

Cami de Cavalls updates for Walk! Menorca

While the finalising of the Cami de Cavalls (CdC) has been a great resource for walking on Menorca, it has caused the island government and landowners to concentrate on this official route around the island, possibly at the expense of other walking routes.

Walk! Menorca's walking routes often pre-date the CdC so that where the two routes come together, the CdC now gets priority for trail upkeep and signage. Where this happens you will often find it easier to follow the CdC than the original Walk! Menorca route.

Routes that merge with, or parallel, the Cami de Cavalls

6 Guards Guards our first encounter with the Cami de Cavalls comes as we leave the car park to walk down the old roman trail which is now part of the CdC, and on our return from Torre Penjat we come onto the CdC at waypoint 13 to descend into Cala de Sant Esteve. No changes to the route are involved.

7 Cala de Sant Esteve to Binissaida is along the CdC on stone laid donkey trails.

8 Linking the Resorts includes urban sections of the CdC but you may find it more interesting to follow our off-CdC coastal sections from waypoints 2-3, 4-6, and 16-20.

9 Coastal Discovery gives the option to follow the CdC's broad trail to Alcalfar but after the Torre d'Alcalfar Vell our minor trail (Wp.5) offers a more scenic route before rejoining the CdC at Wp.7.

10 From the New to the Old is all on the CdC except for the optional diversion to explore Cala des Rafalet (Wp.5). It is important to stay on the CdC as some old guide books show a route through gates and past Rafalet Nou which is now closed to the public.

14 S'Albufera – blue route is part of the CdC from the car park in Es Grau. Our route starts with a stroll across the Platja d'es Grau beach before meeting the CdC at Wp.B2 and then following the CdC back to Es Grau.

15 Es Grau Peninsula uses a section of the CdC wp.2-3 on our outward route and then rejoins the CdC (Wp.8) for our return to the Platja d'es Grau beach.

16 Torre Blanca has become a victim of the CdC development as the previous access from the CdC at Wp.5 is now signed with a 'No Walkers' sign.

17 Cap Favaritx to Es Grau route is all along the CdC's well marked trails until we cut across the beach at the end to finish in Es Grau.

18 Cala Mesquida to Es Grau follows the CdC to Caleta de Binillauti, noting our small deviation to the seat on the top of the cliffs; far more interesting than the CdC on this short section. From Wp.9 our route takes a coastal route that can become overgrown from Wp.11 (trousers recommended) before arriving in Es Grau. If in doubt about this section use our 18A Cami de Cavalls route from Wp.9.

19 Cala Blanca to Cap d'Artrutx is on the CdC but where we originally diverted from the CdC at Wp.4 to follow our coastal trail this option is now part of the CdC. If in any doubt simply follow the CdC signs before stopping for refreshments at the Café-lighthouse.

21 Cala de Santa Galdana to Cala Macarella is one of Menorca's most popular coastal walks and it is all on the CdC, simply follow the signs and crowds; use the same approach for the start of

Walk 22 before heading inland (N) from Cala Macarella.

23 Cala Galdana to Sant Tomás (DWG's coastal route) initially follows the CdC (Walk 24) as far as Cala Mitjana but then follows a coastal trail while the CdC heads inland. Walk 24 is the CdC route from Cala Galdana to Sant Tomas and the two routes meet up again at the western end of the Platja de Binigaus beach (Wp.17). Combine the two routes to make a day of coast and countryside adventure.

25 Cala Galdana to Son Saurer to Cala'n Bosch is along the CdC stages 12 and 13 making for easy route finding, simply follow the CdC signs. Old guide books used to show access to the Talaia d'Artrutx but this is now closed.

28 Son Bou to Sant Tomás to Son Bou uses the CdC making for easy route finding but on the return along Platges de Son Bou it can be hard going if it is windy.

29 Sant Tomas to Cova des Coloms uses the CdC to the end of Platja de Binigaus and then heads inland. Where we leave the CdC at Wp.5 the gated road ahead that forms part of our original return route is closed to the public. Follow our route from Wp.5 to visit the caves and then up onto the well made track at Wp.14, with the option to walk up to the Binicodrell talaiot and Es Migjorn Gran. Where we turned down the track the gates at Wp.15 are now locked but a path has been cut through the stone wall down into the valley linking with our outward route.

31 Son Bou to Cala En Porter on the CdC is all along the CdC making for easy navigation by simply following the signs.

32 Cala En Porter to Es Canutells and **33 Es Canutells Binibequer Vell** are two more CdC routes making for easy navigation.

37 Ferreries – Son Mercer is not on the CdC but you will now find that the concrete and dirt track to Estancia de Son Mercer is now tarmacked and there is a farm shop. Originally this was a Saturday Only route but reports from clients say the route is open every day.

41 Cala Pregonda and **42 Cap de Cavalleria – Binimel-La** routes use the CdC so if in doubt simply follow the signs. Our 'Adventurous Route' on 42 is now closed so stay on the CdC 'Easy Route'.

44 Cami de Cavalls to Arenal and return was a route in very old guide books but then landowners closed off access, erecting fortified gates to deter trespassers. With the opening of the CdC the route is returned to public access making for pleasant country strolling.