

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Las Vegas - El Seco Circular (Granadilla)

Route Summary

This walk is wonderfully scenic with close-up views of rocky barrancos, open pine forest all around, and a glorious backdrop of the high mountains surrounding the Teide caldera. There are a number of interesting information boards along the route.

Duration: 3.5 hours.



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: There is no direct bus service. Parking in and around Las Vegas.

Length: 7.790 km / 4.87 mi

Height gain: 417 meter

Height loss: 417 meter

Max Height: 882 meter

Min Height: 637 meter

Surface: Rough

Child Friendly: Yes

Difficulty: Moderate

Dog Friendly: Yes

Refreshments: Excellent Tasquita de Las Vegas.



Description

Despite all the ups and downs in this circular hike, as you climb the hillside above the hamlet of Las Vegas, and weave in and out of a couple of barrancos, it did not appear overly difficult or too arduous to us. The return point, at over 800 metres high, is the lonely and somewhat dilapidated El Seco goat farm which, nonetheless, has exceptional views up to the rugged high points of the Barranco del Rio. The day we walked the route in mid-March we enjoyed a cobalt blue sky above us, swifts dive-bombed around us all along the route, and the pines and wild lavender shimmered in the heat, scenting the air. The flies seemed to have taken the day off, and the only insects we encountered were honey bees on the flowers of the bugloss, and dragon flies darting along the many gushing water irrigation channels. The little hamlet of Las Vegas (literally the “place of the fertile fields”) is a tranquil location (unlike its glitzy cousin in the USA) perched high in the hills beyond Granadilla, and was first colonised by the Spanish for its agricultural importance in the 16th Century. To cap it all, after the walk, we were surprised and delighted to come upon a pretty little “Tasquita” in the village where we enjoyed a very welcome refreshment, on a very hot day.



Waypoints

(1) Start at walks info board - Las Vegas

(28.14722; -16.54701)

From the walks information board on the hill at the outskirts of Las Vegas walk downhill towards the bend in the road at the barranco.



(2) Left off road and up path

(28.14816; -16.54699)

After about 140 m turn left off the road up the stony path where you will soon encounter an information board and a large stone oven. Keep climbing up the path as it ascends the hillside. (137 m)



(3) Cross rough road and take signed path

(28.15171; -16.54511)

After almost another 600 m following the uphill path, cross this rough road and take the path as it continues on past the signpost. (729 m)



(4) Left onto rough road

(28.15892; -16.54520)

After a further 1.4 km, the uphill path meets a rough road. Turn left here at the signpost and continue up the road. (2.1 km)



(5) Veer right along rough road to El Seco

(28.16160; -16.55108)

After 800 m uphill on the road you will arrive at this junction, with signposts. We are taking a short diversion to a viewpoint and will return here shortly. (2.9 km)



(6) El Seco viewpoint

(28.16332; -16.55075)

After about 200 you arrive at these semi-derelict buildings where it appears that goat farm may still operate. We encountered 2 chained dogs there, one quiet, one that barked. There are marvellous views up the Barranco del Rio. When you are ready, re-trace your steps back to the junction with signposts at the previous waypoint. (3.1 km)



(7) Return to signs and turn downhill and right

(28.16158; -16.55114)

When you return to the signpost, take the direction downhill and to your right signed for Las Vegas to ensure that you take a different route back to your start point. (3.3 km)



(8) Turn right onto rough road here

(28.15970; -16.55408)

After a further 700 m as the path takes you in and out of the Barranco del Seco, passing an information board about the importance of pine trees in this area, you turn right at this signpost and take the rough road uphill for a short section before it descends to an old water mill. (4 km)



(9) Detour to old water mill

(28.15875; -16.55384)

You will probably want to take a very short detour to check out the old water mill and the gushing water in the open channel running downhill. As this is close to the mid-point in the walk you may want to take a breather here before returning to the information board about the old mill. (4.1 km)



(10) Veer left after returning from mill

(28.15903; -16.55456)

Veer left off the road after the information board and follow the path down into the pine trees. (4.2 km)



(11) Down and left off road here

(28.15265; -16.55444)

After a further 1.5 km of ups and downs, and ignoring a path off to your right, you will arrive at these signposts where you turn left off the road onto the switch-back path that weaves its way up, then down, the barranco. (5.7 km)



(12) Left and downhill to Las Vegas

(28.14838; -16.55095)

After a further 1.2 km, you arrive at this broad junction with signposts (notice the single sign pointing back to the rock-climbing area). Continue on down the rough road here into Las Vegas. (6.9 km)



(13) Left then right for church

(28.14537; -16.54687)

After 600 m you arrive in the centre of the hamlet of Las Vegas at a y-junction. Turn left here, then almost immediately right into the little dead-end street (you will probably want to check out the nearby information board first). (7.5 km)



(14) Church

(28.14524; -16.54610)

Your choice here - visit the church first, or the pretty little Tasquita? (7.5 km)



(15) La Tasquita de La Vegas

(28.14548; -16.54662)

When you are ready to move on, re-trace your steps and turn right taking the road downhill a short way to your starting point. (7.5 km)



(16) End of walk at starting point

(28.14715; -16.54710)

You have returned to your starting off point. (7.8 km)



Route Map



Links:

[Photos from walk](#)

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

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

[Access Walk on Viewranger](#)

[Access Walk on Wikiloc](#)