



This is a three-day circular route that runs through the magical territory of El Maestrazgo. It is especially recommended for courageous bicycle tourists, who will encounter the most challenging route of The Way of El Cid. What is the reward? Impressive wilderness, unusual towns, fascinating roads, breathtaking views, and many more things. Enjoy this feeling festival riding on your bike!

The wild territory of El Maestrazgo

In the days of El Cid, El Maestrazgo mountain range area was sparsely populated due to its rugged landscapes and harsh climate. However, its location, nestling between the Moorish kingdoms of Lerida and Zaragoza and the County of Barcelona, created a series of strategic passes of vital importance and the construction of fortresses and castles in prime locations. The historic El Cid holds close ties with El Maestrazgo. As a matter of fact, El Cid is known to have visited the Morella area on several occasions, defending firstly the interests of the Taifa of Zaragoza and later his own interests. His exact route and the towns he passed through are unknown. He is likely to have spent time in **Culla**, which was a strategic spearhead for the emerging kingdom of Aragon and a military outpost in the middle of nowhere. The historian Escolano (16th–17th centuries) also makes an undocumented claim to the presence of El Cid in **Montanejos and Puebla de Arenoso**, standing on the banks of the River Mijares and whose castles paid taxes and tributes to him. At all events, the literary epicentre of this circular route lies in Onda. According to El Cantar, its castle was conquered by El Cid following a fierce struggle between the Count of Barcelona and the King of Lerida, from which he emerged victorious. The battle was fought in Tévar, some 130 kilometres to the north, the direction that must be taken in order to link up with the Anillo de Morella circular route.

What there is to see?

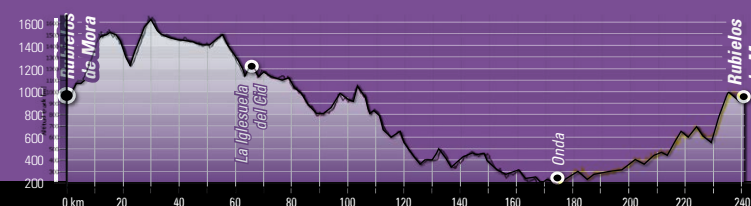
El Maestrazgo is one of the **most spectacular and challenging areas for bicycle tourists** on The Way of El Cid. This vast mountainous territory stretches out across the provinces of Teruel

and Castellón. It remained in the hands of the Moors until the 12th century. The monarchs of Aragon conquered these lands with the aid of the Knights Templar, who received them as their reward. As a result, they fell under the jurisdiction of the Grand Master of this order; hence their name, Maestrazgo.

The route makes its way along winding roads that are particularly attractive for bicycle tourists, as they will encounter many surprises and will have to make a great effort. The route, which twists and turns along **spectacular passes lined by sheer faces, is set against a backdrop of upland landscapes and narrow valleys**, as for example the valley of the river Mijares. The scenery is dotted with dense juniper forests nestling between open grasslands. There are also vast forests of Scots and mountain pines, moorland and ravines that are home to mountain goats and birds of prey. Indeed, this 145 km circular route takes travellers through five protected natural areas. **The towns and villages scattered along this route are another of its attractions:** Rubielos de Mora, Linares de Mora, Mosqueruela, La Iglesia del Cid, Culla and Onda have all been declared sites of historical and/or artistic interest, but the list could be even longer. These peaceful and well-kept towns and villages are steeped in history; time seems to go by at a slower pace. They are also of considerable ethnographic interest, featuring many fine examples of the **'dry wall' building technique**, such as those that can be admired in La Iglesia del Cid and Villafranca del Cid.



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



Fact Sheet



Distance 241 km



Estimated time 3 días



Cumulative ascent 5.800 m



Cumulative descent 5.800 m



Physical difficulty Medium



Technical difficulty Low

Information for bicycle tourists

This is a highly attractive route because of its diversity, beauty and the challenges it poses for bicycle tourists. The first stage of the route is very demanding. As a matter of fact, it includes two steep uphill climbs: the mountain range of Noguerauelas and the pass at Linares. The second stage, which is 109km long and largely a downhill stage, is the longest of The Way of El Cid. The third stage, which starts in Onda, is a smooth uphill section and it runs alongside the attractive valley of Mijares. In general, the road surface is in good condition. As for traffic intensity, it varies depending on the time of the year.

Singular Road

The term "Singular road" along The Way of El Cid refers to stretches of road of high symbolic value in terms of their cycling, landscape, historic or artistic significance. Road CV 20, which connects Puebla de Arenoso and Montanejos (10 km), is a road with symbolic significance

Road surface and traffic

This section contains information about hard shoulders, road surfaces, traffic lanes and traffic volume. 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).

Weather

The fact that this is a high region together with its abrupt orography influences the mountainous Mediterranean climate of the Maestrazgo area. Winters are cold and tough. Snow falls frequently and it can last for several days. Summers are mild, with great day and night temperature difference. That is the reason why we highly recommend that you carry with you winter clothes and windbreakers. As a result of the closeness of this area to the Mediterranean Sea, rainfall is common in the Eastern watershed; it is especially heavy in the autumn and the end of the spring season.

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



	E	F	M	A	M	J _N	J _L	A	S	O	N	D
Average temperature	10°	11°	14°	16°	20°	25°	30°	29°	25°	19°	14°	10°
Max/Min	0°	1°	2°	4°	8°	12°	15°	15°	12°	7°	3°	1°
Total daylight time for any day	09:37	10:40	11:55	13:17	14:25	15:02	14:45	13:46	12:28	11:10	09:57	09:20
Average rainfall	27	30	25	45	62	51	31	50	48	54	50	41

Monthly weather average for the village of Rubielos de Mora, which may be used as a reference

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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Maestrazgo circular route 1

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

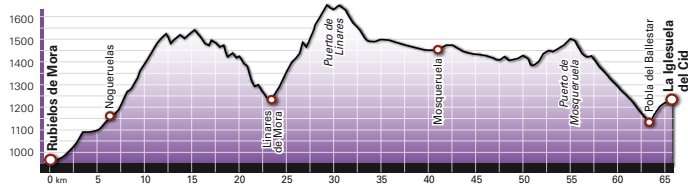
Rubielos de Mora - La Iglesuela del Cid

1. Rubielos de M. - La Iglesuela del Cid

2. La Iglesuela del Cid - Onda

3. Onda - Rubielos de Mora

This stage starts in the low area of Mora and then moves into Sierra de Gúdar, which is in the middle of the Maestrazgo area. The route includes two steep uphill climbs, which will test your legs (the mountain range of Nogueruelas and the pass at Linares). It then descends to the level of the river Truchas. The landscape is made of never-ending pine tree forests, where kermes oak and juniper trees also grow. The main feature of these woods, where there are also terraced cultivations, is stone.



Fact Sheet	Distance	65,5 km	Cumulative ascent	1.850 m	Estimated time	6 h 30 m
	Difficulty	High	Cumulative descent	1.580 m	Type of route	Circular (3 stages)
	Signposting	Partial	IBP Difficulty index	149 BYC	Road surface	Asphalt pavement



Villafranca del Cid

Stage

Rubielos de Mora

(618 pop.)

Towards Fuentes de Rubielos (along road A-232)
Stage 2 of the Bicycle Tour of The Way of El Cid
(The Conquest of Valencia)

local way

Nogueruelas

(198 pop.)

Towards Castelvital (local paved path)

Towards Santa Ana chapel / lookout

Linares de Mora

(219 pop.)

To Puertomingalvo (CV-175)

Mosqueruela

(515 pop.)

Cave paintings at the gully of Gilbert

Towards the sanctuary of Virgen de la Estrella (trail)

Path towards Mas de Mollats (paved trail)

To Villafranca del Cid (CV-15)

Pobla del Ballestar

Dry stone architecture

La Iglesuela del Cid

(414 hab.)

Km 0

6,2 km

17,9 km

24,1 km

40,9 km

63 km

65,5 km



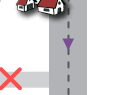
Exit: Ride along the tree shaded promenade at the end of the street, which crosses through the town (A-232)



Crossing: when reaching the town's exit, continue straight along road A-1701 (towards Nogueruelas / Iglesuela del Cid)



Towards Fuente del Tajo (picnic area)



road A-1701
Hard shoulder: Yes
Road surface: evenness (pathed stretches)
Traffic lanes: 2
Traffic: Medium-low



River Linares



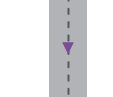
To Valdellinares / Alcalá de la Selva (TE-V 3)
[Pass of Linares (1661 m)]



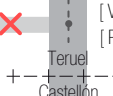
Paved forest path
Karstic relief (polje)
road A-1701
Hard shoulder: No
Road surface: evenness
Traffic lanes: without lane markings
Traffic: very low traffic



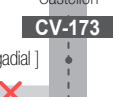
Towards Cantavieja (along a local road)



[Virgen de la Estrella sculpture]
[Pass of Mosqueruela (1516 m)]



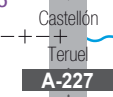
road CV-173
Hard shoulder: No
Road surface: evenness
Traffic lanes: 2
Traffic: very low traffic



Crossing: turn left and ride along A-227 (towards Iglesuela del Cid)



River Truchas



road A-227
Hard shoulder: Yes
Road surface: Good surface
Carriles: 2
Tráfico: Bajo





Maestrazgo circular route 2

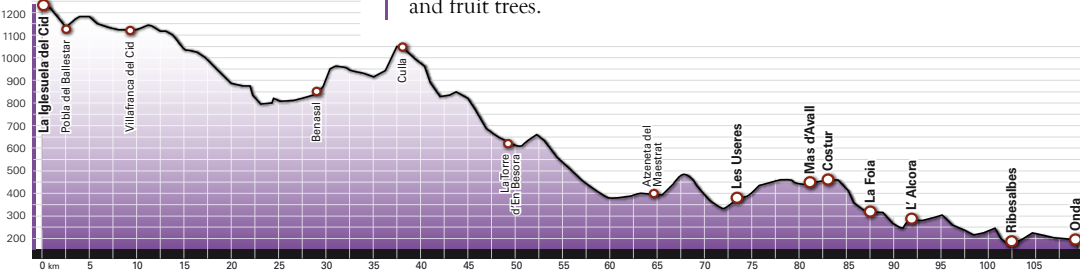
Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

La Iglesiasuela del Cid - Onda

Stage

- Rubielos de M. - La Iglesiasuela del Cid
- La Iglesiasuela del Cid - Onda**
- Onda - Rubielos de Mora

This route runs mostly through a territory known as Alto Maestrazgo in Castellón. In general, this is a Mediterranean forest-dominated landscape consisting of kermes oak and pine trees, which grow on a large limestone plateau. The terrain is smooth though there are canyon walls carved by rivers and gulleys. The route runs mainly along comfortable and quiet mountain roads, except for the last stretch, which is more "tame". This stretch runs alongside cultivated areas and fruit trees.



Fact Sheet	Distance 109,3 km	Cumulative ascent 1.700 m	Estimated time 8 h 50 m
	Difficulty High	Cumulative descent 2.750 m	Type of route Circular (3 stages)
	Signposting Partial	IBP Difficulty index 156 BYC	Road surface asphalt pavement

La Iglesiasuela del Cid (414 pop.)

Dry stone architecture

To Mosqueruela (CV-173)

Pobla del Ballestar

Caserío Virgen del Llosar

Vilafranca del Cid (2.160 pop.)

Detour: Turn left and ride along CV-167 (towards Benasal)

Benasal (985 pop.)

Crossing inside the city centre: Take road CV-166#(towards Culla)

Exit: leave from the town's entrance, through which you accessed the town in the previous stage (road A-227)

River Truchas

Crossing: turn left and ride along road CV-15 (towards Vilafranca del Cid)

Exit: Ride along avda. Castellón (road CV-15)

To Ares / Castellón (CV-15)

To Castellón (CV-166)

Road A-227 Hard shoulder: Yes, Road surface: good condition, Traffic lanes: 2, Traffic: low traffic

Road CV-15 Hard shoulder: Yes, Road surface: good condition, Traffic lanes: 2, Traffic: low traffic

Road CV-167 Hard shoulder: No, Road surface: good condition, Traffic lanes: without lane markings, Traffic: medium traffic

Road CV-166 Rivet forest

Font d'En Segures [Baleario]

Culla (206 pop.)

Kermes oak at Culla

Crossing: take road CV-165 (towards Atzeneta)

La Torre d'En Besora (114 pop.)

To Culla (paved path)

CV-165

To Vistabella (CV-170)

Atzeneta del Maestrat (1.038 pop.)

Path towards Castell (paved path)

Les Useres (661 pop.)

Exit: at the end of the main street, which crosses through the town and runs on road CV-165 (towards Costur)

Mas d'Avall (22 pop.)

Costur (476 pop.)

A Figueroles / Llucaena (por CV-190)

La Foia (117 pop.)

Al embalse de L'Alcora

L'Alcora (9.536 pop.)

To Araya (CV-192)

Roundabout: turn right (towards Ribesalbes)

Ribesalbes (1.168 pop.)

Sitjar reservoir

To Montanejos (CV-20)

Onda (22.634 pop.)

Historical-artistic monuments in Onda

To Torre d'En Besora

To Culla (paved path)

To Molinell (paved path)

To Vilar de Canes (towards CV-165)

To La Torre d'En Besora (por CV-166)

To Els Ibarsos (paved path)

River Monlleó

Crossing: turn left and ride along CV-165 (towards Les Useres)

To La Pelejana / Castellón (towards CV-170)

Bco. Atzeneta

Font de la Presola

To La Barona (CV-159)

Road CV-165 Hard shoulder: No, Road surface: good condition, Traffic lanes: 2, Traffic: Medium

Camino de Vilafamés

Roundabout: continue straight CV-190 (towards L'Alcora)

Road CV-190 Hard shoulder: No, Road surface: good condition, Traffic lanes: 2, Traffic: Medium

Castle of Alcalaten

Exit: cross through the town and then leave the town riding along Calle de San Salvador; continue until reaching the roundabout, which is situated next to the cemetery. Take road CV-191 (towards Ribesalbes)

To Castellón (CV-189)

Road CV-191 Hard shoulder: No, Road surface: good surface, Traffic lanes: 2, Traffic: Medium

River Mijares

Crossing: turn left and ride along CV-20 (towards Onda)



Maestrazgo circular route 3

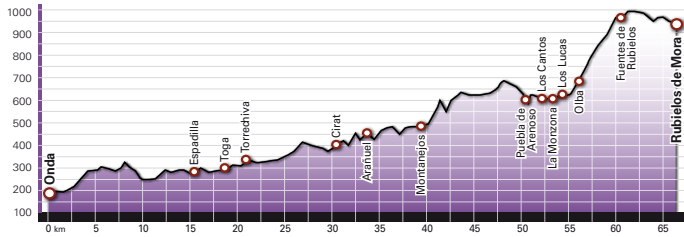
Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

Onda - Rubielos de Mora

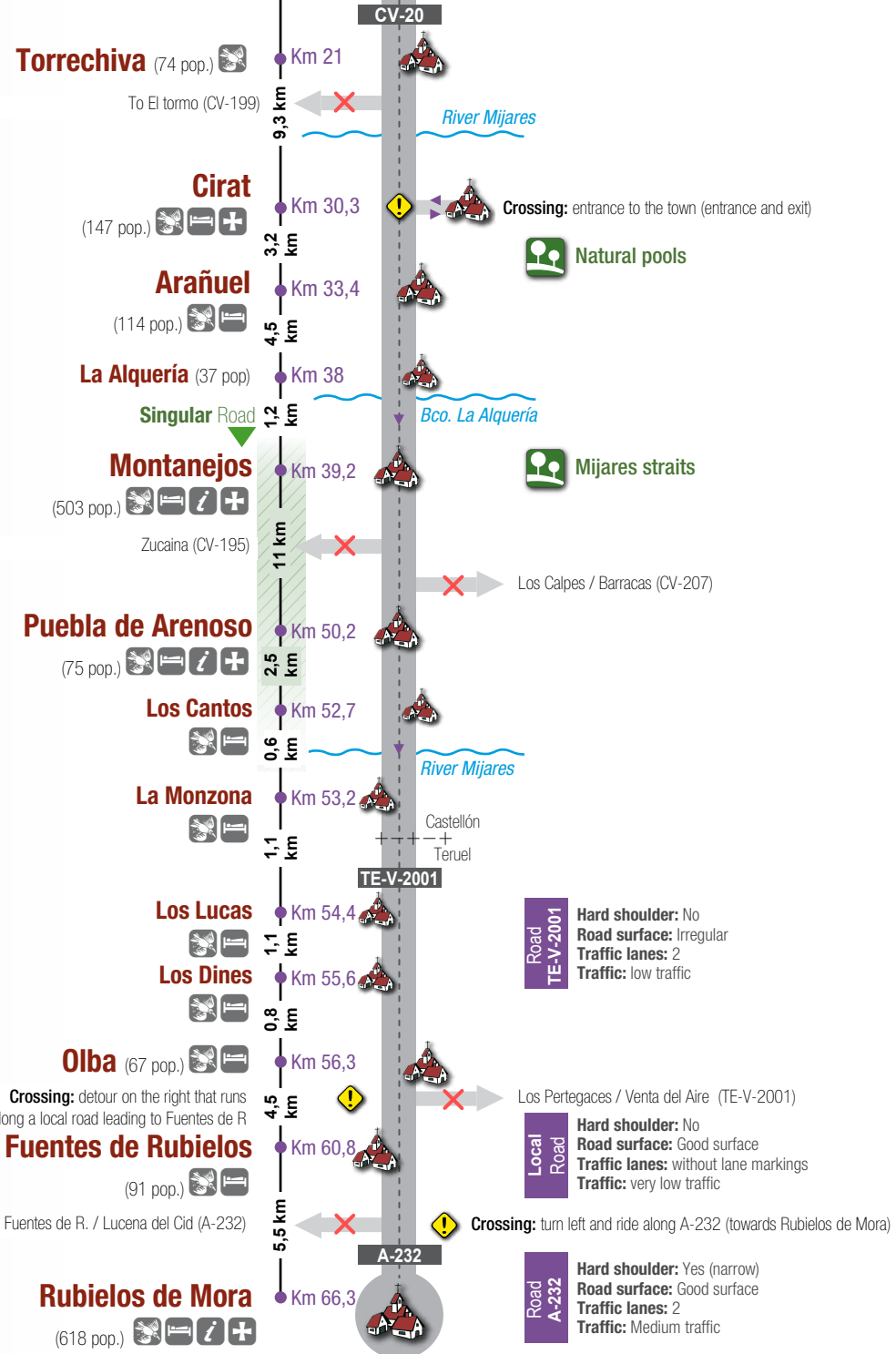
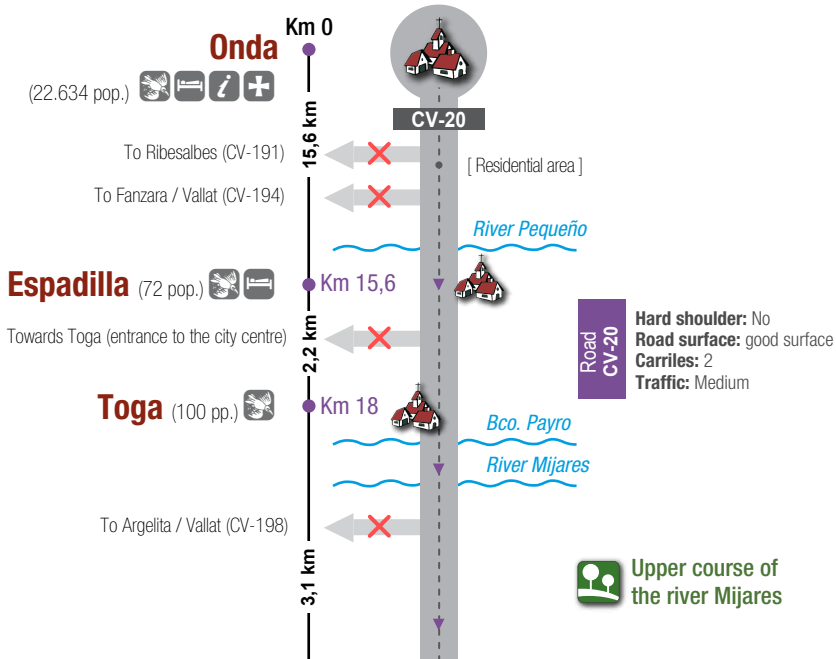
Stage

- Rubielos de M. - La Iglesuela del Cid
- La Iglesuela del Cid - Onda
- Onda - Rubielos de Mora

After visiting Onda, ride away from the flat lands in the area surrounding *La Plana de Castellón* and move into the valley of Mijares. Cyclists will encounter an area full of amazing natural wonders: the Mediterranean high-mountain landscape mixes with landscapes shaped by the river; there are many canyon walls as well as inviting natural pools



Fact Sheet:	Distance 66,3 km	Cumulative ascent 2.280 m	Estimated time 6 h 30 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 1.520 m	Type of route Circular (3 stages)
	Signposting Partial	IBP Difficulty index 128 BYC	Road surface Asphalt pavement



The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

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



www.caminoelcid.org

Scale 1:150.000



Services

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

Passport offices

TERUEL

FUENTES DE RUBIELOS
 MULTISERVICIO RINCÓN ABADÍA: C/ Mayor, 10 - 644600283
 CR LA VIEJA ESCUELA: C/ Mayor, 19 - 649098765
 CR VIENTOS DE GÚDAR: C/ Canterica, 1 - 629750707

LA IGLESUELA DEL CID

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor, 1 - 964443325
 HOSPEDERÍA PALACIO DE LA IGL.: C/ Ondevilla, 4 - 964107207

LINARES DE MORA

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. Mayor, 1 - 978802102

MOSQUERUELA

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza Mayor, 1 - 627709360
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 1 - 978807007
 H REST. MAS DE CEBRIÁN: Crta. A1701 km 34 - 608453712

NOGUERUELAS

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Crucica, 2 - 978804602
 HS LA CASA GRANDE: C/ Hispanoamérica 2 - 978804109

OLBA

MULTISERVICIO EL MIJARES: C/ Cantón, 9 - 978781420
 ALBERGUE MOLINO DE OLBA: Masía el Molino, sn - 978031563/659081901

RUBIELOS DE MORA

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl Hispanoamérica, 1 - 978804001
 H DE LA VILLA: Pl. del Carmen, 2 - 978804640
 H RUBIELOS DE MONTAÑA: Av. los Mártires, s/n - 978804236
 H LOS LEONES: Pl. de Igual y Gil, 3 - 978804477

CASTELLÓN

ARAÑUEL

AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ San Miguel, 1 - 964143156

BAR RUMAR:

C/ San Miguel, 1 - 667254863

ATZENETA DEL MAESTRAT

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl Mayor, 4 - 964370018/644064519
 CR EL MANGRANAR: Ctra. Xodos, km 4 - 619800921
 CR MASÍA ATALAYA: CV165 Km 27 - 695609704/605553786
 FONDA GILBERT: Avda. Castellón, 11 - 964370472

BENASAL

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ La Mola, 8 - 964442004

CIRAT

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza Mayor, s/n - 964143264

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 18 - 964143113

HS LA PIEDRA DEL MEDIODÍA: C/ Magisterio, 25 - 964143025
 ALB JARAMACIL: Pl. la Virgen, 3 - 682883363 / 689671558

CULLA

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Abadía, 5 - 678135160
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Recaredo García, 20 - 964446325
 REST. LA CARRASCA: Masía la Carrasca, 2 - 964762176
 HR MAS DE CUQUELLO: Av. Don Jaime, 49 - 964762501

ESPADILLA

AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Abadía, 4 - 964619033

BAR SAGANTA:

C/ Horno, 6 - 964619046

FONT D'EN SEGURES

H LA CASTELLANA: Avda. Dr. Puigvert, s/n - 964444017

H DE MONTAÑA NOVELLA: Balneario. Ctra Culla - 964431094

LES USERES

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 12 - 964348609

MONTANEJOS

• OFIC. DE TURISMO: Av. Fuente de Baños, 10 - 964131153

H ROSALEDA DEL MIJARES: Crta. de Tales, 28 - 964131079

AP. CAMPUEBLA: Ctra de Tales, 51 - 964131074 / 629673522

H REST. CASA PALACIO: C/ San Vicente, 40 - 964131293

H XAUEN: Av. Fuente de Baños, 26 - 964131151

ONDA

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Ceramista Peyró s/n - 964602855

MUSEO DE CIENCIAS NAT.: Ctra. de Tales, s/n - 964600730

MUSEO DEL AZULEJO: C/ Paris, s/n - 964770873

CASTILLO: C/ Jaén, s/n - 964766688

H GRAN HOTEL TOLEDO: Argelta, 20 - 964600972

PUEBLA DE ARENOSO

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. de la Iglesia, 1 - 964112601

HR L'ABADIA: Pl. de la Iglesia, 4 - 964708342 / 617760839

RIBESALBES

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Nueva, 1 - 964625001

TOGA

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 964612031

TORRECHIVA

AYUNTAMIENTO: Ronda Mijares, 17 - 964612218

VILLAFRANCA DEL CID

• OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ San Roc, 1 - 964441432

ALB. LA PARRETA: Ctra a Iglesuela del Cid Km 3 - 654908395

CR CASETA DE L'HORT: Partida las Vegas, s/n - 619900884

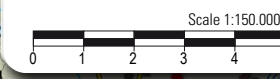


Alt Maestrat

The Way of El Cid

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-  Church, chapel, monastery...
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Carretera singular

La carretera, en pleno espacio natural de los Estrechos del Río Mijares, acompaña en su descenso al río Mijares, que se ensancha en el embalse del Arenós y vuelve a estrecharse cerca de Montanejos, en un atractivo paraje propicio a la escalada libre y al baño al aire libre en aguas termales. Aunque es una ruta frecuentada por cicloturistas es importante extremar la precaución en época estival ya que aumenta considerablemente el tráfico.

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 Singular roads

 Castle

 Church, chapel, monastery...

 National road

 Provincial road

 Local road

Scale 1:150.000

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

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