



Navachica trig point (1,831 m)

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ESNERJA · DOWNLOADABLE GUIDE

Navachica: map and guide to the climb

The highest point of the Sierra de Almijara (1,831 m), in the municipality of Nerja: a high-mountain traverse via Pico del Cielo and the ridge of the sierra, for experienced mountain walkers only.

Before you go: it is a long, hard route, with poorly marked stretches and a ridge exposed to wind and fog. There is no water after the Fuente del Esparto. from the Nerja Caves car park (paid) it is 5.8 km along the Pinarillo track. The track has a barrier that is usually closed to cars in summer and whenever there is a fire risk, and open in the cooler months depending on the rain: if it is closed, add 11.5 km there and back on foot.

Up-to-date information: esnerja.com/senderismo/ruta-a-navachica

10.5 km

one way from the Fuente del Esparto

21 km

there and back (32 km from the caves)

9–10 h

there and back from the spring

1,260 m

from the spring to the summit
esnerja.com · Local guide to Nerja

≈ 1,900 m

of total ascent

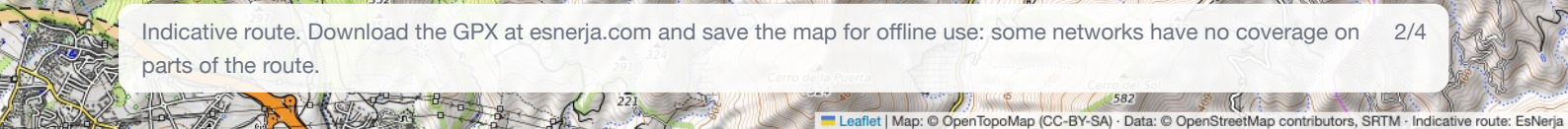
Very hard

high mountain, unmarked stretches

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Via Pico del Cielo and the ridge · 10.5 km one way · 570 → 1,831 m · esnerja.com

A topographic map of the study area, showing contour lines, roads, and the location of the study site. The map includes a scale bar and a north arrow.

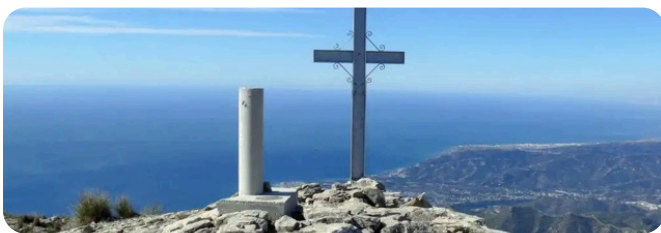


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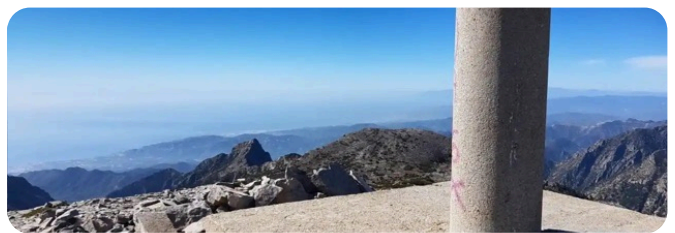
The route, section by section

- 1 Fuente del Esparto** · km 0 · 573 m
Last water. Follow the track and enter the stony bed of the Barranco de los Cazadores.
- 2 Pico del Cielo** · km 4.1 · 1508 m
You leave the ravine up a scree slope and a steep path to the ridge and the cross on Pico del Cielo. The first great viewpoint: the whole coast at your feet.
- 3 Mina Herrera pass** · km 5.3 · 1482 m
The ridge heads north. A mountain path with poorly marked stretches: follow the track and the cairns.
- 4 Cerro del Barranco del Pino** · km 7 · 1619 m
Up and down along the crest of the sierra, over white dolomite rock and sand.
- 5 Collado de la Nava** · km 9 · 1671 m
From here you can see the final climb to Navachica.
- 6 Navachica summit** · km 10.5 · 1831 m
Trig point and views of La Maroma, El Lucero, Sierra Nevada and the sea. You return the same way: keep energy and daylight for it.

Route profile (one way)



Pico del Cielo, halfway along · EsNerja



The Navachica summit · EsNerja

Before you go: safety and tips

Experienced mountain walkers only. There are stretches with no clear path, scree and a long ridge with no easy escape routes. In fog it is very easy to get lost: don't set off if low cloud or storms are forecast. Some networks have no coverage on parts of the route; **112** works on any network.

Water and heat

There is no water on the whole route except the Fuente del Esparto, at the start. Carry 3 litres or more per person. Better not in summer: the ridge has no shade.

Timing

Allow 9–10 hours from the spring. Start at dawn and set a turnaround time: if you haven't passed the Collado de la Nava by midday, turn back.

What to bring

- Mountain boots, poles, warm layers and a windproof.
- Plenty of water, food and a head torch.
- The GPX on your phone with the map downloaded, and a power bank.

In winter

Navachica can have snow and ice between December and March: you then need winter gear and experience.

A shorter alternative

Climbing just **Pico del Cielo** (PR-A 477 from the caves) or **El Almendrón** from the Fuente del Esparto is already a big mountain day.

Guide written by EsNerja (October 2026) using Wikipedia ("Navachica"), the OpenStreetMap trail line and difficulty grading, and mountaineers' accounts (Picobarro, 2025). Map: © OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA); data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL); elevation: Open-Meteo. More information at esnerja.com/en/hiking/navachica-peak-route.