

## Tenerife Sur: Short Walks Under 10 km

### El Retamar-Santiago Del Teide Circular (Santiago del Teide)

#### Route Summary

A short circular route on old caminos providing the opportunity to visit El Retamar, Santiago del Teide and El Molledo, high above the tourist hot-spots in Los Gigantes. Lots of great views, including an optional visit to the site of an old spring above Santiago del Teide.

Duration: 2.5 hours.



#### Route Overview

**Duration:** 2.5 hours.

**Transport/Parking:** Titsa 462 from Puerto Santiago. Easy parking by the large trees, just off the main road near the entrance to El Retamar.

**Length:** 5.740 km / 3.59 mi

**Height Gain:** 179 meter

**Height Loss:** 179 meter

**Max Height:** 791 meter

**Min Height:** 935 meter

**Surface:** Rough paths.

**Child Friendly:** Yes, but only if children are used to hiking.

**Difficulty:** Easy.

**Dog Friendly:** Yes.

**Refreshments:** We can recommend the Bar Tropic II in Santiago del Teide, across the road from Waypoint 13.



#### Description

This is an undemanding walk following old paths between El Retamar, Santiago del Teide and El Molledo. Although never far from human habitation and busy modern roads, the route provides lots of marvellous scenic opportunities. There are great views down to the coast at Puerto Santiago, up to Teide, and of the southern flank of the Teno Mountains. A bridge over the main road beneath Las Manchas offers a unique perspective on the El Bicho tunnels under the towering mass of La Hoya. The walk also offers the opportunity to stroll around and get to know the hill settlements of El Molledo, Santiago del Teide and El Retamar, at around 900 m above sea level. In Santiago del Teide, we recommend a diversion to check out the Fuente de Chasonguayo, an ancient source of water high on the hillside above the town. In recent times the place has taken on a religious character, with large white crosses on the path and a representation of the "Virgen de Lourdes" installed in the little grotto. It is certainly worth the extra ascent for some very special views.



## Waypoints

### (1) Start at church in El Retamar

(28.28090; -16.81408)

From the little plaza at the church in El Retamar, turn left and walk up Calle San Juan. At the main road, turn right and walk up the side of the road. When the pavement runs out, cross the road (with care!) and continue uphill on the narrow track, off the tarmac, until you reach the sharp bend to the left.



### (2) Cross road and up track

(28.28018; -16.80980)

In about 540 m from the church, take care in crossing the road at the sharp bend and go left up the rough road, towards the pine trees. Continue walking up this road through the trees, and cross the main road from the Las Hoya tunnels on the modern bridge. (538 m)



### (3) Left after crossing bridge

(28.28258; -16.80705)

In 525 m, after crossing the bridge, go left to follow the old camino between stone walls. In 400 m, or so, turn left and down to enter a tunnel under the main road. (973 m)



### (4) Right and up after tunnel

(28.28535; -16.80886)

In 427 m, emerging from the tunnel, turn right and up onto an old path. (1.4 km)



### (5) Keep right at this junction

(28.28710; -16.81064)

In 300 m, at a y-junction, ignore the path veering to your left for El Molledo. Instead, veer right in the direction of Santiago del Teide. (1.7 km)



### (6) Cross road here

(28.29019; -16.81267)

In 400 m, or so, take care in crossing the main road and continue following the old path. (2.1 km)



### (7) Veer right here

(28.29227; -16.81172)

In 300 m, ensure you veer right to follow the path with a stone wall on your left. (2.4 km)



### (8) Left onto tarred road

(28.29301; -16.81020)

In just over 100 m, go left onto the narrow tarred road and proceed towards Santiago del Teide. (2.5 km)



### (9) Right down Calle Juan Cabeza

(28.29694; -16.81462)

In 700 m, having passed the cemetery on the way, turn right after the bins, with the children's play park ahead of you. Go down Calle Juan Cabeza. (3.2 km)



### (10) Left by hotel grounds

(28.29758; -16.81451)

In another 100 m, or so, turn left, with the grounds of the Hotel La Casona del Patio now on your right, behind a high wall. When you reach the main road, turn left towards the church. (3.3 km)



### (11) Left at main road past church

(28.29789; -16.81625)

Having turned left to walk down the main road, passing the church and plaza on your left, carry on down the main street of Santiago del Teide. (3.5 km)



### (12) Optional diversion for Fuente

(28.29441; -16.81517)

In about 400 m from the church you have the option to divert to the Fuente de la Virgen (de Lourdes), also known as the Fuente de Chasonguayo. This is an 85 m ascent, 800 m trip there and back. Over and above the interest in the shrine, there are marvellous views. Cross the busy road with care if taking this diversion and ascend the stony track, with large white crosses at intervals. Otherwise, or afterwards, continue walking down the main street a short way. (3.9 km)



### (13) Right then left onto old camino route

(28.29332; -16.81570)

In just 100 m, or so, from Waypoint 12, opposite the Bar Tropic II, you will find a path, signposted for Puerto Santiago, that goes right then left onto old camino route. (4.0 km)

N.B. The Bar Tropic II is a deservedly popular spot for a refreshment and a snack!



### (14) Left and down here

(28.28721; -16.81609)

In 800 m on the old camino real go sharp left and down at the signposted junction. (4.8 km)



### (15) Left for El Molledo

(28.28741; -16.81563)

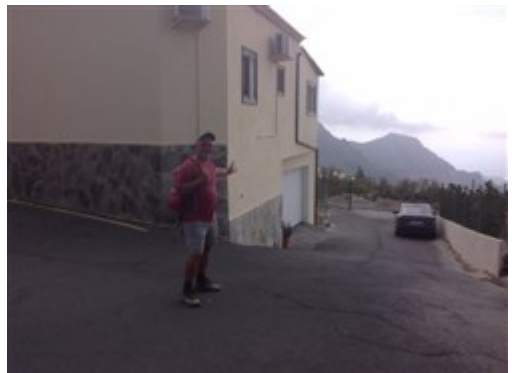
In less than 50 m, go left, taking you off the old camino and into the little village of El Molledo. Carry on, not deviating to left or right. (4.85 km)



### (16) Carry on down here

(28.28624; -16.81455)

In 150 m, nearing the far edge of the village, carry on downhill away from the houses. (5.0 km)



### (17) Veer right here

(28.28566; -16.81441)

In just 100 m, or so, veer right to follow the stony path through terraces. (5.1 km)



### (18) Right and down to El Retamar

(28.28417; -16.81431)

In another 200 m, go right and down at a t-junction. Follow the path down to the main road at the entrance to El Retamar. (5.3 km)



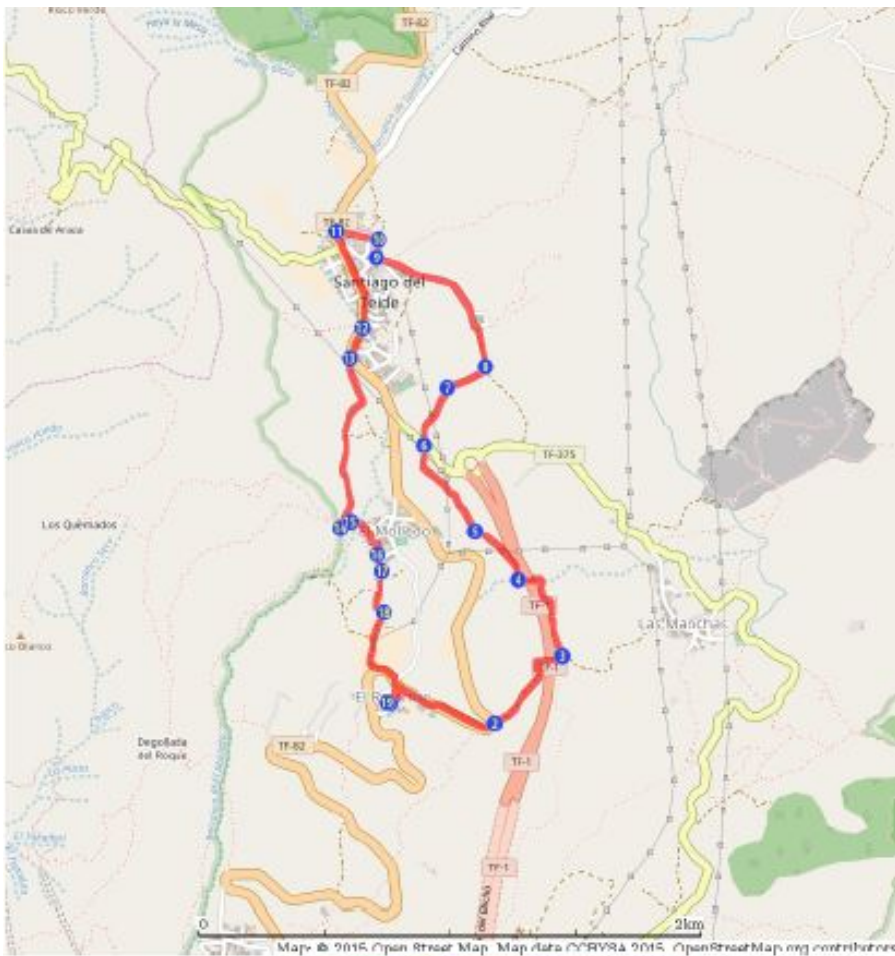
### (19) Finish back in El Retamar

(28.28091; -16.81418)

In 400 m, you will have returned back to your starting point by the church in El Retamar. (5.7 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](#)