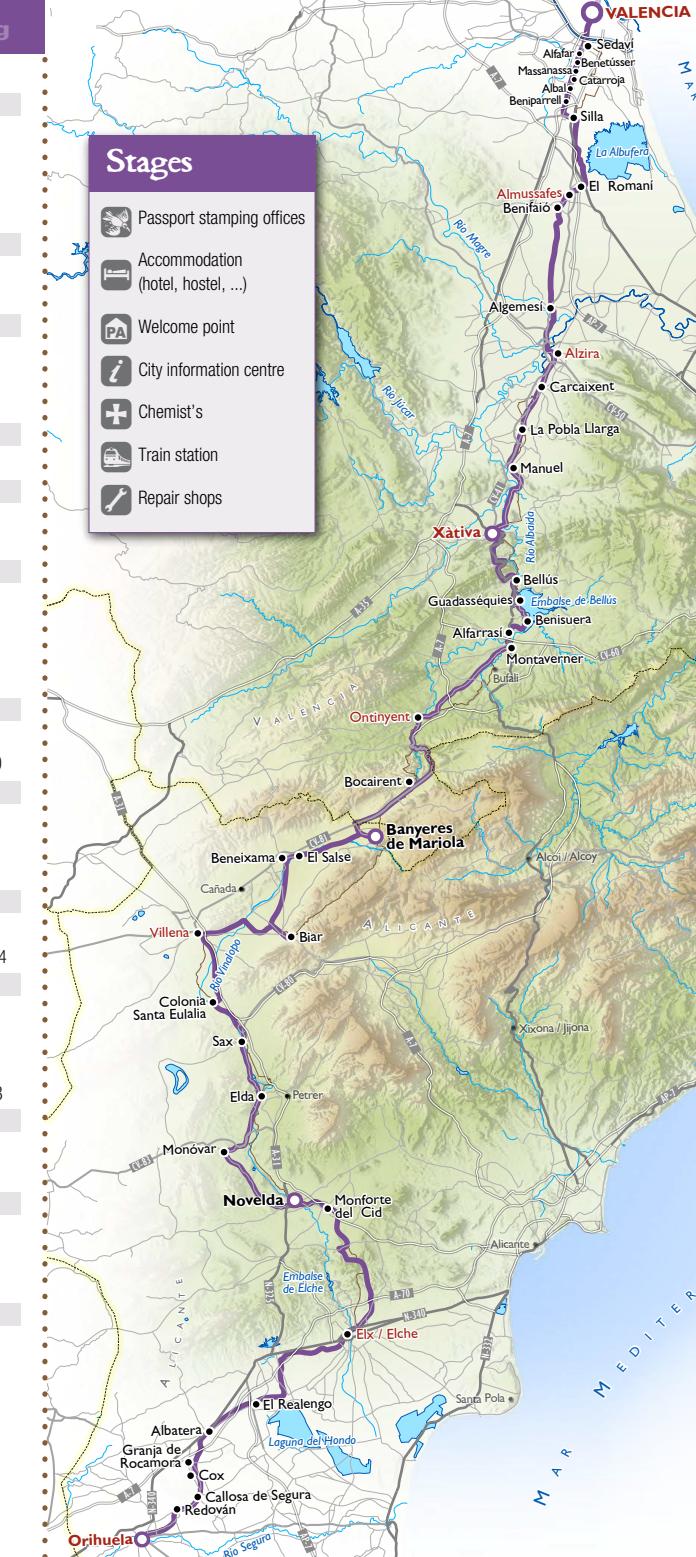
Welcome point

City information centre

Chemist's

Train station

Repair shops

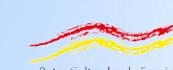


## Recommendations and guidance

- Do not set-off without the **tracks** and **topo-guides**.
- Avoid surprises by **booking accommodation in advance**.
- You will ride through lonely areas and small towns along your way: **plan food and replacement parts**.
- Wear reflective gear and make yourself as visible as you can.
- Remember that this challenge is not a race: be aware of your own strength and ability and do not extend the length of daily stages unnecessarily.
- Keep the **topo-guide** either on your person or at an easy-to-reach distance and consult it if any mishap occurs.
- Wear a **helmet**.



Use this QR code to access website content relating to the road bicycle touring section of The Southern Defense Line Route. You can download all relevant information: maps, topo-guides, tracks, list of accommodations, passport stamping offices, tourist offices, etc.



**CAMINO CID**  
camino-cid.es

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## Stages (249 km)

- Valencia - Xàtiva (64 km)
- Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola (54,1km)
- Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda (67,1km)
- Novelda - Orihuela (63,1 km)



# The Southern Defense Line

## Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

### Stage 1

### Valencia - Xàtiva

Edition  
2020

#### 1. Valencia - Xàtiva

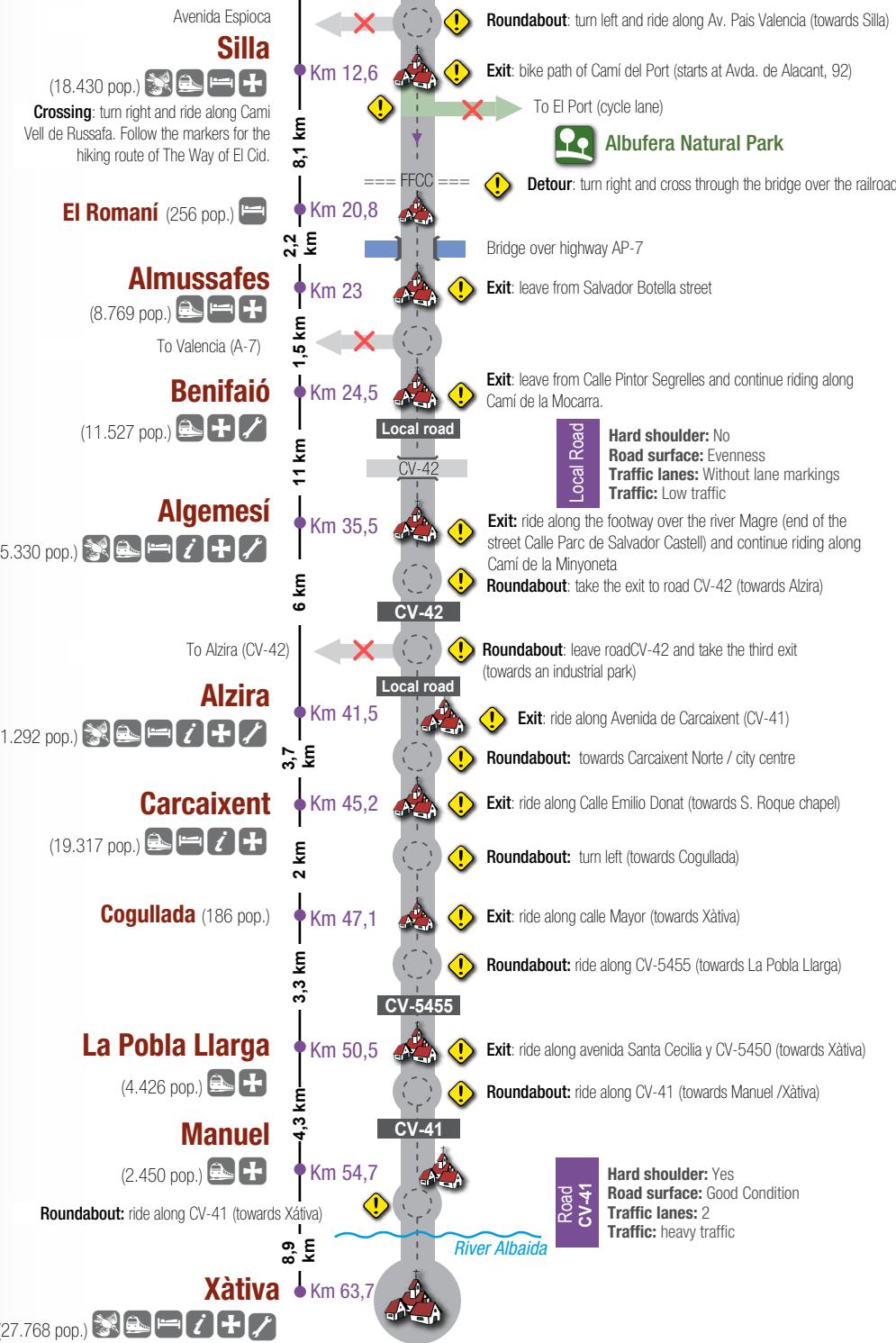
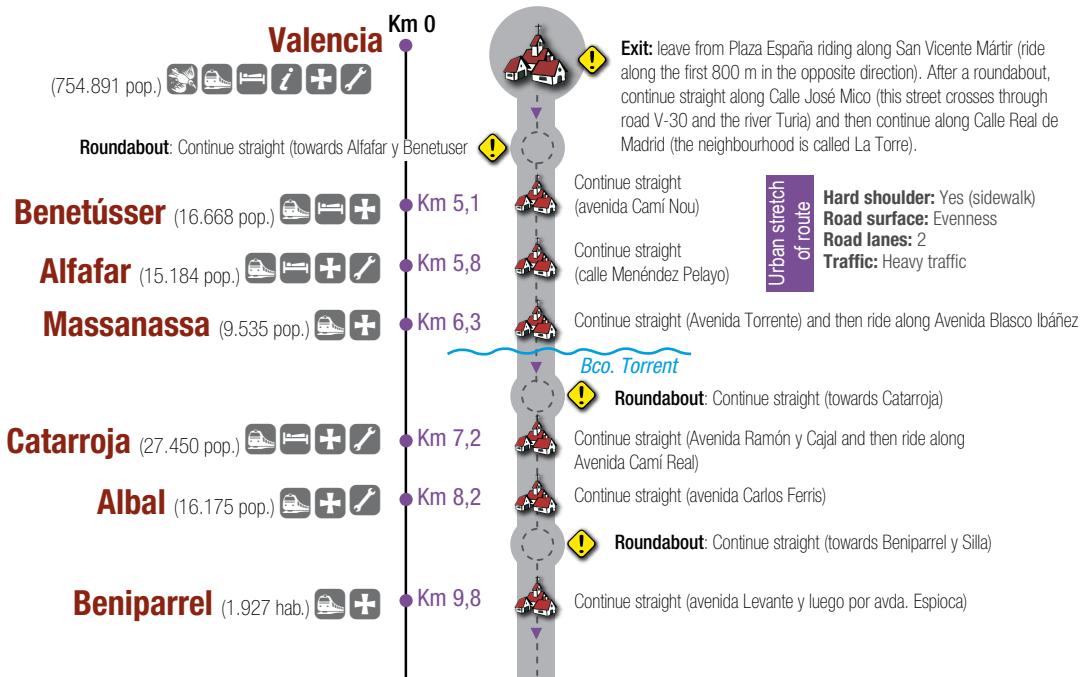
2. Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola
3. Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda
4. Novelda - Orihuela

#### Recommended use of gps

(complicated route)



Fact Sheet	
Distance	63,7 km
Difficulty	Medium
Signposting	No
IBP Difficulty index	25 RDB
Cumulative ascent	130 m
Cumulative descent	25 m
Type of route	Linear
Road surface	Asphalt pavement







# The Southern Defense Line

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

Stage  
**2**

## Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola

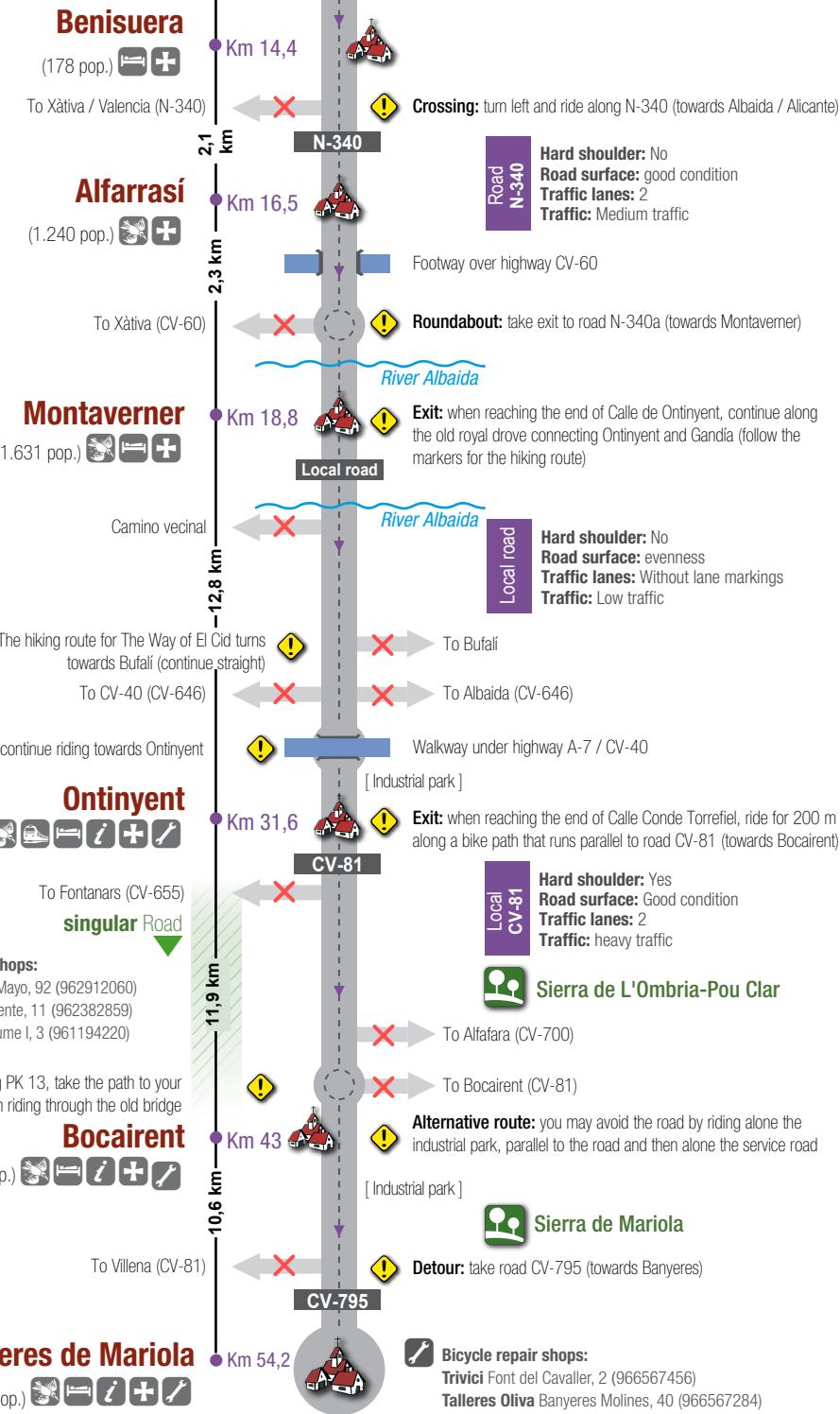
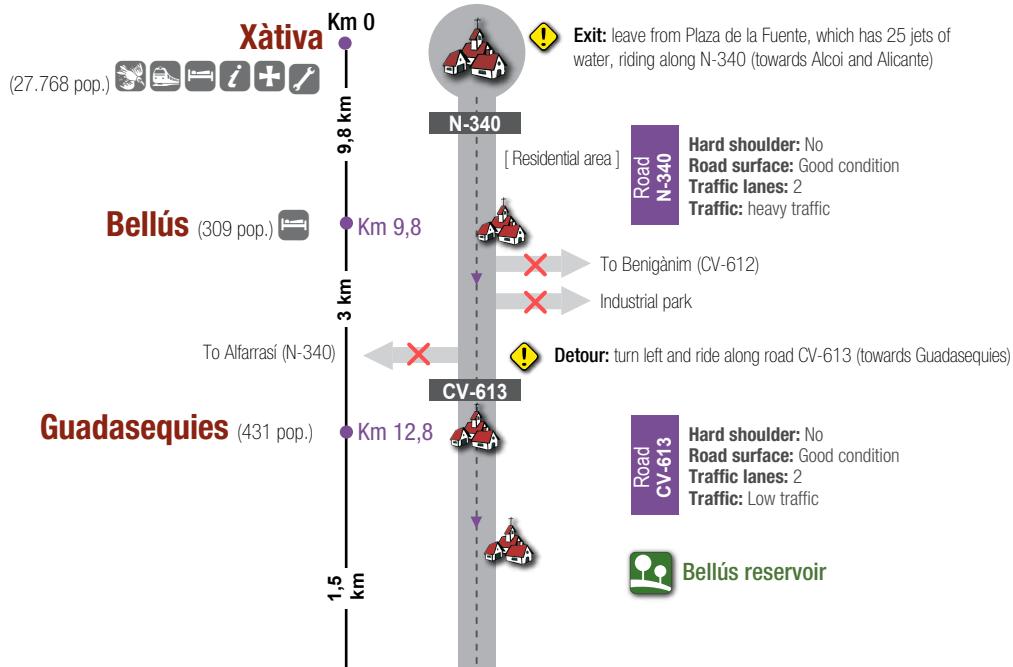
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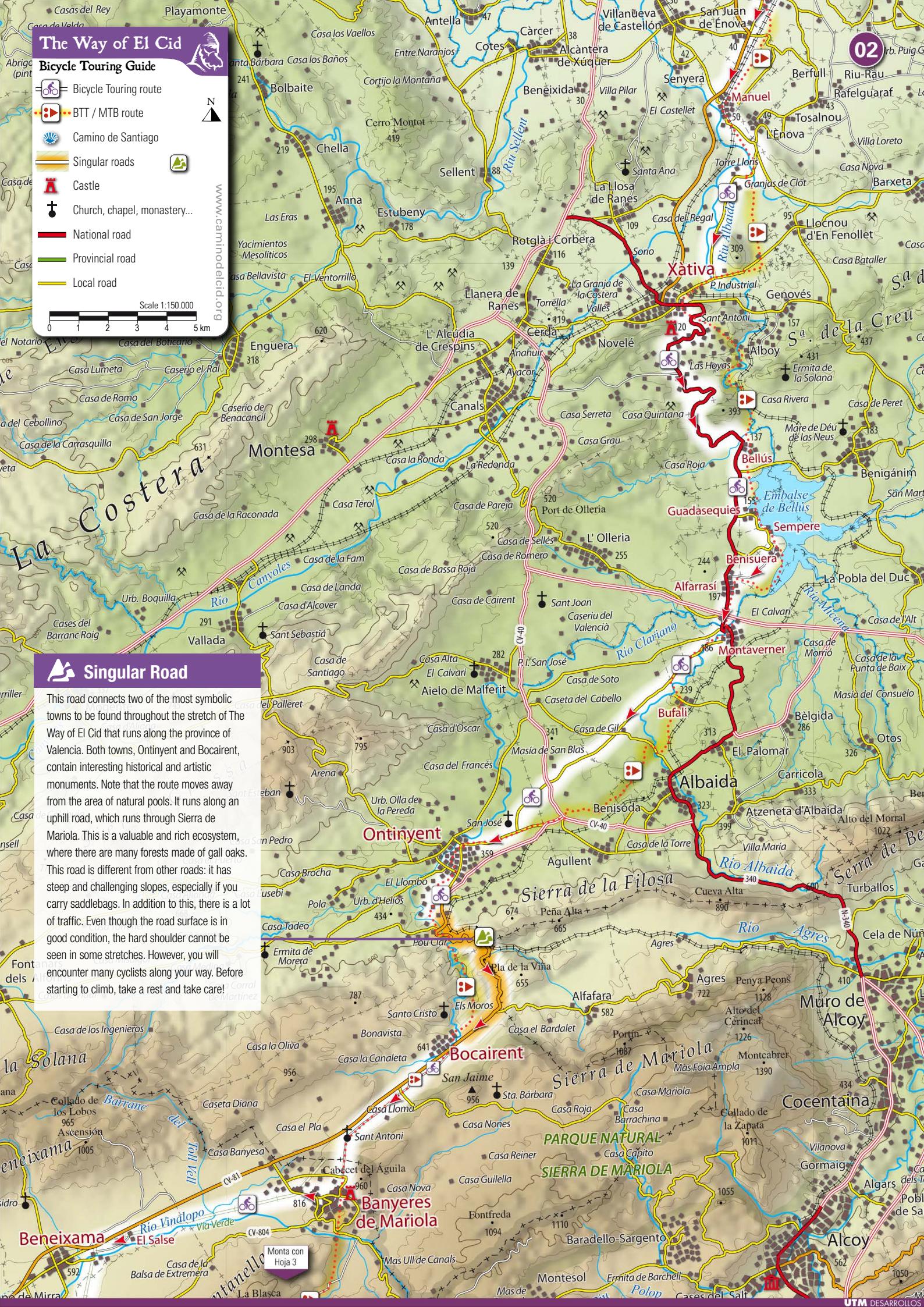
1. Valencia - Xàtiva
- 2. Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola**
3. Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda
4. Novelda - Orihuela

### Recommended use of gps (complicated route)



Fact Sheet	
Distance	54,5 km
Difficulty	Medium
Signposting	No
Cumulative ascent	1.100 m
Cumulative descent	500 m
IBP Difficulty index	81 RDB
Estimated time	5 h 10 m
Type of route	Linear
Road surface	Asphalt pavement







# The Southern Defense Line

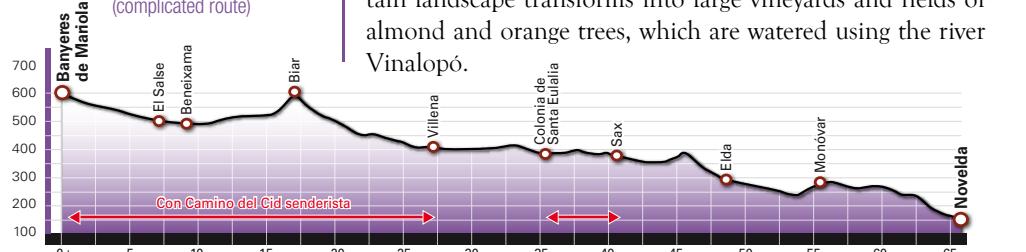
## Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

### Stage 3

### Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda

Edition  
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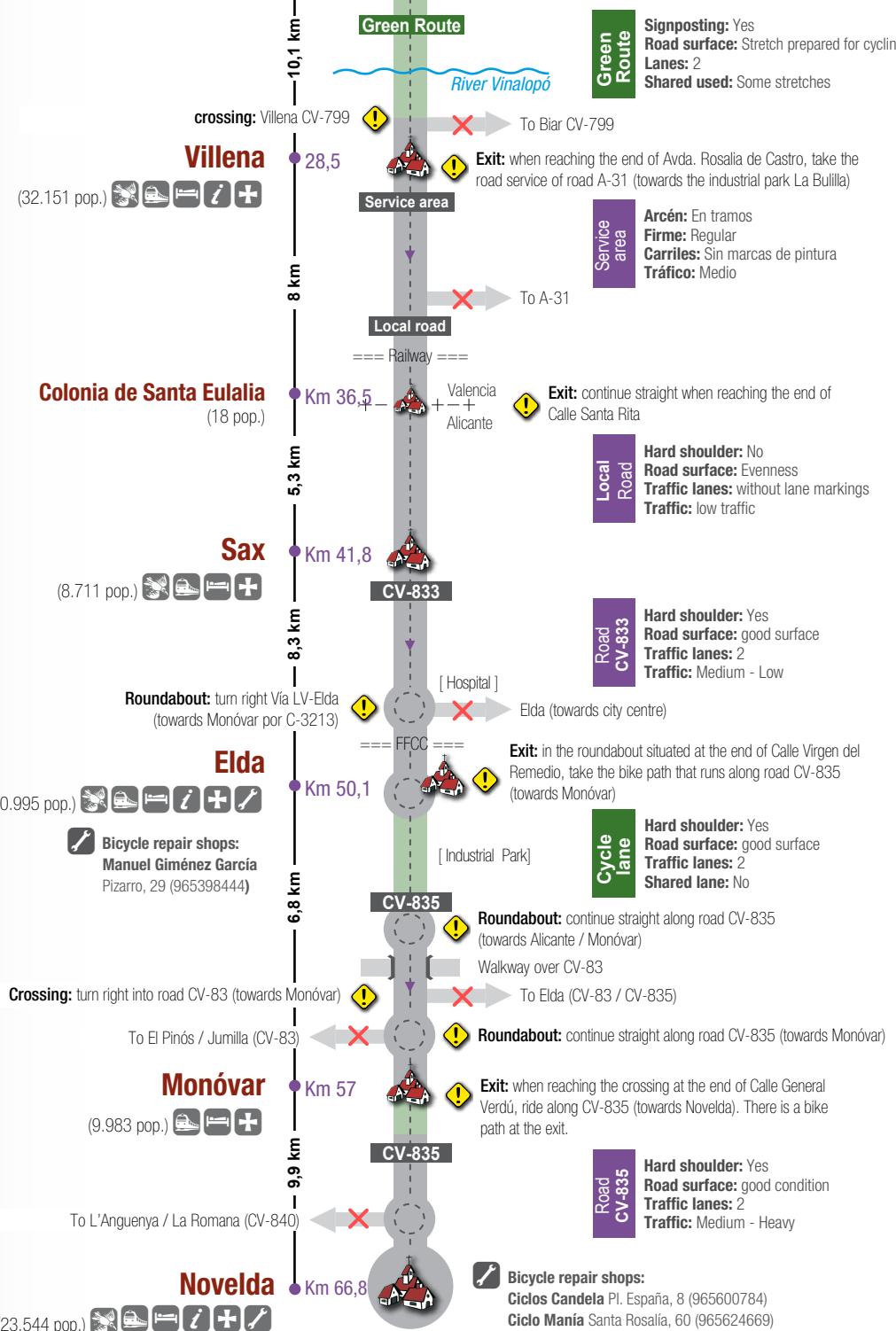
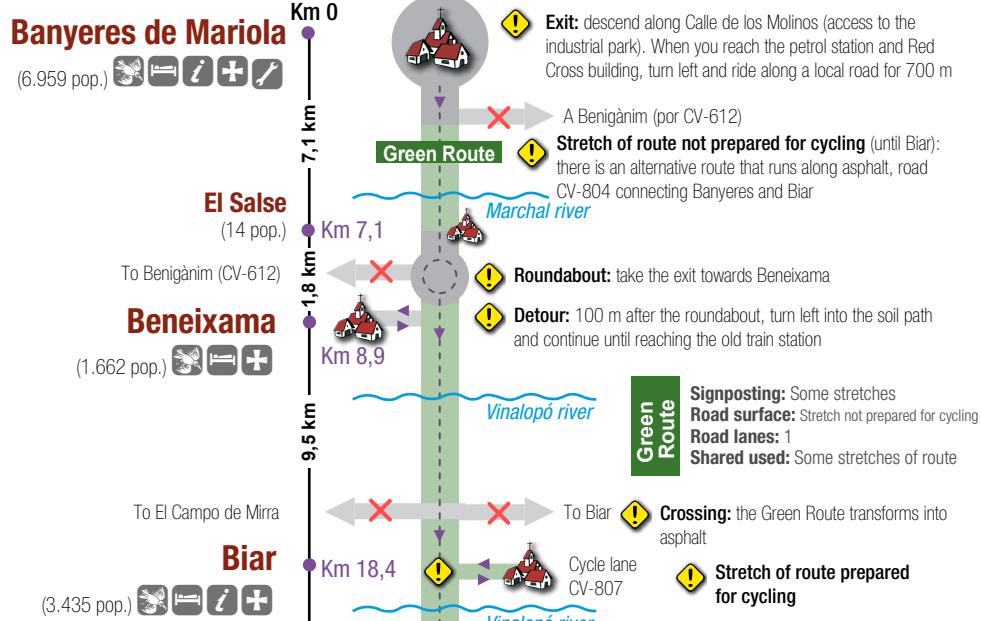
1. Valencia - Xàtiva
2. Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola
- 3. Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda**
4. Novelda - Orihuela

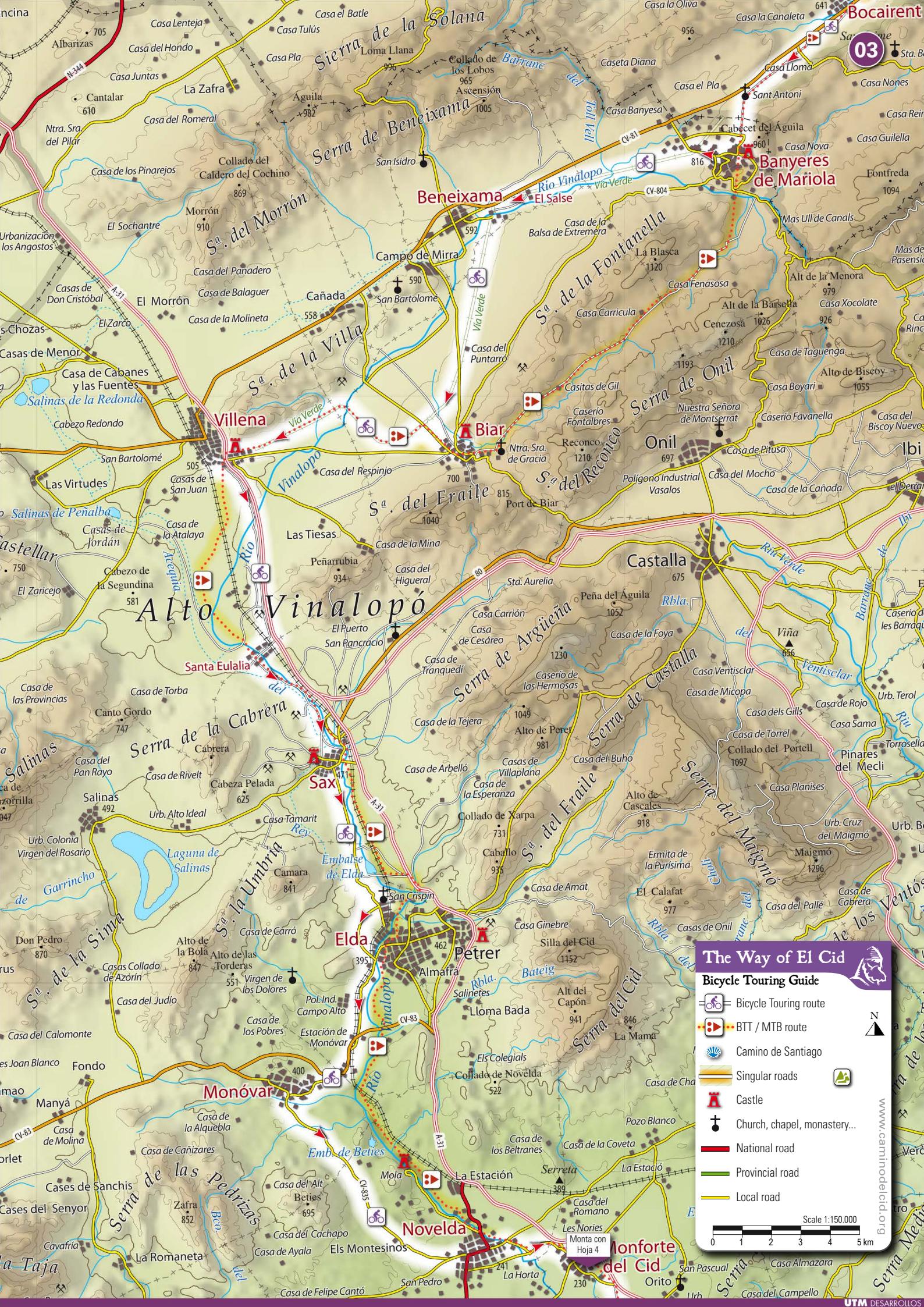
**Recommended use of gps** (complicated route)


Fact Sheet	
Distance	66 km
Difficulty	Medium
Signposting	No

Cumulative ascent	250 m	Estimated time	5 h 20 m
Cumulative descent	720 m	Type of route	Linear
IBP Difficulty index	33 RDB	Road surface	Asphalt and Green Route







# The Southern Defense Line

## Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

### Stage 4

### Novelda - Orihuela

Edition  
2020

1. Valencia - Xàtiva
2. Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola
3. Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda
- 4. Novelda - Orihuela**

#### Recommended use of gps (complicated route)



Fact Sheet	
Distance	63 km
Difficulty	Medium
Signposting	No
Cumulative ascent	150 m
Cumulative descent	350 m
IBP Difficulty index	32 RDB
Estimated time	5 h 10 m
Type of route	Linear
Road surface	Asphalt pavement

