

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

El Cid's first battles and conquests

Exiled by Alfonso VI, El Cid was forced to leave Castile. He reached the territories of the Muslim taifa of Toledo, which are currently part of the province of Guadalajara, in the middle of the night. He kept clear of **Atienza**, which according to *El Cantar* is a "very strong" rock, and continued towards the valley of Henares. In this area the exiled took control over a fortress-town: **Castejón de Henares**, or it might have been **Jadraque**. Together with his company, he 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 cavalymen. The latter won the battle and ran after the defeated generals, reaching the gates of the towns of **Terrer** and **Calatayud**. This route also includes part of the journeys made by his wife Jimena, by his daughters and by his followers on their journeys to Castile and Valencia. The route's most important stretch is the border fortress of **Medinaceli**.

What there is to see?

Atienza and Medinaceli were important settlements along the frontier zone between Al-Andalus and Christian Iberia: these were **militarized settlements meant to function as a frontier defense system**. In between 1085 and 1104 both of them succumbed to the attacks of Leon and Castile. They are situated in the middle of far-reaching and unpopulated open spaces, which used to be raided by thieves and other armed bandits coming from many different places; they were thus dangerous places. At the beginning of the 12th century,

Medinaceli was a frontier zone separating the Castilian territories from the taifa of Zaragoza. This taifa was a brilliant Islamic court, whose princes supported El Cid and remained independent until they were conquered by the Almoravids in the year 1110. In 1120 the King of Aragon Alfonso I, by name Alfonso The Battler, seized Calatayud and the watershed of the river Jalón. However, this territory remained a frontier zone and was the setting for many conflicts between the kingdoms of Aragón and Castile.

Cyclists will come across numerous **castles, stretches of wall and watchtowers**, all of which testify to the traces of this region's past. The castles of Atienza, Jadraque, Pelegrina, Sigüenza, Medinaceli, Montuenga de Soria, Monreal de Ariza are worth a visit and the one in Calatayud is singularly outstanding. As a matter of fact, this is one of the most important Islamic walled towns in Spain. The route runs along four towns which have been declared **Historic and/or Artistic Sites**: Atienza, Sigüenza, Medinaceli and Calatayud and along small quiet rural towns. As you approach the meadow at the river Jalón, in the province of Zaragoza, you will start to see outstanding examples of the **Mudejar art from Aragón**, declared World Heritage.

The route is characterised by the diversity of the land. It starts in Serranía de Atienza at 1320 m above sea level and it ends on the river plains of El Jalón in Calatayud at 536 m above sea level. The route crosses through the natural spaces of Parameras de Maranchón and Layna and the juniper forests and riverbanks of the Jalón. If you have the time and strength necessary to visit Barranco de Río Dulce, follow the directions for Pelegrina (less than 10 km both ways) when you reach Sigüenza (1.5 km away). In Pelegrina you will enjoy a 360-degree view over the impressive limestone canyon, which is where the late naturalist Félix Rodríguez de La Fuente shot many of his documentaries.

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

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



Fact Sheet

Distance	252 km	Cumulative ascent	2.345 m	Physical difficulty	Low
Estimated time	4 días	Cumulative descent	3.030 m	Technical difficulty	Low

Information for bicycle tourists

The route runs mainly along secondary roads. There are two main spots that require special attention on the part of bicycle tourists: a) the stretch between Alcolea del Pinar and Luzón, most of which runs along national road number 231, though 11 km have a good hard shoulder and do not pose problems; b) the stretches between Montuenga de Soria - Santa María de Huerta (2.4 km) and between Ariza - Alhama (11 km), which run along highway A2, where traffic is very heavy. Although it is not prohibited to ride a bicycle along this stretch of highway and the hard shoulder is wide, we recommend that you use the MBT route or you ride along the road service that runs parallel to the highway: even if these roads are unpaved, their surface is in good condition.

Road surface condition and traffic

This section contains information about hard shoulders, road surfaces, traffic lanes and traffic volume. Note that the condition of hard shoulders and road surfaces can vary depending on maintenance work, which means that there may be some improve-

ments that are not recorded here. Traffic alerts are subjective for they are based on the authors' experience and may vary depending on the period of the year and the days of the week (for example, weekends and bank holidays).

Weather

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 it 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 Max/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°
Total daylight time for any 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

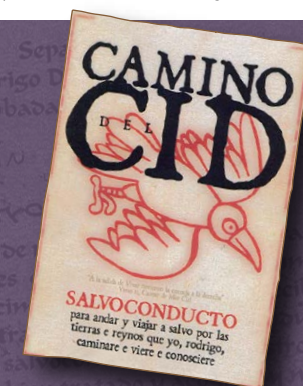
Monthly weather average for the village of Medinaceli, which may be used as a reference all along El Destierro route

The Passport

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



Consorcio Camino del Cid
C/ Madrid 24, 09002 Burgos
info@caminodelcid.org
Tel.: +34 947 256 240



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

ATIENZA

▪ OFICINA DE TURISMO: Calle 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 - 949399000 / 677994483

HIENDELAENCINA

CR LA PERLA: C/ La Perla, 29 - 616206156

JADRAQUE

▪ OFICINA DE TURISMO: Pl.de Jovellanos, s/n - 949890168

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. de España, 2 - 949890000

LA TOBA

BAR AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. de la Concordia, 1 - 949892515

CR LA MANSIÓN DE LA TOBA: C/ Oscura, 13 - 625177364

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

CR EL RINCÓN DE LA FUENTE VIEJA: Pl. Juan Antonio B., 9 -

619414327 / 606318727

MATILLAS

AYUNTAMIENTO: Pl. Mayor, s/n - 949305078 / 608019938

HS RIJUJAMA: Barrio 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

HSPUERTA MEDINA: C/ Serrano Sanz, 9 - 949391565

HOSPEDERÍA PORTA COELI: C/ Mayor, 50 - 949391875

ALBERGUE 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

▪ OFIC. TURISMO: Campo de S. Nicolás s/n - 6975326347

CR LA ANTIGUA FONDA: Pl. de la Estación, 4 - 975326393

HS RAFA: Avda. Madrid, 32 - 975326453

HS NICOLÁS: Avda. Madrid, 46 - 660097308

SANTA MARÍA DE HUERTA

AYUNTAMIENTO: Barrio de la Estación, s/n - 975327006

MONASTERIO CISTERCIENSE: C/ San Bernardo, s/n - 975327002

BAR REMACHA: C/ San Bernardo - 975327101

CR MARQUÉS DE CARRALBO: C/ Marqués de Cerralbo, 33

975327222/680658388

ZARAGOZA

ALHAMA DE ARAGÓN

▪ OFICINA DE 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 Hostal, 18 - 976845095

H EL ARAL: Autovía A-2 Madrid Zaragoza km 197 - 976845736

H LA CADIERA: Autovía A-2 Madrid Zaragoza km 197 - 976845154

ATECA

▪ OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. España, 5 - 976842005

HS RESTAURANTE EL BODEGÓN: C/ Goya, 32 - 676996640

H CASTILLO DE ATECA: C/ Castillo, 2 - 976842817/640653536

CALATAYUD

▪ OFICINA TURISMO: Pl. España, 1 - 976886322

H POSADA ARCO DE SAN MIGUEL: C/ S. Miguel, 18 - 976887272

H MONASTERIO BENEDICTINO: Pl. San Benito, 1 - 976891500

H MARIVELLA: Autovía Madrid-Zaragoza, km 242 - 976881237

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

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

AYUNTAMIENTO: C/ La Fuente, 6 - 975327112 / 636469422

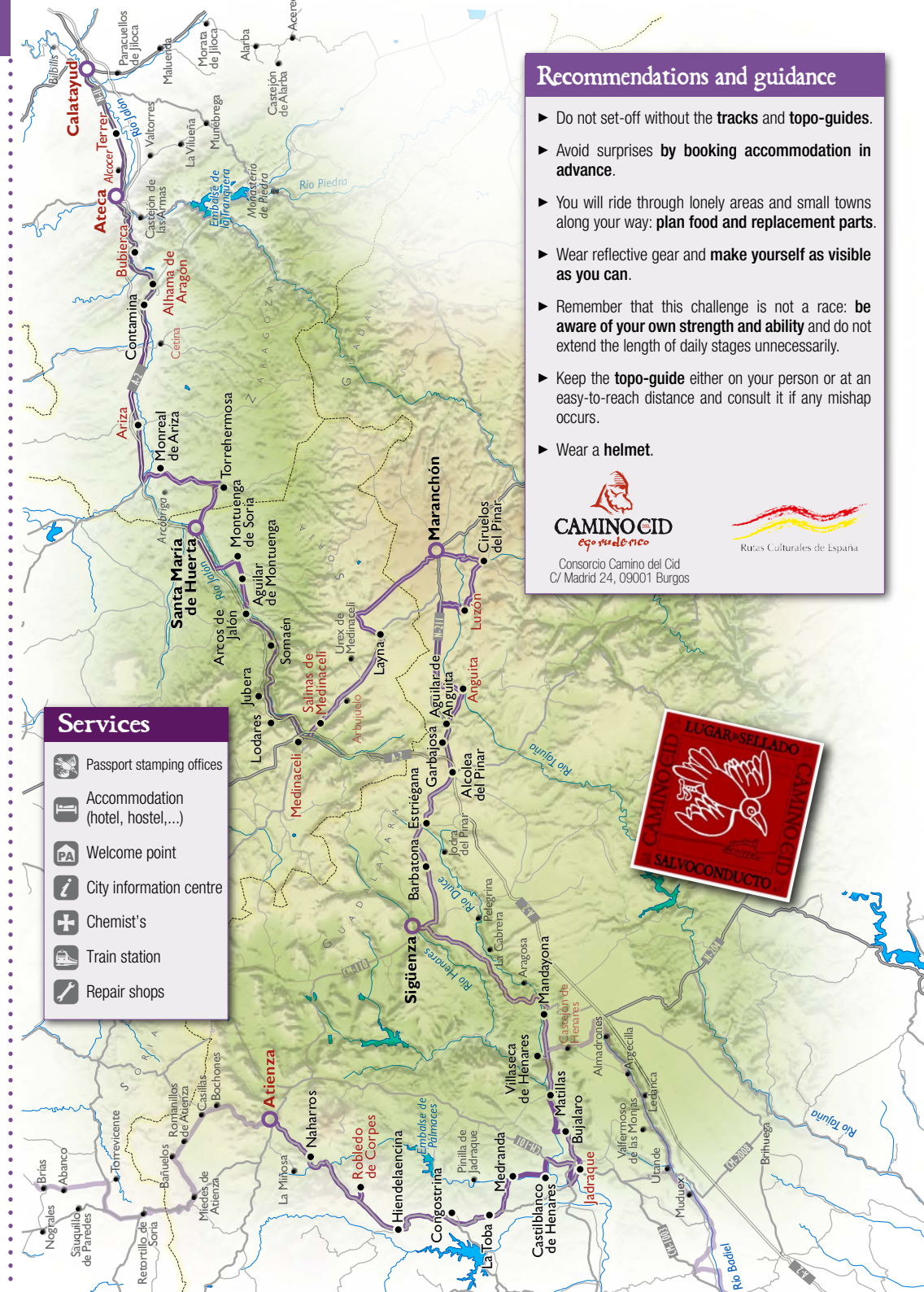
Use this QR code to access website content relating to the road bicycle tour section of The Borderlands Route.

You can download all relevant information: maps, topo-guides, tracks, list of accommodations, passport stamping offices, tourist offices, etc.



Stages (252 km)

- ▶ Atienza - Sigüenza (82,5 km)
- ▶ Sigüenza - Maranchón (52,4 km)
- ▶ Maranchón - Santa María de Huerta (57,6 km)
- ▶ Santa María de Huerta - Calatayud (59,5 km)



Services

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



Recommendations and guidance

- ▶ Do not set-off without the **tracks** and **topo-guides**.
- ▶ Avoid surprises by **booking accommodation in advance**.
- ▶ You will ride through lonely areas and small towns along your way: **plan food and replacement parts**.
- ▶ Wear reflective gear and **make yourself as visible as you can**.
- ▶ Remember that this challenge is not a race: **be aware of your own strength and ability** and do not extend the length of daily stages unnecessarily.
- ▶ 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**.

Consortorio Camino del Cid
C/ Madrid 24, 09001 Burgos



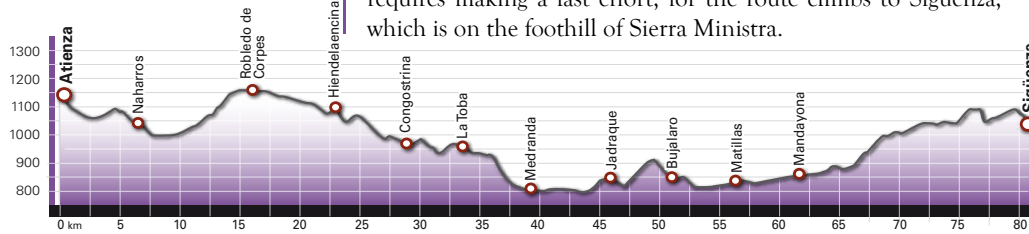
The Borderlands 1

Atienza - Sigüenza

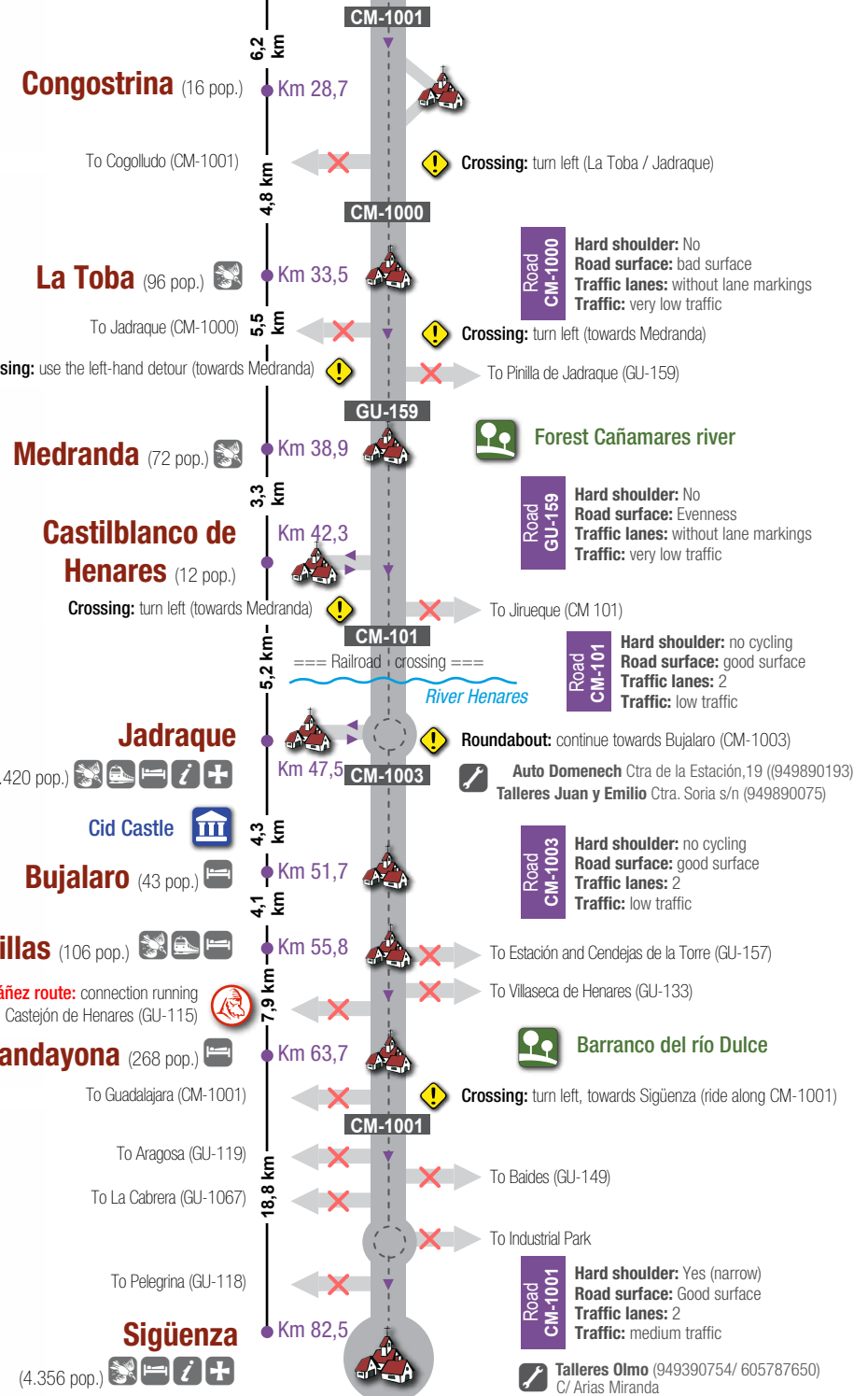
1. Atienza - Sigüenza

- 2. Sigüenza - Maranchón
- 3. Maranchón - Santa María de Huerta
- 4. S. M. de Huerta - Ateca / Calatayud

This is a long and demanding stage, which starts at the centre of the mountain range of Atienza and then descends towards the fertile meadows on the banks of the rivers Henares and Dulce. Cyclists will enjoy the solitude of lonely landscapes that hide geological treasures buried in colourful forests and canyon walls. The route also includes rides through leafy forests made of Pyrenean oaks and pine trees and along hillsides covered with rockroses and heather. The final stretch, starting at Mandayona, requires making a last effort, for the route climbs to Sigüenza, which is on the foothill of Sierra Ministra.



Fact Sheet	Distance 80,5 km	Cumulative ascent 950 m	Estimated time 6 h 45 m
	Difficulty High	Cumulative descent 1125 m	Type of route Linear
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 72 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement





The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

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

Scale 1:150.000

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

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The Borderlands 2

Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

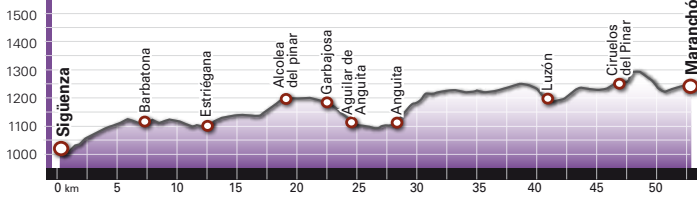
Sigüenza - Maranchón

Stage

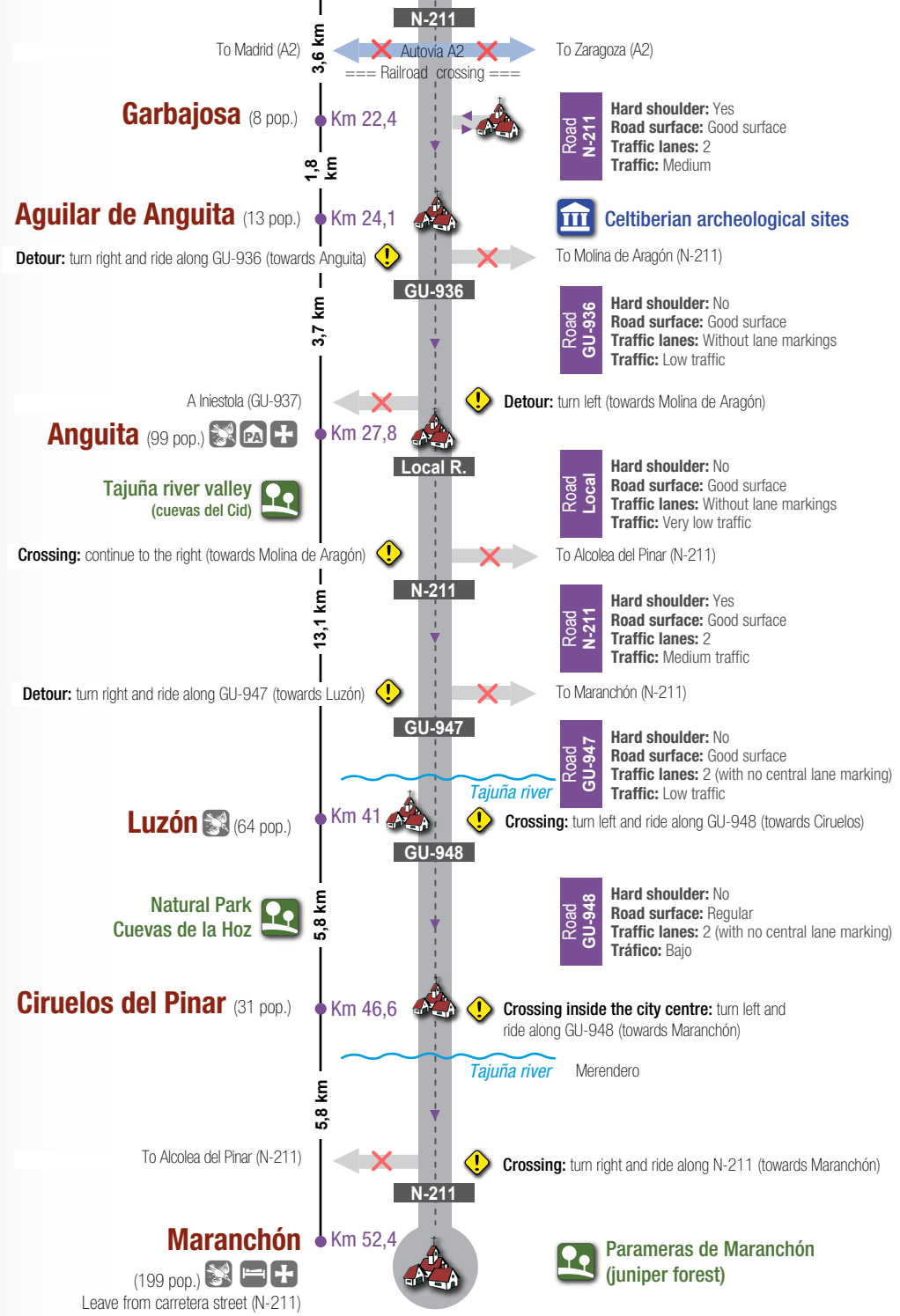
Edition 2020

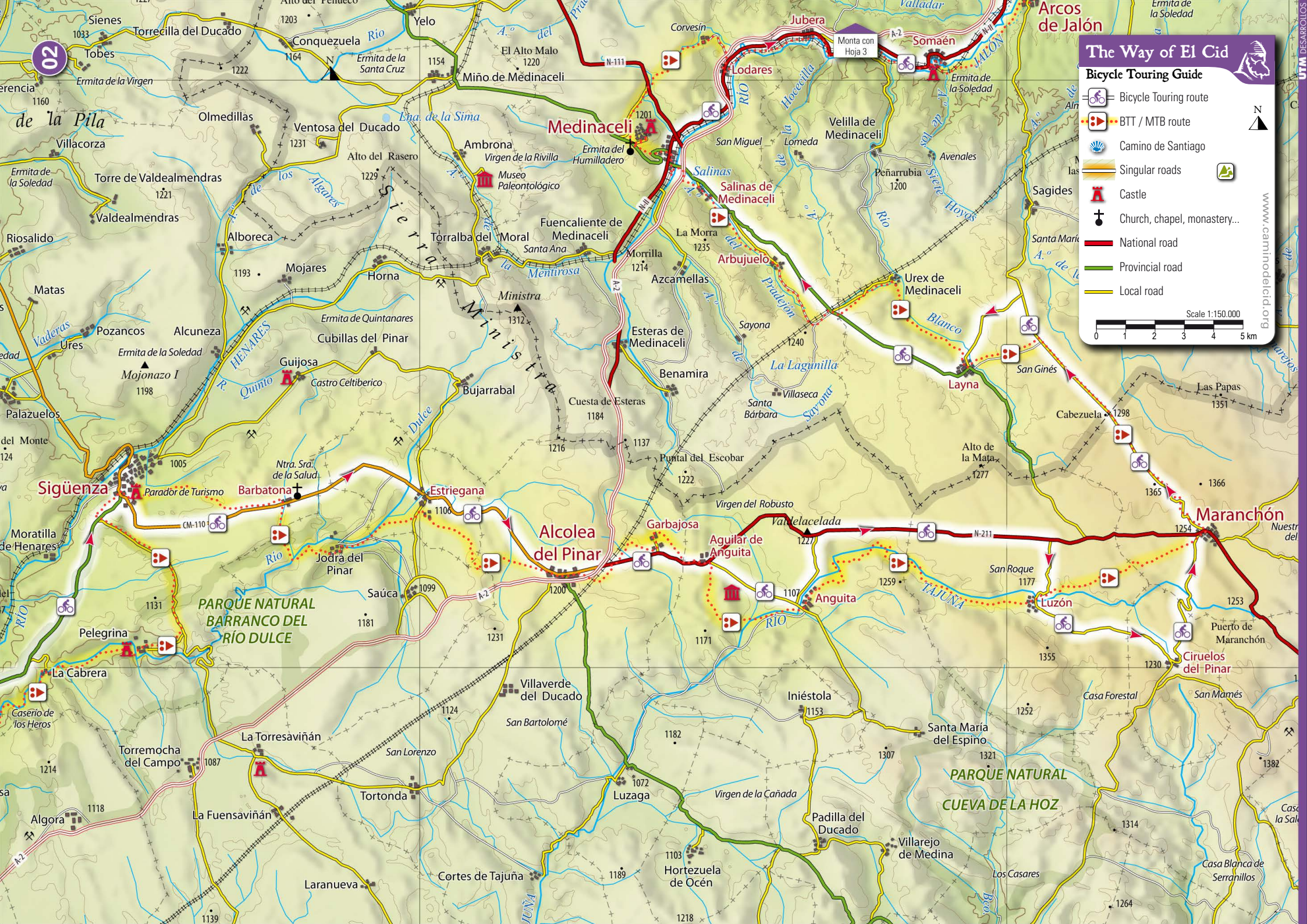
1. Atienza - Sigüenza
- 2. Sigüenza - Maranchón**
3. Maranchón - Santa María de Huerta
4. S. M. de Huerta - Ateca / Calatayud

Slow down and take your time to visit the town of Sigüenza, of great artistic and historical value. In order to ensure you recover from the previous effort stage, this stage is relaxing. After the large pine grove in the area surrounding Sigüenza, you will ride through forests of oak trees and Pyrenean oaks. You will not encounter crop fields until reaching flat areas and small meadow areas. When approaching Alcolea del Pinar, ride into road N-211 and continue upstream with extreme care. After turning towards Anguita and Luzón, ride upstream alongside the river Tajuña, climbing towards the high moorland of Maranchón.



Fact Sheet	Distance 52,8 km	Cumulative ascent 640 m	Estimated time 4 h 15 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 375 m	Type of route Linear
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 43 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement





The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

- Bicycle Touring route
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Scale 1:150.000

0 1 2 3 4 5 km

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The Borderlands 3

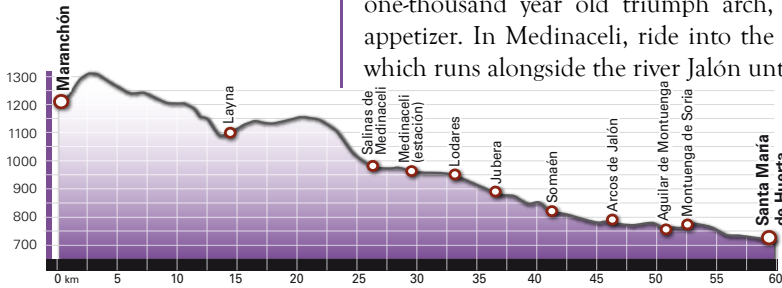
Bicycle Touring Guide for The Way of El Cid

Maranchón - Sta. María de Huerta

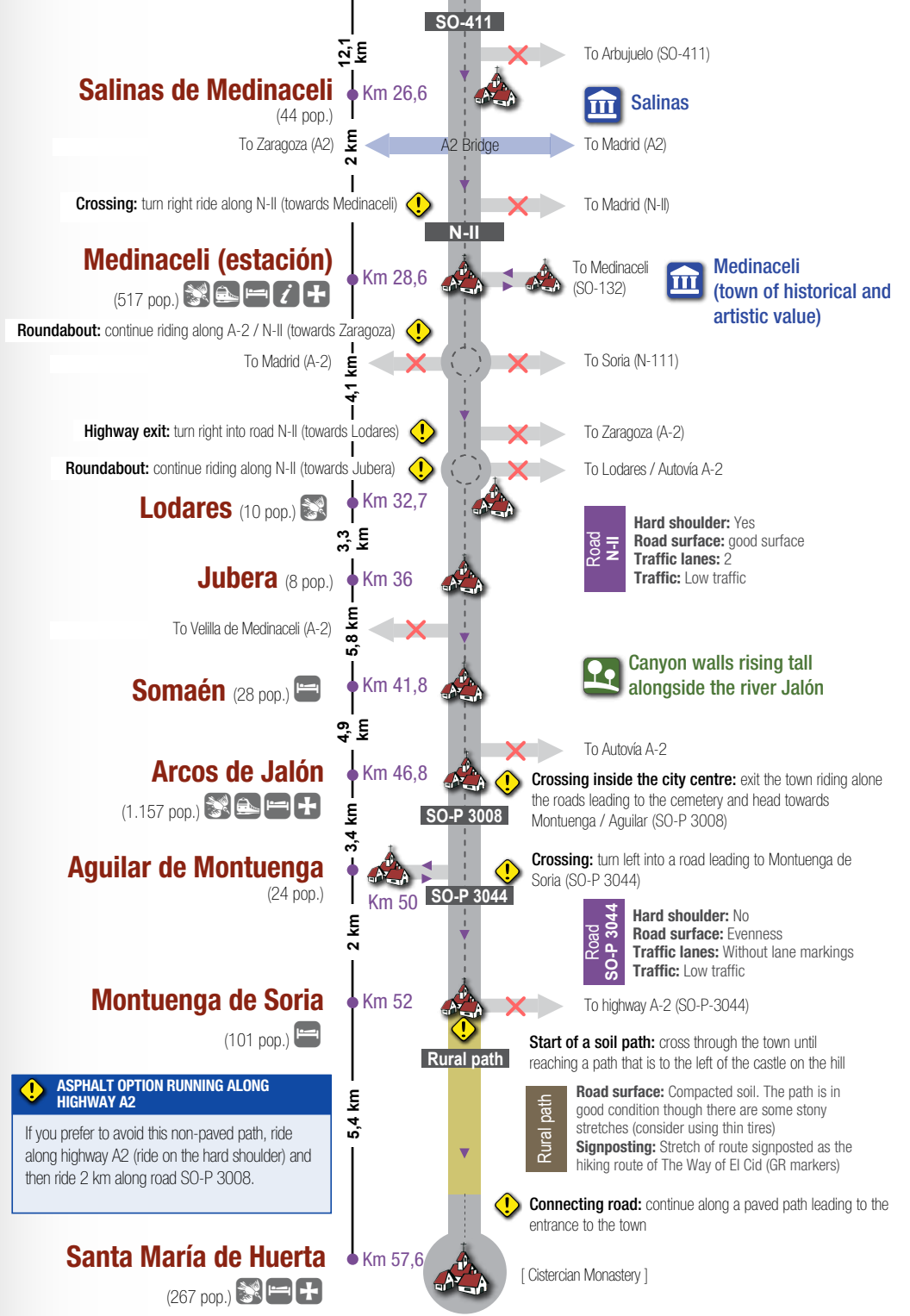
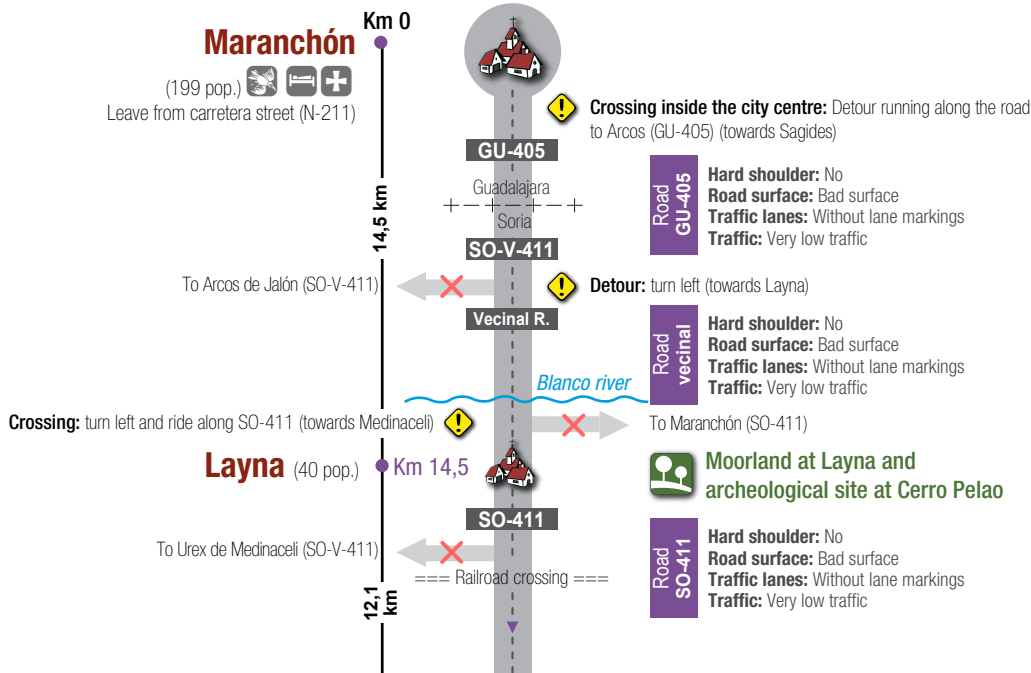
Stage

1. Atienza - Sigüenza
2. Sigüenza - Maranchón
3. Maranchón - Sta. María de Huerta
4. S. M. de Huerta - Ateca / Calatayud

This is a stage of transition between the high moorland areas in Castile and the valley at the river Jalón. The initial stretch of this stage runs along lonely roads located in the midst of landscapes made of groves of juniper trees and lyceum plants. Your peace will only be disturbed by wind turbines. The silhouette of Medinaceli, with its one-thousand year old triumph arch, is an encouraging appetizer. In Medinaceli, ride into the easy old N-II road, which runs alongside the river Jalón until reaching Arcos.



Fact Sheet	Distance 59,2 km	Cumulative ascent 300 m	Estimated time 4 h 15 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 850 m	Type of route Linear
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 36 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement



The Way of El Cid

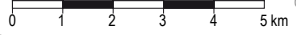
Bicycle Touring Guide

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-  Local road



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Scale 1:150,000



ASPHALT OPTION RUNNING ALONG HIGHWAY A2
If you prefer to avoid this non-paved path, ride along highway A2 (ride on the hard shoulder)

03



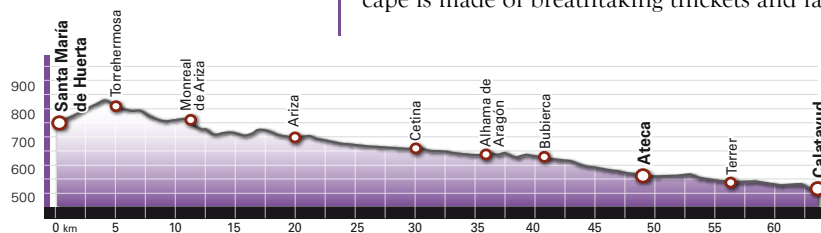


Sta. M. de Huerta - Ateca / Calatayud

Edition 2020

- Atienza - Atienza
- Sigüenza - Maranchón
- Maranchón - Santa María de Huerta
- S. M. de Huerta - Ateca / Calatayud**

The impressive Cistercian monastery in Santa María de Huerta is the starting point for this easy, flat stage. The route runs alongside the river Jalón, which marked the northeast entrance to the Iberian Peninsula for many centuries. This frontier zone between the kingdom of Castile and the kingdom of Aragón is packed with castles. However, the main feature of the area is water, thanks to which the landscape is made of breathtaking thickets and famous orchards.



Fact Sheet	Distance 63,7 km	Cumulative ascent 350 m	Estimated time 5 h 30 m
	Difficulty Medium	Cumulative descent 650 m	Type of route Linear
	Signposting Yes	IBP Difficulty index 53 RDB	Road surface Asphalt pavement

Santa María de Huerta

(267 pop.)

Km 0



SO-P 3010

Soria

Zaragoza

CV-623

Torrehermosa

(63 pop.)

6,9 km



CV-937

Rural path

Road SO-P 3010
 Hard shoulder: No
 Road surface: Evenness
 Traffic lanes: Without lane markings
 Traffic: Very low traffic

Road CV-623
 Hard shoulder: No
 Road surface: Evenness
 Traffic lanes: Without lane markings
 Traffic: Very low traffic

Road CV-937
 Hard shoulder: no cycling
 Road surface: good surface
 Traffic lanes: Without lane markings
 Traffic: Low traffic

Crossing: when approaching the town, ride off the road To A-2 highway (CV-937)

Monreal de Ariza

(207 pop.)

4,9 km



Rural path

Start of a soil path: cross through the town riding along Calle Mayor; when reaching the exit, turn into a path

ASPHALT OPTION RUNNING ALONG HIGHWAY A2

If you prefer to avoid this non-paved path, ride along highway A2 (ride on the hard shoulder)

4,9 km

Ariza

(1.122 pop.)

To Cabola Fuente (Z-CV-302)

Km 17,1



Jalón River

Rural path
 Road surface: Compacted soil. The path is in good condition though there are some stony stretches (consider using thin tires)
 Signposting: Stretch of route signposted as the hiking route of The Way of El Cid (GR markers)

Crossing: continue straight riding along a paved path

Roman bridge and road

To Ariza and highway A2

Crossing: start of a soil path

Rural Path

Rural path
 Road surface: Compacted soil. The path is in good condition though there are some stony stretches (consider using thin tires)
 Signposting: Stretch of route signposted as the hiking route of The Way of El Cid (GR markers)

Urban stretch of route: cross through Cetina riding along Arrabal street and exit the town riding along a path that runs close to a washing placelavadero

To A2 highway (A-2501)

Crossing: start of a soil path

Rural Path

Rural path
 Road surface: Compacted soil. The path is in good condition though there are some stony stretches (consider using thin tires)
 Signposting: Stretch of route signposted as the hiking route of The Way of El Cid (GR markers)

Asphalted stretch of route

Urban stretch of route: cross through Alhama and ride along Avenida de Aragón until reaching road N-11a (towards Calatayud)

Alhama de Aragón

(1.029 pop.)

6,2 km

Km 31,8

N-11a

To Zaragoza / Madrid (highway A-2)

Bubierca

(60 pop.)

5,4 km

Km 37,2

Highway A2

To Castejón de las Armas (A-1501)

Riverbanks of the Jalón

Road N-11a
 Hard shoulder: Yes
 Road surface: Good surface
 Traffic lanes: 2
 Traffic: Low traffic

Ateca

(1.780 pop.)

7,7 km

Km 44,9

To Villalengua (A-1502)

Terrer

(470 pop.)

7,6 km

Km 52,4

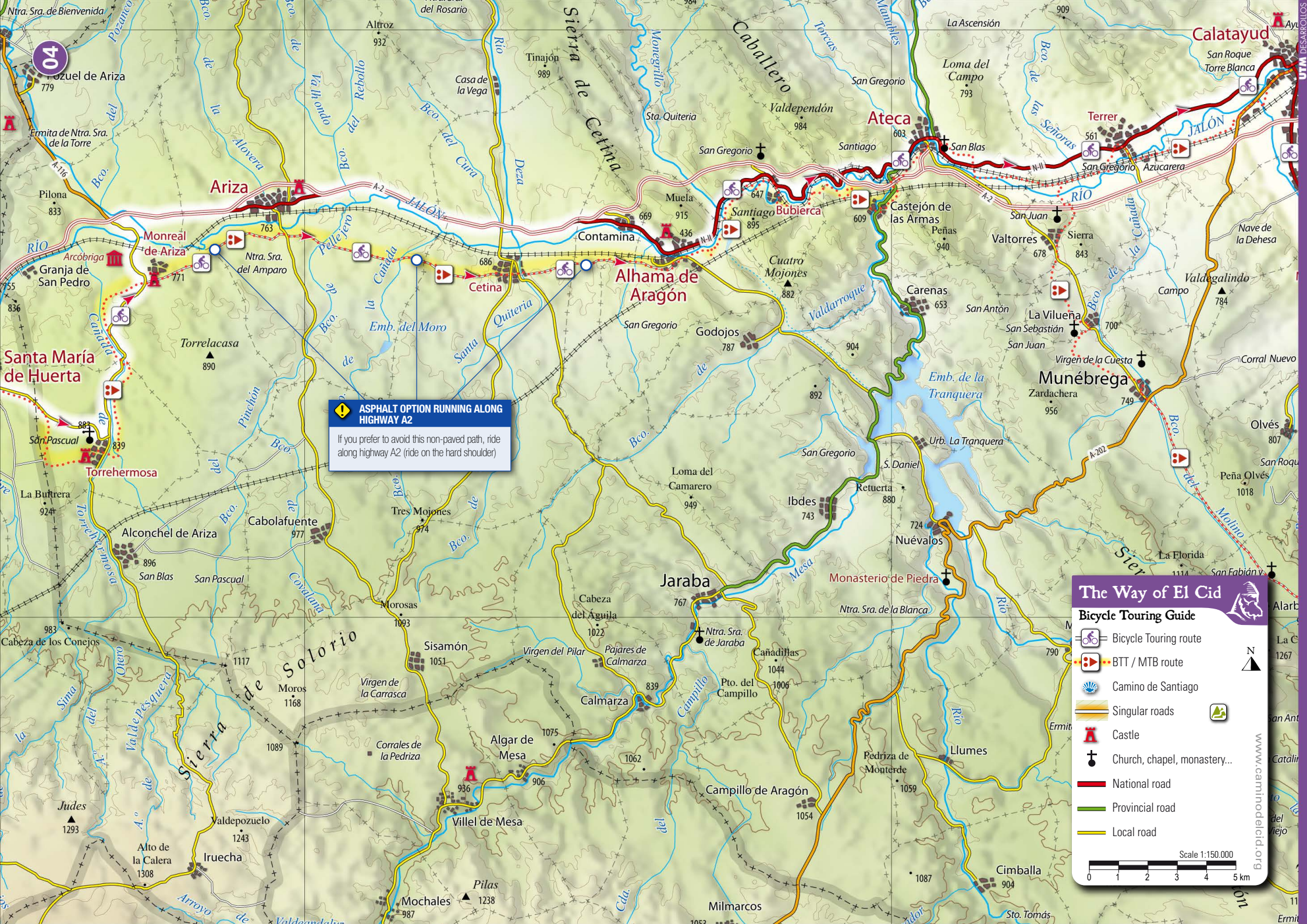
Calatayud

(19.753 pop.)

6,8 km

Km 59,3










CALATAYUD:
 Zona Joven
 Pº Ramón y Cajal, 11 (976884700)
 Cabestrero Bikes
 Gáldar, 7 (976881619)
 Decathlon Calatayud
 Carretera Nuévalos-Monasterio de Piedra



ASPHALT OPTION RUNNING ALONG HIGHWAY A2
 If you prefer to avoid this non-paved path, ride along highway A2 (ride on the hard shoulder)

The Way of El Cid

Bicycle Touring Guide

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Scale 1:150.000
 0 1 2 3 4 5 km

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