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TALAIÀ D'ALCÚDIA

In the car park of the sanctuary of the Mare de Déu de la Victòria you take the forest path. Shortly after beginning the climb, you will find a route on the left that leads to the Ses Tres Creus vantage point. Ignore this path, just like the one you will find further along which leads to the Peña Roja.

The climb continues along the forest route that leads to the Pla de sa Talaia, where a bridle path begins. It is known as Pas de s'Aritja, and ends at the Talaia d'Alcúdia, at an altitude of 445 m. At the summit you will find the remains of an old tower from the 16th century, and a little further down, two huts where soldiers took refuge during the Civil War.

Start the route again from the remains of the tower, turns a few metres backwards, and turn off to the right along the route that you had previously passed by, heading southwards, it will allow you to reach the Puig des Boc. From here, continue the descent along the zigzagging path and you will end up at the Collet des Coll Baix, a place that is recognisable thanks to the presence of a refuge with some tables and benches outside it.

Forget about the route that leads down to the beach of Es Coll Baix and continue on your right hand side along the forest path that will soon lead you to a stream. From here you will go up the course of the stream, crossing it several times.

Further up you will pass Fontanelles Sobiranes, a water deposit located in the middle of the stream and you will arrive at Coll de na Benet, characterised by the large wild olive trees that grow there. From here, and ignoring the diversion that emerges on the left known as "Es Escalons", continue straight on, now downwards, following the stream of Ses Fontanelles.

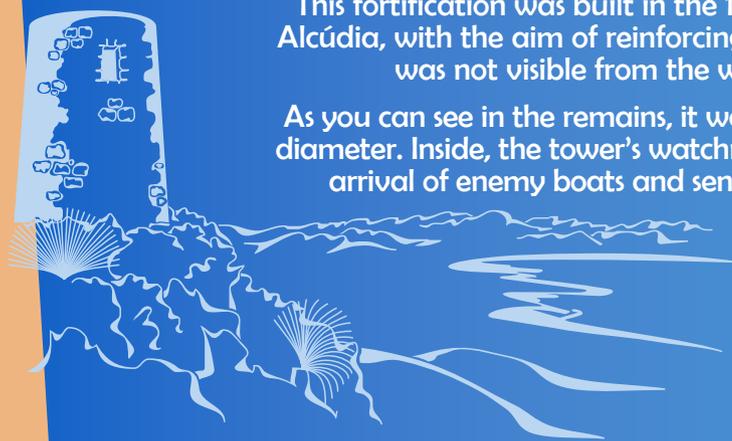
Shortly afterwards, you reach Fontanelles Fondes, another pool found in the channel of the stream, after which, Ses Planes opens up, it is a flat stretch where you pass by two access routes on the left, the first of which leads to the Victòria campsite. Afterwards, you skirt around the hillside of Sa Talaia, passing by an abandoned quarry. Then, you will come to the Torrent de s'Aladernar, where you begin a steep ascent that will lead you to the starting point.

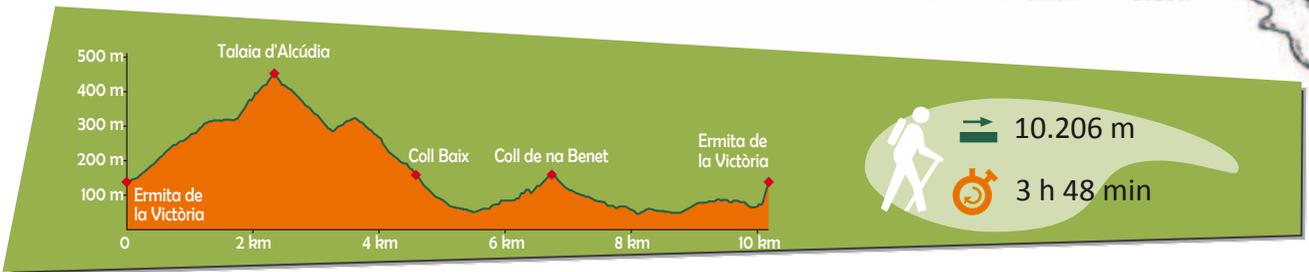
LA TALAIA D'ALCÚDIA

This fortification was built in the 16th century under orders from the Jurors of Alcúdia, with the aim of reinforcing surveillance over the part of the bay that was not visible from the watchtower of Peña Roja, further forward.

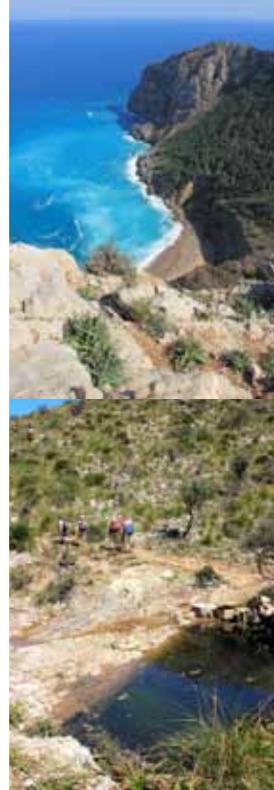
As you can see in the remains, it was a circular structure of almost six metres in diameter. Inside, the tower's watchmen took refuge as they kept watch for the arrival of enemy boats and sent out fire warnings at night or smoke signals during the day to the other towers and the city of Alcúdia, with which they also communicated using a set of flags.

The tower, very exposed to storms and especially to lightning strikes, was already in very poor condition when the military knocked it down in 1918.






 10.206 m
 3 h 48 min





Start / End: Ermita de la Victòria hermitage (132 m)

Distance: 10.206 m

Time required: 3 h 48 min

Difficulty: medium

Net increase in altitude: 598 m

Net decrease in altitude: 598 m

Not suitable for: children under the age of 6, prams for children, wheelchairs

6

TALAIA
D'ALCÚDIA

THE SANCTUARY OF LA MARE DE DÉU DE LA VICTÒRIA

It is said that at the beginning of the 14th century a shepherd boy discovered an image of the Virgin at the place now known as "Ses Tres Creus". It was taken to Alcúdia and the image returned by itself to the same spot, never to leave again. Later, Friar Diego Garcia, a hermit and alchemist, settled in the area, and the image became very famous after it was called upon by the defenders of the city during the Germanies War that befell the island in the 16th century.

Its fortified appearance did not make it immune from pirate attacks. In 1684 raiders landed at S'Illot and after overcoming the ferocious defence of the lay people, they went into the chapel, chopped off the right arm of the image of Jesus and robbed the liturgical ornaments and other valuable objects.

In September 1735 another attack took place which caused serious damage to the inside of the sanctuary, including damage to the gothic image of the Virgin Mary, which had to be restored.

