

Former Railways of Spain

Inland Alicante region.

Tour number PM2205

Saturday 10th to Saturday 17th September 2022



Former station at Agres.

This tour explores some of the history behind the railway lines that once ran through this area. Most of the rides are on the former railway lines themselves so are relatively flat. Lights will be needed as we cycle through many tunnels. Based in the County town of Cocentaina, which has all the amenities you might need, we will be staying in a comfortable guest house. This week is graded 2, leisurely, with the longest day being 45kms. The pace will be very leisurely, with plenty of time for sightseeing, coffee breaks and lunch. We will also stop to talk about aspects of the railways from time to time.

Dates:- Saturday 10th September – Saturday 17th September 2022

Price:- £475 (plus £85 single supplement) to include,

7 nights bed, breakfast and evening meal. Transfers from/to Alicante airport, maps, GPS files, route sheets. Bikexplore and tour leaders' expenses.

Maximum number of participants – 8. There is no minimum number, the holiday will go ahead regardless of numbers booked.

Itinerary:-

Saturday 10th September 2022. Transfer from Alicante airport. If time after assembling bikes, short ride to Turballos. 19kms, 200 metres ascent.



Turballos village.

Sunday 11th September. Today we will take the Serpis Via Verde to Gaianes, then drop down to the where the river feeds the lake. 23kms, 260 metres ascent.



An old and new view of Muro station. The buildings on the right remain.



Monday 12th September. Today we ride on more of the Serpis which goes all the way to the coast at Gandia, but we will only cycle to Lorchá. In fact, we will reach Lorchá by road, and return on the Serpis Via Verde. 45kms, 520 metres ascent.



The Serpis Via Verde.

Tuesday 13th September. A different railway line, the Xixarra goes North before swinging West. We will go as far as Bocairent, a fascinating village with much to see, including its interesting window caves. 45kms, 486 metres ascent.



Bocairent.



Wednesday 14th September. We take the Via Verde (former railway line) through Alcoy, which affords spectacular views without any steep climbing. We pass through many tunnels along the way (lights required). 44kms, 536 metres ascent.



One of the many tunnels on the Alcoy Via Verde.

Thursday 15th September . Market day in Cocentaina. A day off the bike to wander around the market and explore the town. Or a walk up to the castle which overlooks Cocentaina. 6kms (walk) 317 metres ascent.



Cocentaina castle.



Friday 16th September. After yesterday's rest, a hillier ride today to complete a circuit of the lake at Beniarres. A hilly start, which gets easier as the day goes on. 42kms, 717 metres ascent.



The dam at Beniarres

Saturday 17th September. Tour ends after breakfast. Return transfer to Alicante airport.

