

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

Montaña Sámara and Volcanoes Circular Walk (National Park)

Route Summary

Readily accessible from the south of the island, this short circular walk offers tremendous views of the west coast, open pine forests, Mount Teide, Pico Viejo, solidified rivers of lava, and other volcanic structures.

Duration: 2.5 hours

(This is National Park Sendero 13)



Route Overview

Duration: 2.5 hours

Transport/Parking: No Titsa buses. Car or taxi (or bike!).

Length: 4.990 km / 3.12 mi

Height Gain: 259 meter

Height Loss: 259 meter

Max Height: 2094 meter

Min Height: 1869 meter

Surface: Rough.

Child Friendly: Yes.

Difficulty: Moderate.

Dog Friendly: No. The National Park rules prohibit the introduction of dogs to the whole area.

Refreshments: Cafe at Parador.



Description

This short walk offers an excellent opportunity to get “up close and personal” with one of Tenerife’s most exciting volcanic landscapes. There are tremendous views of the towering mass of Mount Teide, Pico Viejo and a host of smaller, younger volcanic cones. You will follow the course of two solidified rivers of lava and have a direct and close-up view of their source volcano. The starkness of the volcanic landscape is softened in large sections of the walk by strolling through an open pine forest surrounded by steep and stony hillsides ablaze with colour (in season) from shrubs and flowers that have colonised this once desolate area. The walk is easily accessible from the southern resorts. You start from the Sámara car-park on the TF-38 road to the Teide National Park, about 22 kms from the Chio turn-off to El Teide on the TF-1 to Santiago del Teide from Los Cristianos/Las Americas.



Waypoints

(1) Start at Montaña de Sámara car-park

(28.26667; -16.72601)

Start the walk from the car-park on the TF-38, approximately 22 km from the turn-off from the TF-1 at the Chio junction. Follow the signs for Sendero 13, walking uphill away from the car-park. In about 200 m veer left where the path forks left and right, and then climb to the top of Montaña de Sámara, the volcanic cone on your left side immediately above you. If you do not wish to make the climb, veer right instead, skipping Waypoint 2.



(2) Montaña de Sámara viewpoint

(28.26890; -16.72789)

The top of Montaña de Sámara provides an excellent all-around viewpoint. The pine forest below (and a "sea of clouds" depending on the wind and weather) is complemented, turning the other way, by an amazing volcanic landscape dominated by the immensity of Mount Teide and its sister volcano, Pico Viejo. When you have exhausted the views, re-trace your steps down the path and cross the saddle to find the main path heading in the direction of Teide. (500 m)



(3) Follow path in direction of Teide

(28.26842; -16.72498)

In 330 m, or so, you will have found the main path as it meanders onwards in the general direction of Mount Teide. Continue on this path as it winds its way through open pines and shrubs for about 1.5 km. (823 m)



(4) Go right after climb to ridge

(28.26757; -16.71332)

In another 1.5 km, after leaving the open pines and climbing to a ridge, turn sharp right for a short section. (2.3 km)



(5) Veer left and downhill

(28.26742; -16.71312)

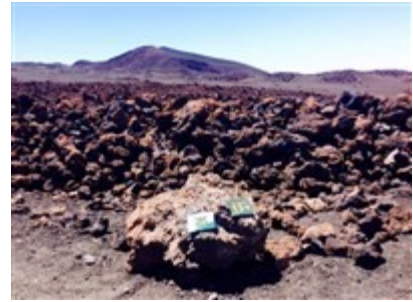
In just 30 m, or so, you are almost immediately faced with a fork in the path. Go left here, and down towards the solidified river of lava below you. (2.3 km)



(6) Turn right here

(28.26408; -16.70763)

In another 700 m, as you turn away from one solidified river of lava on your left you are faced with another. Here, at the junction with marked signs, you turn sharp right and follow the downhill homeward route of Sendero 13. there is a new solidified river of lava on your left now. (3.0 km)



(7) Go right at junction

(28.26403; -16.72015)

In another 1.3 km, walking downhill, and having re-entered the open pine forest for about 100 m, you will encounter a diagonal junction with Sendero 32 (Abeque). Go right here as the path heads back through the open pines towards your start-point at the car-park. (4.3 km)



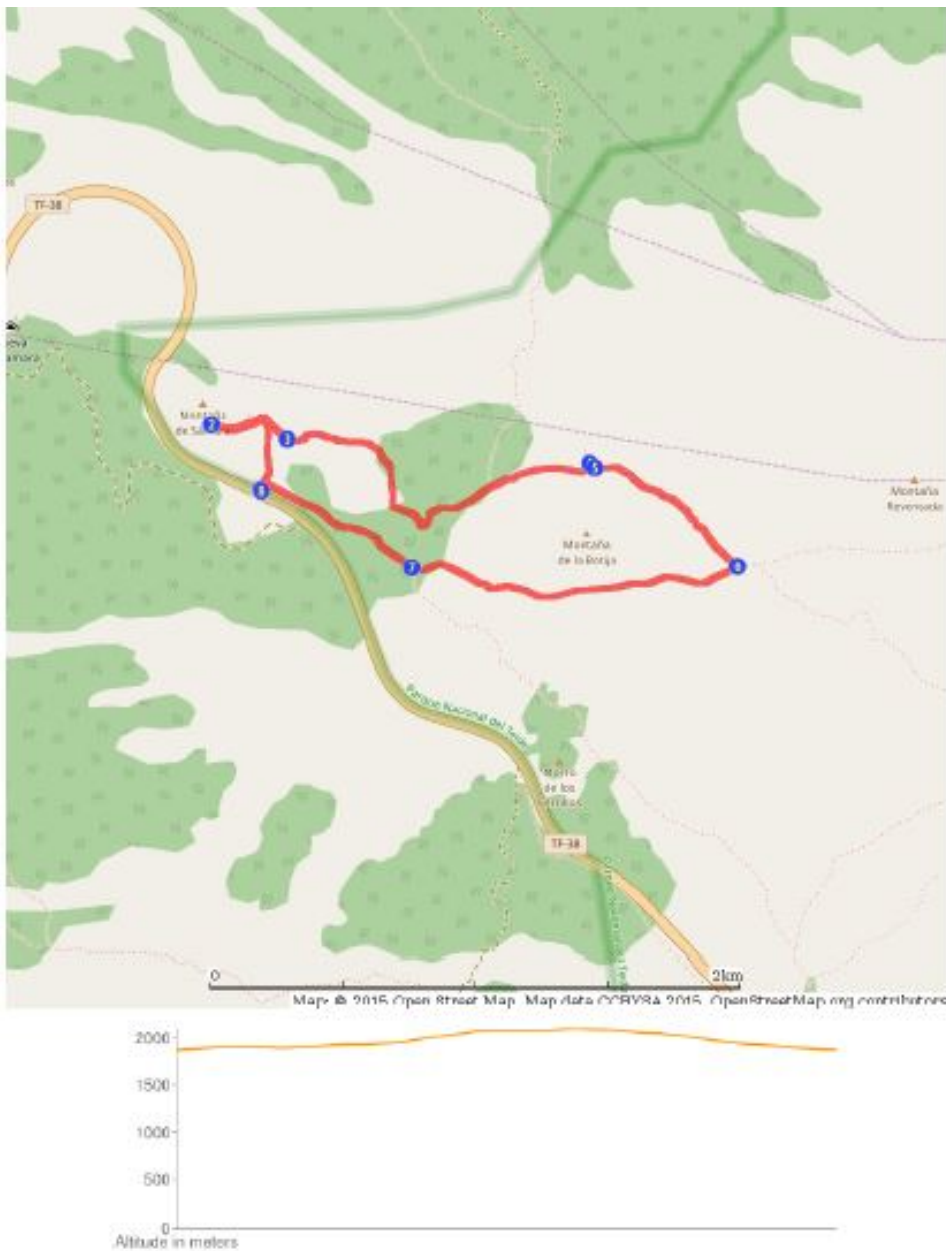
(8) Return to car-park

(28.26664; -16.72594)

In a final 700 m you will have returned to your starting point at the car-park. (5.0 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](#)