

This is a circular route of great environmental interest. It connects the valley of the river Jiloca with the magnificent saltwater lagoon of Gallocanta, which it is one of Western Europe's largest saltwater lagoons and it is visited by thousands of cranes and other migratory birds each winter.

The campsite at Allucent

This short yet challenging circular route starts in **Daroca**, where El Cid is known to have camped for several days in 1090. It was here that he signed a treaty with the Catalonian Count Berenguer Ramón II, shortly after defeating him at El Maestrazgo. El Cantar de mio Cid also refers to Daroca, claiming that the city paid tribute to El Cid, whose men had subjugated the entire area. According to El Cantar, El Cid set up various camps from which he launched his raids in order to impose his will. Perhaps the most famous of these is said to have been in Poyo del Cid (Teruel) and the other in Allucent. Although it is not known exactly where this place is, a number of scholars suggest that it is in fact **Gallocanta**—a town which was known as Allucent back in the 13th century. This possibility has led to the creation of a delightful circular route of great historical and ecological value; the perfect choice for a weekend excursion.

What there is to see?

It is an entertaining and quiet circular route for bicycle tourists, for it runs entirely along low-traffic volume roads, though there are some stretches where the road surface is in bad condition. The objective of the journey is to visit **Gallocanta lagoon and its surroundings**, which is why this circular

route is an extended circular route. This way, cyclists will be able to cycle its entire perimeter and to ride close to the fresh water lagoon of Zaida. The route ends in Daroca after having run along the pass of Used, where cyclists will enjoy the descent. Gallocanta Lagoon is currently a magnificent series of lagoons, whose shores are dotted with small villages. It is one of **Western Europe's largest saltwater lagoons and it boasts a wealth of flora and fauna**. Thousands of cranes and other migratory birds visit this ecosystem each winter. They stop here on their long flight from northern Europe to Africa. This rich and fertile land is sheltered by mountain ranges with two major natural passes leading to the Valley of Jiloca and Molina de Aragón. The settlements have been fiercely defended since ancient times, which explains the large number of **castles** that can be seen in this area, including Santed, Gallocanta (in ruins), Berruoco, Tornos, etc. Most date back to the Middle Ages, although they stand on the site of earlier fortifications. There are also interesting **Celtiberian archeological sites**, like the one in El Castellar, which is 1 km away from **Berruoco** and in the direction towards Tornos. The final part of the route leads to the historical-artistic town of Daroca, which was founded by the Yemeni Moors.

Use this QR code to access website content relating to the road bicycle tour section of Gallocanta Circular Route. You can download all relevant information: maps, topo-guides, tracks, list of accommodations, passport stamping offices, tourist offices, etc.



Fact Sheet



Distance 79,2 km



Estimated time 1/2 days



Cumulative ascent 890 m



Cumulative descent 870 m



Physical difficulty Low



Technical difficulty Low

Information for bicycle tourists

This is an easy touring cycling circular route which takes two days to complete and includes some challenging slopes. We recommend that you ride around the lagoon either at dawn or at dusk: this is a flat circular route that invites cyclists to admire Nature, to forget about troubles and to pedal freely.

Road surface condition and traffic

This section contains information about hard shoulders, road surfaces, traffic lanes and traffic volume in relation to each road. Note that the condition of hard shoulders and road surfaces can vary depending on maintenance work, which means that there may be some improvements that are not recorded here. Traffic alerts are subjective for they are based on the authors' experience and may vary depending on the period of the year and the days of the week (for example, weekends and bank holidays).

The weather

Winter weather is the harshest of all four seasons: temperatures are low, it freezes at nights and snow occurs frequently. However, it is the time of the year when the most spectacular migratory birds can be seen. In spite of difficult weather conditions, the hiking trail offers a good reward. In effect, the environmental richness of this circular route makes it a recommended choice at any time of the year.

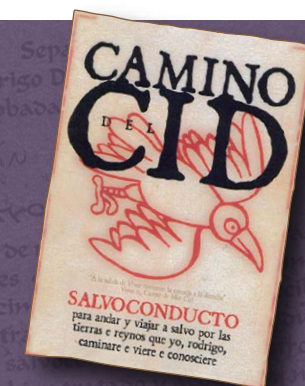


The Passport

The Passport is an identification card used by travellers to collect stamps from the towns and villages along their way. If this identification card is shown at any of the 200 accommodation facilities belonging to The Way of El Cid route, you can get a minimum of 10% off. The Passport is free and you can get it either at a Tourist Office or at our office:



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Consorcio Camino del Cid is an entity supported and financed by the following provincial governments:





Gallocanta Circular Route

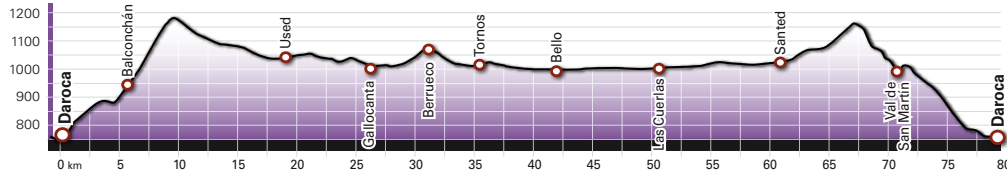
Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

Daroca - laguna de Gallocanta - Daroca

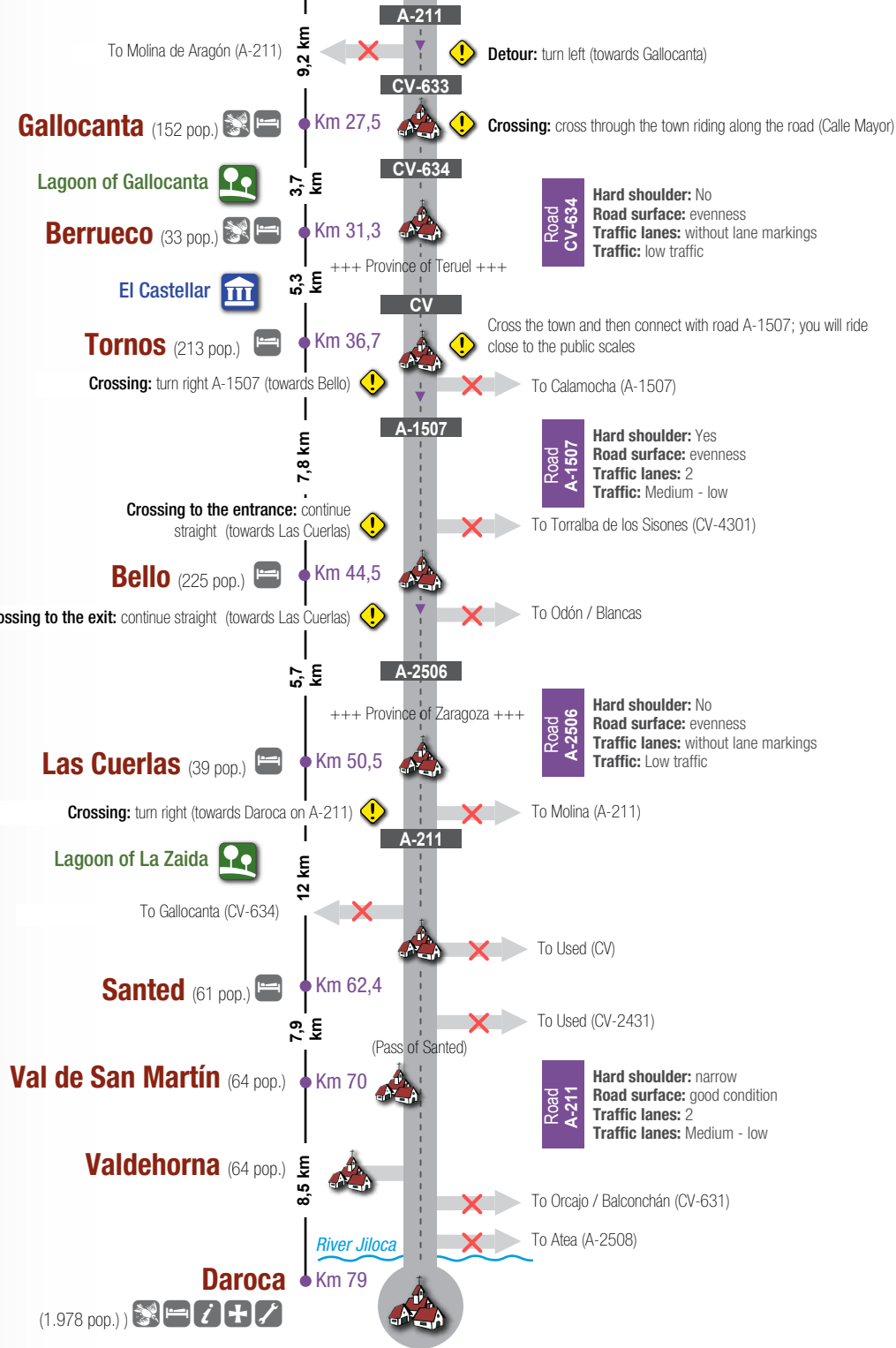
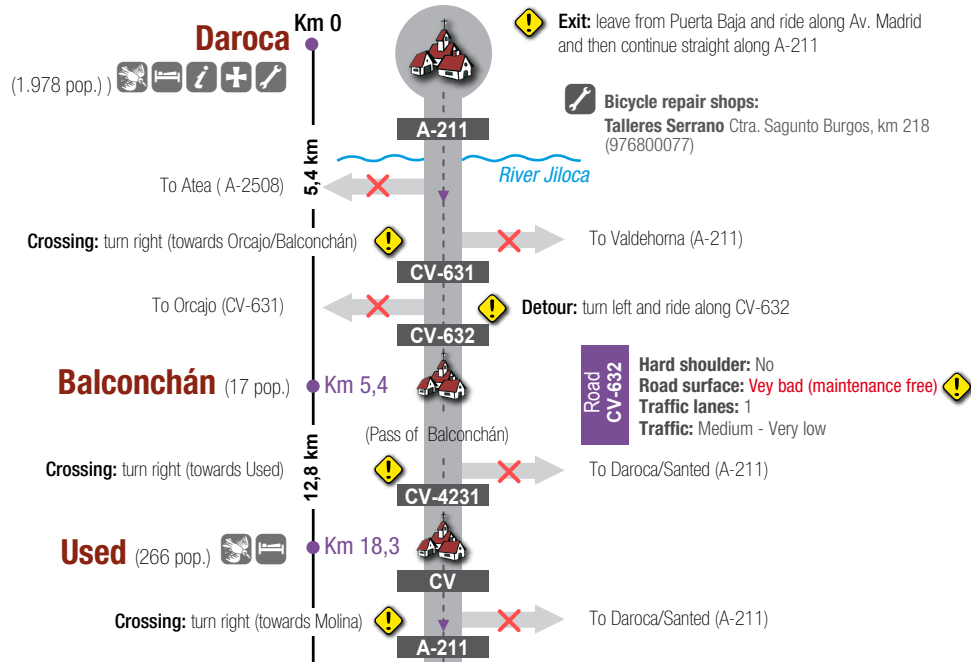


www.caminodelcid.org

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Fact Sheet	Distance 79 km	Cumulative ascent 890 m	Estimated time 6 h 40 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 890 m	Type of route Circular
	Signposting Partial	IBP Difficulty index 64 BYC	Road surface Asphalt pavement





Services

- Passport stamping offices
- Accommodation (hotel, hostel,...)
- Welcome point
- City information centre
- Chemist's
- Train station
- Repair shops

The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

- Bicycle Touring route
- BTT / MTB route
- Camino de Santiago
- Singular roads
- Castle
- Church, chapel, monastery...
- National road
- Provincial road
- Local road

Scale 1:150.000

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

www.caminoelcid.org

Passport offices

BERRUECO
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Mayor, 8 - 976803032

DAROCA

- OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor 44 - 976 800 129
- POSADA DEL ALMUDÍ: C/ Grajera, 7 - 976800606
- AP. TURÍSTICO MELIAH: C/ Mayor, 76 - 976800194 / 691483947
- H CIENBALCONES: C/ Mayor, 88 - 976545071

GALLOCANTA

- OFICINA DE TURISMO: Ctra. Gallocanta - Berruoco s/n - 976803069
- ALBERGUE ALLUCANT: C/ San Vicente, s/n - 976803137

USED
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 976809001/686669173

