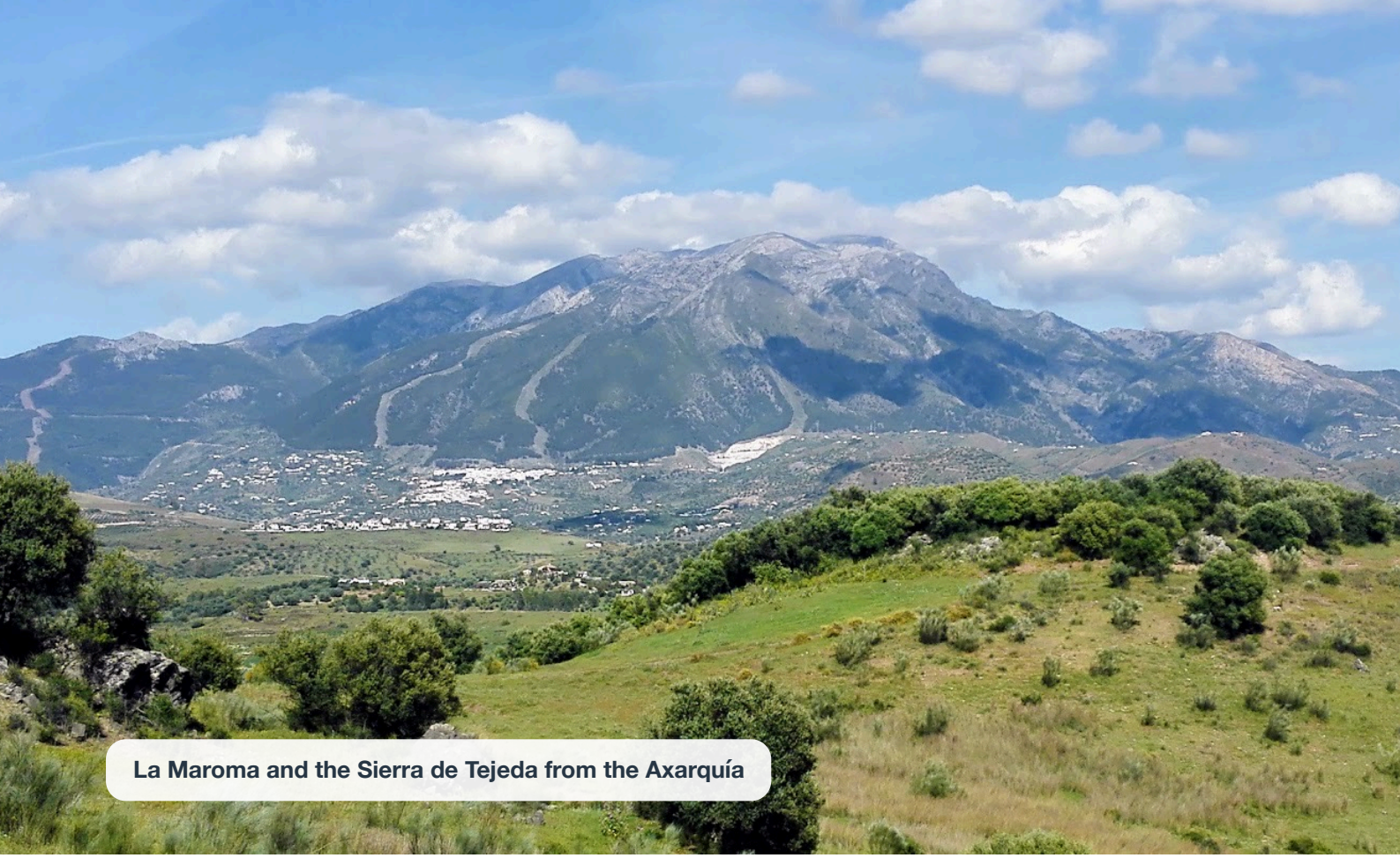


La Maroma and the Sierra de Tejeda from the Axarquía

ESNERJA · DOWNLOADABLE GUIDE

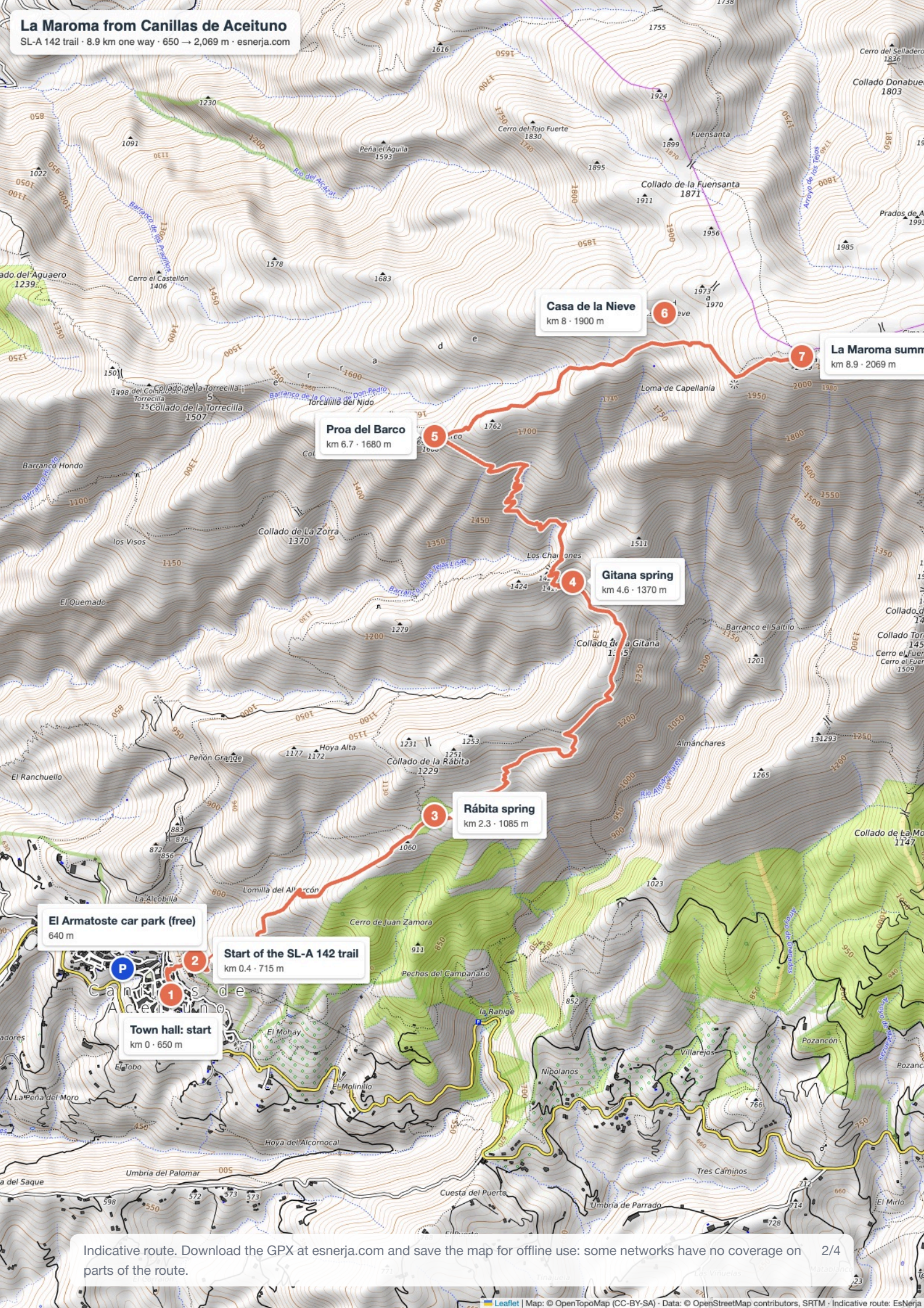
La Maroma from Canillas de Aceituno

Map and guide to the climb to the roof of the Axarquía on the SL-A 142 trail, the old snow gatherers' path: from the village to the 2,069 m summit, with sea views almost all the way.

Before you go: this is a long high-mountain route with almost no shade. There is water only in the first half. From December to March (sometimes April) the upper section is usually snowy or icy: then only with crampons, an ice axe and experience. In fog, the summit plateau is disorienting.

Up-to-date information: esnerja.com/senderismo/la-maroma-techo-malaga

8.9 km to the summit, from the town hall	**17.7 km** there and back, same path	**7–9 h** with stops
1,420 m from the village to the summit	**≈ 1,550 m** of total ascent	**Hard** because of length and climbing


La Maroma from Canillas de Aceituno
SL-A 142 trail · 8.9 km one way · 650 → 2,069 m · esnerja.com
Town hall: start
km 0 · 650 m
El Armatoste car park (free)
640 m
Start of the SL-A 142 trail
km 0.4 · 715 m
Rábita spring
km 2.3 · 1085 m
Gitana spring
km 4.6 · 1370 m
Proa del Barco
km 6.7 · 1680 m
Casa de la Nieve
km 8 · 1900 m
La Maroma summ
km 8.9 · 2069 m
Indicative route. Download the GPX at esnerja.com and save the map for offline use: some networks have no coverage on parts of the route.
2/4
Leaflet | Map: © OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA) · Data: © OpenStreetMap contributors, SRTM · Indicative route: EsNerja

The route, section by section

P **El Armatoste car park** · 640 m
Municipal, free and covered, on Avenida de Andalucía at the entrance to the village. It has several levels and narrow ramps. Other options: the small car park next to the La Maroma restaurant or, at the top of the village, the one by the cemetery.

1 **Canillas de Aceituno town hall** · km 0 · 650 m
Start on the square. Walk up Calle del Convento to the top of the village.

2 **Start of the SL-A 142 trail** · km 0.4 · 715 m
A post with white and green marks. The El Saltillo path branches off here. The climb starts, relentlessly, through almond trees and scrub.

3 **Rábita spring and cave** · km 2.3 · 1085 m
First spring and first stop: 435 m of climbing from the village.

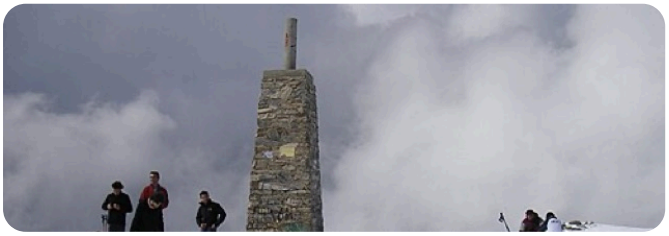
4 **Gitana pass and spring** · km 4.6 · 1370 m
The path eases along the hillside. The spring's flow is irregular: don't rely on it. It is the last water.

5 **Proa del Barco** · km 6.7 · 1680 m
Prow-shaped crags next to the Torcalillo del Nido, on the longest climb (Los Charcones – Casa de la Nieve).

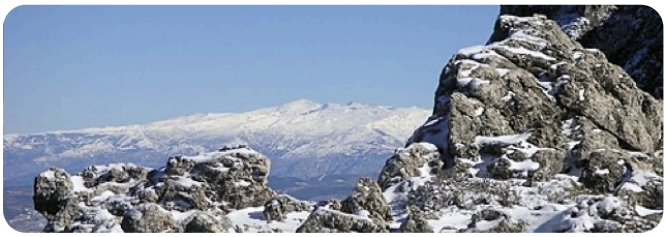
6 **Casa de la Nieve** · km 8 · 1900 m
Ruins of the snow gatherers' shelter, on the pass. Less than 1 km to go across the summit plateau, following the stone cairns.

7 **La Maroma summit** · km 8.9 · 2069 m
Trig point: a stone tower over 4 m tall. About 80 m away is the pothole that gave the mountain its name. You return the same way.

Route profile (one way)



The summit in snow · Photo: ^ozo^, CC BY 3.0 (Wikimedia Commons)



Sierra Nevada from the summit · ^ozo^, CC BY 3.0 (Commons)

Approximate distances and altitudes (OpenStreetMap and elevation model).

Before you go: safety and tips

Patchy coverage. Depending on your network, some stretches have no signal. Save the map for offline use, tell someone your route and when you expect to be back, and don't go alone if you don't know the mountain. **112** works on any network: if yours has no signal, try anyway.

Water and heat

There are only two springs, at km 2.3 and km 4.6, and the second does not always flow. Carry 2–3 litres per person, more in summer. The south face has no shade: in summer start at dawn.

Snow, ice and fog

From December to March the upper section is usually snowy or icy: without crampons and an ice axe, and the skills to use them, don't go up. In fog the summit plateau becomes a maze of rock: don't go if storms are forecast and turn back if it closes in.

The pothole

The Maroma pothole is about 80 m from the trig point. Keep away from the edge, especially in snow or fog.

What to bring

- Hiking boots and poles for the descent.
- Warm layers and a windproof: it is much colder and windier at the top than in the village.
- A hat, sun cream, food and a charged phone.
- The map or GPX downloaded.

Natural park rules

No permit is needed to go up on your own. Fires and wild camping are forbidden. Don't feed the ibex.

Other ways up

The easiest is **El Robledal** (SL-A 124), on the north face from Ventas de Zafarraya: about 15.6 km there and back and 1,000 m of ascent. You can also climb from El Alcázar (Alcaucín) and from Sedella.

Getting there from Nerja

Canillas de Aceituno is 42 km away, about 50 minutes by car: A-7 towards Málaga and, after Vélez-Málaga, the A-356 towards La Viñuela as far as the Canillas turn-off. Leave the car in the El Armatoste municipal car park (free).

Guide written by EsNerja (October 2026) using the SL-A 142 trail line on OpenStreetMap, Wikipedia ("La Maroma"), Diario Sur (6 Nov 2020, IGN elevations) and the IGN record for the Maroma trig point. Map: © OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA); data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL); elevation: Open-Meteo. More information at **esnerja.com/en/hiking/la-maroma-highest-peak-malaga**.