Route

BÁRCENA MAYOR-OZCABA

CARTOGRAPHY

Cartography: Mapa Topográfico Nacional (IGN) Escala 1:25.000 Hojas 82-II Los Tojos y 82-III Valdeprado. Proyección UTM, Huso 30N.

Longitudinal profile of the route:



FACT SHEET

ı	Duration	6 h (return	rtrip)	Cumulative loss (-)	634 m	
l	Height gained	576 m		Horizontal distance	20,7 km (return trip)	
	Height lost	576 m		Type of route	linear (return trip)	
	Cumulative gain (+)	634 m		Type of ground	path/track	
	Bárcena Mayor-Ozcaba					
	Place names		UTM Coordinates		Altitude	
	Start and finish point: Bárcena					
	Mayor car park		30	T 402822 4777951	505 m	
	Ermita del Carmen		30	T 404348 4776407	575 m	
	Casas de Avellanedo		30 T 401675 4773933		783 m	
	Venta de Mobejo		30	T 401427 4773032	882 m	
	Refugio de Ozcaba		30	T 399652 4771591	1.060 m	

HARITATS

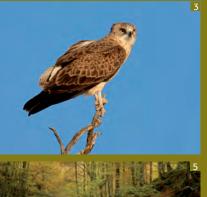
TIADHATS				
9230	Galicio-Portuguese oak woods with Quercus robur and Quercus pyrenaica.			
9120	9120 Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with Ilex and sometimes also Taxus in			
	the shrublayer (Quercion roboripetraeae or Ilici-Fagenion).			
91EO*	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion,			
	Alnion incanae, Salicion albae).			
4030	European dry heaths.			
9380	9380 Forests of Ilex aquifolium.			
4020*	4020* Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with Erica ciliaris and Erica tetralix.			
6430	6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane			
	alpine levels.			
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation.			
8230	Siliceous rock with pioneer vegetation of the Sedo-Scleranthion or of the			
	Sedo albi-Veronicion dillenii.			

(*) Priority habitat: habitats in the European Union which the European Council has a special responsibility, due to

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

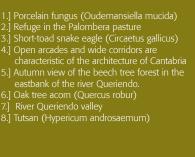
















DESCRIPTION

The highlight of this route is the historic value of the roman road located at the Collado de Somahoz, which used to communicate coastal Cantabria with Herrera de Pisuerga, the old Pisoraca.

We set off from **Bárcena Mayor** going through the streets of the medieval centre, declared an Historical Artistic town by UNESCO in 1979. After crossing the river Argoza we go up to the left, towards the ermita del Carmen.

In the first stage of the ascent we can observe a hundred year old chesnuts and oak trees. The mixed surrounding forest is a mixture of ash, oak, birch and hazel. Leaving the chapel behind, the oaks (Quercus pyrenaica) and some examples of strawberry trees seem to draw a Mediterranean landscape, which contrasts with the beech

tree forest from the east bank of the river Queriendo. Going through a Monterrey/Insignis pine plantation, we will soon reach a group of buildings in ruins, known as "Casas de Avellanedo", which had a lot to do with the comings and goings of the path in past times. The vegetation has changed, and is now dominated by beech, hazel and holly. The way, rather faded, has now turned into a path which still has, in some places, the original cobbled

Afterwards we reach the remains of an old inn, Mobejo, currently used as a livestock farm. Further on we access a forest track that runs through a beech tree forest, with lines of holly and hazel.

Exiting the forest, in Ozcaba, there is a high mountain pasture, with two big fountains used as livestock troughs during the last month of spring and a good part of the summer.



SPECIES

- · Birds of prey: Griffon vulture (Gyps fulvus), Golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), Egyptian vulture (Neophron percnopterus), Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus), Peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus), Northern goshawk (Accipiter gentilis), Common kestrel (Falco tinnunculus), Long-eared owl (Asio otus), Tawny owl (Strix aluco), Little owl (Athene noctua), Barn owl (Tyto alba), Short-toed snake eagle (Circaetus gallicus), European honey buzzard (Pernis apivorus), Eurasian sparrowhawk (Accipiter nisus), Booted eagle (Hieraaetus pennatus).
- Other birds: in addition to an excellent representation of passerine birds we can find wood peckers such as the Middle spotted woodpecker (Dendrocopos medius), Great spotted woodpecker (Dendrocopos major), Black woodpecker (Dryocopus martius), European green woodpecker (Picus viridis), Red-billed chough (Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax), Red-legged partridge (Alectoris rufa).
- · Mammals: Gray wolf (Canis lupus), Red fox (Vulpes vulpes), Wildcat (Felis sylvestris), European pine marten (Martes martes), Stoat (Mustela erminea), European hedgehog (Erinaceus europeus), European badger (Meles meles), European roe deer (Capreolus capreolus), Pyrenaen desman (Galemys pyrenaicus), European otter (Lutra lutra), Beech marten (Martes foina), Common genet (Genetta genetta), Wild boar (Sus scrofa), Red deer (Cervus elaphus), Spanish mole (Talpa occidentalis).
- · Amphibians: Fire salamander (Salamandra salamandra), Common midwife toad (Alytes obstetricans), Common frog (Rana temporaria), Common toad (Bufo bufo), Palmate newt (Lissotriton helveticus), Alpine newt (Mesotriton alpestris).
- Reptiles: Grass snake (Natrix natrix), Baskian viper (Vipera seoanei), Slow worm (Anguis fragilis), Common wall lizard (Podarcis muralis).
- · Invertebrates: Quimper snail (Elona quimperiana).
- · Fish: Brown trout (Salmo trutta).

