

A ROUTE TO THE SOUTH OF ANAGA

Anaga is home to almost all natural environments present in Tenerife. You can enjoy some of them on this path that leads from the north to the south of the Rural Park.

Some 20 million years ago, similar forests to the one in which you are standing were found in Mediterranean countries. As the cold of the ice age advanced, the forests retreated southward, reaching the Canary Islands where they have survived thanks to a stable climate and the constant mountain mist. Today they cover amongst others, the peaks of this old mountain range. Among its inhabitants there are sensitive species of trees that grow only in very specific conditions, while others such as heather and fayas, are better preserved on land where man has intervened. You will find these two species until you come out of the woods.

As the trail descends the southern slopes, the landscape changes. Upon entering the Valleseco basin the "change" is huge because the sea of clouds, moving from the north, runs into the high valley walls and moisture can not enter it. The trees give way to cactus, tabaibas, incense, some canary palms and jasmine.



FAYA



BREZO



TABAIBA AMARGA



CARDÓN



ROUTE INFORMATION:

- ✕ **Distance:** 10 kilometres, approximately, until Valleseco and about 1800 m. more until the bus stop on the Santa Cruz-San Andrés road.
- ✕ **Duration:** 4 hours without stops, 5 hours with stop.
- ✕ **Gradient:** 900 m.
- ✕ **Maximum height:** 1005 m. ✕ **Minimum height:** 105 m.
- ✕ **Risk level:** Low. In times of rain the route can be slippery.
- ✕ **Public transport:** Line 075 of TITSA La Laguna-Taborno. TITSA Bus route 917 Intercambiador-Valleseco. This route does not run Saturday afternoons, Sundays or bank holidays. If you continue about 20 minutes towards the Santa Cruz-San Andrés dual carriageway you will arrive at the bus stop of the 910 TITSA San Andrés (The Teresitas)-Intercambiador bus route.
- ✕ **Suggestions:** Use appropriate footwear. Take a waterproof jacket, jumper, hat, food and water. If you need more supplies, you can buy them on weekends in the Farmers market of Cruz del Carmen. You must take your litter with you until you reach an area with litterbins. Avoid unnecessary noise. Inform somebody of your route. You can learn more about the route at the Visitor Center at Cruz del Carmen.

Reusing paper helps save trees.
Do not throw this leaflet away, take it back or give to another person.



For any suggestions: anagacuenta@cabtfe.es
☎ 922 63 35 76

Self Guided Route

Taborno - Pico del Inglés - Valleseco



Parque Rural
Anaga

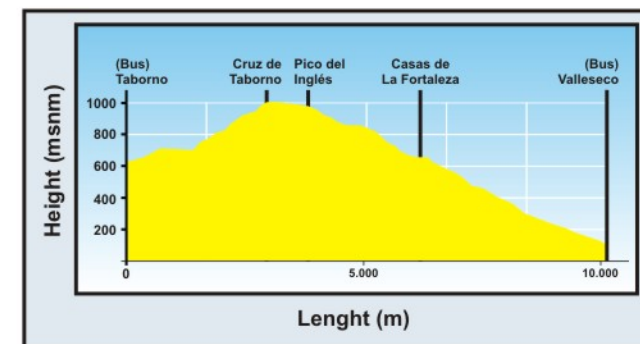
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ROUTE DESCRIPTION

This route is part of the Paths Network of Tenerife. The route begins at Taborno's square and it climbs up the track located in front of the bus stop. When it gets to the road, it continues on a stretch in which you must be more cautious: walk on the border, wear reflective or bright clothing. Once you pass the turning into Las Carboneras and Taborno, cross the road carefully and go up some steps. The path continues until it takes the road which takes to you Pico del Inglés and descends until Valleseco, passing through Casas de los Berros and Casas de la Fortaleza. In the inside plan of this leaflet you will find an outline of the route with recommended stops labelled. In every one of those stops, there is a brief history or interesting information about the place.

Through this route you can enjoy beautiful scenery, the culture and the local gastronomy as well as the kindness of the people of Anaga.

We recommend that before you start this route, you read the important information enclosed at the back of this leaflet. This way you can attempt this route with all the safety and quality guaranties due to its total distance and time.



1 The houses in Taborno balance over the ridges

In Taborno, the houses were built on the ridges to protect them from land movement. Previously, cave homes were dug to shelter from the winds, which can be seen to the left of the church.

The flatter land was left to grow crops and grazing. Taborno has always been an important settlement for goats and it keeps one of the largest herds of goats in Anaga.

2 An accident changed the name of this peak

Originally called the Pico de las Aguillillas, possibly because these birds were spotted in the area. However, a tragic accident changed his name: a foreigner fell down the cliff and died. Since then, the local people refer to this site saying "there, the peak where the Englishman," which over time turned into Pico del Inglés though the unlucky fellow was Austrian.

3 The Tahodio dam represents a hydraulic system very unusual in Tenerife

Tenerife is composed of permeable materials so dams are not an adequate solution to store water in this island. This one was built in 1914 and its waters were used for irrigation in large banana plantations in Santa Cruz and supplied the refinery at the beginning of its operation, until the city's growth made it inadequate.

4 Las Casas de la Fortaleza often provided accommodation to the veterinarian

Halfway through the twentieth century, villagers of Las Casas de La Fortaleza were leaving early in the morning to get to Laguna to call the veterinarian. They climbed up to the Pico del Inglés and walk down to the city.

They went back in the veterinarian's car until Cruz del Carmen and continued on foot to the hamlet. After dealing with the animal the veterinarian was back, hopefully before dusk. He would spend the night at a local's house and returned to town the next day if a cow spent the night with a difficult labour.

6 Tunnels and bridges still supply drinking water to the city

The Old Canal Bridge was built, like the one further up, to convey water from the Catalanes gallery, situated about 4 km. in the gully next to it, to Santa Cruz, more than 5 km. from here. To this end, it was necessary to dig some slopes and build bridges to allow the passage of the channels that contain water drawn from the depths of Anaga.

7 This settlement was built with the hard work in the mountain and the coast

Valleseco was born in the first half of the twentieth century as people from different places of Anaga were settling in the upper zone, while Gomeros, Conejeros* and Majoreros** occupied the lower areas and caves by the sea.

Women and men worked looking for firewood in the mountain, extracting sand from beaches and cliffs, in the quarry, and at the salting trades and in jobs that were on demand from the city until they built a neighborhood with its own identity.

*Conejeros: Residents of Lanzarote

**Majoreros: Residents of Fuerteventura

