



Giants' Cauldrons

> Place of Interest

GIANTS' CAULDRONS

This vantage point is in Galegos itself, about 50 m from the starting point of the walking path. On the granite bed of a stream are large cavities, scoured out by the action of stones which, propelled by the water and agitated by currents, gradually wore down and dug out the stream bed. Also worth looking out for is the contact between the granite and the surrounding, older rock in the ditch alongside the road. This contact gave rise to a dense, black and very hard rock called corneana, created by the effect of the heat from the fiery mass on slate.

PR2
MRV

WALKING IN GALEGOS



PATH NETWORK IN NATURE

> Highlights

NATURE: this walking path passes through hilly granite countryside, offering wild but beautiful landscapes. In the poor soil, the granite massif fills the horizon with giant blocks, faults, fissures, boulders. Impressive cork trees burst out of the crags, in prodigious displays of beauty, balance and strength. Chestnut trees, oaks, olive trees, and pines complement the scenery which, on the banks of the Sever River, also offers poplars, and ash. It is worth noting the following species: the Iberian midwife toad, the griffon vulture, the Egyptian vulture and the otter.

HERITAGE: *Castro da Crença* (Iron Age); Church of S. Sebastião.

HANDICRAFT: traditional embroidery with chestnut peel; basketry in chestnut tree wood.

GASTRONOMY: soup of *sarapatel*; lamb stew; *cachafrito* of little goat; *alhada* of dogfish; thin bread with chestnuts. Sweets (chestnut cake, apple *boleima*, *aramenha* pie). Chestnut (Protected Designation of Origin).

> Recommended season

This walking path can be done throughout the year. Nevertheless, users must be aware of high temperatures during summer time and some slippery points during winter and rainy days.

> Trail signage

® FCMP

right way



wrong way



turn left



turn right



> Walking code

Follow sign-posted trails only. / Respect private property. / Avoid making unnecessary noise. / Do not disturb the animals. / Do not collect or damage plants or rocks. / Do not litter and leave no trace of your visit. / Do not light fire and do not throw cigarettes on the ground. / Be kind to local people. / Beware of cattle. Although gentle, they do not like strangers approaching their young. / Leave the gates as you found them. If they are closed, be sure they remain well shut.

> Useful contacts

Town Hall of Marvão: +351 - 245 909 130
 Municipal Tourist Office: +351 - 245 909 131
 SOS Emergency: 112
 SOS Forest: 117
 Medical Center: +351 - 245 909 100
 Anti-Poisoning Information: +351 - 217 950 143
 GNR (Republican National Guard): +351 - 245 993 617
 Fire Department: +351 - 245 920 135
 Village Hall of Santa Maria de Marvão: +351 - 245 993 832
 Village Hall of Santo António das Areias: +351 - 245 992 370 / 245 920 121

Promotor:



Walking path registered and approved by:



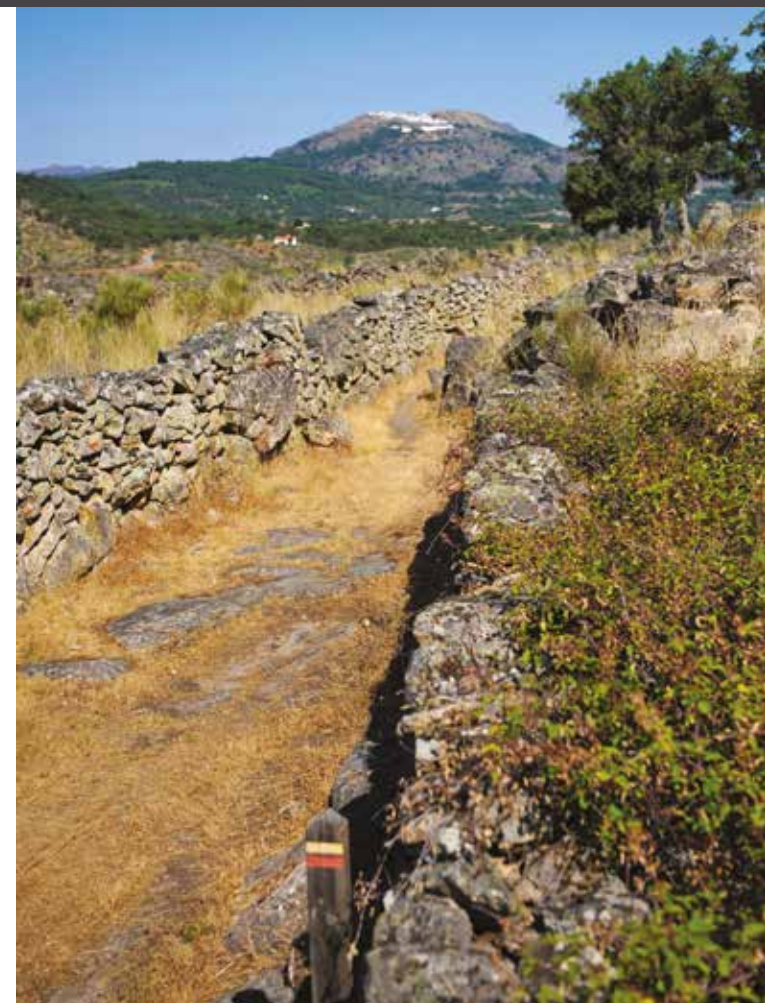
Partner institution:



Co-financing:



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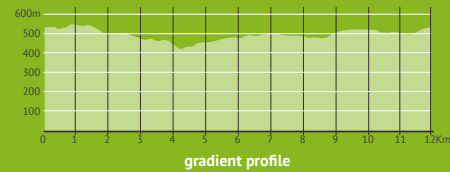
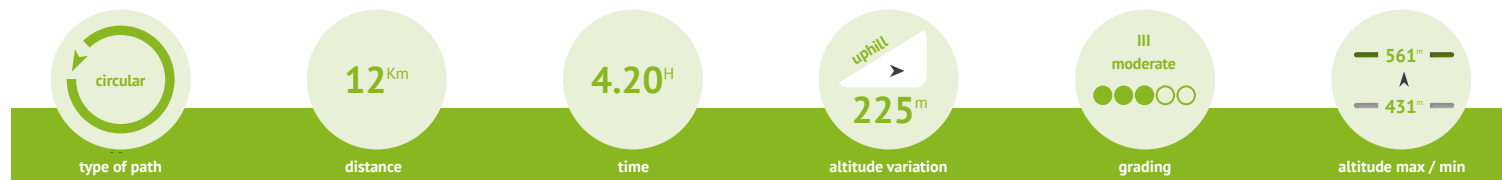


> Walking path description



Medieval path. Sometimes in granite slabs, between scarps and stone walls.

The walking path begins in the village of Galegos, by the old bus stop in the Largo da Ponte. On the granite bed of a stream are large cavities (giants' cauldrons), scoured out by the action of stones which, propelled by the water and agitated by currents, gradually wore down and dug out the rocky stream bed. The walk continues in the direction of the border (La Fontañera). On this stretch of the walk, between Galegos and La Fontañera, the Portuguese sundew (*Drosophyllum lusitanicum*), a very interesting insect-eating plant, can be found. The walk continues through a gently rolling landscape, towards and across the stream at Galegos and on to the Sever River, a place at once wild and pleasant, with the harshness of granite together with the sound of rippling water and the restful poplars and ash trees along its banks. Ahead, a magnificent view over the valley, including impressive granite blocks of huge size. Looking towards the valley to the right (southeast) there is a dark green patch of chestnut trees which we will pass on the walk. Straight ahead (northeast) there is a threshing floor and a small farm. Returning to Galegos we come again to the stream of the same name next to the tarred road that leads back to the village.



The difficulty level is determined according to 4 different factors, each of which is assessed on a scale of 1 to 5 (from easiest to most difficult)

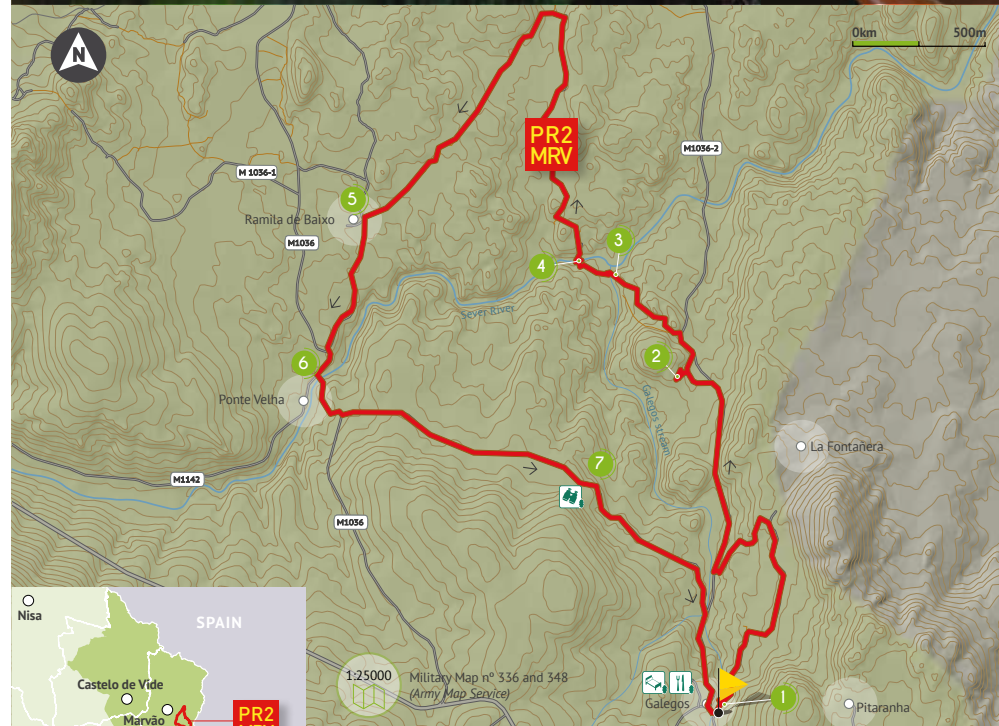
difficulty level



Sever River



Soup of sarapatel



1:25000 Military Map nº 336 and 348 (Army Map Service)

Caption

- Walking path
- Asphalt road
- Watercourse
- Recommended direction of the walking path: clockwise

Starting/Ending: Bridge square, Galegos (GPS: 39°22'07,34"N; 7°19'30,52"W)

- Accommodation
- Restaurant
- Landscape

> Places of Interest

- 1 Giants' Cauldrons
- 2 Castro da Crença
- 3 Treadmills of Gallegos's stream
- 4 Sever River
- 5 Granite
- 6 Sever River - Old Bridge
- 7 Viewpoint



Serra de São Mamede Nature Park

The Serra de São Mamede, which gives name to this Nature Park, is the largest mountainous formation south of the Tagus River. Due to its geographical location and the fact that it rises above 1000m, it has distinctive microclimate aspects that have allowed the establishment and survival of some animal and vegetal communities that occur here in an almost isolated manner. The Bonelli's eagle is represented in the symbol of this Protected Area. It is currently one of the rarest birds of prey found in our country.

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