

Cartajima – 1h 15min - Parauta – 1h 30min – Igualeja – 2h 15min - Cartajima

Out of the hotel door, turn right then left and down the steps into the square below the church. Take the first left down and keep right and down past a square. Carry on down and you will meet Calle Ancha, orange-tree-lined “wide street”. Walk the length of it and, just before the schoolhouse at the end, there is a track on the left marked “Parauta”.

Follow the path down to bottom of the valley, don't be tempted to turn off to the left! If there is a hint of a chain or gatepost do not go there! At the bottom, rather washed out by the Winter rains, take the path to the left across the river bed (which may be dry), along the path, and then right across the main river past a derelict mill, up to Parauta.

Once in Parauta, continue straight ahead leaving the part finished building work to the left, into the main square. Cross the square into Calle Calvario, passing a café bar on the right and restaurant/bar, “El Anafe”, on the left. Continue up the main street bearing right and take the next turning on the right signposted Igualeja. It is a crazy-paved road with railings between it and the main road and it doubles back at a 150 deg angle. Continue along this road which turns into a concreted surface.

After a steep descent passing under high-tension cables cross the river. Shortly after, the main track (gated and with a crossed waymark) bears left and the narrow trail you need goes up to the right. Look out for the waymark.

You arrive at a gully and a waymark. Don't cross at this point but turn left and follow a faint mule track up across a chestnut field where you will soon find another waymark with a third at the side of the gully where you do cross and follow the footpath along the slope.

At the crest of the hill, you will come to a crossroads and a waymark. Go straight over and steeply down towards Igualeja. Care should be taken down this path as it narrows and becomes quite rough with a drop to the right.

When you reach the first T-junction, turn right and follow around to the left, steeply down until you reach Calle Hiladero. To continue with the walk to Cartajima, turn right into Calle Hiladero.

If you want to get a coffee or a beer, continue straight on into Igualeja past the fountain and up to the main street where there are several bars and cafes. If you want more than just a drink then we would recommend that you turn right into the main street, Calle de la Iglesia, and in a few yards right again into a narrow street, Calle Leon, which opens into the main square beside the ayuntamiento.

Calle Hiladero turns into a narrow path which winds up out of the valley. At a fork opposite a small house with concrete steps at the front, turn right into an even narrower path.

At the next fork, turn right. At the top of this path, at a T-Junction with a metaled track, turn right. At the next crossroad more like two forks, follow the track down to the left.

At the next crossroad, carry straight on over onto the less well used path. The path winds down the side of the valley until, shortly after a fairly long left-hand bend, the path crosses an arroyo (stream bed). Shortly before this crossing, take a turn to the right marked with a red arrow on a nearby chestnut tree. If you pass a ruined building on your left, you have gone too far. Turn back and take the first turning on your left.

This track passes a wrecked car and then a small white building used for storing farm equipment and comes to an end just above another small white building. Make your way down and with this building close on your right, make your way straight down through the chestnut forest until you can see the river and turn right onto an ill defined track taking you down until you can see the log bridge. Cross the river and turn left cross the smaller stream and then right to rejoin the track up the side of the valley to Cartajima along the route that you took on the outward leg to Parauta.

The Small Print: Please be sure that you are prepared for all eventualities. Take sunscreen, hat, water, mobile phone with you. We take no responsibility for the accuracy of these instructions and you do this walk at your own risk. If you need help, please telephone us on +34 696081354 or +34 952180778