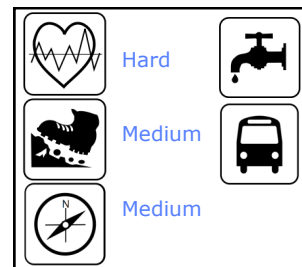


Acequias del Poqueira

Starting and finishing in the picturesque village of Capileira, this walk takes you up one side of the Poqueira Gorge, and back down the other side. For much of the walk you have great views up to the high peaks of the Sierra Nevada, and as you get higher you can also look down to the Alpujarras below you. The walk takes you through scrubland, into a lush river valley and past grazing sheep and goats. And of course you will see the *acequias* – traditional irrigation channels – that give the walk its name. Near the start of the walk you also pass an abandoned village with a small hydroelectric power station.



Key Facts	
Length	20 km*
Time	7-8 hours*
Min/Max Altitude	1445 m /2500 m
Accumulated height difference	1237 m*
Season	Spring, Summer, Autumn

* Approx 17 km / 5.5 - 6 hours / 950 m of height difference if you don't do the detour to Refugio Poqueira

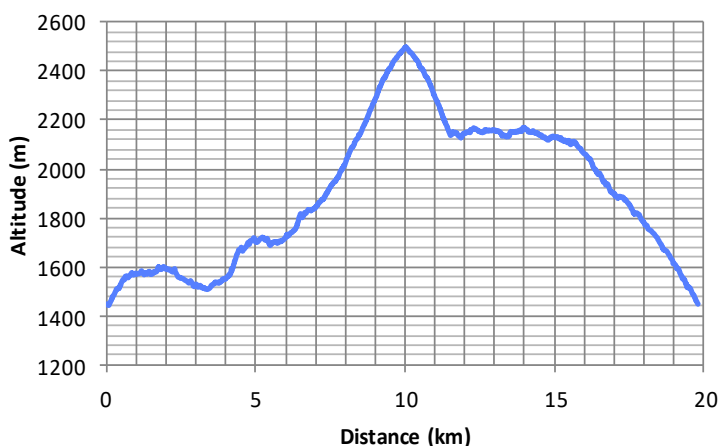


Getting There

By Car: From Granada, take the E-902/A-44 towards Motril. Take exit 164 and take the A-348 towards Lanjarón. Carry on past Lanjarón and after about a further 8km turn left onto the A-4132, marked towards Trevélez (the turning is just after you enter Órgiva). Follow this road until you get past Pampaneira, then turn up to the left following signs for Bubión and Capileira.

By Bus: Capileira is served by Alsa services from Granada bus station (3 per day), which also stop at other Alpujarran towns, including Órgiva, Lanjarón and Busquístar.

DISCLAIMER: While we have made every effort to ensure that this information is accurate, conditions can change, and you are responsible for your own safety.



1. The route is marked from the main road in Capileira above the information point. Turn left off the main road at the sign saying *Sendero: Acequias del Poqueira* and then turn up to the right. About 100 m later you will reach an information panel describing the route (PR-A 23). It is marked with signs, wooden posts and yellow and white stripes. Follow the path uphill.



2. After about 500 m, bear left onto a dirt road and then take a path to the left 200 m further on.

3. After about a kilometre, join a wide track.

4. After 1.25 km, you will reach *La Cebadilla*, an old village by the hydroelectric power station, which is now abandoned. When you reach some signposts, turn right.

5. By the hydroelectric power station, cross the river twice and then turn right onto a path after the second bridge. About 500 m after the bridge, bear right and keep following the path up the valley.

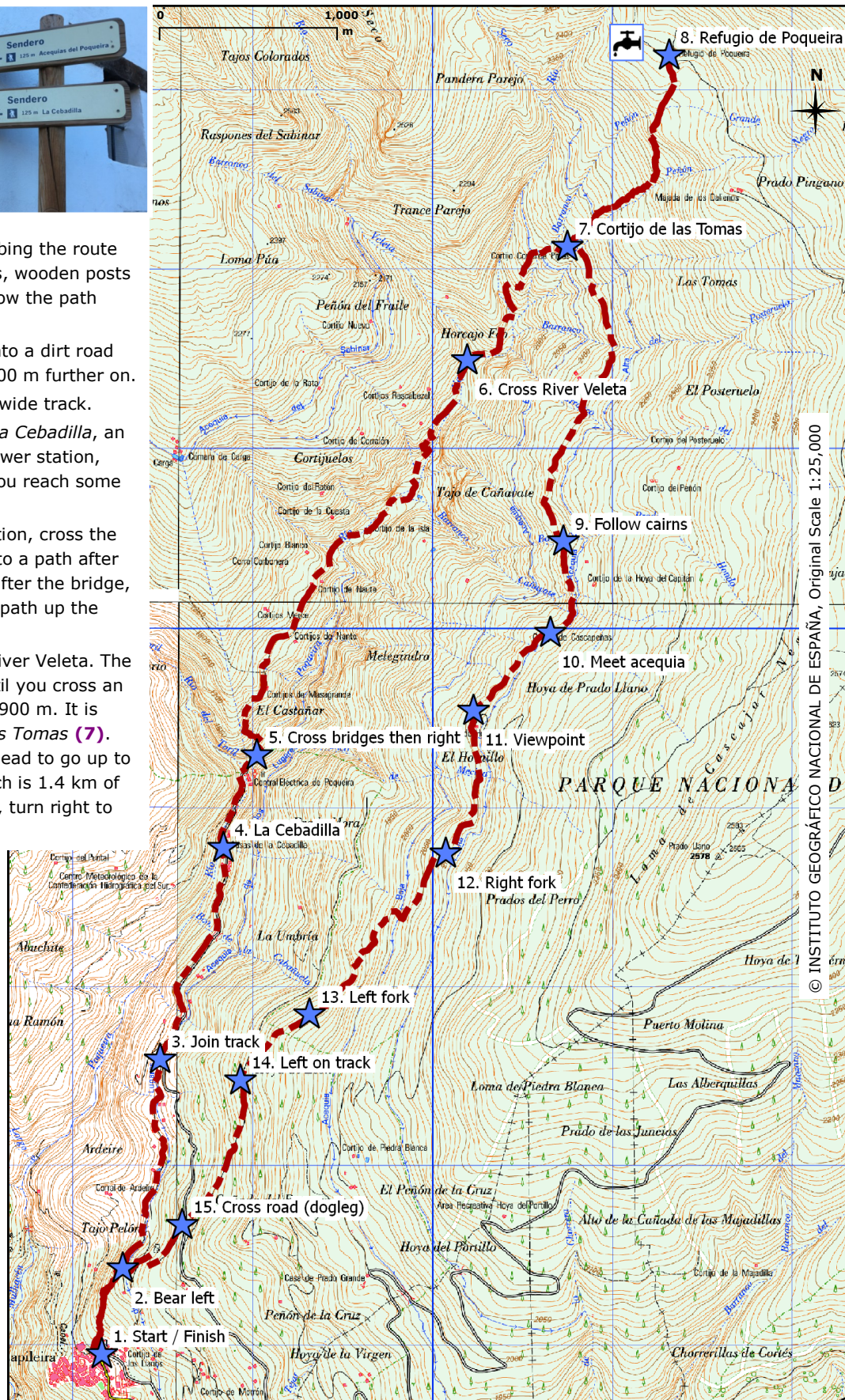
6. After 1.75 km, you cross the River Veleta. The path then winds steeply uphill until you cross an *acequia* (irrigation channel) after 900 m. It is another 200 m up to *Cortijo de las Tomas* (**7**). Here you can continue straight ahead to go up to the *Refugio de Poqueira* (**8**), which is 1.4 km of very steep climbing. Alternatively, turn right to continue the main loop.

9. The next section is fairly flat with gentle ups and downs, and there are some fantastic views of *Mulhacén*, *Veleta* and the rest of the western part of the Sierra Nevada. You need to cross several streams. About 2 km from *Cortijo de las Tomas*, a small section of the path has fallen in. There is a signpost and then you cross a stream. After that climb up to the left, following the cairns. You'll rejoin the main path after a few metres.

10. After 600 m, you meet an *acequia*, which the path follows for about 100 m.

11. 500 m further on there is a viewpoint with an information panel showing the names of the mountains and other geographical features. Just after this you will reach the *Cortijo del Hornillo*. Here you need to scramble across a field below the building before rejoining the path on the other side.

12. After a further 800 m, take the right fork (signposted) and start descending. 500 m later you cross an *acequia*.



13. 800 m after the *acequia*, take the left fork, after which you enter a pine forest.

14. When you meet a track, turn left. 700 m later take the path down to the right (marked).

15. Soon you meet a road; cross it and continue - this involves a slight dogleg (right then left). At the next junction, take the small path down to the left (marked).

Soon you will rejoin the outward path at **2**. Turn left down into the village.