



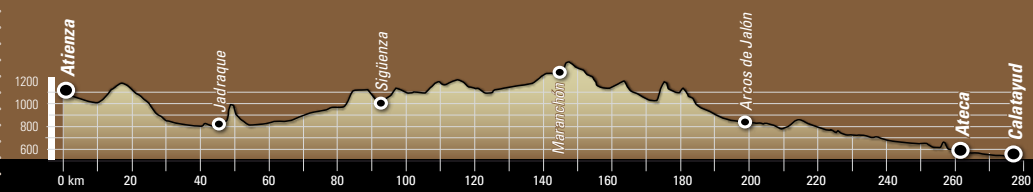
Tierras de Frontera CAMINO DEL CID



MTB route guide

www.caminodelcid.org

UTM Desarrollos



Accompany El Cid and his knights on a journey along the 11th century old Muslim borderlands. Feel yourself like an old medieval knight by reenacting El Cid's pain and battles on a route through Spain's rural interior, distinguished because of its amazing environmental and landscape diversity.

El Cid's first battles and conquests

Exiled by Alfonso VI, El Cid left Castile and reached in thenght the territories of the Muslim taifa of Toledo, which are currently part of the province of Guadalajara. He kept clear of Atienza, which according to El Cantar is a "very strong" rock, and continued towards the valley of Henares, where the exiled, in need of supplies, took control over a fortress-town: Castejón de Henares, or it might have been Jadraque. He and his company passed by Anguita and continued towards the northeast, along the ravaged moorland of Layna, heading to the valley of Jalón. It was there that they fought against the native people in an attempt at conquering Alcocer, in the proximity of Ateca. El Cid and his knights were counterattacked by an army from Valencia, made of 3,000 cavalrymen. The latter won the battle and ran after the defeated generals, reaching the gates of the towns of Terrer and Calatayud.

▼ Pelegrina, where the castle takes control of the valley of the river Dulce.

What there is to see?

A borderland territory in medieval Spain, characterized by far-reaching regions and scarce population. It comprises four borderland towns which were important Muslim military bases in the 11th century: Atienza, Guadalajara, Medinaceli and Calatayud, whose Muslim wall is one of the most outstanding in Spain. It has medieval western scenery, combining river canyons and moorland gardens and meadows. It has Five Natural Protected Areas: Barranco del Río Dulce, Parameras de Maranchón and Layna, and Sabinares and Riberas del Jalón. The region is ruled by the evocative outline of the castles of Atienza, Jadraque, Pelegrina, Sigüenza, Medinaceli, Montuenga de Soria, Monreal de Ariza and Calatayud, among others. There are four towns which have been declared Historic and/or Artistic Sites: Atienza, Sigüenza, Medinaceli and Calatayud. The towns of the area are small and quiet (only 10 out of the 52 towns along the route have a population of over 400 people). The area has outstanding examples of the Mudejar art from Aragón, declared World Heritage.

FICHA	Distance 277 km	Cumulative ascent 3.160 m	MTB trail Yes
	Physical difficulty Medium-Low	Cumulative descent 3.800 m	Signposting Red markers and GR
	Technical difficulty Low	Estimated time 5 days	IBP Degree of difficulty 40

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
GR 160 stretch (footpath)		
Non-GR stretch (footpath)		
MTB stretch		

Weather

The route runs along a mountainous area, which includes parts of smoother relief belonging to the foothills of Sistema Ibérico and Sistema Central. Over the years, the erosive effect of the rivers Henares, Dulce, Tajuña or Jalón have cut spectacular natural paths. In general terms, the region has a continental Mediterranean climate and it is thus characterised by harsh cold winters and dry and hot summers. The difference in height (it varies from 1,320 m in Serranía de Atienza to 580 m in Ateca) has a significant impact on the weather of each of the stretches. It sweetens the severity of winters in the low areas and increases rainfall in the high areas (it varies from an annual average rainfall of around 700 mm in Atienza to 370 mm in Calatayud). Although it often **freezes** in the winter, **snow** falls only very occasionally.

	E	F	M	A	M	J _N	J _L	A	S	O	N	D
Average temperature Máx/Min	7° -2°	9° -1°	12° 0°	14° 2°	19° 6°	24° 9°	30° 12°	29° 12°	24° 9°	17° 5°	11° 1°	8° -1°
Amount of daylight hours / day	09:31	10:37	11:55	13:20	14:30	15:08	14:51	13:50	12:29	11:08	09:53	09:14
Average rainfall	40	40	33	60	70	47	22	25	37	46	54	54

Monthly weather average for Medinaceli, which may be used as a reference all along the journey.

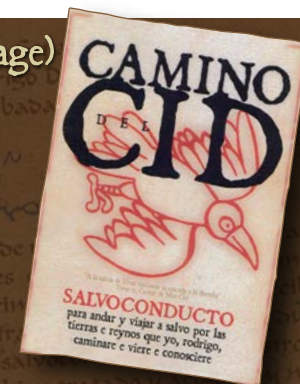


The Passport (a modern letter of safe-passage)

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



GUADALAJARA

ANGUITA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 1 - 949 304 417
 BAR EL CANTÓN: C/ Ramón y Cajal, 6-12 - 949304615
 BAR TELECLUB: C/ Carretera de Aguilar, 4 - 683424944

ARAGOSA
 CR RÍO DULCE: C/ Canalejas, 23 - 949305306 / 629228919

ATIENZA
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Héctor Vázquez, 2 - 949399293
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Plaza de España, 11 - 949399001
 BAR HOGAR DEL JUBILADO: 630136798
 HS EL MIRADOR: C/ Barruelo, s/n - 949399038 / 659643084
 H CONVENTO SANTA ANA: C/ Berlanga, 4 - 949399300 / 677994483

JADRAQUE
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Jovellanos, s/n - 949890168
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. de España, 2 - 949890000

LUZÓN
 BAR AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Dr. Layna Serrano, 1 - 949839602

MARANCHÓN
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. España, 1 - 949839712
 CR LA AMISTAD: C/ Subida a la Iglesia, 4 - 918730181 / 696924527
 EL RINCÓN DE LA FUENTE VIEJA: Pl. Juan Antonio B., 9 - 619414327 / 606318727

MATILLAS
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, s/n - 949305078 / 60801938
 HS RIJUJAMA: Bº de la Estación, 3 - 949305102

MEDRANDA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. España, 1 - 949892640

ROBLEDO DE CORPES
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, 4 - 639063199
 BAR: Pl. Mayor, 4 - 696016572

SIGÜENZA
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: C/ Serrano Sanz, 9 - 949347007
 H LABERINTO: Pº de la Alameda, 1 - 949391165
 LA TRAVESAÑA: C/ Torrecilla, 22 - 608111625
 HOSTAL PUERTA MEDINA: C/ Serrano Sanz, 9 - 949391565
 HOSPEDERÍA PORTA COELI: C/ Mayor, 50 - 949391875
 A. HOSTEL SIGÜENZA: C/ Mayor, 45 - 949393292/609378111

SORIA
ARCOS DE JALÓN
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Avda. Constitución s/n - 975320007
 HS NUMANCIA: C/ Gerardo Diego, 4 - 975320079

LODARES
 HS TORREMAR: Ctra. Madrid-Barcelona, km 154 - 975326037/690616107

MEDINACELI
 OFICINA TURISMO: Campo de S. Nicolás s/n - 975326347
 CR LA ANTIGUA FONDA: Pl. de la Estación, 4 - 975326393
 HS RAFA: Avda. Madrid, 30 - 975326453
 HS NICOLÁS: Avda. Madrid, 46 - 975326004 / 660097308

SANTA MARÍA DE HUERTA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Plaza del Ayuntamiento, s/n - 975327006
 MONASTERIO CISTERCIENSE: C/ San Bernardo, s/n - 975327002

BAR REMACHA: C/ San Bernardo - 975327101
 CR MARQUÉS DE CERRALBO: C/ Marqués de Cerralbo, 33 - 680658388

ZARAGOZA
ALHAMA DE ARAGÓN

OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. Joaquín Costa, 4 - 976840136
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Av. Aragón, 17 - 976840018
 H TERMAS: C/ Constitución, 20 - 902930938
 HR VILLAPACHITA: Av. Constitución, 26 - 976840152 / 620489645
 H BALNEARIO ALHAMA DE ARAGÓN: C/ San Roque, 1-6 - 976879239

ARIZA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. del Hortal, 18 - 976845095
 HOTEL EL ARAL: Autovía A-2 Madrid Zaragoza km 197 - 976845736
 HOTEL LA CADIERA: Autovía A-2 km 197,2 - 976845154

ATECA
 OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. España, 5 - 976842005
 HOSTAL EL BODEGÓN: C/ Goya, 32 - 676996640
 HOTEL CASTILLO DE ATECA: C/ Castillo, 2 - 976842817/640653536

CALATAYUD
 OFICINA DE TURISMO: Plaza España, 1 - 976886322
 H MONASTERIO BENEDICTINO: Pl. San Benito, s/n - 976891500
 H POSADA ARCO DE SAN MIGUEL: San Miguel, 18 - 976887272
 H MARIVELLA: Autovía Madrid-Zaragoza, km 242 - 976881237

CASTEJÓN DE LAS ARMAS
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pº Joaquín Costa, 1 - 976872000
 CR RÍO PIEDRA: Pº Joaquín Costa, 35 - 976872077/ 618812653
 CR RINCÓN DEL AGUA: Pº Joaquín Costa, 33 - 976842455/ 636139836

CETINA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. de la Villa, 4 - 976844095
 CR MIRADOR ESTRELLAS: C/Cantarranas, 23-976844245/ 630147440
 ALBERGUE MUNICIPAL: Avda. Zaragoza, 33 - 976874121

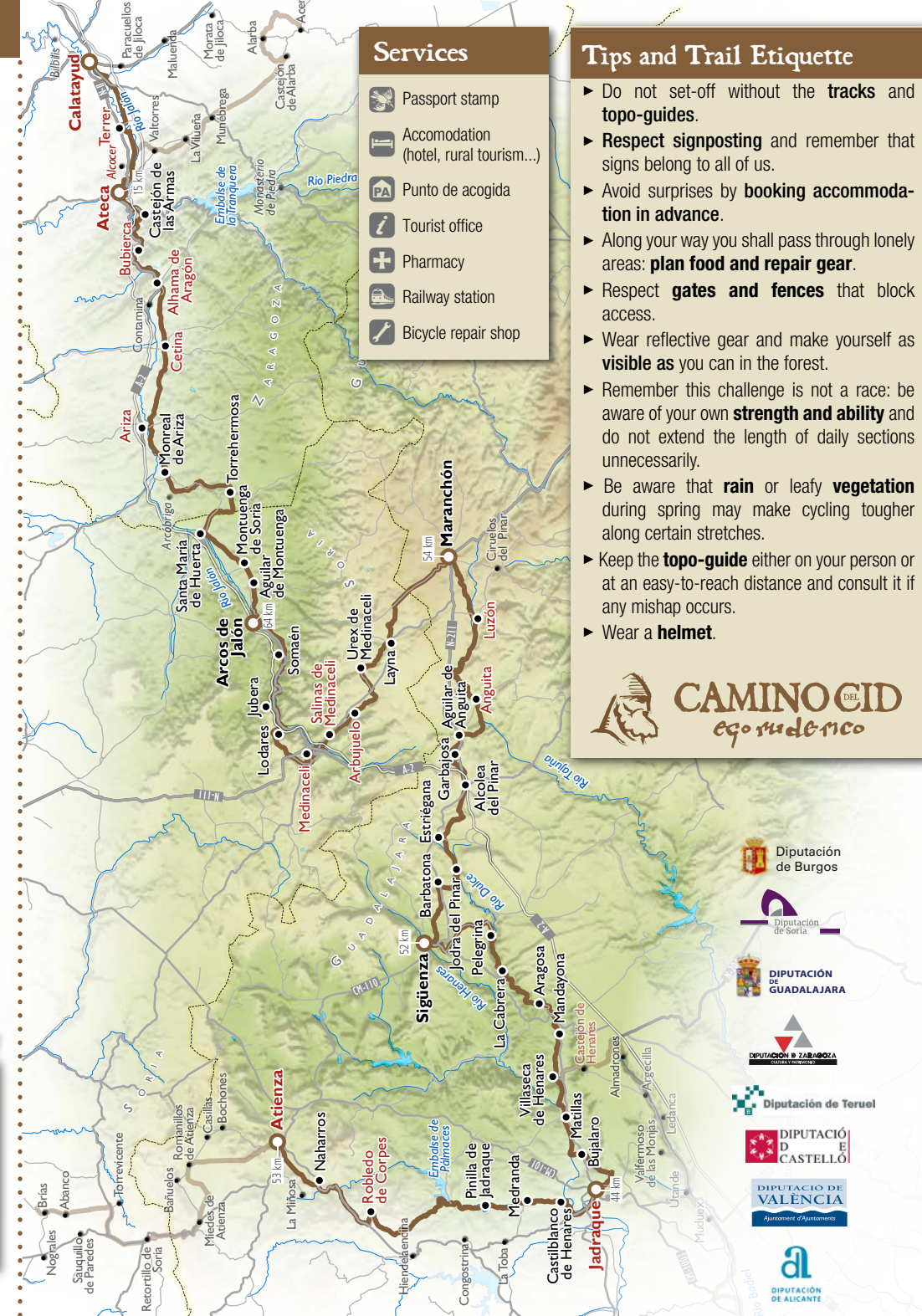
MONREAL DE ARIZA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ Mayor, 7 - 976845380

TERRER
 AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl Bajo el Olmo, 1 - 976898002
 CR BAJO LOS HUERTOS: C/ Estación, 24 - 649597287
 LA POSADA DEL CID: Avda. Constitución, 30 - 671507176

TORREHERMOSA
 AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ La Fuente, 6 - 975327112 / 636469422
 CENTRO SOCIAL: C/ La Fuente, 6 - 975327112 / 636469422

Sections (262/277 km)

- ▶ **Atienza - Jadraque** (46,4 km)
- ▶ **Jadraque - Sigüenza** (45,5 km)
- ▶ **Sigüenza - Maranchón** (52,5 km)
- ▶ **Maranchón - Arcos de Jalón** (54 km)
- ▶ **Acos de Jalón - Ateca / Calatayud** (62,6 / 79 km)



- 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**.





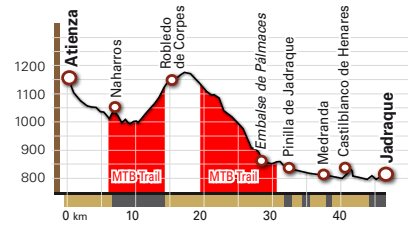
Tierras de Frontera 1

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Atienza - Jadraque

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

DATA

- Distance 46,4 km
- Physical difficulty Low
- Technical difficulty Medium
- Cumulative ascent 430 m
- Cumulative descent 780 m
- Estimated time 4 h 40 m
- MTB trail Yes
- Signposting GR
- IBP Degree of difficulty 31

Atienza

(410 hab.)



Km 0



6,5 km



Naharros

(4 hab.)

Km 6,5



9,5 km

Robledo de Corpes

(45 hab.)

Km 16



Join the Way from the lower end of the town (next to San Salvador Real Posada), on the road to Ayllón. There is an arrow (km 0.7) pointing southeast to a path that comes out to road CM-110 (km 1). Cross and then continue straight along Camino de la Mina. Pay attention; ignore several crossroads, continuing along the main trail. The path narrows (km 4.9) and then turns, running to the right of a stream called Escobar. Pay attention when reaching a directional arrow (km 5.8) pointing towards a MTB trail. Note, moreover, that the hiking trail of The Way diverts along a non-cycling path to the right which climbs along a steep hillside.

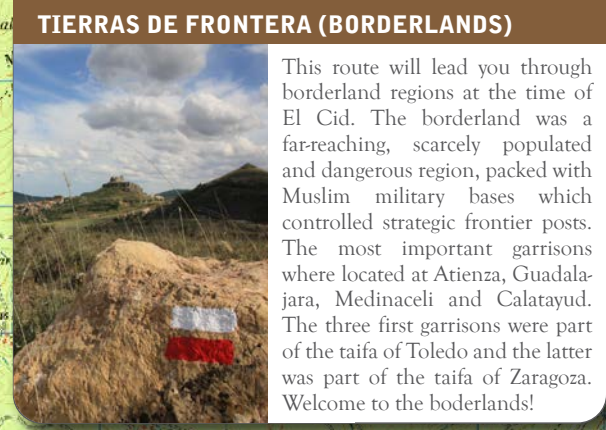
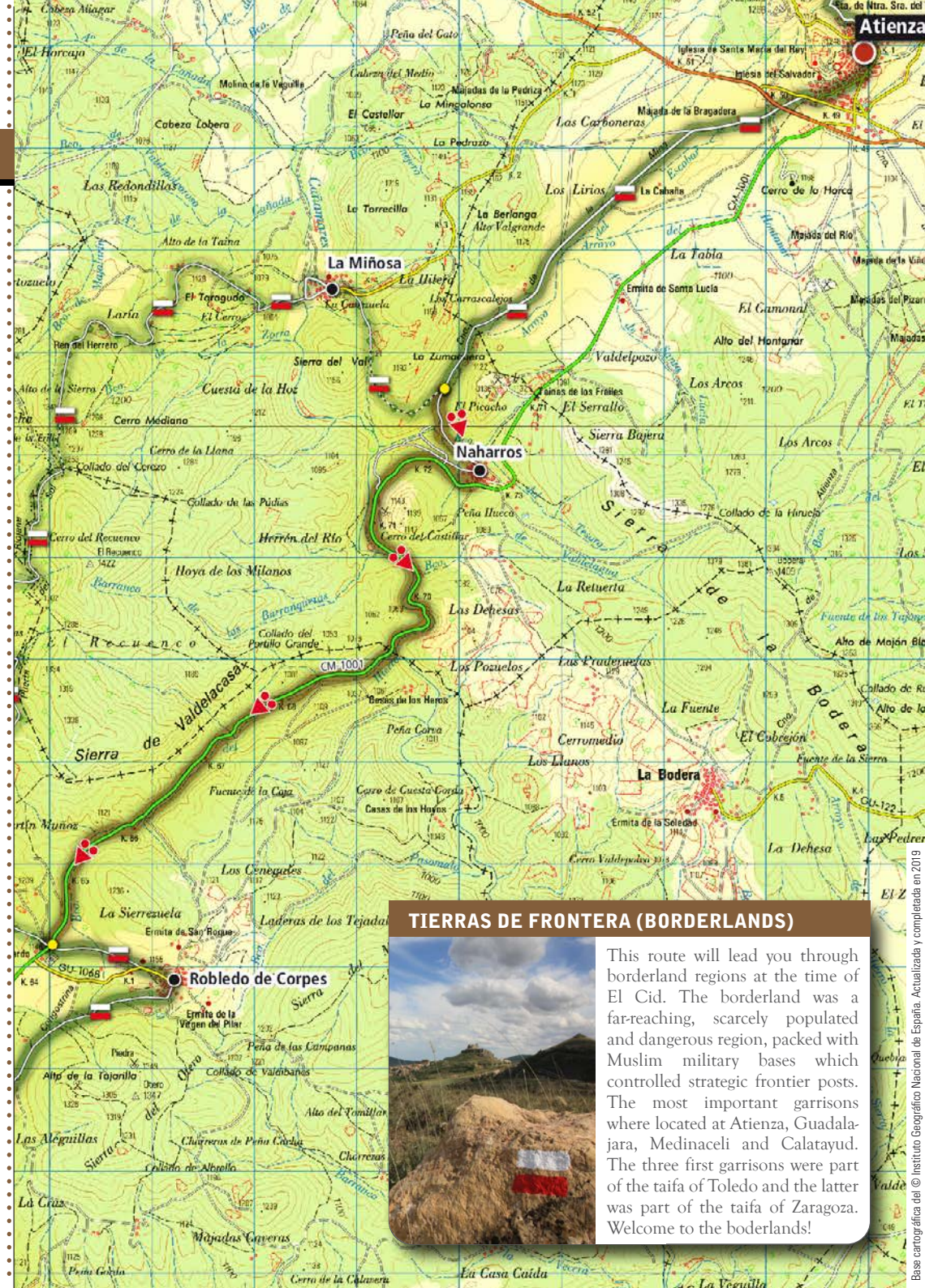
Start of a MTB stretch (9 km)

Pass by the hiking trail route and continue along the MTB trail, following bike traces. The path soon crosses over the stream through a bridge and starts a short ascent until reaching the town of Naharros, which is next to a nice church (km 6.4).

Cross through the town riding along the main street and then join road CM-1001, next to the bus stop (km 6.7). Continue on this road, which has a very narrow hard shoulder and requires thus paying attention to traffic, though it is scarce. After an initial descending stretch, the road climbs (km 10) alongside gully Hiarro. Note that you will have to turn to a path to the left (km 14.7) so as to join again the hiking trail of The Way of El Cid.

The path, which is easy to follow and is in good condition, reaches Soledad chapel and a cemetery (km 15.7). Starting from the cemetery, ride straight along the road until reaching a town (km 15.9).

Although this section can be marched on at a rapid pace, it is very intense. A good number of the total kilometres of the segment run along paved surfaces and it has a profile in descent. The MTB signposted stretches make pedalling easier, for they run along paths and trails in good condition and offer no problems for cyclists. The sole obstacle may occur at river Cañamares, where the river level may be the cause for "surprise": cyclists may have to cross the river barefooted and carrying their bikes on their shoulders.



TIERRAS DE FRONTERA (BORDERLANDS)

This route will lead you through borderland regions at the time of El Cid. The borderland was a far-reaching, scarcely populated and dangerous region, packed with Muslim military bases which controlled strategic frontier posts. The most important garrisons where located at Atienza, Guadalajara, Medinaceli and Calatayud. The three first garrisons were part of the taifa of Toledo and the latter was part of the taifa of Zaragoza. Welcome to the borderlands!

Tierras de Frontera

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

1

Robledo de Corpes
(45 hab.)

Km 16



16.3 km



Pinilla de Jadraque
(51 hab.)

Km 32,3



Set off again riding along *Calle Alta*. At the outskirts, there is a crossroads (km 16.2). Turn right to a path and ride towards the southeast. At a crossroads placed next to a dumping site (km 17.2), take the *path to Congostrina* and keep riding in the same direction. Cyclists will need to keep a really tight grip on the handlebars because there are stretches of the route whose surface is stonier and climbs slightly. At a crossroads, there is a directional arrow that indicates the start of a **MTB trail stretch** (km 19.4).

▶ Start of a MTB stretch (11,4 km)

Ride off the **hiking trail** and turn to a trail to the right, which is in good condition in spite of being covered with stones in some stretches. The path descends gradually and crosses through a thick pine grove until reaching the *reservoir in Pálmaces*. Cross the dam (km 28) and turn to a road to the right. You will immediately arrive to an area with houses. At this point, take a path (km 28.5) to the left that descends to the riverbed of the *river Cañamares*. A soil path runs along the bottom of the valley and crosses the riverbed in three occasions, which is the reason why, **depending on the volume of flow, cyclists may need to cross barefooted or may need to continue along a hardly visible 1.3 km-path that runs alongside the grove**. After overcoming these obstacles, you will be able to ride at a rapid pace and with ease until reaching the ruins of a *monastery called San Salvador*, where the cycling route joins the **hiking trail of The Way** (km 30.8).

At this point, the cycling route joins the hiking trail, which starts at **Congostrina** and is marked as *GR-160* (white and red markers). Do not divert from the trail on which you were riding (which runs alongside the valley, to the right of the fields), which leads to **Pinilla de Jadraque** (km 32).

HIENDELAENCINA AND THE SILVER RUSH

During the second half of the 19th century, this small farming town underwent transformation: it grew from a population of 300 to over 5.000, to the point that it vied with the capital of the province in terms of population. Following the chance discovery of silver in the subsoil, over 200 mines were opened, which, in turn, attracted the attention of thousands of fortune seekers from all over Spain. Mining companies specialized in manufacturing silver were built close to the mines and a large group of English people moved to the area, where a hospital and a school were built. Over the years, silver exhausted little by little, so that mining exploitation ended after the First World War. Nowadays, the sole indication of this part of history is the peculiar town planning and the large number of chimneys (breathers) that decorate the landscape.



Monument ▲

⚠ A SMALL ADVENTURE

River *Cañamares* is a tributary that flows into the river *Henares*, whose source is in an area close to Miedes de Atienza. Its volume of flow is scarce, but it is controlled by the side dams of the reservoir in *Pálmaces*. That is the reason why fording the river may be difficult depending on the time of the year, to the extent that cyclists may have to cross the river carrying their bikes on their shoulders.



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
0 500 1000 2000



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Tierras de Frontera

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

1

16,3 km

Km 32,3



Pinilla de Jadraque

(51 hab.)

4,7 km



Medranda

(72 hab.)

Km 37



3,8 km



Castilblanco de Henares

(12 hab.)

Km 40,8



5,5 km



Jadraque

(1.420 hab.)

Km 46,3

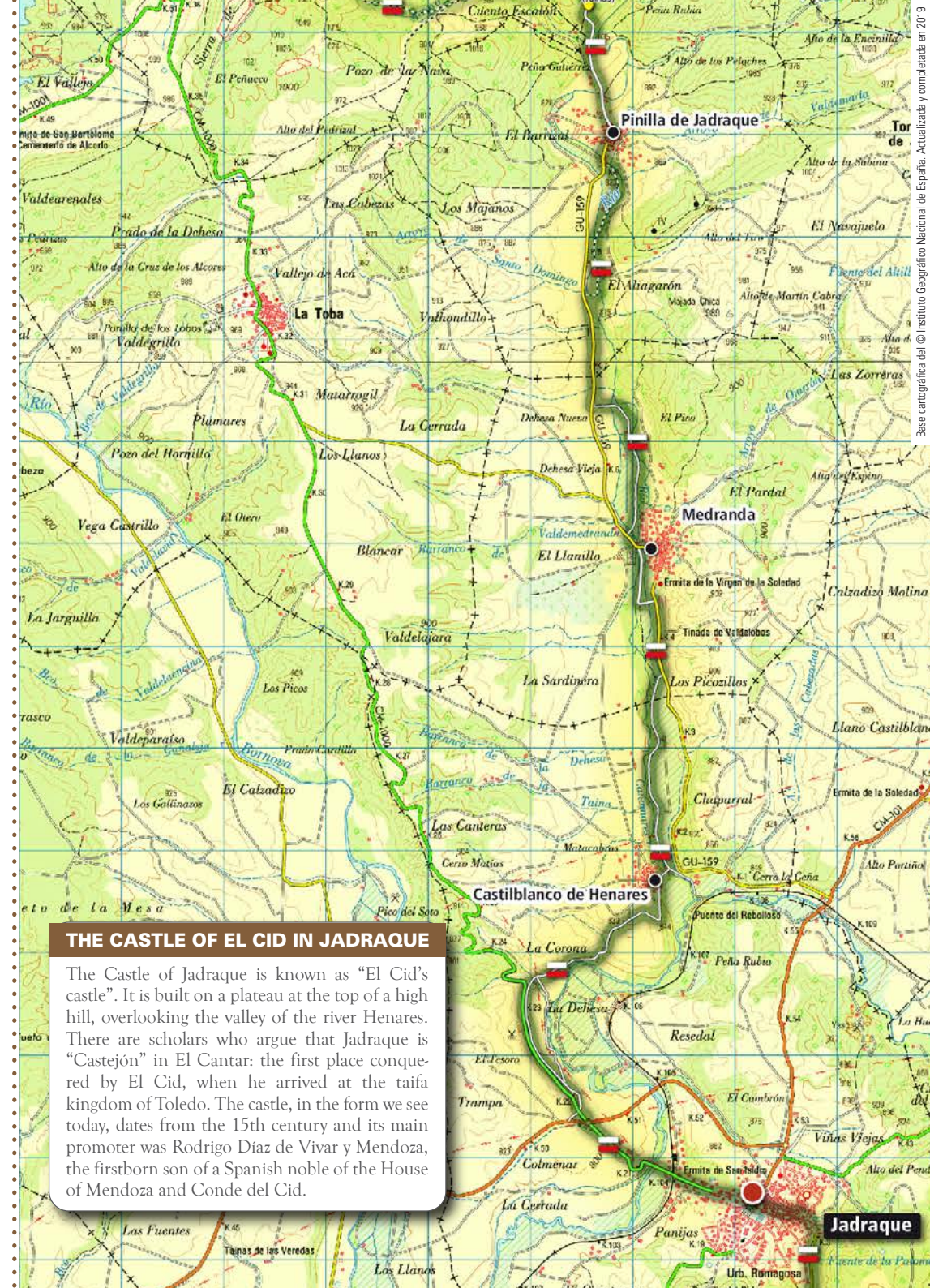


Cross through the town riding on the main road, which connects, at the town's exit, with a road. Immediately after crossing the *river Cañamares* through the bridge, turn to a path to your left (km 32,6), which runs along a thick grove amidst the river and orchards. **⚠ There are times when the route becomes a small path, which is why you should pay attention to signposting.** At this point, you come out to the road (km 34,2). Turn left and then, a little further, take a path to the left (km 35,3). The path runs close to the river until coming out to a road (km 36,9), which is very close to **Medranda**. Turn left and ride some more metres on the pavement; then cross a bridge, which is next to a pleasant park (km 37).

Start at the park that is next to the bridge and continue riding along a soil path that runs parallel to the river. After passing by a curve, you come out to a road (km 37,8), opposite the cemetery. Ride southwards and then turn to a path to the right (km 38,5). The path runs next to the *river Cañamares* until it comes out to the road leading to **Castilblanco**, next to the bridge (km 40,5).

Leave **Castilblanco** riding along a small path next to the church (km 40,8). This path climbs along the edge of a fence until reaching a path that runs close to the cemetery (km 41,5). Join this path, which is in good condition and heads towards the southeast, until reaching *road CM-1000* (km 42,8). Continue riding one more stretch along a path that runs parallel to the road. You will eventually join the road (km 44). Continue on it until the entrance to **Jadraque**. At a roundabout (km 44,3), ride straight and then descend rapidly towards the *river Henares* (km 45,2). Continue until crossing the train line (km 45,4).

Castle of El Cid in Jadraque ▼



THE CASTLE OF EL CID IN JADRAQUE

The Castle of Jadraque is known as “El Cid’s castle”. It is built on a plateau at the top of a high hill, overlooking the valley of the river Henares. There are scholars who argue that Jadraque is “Castejón” in El Cantar: the first place conquered by El Cid, when he arrived at the taifa kingdom of Toledo. The castle, in the form we see today, dates from the 15th century and its main promoter was Rodrigo Díaz de Vivar y Mendoza, the firstborn son of a Spanish noble of the House of Mendoza and Conde del Cid.



Tierras de Frontera 2

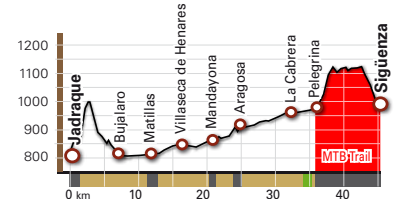
MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Jadraque - Sigüenza

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates

This section's route climbs alongside the river Dulce and offers cyclists some of the most beautiful natural landscapes of all the Iberian Peninsula, which fascinated naturalist Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente. The segment is made of paths and trails along which you will be able to pedal comfortably and enjoy the setting. Avoid getting distracted, for you should make sure you visit the medieval town of Sigüenza, whose castle and cathedral will impress you for sure.



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

DATA	Distance 45,5 km	Cumulative ascent 780 m	MTB trail Yes
	Physical difficulty Low	Cumulative descent 570 m	Signposting GR
	Technical difficulty Medium- Low	Estimated time 4 h 50 m	IBP Degree of difficulty 47

Jadraque (1.420 hab.)

Bujaloro (43 hab.)

Matillas (106 hab.)

Villaseca de Henares (27 hab.)

Km 0

Km 6,3

Km 5,4

Km 11,7

Km 4,4

Km 16,1

Head towards the city centre climbing along *Calle Mayor* and *Calle Dominé* until reaching a directional arrow (km 0.5) that points towards a road (towards *Villanueva de Argecilla*). Pay attention; after 800 m, turn to the left away from the paved road and onto a path (km 1.3). The path climbs steeply along a gully, whose surface gets worse and worse until it turns into a stony path. **⚠ Cyclists will probably have to hop off their bikes and push their bikes.** At the top, there is another rural path (km 2.7). Ride some metres along this path and then, at a crossroads, turn sharply to your left (km 2.8). The path leads northwards, leading directly to **Bujaloro** (km 6.2) after a descent alongside *gully Fuente del Rey*.

Start at the church, riding along *Calle Martín Artajo*. Turn to a path to your right, which is next to the washing place (km 6.5), and get away from the town riding towards the train lines (northwards). At a crossroads (km 7.8), which is placed just before the train lines, turn right to a path that runs parallel to the train lines and leads directly to **Matillas** (km 11.4).

Starting from the station, turn to the right and cross the *river Henares*. After passing by the bus stop, turn to the left (km 11.7) to a street which passes next to a small park and then comes out to a road (km 12.3). Turn left, riding close to *Santa Lucía chapel* (km 12.9), and continue until reaching *Molino de Edancho* (km 13). Turn to a path to the right, riding close to the old light factory (km 13.3). From this point onwards *The Way* runs amidst low scrubland and cultivated fields, parallel to the *channel of Mandayona* until reaching **Villaseca de Henares** (km 16.1).

Base cartográfica del © Instituto Geográfico Nacional de España. Actualizada y completada en 2019

JADRAQUE
Bicycle shops and repair shops

Auto Domenech Motors
Carretera de la Estación, 19
(949890193)

ALVAR FÁÑEZ BRANCH

According to El Cantar, the exiled, who had kept clear of the fortress of Atienza and were short of supplies, took control of a fortified town, called either Castejón de Henares or Jadraque. At the same time, Álvar Fáñez, El Cid's lieutenant, plundered, with the aid of two hundred knights, the valley of Henares, passing by Hita and Guadalajara. This raid is the main plot of the Álvar Fáñez Branch, a fork in the route which starts at Castejón and runs along the valley of Badiel until reaching Guadalajara.

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

0 500 1000 2000

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Villaseca de Henares
(27 hab.)

Km 16,1



4,4 km

Mandayona
(268 hab.)

Km 20,5



4,2 km

Aragosa
(17 hab.)

Km 24,7



7,4 km

La Cabrera
(6 hab.)

Km 32,1



4,3 km

Pelegrina
(13 hab.)

Km 36,4



9,1 km

Sigüenza
(4.356 hab.)

Km 45,5



www.caminodelcid.org Section **2**

Tierras de Frontera

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Ride bordering the southern part of the town (*Calle Extramuros*), where there is an arrow indicating the start of **La Algarada de Álvaro Fáñez** (km 16,4), which connects with **Guadalajara**. Ignore this path and continue some metres further, until reaching a crossroads (km 16,5). Turn to the right and ride along a path heading eastwards, in the direction of the channel. After riding 1 km, the path gets close to the *river Dulce*. Ride alongside the thick grove, which grows to the side of the river **▲ Tall vegetation**. You will reach a paved path (km 20,1), which crosses over the river through a bridge (km 20,2) and leads cyclists to **Mandayona**.

Leave from *Calle Real* riding along a path to the left, placed at the outskirts of the town. It crosses the *river Dulce* through a bridge (km 20,8), where there is a *fountain called Chorrera*. At the *old paper mill* (km 20,9), turn to the right. After crossing a stream (km 21,5), turn, at a crossroads, again to the right (km 21,6), riding close to the *river Dulce*. Ride onto the road when reaching the crossroads at **Aragosa** (km 22,8), and continue on this road for 150 m. Turn to the right and ride along a path that runs alongside a black poplar grove (km 23). Ride again onto the road (km 23,8); you will soon reach **Aragosa**.

Cross through the town and continue along a winding path that runs parallel to the river, through the **Natural Park Barranco del río Dulce**. The route is easy to follow, for it runs towards the northeast along a path on the bottom of the impressive gully. The path is in good condition, though there are stretches where pedalling may be difficult because of **▲ Tall vegetation**. The path runs some metres away from a *country house called Los Heros* (km 29,1), which used to be a banknote factory (in ruins), and reaches **La Cabrera**.

Cross the *river Dulce* over the medieval bridge that leads to the church. From the football pitch (km 32,3), follow the path (leading to the cemetery) for a few metres before taking the left turning situated next to a series of buildings (km 32,4). The trail narrows until turning into a path that runs on the left side of the river **▲ Tall vegetation** (ignore several bridges). At the bridge over the *river Dulce* (km 35,7), cross and then turn to a path to the left. Continue until reaching a crossroads at the entrance to **Pelegrina** (km 36,1), where you should ride off the **hiking trail of The Way of El Cid** and start a **MTB trail**.

▶ Start of a MTB stretch

Pass by the turn to the **hiking trail** and continue climbing, following the traces of other **MTBs**, all the way to the entrance of **Pelegrina**. Continue riding on the road, which climbs up until coming out to road *GU-118* (km 38). You may divert from the route 600 m in order to visit the *lookout built to honour Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente*. Continue towards **Sigüenza** riding along road *GU-118*, which is to the left. After passing by a shooting range, the **hiking trail** crosses the road (km 42,3). Ignore this turn and continue straight until reaching road *CM-1101* (km 43,4). Turn to the right and descend rapidly towards **Sigüenza** (km 44,9).

The river Dulce: natural scenery



This beautiful canyon, carved on the limestone moorlands of the region surrounding Submeseta Sur, extends along one of the most suggestive routes of The Way. It was, additionally, the natural scenery where many of the recordings made by Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente were filmed. The clear water of the river creates the conditions that favor thick groves, which grow alongside the riverbank. Furthermore, the limestone canyon walls are the home for a good number of nests, made by Egyptian vultures, eagles, vultures or crows.



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

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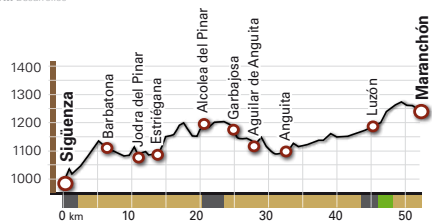
Tierras de Frontera 3

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Sigüenza - Maranchón

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

DATA	Distance	Cumulative ascent	MTB trail
	52,5 km	800 m	No
	Physical difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 480 m	Signposting GR
	Technical difficulty Medium	Estimated time 6 h	IBP Degree of difficulty 45

Sigüenza Km 0
(4.356 hab.)



6,4 km



Resume the route, starting at the *castle of Sigüenza*. The GR markers direct travellers along a path with rocks, which may pose problems for many cyclists. Take it easy by taking a road that descends some metres towards a *leisure area called El Oasis* (km 1). At this point, join again the GR trail, riding on a pleasant paved path that runs alongside a *stream called Vado* and crosses through a thick pine grove. At a crossroads (km 2.4), ride off the paved path; turn to the right, cross the stream and ride along the climbing central path. You will soon reach another crossroads (km 2.6), at which you should turn to the left (move away from *The Don Quixote Route*).

This is a very recommendable route that joins the rivers Dulce and Tajuña and runs along large groves made of pine, holm oaks and Pyrenean oaks. Trees intersperse with crops in the plain areas and small meadows. In general terms, pedalling along the paths is easy, though cyclists may encounter stretches of tall vegetation that will force them to slow down the pace.

Barbatona

(21 hab.)

Km 6,4



4,2 km

Jodra del Pinar

(7 hab.)

Km 10,6



3,6 km

Estriégana

(13 hab.)

Km 14,2



6,5 km

Alcolea del Pinar

(243 hab.)

Km 20,7



Continue climbing along the *path to Lucio*, which runs alongside the namesake gully. After reaching the main trail (km 4.2), turn to the left and ride little by little away from the pine grove and towards the east, until coming close to **Barbatona** (km 6.4).

Pass by this small town and head towards *road CM-110* (km 6.5). Cross the road and continue straight along a path that runs southwards. Ignore several turns, riding parallel to a *stream called Tejares*. When reaching the *river Dulce*, cross through the bridge (km 8.7) and change directions heading to the northeast. The path runs alongside the river, creating a nice gorge whose walls reach vertical heights. Move away from the river, climbing slightly towards **Jodra**.

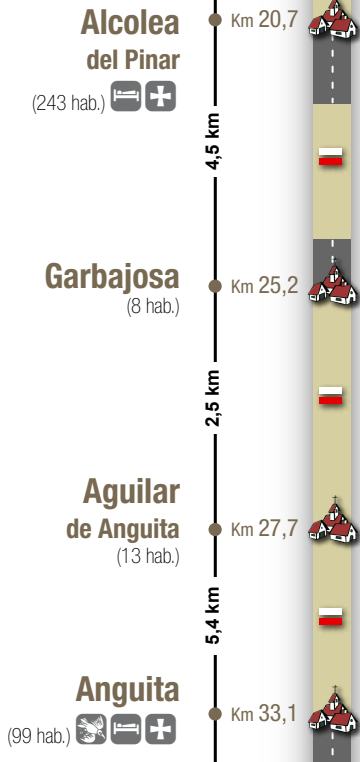
Leave from the church of **Jodra**, descending along the town's entrance road until reaching *river Dulce*. Cross over the river through the bridge (km 11) and turn away from the road to a path to the right, which heads towards the northeast. The path runs to the right of the river alongside fields of crops **Pay attention to the effects of tall vegetation**. At a crossroads (km 12.8), which is next to a bridge that crosses over the river, turn to the left after crossing. The path runs towards the northeast, but the river is now to your left. Join a path which is in better condition (km 13.7) and which soon comes out to the road (km 14), in the area close to **Estriégana**.

To the right of the road through which the town is accessed, there is an arrow (km 14.2) pointing towards an old bridle path; **it is in bad condition and it is not paved in cement**. After 150 m the path splits into two (km 14.4). Continue riding on the path to your right, because its surface is better for pedalling and the two paths lead to the same point. The path climbs gradually along an area where holm oaks grow, making it difficult at times to follow the route. At the top, where there are no more holm oaks, turn left to a wide trail (km 17.5), though it is stony. The path, which passes alongside a pond (km 20.1), descends, after which it runs very straight, leading to the vicinity of **Alcolea del Pinar**.



Tierras de Frontera 3

MTB route guide Camino del Cid



Leave **Alcolea** riding along *Calle Real* (road CM-110) and head to Zaragoza, riding carefully on the pavement (there is no head shoulder). At a crossroads (km 22), turn to the right (heading towards Teruel) and cross through the bridge over the highway. Continue until reaching a roundabout that connects with *road N-211* (km 22.7). Take a path in good condition that connects with the *service area running along the AVE* [Spanish high-speed rail line]. Cross through a level crossing over the rail lines (km 23.8) and continue eastwards. At a crossroads (km 24.7), turn to the left to a road (km 24.9), just at the entrance to **Garbajosa**.

Cross through **Garbajosa** riding along the main street, which leads out of the town along a path that passes by the *fountain* and a *washing place*. Ride 400 m further and, at a crossroads (km 25.7), turn to the right. Continue on a straight road that runs along large crop fields. Pay attention because you have to turn to a path to the left (km 26.9), which joins other paths, before reaching the road. Keep riding eastwards. After crossing over the gully through a bridge (km 27.6), you reach **Aguilar de Anguita**, which you access through *Calle de los Berros*.

Ride away from the town until reaching *road N-211*. At the crossroads (km 27.9), take the turn that leads towards the *road to Anguita*. When reaching the first right-hand turn (km 28), ride into a path and climb briefly. Ride to the left of a *Roman fort known as La Cerca*. At a crossroads (km 31.1), turn right and cross over a *stream called Prado*, riding close to a grove of black poplars. The path continues straight ahead, towards the northeast. Ride past the remains of *San Pedro chapel* (km 31.6) until reaching the access road for **Anguita**, which starts in the area next to a *chapel called Soledad* (km 33).

Anguita (99 hab.)



Km 33,1



12,1 km



Luzón

(64 hab.)



Km 45,2



7,3 km

Maranchón

(199 hab.)



Km 52,5



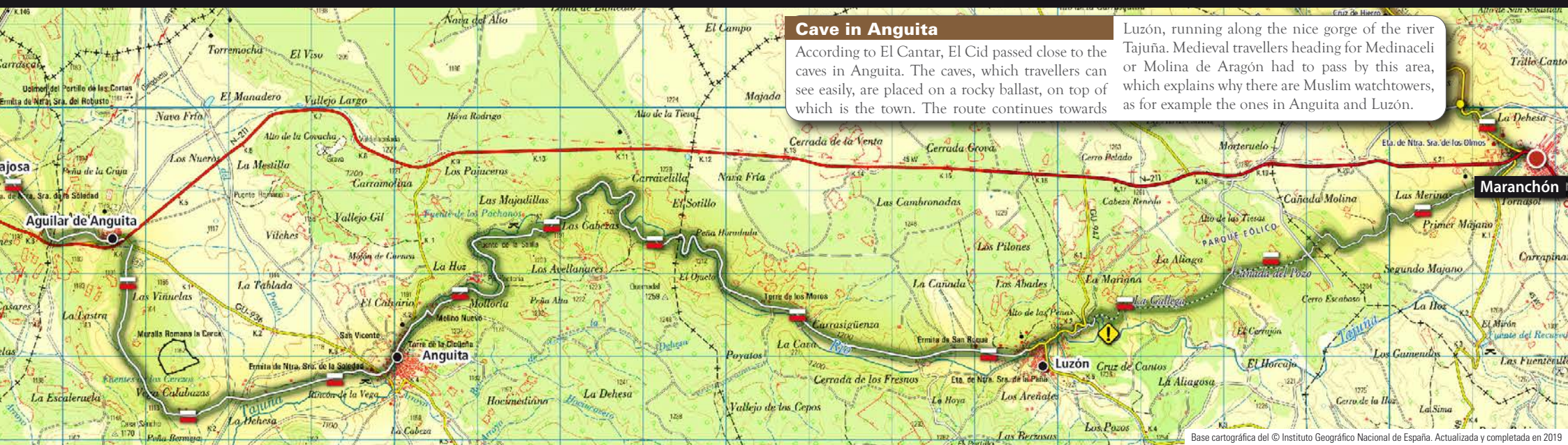
Leave from *San Pedro church*, riding along *Calle de la Hoz*, and then continue some metres further riding on a road. At the town's exit (km 33.7), turn to the right to a soil path in good condition. After 200 m, turn to the right and cross over the *river Tajuña* through a bridge (km 34). The path climbs alongside the river amidst an extraordinarily beautiful landscape. The river, which runs between steep banks, has surprising hollow spaces, while the path is shaded by thick black poplars. Cross over the river through a bridge (km 37.5). After a sharp curve in the path, cross the river once again (km 38.6) and move slightly away from the riverbed. Now come close again to the river, which you should cross once again (km 39.8). The valley, where crops grow, opens up gradually. Continue riding alongside the river, without diverting from the main path. At a crossroads (km 43.9), the path turns into a paved path. Pass by *San Roque chapel* (km 44.5) and you will immediately arrive at **Luzón**, riding next to the fountain and the old washing place.

Leave Luzón riding along the road (*N-211*). Immediately after crossing through the bridge over the *river Tajuña* (km 45.5), turn to a path to the right. In less than 200 m the path turns (km 45.7). However, continue straight, riding along **△ a climbing 400 m-long path in bad condition** that runs parallel to the telephone poles (cyclists may avoid riding along this path by riding along the road for 400 metres). Although the road is close to this point, continue riding on the path (km 46), which descends to the bottom of the valley. The path crosses through a field and comes close to the river (km 46.2), where it turns into an **△ irregular surface path**. **Note that the path is technically challenging and will probably force cyclists to get off their bikes at some stretches**. At this point, you reach a path whose surface is in better conditions (km 48). Continue for 200 m, and then turn to the right. The path, which is in bad condition, alternates with a hiking path stretch until reaching a trail (km 49.2), which starts at the other side of a cultivated field. From this point, start climbing along a path until reaching a *wind gauge* (km 49.3). Then continue straight along a path that descends until reaching another path (km 49.4). The path brings you gradually close to **Maranchón**, whose outline on the horizon serves a guide when coming across turns to the right or the left. Access the town riding along the road (km 52.3).

Cave in Anguita

According to El Cantar, El Cid passed close to the caves in Anguita. The caves, which travellers can see easily, are placed on a rocky ballast, on top of which is the town. The route continues towards

Luzón, running along the nice gorge of the river Tajuña. Medieval travellers heading for Medinaceli or Molina de Aragón had to pass by this area, which explains why there are Muslim watchtowers, as for example the ones in Anguita and Luzón.





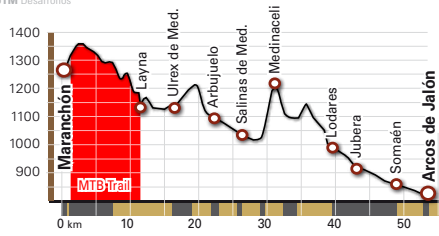
Tierras de Frontera 4

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Maranchón - Arcos de Jalón

Edition 2020

UTM Coordinates



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

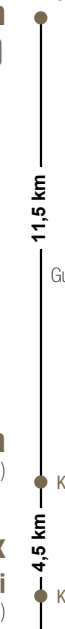
DATA	Distance	Cumulative ascent	MTB trail
	54 km	730 m	Yes
	Low	Cumulative descent 1.200 m	Signposting Red markers and GR
	Medium	Estimated time 5 h 10 m	IBP Degree of difficulty 38

Section 4 is a transition section, separating the moorlands in Castile and the Jalón valley, which belongs to the Mediterranean watershed. Throughout this section, you will cycle along lonely roads and paths in good condition. The route runs alongside large juniper groves that intermingle with forests of wind turbines. The skyline of Medinaceli and its millennial triumph arch prompt cyclists to make an effort and visit this town's wealth of monuments.

Maranchón
(199 hab.)



Km 0



Continue on *road GU-405 (to Arcos de Jalón)*. At the cemetery (km 0.3), there is an arrow pointing to a small path in bad condition. Ignore it, for it joins the road again only some metres further (km 0.7). After a couple of curves (km 1.1), there is a sign indicating the start of a MTB stretch.

▶ Start of a MTB stretch

Pass by the turn to the **hiking trail** and continue straight on the road, following the **traces of other MTB bikes**. The road climbs gradually amidst juniper trees and wind mills, until reaching the antennas (km 2.8), after which a long descending straight line starts. A sign (km 5.7) indicates that we are accessing the *province of Soria*. Pay attention so as to ride off the paved surface in less than 2 km, turning left to a soil path (km 7.5). The path, which is in good condition and runs straight, is a maintenance path placed on the contours of a wind farm. After a climb, there is a crossroads (km 9.4). Continue straight, riding on a trail that descends rapidly to Layna.

Leave Layna riding along *Calle Barrio Alto*, which is situated in the high part of the town. Move away from the buildings at the town's outskirts, riding on a stony path (km 11.8), and then descend to a crossroads (km 12.2). Turn to a path to the left that runs amidst crop fields. Continue riding easily along a path that leads to Urex (km 16), to the right of which is the *river Blanco*.

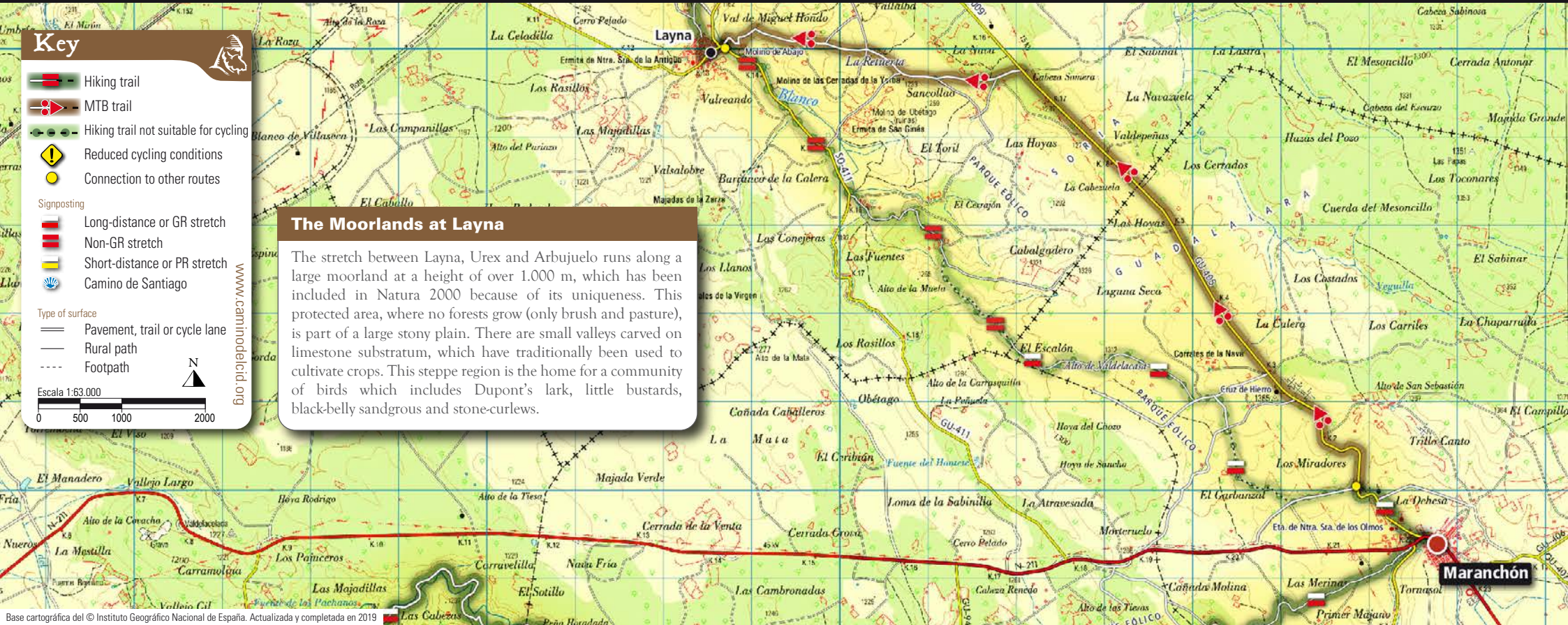
Key

- Hiking trail
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- Camino de Santiago
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- Pavement, trail or cycle lane
- Rural path
- Footpath

The Moorlands at Layna

The stretch between Layna, Urex and Arbujuelo runs along a large moorland at a height of over 1.000 m, which has been included in Natura 2000 because of its uniqueness. This protected area, where no forests grow (only brush and pasture), is part of a large stony plain. There are small valleys carved on limestone substratum, which have traditionally been used to cultivate crops. This steppe region is the home for a community of birds which includes Dupont's lark, little bustards, black-belly sandgrouse and stone-curlews.

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Tierras de Frontera 4

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Urex de Medinaceli
(7 hab.)

Km 16



Arbujuelo
(9 hab.)

Km 22,1



Salinas de Medinaceli
(44 hab.)

Km 25,9



Join again the path and ride on a narrow road which leads to the town. It climbs alongside a small *gully* called *Val*. Turn right to come out to *road SO-411*, which joins *Medinaceli* and *Maranchón* (km 18.4). Cross through the tunnel under the AVE train lines. After 400 m, ride off the road onto a path to the left (km 18.8), which descends sharply alongside the source of the *stream Pradejón* and heads towards the northeast. You will soon reach a black poplar grove (km 21.8) and you will, immediately after, arrive at **Arbujuelo** (km 22).

Ride away from **Arbujuelo** through the road. After 800 m, ride off the paved road and turn to a path to the left (km 23). After crossing the *stream Pradejón*, turn to the right and continue riding alongside crop fields. The path runs towards the northeast along the *meadow* at the stream. **Take care; there are times of the year when cycling may be difficult because high vegetation makes it impossible to see the path.** The path, whose conditions improve quickly, leads to a bridge (km 25.5), which is next to **Salinas de Medinaceli**.

Salinas de Medinaceli
(44 hab.)

Km 25,9



Barrio de la Estación de Medinaceli

Km 28,6



Medinaceli
(517 hab.)

Km 30,8



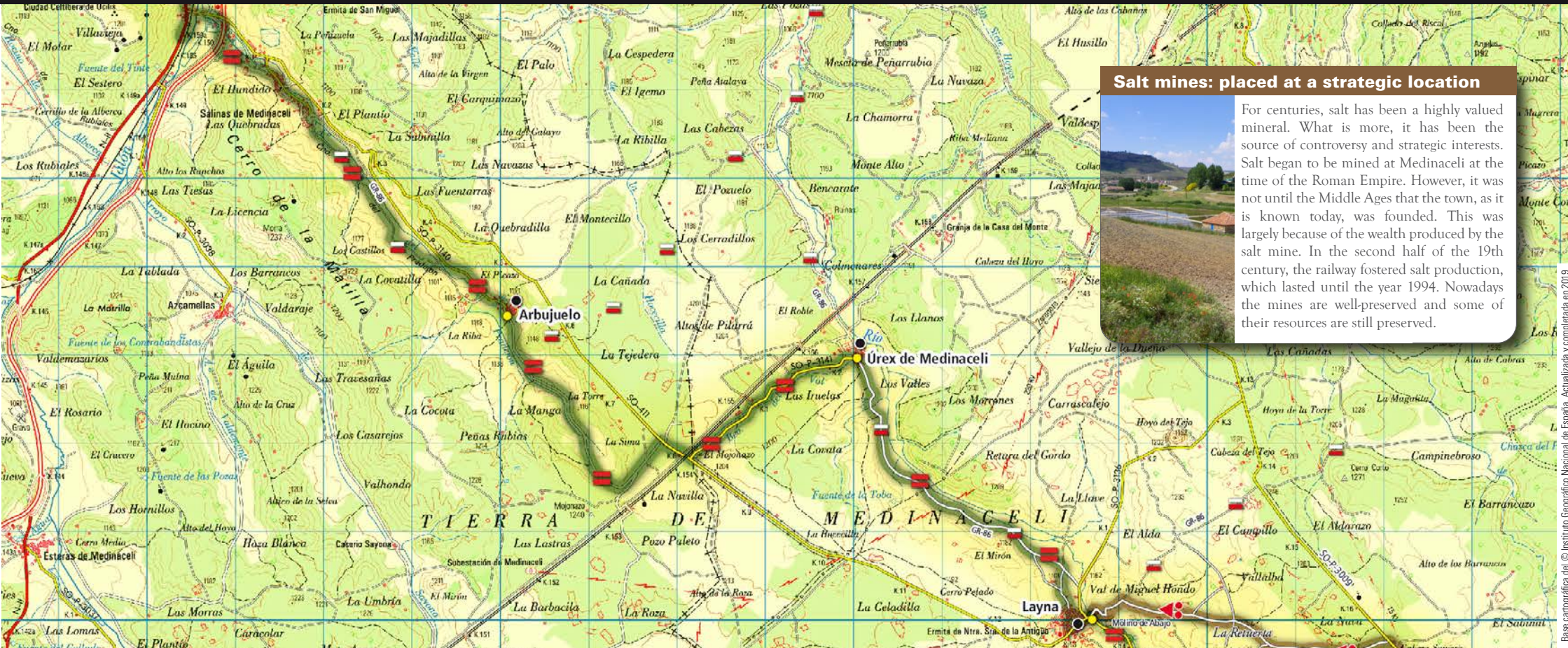
8,8 km



Cross through **Salinas**, riding on the main road until reaching the town. After passing by the last houses (km 26.1), turn to a path to your left. From here you can enjoy a spectacular view of the salt mine, which is to your right and connects with the *road providing service to the highway* (km 26.9). Turn to the right and ride 100 m further. Then cross the highway through a subterranean passage (km 27). Turn right and continue until coming out to the road from **Salinas** (km 27.4), which passes close to the fish farm. In order to avoid the train lines, continue riding on the road's head shoulder. You will come out to an elevated rail line (km 27.8) and, finally, to road *N-II*, which is in close proximity to the **town's station**.

At a signposted crossroads, start climbing along a road that leads to **Medinaceli**. In the first curve (km 29.3), turn to a small path to your right. **Take care because there is a steep river bed** that leads to a paved path (km 30), next to *Humilladero chapel*. The final stretch, which leads to the Roman arch (km 30.6) and the medieval town, runs along a road.

After visiting **Medinaceli**, descend along a path that is to the west of the town and leads to a crossroads (km 31.5), placed next to *Humilladero chapel* and to the *GR-86* trail. Ride off the paved surface and onto an irregular surface path to the right, which descends halfway through the hillside. At this point, it joins *road SO-131* (km 32.3). Turn right to the road and continue riding until reaching a roundabout. Now, turn to the right until running into a bridge (km 34.3) that crosses the highway and leads to a path on the left.



Salt mines: placed at a strategic location



For centuries, salt has been a highly valued mineral. What is more, it has been the source of controversy and strategic interests. Salt began to be mined at Medinaceli at the time of the Roman Empire. However, it was not until the Middle Ages that the town, as it is known today, was founded. This was largely because of the wealth produced by the salt mine. In the second half of the 19th century, the railway fostered salt production, which lasted until the year 1994. Nowadays the mines are well-preserved and some of their resources are still preserved.

Tierras de Frontera 4

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

The stony path descends along a short stretch made of crop fields until reaching *El Castillejo*, where there is a crossroads (km 36). Continue in the same direction, descending along the bottom of the *gully Hocino* until riding into the entrance of an abandoned town called **Corvesin** (km 37.5). At a distance of less than 100 m from the town's exit there is a crossroads (km 37.7), at which you should take the path to the right. The path turns, leading towards the southeast. Turn right to a path in better condition (km 38.2) that heads to the highway. Pass by a gravel bed to your left and cross over the highway through a bridge (km 39). You will soon reach the low part of **Lodares**, which is next to the *old N-II road* (km 39.6).

The stretch leading to **Jubera** runs along the *old N-II road*, amidst beautiful natural landscape. The *river Jalón* runs in between steep high walls and the road and the train lines compete in their effort to conquer space. Ride carefully along the wide head shoulder.

Lodares

(10 hab.)

Km 39,6

Jubera

(8 hab.)

Km 42,9

Jubera

(8 hab.)

Km 42,9

Somaén

(28 hab.)

Km 48,9

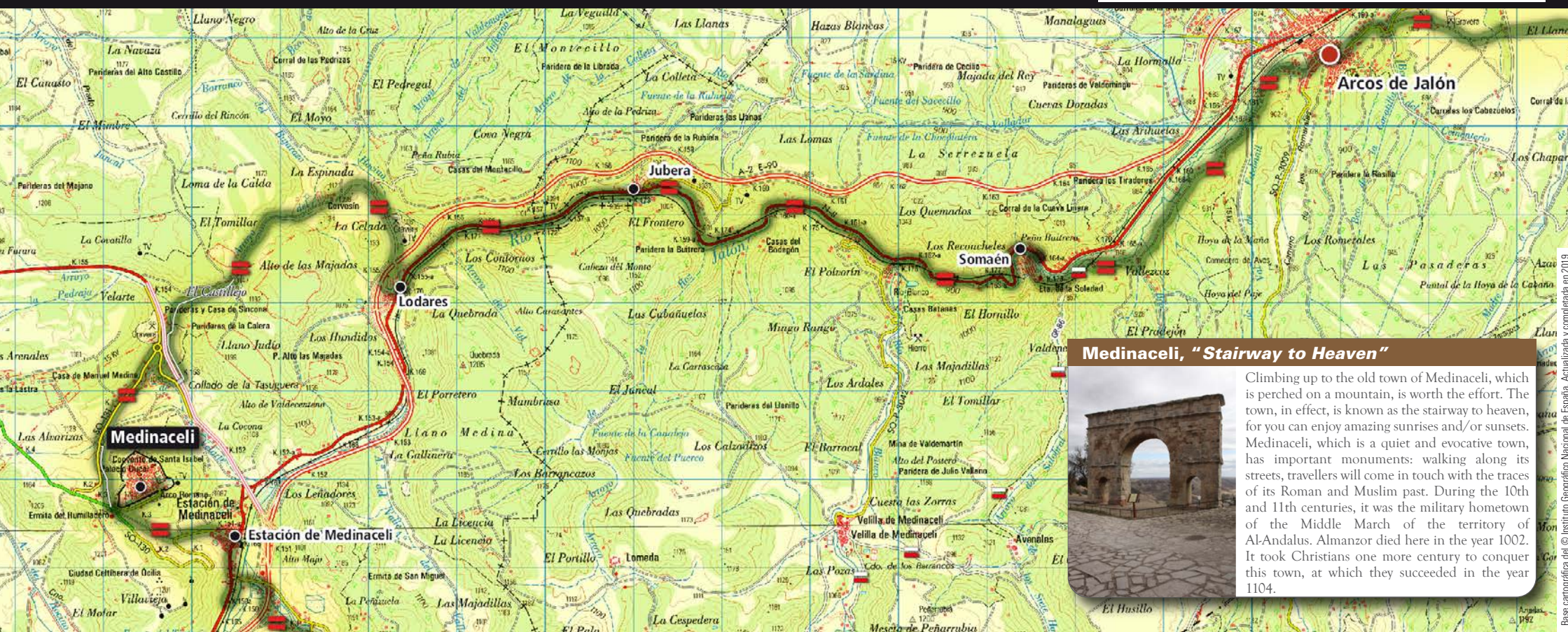
Arcos de Jalón

(1.157 hab.)

Km 54,1

Continue riding on the *old N-II road*. The stretch of route that extends to *Somaén* runs also along the road, which is why it poses no difficulty as far as directions are concerned. The road, which offers views of great beauty, wanders along the bottom of the gorge, carved by the *river Jalón* on the rock. The arrival at **Somaén**, perched on the crest of a scarp, is the cause of surprise for travellers, who access the town through a bridge over the *river Jalón* (km 48.8) that leads to the city centre.

Ride from *Calle Mayor* to a path placed next to *Soledad chapel* (km 49.1). It leads away from the city, running parallel to the train lines and the thick groves that grow along the *river Jalón*. Some metres further ignore the path to your right (km 49.4), which is the route of the *GR-86* trail. A little further on, go over the level crossing without barriers (km 49.8). After a short descent, you will come to a crossroads, from where you should continue on the right-hand side. You will then reach another crossroads (km 50.1). This time continue straight, riding close to the river. After a curve, a path to the right joins the path (km 50.5) but cyclists should continue straight, passing to the left of a building. The route to **Arcos de Jalón**, which runs along the same path, runs close to the *meadow at the river Jalón*, amidst fields of crops, heading towards the northeast. Ignore the right hand turn (km 52.6) and continue straight. **Arcos** is gradually closer. Access the town riding along *Calle Calvo Sotelo*, which is close to the *road leading to Maranchón* (km 53.7).



Medinaceli, "Stairway to Heaven"



Climbing up to the old town of Medinaceli, which is perched on a mountain, is worth the effort. The town, in effect, is known as the stairway to heaven, for you can enjoy amazing sunrises and/or sunsets. Medinaceli, which is a quiet and evocative town, has important monuments: walking along its streets, travellers will come in touch with the traces of its Roman and Muslim past. During the 10th and 11th centuries, it was the military hometown of the Middle March of the territory of Al-Andalus. Almanzor died here in the year 1002. It took Christians one more century to conquer this town, at which they succeeded in the year 1104.



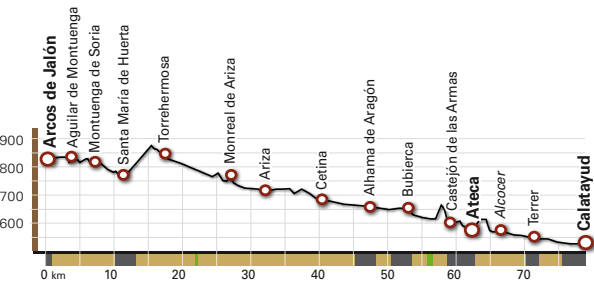
Tierras de Frontera 5

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Arcos de Jalón - Ateca / Calatayud

Edition 2020

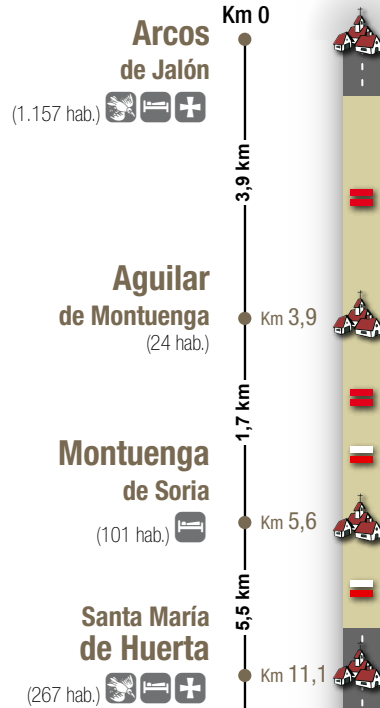
UTM Coordinates



Trail / path Footpath Pavement Cycle lanes

DATA	Distance 62,6 / 79 km	Cumulative ascent 390 / 420 m	Tramo Btt No
	Physical difficulty Low	Cumulative descent 650 m / 750 m	Signposting GR
	Technical difficulty Low	Estimated time 5h 20m / 6h 40m	IBP Degree of difficulty 35 / 42

Although this is a long section, it poses almost no problems. It descends alongside the bank of the river Jalón, running along a natural corridor. For many centuries, it served as the entrance to the northeast region of the Iberian Peninsula. In this territory, which serves as a borderland between the Kingdom of Castile and the Kingdom of Aragon, there are numerous castles and water plays a role of itself.



Leave the town riding along the road to Aguilar de Montuenga. After passing by the cemetery, continue 200 m more and then turn to a path to the right (km 0.9). Pass to the left of a gravel bed (km 1.6). When reaching several crossroads (kms 1.8 and 2.1), continue straight. Pay attention; after passing by a series of cultivated fields, the path runs into a barren field. Turn to your right (km 2.2) and 100 m further you will come out to a path in good condition (km 2.3). Cross the path so as to continue riding straight on **△ a path whose borders are unclear**. At this point, you reach a path (km 3.2) that runs close to a stream called Segides. Ride straight. After crossing a road (km 3.7), access the town riding along a paved path.

Cross through Aguilar heading to an area that is to the east of the town. Take an exit path, which is placed next to an arrow (km 4.1) and runs along unirrigated fields. The path is easy to follow because the skyline of Montuenga and its castle are visible. Ignore a turn to your right (km 4.7) and continue straight until reaching the road (km 5.1). Do not run into it, but rather continue straight until the crossroads that is next to Santa Bárbara basin (km 5.3). Ride straight, without changing directions; you will soon reach Soledad chapel (km 5.5), which is at the town's entrance.

Leave from Calle del Norte and continue along a path that runs along the edge of the hill on top of which the castle is placed. Some metres further, a path (km 6.1) to your right joins the route (royal drove). At a crossroads (km 6.3), turn right and ride on a path in good condition that runs straightly amidst crop fields. Ignore all left and right hand turns (km 6.6 and 7.5). Cross through a small stream (km 9.4), after which a path to your right joins the route (km 9.6). When reaching a newly built residential area, take Calle de Belimbre to ride into the town.

Medieval Western

The source of the river Jalón, whose course is followed by the The Way of el Cid until reaching Calatayud, is situated in close proximity to Medinaceli. For many centuries, this territory was a large military borderland, separating Al-Ándalus from the land conquered by the Christians. Starting on the 12th century, it was the scenery of border clashes between the kingdoms of Aragon and Castile. The landscape, whose rough geographical features are packed with castles, invite travellers to imagine they are trapped in a medieval western.



Key

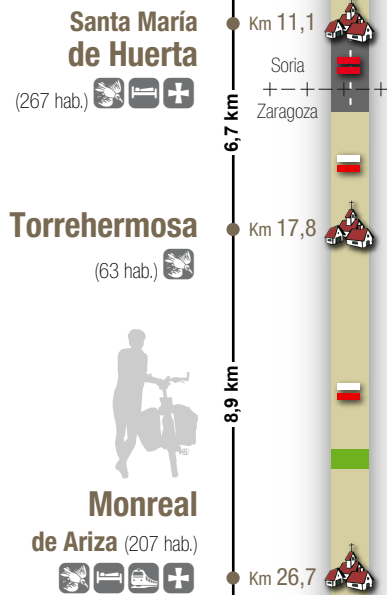
- Hiking trail
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- Short-distance or PR stretch
- Camino de Santiago
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- Pavement, trail or cycle lane
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- Footpath

Escala 1:63.000

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Tierras de Frontera 5

MTB route guide Camino del Cid



Take the road to Torrehermosa (SO-P-3010) out of the town, and next to the information panels, turn right onto a track leading to the province of Zaragoza. Join another track and carry on until you come to the crossroads with the Arcos path (km 15.4), where you should take a right-hand turning. Continue straight along this path, ignoring all left and right hand turns (kms 15.8 and 16.2). The path descends along a small valley until reaching a crossroads (km 17.3), where it joins path PR-Z 90. At this point, turn to your right and continue until reaching the town (km 17.6).

From Calle Real cross the road (km 17.8) and ride straight, passing close to the Town Hall. Leaving behind the PR-Z 90 path and the swimming pool (km 18), you will eventually come to a crossroads (km 18.1). Turn left and carry on, crossing over the road in front of you. Keep to this well-surfaced track that runs north along the left bank of La Cañada stream. When coming out to the road (km 21.6), turn left and, after crossing through the bridge, turn to a path to your right (km 21.8). The path comes to an end at a ploughed up field (km 22.2). Ride along the edge of the field and then continue on **▲ a path running along the hillside**. **Cyclists will probably have to hop off their bikes** until reaching another path (km 22.7), which is close to a farming building. The path turns to the right (km 23), crosses to the other side of the riverbank and then turns left (km 23.2). At a crossroads, the route meets with the path to Huerta (km 24.5). Turn to your right and ride towards the northeast until reaching the entrance to **Monreal**, which is next to the road (km 26.1).

Monreal de Ariza (207 hab.)



Km 26,7



5 km

Ariza (1.122 hab.)



Km 31,7



8,6 km

Cetina (582 hab.)

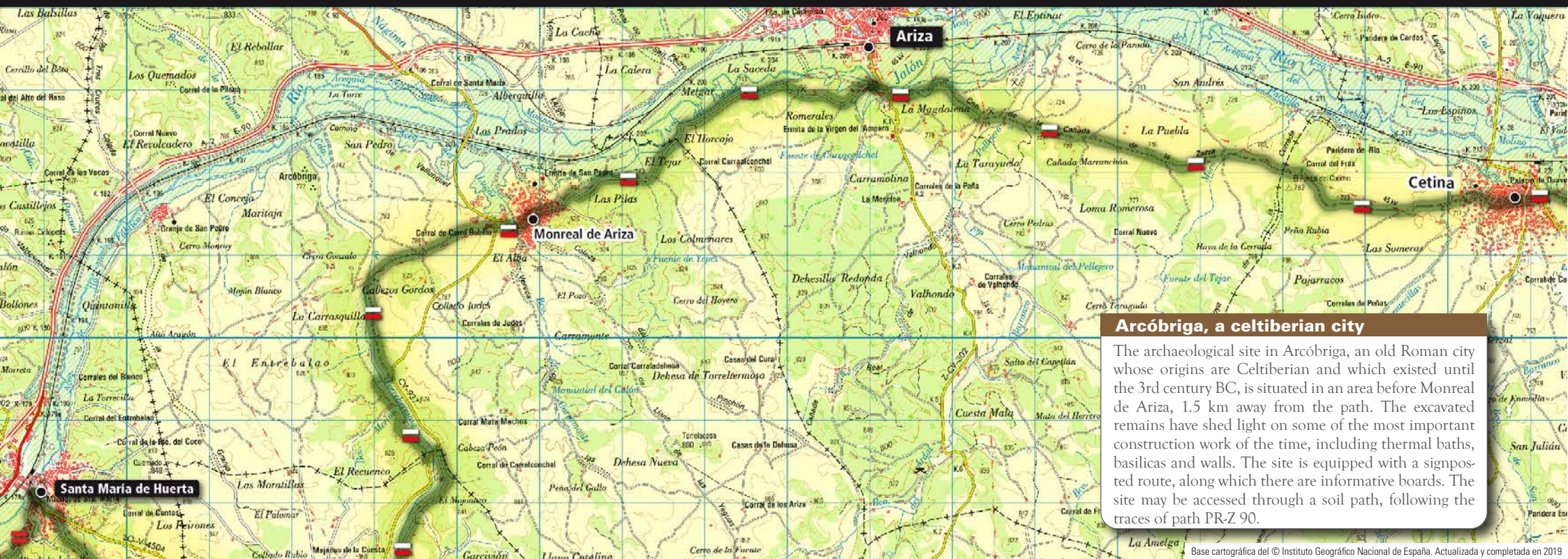


Km 40,3



Leave from **Monreal de Ariza** riding along *Calle Mayor*, which crosses through the town and runs parallel to path PR-Z 90. Ignore a right hand turn (km 27), which leads to the *cemetery*, and continue until reaching a *pillar* (km 27.2) that is placed next to a dumping site. The path comes close to the *meadow at the river Jalón*, running amidst crop fields and low scrubland to your right. The PR-Z 90 path turns to the left (km 30.3), but cyclists should continue straight. At a pine grove, there is a crossroads (km 31.2). Turn to your left, descending until reaching the *Roman bridge* (km 31.7) that crosses over the *river Jalón*, which leads to **Ariza**.

After visiting **Ariza**, resume the route. Start at the *Roman bridge* (km 31.7) that crosses over the *river Jalón*. Take a paved path, which shortly after comes out to the *road to CabolaFuente* (km 31.9). Cross the road and continue riding along a path on the other side, which heads eastwards. Continue straight without diverting from the main path until reaching a crossroads (km 32.8). Ride straight along a royal drove called *Cañada de la Zarza*, moving away from the meadow at the *river Jalón*. The route, which runs alongside crop fields and some bare scrubland, heads eastwards, until reaching **Cetina**. At *gully Pellejero* (km 33.5), a couple of trees are aligned along the riverbank. Continue on the main path, ignoring several left and right hand turns. At this point, the path climbs smoothly, until reaching the area close to Puntal del Cuerno. Ignore a turn to the left (km 37.3). Come gradually closer to **Cetina**, which is hidden behind a hillock. Pass by the cemetery (km 39.4), which is to your left, and climb along a group of old scattered farming buildings. Access to the town is along *Calle del Arrabal*, which is next to *San Juan Lorenzo chapel* (km 40).



Arcóbriga, a celtiberian city

The archaeological site in Arcóbriga, an old Roman city whose origins are Celtiberian and which existed until the 3rd century BC, is situated in an area before Monreal de Ariza, 1.5 km away from the path. The excavated remains have shed light on some of the most important construction work of the time, including thermal baths, basilicas and walls. The site is equipped with a signposted route, along which there are informative boards. The site may be accessed through a soil path, following the traces of path PR-Z 90.

Tierras de Frontera 5

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Cetina
(582 hab.)



Km 40,3



Alhama de Aragón
(1.029 hab.)



Km 46,6



Bubierca
(60 hab.)



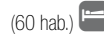
Km 52,8



Set off riding along *Calle de la Señoría* and continue until reaching the *road to Jaraba* (km 40.5). Cross the road and continue straight on a path that runs close to *Virgen de Atocha chapel* and the old washing place. The path crosses through the dry river bed of a *gorge called San Lázaro* (km 40.6). Ignore a right hand turn (km 40.9). After a short descent along a stony path, you reach the *meadow at the river Jalón*. From this point and all the way to **Alhama**, the route runs parallel to the river in between orchards and unirrigated fields. The railroad is to your left, though you will gradually come closer to the rail lines, to the extent that you will eventually ride parallel to them (km 44.3). Immediately after passing by *gully Covatillas* (km 44.8), the path moves away from the rail line (km 45) and runs into the road that leads to *Alhama* (km 4.4), which is in close proximity to the town.

Place yourself at the bridge over the *river Jalón* (km 46.6), which divides the town into two. Ride some metres along *Avenida de la Constitución*. Before crossing the *railroad tunnel* (km 46.7), turn to your right to a paved path that runs parallel to the train lines. At a crossroads (km 47.6), turn to your right. 20 m further there is another crossroads, placed next to a *metal footbridge*. Ride to your left along a path that wanders to the side of the river. Cross the riverbed of the *river Monegrillo* (km 49.9), whose level of water, at the point where it flows into the *river Jalón*, varies greatly. Then ride again close to the rail lines (km 50). Cross the train lines through an underpass (km 50.4), which immediately after runs into *road N-II*. Turn to your right and continue riding on the road's shoulder (take extreme care). Do not cross through a small tunnel (km 51.6), taking a path to your right that joins the road again at the tunnel's exit. Continue straight without diverting until reaching **Bubierca**, which is in the high part of the town, next to the Town Hall (km 52.8).

Bubierca
(60 hab.)



Km 52,8



Castejón de las Armas
(90 hab.)



Km 58,8



Ateca
(1.780 hab.)



Km 62,5



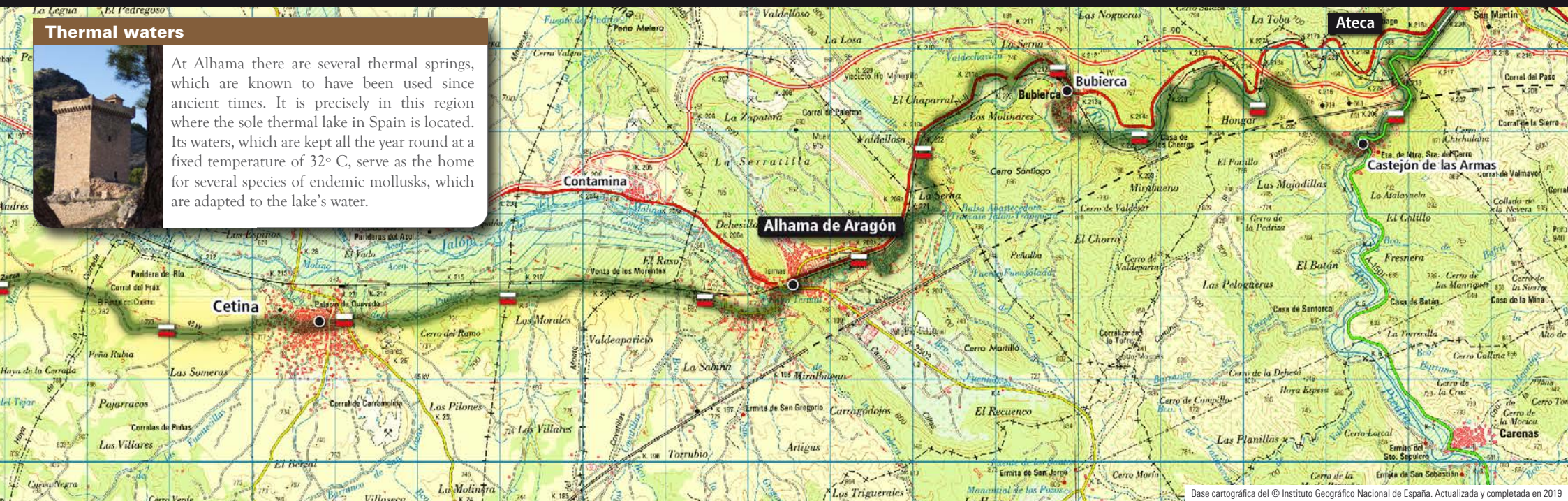
Leave from the Town Hall, which is next to *road N-II*. Ride along *Calle Pedro García*, which runs along the edge of the town until reaching the low area of the town (km 53.3). Take a path towards the river Jalón and cross over it through a bridge (km 53.5). The path crosses **△ a level crossing without barriers** (km 53.7) and continues straight towards the river and its thick groves. Cross the train lines through an underpass (km 54.5) and shortly after cross the train lines once again (km 54.7). The path, which runs amidst abandoned fields, gets worse and worse. After reaching the train lines (km 55.1), continue on a path that crosses under the railroad bridge over the *river Jalón*. **△ The limits of the path, which runs along the edge of abandoned fields, are not clearly traced, which is why it poses pedalling difficulties on some stretches.** Pay attention to a stream to your left, which serves as a reference in this stretch of route. **△ Carry your bike on your shoulder to cross the stream** and then ride into an abandoned field, at the opposite end of which there is path that runs parallel to the river (km 55.8). The path runs along the valley amidst fruit trees. There is a crossroads (km 57.3) situated close to the highway's viaduct. Turn to the right and climb shortly. Cross through a *bridge over the AVE train lines* (km 58) that leads, shortly after, to the first buildings of **Castejón de las Armas** (km 58.4).

Leave from the bridge over the *river Piedra*, riding towards *Ateca* along a *promenade in honour to Joaquín Costa*. After passing by a curve, the promenade turns into *road A-1501*, along which you should ride all the way to **Ateca**. This is a narrow road, **△ whose shoulder is almost nonexistent** and along which there are many curves. Take, therefore, extreme care and wear reflecting garment to make yourself visible for drivers. Ride under the impressive viaducts of the Spanish high-speed railroad (km 60) and of the highway (km 60.2) and to the left of the *river Piedra*. The road runs into the train lines (km 60.9) and then reaches a bridge (km 61.3). Ride off *road A-1501*, which runs over the bridge, and continue straight, on a paved path parallel to the train lines. The path leads quickly to **Ateca** (km 62), which is accessed through *Calle la Serrada*, and then descends along *Calle Bodeguillas* until reaching a footbridge over the *river Jalón*.

Thermal waters



At Alhama there are several thermal springs, which are known to have been used since ancient times. It is precisely in this region where the sole thermal lake in Spain is located. Its waters, which are kept all the year round at a fixed temperature of 32° C, serve as the home for several species of endemic mollusks, which are adapted to the lake's water.



Tierras de Frontera 5

MTB route guide Camino del Cid

Ateca
(1.780 hab.)



Km 62,5



6 km

**Route connecting
with Calatayud**

Km 68,5



Leave from **Ateca** riding along *road N-II* to **Terrer**. On your way out of the town, pass next to *San Blas chapel* (km 63). At this point, take a path with a wooden handrail that ascends towards the *football field*. Ride to your left, along the edge of the facilities, until reaching a leveled area that is used as a parking space (km 63.4). Take a paved path, ignoring several left and right hand turns to soil paths. The paved path reaches a crossroads after passing by a warehouse and then turns to the right (km 63.8), though cyclists should continue riding straight on a soil path. The path reaches a small pine grove, at which it turns to the right, descending towards *road N-II* (km 65). Cross the road and then turn to a path to your left that descends towards the train lines. **▲ Cross through a level crossing without barriers.** At this point you will come close to the *river Jalón*. After riding alongside its riverbank, the path leads again towards the railroad (km 66.6). Cross the train lines and continue straight so as to visit the place where **Alcocer**, which is greatly important in **El Cantar de Mio Cid**, is believed to have been located. If you do not wish to visit this site, continue straight, riding on a path that runs parallel to the train lines; its final stretch runs into a paved bridge. Continue through a tunnel that crosses under the Spanish high-speed railroad (km 68) and then turn to a path to the left, until reaching a crossroads at which the "Route connecting with Calatayud" [Enlace de Calatayud] starts (km 68.5).

**Route connecting
with Calatayud**

Km 68,5



3 km



Terrer
(470 hab.)



Km 71,5



7,5 km

Calatayud

(19.753 hab.)



Km 79



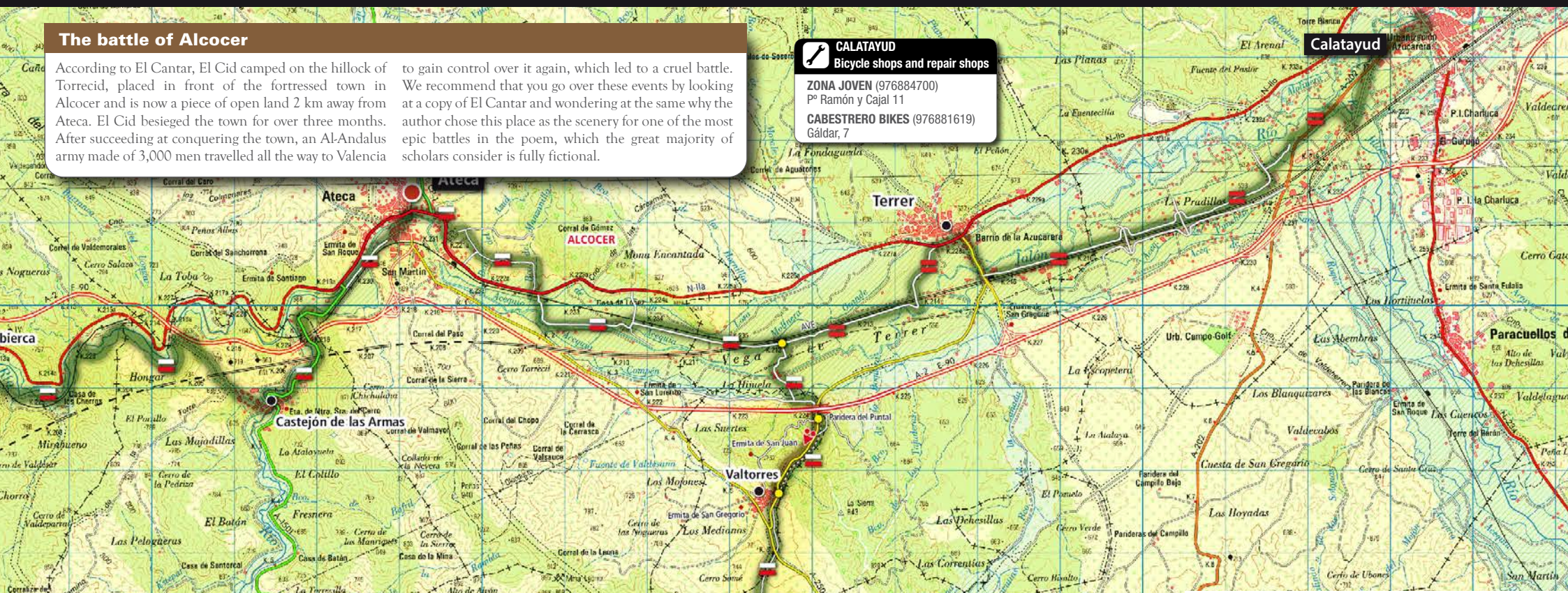
A directional arrow indicates that **Section 1** of **The Three Kingdoms (Ateca - Daroca)** turns to the right. However, continue straight, riding on the same path, which runs parallel to the Spanish high-speed train lines. Cross through a bridge over the train lines (km 70.2). Continue straight, riding along a paved path until coming out to *road N-II* at **Terrer** (km 71.1).

Leave from *Avenida de la Constitución (road N-II)* (km 71.4) and descend along *Calle de la Estación*, which runs alongside the *river Jalón*. After passing by an *esplanade*, placed next to *San Jorge pillar* (km 71.8), the street turns into a small road. At this point, there is a bridge over the river (km 72). Immediately after crossing through the bridge, turn to a path to your left. At the old station, the paved path turns into a soil path in good condition, which runs parallel to the train lines along a very long straight stretch. Cross under two flyovers (kms 73.7 and 74.5) and ride on a path that joins again the soil path. The path moves gradually away from the railroad and turns into a paved path, running close to a small industrial area (km 76). Go straight on at the roundabout (km 76.4), continuing along a path that runs close to *road A-202*. The path comes to an end, running into the road (km 77). Cross the road and continue riding along a path on the other side of the road until reaching the bridge over the *river Jiloca* (km 73.3). Take the road and cross through the bridge, continuing straight until reaching *road A-202* (km 78.1), which is close to the entrance to **Calatayud**.

The battle of Alcocer

According to *El Cantar*, El Cid camped on the hillock of **Torrecid**, placed in front of the fortified town in **Alcocer** and is now a piece of open land 2 km away from **Ateca**. El Cid besieged the town for over three months. After succeeding at conquering the town, an Al-Andalus army made of 3,000 men travelled all the way to Valencia

to gain control over it again, which led to a cruel battle. We recommend that you go over these events by looking at a copy of *El Cantar* and wondering at the same why the author chose this place as the scenery for one of the most epic battles in the poem, which the great majority of scholars consider is fully fictional.



CALATAYUD
Bicycle shops and repair shops
ZONA JOVEN (976884700)
Pº Ramón y Cajal 11
CABESTRERO BIKES (976881619)
Gáldar, 7