

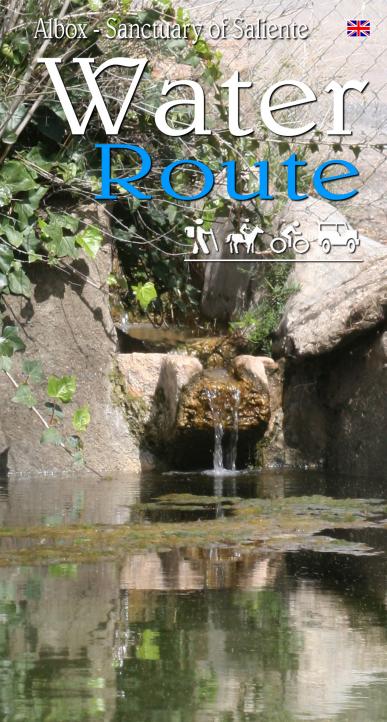




In case of Emergency: 062 Guardia Civil 112 Policía Local







ALBOX (Almería)

# Water Route

PARTICULARS
Distance: 19.2 km

Route: Linear From 424m to 1064m

**Difficulty: Medium-Low** 

Estimated time on foot: 5 - 6 hours

The route is also accessible on a mountain bike, on horseback or in a 4x4. It is particularly recommendable in springtime when the almond trees are flowering.

It follows the path of the annual pilgrimage from the town of Albox to the Sanctuary of Saliente, located in Monterroel in the Estancias Mountains, a location from which you can enjoy spectacular panoramic views of the Valle del Almanzora.

The route follows a natural path formed by a Rambla, featuring almond trees, orange trees and orchards, that passes through an arid landscape interspersed with fertile hamlets whose economies are based on agriculture and who owe their existence from centuries past to underground water sources that emerge in the form of natural springs that mark out the route.

#### La Plaza del Pueblo, Albox (0.0 km)



To start, we leave the Plaza del Pueblo taking the nearest entrance to the Rambla.

Once in the Rambla we start our walk, and within only 1.2 km we find, on the right, the hamlet that shelters the Fuente (Spring)

del Marqués. Continuing onwards, we find a fork in the Rambla where we take the leftmost path.

## La Tejera de Gamboa (3.1 km)

3.1km from Albox we discover on the left the ruins of the Tejera de Gamboa, an ancient brick factory, next to a clay quarry, where many of the bricks and tiles for the houses of Albox were made. A few metres further on the same side is the small hamlet of Las Piedras with its Fuente del Pleito. You can also see an enormous pipe crossing the Rambla.



This is the Negratin-Almanzora pipeline that currently supplies water to the town of Albox.

## Llano de los Olleres (3.7 km)

At 3.7 km, we come to the hamlet of Llano de los Olleres, where the road once again divides. Take the pathway on the right following the Rambla. At 4.5 km it divides again and you take the righthand fork.

## Fuente del Carmen (5.7 km)



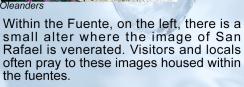


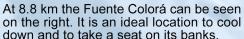
Follow the route and at 5.7 km, situated on the left margin, you will see the Fuente del Carmen which has a viewing platform from which you can see the surrounding countryside as well as its orchard and water reservoir.

#### Fuente de San Rafael (7.1 km)



7.1 km from the town of Albox you will find a pretty section of the route were you will find vegetation typical of the area such as oleanders.











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#### Las Pocicas (11.3 km)

At 11.3 km you will find the Fuente de Santa Bárbara, also on the left side, located in the pretty hamlet of Las Pocicas, with its 18th century church. Here you can enjoy a bar with a terrace and a municipal swimming pool, ideal for the Summer. The locals make it easy for you to pass a pleasant day in this hidden corner, where you can experience the sensation of being far from the noise of the city, thanks to its views of the natural surroundings.





Leaving Las Pocicas we find signs marking the mountain bike trail (BTT) that guide us to our ultimate destination,the majestic Santuary of Saliente.

The path divides at the 12.4 km point and you need to keep to the right to follow the correct route. At 13.1 km you can exit the Rambla, if you wish, to the Los Molinas road where you will find the María del Saliente restaurant where you can sample the typical gastronomy of the Valle del Almanzora.

#### Fuente Seca (14.6 km) y Fuente Santa Rosa

The Fuente Seca is located at the 14.6 km point and the Fuente de Santa Rosa can be found 15.7km from Albox. The local summer festival is celebrated in the latter fuente at the end of August. Summer festivals (fiestas) are typical in Albox and its outlying hamlets and they begin in May in Llano de los Olleres.

### The ascent to the Sanctuary (16.7 km)



If you are following the route on foot or on a mountain bike you can take the leftmost path at the 16.7 km point up to the Sanctuary; and if you take the rightmost path, you can follow the road in order to arrive at the same point.

## Sanctuary of Saliente (19.2 km)

Our destination, the Sanctuary of Nuestra Señora del Buen Retiro de los Desamparados del Saliente, is one of the most important pilgrimage sites in south-eastern Spain and has been recognised as a **National Heritage Site** since 1992.

