

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Arico Viejo-Bco Atalaya-Arico Nuevo Circular (Arico)

Route Summary

At 5.6 km in length, with a very modest 185 m overall ascent, this is a gentle introduction to walking in the wide-open landscapes of Arico with its golden stone terraces. There are great coastal views and to the mountains. Arico Nuevo is a very charming stop-off along the way.

Duration: 2 hours



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: Titsa 416 to Granadilla, then 36. Easy parking on main street at start.

Length: 5.620 km / 3.51 mi

Height Gain: 185 meter

Height Loss: 185 meter

Max Height: 372 meter

Min Height: 220 meter

Surface: Rough. Rough paths and unpaved roads in the mid-section of the walk. Quiet tarred roads elsewhere.

Child Friendly: Yes, but only if children are used to hikes of this distance and overall ascent on rough paths.

Difficulty: Moderate.

Dog Friendly: Yes. On lead in built-up areas and public roads.

Refreshments: There are a couple of cafes in Arico Viejo. A cafe/bar/restaurant may be open in the square in Arico Nuevo.



Description

This is a pleasant walk on the gentle slopes of former farmland beneath the town of Arico Viejo in the south-east of the island. All around there are terraces of golden stone. Typically, in this area, the skies will be clear, with noticeable breeze from the north-east. There are sweeping views up to the mountains on the edge of the Teide Caldera and, as the walk progresses to its mid-point, down to the sea at Punta de Abona, with its prominent lighthouse. The start and end point is Arico Viejo, a tidy little Canarian town with a sprinkling of older buildings. Towards the end of the walk we take a stroll through its close neighbour, Arico Nuevo, a pretty little planned village, largely constructed in the 18th Century. Many of the buildings from this period remain, giving the place the feel of a living museum. Your camera is likely to go into overdrive capturing the many charming scenes!



Waypoints

(1) Start walk at church in Arico Viejo

(28.18222; -16.47803)

Start the walk at the church plaza in Arico Viejo. With your back to the doors of the church, turn right and walk down the main street, Calle de la Cruz.



(2) Right across waste ground

(28.18198; -16.47514)

In about 300 m, the main road having veered slightly right, go right at a wide opening across waste ground and follow a narrow path briefly towards an electricity pylon. (302 m)



(3) Left to follow rough road

(28.18092; -16.47504)

Go left and follow the rough and indistinct road in the direction of the coast far below. (421 m)



of

(4) Right onto rough road

(28.17991; -16.47068)

In about 460 m, at a t-junction, turn right onto a well-defined rough road. (878 m)



(5) Left off road towards coast

(28.17880; -16.47096)

In just less than 130 m, go left off the well-defined rough road to take a less distinct rough road, heading in the general direction of the faraway eastern coastline. In time the rough road becomes a narrow and, at times, indistinct path. Keep going on the path. (1.0 km)



(6) Keep on left side of ridge

(28.17678; -16.46394)

In about 800 m, as the indistinct path continues along a rocky ridge, keep on the left side of ridge, with a shallow barranco on your left. Make your way towards an electricity pylon on the ridge. (1.8 km)



(7) Go right and down at pylon

(28.17695; -16.46296)

In 100 m, or so, at an electricity pylon on your right, ascend a short distance up to the base of the pylon then veer right and down a path with loose shale onto an abandoned terrace. (1.9 km)



(8) Follow path along terrace

(28.17683; -16.46297)

In 15 m, or so, now standing on a level abandoned terrace, follow the back wall of the terrace on your right until the end of the terrace then follow a rough road that winds its way downhill into Barranco Atalaya. (1.9 km)



(9) Right down rough road

(28.17622; -16.46042)

In 400 m, the old access road for the terraces you are descending from meets a t-junction with a well-defined rough road. Go right and down this rough road. Keep following this road as reaches the base of the barranco then starts to rise up towards the large white-building above you. This is the local cemetery for the Arico area. (2.3 km)



(10) Visit cemetery

(28.17281; -16.46753)

In 1.2 km, you may wish to visit the cemetery as you pass it. When you are ready, proceed up the tarred access drive to a tarred road. (3.5 km)



(11) Right and up tarred road

(28.17253; -16.46796)

In 50 m, or so, from the cemetery, turn right and up the tarred road, heading for Arico Nuevo. Follow this road into the village, turning neither right nor left off it. It will take you into the church plaza in Arico Nuevo. As you will have already appreciated, this 17th C planned village is full of old-world charm and fine old buildings. (3.5 km)



(12) Left to leave church square

(28.17814; -16.48012)

In 1.5 km you will have arrived at the church plaza in Arico Nuevo, where a bar/restaurant may be open. When you are ready to move on, pass the doors of the church on your left and follow the walks signs for Arico Viejo down a lane. (5.0 km)



(13) Left and downhill

(28.17835; -16.47967)

In just over 60 m, you emerge from the winding lane onto a wider road. Go left and downhill on this road that soon connects with Arico Viejo. (5.0 km)



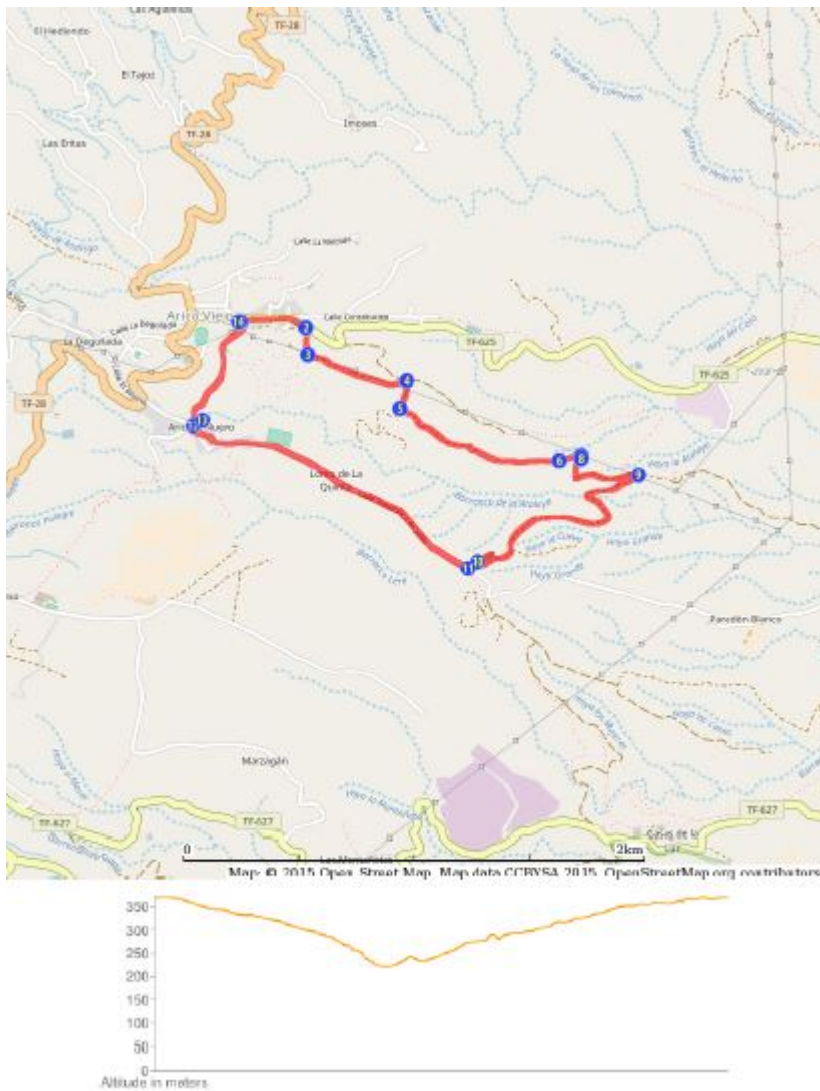
(14) Finish walk back at church plaza

(28.18221; -16.47810)

In around 600 m, you will have arrived back at the main street Arico Viejo, with your start-point at the church plaza on your left. (5.6 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](#)