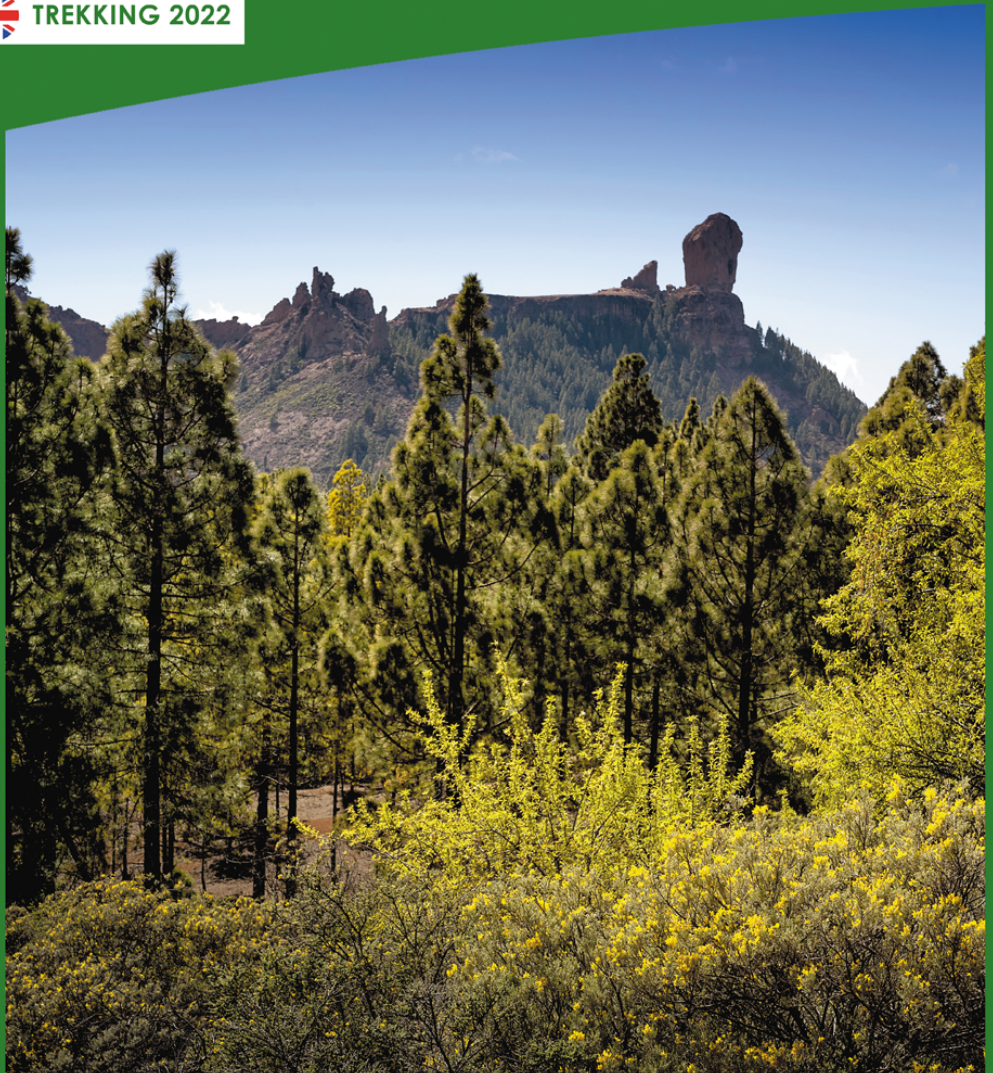




TREKKING 2022



Roque Nublo

Tejeda

GC-600 main road, KM 11 - Degollada de La Cumbre



GranCanaria



Municipality of Tejeda
Degollada de La Cumbre, GC-600, Km 11



Main road adjoining Ayacata with
Llanos de La Pez
Distance covered: 5 km



Walking time: 1 hour 30 minutes



Difficulty level: Low to medium
Progressive ascending and descending



Level changes: 1,594-1,721-1,769-1,617-1,594



Public transport: Global bus number 18

Roque Nublo is the quintessential symbol of Gran Canaria. Its silhouette features on many coats of arms and logos at sports clubs and cultural centres, etc.

Roque Nublo is the lofty goal which everyone aspires to reach, and when we get there we feel a special fascination. Our bodies are entranced by the enormous panoramic views afforded from this high altitude:

It offers a 360 degree angle, so ample in fact that few mountains in Gran Canaria can offer such a wonderful spectacle.

Roque Nublo and its origin

We need to go right back to the time the island was first formed in order to comprehend the magnitude of this rocky cyclopean monolith. The volcanic edifice that gave rise to this rock was a stratovolcano named Roque Nublo, which was active for between 5 and 2.8 million years prior to the present day (Plioceno).

The rock stands around 65 metres high, and is the remains of a pyroclastic flow of blocks and ash caused by the explosive eruption of the stratovolcano, which can reach a height of up to 3,000 metres.

It is highly dismantled today, and the rampant and inexorable erosion that has occurred over millions of years has left a basin covering 200 metres of land surface area.



Itinerary

Ascent to the Talón del Nublo

We climb steadily through broom, pine trees, tabaibas, daisies, sow thistles and sage, and are treated to panoramic views over the village of Ayacata, nestling below us to our left. In just 10 minutes (527 metres walk) we come to a rock bank, similar to a dry stone wall, ideal for walkers to take a deserved rest.

We now come to a steep slope where the path makes its way along the volcanic stone tuff. The change in level is very pronounced, and when the trail bends to the right we will catch the first glimpse of the pine forest landscape of Llanos de La Pez and Pico de Los Pozos de Nieve.

100 metres further on we come to a first split in the footpath, with a wooden signpost pointing to "La Culata". This route takes us to the end of our itinerary. We are now at an altitude of 1,676 metres and we continue straight ahead and upwards. We just have one more bend to negotiate, rising sharply, before we reach a crossroads situated some 1,721 metres altitude (24 minutes and 1.14 km from our starting point). We are now at the point known as Degollada del Nublo.

The wooden signpost points in two directions: La Culata and Roque Nublo. We take the second option, but on our return we come back to the same point and take the La Culata option.

We continue steadily upwards and turn right; we then climb a number of rocky steps and a little further on we turn left. We now come to a small platform just before the Tablón. We just need to climb another set of rocky steps, towards Roque Nublo. At a certain point here we can make out Gran Canaria's three grand reservoirs: Chira, Soria and Cueva de Las Niñas; this is one of the few points on the island where all three come into view at the same time.

The toponym "nublo" probably has its origins in the term "neblina", meaning mist, a word commonly used by the island's country folk to refer to the sheet of low clouds that usually covers a large swathe of the island's hills and peaks.

The boldest visitors usually touch the rock and sometimes even go around the back on the right-hand side, to the northeast of the Roque. If we try to do this, we should take great care not to slip and slide on the stony ground, and should be aware of the feeling of vertigo that may be experienced on this last point.

Descent to Degollada Blanca

In order to continue with our itinerary, we turn round and make our way back to the last crossroads at Degollada del Nublo. At this point, we now take the path to the right, downwards and on course for "La Culata". It is a slippery slope that goes through a copse of young pine trees, which takes us to the next crossroads, flanked by stone walls. So far we have covered about 2.7 km, in 54 minutes' walking time, not including any stops along the way.

We shall now be going all the way around Roque Nublo, and to do so, we follow the signpost that points to the footpath on our right, to "La Culata". The route begins to even out, and walking is much more comfortable at this point, as we move away from the rocky Nublo to our right.

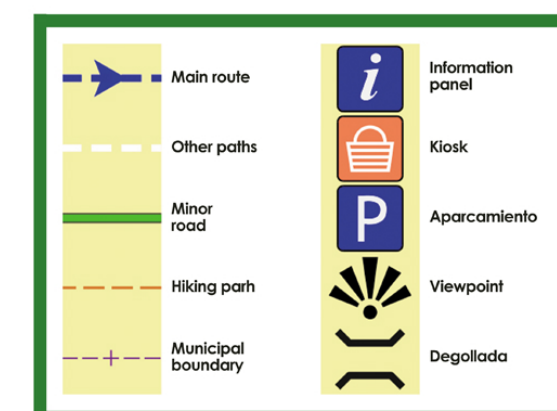
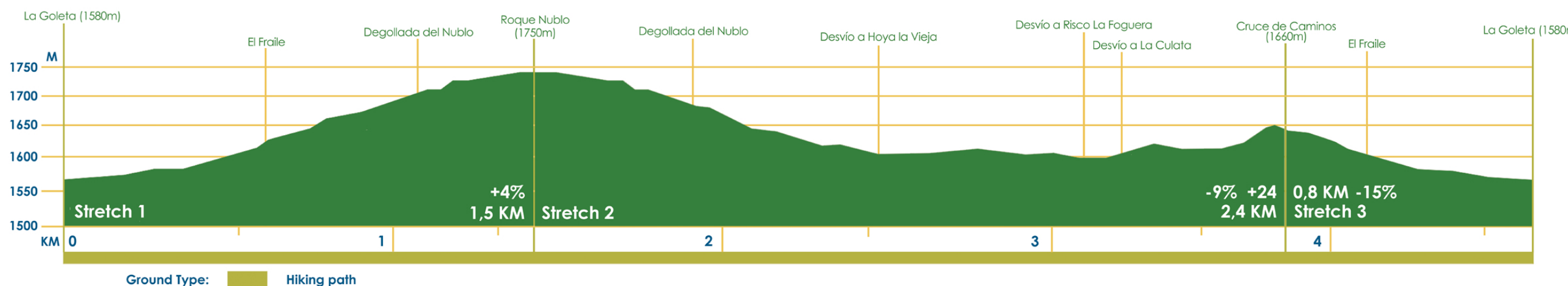
We continue going around, in a north to northeast direction. Right at Degollada Blanca is where we notice the change of direction as we head back to the car park. Here, we have the option of leaving the footpath on the left, walking along the shade of the pine trees and getting a little closer to a rocky spur that overhangs Cruz de Timagada. This headland is called La Fogalera (on some maps it appears as "Risco de La Foguera").

Once back on the main footpath, just a few metres on, we come to another crossroads. We take a right turn here along a footpath that ascends over dry stony ground, following the signpost for "La Goleta".

Return along the Lomo de la Mancha Verde path

We now have to tackle another gentle climb: the trail now takes us into the pine woodland and, having followed a number of bends, the path takes us through the glen of Los Gaspares. We carry on straight ahead and join up with the first path we climbed earlier. There are just 600 metres to walk at this final section on a pine needle path, which should take us 10 minutes.

Once on the main ascending path, we now descend down to our left, with the recommendation being that we take a little break and enjoy the wonderful surroundings.





Best Hiking Practices

Look after the environment

Carry ID and documentation

Always take water with you

Emergency helpline: **112**

Take warm clothing

Avoid lighting cigarettes and dropping cigarette ends

Do not pick plants, or take away animals or other elements along the walk

Avoid noise and respect the tranquility

Never stray from existing trails

Locate your position



Download this map



GranCanaria

Turismo de Gran Canaria

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Remember that you walk at your own risk

