

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Ifonche-Fuente de las Pilas Circular (Adeje)

Route Summary

This is a very pleasant walk in the rural setting of Ifonche heading out to a charming and verdant spring in the depths of Barranco del Rey. The surrounding volcanic mountains and barrancos provide a jaw-dropping backdrop at a number of places throughout the walk.

Duration: 2.5 hours



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: Car or taxi. You should find a parking spot near the start of the walk.

Length: 4.420 km / 2.76 mi

Height Gain: 162 meter

Height Loss: 162 meter

Max Height: 1027 meter

Min Height: 935 meter

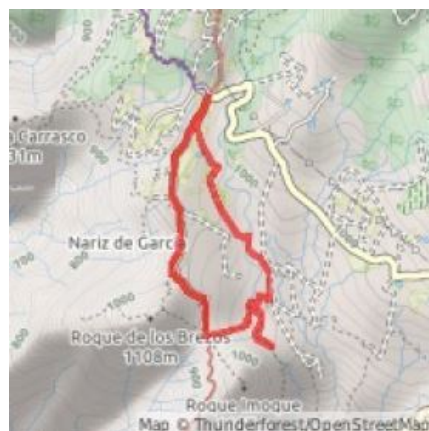
Surface: Mostly on relatively smooth surfaces, but rough in and around the Barranco del Rey sections, including the Fuente area itself.

Child Friendly: Yes.

Difficulty: Easy.

Dog Friendly: Yes.

Refreshments: Bar Restaurante El Dornajo at start/end point.



Description

This a relatively easy walk in a rural farming and vine-growing environment closely surrounded by wonderfully spectacular natural features: Barrancos del Infierno, Seco, Agua, Fañabé, and del Rey, Montaña Carrasco, Roques de los Brezos, Imoque and del Conde, and the massive nose-shaped Nariz de Garcia rock. There are great views down to the coast at Las Americas and Costa Adeje. The focal point of the walk is the delightful, green and tranquil setting of the Fuente de las Pilas, a natural spring seeping from the rocky cliffside inside Barranco del Rey. If you are lucky you may see paragliders take-off from the rocky escarpment by the Nariz de Garcia. The start and end point for the walk, the old-style Bar Restaurante El Dornajo, is a busy eating place and refreshment stop, popular with Canarios and Extranjeros alike.



Thanks to [Sally Whymark](#), author of "[Tenerife Nature Walks](#)", for the [route description](#) in her longer and more difficult trail that allowed us to make this a circular walk, rather than a "there and back" walk.

Waypoints

(1) Start at El Dornajo Bar Restaurant

(28.13493; -16.68999)

Start the walk outside the El Dornajo Bar Restaurant. With your back to the walks signpost walk in a south-westerly direction, past the entrance to the bar on your right shoulder, and along the country lane, passing the garden and car-park for the bar.



(2) Keep right here

(28.13392; -16.69055)

In 130 m, or so, carry straight on, ignoring the narrow road ascending on the left that will be part of your return route. (127 m)



(3) Paragliding viewpoint

(28.12544; -16.69223)

In another 1.0 km, divert to your right to the paragliding take-off point where there are tremendous views down to Costa Adeje over the Barranco Seco and the nose-like Nariz de Garcia rocky outcrop. If you are fortunate, you may witness a paraglide take-off! Now return to the tarred road and carry on as the road gently descends towards an isolated finca. (1.2 km)



(4) Right and down onto path

(28.12413; -16.69019)

In 200 m, arriving at the finca, follow the path right and down at the walks signpost. (1.4 km)



(5) Left and down at threshing circle

(28.12215; -16.69018)

Traversing the hillside for 300 m, passing Roque de los Brizos (heathers) on your right, you arrive at an impressive threshing circle (era), with Roque Imoque towering ahead of you and a tremendous view down Barranco de Fañabé, with Roque del Conde dominating on your left-side perspective. When ready, head downhill behind the threshing circle, following the wooden sign for Fuente de las Pilas and the eroded path. Pass the abandoned building on your left and follow the twisting rocky path to the bed of Barranco del Rey. (1.7 km)



(6) Follow sign right along barranco

(28.12363; -16.68739)

In 400 m from the threshing circle, at the bed of the barranco, follow the sign for the Fuente as the path wynds up a little and then down past fig trees before becoming a stony, indefinite, track along the base of the barranco. (2.1 km)



(7) Fuente de las Pilas

(28.12160; -16.68613)

In 350 m, you will arrive at the Fuente de las Pilas on your left, where water drips from the rock face into layered rock basins (the origin of the name). It is a green and tranquil spot with ferns, flowers and herbs growing. Clearly, the place is well looked after, with a little rock-garden beneath the spring. A few metres further on, on the same side of the barranco, there is an unusual rock formation in the form of an armchair, the so-called Piedra del Descanso (stone of rest). When you are ready to move on, re-trace your steps along the bed of the barranco and re-join the path, on your right-hand side, by the fig trees. (2.45 km)



(8) Right and up at El Refugio sign

(28.12367; -16.68732)

In 350 m from the Fuente, follow the path up the opposite side of the barranco from the side you descended earlier. It is marked with a wooden sign for the Restaurante El Refugio. This isolated Canarian-style restaurant can be clearly seen from the top of the barranco, on the right. Apparently, it is closed in Summer. (2.8 km)



(9) Left at top of barranco

(28.12411; -16.68625)

In 200 m, upon reaching the top of the north side of Barranco del Rey, with a threshing circle on your right, turn sharp left and follow an indistinct path along the side of the ravine. (3.0 km)



(10) Take minor path gently downhill

(28.12562; -16.68634)

In just over 100 m, follow the path as it starts to go gently down into the barranco again. (3.1 km)



(11) Keep straight ahead here

(28.12651; -16.68727)

In 200 m, or so, ignore the path going sharply down to the bed of the barranco on your left and advance, straight-on, past a large bush on your left. There is likely to be water seeping from the hillside on your right at this point (hence the large bush!). Continue your gradual descent into the barranco. (3.3 km)



(12) Veer left and up barranco slope

(28.12757; -16.68754)

In 100 m from the large bush at Waypoint 11, you will have arrived at the bed of the barranco. Continue to walk forward for a few metres and you will see a narrow path starting to rise out of the barranco on the left side. Follow this path up the hillside, passing a couple of stone cairns on your left side at a stony area where the path is indistinct. Continue uphill towards the pine trees and plots on your left. (3.4 km)



(13) Veer right between trees

(28.12791; -16.68843)

In 100 m, passing an agricultural plot on your left side, do not the path down to the plot, but carry on forward on the wide track through the trees. (3.5 km)



(14) Straight on past fields on right

(28.12893; -16.68921)

In 200 m, approaching a field on your right, ignore the twist in the road down to your right and carry on straight ahead, gently uphill towards farm buildings where you turn sharp right and continue following the rough road. The road will eventually take you out at the tarred minor road at Waypoint 2 on the outward journey, where you veer slightly right to your end-point at the clearly visible Bar Dornajo. (3.7 km)



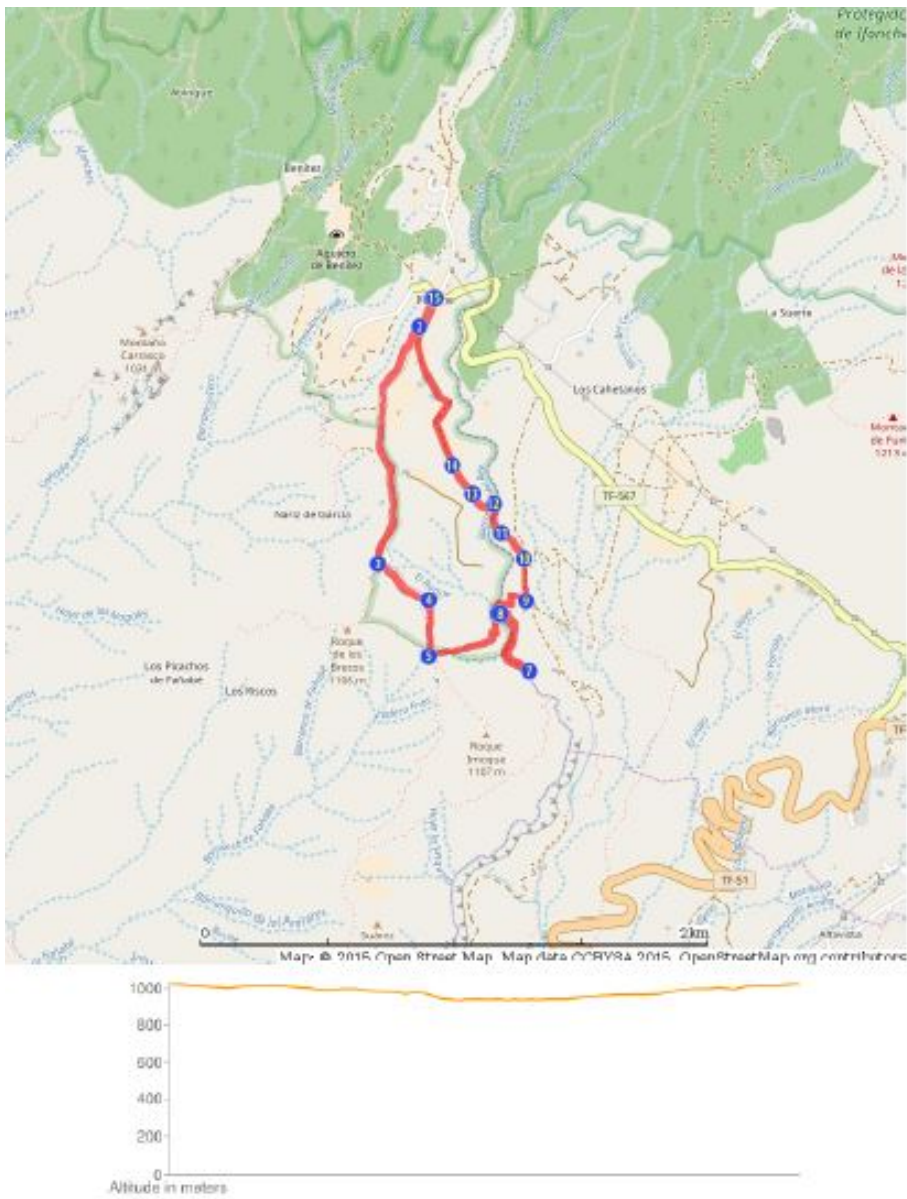
(15) End of walk back at Bar El Dornajo

(28.13492; -16.68992)

In 700 m you will have arrived back at the Bar El Dornajo where a friendly refreshment awaits the thirsty walker. (4.4 km)



Route Map



Links:

[Photos from walk](#)

[Download Route Guide](#) (PDF with illustrated Waypoints)

[Download GPX file](#) (GPS Exchange Format)

[Access Walk on Viewranger](#)

[Access Walk on Wikiloc](#)