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DL NPO

RIVER GUADALAVIAR

NATURE TRAIL

PASSING UNDER “LAS BUITRERAS” (VULTURE NESTS)

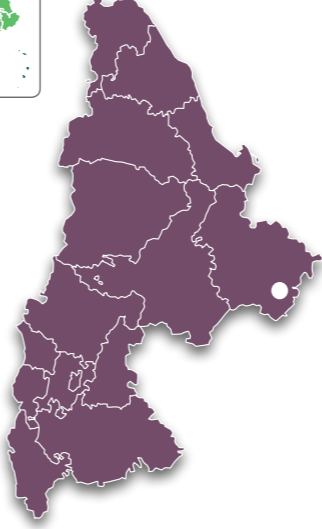
This nature trail passes the Guadalaviar gorge from the small and ancient village of San Blas, now converted into one of Teruel's neighbourhoods. It is a recently renovated route crossing the sinuous path that the river has carved in the rock, in a zone that has golden eagles, Egyptian vultures and griffon vultures.

The route finishes in the Arquillo reservoir, some four kilometres later.

Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, 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 the River Guadalaviar 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.



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1. The starting point of this nature trail is found on the outskirts of San Blas, right before crossing the exit of the A-1513 road. Without crossing the river, the route meanders past the last of the houses until reaching a square with an information panel next to the remains of an old mill. A ford of stones over the river enables you to cross to the other side and get closer to a spring with two spouts, known as La Fuente de la Señorita.
2. The route continues up the left of the Guadalaviar River, until crossing a metal footbridge to the other side. The griffon vultures circle the narrow river banks; the woods of which are formed of big willows, ash trees, hawthorns and poplars, a dense undergrowth of blackberries, wild plums and roses and dense reeds that cover the water in some areas.
3. After passing a small square you reach a rustic staircase that aids access to the stone slab on the river that serves as a viewpoint. Once this giant obstacle has been left behind, the trail descends towards the river. A little further ahead, you must skirt another block of stone by using the footbridges in order to ascend to the peak on the right.
4. After this, you will find more steps that have to be climbed to cross a narrow canyon, the bed of which remains covered by water, so you need to walk over the platform located on the hillside, over the river.
5. A little further ahead there is a fork in the road where there are two possible routes. The first continues along
6. The other alternative is to drive towards the floodplain, rising towards high moorland. From here you can enjoy the panoramic views of Teruel, surrounded by hillsides covered in junipers and the high plains with cereal crops. On the left there is an observation point and on the right a trail path that borders the canyon. The nature trail descends towards a river by a large staircase that meets a meadow which coincides with the trail that continues by the gorge and the high moorland, and continues by a succession of eight wooden bridges.
7. Finally, the route reaches the reservoir dam of Arquillo de San Blas. A staircase, located on the left slope, rises towards the reservoir offering privileged views of the structure. The nature trail finishes there, with some excellent views of the reservoir and the juniper on the other bank, declared a Site of Community Importance (SCI).

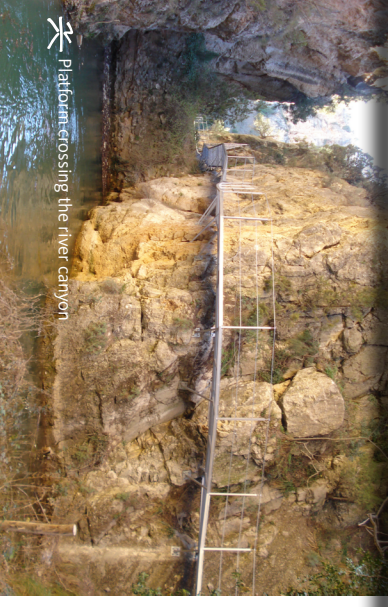
CITY OF TERUEL, WORLD HERITAGE SITE

To complete the visit, it is highly recommended that you visit this historic and beautiful city, declared a World Heritage Site due to its stylish Mudéjar monuments, among which the Cathedral of Santa María de Mediavilla, the Towers of El Salvador and San Martín and the Tower and Church of San Pedro should be noted.

Also notable are the Mudéjar Revival works of art, some extremely elegant like the south façade of the Cathedral, the Plaza de Toros and the staircase to access the Paseo del Óvalo. Furthermore, abundant medieval elements have been conserved, such as the underground cistern of the Plaza del Torico, the Bombardera, Rincón, Ambeles and St. Stephen (San Esteban) Towers, and the Andaquilla, Daroca and St. Michael's (San Miguel) Gates (also called the Gate of Treason), which are the gates of the wall that surrounds the city.

Teruel, similarly, hides modern treasures such as El Torico, La Madriña, the Casa Ferrán or the Casa Bayo, with its forge balconies, as well as the Church of San Salvador, located on the outskirts.

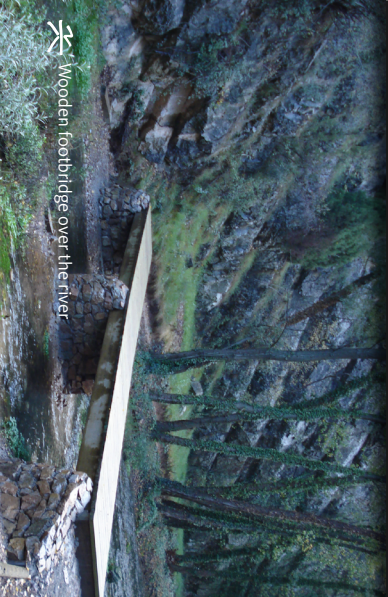
The trail to the Santa Bárbara shrine allows you to enjoy the best views of the city and its surroundings.



Platform crossing the river canyon



Limestone ridges in a hillside



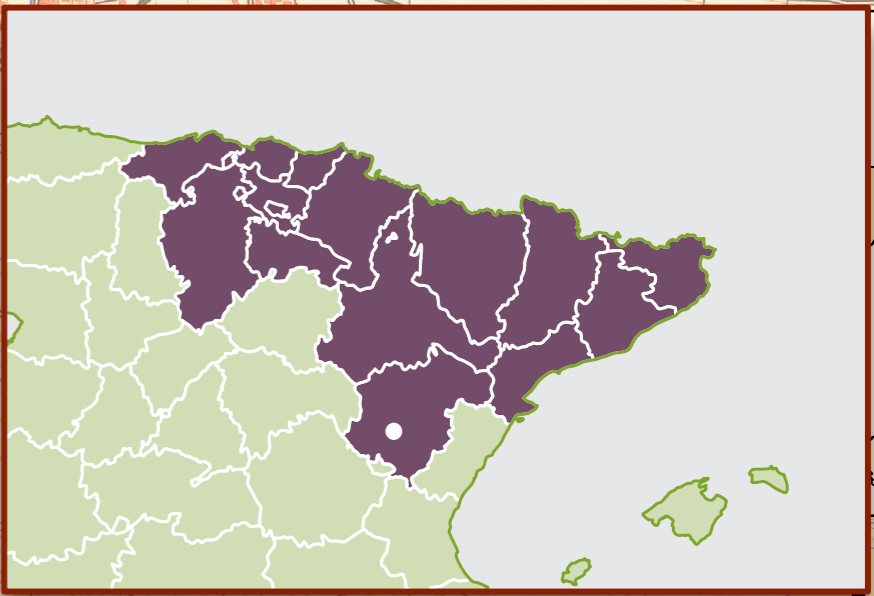
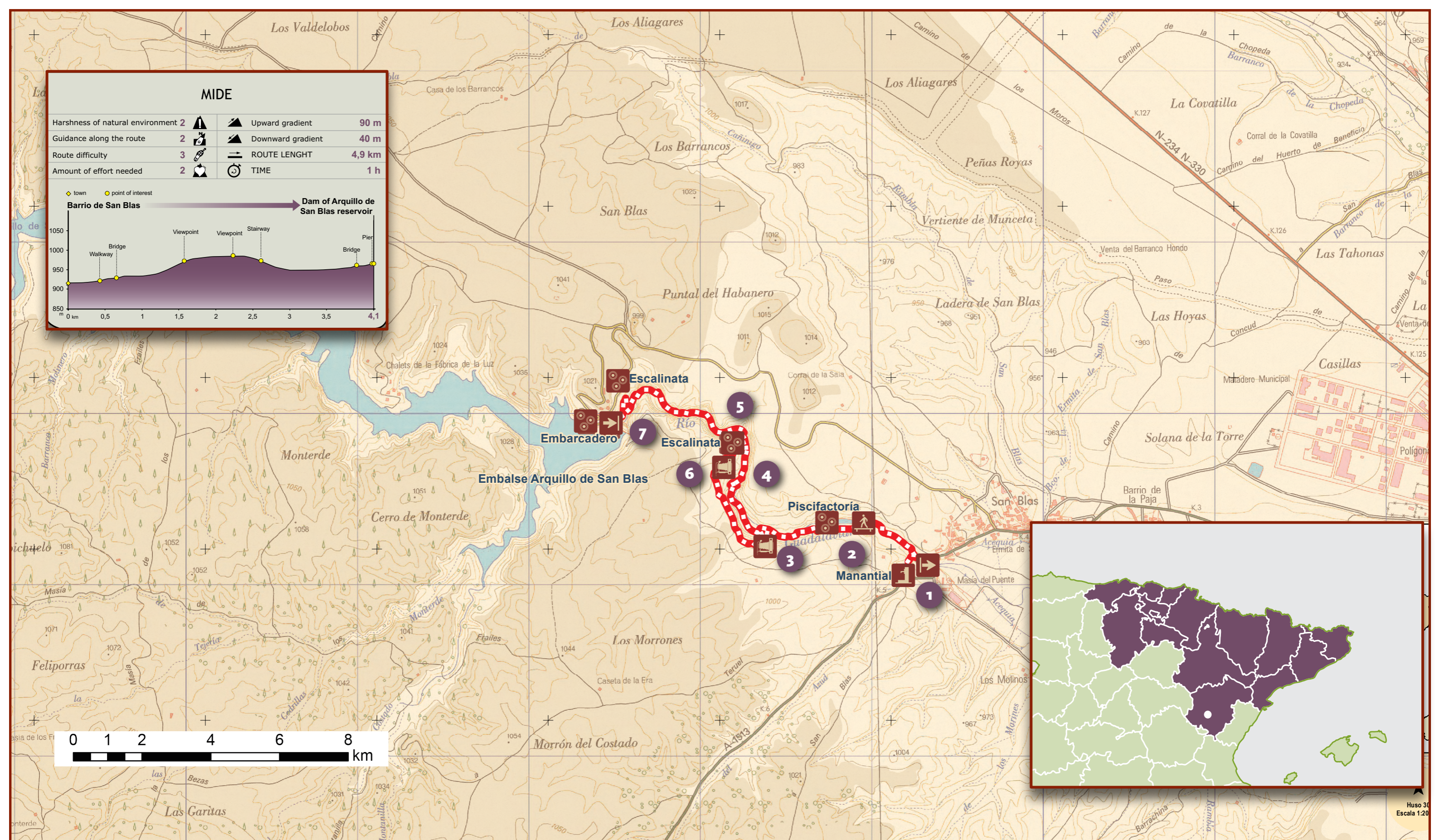
Wooden footbridge over the river

MIDE

Harshness of natural environment	2	▲ Upward gradient	90 m
Guidance along the route	2	▼ Downward gradient	40 m
Route difficulty	3	📏 ROUTE LENGTH	4,9 km
Amount of effort needed	2	🕒 TIME	1 h

◆ town ● point of interest

Barrio de San Blas → **Dam of Arquillo de San Blas reservoir**



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NATURE TRAIL
RIVER
GUADALAVIAR

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Fountain
- Walkway
- Viewpoint
- Other sights of interest