

Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

El Molledo-Los Quemados-Degollada del Roque Circular (Santiago del Teide)

Route Summary

A short but energetic walk on the southern side of the Teno Mountains near Santiago del Teide. Great views of the two stunningly beautiful barrancos that lie south of the Masca Gorge, to El Teide, and down to the coastal towns on the West coast.

Duration: 3.5 hours



Route Overview

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Transport/Parking: Suggest Titsa 473/477 from Los Cristianos to Los Gigantes, then 461/462. Easy parking in El Molledo.

Length: 4.930 km / 3.08 mi

Height Gain: 434 meter

Height Loss: 434 meter

Max Height: 984 meter

Min Height: 701 meter

Surface: Rough. There is a mid-section (550 m) taking a route down a rocky and sometimes exposed ridge which may not suit all walkers. An easy alternative, but longer, option is described at Waypoint 9.

Child Friendly: Only if children are used to strenuous hikes, Take alternative option described at Waypoint 9.

Difficulty: Moderate to hard in places

Dog Friendly: In respect to ridge section - only if agile, calm and obedient.

Refreshments: Cafes in Santiago del Teide or Tamaimo.



Description

A relatively short but fairly demanding hike from El Molledo, near Santiago del Teide, on the southern flanks of the Teno Mountains. The walk involves almost 450 m overall ascent and descent, but is rewarded by truly breathtaking views of the impressive Risco/Roque Blanco crag, and the two stunningly beautiful barrancos that lie south of the Masca Gorge, then over to the island of La Gomera. Mostly on good stony paths, there is a mid-section taking a less well-defined route down a rocky and sometimes exposed ridge which may not suit all walkers. An easy alternative, but longer, option is described. Great views, too, over Las Manchas, to El Teide, and down to the coastal towns on the West coast.



Waypoints

(1) Start at church

(28.28707; -16.81367)

Start the walk on Calle la Tagora in El Molledo. Facing the church, turn to your left towards the nearby crossroads and carry on walking straight on, across the crossroads, to Calle la Calzada.



(2) Right down lane

(28.28719; -16.81511)

After 150 m, or so, turn right off Calle la Calzada down a lane that soon becomes an old stone track ascending uphill. (144 m)



(3) Right and up path

(28.28738; -16.81555)

After just 55 m from joining the rough track, go right and uphill here at the signposted junction. (199 m)



(4) Continue up here

(28.28726; -16.81598)

In just over 50 m, carry on up the hill here, ignoring path to Santiago del Teide on your right. (251 m)



(5) Veer right and up to Risco Blanco

(28.28721; -16.81612)

And, in just 15 m, veer right uphill in the direction signposted for Risco Blanco. (266 m)



(6) Go down here to follow marked path

(28.28696; -16.82378)

After 1 km of constant ascent, follow the path slightly downhill past the yellow/white painted markers. Soon, the path starts to ascend again towards the goat farm buildings you can see up ahead of you and to your left. (1.3 km)



(7) Follow path by door

(28.28734; -16.82662)

After 400 m ascent, take this path by the entry door to the Los Quemados goat farm. (1.7 km)



(8) Los Quemados viewpoint

(28.28726; -16.82699)

In just 50 m you are at the viewpoint just below the goat farm. There are breathtaking views in all directions to enjoy, but particularly of the Barranco Seco/Natero gorge. When you are ready, re-trace your steps back to Waypoint 6. (1.75 km)



(9) Up and right for ridge path

(28.28686; -16.82383)

After 400 m, or so, having returned to Waypoint 6, now turn right to follow a more indistinct path in the general direction of the coast at Puerto Santiago. This path follows a rocky ridge downhill for about 550 m. The track is sometimes exposed, and also unclear at times (although there are some stone cairns and red/white spray painted markings to assist). In places, some rock scrambling using hands and easing down on your bottom is required! (2.15 km)

THIS RIDGE PATH MAY NOT SUIT EVERY WALKER. IF YOU WOULD RATHER GIVE IT A MISS, INSTEAD RETURN DOWNHILL TO WAYPOINT 5 AND TURN RIGHT TO FOLLOW A GOOD AND CLEAR PATH ACROSS THE HILLSIDE TO RE-JOIN THE MAIN DESCRIBED WALK AT WAYPOINT 11. THIS WILL ADD ABOUT 1.5 KM TO YOUR WALK.



(10) Veer left at arrow sign

(28.28345; -16.82355)

After about 350 m descending on the ridge path, veer left and down along this rock wall, following white painted arrow. (2.5 km)



(11) Right at t-junction

(28.28230; -16.82311)

In 200 m from the white arrow sign at Waypoint 11, the ridge track descends to the main path for Degollada del Roque where you will turn right to follow the path. If you have arrived here from Waypoint 5, having skipped the ridge section, you will carry on straight ahead here. (2.6 km)



(12) Degollada del Roque

(28.27926; -16.82333)

As you proceed along the 400 m section from Waypoint 11, tremendous views open up of the Barranco Mancha de los Dias as it narrows down sea-level. Having taken in the views, turn left at the Degollada del Roque signposts and follow the increasingly winding path downhill towards the Camino Real. (3.0 km)



to

(13) Left for El Molledo

(28.27904; -16.82080)

After a 500 m descent from Waypoint 12 at the Degollada, turn left to follow the Camino Real uphill back towards El Molledo. (3.5 km)



(14) Veer left for path up to El Molledo

(28.28575; -16.81716)

In 1 km, below the village of El Molledo, veer left here to follow the narrow path that winds upwards towards the houses. At the top of the path, turn right towards the village and re-trace your steps to the main plaza opposite the church. (4.5 km)



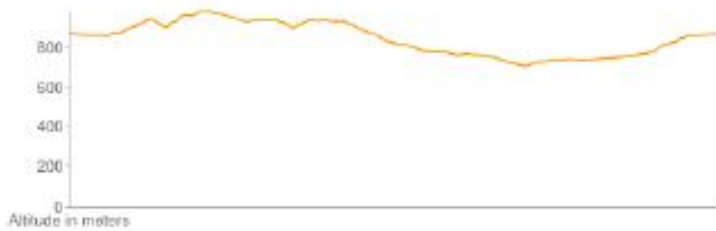
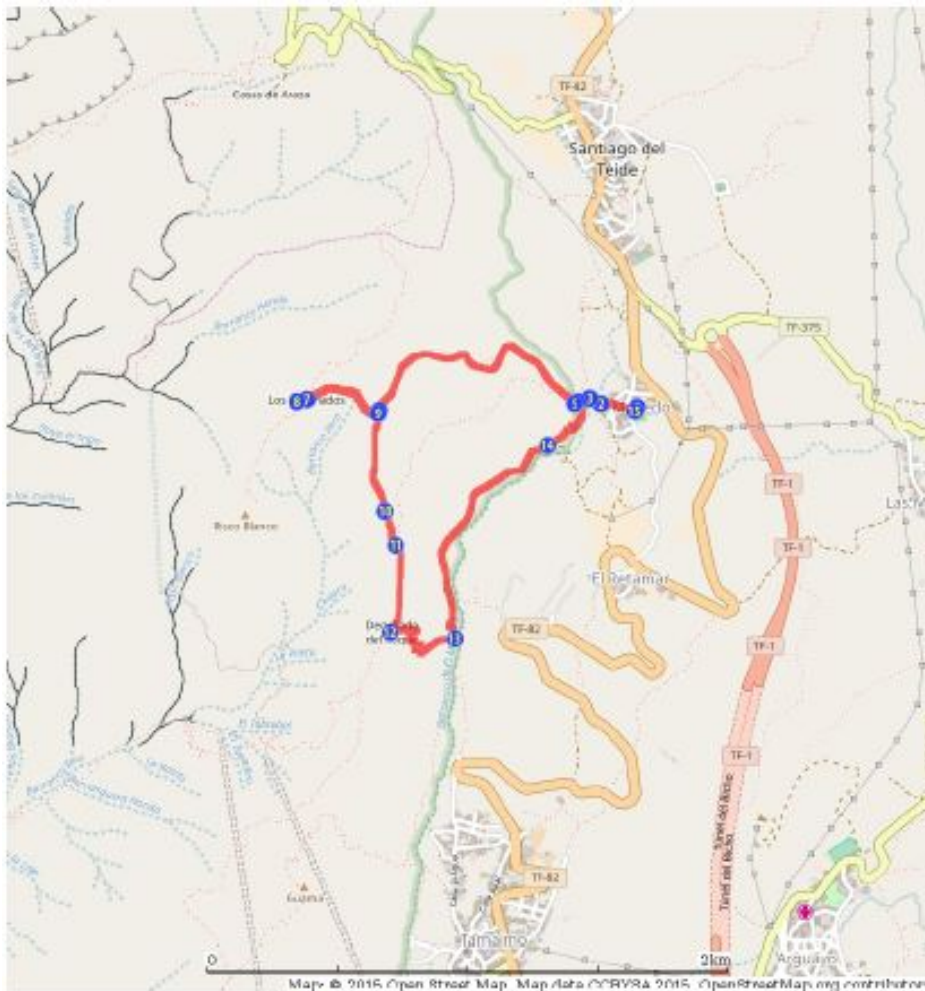
(15) End of walk back at church plaza

(28.28694; -16.81378)

In 400 m you have arrived back at the main plaza, opposite the church.
(4.9 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](#)