

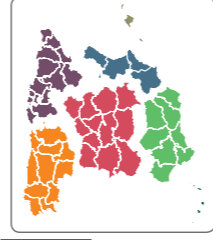
TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

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NATURE TRAIL LA HOYA DE HUESCA



Guide to the
Nature Trails
of Spain



SECTOR
NORTHEASTERN PENINSULAR



Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of La Hoya de Huesca Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

STUNNING NATURE AND CULTURAL RICHNESS

La Hoya de Huesca Nature Trail, which stretches over almost 133 km between Agüero and Bierge, runs from West to East through this municipality in Huesca, joining with the Somontano de Barbastro Nature Trail at its final point. La Hoya de Huesca is located in the transition area between the pre-Pyrenean mountains and the plain of the Ebro Valley. The nature trail first goes through the Reino de los Mallos, and continues through the Gratal and Arguis mountain ranges, reaching the Guara mountains through the Belsué and Nocito Valleys, then goes back to Vadiello, to the agricultural plains on the Western part of La Hoya.

This trail crosses some protected areas, such as the Sierra y Cañones de Guara Natural Park, two Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for birds, and four Sites of Community Importance (SCI) which we can admire from the viewpoints. Along the trail, we can also visit several monuments of historical relevance (Castles, collegiate church, monastery, etc.).



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STAGE 1: AGÜERO – RIGLOS

1. The first stage of La Hoya de Huesca Nature Trail is 9.1 kilometers long and links the two most renowned areas in Aragon for their *mallos*, going through the municipalities of Agüero, Murillo de Gállego (in Zaragoza) and Las Peñas de Riglos. The trail starts in the village of Agüero, just below its stunning *mallos*. These geological formations made of Miocene conglomerates, with their characteristic cylindrical shapes and vertical walls, are called *mallos* throughout the pre-Pyrenees area in Aragon. The most remarkable in term of size and importance are those in the nearby village of Riglos, where the first stage of this nature trail ends.

STAGE 2: RIGLOS – LOARRE

2. The second stage of this nature trail, stretching for 15.1 km, goes between the villages of Riglos and Loarre. Along the way, the best panoramic views of the *mallos* in Riglos, the Gallego Valley and La Hoya de Huesca can be admired. This stage will also allow you to discover two of the most important Medieval castles in Aragon, Marcuello (currently in ruins), and Loarre, located near the trail and considered one of the best-preserved castles in Europe.

STAGE 3: LOARRE – BOLEA

3. The third stage of the La Hoya de Huesca trail links Loarre and Bolea through the essentially agricultural

landscape of the municipalities of Loarre and La Sotonera, with the stunning castle always watching us as we walk. This stage, almost 11 kilometers long, ends in Bolea, renowned for its Collegiate Church of Saint Mary Major (one of the best examples of the Renaissance in Aragon) and for its extraordinary cherries.

STAGE 4: BOLEA – ARGUIS

4. The fourth stage of this nature trail starts in the village of Bolea and ends in Arguis, going through the Gratal mountain range and the municipalities of La Sotonera and Arguis. During this hard but beautiful stage of the trail, almost 20 kilometers in length, the highest points in the track are reached, the highest of which is at the Sarramana mountain pass. From there, excellent panoramic views of La Hoya de Huesca, the Gratal mountain range, the Bonés mountain range and the Pyrenees can be seen. The visitor will also go through the Peiró beech wood, of great ecological value.

STAGE 5: ARGUIS – NOCITO

5. The fifth stage goes between the villages of Arguis and Nocito, and its 20.2 km will take you through the Belsué and Nocito Valleys, hidden on the Northern side of the Gabardiella and Guara mountain ranges, respectively. You will also cross the municipalities of Arguis and Nueno, with several rural villages, some of which are currently abandoned.

STAGE 6: NOCITO - SANTA EULALIA LA MAYOR

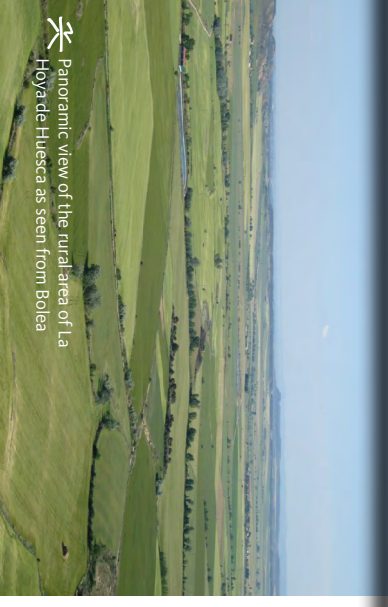
6. The sixth stage of this natural trail goes through the Guara mountain range and over the Guatizalema Valley, with the canyons and conglomerate walls typical from the Vadiello area, reaching the plain area of the Somontano de Huesca. Through its 21.6 km, you will cross the municipalities of Nueno and Loporzano and the westernmost part of the Sierra and Cañones de Guara Natural Park.

STAGE 7: SANTA EULALIA LA MAYOR - CASBAS DE HUESCA

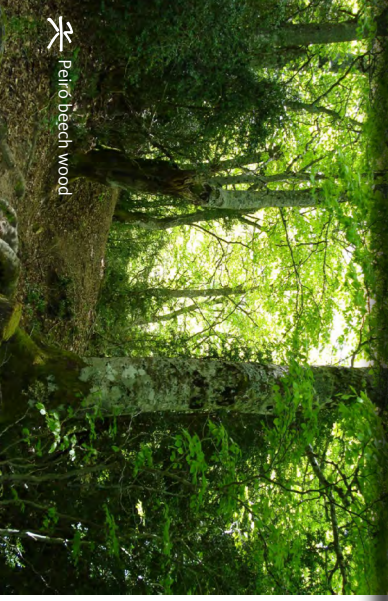
7. The fifth stage goes between the villages of Arguis and Nocito, and its 20.2 km will take you through the Belsué and Nocito Valleys, hidden on the Northern side of the Gabardiella and Guara mountain ranges, respectively. You will also cross the municipalities of Arguis and Nueno, with several rural villages, some of which are currently abandoned.

STAGE 8: CASBAS DE HUESCA – BIERGE

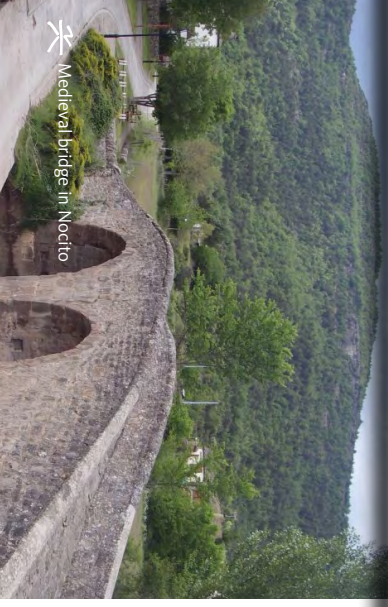
8. This is the last stage of La Hoya de Huesca nature trail, and the shortest. It links Casbas de Huesca and Bierge, enabling you to take the Somontano de Barbastro Nature Trail near the Salto de Bierge waterfall. These 8.6 kilometers will take you alongside several rivers, such as the Formiga, the Isuala or the Alcanadre, which flow from North to South through the Guara mountain range, forming deep valleys on their way.



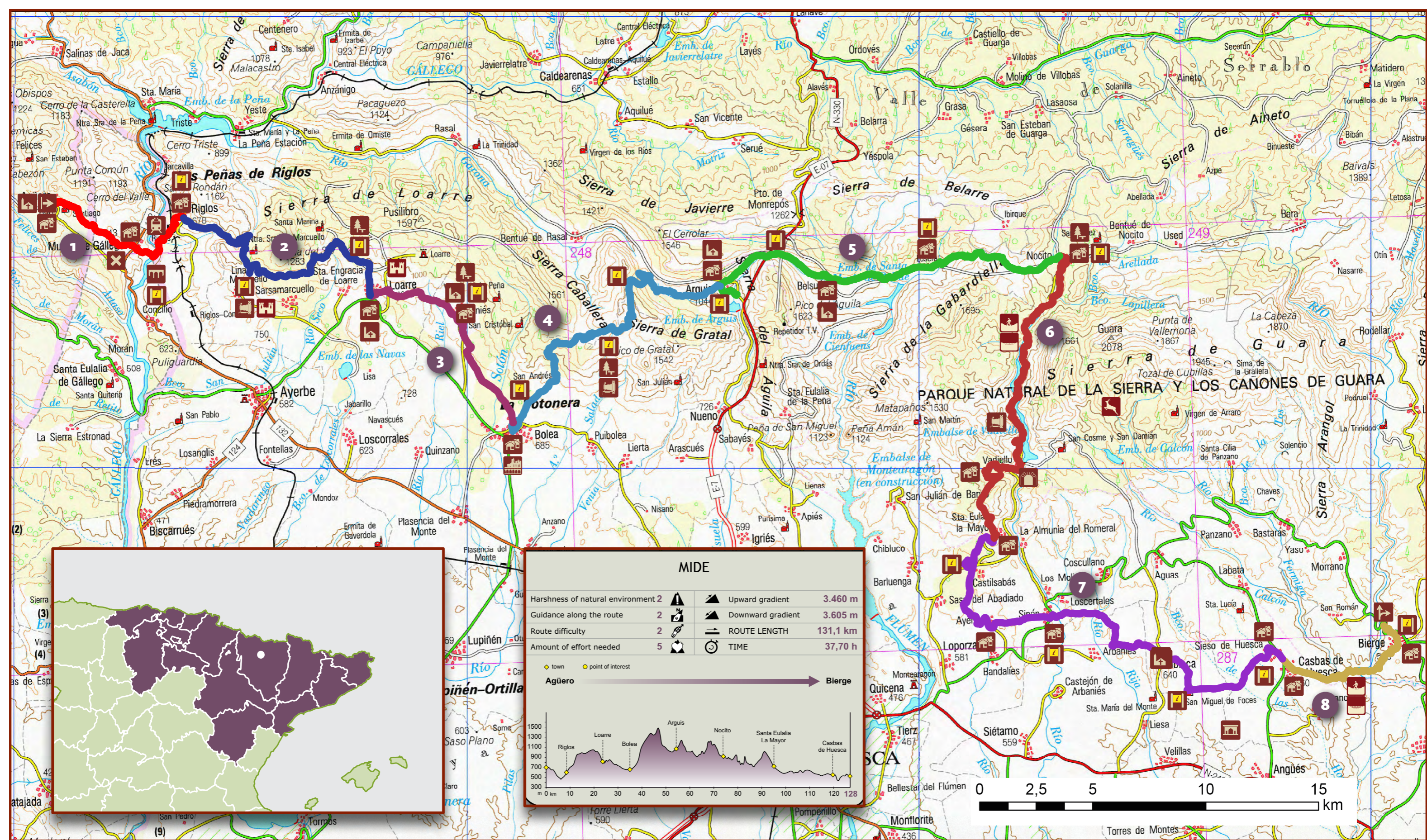
Panoramic view of the rural area of La Hoya de Huesca as seen from Bolea



Peiró beech wood



Medieval bridge in Nocito



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NATURE TRAIL HOYA DE HUESCA

- Starting point
- Castle
- Religious building
- Natural/National Park
- Unlighted tunnel
- Cross only if the river allows it
- Connection with CN Somontano
- Train station
- Monument
- Town
- Viewpoint
- Rest area
- Junction
- Information panel
- Bridge
- Monumental area