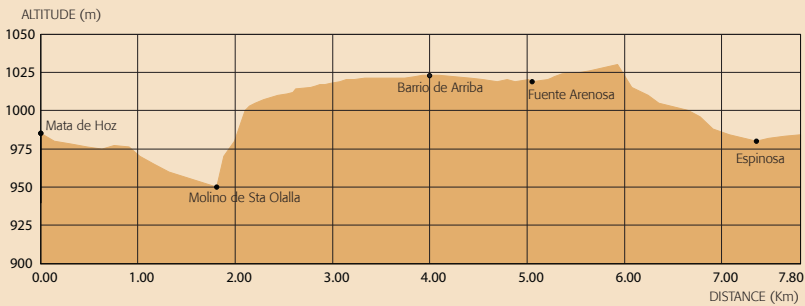


Route RÍO CAMESA

CARTOGRAPHY
Cartography: Mapa Topográfico Nacional (IGN) Escala 1:25.000
Hoja 107-II Brañosera, 107-IV Barruelo de Santullán, 108-I Matamorosa y 108-III Mataporquera. Proyección UTM, Huso 30N.

Longitudinal profile of the route:



FACT SHEET

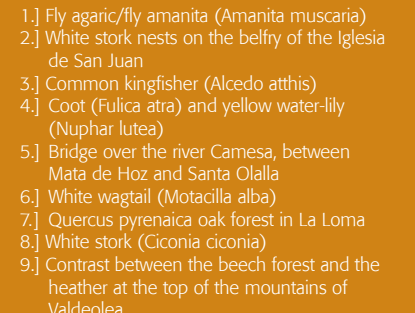
Duration	4 h	Cumulative loss (-)	85 m
Height gained	40 m	Horizontal distance	7,8 km
Height lost	40 m	Type of route	circular
Cumulative gain (+)	95 m	Type of ground	path/track

Río Camesa		
Place names	UTM Coordinates	Altitude
Start and finish point:		
Iglesia Mata de Hoz	30 T 400508 4754174	980 m
Molino Santa Olalla	30 T 401744 4753920	950 m
Mata de Hoz (Barrio de Arriba)	30 T 400517 4754578	1.023 m
Fuente Arenosa	30 T 399648 4754854	1.019 m
Espinosa	30 T 400636 4753636	982 m

HABITATS

6510	Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> , <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>).
6170	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands.
6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites).
6220	Pseudo-steppe with grasses and annuals of the Thero-Brachypodietea.
91 EO (*)	Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae).
92 AO	<i>Salix alba</i> and <i>Populus alba</i> galleries
9230	Galicio-Portuguese oak woods with <i>Quercus robur</i> and <i>Quercus pyrenaica</i> .
4030	European dry heaths: <i>Erica vagans</i> , <i>Erica cinerea</i> , <i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> , <i>Ulex europaeus</i> , <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> .
4090	Endemic oro-Mediterranean heaths with gorse.

(*) Priority habitat: habitats in the European Union for which the European Council has a special responsibility due to their delicate state.
Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.



Itinerary DESCRIPTION

Despite its reduced size and its modest looks, the **river Camesa** represents an outstanding environmental peculiarity in the areas with an Atlantic climate, as it is the only river in Cantabria which flows into the Duero's basin, as a tributary of the river Pisuerga. Its meandering path through an environment with Mediterranean characteristics forms the origin of the name, cited in the 12th century as Camesía, which comes from the celtic root CAMB with its etymology referring to a curving shape. The river Camesa has its source on the Southern face of the **Sierra de Híjar**, among broom and heather from the Peña Rubia basin in Palencia. In its headwaters, it stands out due to its extraordinarily well preserved river bank environment and the high quality of its waters, which leads to the presence of mammals such as the European otter (*Lutra lutra*), fish such as bermejuela (*Rutilus arcasii*) and the Iberian nase (*Chondrostoma toxostoma*), which are Atlantic taxons found in the Annex II of the Habitats Directive, on the conservation of natural habitats and wild fauna and flora. In the region, but exclusively in the Camesa there are barbus bocagei, bordanillo (*Squalius carolitertii*) and the South West European nase. Oak forests and heather are the largest ecosystems in the area. The river bank vegetation, makes a very attractive landscape and is mainly made up of willow and black poplar. The composition of the willow forests vary along the river course: when the river is steeper, in its headwaters, there are more *Salix atrocinerea*, whilst *Salix elaeagnos* is more common in lower stretches, where the flow is more stable and constant. Black poplar is the other species existing on these banks, whereas the black alder, so common in the rest of fluvial banks of Cantabria, is not found. The suggested route departs from the Roman church of **San Juan Bautista de Mata de Hoz**, with a Bien de Interés Cultural award (a category of the Spanish heritage register) since 1993. Among the fields of the valley we can access Santa Olalla, where the visitor will see a flour mill mentioned in the 18th century Land Registry by the Marqués de la Ensenada. La Loma, the area of Arriba de Mata de Hoz, Fuente Arenosa creek which is very adequate for amphibians watching, and Espinosa, are compulsory stops on the route.



Significant SPECIES

- **Aquatic birds:** Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*).
- **Birds of prey:** Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), Short-toed snake eagle (*Circus gallicus*), Booted eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*), Hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), Montagu's harrier (*Circus pygargus*), Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), Common buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), Red kite (*Milvus milvus*), Northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Lesser kestrel (*Falco naumanni*), Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*), Tawny owl (*Strix aluco*), Little owl (*Athene noctua*).
- **Other birds:** Eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*), Red-backed shrike (*Lanius collurio*), Woodchat shrike (*Lanius senator*), Marsh tit (*Parus palustris*), Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*), Eurasian skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), Common house martin (*Delichon urbica*), Grey wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*), White-throated dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*), Common kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), Black redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*), Dartford warbler (*Sylvia undata*), Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), White stork (*Ciconia ciconia*).
- **Mammals:** Stoat (*Mustela erminea*), Beech Marten (*Martes foina*), European pine marten (*Martes martes*), Least weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), European otter (*Lutra lutra*), European roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), Red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), Granada hare (*Lepus granatensis*), Gray wolf (*Canis lupus*).
- **Amphibians:** Common midwife toad (*Alytes obstetricans*), Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*), Perez's frog (*Rana perezi*), Common frog (*Rana temporaria*), European tree frog (*Hyla arborea*), Fire salamander (*Salamandra salamandra*), Alpine newt (*Mesotriton alpestris*), Palmate newt (*Triturus helveticus*), Marbled newt (*Triturus marmoratus*).
- **Reptiles:** Iberian emerald lizard (*Lacerta schreiberi*), European green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*), Common wall lizard (*Podarcis muralis*), Baskian viper (*Vipera seoanei*), Smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*), Grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), Southern smooth snake (*Coronella girondica*).
- **Invertebrates:** Stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*), European freshwater crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*), Marsh fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*).
- **Fish:** Brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), South-west european nase (*Chondrostoma toxostoma*), Luciobarbus bocagei (*Barbus bocagei*), Gudgeon (*Gobio gobio*).
- **Plants:** Narcissus asturiensis (*Narcissus asturiensis*), Yellow water-lily (*Nuphar luteum*).

[Walking routes throughout the Protected Natural Spaces of Cantabria]



Río Camesa

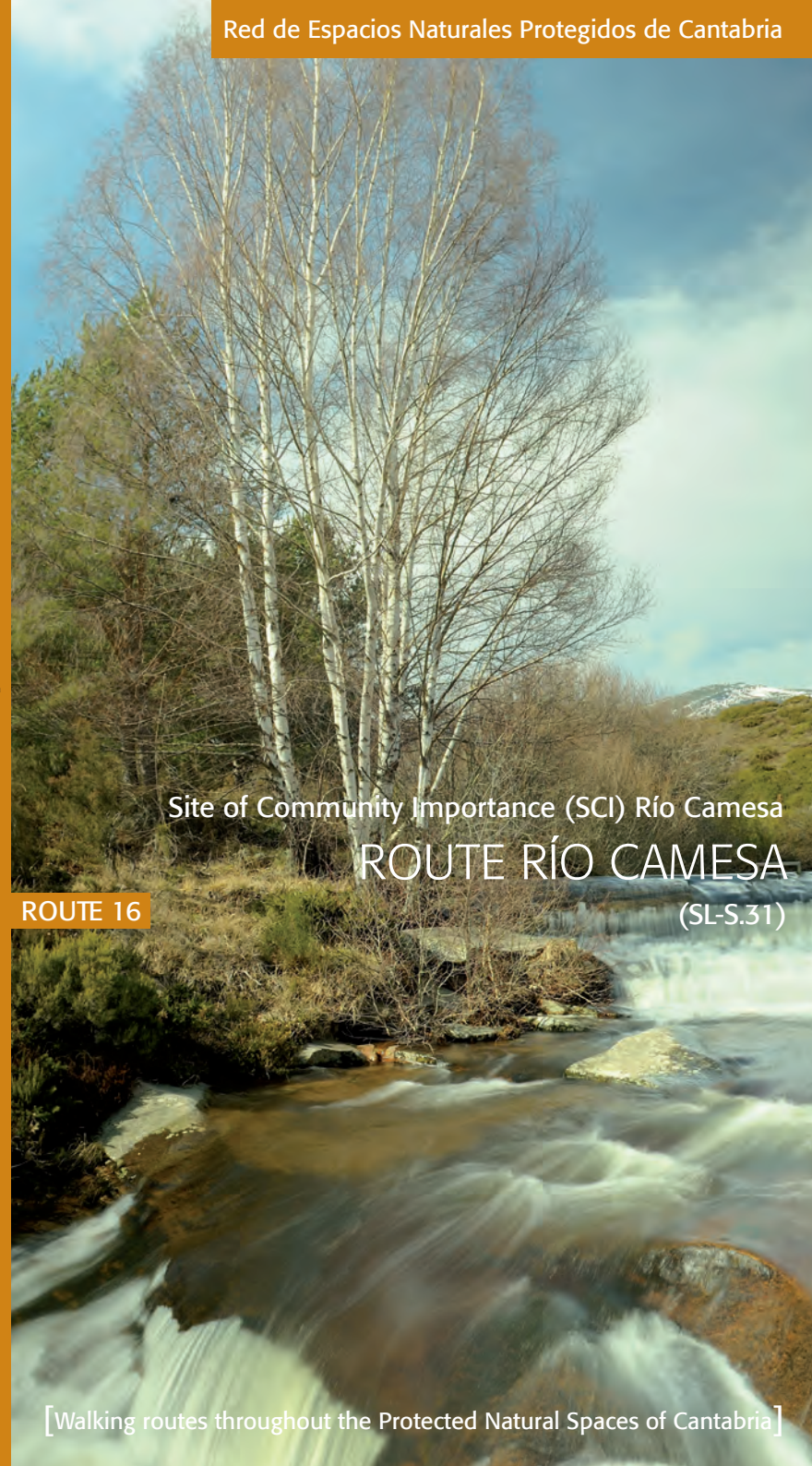
Start of the route

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Red de Espacios Naturales Protegidos de Cantabria



Site of Community Importance (SCI) Río Camesa ROUTE RÍO CAMESA (SL-S.31)

ROUTE 16

[Walking routes throughout the Protected Natural Spaces of Cantabria]