



You have before you 300 kilometres of wild Nature, history, art, and excellent cycling tourism. You will travel in time through the territories of the main Islamic principalities of Zaragoza, Toledo and Albarracín and you will discover impressive scenery and unforgettable villages. Follow El Cid on his route through the Three Taifas.

Through the old Islamic kingdoms

According to the poem El Cantar, El Cid fought his first battle against an Islamic army in Alcocer, today an abandoned village near Ateca. With the victory, he obtained money, prestige and more arms for war, which allowed him to move freely between the borders of the taifa kingdoms of Toledo, Zaragoza and Albarracín. There are four key sites on this route: **El Poyo del Cid**, in Teruel, where Rodrigo strengthened a Roman fort to make it his headquarters; **Molina de Aragón**, in Guadalajara, a lordship governed by Avengalvón, a Muslim ally of El Cid who served him faithfully and protected his daughters; **Albarracín**, in Teruel, which his troops passed through on their way from Castile to the Mediterranean; and **Cella**, where El Cid gathered those who would accompany him to conquer Valencia.

What will you find?

Fertile valleys, canyons, and river gorges; quaking bogs; woodland of holm oak, juniper and pine trees; and rugged mountains with large numbers of rock birds, mountain goats and all types of deer. Four important walled medieval towns: Calatayud, Daroca, Molina de Aragón and Albarracín, which, like Orihuela del Tremedal, are Historical-Artistic sites. Outstanding examples of Mudejar architecture, on the World Heritage list. Romanesque architecture in Daroca.

Wild scenery between Molina de Aragón and Albarracín. 100 kilometres through five Natural Spaces: the Natural Part of the Upper Tagus, Montes de Picaza, Orihuela Quaking Bog, Monterde juniperwood in Albarracín and the maritime pine forests. The whole area is also an impressive open-air geological museum, with faults, folding, scree slopes, dropstones and striking erosional features, such as the towers of Chequilla. And, from Albarracín, one of the greatest examples of Roman engineering: the aqueduct that joined Albarracín with Cella. Moreover, in Cella, its artesian well, one of the largest in Europe. The Ring of Gallocaña, 54km long, starts in Daroca.



Download from our website all the updated information: maps, topoguides, tracks, accommodation, stamping points, etc.



Download the Way of El Cid travel app. It is free and is ready to work in places with no wifi signal.



FILE



Distance 333 km



Estimated time 4/5 days



Accumulated climb 4.960 m



Accumulated descent 4.580 m



Physical difficulty Medium



Technical difficulty Low

Route and signposting

We have designed a route that is perfectly adapted to gravel bikes, along country tracks with a firm surface, comfortable lanes, tarmacked tracks and lonely roads. **It is not signposted precisely for gravel bikes, but the route coincides largely with the MTB and hiking ways**, so you should pay attention to the signposting in those sections. **We recommend you download the track or the app.**

	Continuity mark	Wrong direction
GR 160 section (hiking and MTB routes)		
Non-GR section (hiking and MTB routes)		
MTB section (MTB route)		

Road sections

Part of the route follows secondary roads with little or sometimes no traffic. In any case, do not forget to ride carefully and make yourself visible to vehicles.

	E	F	M	A	M	J _N	J _L	A	S	O	N	D
Mean temperature Max/Min	7° -3°	9° -2°	12° -1°	14° 1°	19° 5°	24° 9°	29° 11°	29° 11°	24° 8°	17° 4°	11° 0°	7° -2°
no. of hours of light per day	09:33	10:38	11:55	13:18	14:28	15:06	14:49	13:48	12:29	11:08	09:54	09:15
mean rainfall	43	42	31	64	88	64	44	40	41	50	44	46

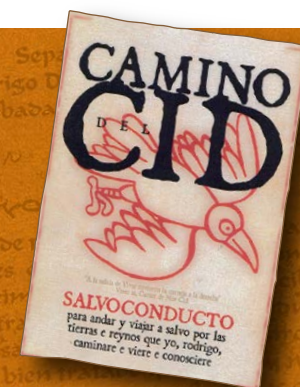
Mean monthly data for Molina de Aragón, which can act as a point of reference

The Letter of Safe Conduct

the Letter of Safe Conduct is the record card on which travellers collect the stamps of the towns they go through. It is free and can be obtained in Tourism Offices or in our head office:



Consorcio Camino del Cid
C/ Madrid 24, 09002 Burgos
info@caminodelcid.org
Tel.: 947 256 240



▲ Tracks with a compact surface to cycle through the Jiloca valley (Caminreal)

The Way of El Cid Consortium is promoted and funded by the following provincial deputations:



ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Do not set out without **tracks** and the **topoguides**.
- ▶ Avoid surprises; **book your accommodation in advance**.
- ▶ You will be going through lonely scenery with small villages: think ahead and **prepare food and spares**.
- ▶ Use a helmet and reflective clothing. **Make sure you can be seen**.
- ▶ This is not a race. Judge your **strength and technique** and do not lengthen the stages unnecessarily.
- ▶ Keep the **topoguide** at hand and check it if you have any problems.
- ▶ Wear the **helmet**.
- ▶ **Respect the signs**; they're for everybody.
- ▶ Remember that **rain** and **tall vegetation** can make cycling hard in some sections.



Stages (333 km)

1. Calatayud - Calamocha (80,1 km)
2. Calamocha - Molina de Aragón (76,5 km)
3. M. de Aragón - Orihuela del Tremedal (87,5 km)
4. Orihuela del Tremedal - Teruel (89 km)

◀ In red, the towns that are mentioned in the poem *Cantar de Mio Cid*



Services

- Passport stamping offices
- Accommodation (hotel, hostel,...)
- Wellcome point
- City information centre
- Chemist's
- Train station
- Repair shops

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We would be very grateful if you could send us any comments, errors or experiences to info@caminodelcid.org



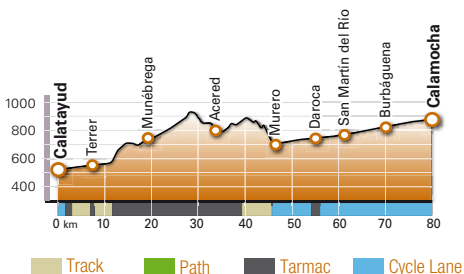
The Three Taifas

Gravel travel guide

Calatayud - Calamocha

May 2025

UTM Desarrollos

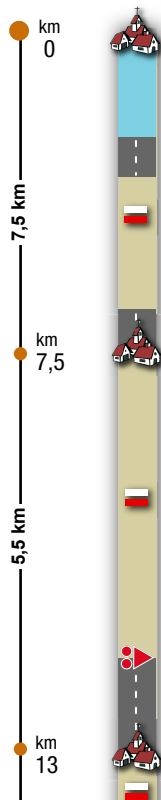


Our adventure begins in the valley of the River Jalón, going up the foothills of the Iberian Range, where we won't find any big differences in height, to meet the River Jiloca. The stage is long but is mostly along lonely roads and a Green Way with a good surface that will make it easy. Along the way, we will find several places that are perfect for a rest, such as Munébrega Lake, the walls of Daroca and the copses by the River Jiloca.

FILE	Distance 80,1 km	Accumulated climb 1.050 m	Earth / Tarmac / Cycle Lane 18 / 40 / 42%
	Physical difficulty Medium	Accumulated descent 700 m	Signposting in hiking and MTB sections
	Technical difficulty Low	Estimated time 5 h 45 m	IBP Difficulty index 59

Calatayud

(19.677 hab.)



Terror

(550 hab.)

Valtorres

(72 hab.)

The route goes back to the 10.4km section at the end of the last stage of **The Borderlands route**. We begin our new adventure from **Serna Park**, at the start of **Diputación Avenue**, where we follow the riverside path by the **river Jalón** (cycle lane) that rapidly leaves the town behind. The path ends at the confluence with the River Jiloca, where we have to take a short 350m section of the A-202 road. Leave the tarmac on the track on the right that runs parallel to the road to a roundabout. There we take a tarmacked track that goes past some factories and links with the earth service track for the railway line. Continue on the track parallel to the railway and ignore a couple of bridges until you come to **Terror station**. There we take a small road that leads to **Terror** after crossing over the River Jalón.

We leave from **Constitución Avenue** (N-II road), and take an earth track opposite the school. It goes through fields in the **Jalón valley** and crosses a bridge over the railway line. There we follow the railway service track which continues straight ahead to a signposted crossroads where **the Borderlands section** connects with **Ateca**. We leave the track next to the railway line and take a track on the left that soon comes to and crosses the **river Jalón**, then reaches a junction next to a small pinewood. We take the track on the left that rapidly leads to a tunnel under the A-2 road to Valtorres, where the **signposted MTB section** starts. The **hiking route** goes up a path in the bottom of the ravine, but we continue along the road.

Start of MTB section (1,2 km)

The quiet road goes up the small ravine and soon comes to the village of **Valtorres**, where it connects again with the **hiking route**.

Valtorres

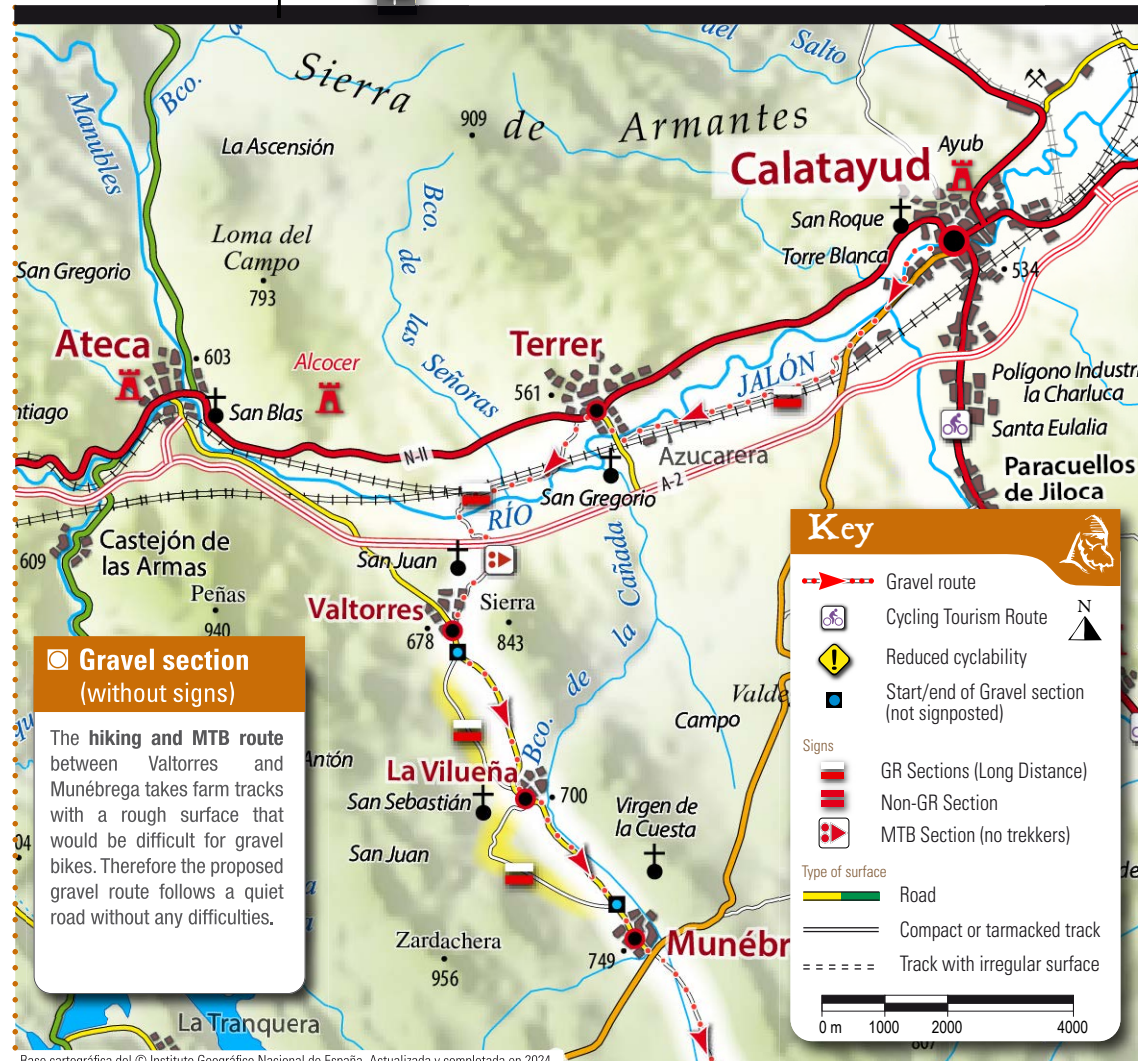
(72 hab.)

La Vilueña

(63 hab.)

Munébrega

(369 hab.)



We set off from the washing place in Valtorres and continue on the road around the village, which we soon leave behind. We shortly come to a bend with a turning on to an earth track, where the **hiking and MTB route** turn off while we continue on the tarmac for a few metres to join the A-2505 road.

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

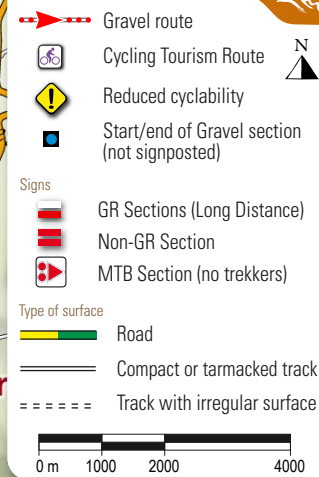
We turn right on to the A-2505 road, which we can cycle along comfortably while being careful because of the traffic until we come to La Vilueña.

We leave the town by continuing on the A-2505 road, which coincides in the exit with the **hiking and MTB route**, which we soon leave again at a turning at a small reservoir. The road climbs slowly but without any difficulties and we quickly come to the identifiable silhouette of Munébrega.

Gravel section (without signs)

The **hiking and MTB route** between Valtorres and Munébrega takes farm tracks with a rough surface that would be difficult for gravel bikes. Therefore the proposed gravel route follows a quiet road without any difficulties.

Key



Munébrega

(369 hab.)

Castejón de Alarba

(89 hab.)

Acered

(139 hab.)

km 19,7
9,6 km
km 29,3
4 km
km 33,4



In **Munébrega** we re-join the **hiking and MTB route**, which goes from the village on the tarmacked track to **Castejón de Alarba**, starting from the crossroads with the A-202 at a wine-cellar. The route climbs slightly up a road with hardly any traffic, through orchards to the foot of **Sierra de Pardos**, without any possibility of confusion until we come to **Castejón de Alarba**.

At the entrance to the village, an arrow next to the weighbridge shows that the **hiking and MTB route** takes an earth track to **Alarba**. We continue on the tarmac and follow a local road to the village.

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

The road goes gently downhill following a ravine and reaches a junction with the A-2507, where we turn right towards **Acered**, which we soon come to.

Acered

(139 hab.)



Atea

(137 hab.)



km 33,4
5,1 km
km 38,5
7,9 km



We leave the village on the A-2508 road, which in this section coincides with the **hiking and MTB route**, but this soon turns off at a bridge over **Acered ravine**. Instead, we continue along the road, taking care with the light traffic as we rapidly come to **Atea**.

We go to the town centre, where we re-join the **hiking and MTB route**, and carry on along a tarmacked track that crosses a small stream and continues to the road. We go along it for about 200m to a junction next to a prominent *calvary*, and then take an earth track on the right towards the *hermitage of the Virgen de los Mártires*. It goes downhill with a firm surface that does not cause hardly any difficulty. We leave the remarkable *hermitage* behind and go quickly on to the A-2508 road, now in the *valley of the River Jiloca*. Take the road to **Murero** next to the *cemetery* and you soon reach the old *Murero station*, only 200m from the village.

Murero

(106 hab.)



Manchones

(99 hab.)



Daroca

(1.957 hab.)



km 46,4
1,6 km
km 48
7,4 km
km 55,3



We turn on to the *Green Way of the Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way*, which allows us to make good progress. The **hiking route** shortly heads off along a path but we continue on the *Green Way*.

Start of MTB section (4 km)

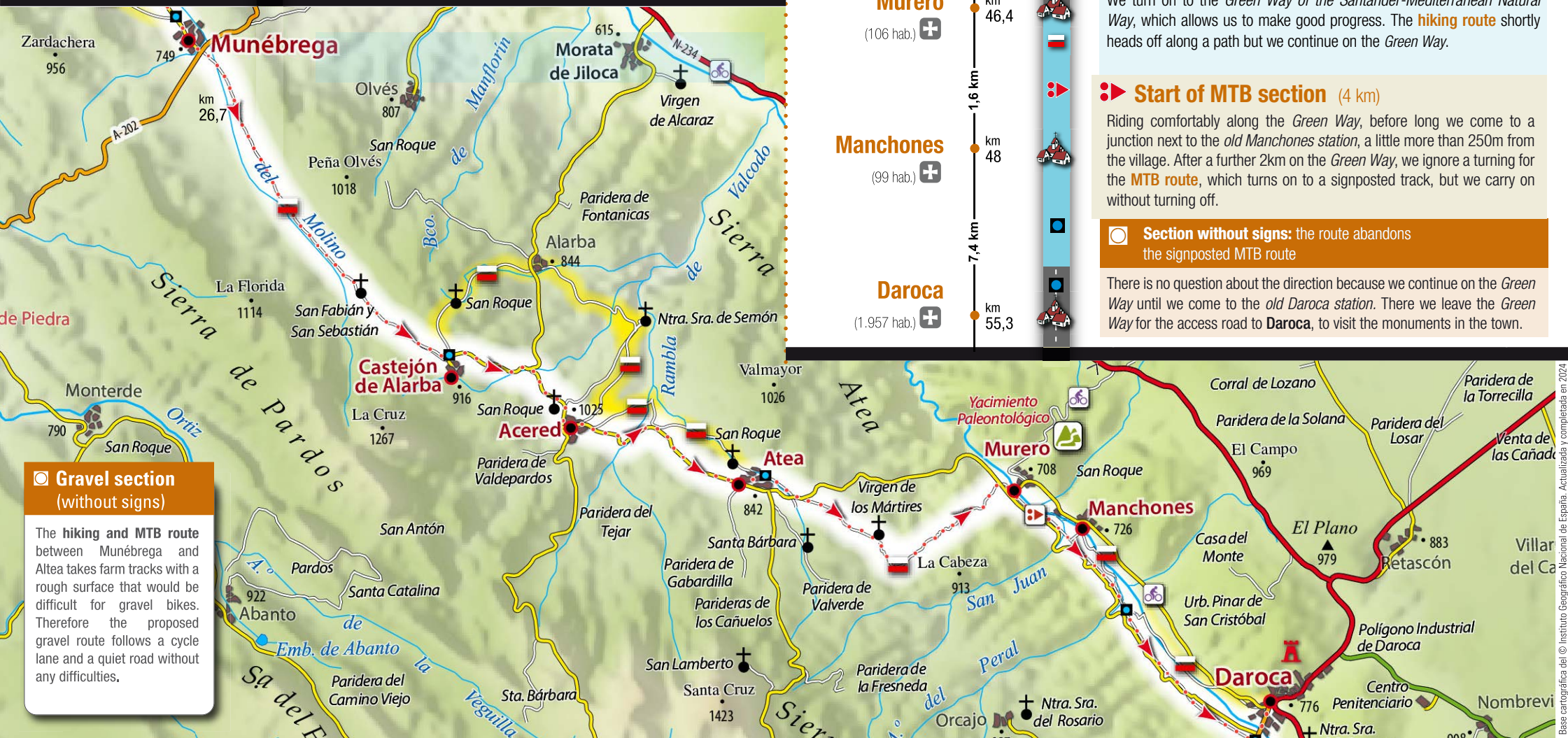
Riding comfortably along the *Green Way*, before long we come to a junction next to the *old Manchones station*, a little more than 250m from the village. After a further 2km on the *Green Way*, we ignore a turning for the **MTB route**, which turns on to a signposted track, but we carry on without turning off.

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted MTB route

There is no question about the direction because we continue on the *Green Way* until we come to the *old Daroca station*. There we leave the *Green Way* for the access road to **Daroca**, to visit the monuments in the town.

Gravel section (without signs)

The **hiking and MTB route** between Munébrega and Atea takes farm tracks with a rough surface that would be difficult for gravel bikes. Therefore the proposed gravel route follows a cycle lane and a quiet road without any difficulties.



Daroca

(1.957 hab.)

km 55,3

Villanueva de Jiloca

(69 hab.)

km 60,3

San Martín del Río

(135 hab.)

km 61,6

Báguena

(270 hab.)

km 65,3

Burbáguena

(376 hab.)

km 68,1

Luco de Jiloca

(65 hab.)

km 72,5

Calamocha

(4.505 hab.)

km 80,2

After the obligatory visit to Daroca, we return to the *old railway station* as the exit coincides with the **hiking and MTB route** as far as the Green Way (Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way) but they turn on to a country lane parallel to it

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

We continue comfortably along the Green Way to Villanueva de Jiloca.

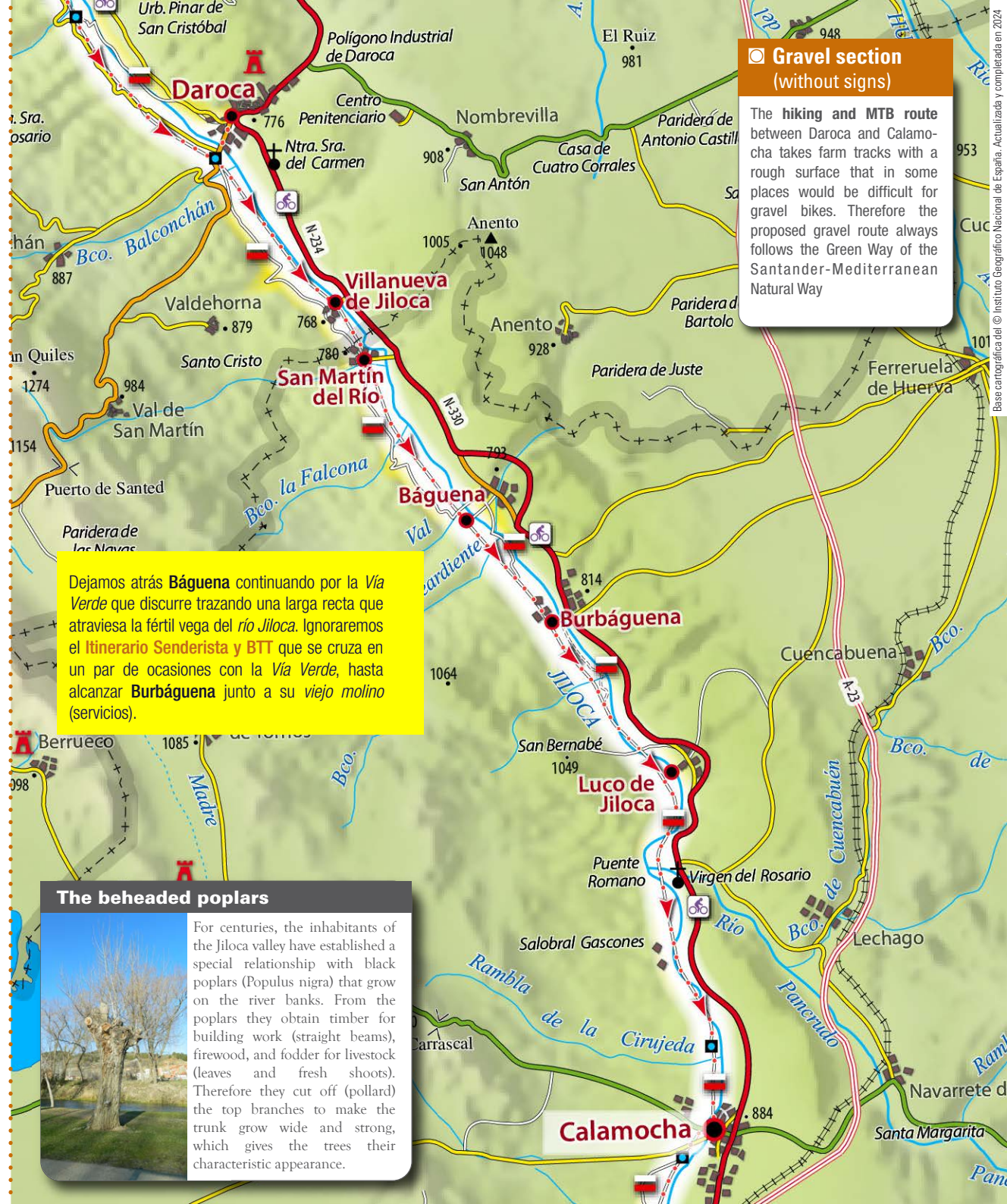
After a break in the *rest area* and putting our bike in perfect order in the *maintenance station*, we continue on the *Green Way* to **San Martín del Río**.

The *Green Way* goes to the lower part of **San Martín del Río**, next to the *old station*. We'll carry on along the Green Way and ignore the **hiking and MTB route** which runs parallel to it on country lanes with a worse surface. We'll make good speed and soon view the beautiful *Mudejar tower* at **Báguena**, which is barely 250m from our route.

Leaving **Báguena** behind, we continue straight ahead on the *Green Way*, across the fertile valley of the *river Jiloca*. We come to Burbáguena next to its *old mill* (services).

Stay on the *Green Way* and take no notice of the **hiking and MTB route** on country lanes with a worse surface parallel to it. We come to the *old station* of **Luco de Jiloca**, a village which is 350m away.

We continue on the *Green Way* and keep ignoring the **hiking and MTB route**, parallel to it on more uncomfortable lanes. We soon reach the *Romanesque bridge* at the confluence with the *river Pancrudo*, which is an inviting place to stop and enjoy the surroundings. We stay on the *Green Way* without turning until the final section of the access to **Calamocha**, where we turn off together with the **hiking and MTB route** to reach the town on a farm track with a good surface.



Gravel section (without signs)

The **hiking and MTB route** between Daroca and Calamocha takes farm tracks with a rough surface that in some places would be difficult for gravel bikes. Therefore the proposed gravel route always follows the Green Way of the Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way

Dejamos atrás **Báguena** continuando por la *Vía Verde* que discurre trazando una larga recta que atraviesa la fértil vega del *río Jiloca*. Ignoraremos el **Itinerario Senderista y BTT** que se cruza en un par de ocasiones con la *Vía Verde*, hasta alcanzar **Burbáguena** junto a su *viejo molino* (servicios).

The beheaded poplars



For centuries, the inhabitants of the Jiloca valley have established a special relationship with black poplars (*Populus nigra*) that grow on the river banks. From the poplars they obtain timber for building work (straight beams), firewood, and fodder for livestock (leaves and fresh shoots). Therefore they cut off (pollard) the top branches to make the trunk grow wide and strong, which gives the trees their characteristic appearance.

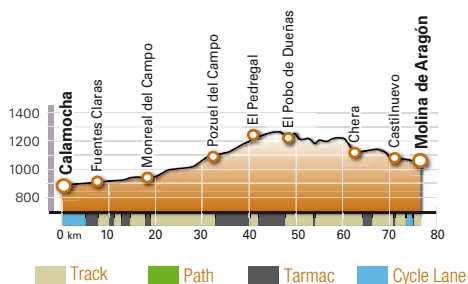
The Three Taifas

Gravel travel guide

Calamocha - Molina de Aragón

May 2025

UTM Desarrolla



A long stage without any big hills but demanding because of the number of kilometres off tarmac. The first section continues up the River Jiloca along comfortable tracks and the Green Way. The second part leads to the gates of the **Alto Tajo** in **Molina de Aragón**, following tracks with a good surface between endless cereal fields only interrupted by groves of holm oak and Spanish oak, as well as small groups of poplars where we can take a break to get our strength back.

FILE	Distance	76,5 km	Accumulated climb	870 m	Earth / Tarmac / Cycle Lane	61 / 31 / 9%
	Physical difficulty	Medium	Accumulated descent	690 m	Signposting	in hiking and MTB sections
	Technical difficulty	Low	Estimated time	5 h 20 m	IBP	Difficulty index 53

Calamocha

(4.505 hab.)



El Poyo del Cid

(202 hab.)



Fuentes Claras

(435 hab.)



Caminreal

(617 hab.)



Torrijo del Campo

(502 hab.)



We re-join the route at the *Roman bridge in Calamocha* and head towards the *old railway station* where we again take the *Green Way of the Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way*. The initial part coincides with the **hiking and MTB route**, but they soon leave along a country lane parallel to the *Green Way*, and in several places they intertwine.

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

The *Green Way* goes straight ahead along the *valley of the Jiloca*, which allows us to make good progress without worrying about the surface.

We continue from the park at the entrance to **El Poyo del Cid**, where we temporarily leave the *Green Way of the Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way* to continue on the tarmacked track to **Fuentes Claras**. We go past the *hermitage of the Virgén del Moral* on our left and shortly afterwards we cross over the railway line and quickly reach **Fuentes Claras** on *Poyo Street*.

We set off from the church on *San Antonio Street* and leave the village along a track with a good surface between crop fields that will take us directly to **Caminreal** along *Joaquín Costa Street*.

We re-join the track from the church and continue on *Egido Street* to leave the village on a tarmacked track towards the *Cuevas Hermitage* next to the water tank. Before reaching the river, take a track on the left that goes through small fields and dense poplar groves. The track ends at the road next to the bridge at the access to **Torrijo del Campo**.

The Jiloca saffron

This valuable spice is obtained from the dry stigma of the saffron flower (*Crocus sativus*). Known since Antiquity, it was first grown in Spain by the Muslims. It is expensive and hard to produce as it must be gathered very early in the morning and, of all the flower, only the pistil is used. Therefore its cultivation had gradually been abandoned. However, production has recently recovered thanks to the encouragement of the certification of origin.



Key

- Gravel route
- Cycling Tourism Route
- Reduced cyclability
- Start/end of Gravel section (not signposted)
- GR Sections (Long Distance)
- Non-GR Section
- MTB Section (no trekkers)
- Type of surface
- Road
- Compact or tarmacked track
- Track with irregular surface



The camp at El Poyo

According to the Cantar poem, El Cid set up a camp on a hill at El Poyo del Cid. From there he obtained a magnificent view over the Jiloca valley, which in the Middle Ages was a route frequented by armies and traders on their way to the Mediterranean coast. For a long time, it was a very dangerous area and Alfonso I the Battler built a fortress in Monreal del Campo in the 12th century and garrisoned a militia there to protect the routes.

Gravel section (without signs)

The **hiking and MTB route** between Calamocha and El Poyo del Cid takes country lanes with a good surface but with some short poorly-maintained sections. So the proposed gravel route follows part of the *Green Way of the Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way* without any difficulties.

Torrijó del Campo

(502 hab.)

km 12,8



Monreal del Campo

(2.486 hab.)

km 18,5



Pozuel del Campo

(66 hab.)

km 32,6



We go through **Torrijó** along *Calvario Street*, and go past the peculiar *Santa Bárbara Hermitage*. We come to a junction next to a *calvary* outside the village. We turn off the main tarmacked track there and take an earth track on the right that goes to a raised crossing over the *railway line*. We cross over, turn left and continue on the railway service lane, which coincides with the *Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way*. Go on to **Monreal del Campo** on this track with a good surface without paying attention to the different crossroads and turnings on the way. Near **Monreal del Campo** we come to a crossroads where we turn off the *Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way* to enter the town on a road that goes over the railway line at a level crossing.

We leave from the *Clock Tower* on *Eras Street*, and take an earth track on the right that goes downhill away from the town to a tunnel under the railway line. Here we temporarily re-join the *Santander-Mediterranean Natural Way* for about 100m, and then turn on to a farm track that goes gently uphill to a wide moor. We join another very well maintained farm track that continues in two long straight sections between large unirrigated fields. We reach the Blancas road and continue on the well-maintained track opposite. We follow straight ahead to a junction next to some corrals that connects with the GR-24, where we turn left and cross the road over a bridge. Continue on the right along a track that leads without any difficulties to **Pozuel del Campo** on *Pilar Street*.

Pozuel del Campo

(66 hab.)

km 32,6



El Pedregal

(63 hab.)

km 39,7



El Pobo de Dueñas

(100 hab.)

km 47,3



We return to the route in the centre of the village and abandon the **hiking and MTB route**, which turn off towards the hill along stony tracks that are difficult for our bikes.

☐ **Section without signs:** the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

We follow *San Miguel Street* to the N-211 road which we take on the right (towards **Molina de Aragón**), pedalling at a good speed but paying attention to the traffic on a wide hard shoulder. The road enters a *small gorge* and soon comes to **El Pedregal**.

We meet the **hiking and MTB route** again in the village and follow it for the next two kilometres. From *Calvario Street* we come to a track next to several farm buildings and it takes us away from the village up to an oakwood. When we reach the col we find a crossroads where the **hiking and MTB route** turn on to a track on the left.

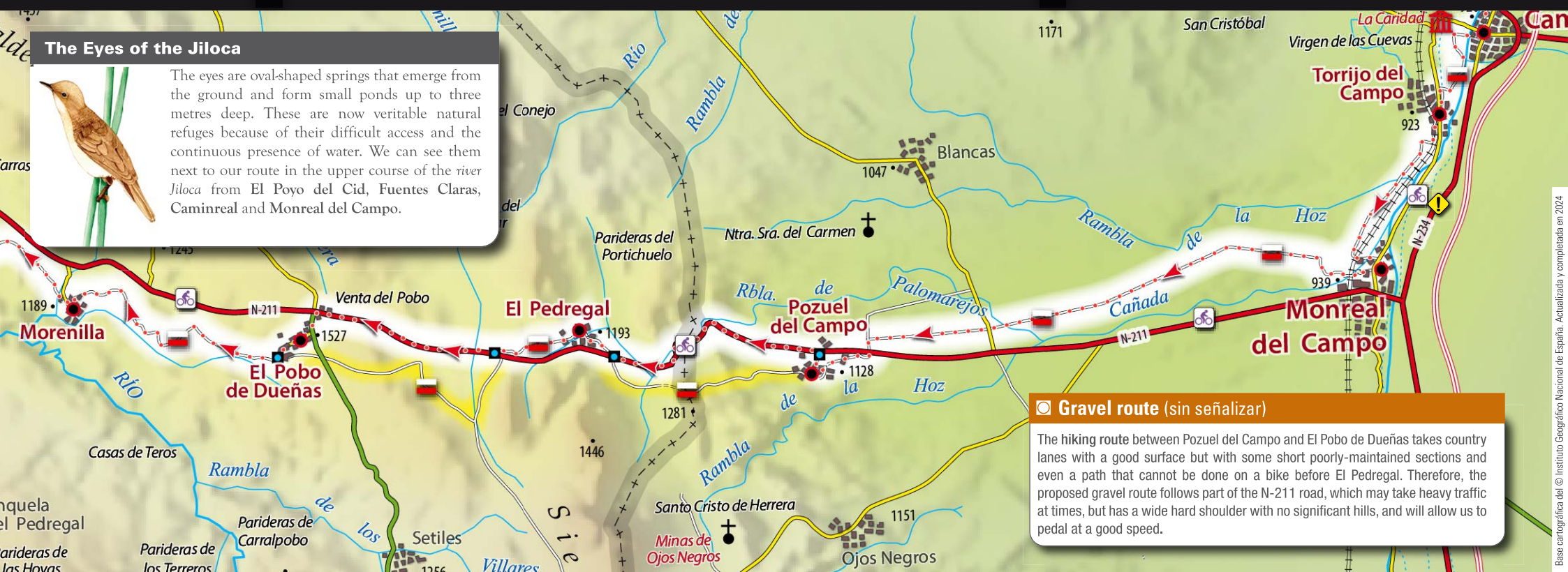
☐ **Section without signs:** the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

We follow the main track (not signposted) that soon reaches the N-211 road which we take on the right (towards **Molina de Aragón**), making good speed but always alert to the traffic on a wide hard shoulder. We soon come to *Venta de El Pobo*, where we turn onto the road to **El Pobo de Dueñas**.

The Eyes of the Jiloca



The eyes are oval-shaped springs that emerge from the ground and form small ponds up to three metres deep. These are now veritable natural refuges because of their difficult access and the continuous presence of water. We can see them next to our route in the upper course of the river Jiloca from El Poyo del Cid, Fuentes Claras, Caminreal and Monreal del Campo.



☐ Gravel route (sin señalizar)

The hiking route between Pozuel del Campo and El Pobo de Dueñas takes country lanes with a good surface but with some short poorly-maintained sections and even a path that cannot be done on a bike before El Pedregal. Therefore, the proposed gravel route follows part of the N-211 road, which may take heavy traffic at times, but has a wide hard shoulder with no significant hills, and will allow us to pedal at a good speed.

El Pobo de Dueñas

(100 hab.)



km 47,3



6,4 km



Morenilla

(53 hab.)

km 53,7



8,3 km



Chera

(483 hab.)



km 62



We go to the fountain with the water trough on *Delantera Street*, where we re-join the **hiking and MTB route**. Continue on the track out of the village as far as *Soledad Hermitage*, where we take the track with a good surface on the right. We come to a small ravine where there is a junction, but we carry on straight ahead. After a short climb to the col above the village, we turn left on to a track that takes us down to a small valley in *Hocecilla ravine*. We join a larger track and continue along it on the right. Ignore a turning on the right and go straight ahead to a bend on the left. The track goes down to **Morenilla** in the higher part of the village.

We return to the route on *Mayor Street* and continue along the road to the village. After a little more than 100m from the exit, we take a track on the left that crosses a bridge over a stream. Pay attention because after a few metres we have to turn off the track and take an uphill track on the right. We go along the main track with a good surface and ignore several junctions. We come to a crossroads where we take another track on the left and start a rapid and winding descent where we should control our speed and take care with the surface. An arrow welcomes us to **Chera**, which is divided into two districts by the *river Gallo*.

Chera

(483 hab.)



km 62



2,1 km



Aldehuela

(59 hab.)



km 64



6,8 km



Castilnuevo

(8 hab.)



km 70,8



Molina de Aragón

(3.288 hab.)



5,8 km



km 76,6



We continue on our way from the *northern district of Chera* and follow the *Aldehuela track* that continues horizontally without any difficulties in the shade of poplar groves to the next village. We go past *Puntal de los Cuarterones* on our left and quickly reach the *Espejuelo stream*. A small bridge is the entry to the small hamlet of **Aldehuela**.

We leave the hamlet on the same road. After 100m, the **hiking and MTB route** turns on to an earth track.

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

Continue on the road to a junction with the *GU-964 road*, where we leave the tarmac and take an earth track with a good surface opposite. We make good progress on it until the **hiking and MTB route** joins us on a track with a worse surface after a little more than 1.5km. We soon turn off the main track on the left and go down a quite stony track (**possible difficulties for cycling**) which follows the fence of a large hunting reserve. We come to a better track at the gate to the reserve and it leads us to the road that we take to the nearby village of **Castilnuevo**.

From **Castilnuevo**, the track goes into a poplar wood and crosses a bridge over the *river Gallo*. We come to a crossroads where we turn right and take a track between the valley and the fence of a large hunting reserve. After crossing the river over a *Moorish bridge* it comes to a road. We turn left on to it and take another left turning next to *Batán mill*. The track crosses the river again and turns right. It continues along the *Gallo valley* to **Molina de Aragón**.



Molina de Aragón

In the Cantar, Molina de Aragón represents Arab hospitality. Its Muslim lord, Avengalvón, sheltered and protected El Cid's friends and relations. It was conquered by Alfonso I of Aragón in 1128 after a siege that lasted over a year. As his base of operations, the Aragonese king built a fortress about 5km to the southeast, a 'new castle', which in time would be the place of the small village of Castilnuevo.

Gravel section (without signs)

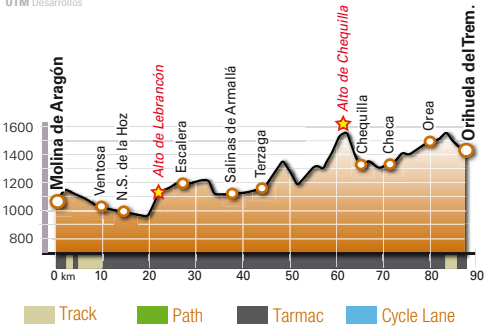
The hiking Way of El Cid at the exit from Aldehuela takes a country lane (livestock track) with a poorly-maintained surface where the vegetation causes complications. So the proposed gravel route follows a country lane with a good surface without any difficulties until it re-joins the hiking and MTB route. If you have any doubts, check the GPS or travel app.



The Three Taifas

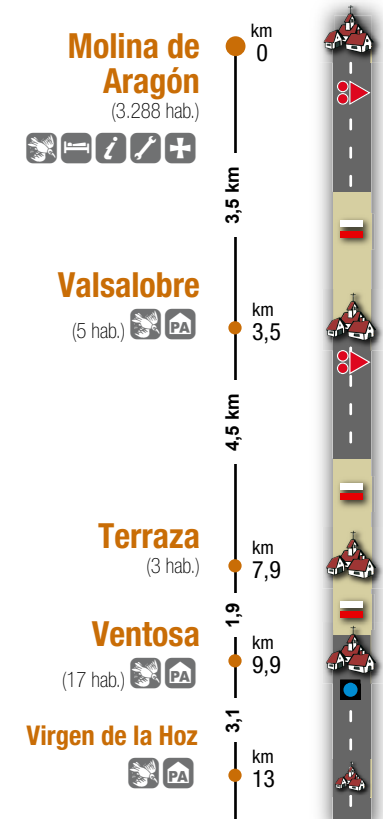
Gravel travel guide

Molina de A. - Orihuela del Tremedal



This is one of the most important stages in the Way of El Cid because it is both very demanding physically and full of attractions. We recommend that you set off early and assess your strength to enjoy to the utmost one of the most intense parts of the whole route, where there are villages with hardly any services. You'll discover outstanding scenery, such as the Natural Park of the Upper Tagus (Virgen de la Hoz, Las Salinas, Chequilla,...), as you go along lonely roads with two steep climbs to bear in mind.

Distance	87,5 km	Accumulated climb	1.940 m	Earth / Tarmac / Cycle Lane	10 / 90 / 0%
Physical difficulty	High	Accumulated descent	1.570 m	Signposting	in hiking and MTB sections
Technical difficulty	Medium	Estimated time	6 h 35 m	IBP	Difficulty index 123



We leave from **Molina** on the **CM-210 road** towards the **Alto Tajo**. On the exit, we turn off the **hiking route**, which goes through an industrial estate.

▶ **Start of MTB section (1,5 km)**
Continue on the **CM-210 road** for 1.5km up a hill to a level section where the **hiking route** re-joins.

We stay on the road, together with the **hiking route**, and after 200m we take a track on the left that goes down to **Valsalobre**.

We go from the church to the road at the entrance to the village, where an arrow points to the **MTB route**.

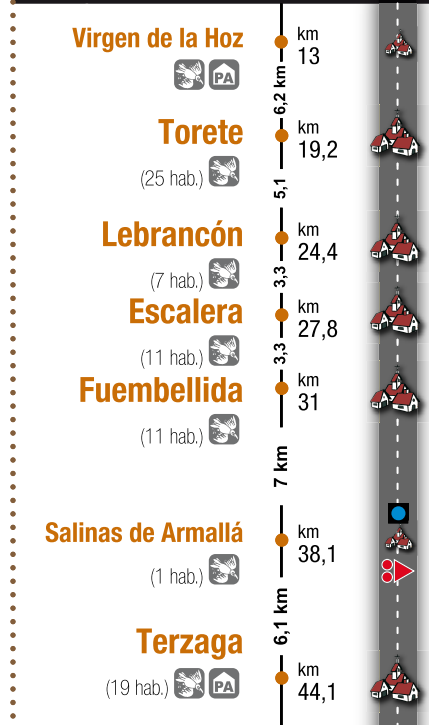
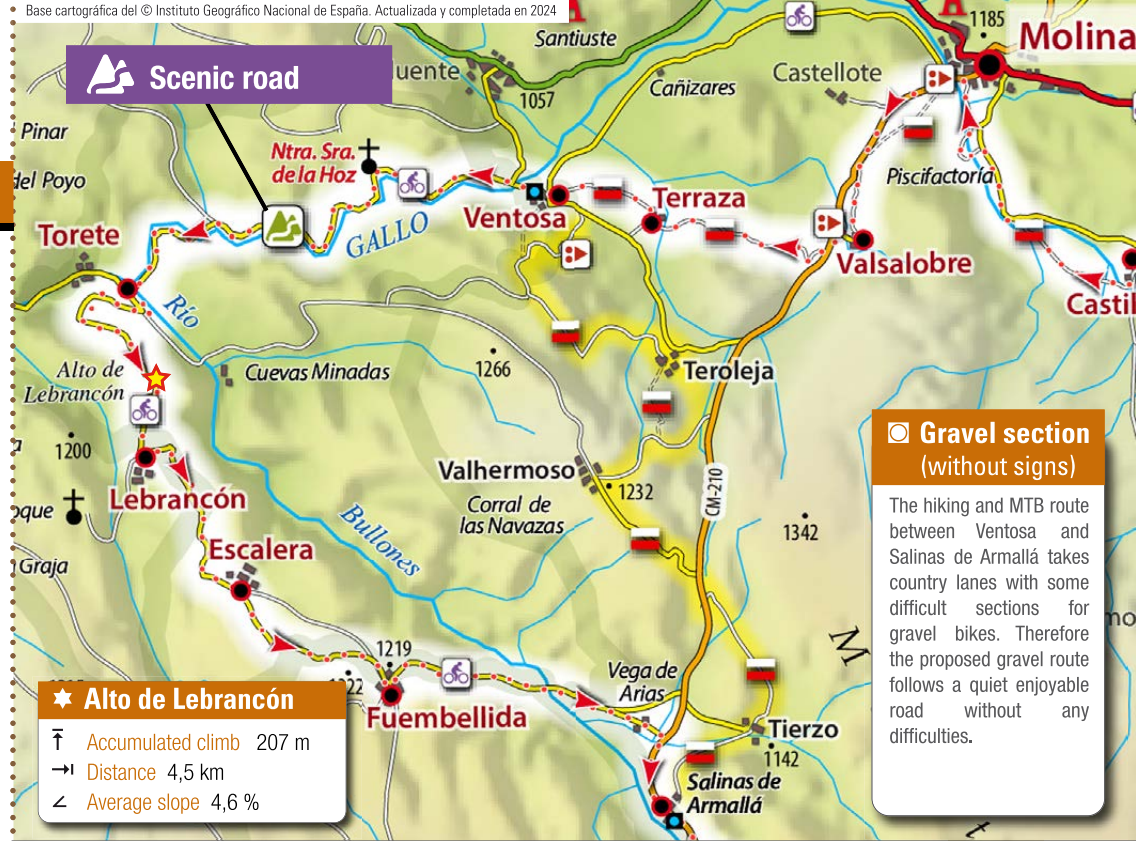
▶ **Start of MTB section (1 km)**
We continue on the tarmac to the **CM-210 road** where we turn left. After 600m we join the **hiking route** on a track.

With a good surface, the track heads away from the road between cereal fields. After a short descent, it crosses a stream and we come to **Terraza**.

The main track goes through the hamlet and leaves the access road behind. Stay on the track with a good surface that is level as far as the proximities of **Ventosa**, where we turn off the **hiking and MTB route**.

○ **Section without signs:** : the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

Leave **Ventosa** on the access road that goes down to a junction with the **GU-958 road**, which we take on the left. After crossing the river, the road goes across the **valley** bottom and enters the spectacular gorge of the **river Gallo**, where we can see the **Sanctuary of the Virgen de la Hoz**.



After a break to enjoy the **Sanctuary** and its environment, we carry on along a **nice road** that is deep in the **river Gallo** gorge for 7km and we come to the junction for **Torete**, which is 400 m away.

At the crossroads, take the **GU-959 road** towards **Lebrancón**, with little traffic and a good surface. After crossing the **river Gallo** bridge, it starts a steep climb (★ **Alto de Lebrancón**) to the access to **Lebrancón** (150 m away).

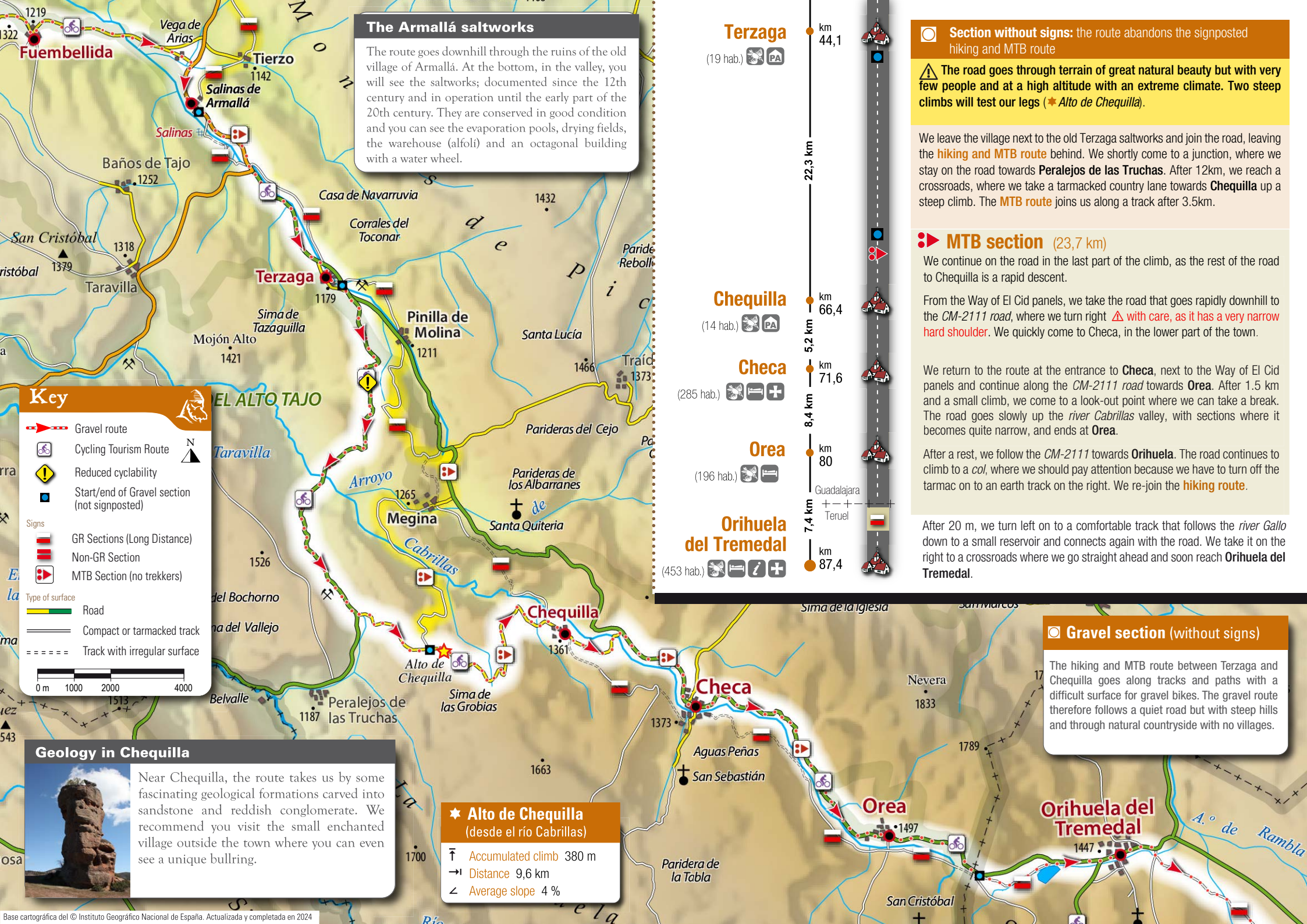
We continue on our way along the **GU-959 road**, which is flat through a juniper wood and, with hardly any trouble, it takes us to **Escalera**.

We leave the village behind without turning off the **GU-959** which continues flat as we rapidly reach **Fuembellida**.

We go through the small village and continue on the level road between beautiful forest scenery to a col at the start of the descent to the **valley** of the **river Bullones**. We go past the monumental **Strong House of the Vega de Arias** and come to the **CM-210 road**, which we take on the right and soon come to **Armallá Saltworks**.

▶ **Start of MTB section (5,6 km)**
After a break to get our strength back and view the **saltworks**, we ignore the signs for the **hiking route** as we continue along the **CM-210 road**. After 2km we come to a crossroads where we turn left and quickly reach **Terzaga**.

○ **Gravel section (without signs)**
The hiking and MTB route between Ventosa and Salinas de Armallá takes country lanes with some difficult sections for gravel bikes. Therefore the proposed gravel route follows a quiet enjoyable road without any difficulties.



The Armallá saltworks

The route goes downhill through the ruins of the old village of Armallá. At the bottom, in the valley, you will see the saltworks; documented since the 12th century and in operation until the early part of the 20th century. They are conserved in good condition and you can see the evaporation pools, drying fields, the warehouse (alfoli) and an octagonal building with a water wheel.

Terzaga

(19 hab.)



km 44,1

Chequilla

(14 hab.)



km 66,4

Checa

(285 hab.)



km 71,6

Orea

(196 hab.)



km 80

Orihuela del Tremedal

(453 hab.)



km 87,4

Section without signs: the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

The road goes through terrain of great natural beauty but with very few people and at a high altitude with an extreme climate. Two steep climbs will test our legs (★ Alto de Chequilla).

We leave the village next to the old Terzaga saltworks and join the road, leaving the **hiking and MTB route** behind. We shortly come to a junction, where we stay on the road towards **Peralejos de las Truchas**. After 12km, we reach a crossroads, where we take a tarmacked country lane towards **Chequilla** up a steep climb. The **MTB route** joins us along a track after 3.5km.

MTB section (23,7 km)

We continue on the road in the last part of the climb, as the rest of the road to Chequilla is a rapid descent.

From the Way of El Cid panels, we take the road that goes rapidly downhill to the **CM-2111 road**, where we turn right **with care, as it has a very narrow hard shoulder**. We quickly come to Checa, in the lower part of the town.

We return to the route at the entrance to **Checa**, next to the Way of El Cid panels and continue along the **CM-2111 road** towards **Orea**. After 1.5 km and a small climb, we come to a look-out point where we can take a break. The road goes slowly up the **river Cabrillas** valley, with sections where it becomes quite narrow, and ends at **Orea**.

After a rest, we follow the **CM-2111** towards **Orihuela**. The road continues to climb to a **col**, where we should pay attention because we have to turn off the tarmac on to an earth track on the right. We re-join the **hiking route**.

After 20 m, we turn left on to a comfortable track that follows the **river Gallo** down to a small reservoir and connects again with the road. We take it on the right to a crossroads where we go straight ahead and soon reach **Orihuela del Tremedal**.

Key

- Gravel route
- Cycling Tourism Route
- Reduced cyclability
- Start/end of Gravel section (not signposted)
- Signs**
- GR Sections (Long Distance)
- Non-GR Section
- MTB Section (no trekkers)
- Type of surface**
- Road
- Compact or tarmacked track
- Track with irregular surface

Geology in Chequilla



Near Chequilla, the route takes us by some fascinating geological formations carved into sandstone and reddish conglomerate. We recommend you visit the small enchanted village outside the town where you can even see a unique bullring.

★ Alto de Chequilla (desde el río Cabrillas)

- Accumulated climb 380 m
- Distance 9,6 km
- Average slope 4 %

Gravel section (without signs)

The hiking and MTB route between Terzaga and Chequilla goes along tracks and paths with a difficult surface for gravel bikes. The gravel route therefore follows a quiet road but with steep hills and through natural countryside with no villages.

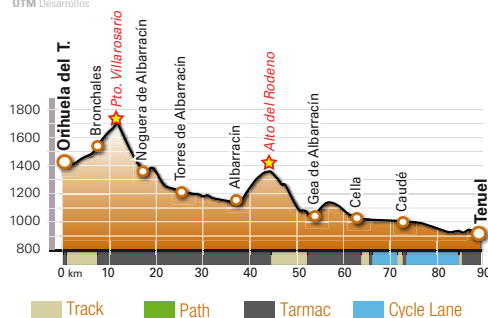
The Three Taifas

Gravel travel guide

Orihuela del Tremedal - Teruel

May 2025

UTM Desarrollados



A difficult stage because of its length and hills. The first part goes through the Sierra del Tremedal and reaches the highest point in the whole Way of El Cid (1,705m). Along the way we will discover spectacular natural places with typical high mountain scenery: leafy oakwoods, juniperwoods, riverbank thickets next to the Guadalaviar and large maritime pine forests. When we reach Gea, the mountain landscape is domesticated and we will make quick progress to Teruel.

Distance	89 km	Accumulated climb	1.130 m	Earth / Tarmac / Cycle Lane	20 / 61 / 19%
Physical difficulty	High	Accumulated descent	1.620 m	Signposting	in hiking and MTB sections
Technical difficulty	Medium	Estimated time	5 h 55 m	IBP	Difficulty index 73

Orihuela del Tremedal

(453 hab.)

0 km
7,9 km

Bronchales

(454 hab.)



7,9 km
8,3 km

Noguera de Albarracín

(131 hab.)

16,2 km
5 km

Tramacastilla

(109 hab.)

21,3 km
3,8 km

Torres de Albarracín

(191 hab.)

25,1 km
12,1 km

Albarracín

(1.015 hab.)

37,2 km



We set off from *Ayuntamiento (Town Hall) Square* on the A-1511 road. Barely 250m after leaving the town, we turn off the road on to a track on the right with a good earth surface that crosses the *river Gallo* and the *Ojos stream* over two bridges. Ignoring several side tracks, we go on without turning off the main track. We leave a pinewood behind as the track continues straight through crop fields and slowly climbs the hill to reach **Bronchales** on *Mayor Street*.

In the village, we turn off the **hiking and MTB route**, which goes along tracks and paths, and continue on the road.

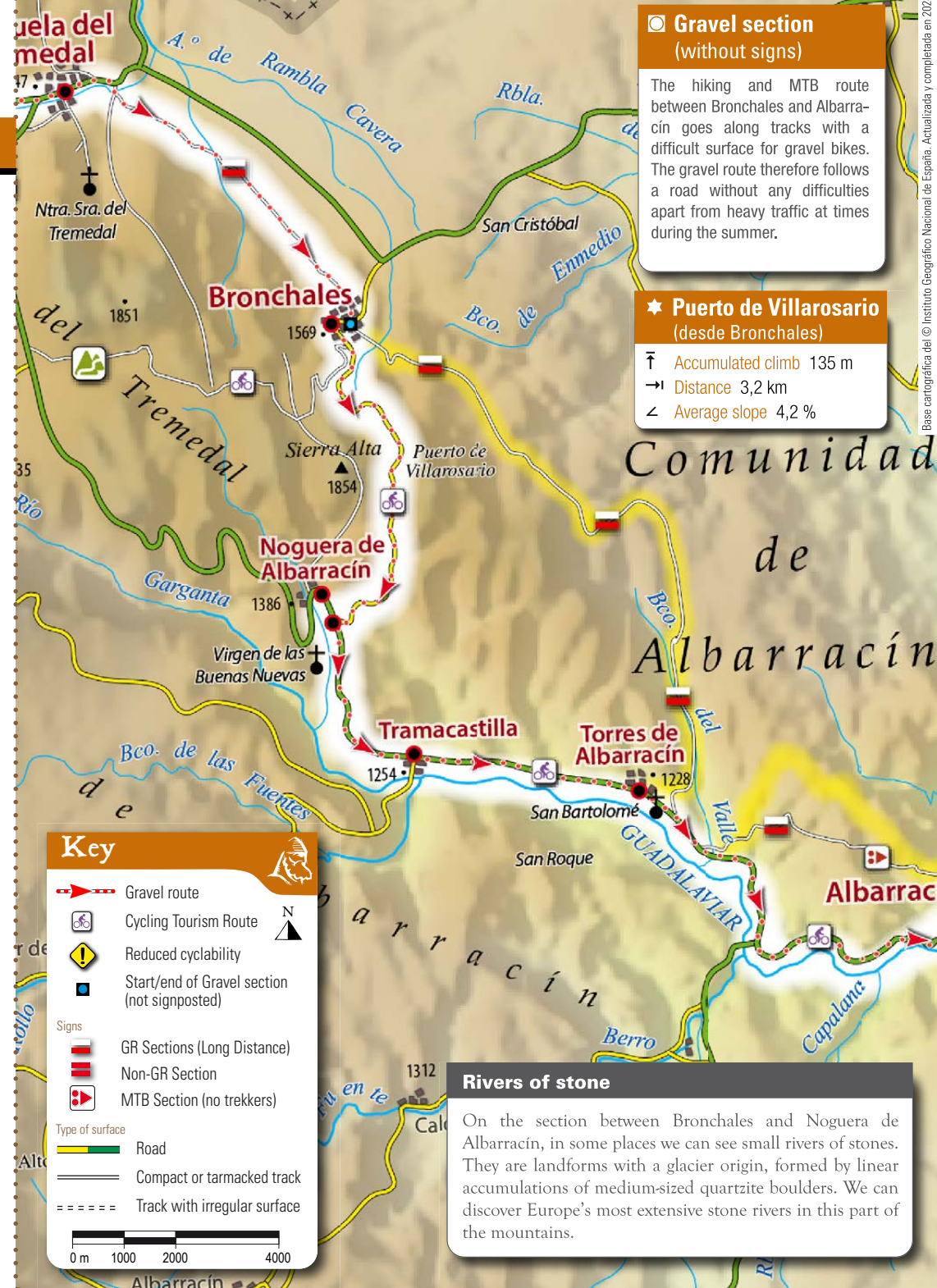
Section without signs: : the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

We leave **Bronchales** on *Dr Montoro Street* in the upper part of the village. It becomes the A-2709 road towards **Noguera** and we start the climb to **Puerto de Villarsario** and a col at 1,705m altitude. The road then descends rapidly to **Noguera** (380m in 6km).

Follow the A-1512 road towards **Tramacastilla**. After a short climb, it continues downhill to reach the lower part of the village.

The road leaves the village behind and goes down to the *valley of the River Guadalaviar*, from where we make good progress to **Torres de Albarracín**.

Stay on the route along the A-1512 road towards **Albarracín**, and ignore the signs for the **Hiking and MTB route** which for a short section coincides with the tarmac road. We stay on the road, cycling gently downhill, and enter the spectacular *canyon of the River Guadalaviar*, which finishes surprisingly in **Albarracín**.



Gravel section (without signs)

The hiking and MTB route between Bronchales and Albarracín goes along tracks with a difficult surface for gravel bikes. The gravel route therefore follows a road without any difficulties apart from heavy traffic at times during the summer.

Puerto de Villarsario (desde Bronchales)

Accumulated climb 135 m
Distance 3,2 km
Average slope 4,2 %

Albarracín

(1.015 hab.)



km 37,2
15,8 km
8,9 km
km 53
km 61,8

Gea de Albarracín

(452 hab.)



Cella

(2.644 hab.)



Start of MTB section (13,5 km)

The **hiking route** to Gea goes along tracks and paths that are difficult for cyclists in places. Therefore, a signposted **MTB route** has been designed that is also appropriate for gravel bikes. It starts at the roundabout in Arrabal district, on the road towards the **rock art at Cabrerizo**. The road is narrow and goes uphill (★ **Alto del Rodeno**), and so we should take care as the traffic can be heavy in summer. Pay attention because after 7km we have to turn off the road on to an earth track with a good surface on the left. It goes downhill through the amazing maritime pine forest to **Gea**.

We leave from the access to the village next to the *Roman aqueduct visitors' centre*, where we turn off the **hiking and MTB route** to continue on the A-1512 road towards **Teruel**.

☐ **Section without signs:** : the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

Continue along the road, which is wide and has a hard shoulder, and start an uphill section that leaves the *valley of the river Guadalaviar* behind. After 4km, we turn left on to the road towards **Cella** and go gently down to the town.

Cella

(2.644 hab.)



km 61,8
11,1 km
km 72,9
16,2 km
km 89,1

Caudé

(214 hab.)



Teruel

(36.267 hab.)



We re-join the route from **Cella Well**, on *Fuente Avenue* and *San Antonio Street*, to the junction with the road. We take the tarmacked track opposite in a small industrial estate and leave the town between crop fields now on an earth track. We reach a tarmacked track next to the fence of a large factory, where we join *Ojos Negros Green Way*, next to the *old station*. We follow the *Green Way* to approach **Caudé**, where we turn right on to a track (before coming to an old bridge). The track goes between numerous farm buildings and ends at a road that takes us to **Caudé**.

In **Caudé**, we turn off the **hiking and MTB route**, as we return to the *Ojos Negros Green Way* towards **Teruel**.

☐ **Section without signs:** the route abandons the signposted hiking and MTB route

We go out of the village in *La Cuesta Street*, which becomes an earth track that soon connects with the *Green Way*. The route is easy as it goes across a large plain with a surface that varies from tarmac to compact earth, and we can make good progress. 2km after crossing the *river Alfambra*, we leave the *Green Way* on a short track that takes us to a roundabout on the *N-420* road under the motorway, and quickly come to **Teruel**.

Albarracín-Cella roman aqueduct

One of the most important hydraulic works in the Iberian Peninsula was built in the Roman age. It still surprises us with its proportions: 25 km long, of which over 9 km are excavated in the rock, with galleries that reach a depth of 60 m.

Albarracín

1182

1411

Santa Bárbara

Gea de Albarracín

1031

Acueducto Romano

Paisaje Protegido Pinares del Rodeno

1537

Carbonera

Cerro del Corral Ato

1248

1023

Cella

Ermita de San Juan y Santa María Magdalena

Moralejo

1060

Embalse del Arquillo de San Blas

Cabello

Mesa de las

Cerro Gordo

1222

Caudé

Concud

Polígono Industrial La Paz

San Blas

Las Molinos

La Guea

TERUEL

915

★ Alto del Rodeno

Accumulated climb 240 m

Distance 6,5 km

Average slope 3,8 %

Gravel section (without signs)

The hiking and MTB route between Gea de Albarracín and Cella and between Caudé and Teruel goes along country lanes and paths with a difficult surface for gravel bikes. The gravel route therefore follows roads and parts of the *Green Way* without any difficulties.