



# La Defensa del Sur CAMINO DEL CID



www.caminodelcid.org

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

UTM Desarrollos

Start your journey to the last borderland region conquered by El Cid: Orihuela. The ideal seasons to undertake the route are autumn, winter and spring: get on your bike and pedal through a diverse and surprising territory. Get to know the provinces of Valencia and Alicante from their interior: if you have still not visited this region, you are unaware of what you have missed.

## With great violence

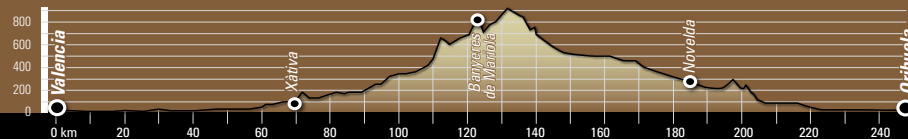
This route has two main plot lines: literary and historical. The literary plot is related to Valencia, which was where El Cid, according to El Cantar, married his daughters to the princes of Carrión. In addition, the area surrounding Valencia is said to have been the scene of several battles against the Muslim army, whose members fought to reconquer the city. El Cid obtained the sword Tizona during one of those battles; in particular, in the battle against the King Búcar.

The second plot type is of a historical nature. In November 1088, before conquering Valencia, El Cid moved from Xàtiva to Ontinyent to wait there for King Alfonso VI. The king was on his way in order to come in the aid of the fortress of Aledo. The armies never met each other and Alfonso exiled Rodrigo for the second time. El Cid spent Christmas Day in Elche: surrounded by enemies, he decided not to serve any knight and to act instead on his own account, imposing his own law along his way to Orihuela.

▼ Entrance to Bocairent through the bridge Darrere la Vila

## What there is to see?

This stretch is characterised by sharp contrasts: there are route stretches along residential areas, where the route runs largely on paved agricultural roads and green ways; but it runs also along lonely paths, in mountainous regions. You will come across large areas of fruit lands, purely Mediterranean mountain ranges, dry landscapes, palm groves and fertile valleys. Valencia has two environmental and social icons: **Albufera** and the **orchards**. There are eight harmonious heritage-rich towns, to the point that they have been declared Historic and/or Artistic Sites: **Valencia, Alzira, Xàtiva, Ontinyent, Bocairent, Villena, Elche and Orihuela**. You will see the spectacular castles of Xàtiva, Banyeres de Mariola, Biar, Villena, Sax, Petrer, and Cox. There are four Muslim towns that have been declared World Heritage Sites: **Lonja de Valencia, Tribunal de las Aguas, El Misteri de Elx, and Palmeral de Elche**. Depending on the time of the year, you may have the chance to enjoy the traditional **Moors and Christians Festivals**: Bocairent, Ontinyent, Banyeres de Mariola and Villena have been declared places of national or international tourist interest.



DATA	Distance 247,8 km	Cumulative ascent 1.730 m	MTB trail Yes
	Physical difficulty Medium-Low	Cumulative descent 1.710 m	Signposting Red markers
	Technical difficulty Low	Estimated time 4 days	IBP Degree of difficulty 56

## Signposting

The way is signposted with **red and white markers** in the stretches recognized as GR-160 and with a **double red marker** in the remainder of the route. In some of the stretches where *cycling* is tough, an alternative **MTB trail** is signposted. If you encounter a **MTB stretch**, ignore hiking signposts and follow the MTB signposts, for these markers will lead you through an easier and more comfortable trail.

	Continuity trail	Wrong direction
<b>GR 160 stretch</b> (footpath)		
<b>Non-GR stretch</b> (footpath)		
<b>MTB stretch</b>		

## Weather

The coast of Valencia offers one of the most benign climates of the Iberian Peninsula: the **Mediterranean climate**. Summers are dry and hot, winters are mild and autumns are rainy. It is at the beginning of this season when the so-called **Gota Fría** (literally, "cold drop") occurs, causing heavy rainfall in the form of torrential storms. Average rainfall in Valencia is over 450 mm, all of which falls in a period of 44 days. This means that the average **number of days of sun is very high**. Note, however, that in the stretches along which The Way gets into the interior and climbs towards the heights, you will encounter areas where the climate is similar to the continental climate in the plateau; that is, tough winters and dry summers. Freezing may occur even during springtime and snow falls in the winter, though not heavily.

	E	F	M	A	M	J <sub>N</sub>	J <sub>L</sub>	A	S	O	N	D
Average temperature Máx/Min	13° 0°	14° 1°	17° 3°	19° 5°	23° 8°	27° 12°	31° 14°	31° 15°	28° 12°	22° 8°	17° 4°	13° 1°
Amount of daylight hours / day	09:45	10:45	11:56	13:14	14:17	14:52	14:36	13:40	12:27	11:12	10:04	09:29
Average rainfall	31	21	35	40	46	36	6	16	47	55	38	35

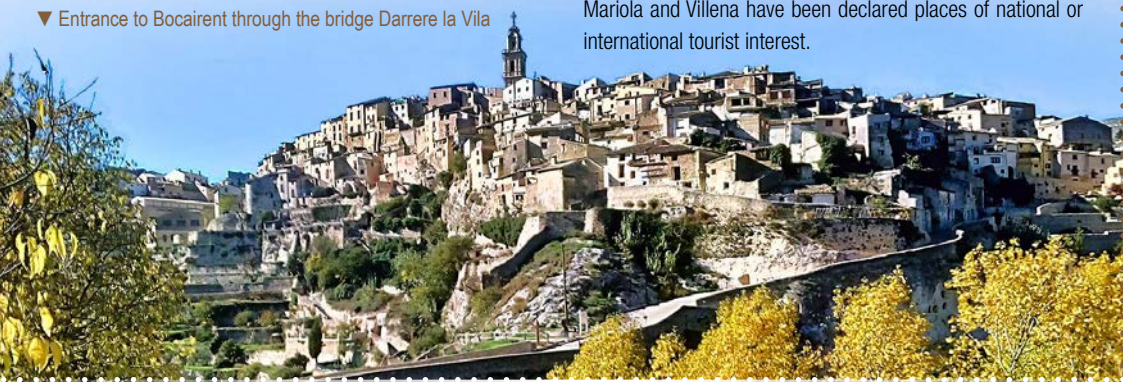
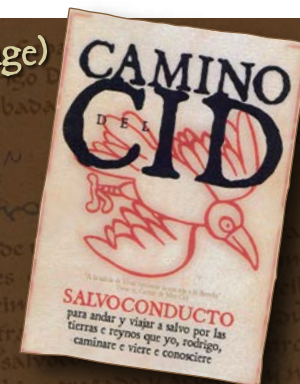
Monthly weather average for the city of Villena which may be used as a reference all along the journey.

## The Passport (a modern letter of safe-passage)

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



Consorcio Camino del Cid  
C/ Madrid 24, 09002 Burgos  
info@caminodelcid.org  
Tel.: 947 256 240





**VALENCIA**

**ALGEMESÍ**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO / MUSEU: C/ Nou del Convent, 71 - 962018630  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 3 - 962019000

**ALFARRASÍ**  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: c/ Iepanto, 2 - 962297125

**ALZIRA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza del Reino s/n - 962419551

**BOCAIRENT**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. de Ayuntamiento, 2 - 962905085  
 CASA RURAL MIRADOR: C/ Mirador, 19 - 678575488  
 H L'ÀGORA: C/ Sor Piedad de la Cruz, 3 - 962355039

**BUFALÍ**  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ La Paz, 7 - 962390388  
 BAR CASA CULTURA: C/ Virgen de Loreto, 10 - 626782778 / 962390388

**MONTAVERNER**  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 6 - 962297008  
 CENTRO DE INFORMACIÓN JUVENIL: C/ Nou, 18 - 962297008

**ONTINYENT**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza de San Roque, 2 - 962916090/962916303  
 CR LA MORERA: CV-655 Fontanars-Ontinyent km.10 - 692670560 / 692670560  
 HOSTAL MONTERREY: José Gironés, 1 - 647155879

**SILLA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Castell, s/n - 961200029

**VALENCIA**  
 O.T. VALENCIA PAZ: C/ Paz, 48 - 963986422

O.T. VALENCIA AEROPUERTO: Manises (Valencia) - 961 530 229  
 O.T. VALENCIA AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 963 524 908  
 O.T. VALENCIA JOAQUÍN SOROLLA: Estación Valencia Joaquín Sorolla, C/ San Vicente, 171 - 963803623

O.T. VALENCIA MARINA REAL JUAN CARLOS I: Puerto de Valencia. Muelle de la Aduana s/n - 961 207 745

O.T. VALENCIA PLAYA: Paseo de Neptuno, s/n - 963555899  
 MUSEO MILITAR VALENCIA: C/ General Gil Dolz, 6 - 961966215

H CONQUERIDOR: C/ Cervantes, 9 - 963522910  
 H MEDIUM VALENCIA: General Urrutia, 48 - 963347800

H PATILLA: C/ Pinares, 10 - 961830382  
 CAMPING DEVESA GARDENS: El Saler, km. 13 - 961611136

H CASUALVALENCIA DE LA MÚSICA: Padilla, 4 - 963511284  
 HS EL CID: C/ Cerrajeros (Manyans), 13 - 963922323

HS ACCOM HOSTEL PALACIOS: C/ Daoiz y Velarde, 6 - 963629689/616352548

**XÀTIVA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pº de la Alameda Jaime I, 50 - 962273346  
 CR CASA DEL CIGRONER: C/ Santo Domingo, 26 - 634514277

**ALICANTE**

**BANYERES DE MARIOLA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Parque de Villa Rosario s/n - 965567453

MUSEO DEL PAPEL: Parque Villa Rosario, 2 - 965567770  
 MUSEO ARQUEOLÓGICO: Carrer de la Torre, 6 - 966567896  
 H MESÓN EL CASTILLO: Alcoy 8 - 965566746

**BIAR**

OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Cura Reig, 1 - 965811177  
 MUSEO ETNOGRÁFICO MUNICIPAL: C/ Mayor, 1 - 965812029  
 HR LA FAÇANA: Pl. Constitución, 2 - 965810373

**CALLOSA DE SEGURA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor, 31 - 966198451

**COX**  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Plaza Glorieta, 1 - 965360000  
 POLICÍA LOCAL: C/ La Acequia, s/n - 649864000

**ELDA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Nueva, 14 - 966980300  
 INFORMACIÓN TURÍSTICA: Pl. Sagasta, s/n - 966980300

**ELCHE / ELX**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza del Parc, 3 - 966658196  
 H HOLIDAY INN ELCHE: Miguel Servet, 25 - 966651551  
 H HUERTO DEL CURA: C/ Porta de la Morera, 14 - 966610011  
 H JARDÍN MILENIO: C/ Prolongación Curtidores, s/n - 966610011

**MONFORTE DEL CID**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl. de España, 1 bajo - 965626417

ÍBERO MUSEO HISTORIA: Pl. Bonifacio Amorós, 10 - 966186345  
 POLICÍA LOCAL: Plaza de España, 1 - 900161717

**NOVELDA**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Mayor, 6 - 965609228  
 ECOALBERGUE LA MOLA: Partida los Molinos, 151 - 965376231/965975754

**ORIHUELA**  
 O T CENTRO: C/ Soleres, 6 - 965304645

O T PLAYA: Pl. Oriol (Urb. Playa Flamenca)-966760000 ext.32  
 MUSEO DE LA MURALLA: C/ del Río, s/n - 965304698  
 SR REY TEODOMIRO: Avda. Teodomiro, 10-1º - 965300349/ 966743348

**REDOVÁN**  
 BIBLIOTECA: C/ San Jerónimo, 1 - 966754263  
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Ayuntamiento, 1 - 966754025

**SAX**  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: CEAHM Alberto Sols C/ Mayor, 30 - 966313351

CRUZ ROJA: Asamblea Local, Avda. Reyes Católicos, 1 - 965474669  
 H FUENTE EL CURA: C/ Regino Soler, 6 - 966969013

**VILLENA**  
 OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. de Santiago, 5 - 966150236 / 966150066

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Santiago, 1 - 966150236  
 H SALVADORA: Constitución, 102 - 965800950

P LA CASA DE LOS AROMAS: C/ Arco, 1 - 965343566 / 666475612



**Services**

- Passport stamp
- Accommodation (hotel, rural tourism...)
- Punto de acogida
- Tourist office
- Pharmacy
- Railway station
- Bicycle repair shop



**Tips and Trail Etiquette**

- ▶ Do not set-off without the **tracks** and **topo-guides**.
- ▶ **Respect signposting** and remember that signs belong to all of us.
- ▶ Avoid surprises by **booking accommodation in advance**.
- ▶ Along your way you shall pass through lonely areas: **plan food and repair gear**.
- ▶ Respect **gates and fences** that block access.
- ▶ Wear reflective gear and make yourself as **visible** as you can in the forest.
- ▶ Remember this challenge is not a race: be aware of your own **strength and ability** and do not extend the length of daily sections unnecessarily.
- ▶ Be aware that **rain** or leafy **vegetation** during spring may make cycling tougher along certain stretches.
- ▶ Keep the **topo-guide** either on your person or at an easy-to-reach distance and consult it if any mishap occurs.
- ▶ Wear a **helmet**.



**Sections (247,8 km)**

- ▶ Valencia - Xàtiva (70,5 km)
- ▶ Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola (53,1km)
- ▶ Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda (62,8 km)
- ▶ Novelda - Orihuela (61,3 km)







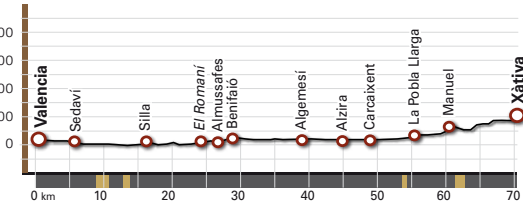
# La Defensa del Sur 1

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Valencia - Xàtiva

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

DATA

- Distance 70,5 km
- Physical difficulty Low
- Technical difficulty Low
- Cumulative ascent 120 m
- Cumulative descent 15 m
- Estimated time 6 h 10 m
- MTB trail No
- Signposting Markers GR
- IBP Degree of difficulty 30

### VALENCIA

(population: 754.891)



Km 0



5,4 km



### Sedavi

(population: 10.197)



Km 5,4

11,1 km

### Silla

(population: 18.430)



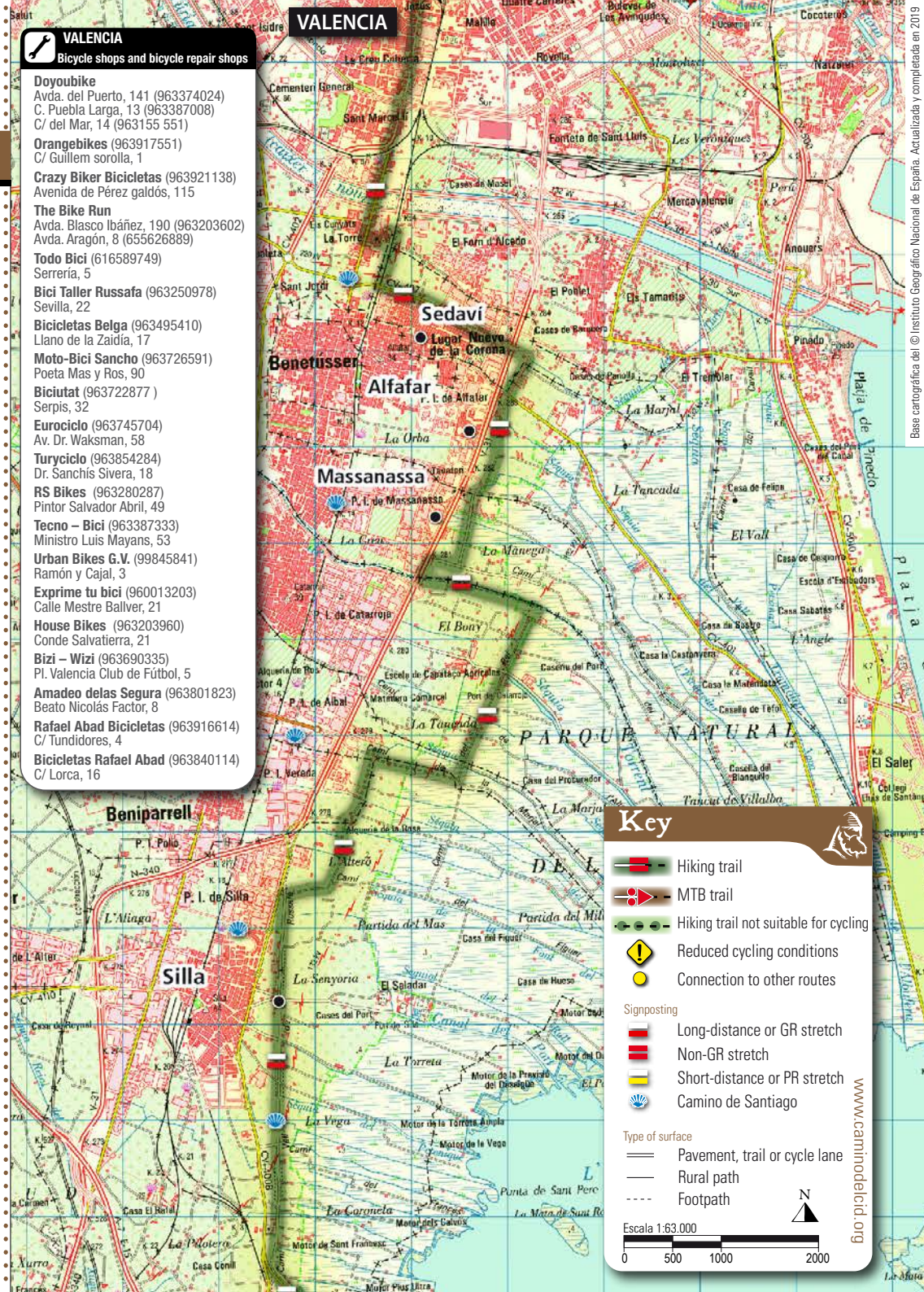
Km 16,5

Leave from *Plaza España*, situated next to *El Cid's monument*, riding along *Avenida de San Vicente Mártir*, which rides away from the city centre. Shortly after having crossed through *Bulevar del Sur*, turn to a street to the left that crosses under the train lines. Ride straight along *Avenida Real de Madrid (CV-4001)*. After crossing through a bridge over road *V-30* and over the *river Turia*, you reach a **neighbourhood called Torre**. At this point, join the old **Vía Augusta**. Turn to the left and ride along *Calle de Hellin* until the end. Then continue on *Calle del Pico Calderón* and *Calle Garcia Lorca*. At *Calle Garcia Lorca*, cross through a level crossing under the railroad (km 4.1). Continue to your right, along *Avda. de Europa*, until reaching **Sedavi** (km 4.7).

Cross through **Sedavi** riding on the cycle path that runs along *Avda. del País Valenciano (CV-407)*. This avenue comes out to a bridge (km 6.2) over *highway V-31*. Cross the bridge, which leads to a roundabout, and then take the path to *Castellar*. Cross the road to *Saler (CV-401)* (km 6.8). Shortly after, you reach a crossroads (km 7). Go straight. At the farming cooperative of *Massanassa* (km 7.9), take the paved path so as to join again **Vía Augusta**. At a crossroads, turn to the right (km 8.7). Shortly after, turn left to a path that runs away from the road. The path leads to *gully Torrent* (km 9.3). Cross through a ford (take care when the water is high) and continue to your left along an elevated path, which runs parallel to the riverbed. Pay attention so as to take a small descending path (km 10.5). Ride alongside the fields until reaching a group of buildings. Turn right into a paved path and you will soon reach *Puerto de Catarroja*. Continue straight until reaching a crossroads (km 12.5). At this point, turn to the right and ride straight. After passing by a group of farming buildings, turn left to a soil path (km 13.5). Cross *gully Picassent* and ride again onto a paved stretch. Continue, but pay attention at turns so as to follow the markers for **Vía Augusta**, through which you will reach the area surrounding **Silla** (km 16).

Section 1 is a flat profile section, which runs through fertile orchards to the south of Valencia. You will ride on small roads and paved paths (at a distance from major roads), which makes pedalling easier. When riding along the paths close to the *Albufera*, a wide range of birds can be seen. Additionally, you will enjoy pedalling along never-ending orange fields and breathing their perfume.

- #### VALENCIA
- Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops
- Doyoubike**  
Avda. del Puerto, 141 (963374024)  
C. Puebla Larga, 13 (963387008)  
C/ del Mar, 14 (963155 551)
  - Orangebikes** (963917551)  
C/ Guillem sorolla, 1
  - Crazy Biker Bicicletas** (963921138)  
Avenida de Pérez galdós, 115
  - The Bike Run**  
Avda. Blasco Ibañez, 190 (963203602)  
Avda. Aragón, 8 (655626889)
  - Todo Bici** (616589749)  
Serreña, 5
  - Bici Taller Russafa** (963250978)  
Sevilla, 22
  - Bicicletas Belga** (963495410)  
Llano de la Zaidia, 17
  - Moto-Bici Sancho** (963726591)  
Poeta Mas y Ros, 90
  - Biciutat** (963722877 )  
Serpis, 32
  - Eurociclo** (963745704)  
Av. Dr. Waksman, 58
  - Turyciclo** (963854284)  
Dr. Sanchis Sivera, 18
  - RS Bikes** (963280287)  
Pintor Salvador Abril, 49
  - Tecno - Bici** (963387333)  
Ministro Luis Mayans, 53
  - Urban Bikes G.V.** (99845841)  
Ramón y Cajal, 3
  - Exprime tu bici** (960013203)  
Calle Mestre Balver, 21
  - House Bikes** (963203960)  
Conde Salvatierra, 21
  - Bizi - Wizi** (963690335)  
Pl. Valencia Club de Fútbol, 5
  - Amadeo delas Segura** (963801823)  
Beato Nicolás Factor, 8
  - Rafael Abad Bicicletas** (963916614)  
C/ Tundidores, 4
  - Bicicletas Rafael Abad** (963840114)  
C/ Lorca, 16



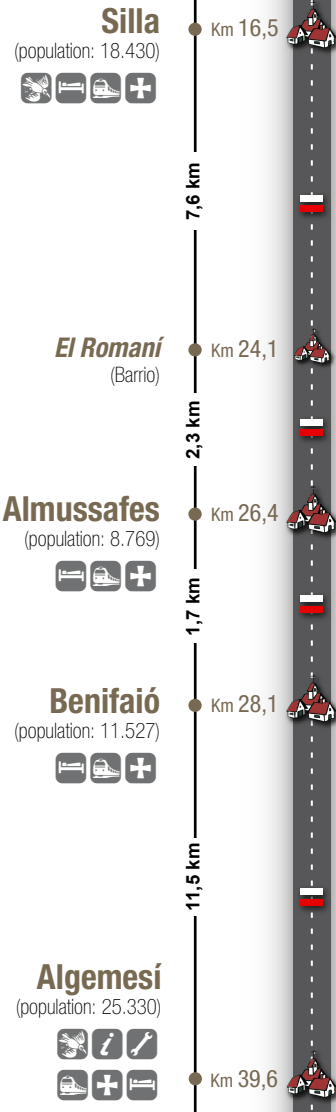
Base cartográfica de © Instituto Geográfico Nacional de España. Actualizada y completada en 2017

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# La Defensa del Sur

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid



Next to an *engine in El Salvador*, there is a directional arrow announcing **The Way of El Cid** and pointing to a pedestrian path to **Silla**, which is only 300 m away. Resume the route at this point, where *path GR-239* joins *The Way (Camino de Santiago del Levante)*. Continue on *Camí Vell de Russafa*, which passes by **Silla** and runs southwards on a long straight line. When coming out to road *CV-4008* (km 19.4), turn left, riding parallel to the road until reaching the *railroad lines* (km 20.4). Ride close to them along a small stretch. Some metres after a curve to the left (km 20.9), turn again to the right. Pay attention to signposting, riding close to the train lines. Finally, you will reach a *bridge over the railroad* (km 23.9), leading to **El Romani** (km 24.1).

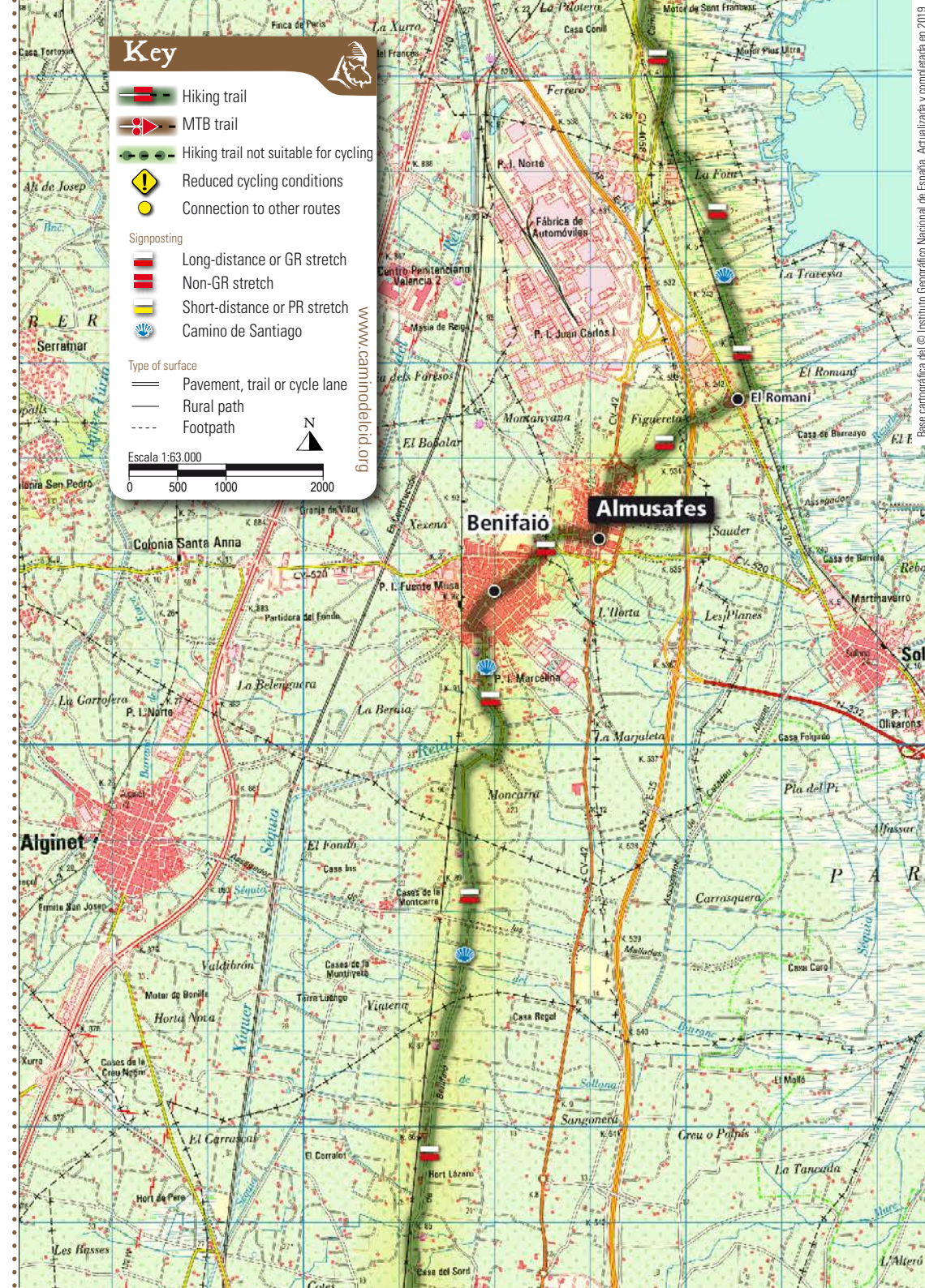
Cross through the town riding on *Calle del Molino Romani*. Continue on a small road, which shortly after crosses through a *level crossing over highway AP-7* (km 24.7) and comes out to road *CV-42* (km 25.5). This is a beltway around **Almussafes**. Access the town, riding along *Calle de Valencia* and continue on *Calle Mayor* until reaching *Plaza Mayor*.

*Gulley Tramusser* is the only distance between the towns of **Almussafes** and **Benifaio**. Resume the route starting at Almussafes; leave from Plaza Mayor, which is placed next to *San Bartolomé church* and the *tower of Castillo*. Continue along *Calle del Castillo* and *Calle de Salvador Botella*, which rides into a large roundabout. The roundabout signals the entrance to **Benifaio** (km 27), through *Calle de Almussafes*.

Leave from **Plaza Mayor**, which is placed next to the *Town Hall*, riding along *Calle de la Ermita* and *Calle San Marcial*, and continue until reaching *Plaza de Blasco Ibáñez*. Ride away from Benifaio along *Calle del Pintor Segrelles*, which later runs into a paved path (*Camí de la Mocarra*). The path leads to the royal irrigation *channel of the river Júcar* (km 29.3). Continue straight on the paved path, following the signs for **Camino de Santiago**. Ignore several left and right hand turns. At a crossroads, before a level crossing (km 30.2), ride off the main path and turn left. Some metres further, come close to the *train lines* and take *Camí de l'Hort de l'Alemanys*. Ride straight on this path, heading southwards. Cross two roads (km 32 and 32.5) and continue straight on *Camino Viejo de Benifaio* riding to the right of the railroad. At this point, there is a crossroads (km 36.3). Shortly after, you reach a *crossing under road CV-42* (km 36.9). The path continues in the same direction until reaching the road (km 37.9). Some metres further it comes out to the *railroad line* (km 38.1), which is at the entrance of **Algemesi**.

### Albufera National Park, Valencia

The *Albufera de Valencia* is a large freshwater coastal lagoon of great ecological value that has an average depth of 1 metre. A slim strip of coastline protects it from the sea, on which sand dunes have formed a pine grove. The cycling route runs along *marjal* paths, which are old plots of land that used to belong to the lagoon. Nowadays they are, however, devoted to growing rice. Note that it is a very changeable landscape. Depending on the season of the year, the area may be completely flooded, except for high footbridges. The whole area serves as a unique refuge for many species. Sighting of herons, little egrets, red crested pochards, northern shovelers or mallards is common.





# La Defensa del Sur

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Algemesi

(population: 25.330)



Km 39,6



Start at *Plaza Mayor*, which is situated next to *San Jaime Apóstol chapel*, and ride along *Calle de la Berca* and *Calle Parque de Salvador Castell*. Ride until the end of the street, in the area surrounding *river Magro*. Cross the river through a *footbridge* (km 40.1) and continue on *Camí de la Minyoneta*, passing by a school called *Virgen de la Salud*. Go straight at a *crossroads* (km 40.9) and continue until reaching an industrial area under construction (km 41.4). Turn right and cross through the industrial area. Continue until reaching the entrance, which is placed next to a roundabout (km 42) on *road CV-42*. Ride carefully through the roundabout and pay attention so as to take a path that is barely visible. It runs alongside a wall built on an open area packed with containers. Ride across the open area that leads to a paved path (km 42.1). Turn left into the path, which passes by a second-rate shop and comes close to the road. The path's surface turns into compact surface. Shortly after, cross over *river Verde* through a bridge (km 42.8). 50 m further, the route turns to the right, running on another path. The path, which is made of soil, gets close to the train lines and crosses under a bridge that crosses *road CV-43*. Pass to the left of a large roundabout (km 43.5) and continue on a path that runs parallel to *road CV-42*. Ride close to a paper bank and some metres further you come out to a roundabout (km 44.7). Palm trees grow on it and it is placed next to a *beautiful modernist building* (known as "*la cotonera*"). At this point, turn left to a **cycle lane** that runs alongside the margins of the *river Júcar*. The cycle lane leads to an iron bridge (km 45). Cross and then turn right so as to ride into the centre of **Alzira**.

### Alzira

(population: 41.292)



Km 46



Leave from *Plaza del Reino*, situated next to the tourist office. Ride along *Calle de Colón* until reaching a tunnel that crosses under *road CV-50* (km 46.7). Cross through it and continue straight. Ride straight along *Avenida de Carcaixent*. Immediately after crossing *gully Casella*, turn into the first street on the right (*Calle Ben Jafacha*), which leads to an industrial area (km 46.8). Turn left and shortly after take *Camí de la Materna* (km 47.3), which rides away from the industrial area on a paved path that runs alongside fruit fields. Continue straight on this path, passing by several large farming buildings. At the end, you reach a roundabout (km 48.9), which leads to **Carcaixent** along *Calle de Santa Bárbara*.

### Carcaixent

(population: 19.317)



Km 49,8



Leave from *Plaza Mayor* riding along *Calle Comandante Hernández*. Turn right and ride along *Calle de Prim*. Pay attention: immediately after crossing through the *tunnel under the railroad* (km 50.2), turn to a well-defined path to the left that runs in between the river and the train lines. The path, which soon turns into a paved path, leads to an industrial area and ends at a roundabout (km 51.2). Cross and continue straight, until reaching **Cogullada**.

### Cogullada

(Barrio de Carcaixent)

Km 51,7



Starting at *Plaza de San José* ride some metres further and take the first street to your right (*Ravalet*). Continue until reaching a *footbridge* (km 51.9) over *road CV-41*. Cross and turn to your right to ride on *road CV-543* (*camí de San Roque*) (towards the southeast). Before reaching *San Roque chapel*, ride off this road and into a paved path to your left (km 52.8). Pay special care to signposts as you will come across a number of left and right hand turns. The path runs again into *road CV-41* (km 55.1) and then turns right into a path that runs parallel to the road. Some metres further, you reach a *level crossing under the road* (km 55.4) that leads to the *industrial area*. Ride through the industrial area until reaching *Calle del Vall*, which leads to the city centre.

### La Pobla Llarga

(population: 4.426)



Km 56,7



### Alzira resists



In the 11th century, Alzira was a walled square surrounded by the *river Júcar*. Its name is derived from the Arab word for "island". Ibn Jafaya, a poet born in Alzira and contemporary of El Cid, praised its orchards and gardens –which he called "flowered faces"– and water "fresh mouth". This Muslim city was the last Almoravid bastion against which El Cid fought, though the battle was unequal.

#### ALZIRA

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

Chidutani Ciclos (962401624)  
Gandia, 6

Bicicletas Salva (962415057)  
Aben-Tomlus, 28

Soulbike SL (685 486 985)  
Av. Luis Suñer, 28

Motorrecambios V. Ferrer  
Joanot Martorell, 18

#### ALGEMESI

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

Bicicletas Germán Puchades  
Pl. Verge dels Dolors, 9  
(962420972)





# La Defensa del Sur

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

1

### La Poble Llarga

(population: 4.426)



Km 56,7



4,9 km

### Manuel

(population: 2.496)



Km 61,6



9,9 km

### Xàtiva

(population: 27.768)



Km 71,5

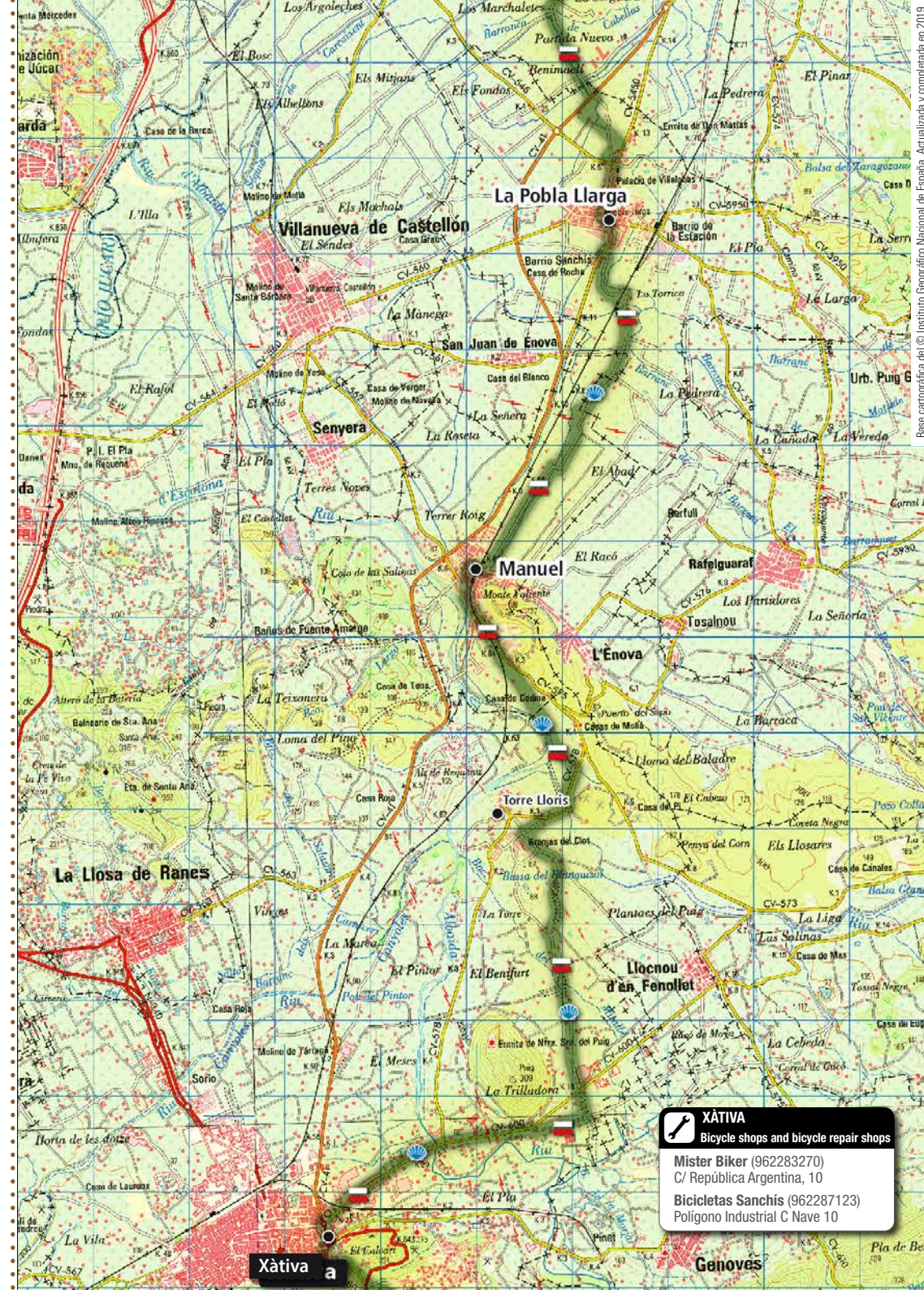


Continue along *Calle Lorenzo Santa María* and *Avenida Santa Cecilia*. Turn left (km 57.2) so as to take *Calle Pintor Estruch*. At the end of the street, turn right to a paved path (*camí de Mont Florit*) (km 57.3). The path crosses under the train lines, which are placed next to *gully Barcheta* (km 57.8), and then turns to the right. Ignore a left hand turn (*towards bridge l'Ase*) (km 58.4), after which you will reach the roundabout that connects with *road CV-561* (km 58.6). At this point, continue straight. At a crossroads (km 59.3), turn right and cross again under the railroad. Turn left to a path that runs parallel to the train lines and 300 m further turn to a path to the right. After passing by two curves, the path runs on a long straight line of orange trees (km 60.9). The route reaches the outskirts of **Manuel**, which you access through *Calle Abad* (km 61.4).

Continue on *Calle Joan Moreno* until reaching a *small park with a fountain* (km 62.1). Turn left and cross through the old train lines. Turn to the right and ride away from the town along *Calle Bona Vista* and *road CV-575*. Immediately after, ride off this road by turning to a paved path to the right (km 62.6) that starts on the opposite side of the entrance to the industrial area. The paved path turns into a soil path, though in good condition. Turn right into *road CV-578* (km 64.1) and ride along it for 600 m. Ride off the road, turning left to a path (km 64.8) that runs alongside several fields of citric fruits (pay attention to the surface, which is in bad condition in some stretches). Then turn left so as to ride again on a paved path (km 65.1). At a crossroads, which is placed next to an agricultural building (km 65.5), turn right and ride on the main path. Pay attention to signposts and ignore all left and right hand turns. At the crossroads that is next to the bridge over the railroad (km 66.4), cross and then turn right. The paved path heads to the southeast, running to the right of *mountain Puig*. At this point, you come out to *road CV-600* (km 68.1). Continue on a path in front of you. At the crossroads (km 68.4), turn to the right and, shortly after, ride again into *road CV-600* (km 69). Turn left and continue carefully along the road. After crossing *river Albaida* (km 70), ride into **Xàtiva** along *road Simat*, which crosses through a large industrial area. Cross a tunnel under the train lines until reaching a *roundabout*, which is next to the *town's bullring* (km 71.4). From this point, ride along *Avenida de Selgas* until reaching the city centre.

### El collar de la paloma (The Collar of the Dove)

The castle of **Xàtiva** is the symbol of this historic town. Following the conquest of **Valencia** by the Cid, **Xàtiva** became an Almoravid bastion. The town developed an important paper-making industry during the taifa period. **Xàtiva** was a home town for Ibn Hazm in the 11th century (author of *Collar de la Paloma* [The Collar of the Dove], which is one of the most important romantic poetries of Spanish literature) and for Ibn Yubair in the 12th century, author of an important travel book through the Arab world.



#### XÀTIVA

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

Mister Biker (962283270)

C/ República Argentina, 10

Bicicletas Sanchis (962287123)

Polígono Industrial C Nave 10





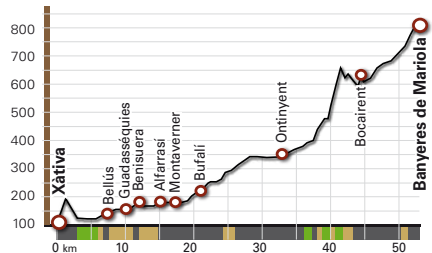
# La Defensa del Sur 2

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

## Xàtiva - Banyeres de Mariola

Edition 2020

UFM Distribution



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

Section 2 is an intermediate section that runs alongside the rivers *Albaida* and *Clariano* and climbs until reaching the foothills of the *Béticas* mountain ranges. Throughout the route, you will come across the interesting landscape of *Val de Albaida*. In the background, it is possible to see *Bellús* reservoir and the natural swimming-pools of *Pou Clar* or *Sierra de Mariola*. The route runs on easy stretches, except for the link between *Ontinyent* and *Bocairent* that runs alongside *gully Tarongers*. This stretch is challenging and you should thus be prepared for it.

DATA	Distance 53 km	Cumulative ascent 1.130 m	MTB trail Yes
	Physical difficulty High	Cumulative descent 440 m	Signposting GR and Red markers
	Technical difficulty Medium	Estimated time 5 h 50 m	IBP Degree of difficulty 113

Leave from *Plaza de la Fuente*, which has 25 *faucets*, riding along *Calle San Pascual*. The street, which becomes a small road closed to traffic, climbs until coming out to *road N-340* (km 0.9). Cross the road and then continue straight on a path until reaching a crossroads. At this point, go straight, climbing along a path, which comes again out to the road. After riding 100 m, ride off the road and turn left into the *path to Alboi* (km 1.2). The path descends along a residential area, until reaching an aqueduct situated next to a *fountain* (km 2.8). Continue on a path that coincides with path *PR-CV78*. Ride off the path and into a cycling lane, riding away from the residential area (⚠ attention there is a descent with steps). Now ride alongside the river until reaching an open area. Ride through a wooden footbridge (km 4) which comes out to a comfortable path. This path runs alongside the *gorge of the river Albaida* and *water pipes*. It passes close to *Cova Negra* (a shelter from Neanderthal times), the *leisure area Casa del Llum*, the cave of *Petxina* (climb) and it then reaches a *parking place* (km 5.9). Continue on a path made of cement and soil, which passes by a farm (km 6.5) and crosses through a *gully*. It comes out to a road (km 6.9), next to **Bellús**.

Start riding to the south of **Bellús** along a soil path (*Path to Fanegas*). After crossing through a *tunnel under the road* (km 8.2), turn left and keep riding southwards until reaching a road (km 9), in the area surrounding the reservoir. Ride some metres further along the road, heading to the reservoir and take a path to the right (km 9.1), which leads to **Guadasséquies**.

Ride through the *pelota court* towards the roundabout (km 10.1) that connects with *road CV-613*. Take two paths, so as to avoid riding along the road. After reaching **Sempere** (km 11.2), continue on the road until **Benisuera** (km 11.7), where you should ride down *Calle Alta* towards *Plaza Mayor*.

Leave from the low part of the town, which is in the area next to a small park. The path turns to the right (km 12.2) and then runs on an agricultural path whose surface is in good condition. It runs along the edge of the headwaters of the *reservoir of Bellús*. From there, the path leads easily to **Alfarrasí** (km 14.9).

## Key

- Hiking trail
  - MTB trail
  - Hiking trail not suitable for cycling
  - Reduced cycling conditions
  - Connection to other routes
- Signposting
- Long-distance or GR stretch
  - Non-GR stretch
  - Short-distance or PR stretch
  - Camino de Santiago

- Type of surface
- Pavement, trail or cycle lane
  - Rural path
  - Footpath

Escala 1:63.000

## La Cova Negra



The route in between **Xàtiva** and **Bellús** runs on a pleasant and comfortable path, alongside the narrow gorge of the river *Albaida*. Half way through this stretch, you pass by *Cova Negra*. This is a natural blackish refuge, in which archeologists have found remains from the Neanderthals.

**XÀTIVA**  
Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

Mister Biker (962283270)  
C/ República Argentina, 10

Bicicletas Sanchis (962287123)  
Polígono Industrial C Nave 10

## Xàtiva

(population: 27.768)



Km 0



7,1 km



## Bellús

(population: 309)



2,9 km



## Guadasséquies

(population: 431)



2 km



## Benisuera

(population: 178)



3 km



## Alfarrasí

(population: 1.240)





# La Defensa del Sur

## 2

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Alfarrasi

(population: 1.240) 🚲 🛠️ +

### Montaverner

(population: 1.631) 🚲 🛠️ +

### Bufali

(population: 156) 🚲 🛠️ +

Km 15

2,3 km

Km 17,3

3,7 km

Km 21



Leave from *Avenida de Valencia* riding along *road N-340* to **Montaverner**. Pass by an industrial area and after crossing through a bridge (km 16) over *road CV-60* you will reach a roundabout. Go straight, riding on the old national road and cross through a beautiful iron bridge (km 16.5). After a curve, cross the *river Albaida* and, shortly after, you arrive at **Montaverner** (km 16.8).

Ride away from the town until reaching a crossroads, at the end of *Calle de Ontinyent*. Continue straight on a paved path that descends to the river *Albaida* and crosses over the river through a footbridge (km 17.9). Ride for a stretch alongside the river, climbing along its left margin. The path crosses through *gully Barranquets* (km 18.6) after which it reaches a crossroads (km 20.3). Turn left, riding off Route 2. After crossing through *river Albaida*, you reach the pelota court of **Bufali** (km 21).

### Bufali

(population: 156)



Km 21

### Ontinyent

(population: 30.194)



12,6 km

Km 33,6



Starting at the pelota court, ride on a road that runs along the southern part of the town and then continue until reaching a crossroads that is placed next to a Stop sign (km 21.2). Turn right. The paved path crosses over *river Albaida* and then turns right (km 21.3). Continue straight. After passing by a large fenced field, turn right (km 22.8). After passing by a sewage treatment plant, you will come out to *road CV-641* (km 23.3). Turn 180° to the right. Shortly after, ride off the road and into a paved path to the left (km 24.1), which climbs until reaching a crossroads (km 24.4). Ride straight along a soil path. Continue on the main path until reaching a crossroads (km 25.5), at which you should turn left. The path turns soon into a paved path (*camí del Racó de la Bolta*). Ignore the crossing under the highway and ride to the right for 100 m, until reaching another tunnel (km 28.9). After crossing, turn left into a quiet road that leads to a roundabout (*road CV-81*) (km 29.5). Ignore the roundabout and continue riding along the same line, parallel to *road CV-81* until reaching another roundabout. From this point, continue riding straight along *Avenida del Textil*, which crosses through a large industrial area, and then leads to **Ontinyent** (km 32).

### El Cid at Ontinyent



Ontinyent, which is famous because of its Moors and Christians festivals, preserves a nice early Middle Ages historical centre. The town is accessed through a 16th century-bridge over the *river Clariano*. In 1088, El Cid settled in Ontinyent, where he waited for the army of Alfonso VI, whose men aimed at laying siege to the Almoravides at Aledo, in Murcia.

### ONTINYENT

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

**RALPH'S BIKES** (962912060)

Dos de Mayo, 92 bajo

**RADICAL BIKE** (962382859)

Av. Jacinto Benavente, 11

**Ca Fidel Bicicletes** (961194220)

Jaume I el Conqueridor, 3

**Ciclos Gómez** (962 914 300)

Pintor Josep Segrelles, 49





# La Defensa del Sur

## 2

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Ontinyent

(population: 30.194)



Km 33,6

10,9 km

Km 44,5

8,7 km

Valencia  
+ + + + +  
Alicante

### Banyeres de Mariola

(population: 6.959)



Km 53,2

Resume The Way of El Cid at *Plaza Mayor* and ride along *Calle Comte de Torrefiel* and *Calle Sta. Teresa* until reaching the roundabout that is next to the *sports centre* (km 34.8), where route Btt12 joins. Turn right so as to reach a large roundabout (km 35.1). Cross through the roundabout and ride straight on *Camino del Llombo*, which runs along a residential area. Continue straight paying attention to signposting, until reaching a turn (km 36.2) Turn to *Senda de Alba*, which leads to *Pou Clar* (natural swimming-pools). **▲ Climb a staircase, carrying your bike on your shoulders.** You will come out to a parking space (km 37.1), which is next to a crossroads. Continue carefully for 500 m, riding on *road CV-81* to *Villena*. Turn right (km 37.6) and ride alongside *gully Tarongers*. Continue on a paved path. After passing by a fountain and before reaching a fence, turn to a climbing path to your right (km 38.2) **▲ hop off your bike**. The path runs close to the gully's bottom, which is why **you will have to hop off your bike at some crossings, though the stretch does not pose too much difficulty**. At a *windmill called Pep Joan* (km 39.5), ride off the *hiking trail of The Way of El Cid* (GR markers) and ride into a MTB stretch.

### ► Start of a MTB stretch (3,2 km)

Turn left to a steep climbing stony trail, along which you will probably have to hop off your bike. The trail reaches a *hilllock called Dona* (km 40.4). Turn to a path to the right. At this point, **climb off the bike again, for the surface is stony and the path climbs along a 800 m-stretch**. Pass by an impressive *trench carved on the rock* (km 41.2), after which you will reach the highest point of the stretch. The condition of the surface improves, so that **you will be able to pedal easily, without difficulty**. After riding for 500 m on a plain, there is a descent that will put your bikes' shock absorbers to the test.

There is a directional arrow (km 42.8) that points to a descending path in better condition, leading to *San Antonio chapel* (km 43). At this point, turn right into a paved path, which leads to **Bocairent** (westwards). At a crossroads, which is placed close to a group of houses (km 43.5), turn left. Descend along the path until reaching the spectacular *stone bridge of Darrere la Vila* (km 44), through which you will access one of the most singular and attractive towns of the whole Way of El Cid.

Leave from the low part of the town riding through *Puente de San Blai* that leads to a road (km 45.3). Cross the road and continue to your right, towards the *football field*. Turn right (km 45.5), riding along *Calle Antiguo Ferrocarril*, which comes to an end at a road. Continue riding on the other side, heading towards the southeast and riding along the industrial area. At the entrance to the industrial area (*roundabout on road CV-81*), the route meets with path *GR-7* (km 47). Ride for 700 m until reaching a roundabout (km 47.8) (path *GR-7* follows a different route). Ride into *Calle Comarca dels Ports*, which runs along the industrial area, and continue until reaching another roundabout (km 48.7). At this point, continue on a paved path to your front (*camí Vell de Banyeres*). After a long straight line, you reach *San Antonio chapel* (km 50.4), where the pavement turns into soil. The path heads southwards. Ignore several crossroads (km 50.5 and 50.7) and climb gradually alongside the mountain range. The condition of the surface improves until it turns into a paved path. A road, leading to the recycling centre, joins the route at a crossroads (km 51.5). Turn left and ride on the *road to Banyeres* (km 51.9) **▲ note that continuing straight ahead is not permitted**. Ride all the way to **Banyeres** (km 52.4).

### Pou Clar: A refreshing swim

At the exit from Ontinyent, path *Alba* leads to *Pou Clar*, an impressive spot made of a series of natural pools carved on limestone rock. Swim in its crystal clear waters and relax before undertaking the complex stretch to **Bocairent**, which is one of the most beautiful towns of all The Way of El Cid.

#### ONTINYENT

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

**RALPH'S BIKES** (962912060)  
Dos de Mayo, 92 bajo

**RADICAL BIKE** (962382859)  
Av. Jacinto Benavente, 11

**Ca Fidel Bicicletes** (961194220)  
Jaume I el Conqueridor, 3

**Ciclos Gómez** (962 914 300)  
Pintor Josep Segrelles, 49

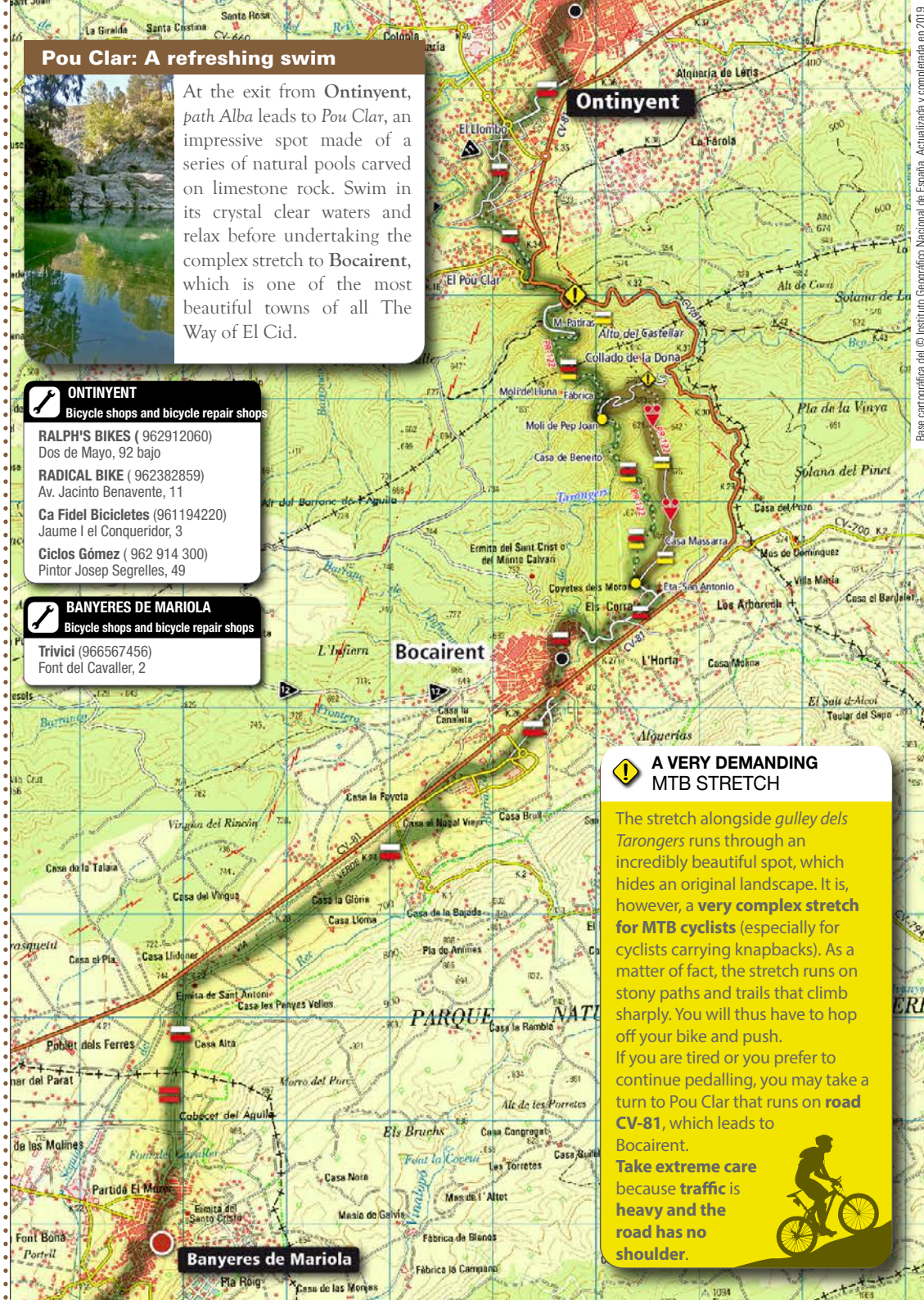
#### BANYERES DE MARIOLA

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shops

**Trivici** (966567456)  
Font del Cavaller, 2

### ⚠ A VERY DEMANDING MTB STRETCH

The stretch alongside *gully dels Tarongers* runs through an incredibly beautiful spot, which hides an original landscape. It is, however, a **very complex stretch for MTB cyclists** (especially for cyclists carrying knapbacks). As a matter of fact, the stretch runs on stony paths and trails that climb sharply. You will thus have to hop off your bike and push. If you are tired or you prefer to continue pedalling, you may take a turn to *Pou Clar* that runs on **road CV-81**, which leads to **Bocairent**. **Take extreme care because traffic is heavy and the road has no shoulder.**







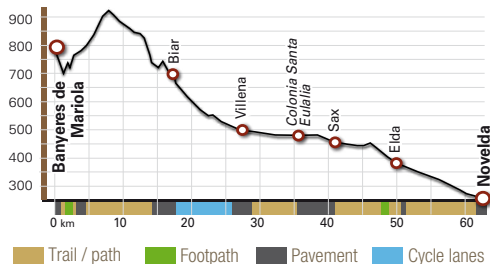
# La Defensa del Sur 3

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

## Banyeres de Mariola - Novelda

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates



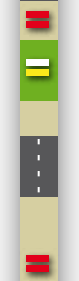
The route, along which you will see a good number of impressive medieval fortresses, runs in the company of the river *Vinalopó* from its source to a point half-way through, in Novelda. The initial stretch runs on comfortable trails, crossing through the thick pine groves of *Sierra de Mariola*. It continues until reaching Villena, which is accessed through *Via Verde de la Xixarra*. At this point, the Mediterranean mountain range landscape turns into large cultivated fields, which are watered using the rich water of the river *Vinalopó*.

### Banyeres de Mariola

(population: 6.959)



Km 0



16,8 km

Start at *Avenida de la Constitución* and ride until reaching a roundabout. Turn left to Alcoi. After 50 m, ride off the road and turn to the right, descending towards the campsite (*this is a campsite area called Moli l'Ombria*). Take the path (km 1) that leads to the campsite's parking site, at the end of which there is a directional arrow that points to a path (PR-CV 313). The path leads to the *building El Partidor*, where it joins path PR-CV 35 and crosses through a bridge over *river Vinalopó* (km 2). After a steep climb through a pine grove, take a trail in good condition to your front, which comes out to a paved path (km 2.9). 1 km further, path PR-CV 313 continues along a right hand turn. You will soon reach a house in the country, where the pavement turns into a soil path in good condition. After 2.5 km, there is a crossroads. Turn left to a path in worse condition. Pass to the right of a *country house called El Cosí* (km 7.1). After a short climb, the surface gets better. Continue straight on the trail, riding towards the southeast. At the highest part of the route, you will notice that the pine grove is less thick. At a crossroads, continue straight towards *Cova Negra* (signpost). After 400 m, you will reach the *forest leisure area at Cova Negra* (km 11.8).

### Biar

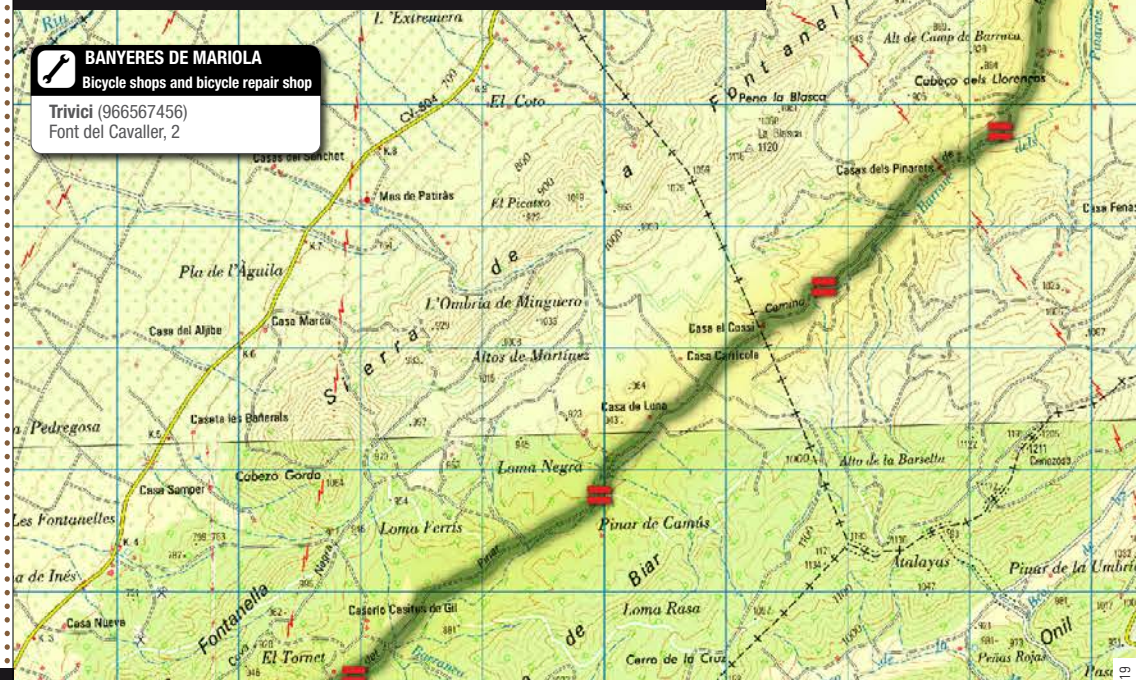
(population: 3.454)



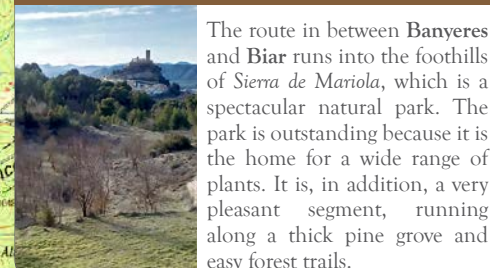
16,8 km

Start a pleasant descent along a wandering trail, which you will find delightful. Ignore the turn (km 14.1), continuing straight on the descending trail. The stretch to **Biar**, which can be seen in the horizon, is covered in cement. When reaching the town, join again path PR-CV 55, which comes from Lomas de Jara. After 200 m, it turns into pavement. Continue until reaching a crossroads (km 15.4). Turn left and climb. In 200 m, you will reach the *sanctuary of Ntra Sra de Gracia*. Take a road that coincides with **El Camino de Santiago**, following the stations of the cross (*path from Biar to the sanctuary*). You will reach the town shortly after (km 16.4).

**BANYERES DE MARIOLA**  
Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop  
Trivici (966567456)  
Font del Cavaller, 2



### Sierra de Mariola



The route in between Banyeres and Biar runs into the foothills of *Sierra de Mariola*, which is a spectacular natural park. The park is outstanding because it is the home for a wide range of plants. It is, in addition, a very pleasant segment, running along a thick pine grove and easy forest trails.

DATA



Distance 62,8 km



Physical difficulty Medium



Technical difficulty Low



Cumulative ascent 345 m



Cumulative descent 920 m



Estimated time 5 h 20 m



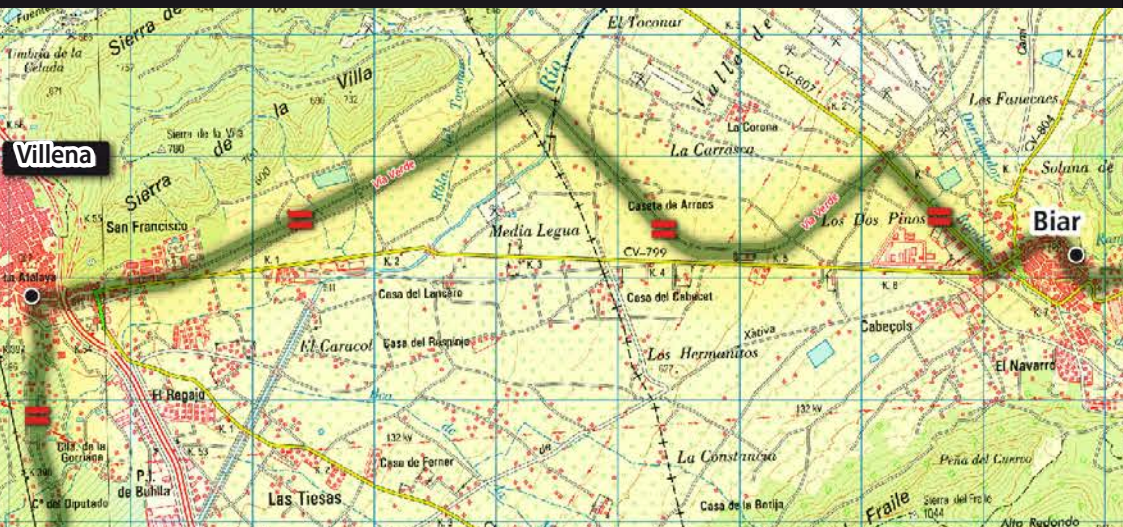
MTB trail No



Signposting Red markers



IBP Degree of difficulty 54





# La Defensa del Sur 3

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Biar

(population: 3.435)



Km 16,8



10,2 km

### Villena

(population: 32.151)



Km 27



8,2 km

### Colonia de Santa Eulalia

Km 35,2



5,3 km



### Sax

(population: 8.711)



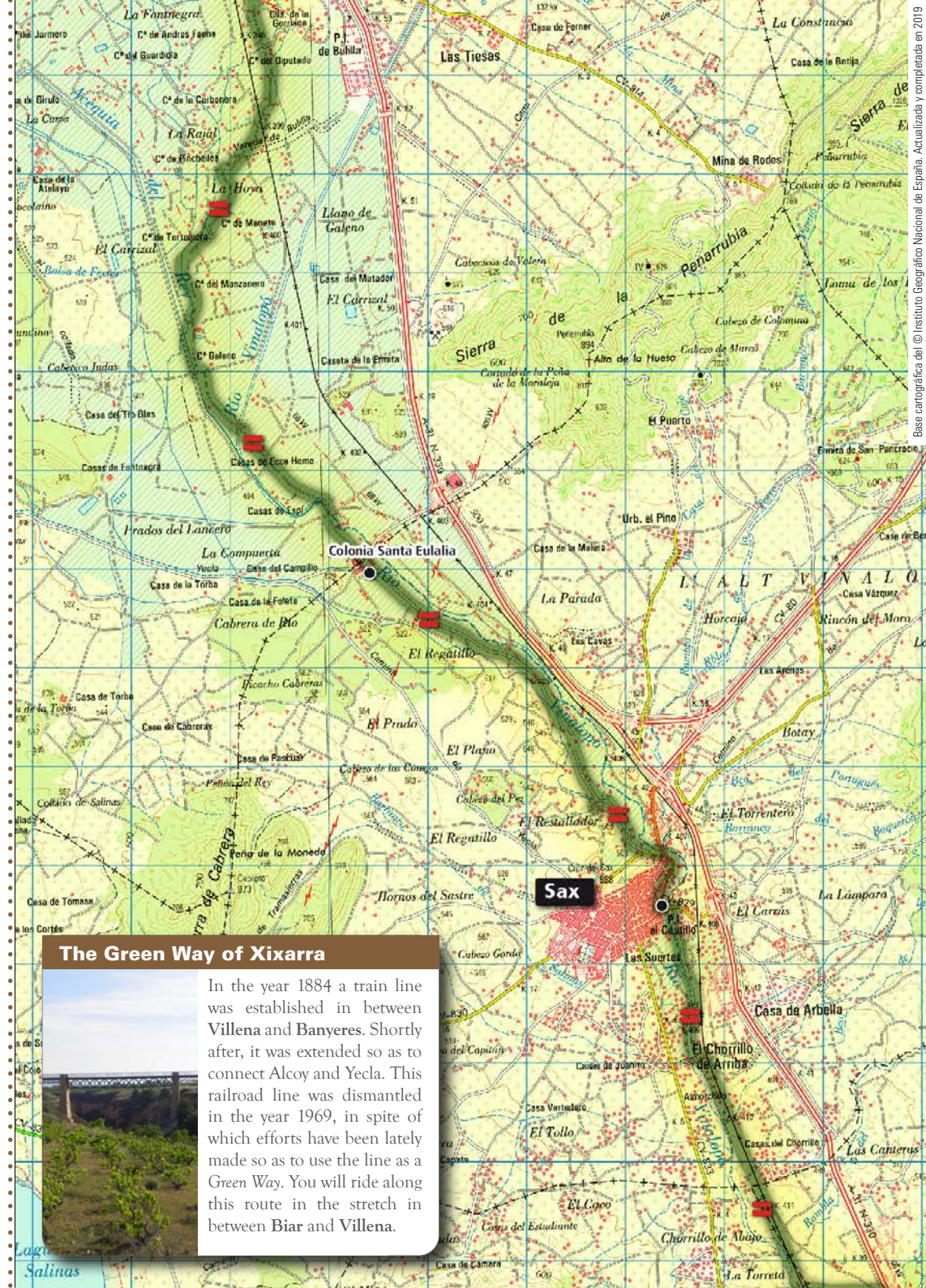
Km 40,5



Cross through the town, riding along *Calle Mayor*, and then descend along *Calle País Valencià* until reaching *Calle Maisonnave*. Descend to a roundabout (km 17.6) and then turn to your right into *road CV-807* (direction to **La Canyada**). You will soon ride into a cycle lane, which runs parallel to the road for almost 1 km, until it disappears. At this point, cross the road and take a paved path to your left (km 18.9), which runs along **Vía Verde de la Chicharra**. This is a segment closed to traffic, which runs on long straight lines and has barely no gradient. The path runs along the shadow of pines, which makes the route more pleasant. At some stretches, you will see cuttings carved on the rock, which was the space along which the old railroad used to run. Cross through a bridge (km 19.9). The path, which climbs alongside fields, turns gradually, changing directions towards the west. From the crossroads onwards (km 21.9), the path is closed to motor vehicles due to the fact that it crosses through an *old railroad bridge over the river Vinalopó* (km 22.3). After turning to the left, ignore a turn (km 22.6) and continue towards the southeast along **Vía Verde**, which runs on a long straight line until reaching the entrance to **Villena**. At a sports centre, **Vía Verde** comes out to *road CV-799* (km 25.8), next to a *neighbourhood called San Francisco*. Continue on *Avenida de Alicante*, which runs under *highway A-31* (km 26.8), and access **Villena** through *Calle Nueva* (km 26.9).

Ride along *Avenida de Elche* until reaching *Calle Rosalía de Castro*, where there is a *stone monolith* (km 27.2) indicating the starting point of **The Way of El Cid** from **Villena**. This stretch coincides with **El Camino de Santiago** (in the opposite direction), which is why cyclists will come across yellow arrows in the opposite direction. Continue riding southwards, passing by *Santa Fé high school* (km 27.5). Path *PR-CV 371*, whose route coincides with the MTB route, starts at this point. The path runs on a paved surface to the sides of which there are numerous turns. Ignore them. Cross through a bridge over a small gully (km 28.7) and, some metres further, cross **△ carefully through a level crossing without barriers** (km 29.5). At a turn, where there is signpost indicating a PR path arrow (km 3), ride off the main path and turn left to a soil path in good condition. You will now reach a channel (*irrigation channel of Rey*), which is close to a pine grove. Shortly after, at a crossroads (km 32.5), turn left and 80 metres further turn to the right. The path crosses through the *dry riverbed of river Vinalopó* (km 33.3) and, a little bit further, it crosses through a paved path (km 33.7). Pay attention. After a small bridge over *river Vinalopó* (km 34.6), path *PR-CV 371* runs along a different route. You will run into path *PR-CV 197*, which rides towards the southeast. Shortly after, you reach **Colonia de Santa Eulalia** (km 35.2).

Continue the route riding along *Calle Santa Rita* and passing by PR. The route is the same than the one for **Camino de Santiago**, though in the opposite direction. Note that this is a clue to avoid getting lost. The path, which is paved, runs towards the southeast, to the left of the *river Vinalopó*. In the horizon you can see the outline of the *castle of Sax*, which indicates the direction to follow. At a sharp curve, there is a turn to the right (km 38.8), along which path *PR-CV 144* runs. You should, however, keep riding on the main paved path. You will reach a road in the area surrounding **Sax** (km 39.8). Turn left and ride on this road until reaching *Avenida de Don Jaime*, which leads to the city centre.



### The Green Way of Xixarra

In the year 1884 a train line was established in between Villena and Banyeres. Shortly after, it was extended so as to connect Alcoy and Yecla. This railroad line was dismantled in the year 1969, in spite of which efforts have been lately made so as to use the line as a **Green Way**. You will ride along this route in the stretch in between Biar and Villena.



# La Defensa del Sur

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

3

## Sax

(population: 8.711)



Km 40,5



9,3 km

## Elda

(population: 50.995)



Km 49,8



13 km

## Novelda

(population: 23.544)



Km 62,8



Starting at the roundabout that is placed at the end of *Calle Don Jaime I*, turn on *Calle Cuatro Rosas*. After crossing the *bridge over the river Vinalopó*, take a paved path to your right (km 40.7) that runs close to the river margins and is signposted with yellow markers for **El Camino de Santiago**. The surface turns into soil (km 41.5) and, shortly after, the path narrows, running alongside lavender-cotton and tamarisk. You will come close to a ford. Turn left (km 42.3). Ride some metres and then ride into a path in better condition, which runs close to the train lines. Turn right (km 42.4). Continue riding parallel to the train lines and cross through a small residential area. At a curve (km 43.6), ride off the pavement and continue straight on a path that runs parallel to the train lines, along a large cutting carved on the rock. You will soon ride again into a path (km 44), which also runs parallel to the train lines. When coming out to a bridge (km 45), cross and continue straight, riding eastwards until reaching an electric substation (km 45.7). Take a road (exit to *highway A-31*), so as to cross over the highway through a bridge. Once on the other side, cross the road carefully and then continue on a paved path that runs under the bridge and reaches a crossroads (km 46.6), situated in close proximity to a notice board announcing *path GR-7*. At that point, take a path to the right which runs alongside the gulley and then crosses under the highway through a subterranean crossing. It then crosses the river and climbs up to the road (km 47.1). Turn left to the road and in 250 m take a left hand turn. Descend some metres along a slope and ride off the cement into a straight path, which runs parallel to a wall (km 47.5). The path, which runs alongside the *riverbank of the river Vinalopó*, runs gradually into the city and crosses through **Elda**.

Continue riding along the *linear park of the river Vinalopó*, on its right margin. Follow the markers for **El Camino de Santiago** until reaching **Novelda**. Cross through the last bridge (*Calle del Centro Excursionista*), which is the point at which the park comes to an end. Then cross to the other side of the river through a footbridge (km 50.6). Turn right into a street along which houses have been recently built and which comes out to a paved path (km 50.8) that runs alongside cottages. Pay attention so as to ride off the pavement and turn right into a soil path (km 51.4) that descends towards the river and then continues along the riverbank. Cross the river through a crossing (km 52.9), taking care not to get wet (pay attention when the river is high). Afterwards, turn left and ride parallel to the other side of the river. You will ride close to an *industrial area*. Cross through a bridge under the road (km 53.5) and, a little further, pass by an industrial area (km 54.3). The path narrows, after which you should turn to your right and climb along an area with houses until reaching a *stone factory* (km 55.3). From that point, descend again towards the river. Cross through a footbridge (km 55.6). Further on, cross under the bridge for the train (km 56). Now cross under the impressive *high-speed viaduct* (km 57.2). *Path SL-CV 127* joins the route (km 57.8). At this point, you reach an *aqueduct* over the *river Vinalopó*, which is in front of the *sanctuary* and of the *castle of Mola* (km 59.6). Ride off the main path, so as to ride along a path to your right. The path, which is wide and comfortable, runs close to the riverbed and is signposted with the markers for path *PR-CV 311*, which you should follow until reaching **Novelda**. There is a residential area (km 61.5). A little bit further, cross the river (km 61.7), at a point close to a stone manufacturing factory. Turn to a path to the left that runs across the residential area and comes out to *road CV-382* (km 62). Continue to its left and, shortly after, you access **Novelda**.

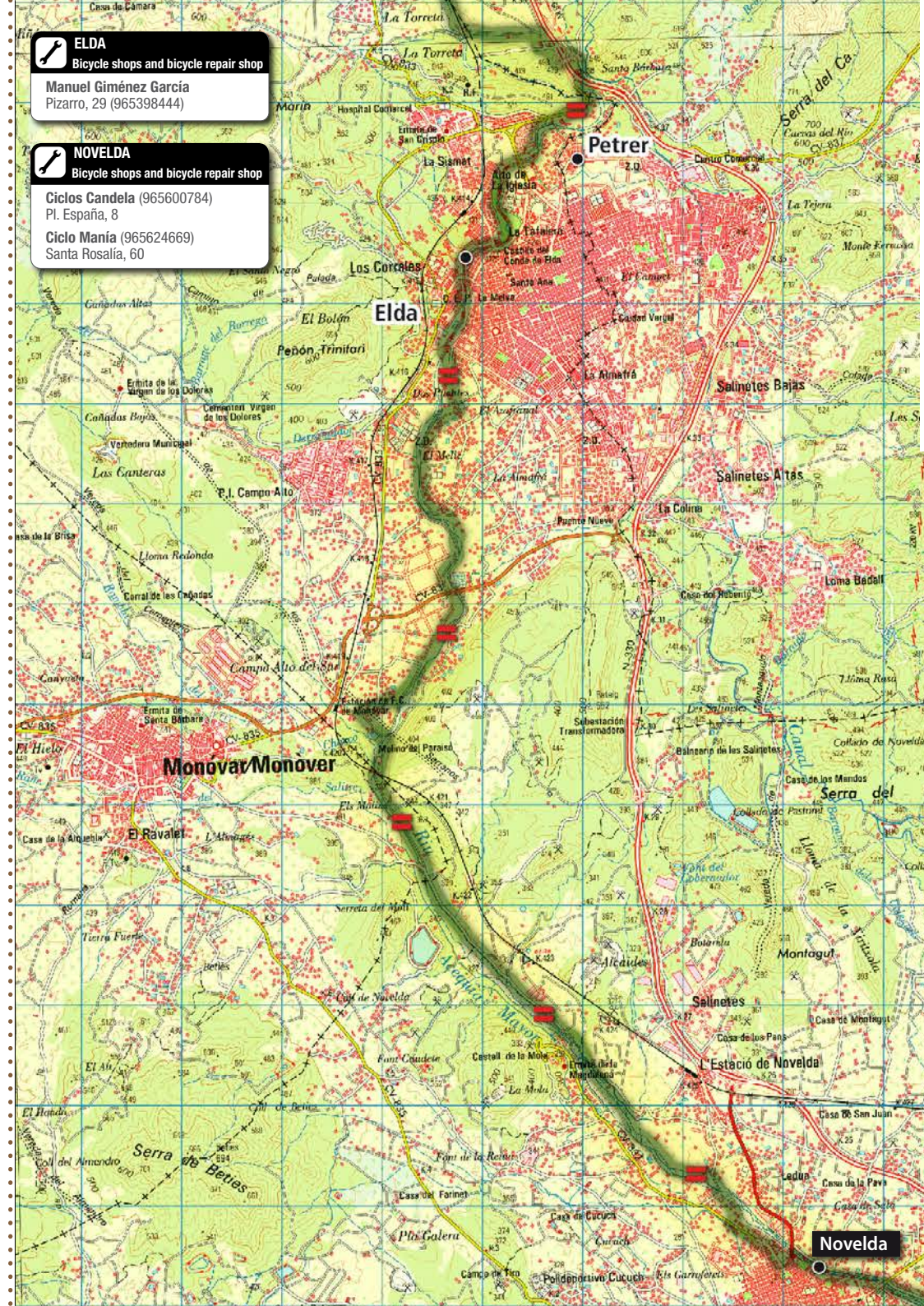
**ELDA**  
Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop

Manuel Giménez García  
Pizarro, 29 (965398444)

**NOVELDA**  
Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop

Ciclos Candela (965600784)  
Pl. España, 8

Ciclo Manía (965624669)  
Santa Rosalía, 60







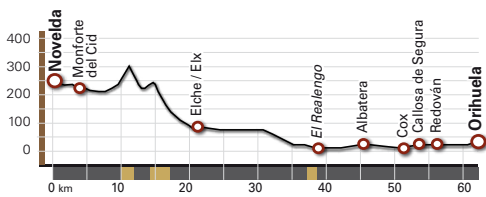
# La Defensa del Sur 4

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Novelda - Orihuela

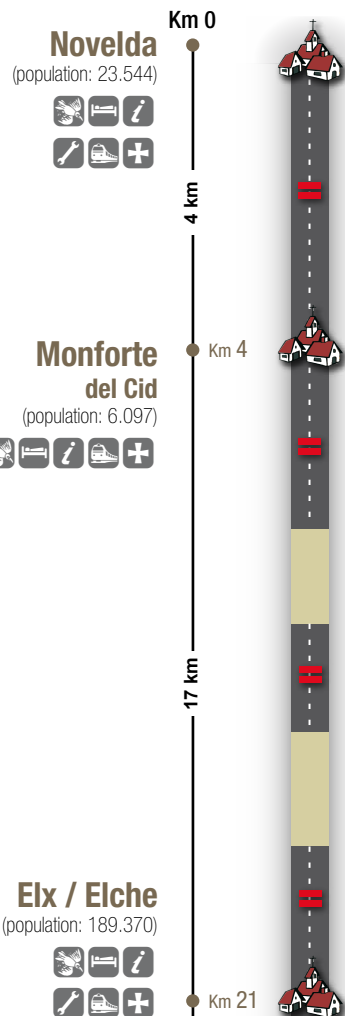
Edition 2020

UTM Desarrollios



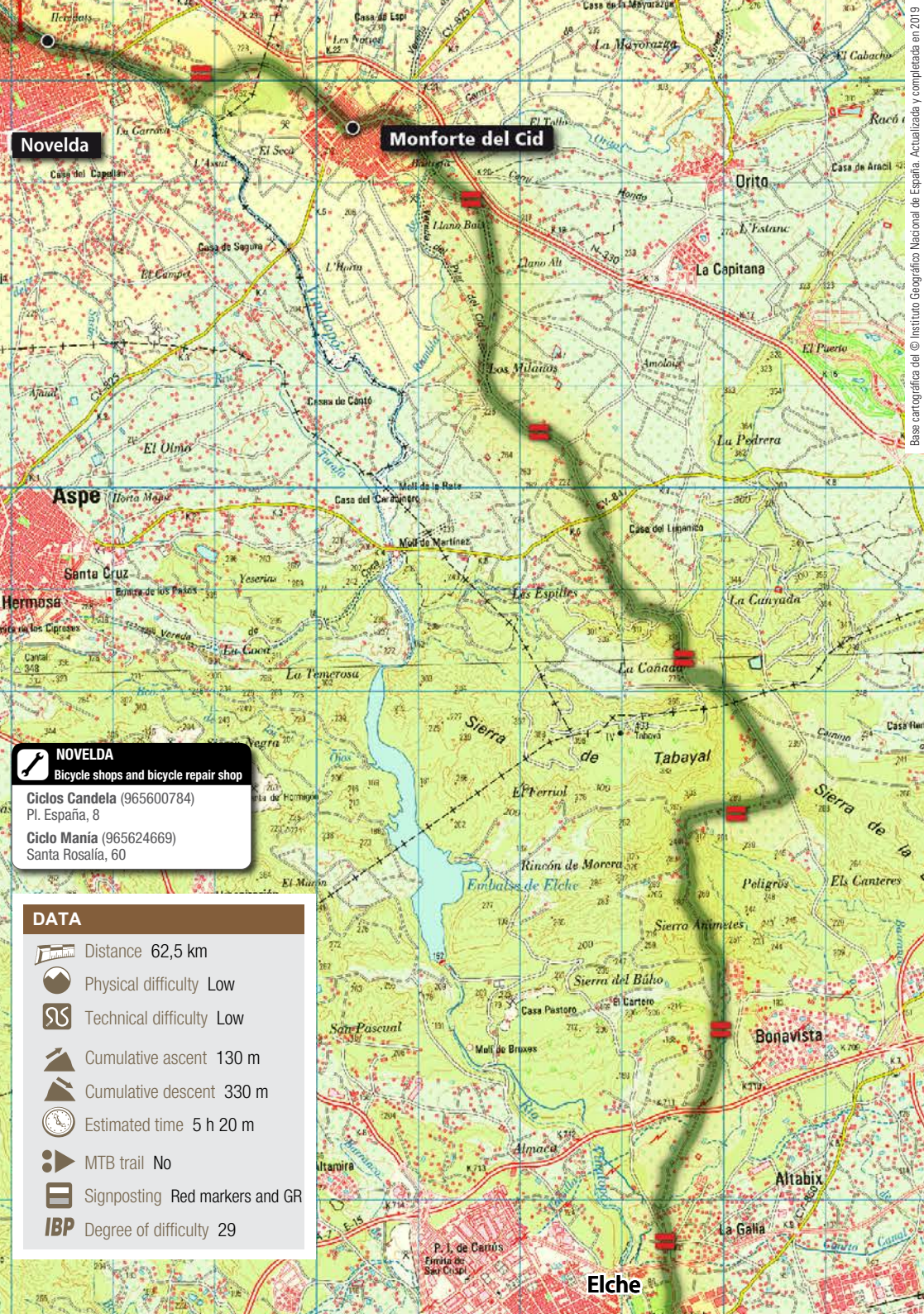
Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

The route ends with a flat profile segment, which runs largely on paved paths—though it is demanding in terms of the number of kilometres. The route crosses through *Sierra de Tabayá* and descends to the lower part of the *river Vinalopó*. Travellers will encounter a new type of landscape, whose aridity contrasts with the fertile cultivated fields and the number of palm trees.



Leave from *Avda. del Vinalopó* and continue until reaching a roundabout over the river (km 1.1), which is placed next to a *football field*. Cross the river through the roundabout and turn right, riding parallel to the river (*Calle Antic Camí de Monfort*). You will see markers for **El Camino de Santiago** until reaching **Monforte**. The path reaches an industrial area. Continue riding until the end of the street, close to the road (km 2). Turn left into a **cycle lane**, which runs parallel to the street that crosses through the industrial area, and continue until reaching a roundabout (km 2.4). Ride off the **cycle lane** and into the roundabout, riding on the road to **Monforte**. At a roundabout situated at the entrance to Monforte (km 3.3), continue straight, riding along *Calle de Jorge Juan* (km 3.6) until reaching the city centre.

Start at *Avda. Constitución* and *Avda. los Pinos* and ride towards the farming cooperative (km 4.5). Turn right and ride along *Calle Camino del Azagador*. Pass by the industrial units and cross the *riverbed of Orito* (km 5.1), where the path and **El Camino de Santiago** turn to the left. Cross the road (km 5.8) and then continue straight on a paved path (*path to Llano*) that runs alongside vineyards. Do not ride off the main path. Join the *path to Elche*, which crosses through the tunnel (km 7.6) and comes out to *road CV-847* (km 9.3). Continue on a soil path to the front. Pay attention to signposts. They direct you through several crossroads and, finally, to a climb that runs alongside the fence of a country house. The path descends towards the road, which is next to a golf course (km 11.4). Turn left. The road descends in between scattered little houses and comes out to a crossroads (km 13.1). Turn right into a road. At the top of a *hillock*, the road starts a descent. Pay attention, so as to ride off the road at a curve. Continue on a soil path to your front (km 14.6), whose surface is in good condition. This is a signposted cycling route along which you should ride for several kilometres. The path runs along the bottom of a gully and reaches a crossroads (km 15.9) that signals the entrance to a residential area. Continue straight, passing by two water pools and ignoring a right hand turn (km 16.8). The path, which along this stretch is paved, crosses through a tunnel (km 17.3) under *highway A-7*. The path runs along several residential areas, running southwards. Ignore several turns. After a Stop signal, join the path to the reservoir, which comes out to a roundabout (km 18.9), close to *Avda. del Bimilenario*. Ride straight along *Avda. Camino del Pantano* and *Avda. del Ferrocarril*, which will lead you to the centre of **Elche**.



**NOVELDA**  
Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop

Ciclos Candela (965600784)  
Pl. España, 8

Ciclo Mania (965624669)  
Santa Rosalía, 60

#### DATA

- Distance 62,5 km
- Physical difficulty Low
- Technical difficulty Low
- Cumulative ascent 130 m
- Cumulative descent 330 m
- Estimated time 5 h 20 m
- MTB trail No
- Signposting Red markers and GR
- IBP Degree of difficulty 29



# La Defensa del Sur

## 4

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

### Elx / Elche

(population: 189.370)



Km 21



18,1 km

Start at the centre of **Elche**, riding along *Avenida de la Libertad*. The avenue comes out to a large roundabout (km 22.1). Turn left and continue on *Calle Joan Perpinyá*. Cross through another roundabout and then pass to the right of a department store. At the second street, turn right (*Calle Tónico Sansano Mora*) (km 22.8). Ride until the end of the street, passing by the parking space of *Hospital del Vinalopó*. From a small roundabout, take a *service road to Riegos del Levante* (km 23.4), which runs alongside a channel, *Canal del Elche* (covered). The path to **Orihuela** coincides with path **GR-125 Senda del Poeta** (built in the memory of Miguel Hernández). Continue riding parallel to the channel, on a paved path. Cross over a gully through a bridge (km 24.3). Immediately after, you reach a residential area where you will run into several crossroads. Continue riding parallel to the channel. Cross through the bridge (km 25.9) over the railroad lines and turn sharply to the left, so as to join the path that runs close to the channel, on the other side. Cross again over a gully through a bridge (km 27) and continue riding parallel to the channel, passing by several residential areas. The path turns to the right (km 29.2) and crosses through a

18,1 km



### El Realengo

Km 39,1



tunnel under *highway A-7*, until reaching a water pool. At this point (km 31), turn to the left to take the road from **Creventill**. A little bit further, cross again over *highway A-7* through a tunnel (km 31.3). Continue on the road, taking the first paved turn to the right (km 31.9) and riding definitely off the channel. At a crossroads (km 32.4), turn left and continue southwards, until reaching a level crossing (km 33.4) over the railroad, which is placed at the **neighbourhood La Estación**. After passing by the train lines, continue straight until a roundabout (km 33.7). Go straight and ride close to a bus stop. Pay attention; in less than 50 m, turn right into a paved path that crosses through a residential area. The path turns several times until reaching a road (km 35.5). Turn right and continue straight until reaching a crossroads (km 37.2). Go straight, riding on a soil path. The path comes out to the train lines (km 38.1) and rides close to them for 200 m. Turn left, so as to reach **El Realengo** (km 38.7).

### Key

- Hiking trail
- MTB trail
- Hiking trail not suitable for cycling
- Reduced cycling conditions
- Connection to other routes
- Signposting
  - Long-distance or GR stretch
  - Non-GR stretch
  - Short-distance or PR stretch
  - Camino de Santiago

- Type of surface
- Pavement, trail or cycle lane
  - Rural path
  - Footpath

Escala 1:63.000

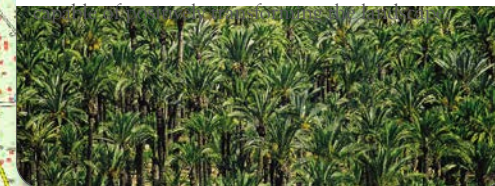


www.caminodelcid.org



### The palm grove in Elche

The Palmeral de Elche [The Palm Grove in Elche] consists of a system of date palm orchards. These palms started to be grown by the Arabs, who used a network of irrigation channels. These orchards, which have been declared a World Heritage Site, are an example of the way in which human beings are



### ELX / ELCHE

Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop

**Ciclos Sansano** (966672568)  
C/ Ramón Vicente Serrano, 3

**Elxenduro Bikes** (965450353)  
Av. José Esquitino Sempere, 7

**Ciclos Eli** (966665822)  
Emilio Hernández Selva, 7

**Sprint Bikes** (966670120)  
Av. Libertad, 50



# La Defensa del Sur

## MTB route guide Camino del Cid

## 4

### El Realengo

Km 39,1

6,6 km

### Albatera

(population: 11.348)



Km 45,7

5,5 km

### Cox

(population: 7.134)



Km 51,2

2,9 km

### Callosa de Segura

(population: 16.941)



Km 54,1

2,8 km

### Redován

(population: 6.920)



Km 56,9

5,6 km

### Orihuela

(population: 31.729)




Km 62,5

Cross the town riding along *Calle del Canal*. The street runs into *road CV-90* (km 39.3), which is situated next to the bus stop. Turn right into this road and cross over the railroad. Ride until reaching a crossroads (km 39.9). Turn left and continue on a road that crosses through *highway AP-7* (km 40.1) and, further on, over *highway A-7* through a bridge (km 41.6). At this point, ride off path **GR-125**, so as to continue straight on the road and keep the same direction. Pass to the right of the cemetery, paying attention because the road splits into two (km 44.1). Take the lane to the left, which leads to **Albatera** (km 45.1).

Start at *Casa de Cultura Miguel Hernández*, riding along *Calle la Libertad*. Take *Calle la Cruz* (km 46.2) in order to leave the town, riding on a small road that runs alongside fields. Join again path **GR-125**. At a crossroads (km 46.8), turn to the left and continue straight through a bridge (km 47.6) over *highway A-7*. Immediately after crossing, turn to the right into a service path that runs parallel to the highway, heading to the southeast. 600 m further, turn to a path to the left (km 48.6), which continues along an industrial area and reaches a road (monolith path Poeta). Turn right towards the roundabout, after which you should continue straight (towards **Granja de Rocamora**). At the town (km 50.1), turn left. Ride along *Calle Arboleda* until reaching the town of Cox (km 50.5).

Leave **Cox** riding along *Calle Vereda de las Balsas*, which runs eastwards along the edge of the town, and join path **GR-125** again. Pass by a small park (km 52.3), situated at the end of the town. Continue on a paved path, riding amidst cultivated fields. Ride southwards, under the train viaduct (km 52.6). You will soon reach the first buildings of **Callosa de Segura** (km 52.9), which are placed in an industrial area. Ride along *Calle Hugolino Roldán Baeza* and *Camino de la Serrana* and continue until reaching *Avenida de la Constitución* (km 53.3), which leads to the centre of **Callosa**.

Leave from *Plaza de España*, which is placed next to the Town Hall, riding along *Calle Mayor* and *Calle Salitre*. Continue until reaching a roundabout (km 54.7). Go straight along *Avda. Ciudad Jardín*, passing to the left of a football field (km 54.9). Continue along the street, which turns into a road after passing by a cemetery (km 55.6). **Pedal carefully**  for this is a heavy traffic segment. You will soon reach a neighbourhood called *El Rincón* (km 55.9). Continue straight until reaching **Redován**, riding along *Avenida de Orihuela* (road CV-900).

Leave **Redován** riding along *Avenida de Orihuela* and then *Calle Calvo Sotelo* (km 56.9). The street turns into *road CV-919*. Ride off the road when passing by the chapel of a neighbourhood called *Media Legua* (km 58.7). From this point, continue on *Camino Viejo de Callosa* until reaching **Orihuela**. At a crossroads (km 59.5), turn slightly to the right and, immediately after, turn to the left, so as to join the road. Go straight through a roundabout (km 60.8). Shortly after, you will reach Orihuela's city centre, which you access through a small roundabout (km 61.6). Continue straight along *Calle Camino Viejo de Callosa*, *Calle Ramón Sijé* and *Calle Santa Lucía* until reaching the city centre, placed next to the Cathedral, and the river Segura. This is the end of the route.

### Orihuela



In the year 1088, El Cid scoured, together with his knights, an important part of the province of Alicante—a hostile territory in which, according to the Muslim reporter Ben Alcama, he left neither "erect stones nor signs of living". In 1091, the protectorate of El Cid extended from Tortosa to Orihuela, which was the area further to the south where El Cid exerted his influence. The current wealth of monuments in the town is to be explained because of its importance in the 15th and 16th centuries.

### ORIHUELA

#### Bicycle shops and bicycle repair shop

**Bicicletas Navarro** (966269743)  
Pintor Agrasot, 76

**Bici Center** (966340952)  
C/ Obispo Rocamora, 75

**Bike Orihuela** (966269743)  
C/ Ronda Santo Domingo, 35

