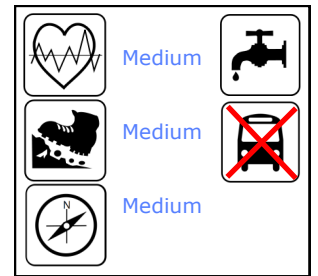


Cónchar Loop

This walk takes you down into the lush Dúrcal valley and up to the *Atalaya de Cónchar* watchtower. The landscape and vegetation are very varied: vineyards, fruit orchards, olive groves, cacti, scrubland and the village of Cónchar. From the watchtower you have great views of the Lecrin Valley and the Sierra Nevada mountains. The climb is very steep, so it's best not to do this walk in high summer, but it's great at any other time of year.



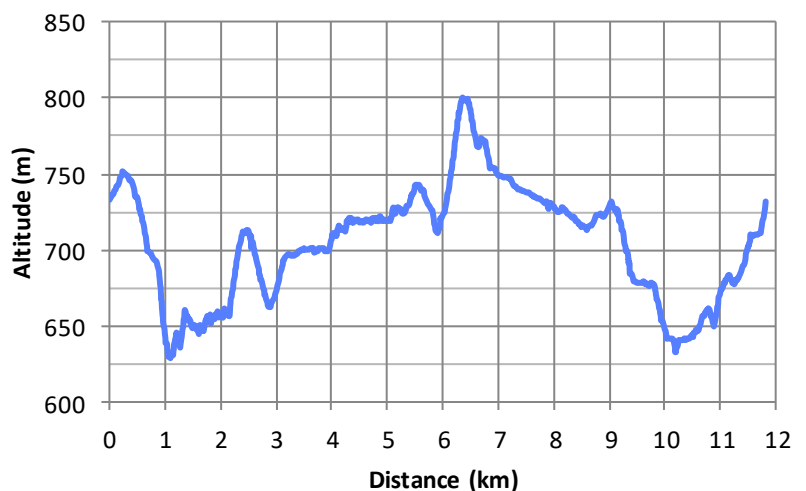
Key Facts	
Length	12 km
Time	4 hours
Min/Max Altitude	628 m / 801 m
Accumulated height difference	550 m
Season	Autumn, Winter, Spring



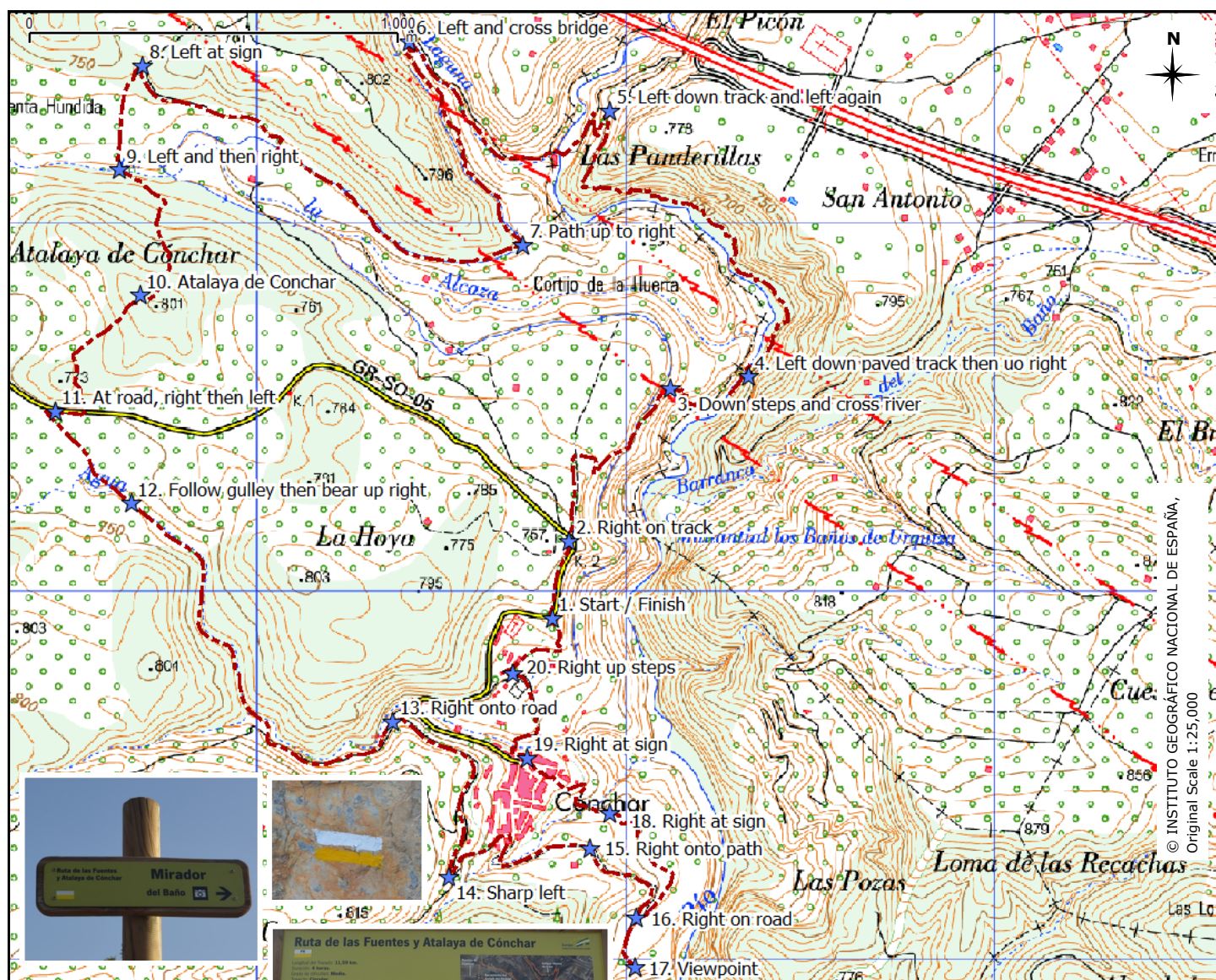
Getting there

By car: From Granada take the E-902/A-44 towards Motril. Come off at junction 153, marked *Cónchar / Dúrcal / Albuñuelas*. At the roundabout turn right towards Cónchar. After 1.5 km, turn left towards Cónchar. After around 1.5 km, the road turns sharply right and then right again. Immediately after the second corner, there is a viewpoint ("Mirador") on your left where you can park. Here you will find an information board describing the walk.

By bus: Cónchar is not easy to reach by bus.



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 official name of the walk is *Ruta de las Fuentes y Atalaya de Cónchar*. From the information panel showing the route, walk up the main road.

2. After 200m turn right onto a track, which starts to descend into the valley.

3. After 650m turn right down some steps. The path goes steeply down, crosses the river and then follows it upstream. This section is quite overgrown.

4. Around 100 m after crossing the river, go left down a paved track and then take a path up to the right. Follow the path along the side of the valley for just over a kilometre.

5. Turn left down a wide track (ignoring a signpost in the opposite direction). After 150m turn left again (this time following the sign) and cross the stream.

6. After 800m turn left, cross the bridge and take the path back along the other side of the valley for about 700m.

7. Take the path up to the right. Follow the path beside an acequia (irrigation channel). After about 600m, cross a field and then take a path up to the right on the other side of the field. Join a wide track, which you follow for about 500m.

8. Turn left at the sign and after around 300m go along the edge of a vineyard, keeping the vineyard to your right.

9. At the end of the vineyard, turn left and then right at the signs. Take the path which goes steeply uphill.

10. At the top of the hill is a watchtower, the Atalaya de Cónchar. From here you get great views in all directions. Continue on the path down the opposite side of the hill.

11. When you get to the road, turn right for a short distance then left onto a track on the other side of the road.

12. The track goes into a gully. Follow the bottom of the gully for about 700 m and then keep to the path bearing up to the right above the gully. Then turn left onto a path.

13. Turn right when you reach a small road.

14. After about 500m turn sharply left onto another road down into the village. At the end of the road, turn right. Follow this road out of the village for 300m.

15. When the road turns sharply down to the left, turn right onto a path. The path winds down through some orchards.

16. After around 200m you reach another road. Turn right. After 100m there is a viewpoint (17). Retrace your steps. When you get to the path you came on, go straight ahead on the road.

18. After another 400m, take the signposted path down to the right. The path crosses a stream and heads up into the village. Turn left at the sign, which takes you to the main church square where there is a fountain with drinking water.

19. Turn right on the other side of the square, following the sign. After 100m, take the steep road up to your left (signposted).

20. After 100m, take the steps up to the right, and then turn right at the top of the steps. When you reach the end of the road, take the path up to the left. Follow this path back to the start of the walk.