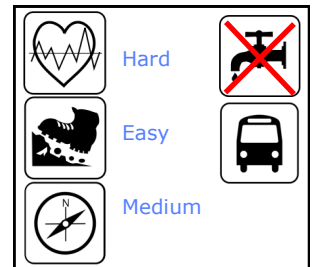


Dílar - Silleta de Padul

In Spanish the word *silleta* can refer to a saddle, and when you get near the top of this striking mountain it's easy to see how it got its name. The walk up through the pine forest is steep, but you are rewarded with spectacular 360-degree views from the top of the mountain. The return route skirts around the back of the mountain before descending more gently back to Dílar.



1. From the bus stop, continue along the road and take the right fork (signed *Rio Dílar* etc.); when you get to a Stop sign, turn right up the hill and follow the road round to the left. When you get to a T-junction, dogleg right then left. After 200-300m, you will see a tower and a wall with battlements - take the left fork here. Carry on until you get to an attractive chapel (the *Ermita Nueva*).



2. Just past the *Ermita* you will see a small parking area and an information panel describing the route. The route is marked with wooden posts with white and yellow markings, although this is a little haphazard and, at the time of writing, the first section was not marked.

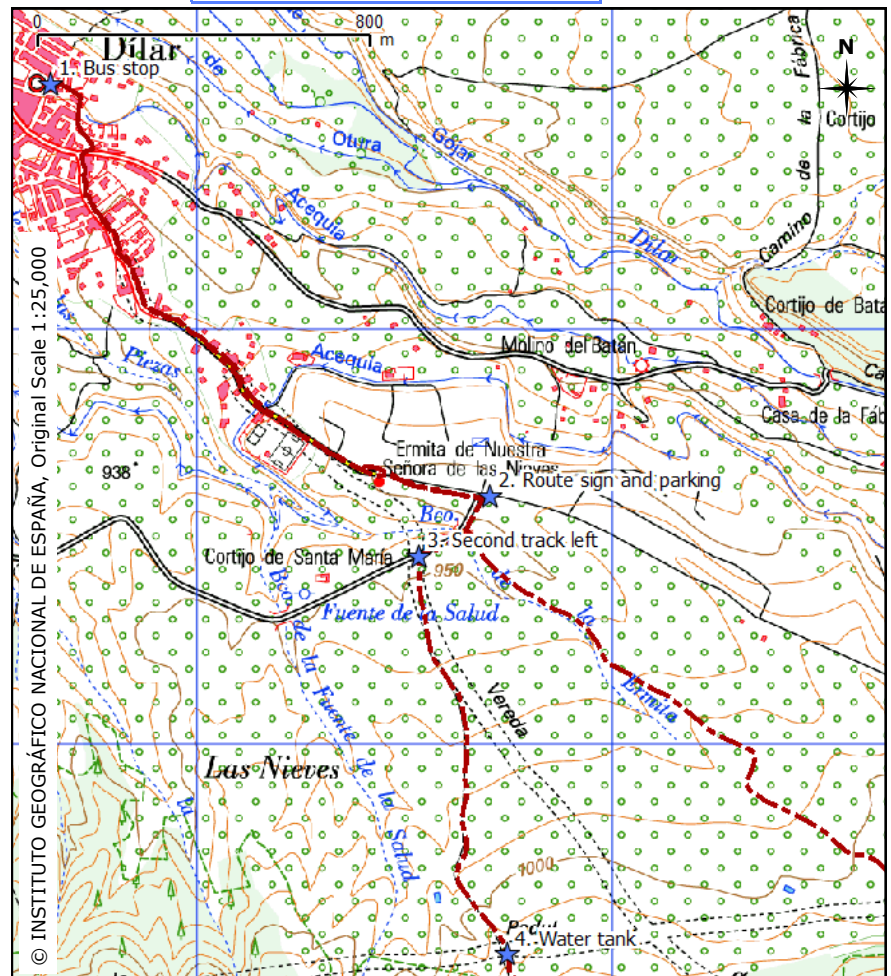


3. Take the asphalted road to the right and then the second farm track on the left (you will return by the first one).

4. When you get to a fenced enclosure containing a water storage tank on your left, the farm track peters out, but carry on past it, and, about 100m further on you will see the start of the path, marked with a wooden post.

Key Facts	
Length	15 km *
Time	5 hours *
Min/Max Altitude	873 m /1520 m
Accumulated height difference	733 m
Season	All year

* Distance and time given are from the bus stop in the centre of Dílar. If you can, save yourself about 3 km / 45 mins by parking at the trailhead proper (point 2)

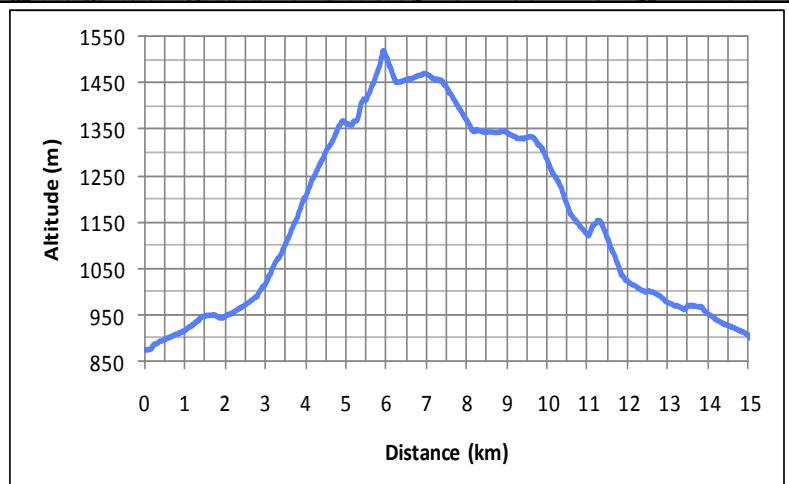


Getting There

By Car: From Granada, take the E-902/A-44 towards Motril. Take exit 139 and go alongside the motorway, past a service station, then turn left at the roundabout (signed *Otura, Alhendín*). Follow signs for Otura and then Dílar. After entering Dílar, carry on up the hill and then turn right following the one-way system; you will see the bus stop on your right. Park in the town centre or drive to the car park at the trailhead proper, following directions given in point **1** above (recommended).

By bus: Bus 171 serves Dílar, with at least 19 services a day (45 min). See www.treksierranevada.com/getting-around for more info and links to current timetables.

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.



5. After about 2km of steep climbing through the forest, the path starts to level off, and you reach a signpost. Carry on in the direction of *La Silleta*.

6. 200m further on, turn left onto a wider track and then right onto a path (signposted *La Silleta*). At the top of a short, steep slope you will get to an olive grove, which you skirt round on the left-hand side, before turning right onto another track and almost immediately left onto an uphill path (both marked).

7. Once out of the trees, you can see the *Silleta* ahead, and it's only 300-400 m to go. When you get to the saddle, the *Silleta* itself is a short scramble up to your right,



but the highest point is actually to the left.

8. From the *Silleta*, either retrace your steps to the saddle of the hill and continue down the other side or, slightly easier, take the path going down the opposite side of the *Silleta* and bear right onto the main path. Then turn left at the marked junction, following the contour of the hill round.

9. After about 800m, take the right fork and then go straight on, ignoring the path going directly downhill to the right.

10. After about a further 400m, where you meet another path, turn right. Soon, the path starts to go more steeply downhill and splits into several alternative routes. Carry on downhill (on any of the paths), looking out for wooden marker posts.

11. Just after the bottom of the slope, you

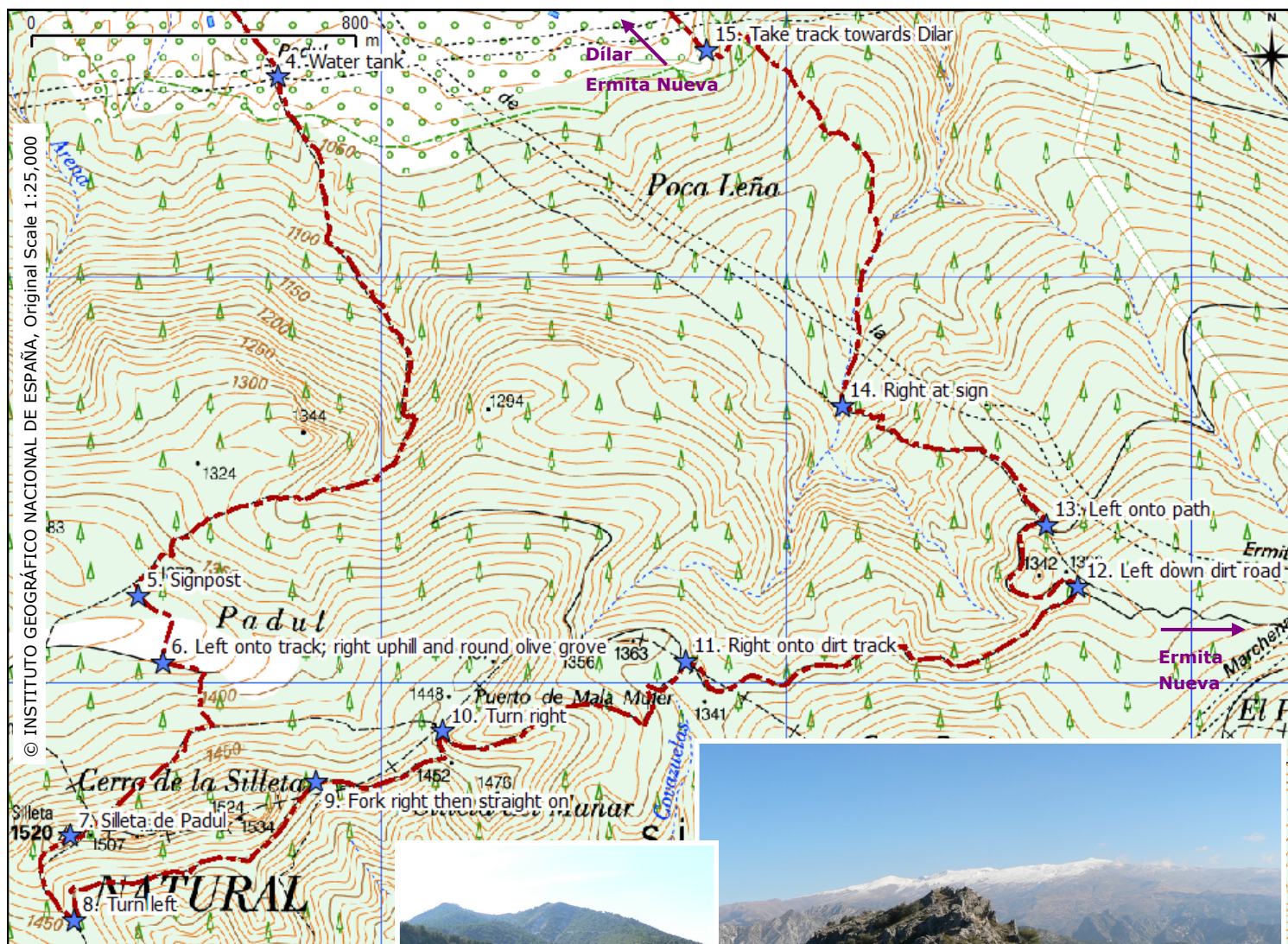
get to a wider dirt track - turn right here.

12. After just over 1km, you reach a junction with a larger dirt road. Here you are very close to the *Ermita Vieja* (about 700m along the road to the right), an attractive small stone chapel. Just past the *Ermita*, there is also a spring where you can refill drinking water. To carry on our route, though, turn left.

13. About 400m down the road, take the path to the left (marked).

14. Follow the path down through the trees (with one short uphill section), following the signposts towards *Ermita Nueva*.

15. When you emerge from the forest, go straight on, taking the farm track towards Dílar and the *Ermita Nueva*, which you can see ahead of you.



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