

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Palm-Mar-Malpais-Punta de Rasca Circular (Arona)

Route Summary

An interesting walk into the Malpais of Rasca reaching the Rasca lighthouse before returning along the coastal path.

Duration: 3 to 3.5 hours



Route Overview

Duration: About 3 to 3.5 hours.

Transport/Parking: Titsa 467 to Guaza, then 468 to Palm Mar. Car or taxi. Parking near the roundabout at the end of Avenida el Palm-Mar. Nearby Calle Tortola is a good place to park.

Length: 9.520 km / 5.95 mi

Height gain: 124 meter

Height loss: 124 meter

Max Height: 53 meter

Min Height: Sea level-ish

Surface: Average

Child Friendly: Yes

Difficulty: Easy

Dog Friendly: Yes

Refreshments: In Palm-Mar there are beach bars at the promenade, and a number of restaurants elsewhere in the resort/settlement



Description

An interesting walk into the Malpais (badlands) of Rasca. This very special coastal natural environment also shows evidence of commercial activities such as quarrying and agriculture, some discontinued, with some abandoned buildings (and vehicles!) along the way. There are good views of the mountains on the southern side of the island and, of course, great wide-open coastal vistas at this southernmost point on the island, and across the channel to La Gomera. At the mid-point of the walk we reach the Faro de Rasca lighthouse (and the buildings of its predecessor lighthouse) before winding our way back to the start of the walk along the rugged coast. In Palm-Mar there are beach bars at the pretty promenade area, and a number of restaurants elsewhere in the resort/settlement.



Waypoints

(1) Start at entrance to beach promenade

(28.02690; -16.70434)

The walk starts and ends at the entrance to the beach promenade at the roundabout at the end of Avenida el Palm-Mar. Nearby Calle Tortola is a good place to park. Once onto the promenade, turn left and walk past a beach bar and beach club towards the round stone tower on the cliff-top, ahead of you.



(2) Pass the round stone tower

(28.02134; -16.70580)

After 639 m, pass the stone tower on your right, and then turn left, soon leaving the pavement to join a path in the Malpais running parallel with the ochre coloured apartments complex. (639 m)



(3) Keep apartments close on left here

(28.02124; -16.70358)

Continue on sandy path as it snakes through the Malpais, with the ochre coloured apartments still close on your left. (857 m)



(4) Turn right here

(28.02107; -16.69861)

After the initial flat section, start ascending the hill with pink and yellow coloured apartments on your left until, about half way up the hill (1.4 km), you reach a junction. Veer right here and you will soon pass through some low posts. A water irrigation channel is on your right side. (1.4 km)



(5) Keep on main path here

(28.01817; -16.69569)

After a further 400 m, your path winding through the Malpais, you come to this open junction. Don't take the right-ward direction but carry on in the direction of the figure on the left of this photo, continuing to walk away from the coast. (1.8 km)



(6) Turn towards left at x-roads

(28.01831; -16.69276)

After a further 300 m, you reach this dusty x-roads. Go left, with the hill with steel pylon on top on your right-hand side. (2.1 km)



(7) Turn sharp right here

(28.02050; -16.69206)

After a further 300 m, you will start to see the roofs of the apartments at the entrance to Palm Mar ahead of you in the distance. Turn sharp right where there is a large rock and battered white signpost on your right. You will now see a vineyard on your left-hand side as you carry on walking on the rough road. (2.4 km)



(8) Pass buildings on your right

(28.01400; -16.68719)

After a further 900 m, and passing the quarry on your right, pass largely abandoned buildings on your right and a large cultivated field on your left. (3.3 km)



(9) Pass building and abandoned lorry

(28.01182; -16.68582)

After 300 m you will pass a building on your left, also passing the abandoned lorry (if still there) on your left. Briefly join a narrow tarred road. (3.6 km)



(10) Join narrow path here

(28.01148; -16.68601)

After just 50 m or so, turn off the narrow road and take the path to your left. You will follow this path as it heads towards banana plantations, eventually running parallel to the plantation as you head for the coast. You will begin to see the lighthouse to your right as you proceed. (3.65 km)



(11) Approaching coast

(28.00059; -16.68743)

After a further 1.35 km, you will arrive at a T-junction above the coast, with the Faro de Rasca lighthouse on your right. (5.0 km)



(12) Turn right for lighthouse

(27.99939; -16.68792)

At the T-junction above the coast, turn right and head for the lighthouse. (5.0 km)



(13) Lighthouse

(28.00095; -16.69490)

After a further 800 m, and after taking in the lighthouse buildings and the views, move on taking the coastal path in the direction of Palm Mar. (5.9 km)



(14) Keep on coastal path

(28.00417; -16.69976)

Carry on walking on the coastal path as it twists and turns along the coast. The return to Palm Mar is, perhaps, longer than you might think! (6.5 km)



(15) Getting closer

(28.01119; -16.70676)

Palm Mar will begin to appear ahead of you now! (7.6 km)



(16) Return to round stone tower

(28.01933; -16.70651)

At 8.6 km you are nearing the stone tower and beach promenade. Return to your start point along the promenade, where a drink at the beach bar may be welcome. (8.6 km)



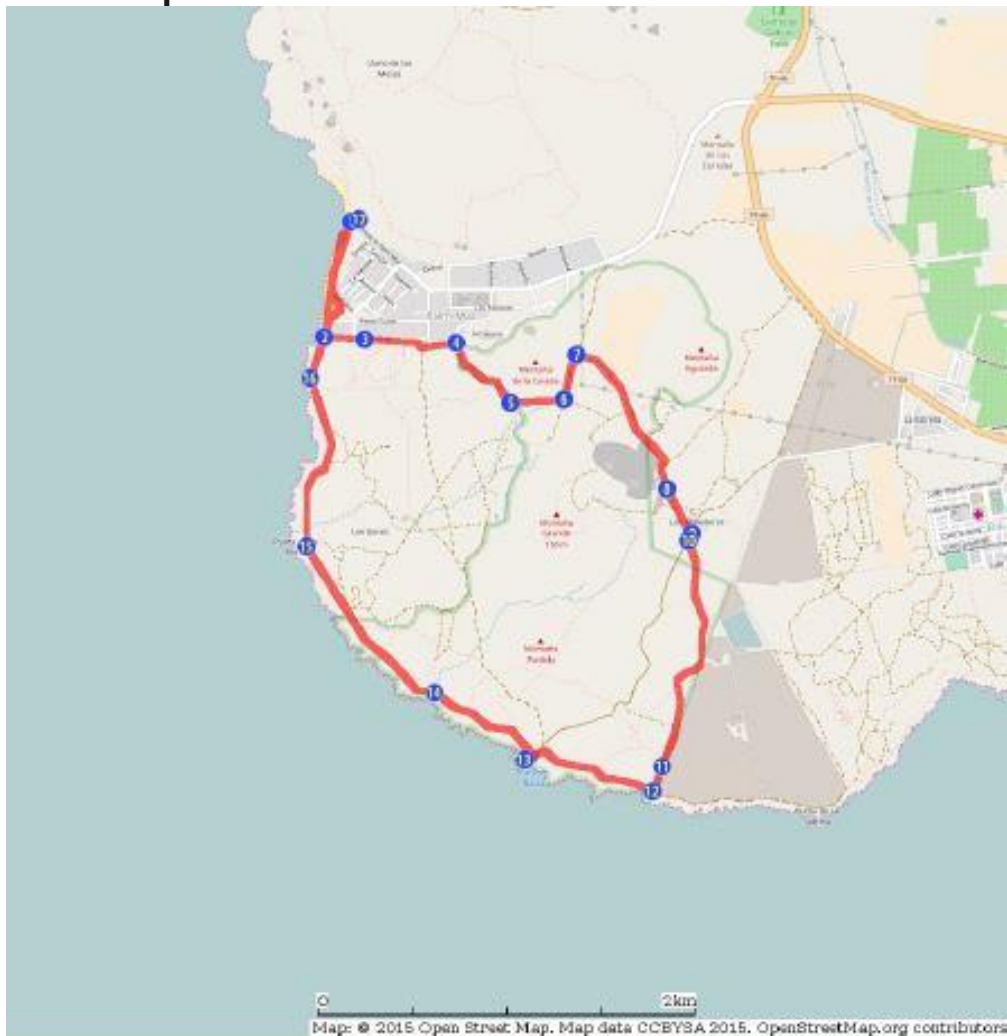
(17) Finish at roundabout

(28.02701; -16.70393)

Finish the walk at the roundabout, where you started. (9.5 km)



Route Map



Links:

[Photos from walk](#)

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

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

[Access Walk on Viewranger](#)