

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

El Varadero-Arena-Puerto Santiago Return (Guia de Isora/Santiago del Teide)

Route Summary

This easy walk allows you to get to know the pretty and popular coastal area between El Varadero and Puerto Santiago. There are good views of La Gomera and the Los Gigantes cliffs.

Duration: 2 hours



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: Titsa 477 from Los Cristianos, 473 from Adeje. Car parking spaces likely to be available near the start.

Length: 6.160 km / 3.85 mi

Height Gain: 182 meter

Height Loss: 182 meter

Max Height: 59 meter

Min Height: 5 meter

Surface: Smooth.

Child Friendly: Yes.

Difficulty: Easy

Dog Friendly: Recommend dogs on lead at all times.

Refreshments: Numerous options along the way.



Description

This is an interesting and enjoyable stroll around the linked residential and tourist areas of El Varadero, La Arena and Puerto Santiago, in the west of the island. The coastal views on the first section of the walk are consistently pleasing, augmented by superb views of La Gomera on a clear day. At a number of vantage points there are opportunities to see the Los Gigantes cliffs at their best. Reaching the highest section of the route there is a fine view of the pretty cove at Play Chica, Puerto Santiago, with its bobbing small boats at anchor. Here, too, we pass the Fishermen's Museum, with its impressive "wall art" depiction of fishermen landing their catch, before ascending to the old church. The return route provides an opportunity to familiarise yourself with the shops, cafes and restaurants that characterise the holiday-maker landscape.



Waypoints

(1) Start at walkway on Calle El Mirlo

(28.22302; -16.83766)

We start the walk on Calle Mirlo in the El Varadero area, heading in the Los Gigantes direction along this pedestrian walkway, with the sea on our left shoulder.



(2) Sharp left and down opposite Ferreteria La Arena

(28.22700; -16.83973)

The promenade eventually joins the main street, Avenida de la Gaviota, and, after 520 m from the start, turn sharp left and down at a pedestrian crossing, opposite the Ferreteria La Arena. (520 m)



(3) Left onto pavement on Calle El Drago

(28.22732; -16.84061)

In just 161 m, the paved pathway meets the street, Calle El Drago, where you turn to your left. (681 m)



(4) Left again at trees

(28.22740; -16.84134)

In another 70 m, or so, veer left past the trees, then right through a residential parking area. (754 m)



(5) Left down lane to Punta De Barbero

(28.22806; -16.84216)

At the end of the parking area, in just 140 m, go left down the paved lane towards the sea. (892 m)



(6) Punta de Barbero viewpoint

(28.22786; -16.84275)

In just 60 m, you arrive at a steel barrier and some steps where you can venture a little onto the rocky viewpoint. Great views of la Gomera if it is a clear day! Now re-trace your steps and follow Calle Punta Negro to the main street where you turn left towards Playa de la Arena. (954 m)



(7) Descend to Playa de Arena

(28.22891; -16.84079)

On reaching Playa de la Arena, in about 250 m from the rocky viewpoint, descend down the steps and cross the often busy beach. At the far end, take the steps back up to the main street where you turn left to follow the pavement out of La Arena and towards Puerto Santiago. (1.2 km)



(8) Descend to plaza at Puerto Santiago

(28.23393; -16.84137)

In 600 m from entering the Playa de la Arena beach and then proceeding along the pavement, take the steps down to the Plaze de Santiago gardens then keep going to arrive at the plaza itself, with a statue of a former mayor of Santiago del Teide. Leave the plaza and turn left to proceed uphill on the pavement. (1.8 km)



(9) Left down lane to beach and pier

(28.23602; -16.84252)

In 300 m from entering the plaza gardens, divert from the main street just after the top of the hill to take the lane, Calle Agustín León González, down to Playa Chica and the small pier area. (2.1 km)



(10) Up steps to promenade

(28.23732; -16.84308)

In 200 m, just after passing the beach on your left and a shrine on your right, take the steps up to the promenade. Continue to follow the promenade which will eventually take you to some great views of the Los Gigantes cliffs, then around the Barcel Santiago hotel to Calle la Hondura which you turn left onto and follow it as it goes left and uphill a little. (2.3 km)



(11) Left to Los Gigantes viewpoint

(28.24039; -16.84220)

In 1 km from climbing the Playa Chica steps as you start to ascend towards the centre of Puerto Santiago, first deviate to your left at the sign for the Los Gigantes viewpoint. After taking in the view, re-trace your steps and continue up the hill a short distance. (3.3 km)



(12) Cross road and right up steps

(28.23996; -16.84052)

In another 300 m, cross the road and take the steps up to the main street level. From there, turn right and follow the street, with great views over to La Gomera and, eventually, down to the pretty little bay at Playa Chica. (3.6 km)



(13) Fishermen's Museum

(28.23642; -16.84225)

In about 500 m from the steps, you will arrive at the Fishermen's Museum (Museo del Pescadores) and it's marvellous wall art depicting fishermen unloading their catch from the sea. From here, cross the road and go back uphill about 30 m. (4.1 km)



(14) Up steps to church

(28.23670; -16.84224)

In just 30 m from the museum, take these steps up to the church at the next level, turning right at the top, passing the church on your left. (4.1 km)



(15) Pass church and down

(28.23670; -16.84173)

After passing the church, go downhill and turn right at the bottom, then, in a little while, proceeding left and downhill to Calle Sol. (4.2 km)



(16) Right onto Calle de la Sol and down to main street

(28.23602; -16.84138)

In 200 m from the church, turn right onto Calle de la Sol and proceed to the junction with the main street. Turn left there and head back along the pavement, past the Puerto Santiago plaza, through the Playa de la Arena area, and finally back to the El Varadero area where the walk started. (4.4 km)



(17) End of walk back at start point

(28.22286; -16.83783)

After about 800 m from Waypoint 16, having turned right and down Calle el Mirlo, you will have arrived back at your start point. (6.2 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](#)