



These two cycling stages cross through the mining area in Teruel, where cyclists will encounter ascents and descents. This circular route pays tribute to the El Cid's attacks on the area, during which he raided both Huesa del Común and Montalbán. The epicentre of this circular route, whose beginning and end is Calamocha, is Montalbán, which is situated in the Natural Park of the river Martín.

Riots and pillage

According to *El Cantar de Mio Cid*, Rodrigo set up various camps on his journey to Valencia, in the region that is today known as Aragón. He raided and pillaged the Moorish towns in order to subjugate the Muslims and especially to obtain provisions and goods to pay his men. The Poem situates the most famous of these camps in El Poyo del Cid, 6 km outside Calamocha. El Cid had previously gathered his troops in Allucant, a place which remains an enigma to us, but which some scholars associate with Gallocanta, 22 km outside Calamocha. From there he launched a ten-day raid on **Monforte de Moyuela, Huesa del Común and Montalbán**. El Cid must have maintained a constant presence in the area. The Poem tells us that he "set the whole valley of the River Martín under tribute" after moving to El Poyo del Cid.

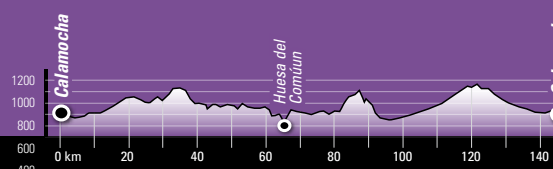
What there is to see?

This is a very entertaining circular route for bicycle tourists: there are slopes and descents and the landscape is varied: it is made of non-irrigated areas and mountain chains covered with pine and oak groves. The route crosses through towns with some samples of Gothic and Mudejar art and it runs on roads with low volume traffic, except for the roads along the area of Montalbán.

The route starts in Calamocha, where the historic El Cid camped in 1088 with a powerful army. The route then runs along quiet roads as far as Monforte de Moyuela, site of the three major **castles** to be admired on this circular route. The second is 11 km away, in Huesa del Común, an eye-catching castle perched on a flat-topped hill that is

ideal for free climbing. The route continues through small villages such as Plou, whose abandoned cattle shelters almost give it the appearance of a ghost town, and La Hoz de la Vieja, which offers breathtaking panoramic views. Montalbán, lying some 15 km away, marks the halfway stage of this route and is a town of historic and artistic value. The visitor's eye is immediately drawn to its narrow streets, magnificent views, the ruined castle and the Church of Montalbán, an imposing construction built in the Gothic-Mudejar style and seat of the Order of the Sword of Saint James.

Montalbán is located inside the Rio Martín Culture Park, whose valley, according to *El Cantar*, is a tribute to El Cid. It is unclear which towns the poet referred to; possibly those situated beyond Montalbán. It is now time to return to Calamocha, passing through Martín del Río, where the source of this river is located, as well as other towns scattered around the **natural landscapes of the Fonfría Mountain Range and the gypsum hills of Barrachina and Cutanda**. We urge history lovers and those eager to explore sites that have gone down in history to take a 2.5 km detour from the route just after the town of Barrachina to visit Cutanda. Today it looks just like any other town, but in 1120 it was the site of the battle between Alphonse I of Aragon, the Warrior King, and the Almoravid general Ibn Yussuf, who fell in defeat. This victory of the Aragonese troops led to the eventual surrender of the Almoravid fortresses in the valleys of Jalón and Jiloca.



Fact Sheet



Distance 145 km



Estimated time 2 days



Cumulative ascent 1.840 m



Cumulative descent 1.840 m



Physical difficulty Medium



Technical difficulty Low

Information for bicycle tourists

Although it is not known exactly where this place is, a number of scholars suggest that it is in fact Gallocanta. The route starts in the valley of the river Jiloca and climbs gradually until moving into the mountain ranges of Cucalón and Oriche. The entire route runs along low-traffic volume roads, which is why cyclists can enjoy the variety of landscapes. Access Montalbán after completing an entertaining climb. From Montalbán onwards, pedal upstream alongside the lower course of the river Martín and then continue the route along the valley of Jiloca.

If you have the energy and you consider the circular route is too short, you may consider continuing pedalling so as to complete the journey described in *El Cantar*. Go from El Cid's camp site, Gallocanta, to Montalbán along the Three Taifas route. You will ride creating a figure-eight-shaped route of 268 km, whose start and end may be any of the two circular routes.

Road surface condition 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 surface 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 route runs along the foothills of Sistema Ibérico and in close contact to the Ebro River Depression, so that the height average is over 1,000 m. This causes the climate to be continental, with cold winters (Spain's lowest temperatures are often recorded in this area) and warm summers (nights are cold which is why windbreakers will come handy). In general, rainfall is not very heavy and it depends highly on direction and height. This can be seen on the landscape, which is full of contrasts.

Use this QR code to access website content relating to the road bicycle tour section of Montalbán 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	8°	10°	13°	16°	20°	25°	30°	29°	25°	18°	12°	9°
Máx/Min	-1°	-1°	1°	3°	7°	10°	13°	13°	10°	6°	2°	0°
Total daylight time for any day	09:32	10:38	11:56	13:19	14:29	15:06	14:50	13:49	12:28	11:08	09:54	09:15
Average rainfall	27	26	29	23	64	64	50	30	41	43	36	33

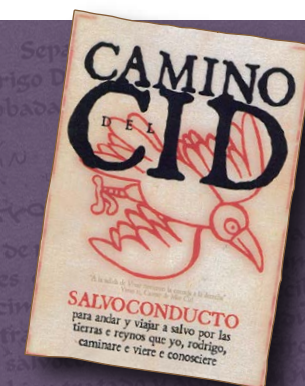
Monthly weather average for the village of calamocha

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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Montalban Circular Route 1

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

Calamocha - Huesa del Común

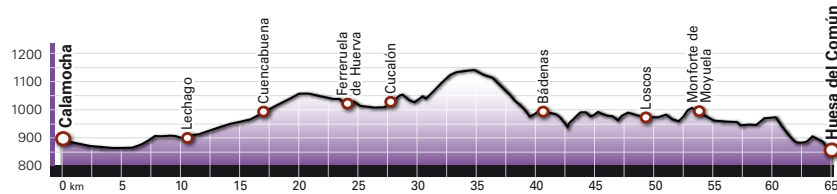
Stage

Edition 2020

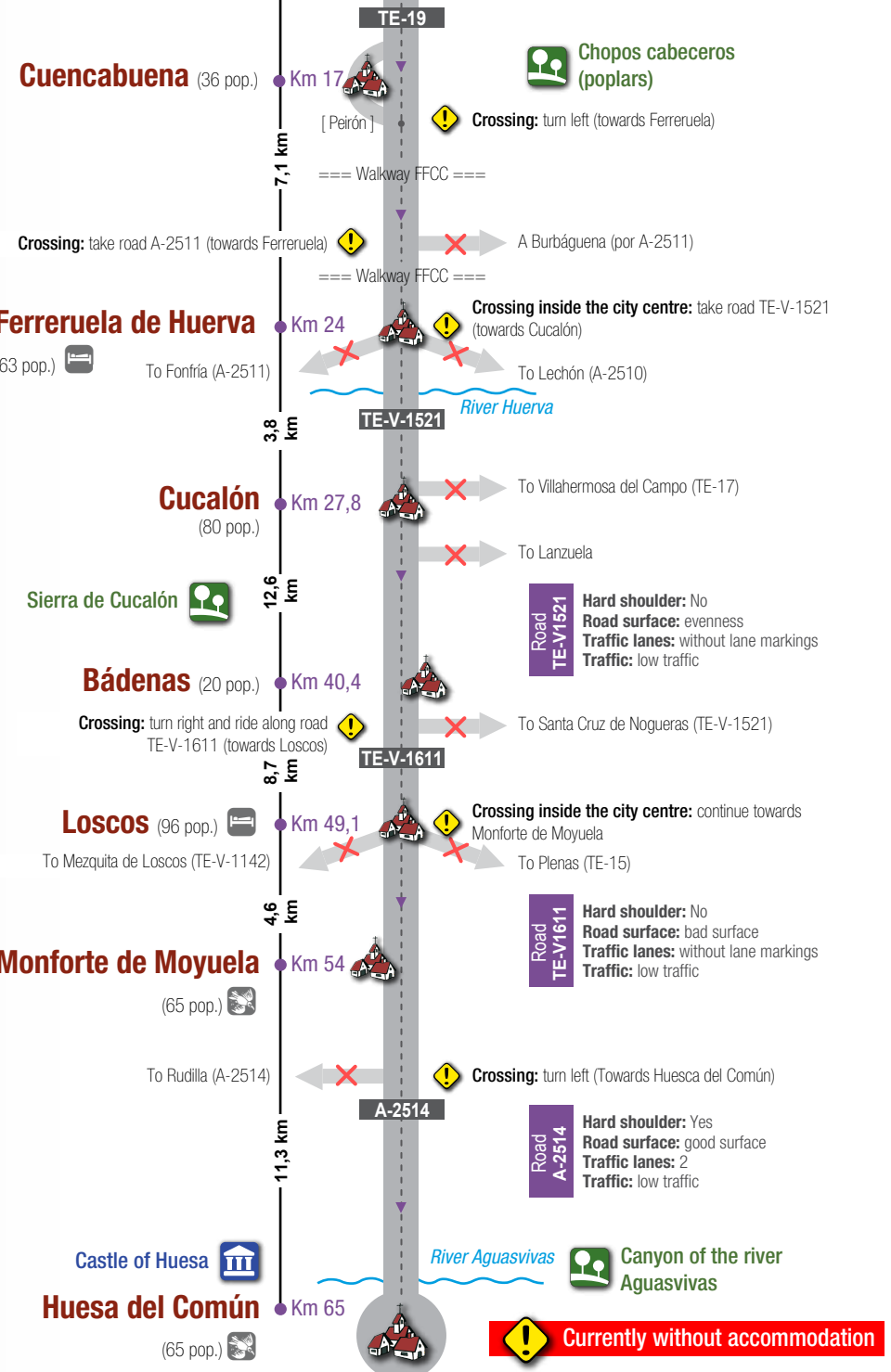
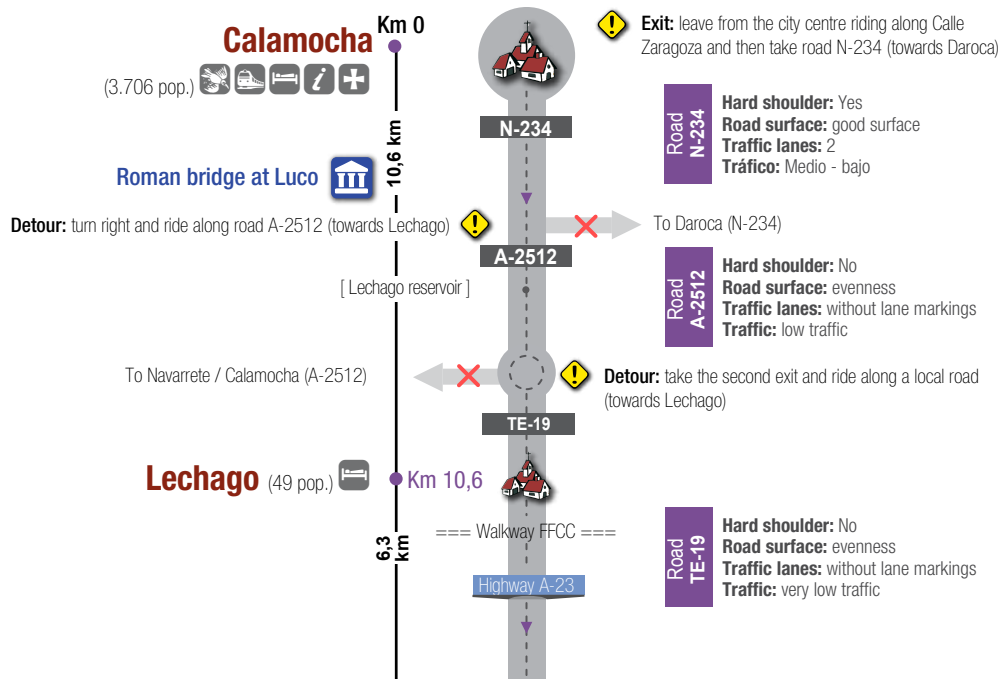
1. Calamocha - Huesa del Común

2. Huesa del Común - Calamocha

The route starts in the valley of the river Jiloca and climbs gradually until moving into the mountain ranges of Cucalón and Oriche. The entire route runs along low traffic volume roads, which is why cyclists will be able to enjoy the variety of landscapes along their way: large non-irrigated fields in the plain areas; pine and oak groves covering the mountainsides; and scrubland stretching to the horizon.



Fact Sheet	Distance 65 km	Cumulative ascent 775 m	Estimated time 5 h 20 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 775 m	Type of route Circular (2 stages)
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 62 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement





Montalban Circular Route 2

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

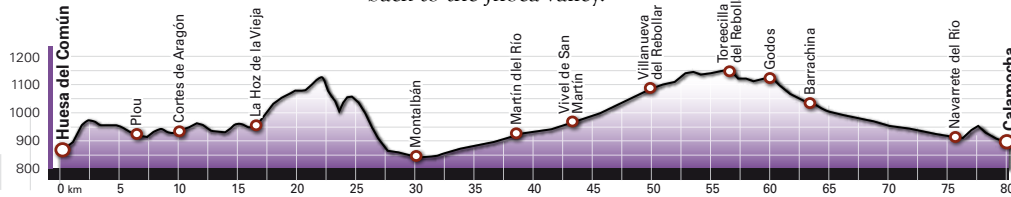
Huesa del Común - Calamocha

Stage

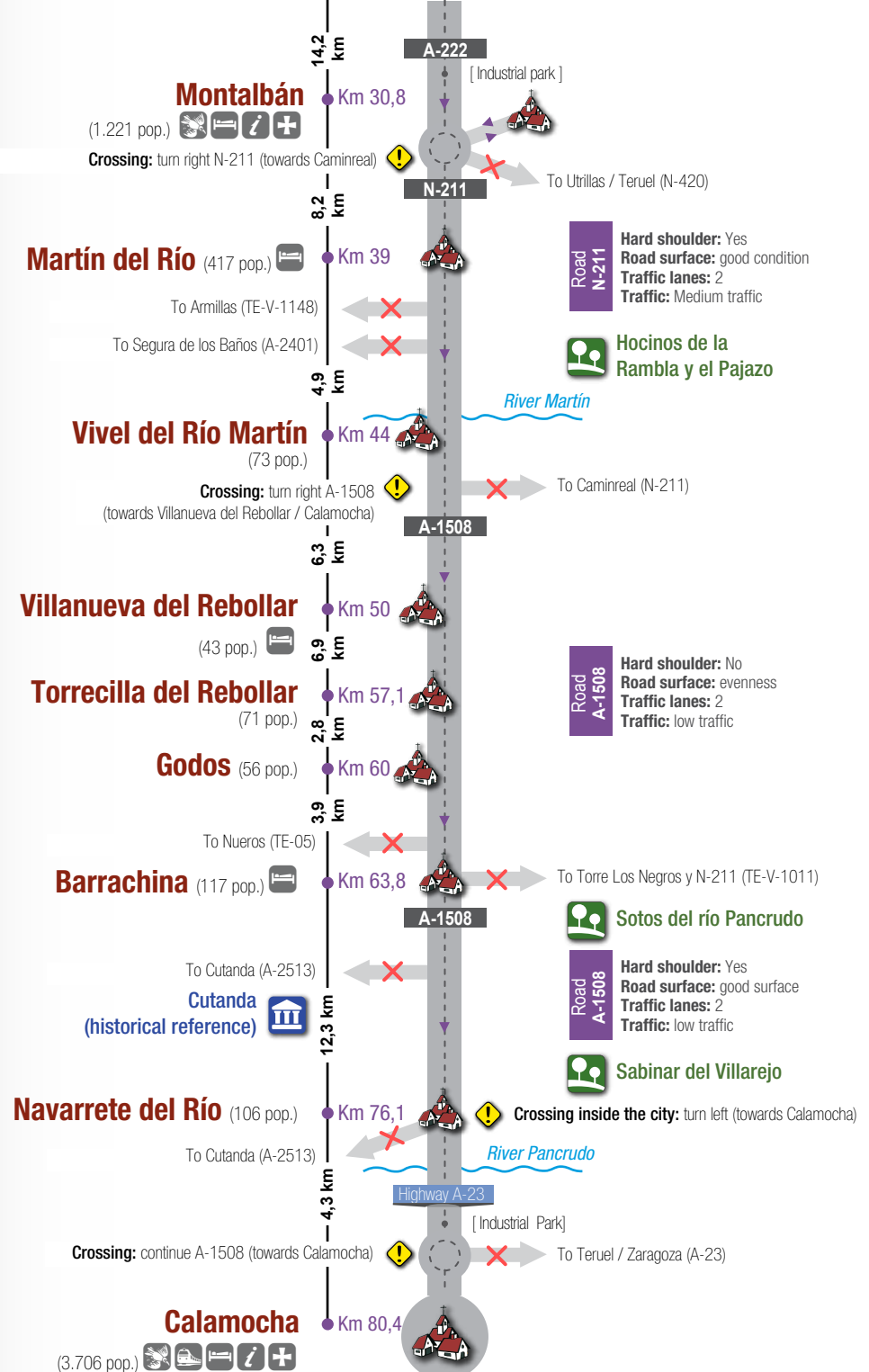
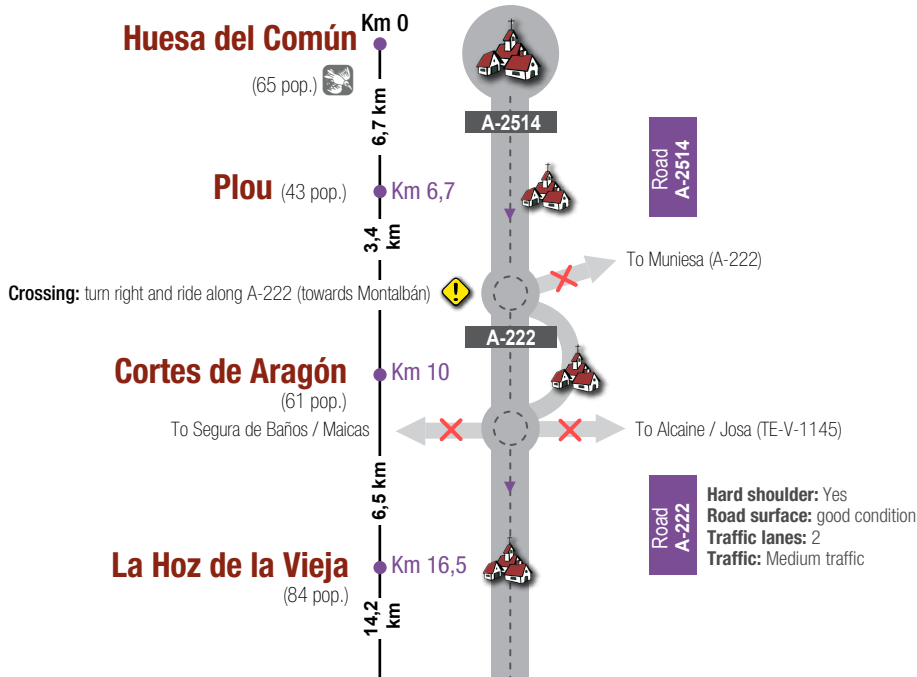
September 2019

- Calamocha - Huesa del Común
- Huesa del Común - Calamocha








Continue the route. You will now ride along roads in better condition, which cyclists will find more comfortable; the descents are pleasant. The landscape is dry. This wasteland-like landscape is in sharp contrast to the leafy forests that grow in the mountain ranges and the green strips of vegetation alongside the streams. From Montalbán onwards, you will ride alongside a stretch of the river Martín. A little bit further the route comes close to the river Pancrudo again and it then runs back to the Jiloca valley.



Fact Sheet	Distance 80,3 km	Cumulative ascent 1.075 m	Estimated time 7 h 30 m
	Difficulty High	Cumulative descent 1.050 m	Type of route Circular (2 stages)
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 93 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement



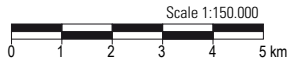
Services

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

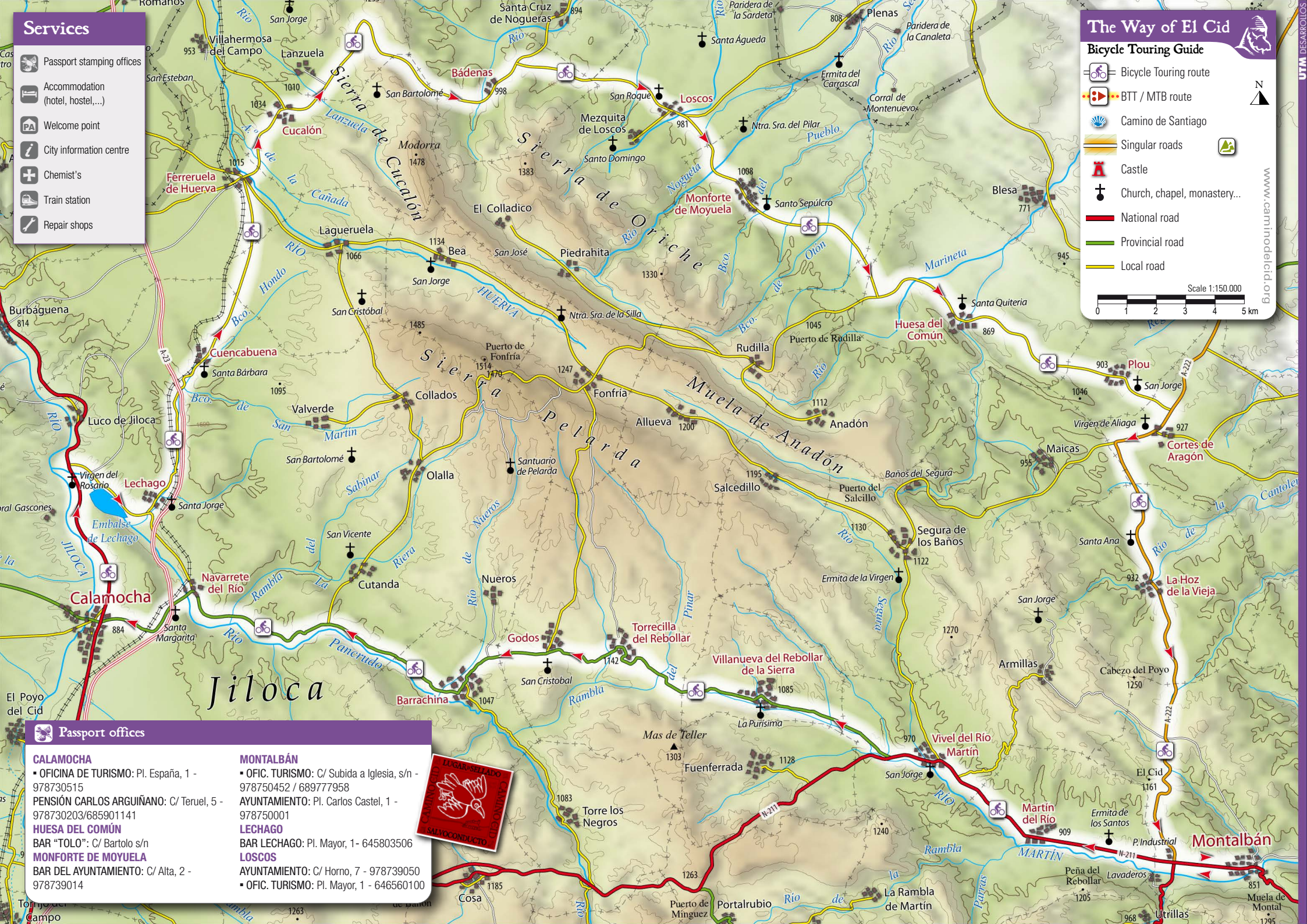
The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

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



www.caminoelcid.org



Passport offices

- CALAMOCHA**
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. España, 1 - 978730515
 PENSIÓN CARLOS ARGUËANO: C/ Teruel, 5 - 978730203/685901141
- HUESA DEL COMÚN**
 BAR "TOLO": C/ Bartolo s/n
 MONFORTE DE MOYUELA
 BAR DEL AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Alta, 2 - 978739014
- MONTALBÁN**
 OFIC. TURISMO: C/ Subida a Iglesia, s/n - 978750452 / 689777958
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Carlos Castel, 1 - 978750001
- LECHAGO**
 BAR LECHAGO: Pl. Mayor, 1 - 645803506
- LOSÇOS**
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Horno, 7 - 978739050
 OFIC. TURISMO: Pl. Mayor, 1 - 646560100

