

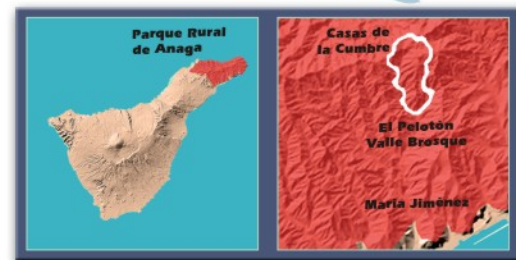
A ROUTE BETWEEN DIRT ROADS AND ROYAL ROADS

The path that you will take consists of two sections that meet in the center of the settlement of El Pelotón, located at the bottom of Brosque Valley.

The first one descends down a steep dirt road used by the locals to connect with the village of Las Casas de la Cumbre and El Pelotón, with their gardens and properties. This road is known as Mataborricos. Its name is very old and even the neighbours do not know its true meaning. Some say that the old pack animals that were no longer useful were plunged from the slopes. For others, its name comes from a donkey who did not survive the steep slope carrying hundreds of kilos of goods.

The second section in contrast, is a hard climb on an old Royal Road. These roads were public, were well drawn, made of stone and its width should allow passage of the animals with ease, so they had continual maintenance.

This Royal Road was the communication and trade link with other settlements, such as Taganana and Chamorga, or the city of La Laguna. To this end, it was reached at the top of the ridge and from there you could take another Royal Road, the La Cumbre one, which ran from one end of Anaga to the other.



INFORMACIÓN DE INTERÉS:

- ✕ **Distance:** 7,6 kilometres, approximately.
- ✕ **Duration:** 5 hours without stops, 6 hours with stop.
- ✕ **Gradient:** 635 m.
- ✕ **Maximum height:** 900 m. ✕ **Minimum height:** 265 m.
- ✕ **Risk level:** Medium. The lack of vegetation in the summer makes it harder.
- ✕ **Public transport:** Line 076 of TITSA La Laguna-Afur. Line 076 of TITSA La Laguna-El Bailadero.
- ✕ **Suggestions:** Use appropriate footwear. Take a waterproof jacket, jumper, hat, food and water. If you need more supplies, you can buy them on weekends in the Farmers market of Cruz del Carmen. You must take your litter with you until you reach an area with litterbins. Avoid unnecessary noise. Inform somebody of your route. You can learn more about the route at the Visitor Center at Cruz del Carmen.

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Do not throw this leaflet away, take it back or give to another person.



For any suggestions: anagacuenta@cablfe.es
922 63 35 76

Ideas Original, Diseño General y textos: © Erena Planes Integrales, S.L. - Dibujos: Gonzalo Álvarez - Diseño Gráfico y Maquetación: Lorenzo Gorrión
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Self Guided Route

Casas de la Cumbre - Valle Brosque - Casas de la Cumbre



Parque Rural
Anaga

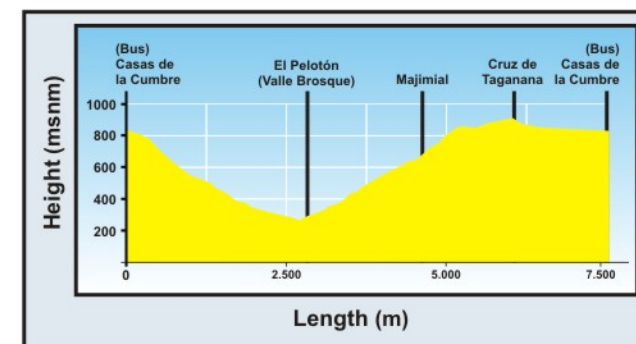
ROUTE DESCRIPTION

This route is part of the Paths Network of Tenerife.

The route begins in the Plaza of Las Casas de la Cumbre and it continues along the road to the Forest Guard's Central Unit in Santa Cruz (formerly a small primary school). It then crosses the road and climbs down the steep path of Mataborricos until it reaches the settlement of El Pelotón. From here the road runs up in a hard climb to the Forest House going through Majimial and Cruz de Taganana. The route continues after a stretch of road where you should exercise caution, then it returns to Las Casas de la Cumbre. In the inside plan of this leaflet you will find an outline of the route with recommended stops labelled. In every one of those stops, there is a brief history or interesting information about the place.

Through this route you can enjoy beautiful scenery, the culture and the local gastronomy as well as the kindness of the people of Anaga.

We recommend that before you start this route, you read the important information enclosed at the back of this leaflet. This way you can attempt this route with all the safety and quality guaranties due to its total distance and time.



- 1** The settlement of Las Casas de la Cumbre has always been the best communicated of Anaga

This outpost was located along the old Camino Real de la Cumbre which disappeared, due largely to the construction of the road. Its location made it the best communicated of Anaga; located a similar distance from all the settlements in the Park; closer than any settlement to Santa Cruz or La Laguna and being the place where the main roads joined.



- 6** Never a name was so successful

This place is known as Safe resting places of Earth and we are sure you have already discovered why. When you arrive at the smooth shaped land is a real break after climbing the steep path carved into living rock, with virtually no vegetation to shelter from the sun, especially in summer. Can you imagine what that meant after climbing up with heavy loads or pulling loads on beasts?

- 2** The name of this building "Cueva Las Vacas" clearly describes its usefulness

As its name suggests, this cave was used to keep cows, which is also revealed by the trough which can be found inside it. Today, we find it strange that the cows were kept so far from home, but then it was quite common. This land is all private and the neighbours travelled up and down every day to care for cattle and work the land.



- 3** The willows reveal the continued presence of water

These trees found in the channel of the ravine are Canarian willows. They are only found in the channels where water runs at least six months a year. So while in the summer the ravine may seem dry, the presence of this plant reveals that underground there is water. If you look carefully, you'll discover how they form a grove called sauceda along the channel of El Pelotón.



Sauce canario
(*Salix canariensis*)

- 5** In Majimial an old saying is met

On the ridge of Majimial an old saying is met: "Let flat land be for farming and build houses on the crags and ridges." In this case, the houses were fitted in the caves located high on the ridge and the flattest land devoted to potato farming of the "Borrallo" variety, characteristic of Anaga. This distribution made possible for three families to live in Majimial.



Valle Brosque

El Pelotón

- 4** A curious rock gives this settlement its name

This small village nestled in Brosque Valley, grew linked to increased irrigated agriculture, thanks to a rich source of water located upstream, which allowed water to all terraces on both sides of the path. However, the most striking feature of this hamlet is its name, El Pelotón, which refers to the rock in a "big ball" located at the start of the climb to the Majimial.

