

Port Andratx to St Elm & S'Arraco

This walk/ bicycle ride goes through a small coastal hill range between Port d'Andratx and the small village of St Elm. Once away from the Port d'Andratx urbanisation area, that is over the ridge towards Cala d'Egos, you will be in complete wilderness, on good dirt tracks closed to all motorised traffic. There are good see views all along the track, with even better views on Dragonera island once past the antenna station ridge.

Hikers can either complete a loop on the Cala d'Egos trails, or push on to St Elm and use public transport to return to their starting point. This would be a full day walk.

Cyclists can ride from Port d'Andratx to St Elm and return to their starting point in about 3 to 4 hrs. Note that bike will have to be carried over the Pas Vermell, on a rocky dirt track less than a kilometre long.

Getting there

There are fairly frequent buses to Port d'Andratx from Palma. For those with a car, park behind the yacht club at the bottom of the Mon Port hill. For those riding from Palma, there are two ways possible: either go through Calvia/ Capdella/ Andratx or take the coastal road via Santa Ponsa/ Peguera/ Camp de Mar. Allow at least 1:30 minutes each way for the bike journey to the start of the trail. Riding to and back from Palma will makes this a full day trip.

The trail

Start at point A behind the yacht club on the Calle de Cala d'Egos, a wide road at first asphalted then turning to well graded dirt track, winding up the hill between affluent villas. This is the least attractive part of the trip. Walkers can follow the trail going straight up the hill at the bottom of the gully.

From point B, turn to the right onto a fairly rocky wide track. This follows the ridge at the the top of the Calla Egos. You are now in the country side, with pretty views on the cala bellow.

At point C, it is possible to follow an other track all the way down to the bottom of the cala, or make a loop back to Port Andratx on some of the trails further down the hill. Most will continue towards point D, where the radio signal station is located. A few hundred meters further, look for a trail on your right marked by cairns. Leave the main track and follow this trail over the Pas Vermeil, over the hill and down just bellow some cliffs. Cyclists will need to carry their bikes and scramble over a few rocky passages. There are great view of Dragonera island beyond St Elm along the way.

You will soon rejoin a dirt double track (E). Take a right towards S'Arraco, or a left towards St Elm. The trails go through some nice forests; follow the cairns through the many junctions along the way. The map is correct, so it pays to count the crossroads to establish where to go straight and where to turn.

The trail towards St Elm eventually follows the coast, and after a succession of nice views over the bay of St Elm and Dragonera you will reach the village proper, from where you can take the main road back towards S'Arraco and Andratx, wait for a bus, or continue towards Sa Trappa Monastery.

