

**Route:**

Cuestas del Cedacero–Peñas Blancas–Cuestas del Cedacero. This is a circular route starting and finishing at the same place.

**Duration:**

From 3 to 4 hours.

**Difference in ground level:**

Maximum height above sea level, 627 m. Peñas Blancas, minimum height, 240 m. at puente Bocaoria (Boca de Oria).

**Level of difficulty:**

Easy, steep slopes, and care to be taken in the area of Peñas Blancas when closed off, especially in fog or rain.

**ROUTE:**

The Cuestas del Cedacero (Hills of the Cedacero) can be accessed from Cartagena by the MU-6059, Cartagena-Isla Plana road. When you reach km. 8.5 you can leave the vehicle beside a roadside restaurant you will find, and start walking down the asphalt road over a distance of 1.7 km., a road which used to be the old cattle track of Colada de la Cuesta del Cedacero, which goes from Mazarrón to Cartagena (29 km.). Cross the Bocaoria bridge and climb the mountain pass until you reach Collado de Mazarrón, the upper part of this pass, from which you can take in a magnificent coastal view of Isla Plana and the gulf of Mazarrón. On this hill, to the right of a tomb cross on the edge of the road, is the beginning of the north east track; follow the yellow-white marks. The climb starts on the south side, diagonal to the north-east direction. It is an old path leading to the mines of the upper part. The path zigzags upwards by the side of the hill, which can be recognised by a narrow little passage dug out of the rock. Continue upwards on the right side of a watercourse, following the yellow-white marks. There is a predominance of little terraces of almond trees and carob trees in addition to a wild vegetation of thorny thickets and herbal plants such as rosemary, lavender and thyme, etc. The climb continues gently up the hill, which is not at all steep. The path at the top of the hill is easily recognisable because it was made of stone to ease the access to the mines of both people and animals of burden. As you follow the yellow-white marks on your climb, you will reach the heart of a little watercourse. When you get to the top of the watercourse, you will find a wider path, made from the stones dug out by the miners. Continue northwards and you will see the first iron mines. As you go around these, you will pass by a small water reservoir and from this area you will reach the plateau of the hill of las Carrascas or Peñas Blancas.



You will hardly be able to make out the path in this area so carefully follow the yellow-white signs northwards for some 300 m. until you reach the edge of the faces of Peñas Blancas. Be careful! There is a vertical drop of over 100 m. so take the utmost care especially if it is foggy or raining. Continue along eastwards, parallel to the mountain faces, as far as the top of Peñas Blancas, 629 m., the maximum height above sea level of Cartagena and recognisable by a white marker placed by the Geographic and Cadastral Institute. Before reaching the top, you will come across the Peñas Blancas refuge, built by climbers, where you can have a rest and take in the marvellous views of the north of the Campo de Cartagena and the Cañar watercourse; to the south, Cabo Tiñoso and the Mediterranean Sea. Sometimes, on very clear days, you can see the coast of Orán and to the west of Isla Plana, you can see Mazarrón, Cabo Cope, Cabo de Gata, Sierra María and Sierra Nevada. Towards the east, you will see Cartagena and the Mar Menor. The path downhill eastwards from the refuge is well signed and the slope is gentle as far as the Colón mine area, which used to produce iron. From here go down by the valley located on the east, on a very well defined path. Once you get to the end of the valley, there is a track going around the mountain, flanked by almond trees and carob trees, which leads to a pig farm where you will join the MU-6059 road. Walk some hundred metres westwards and you will see the area from which you set out, along with the roadside restaurant, where you can try the splendid pork products ( longanizas, morcillas), paella or roast kid, accompanied by a salad of «bonito» (dried salted bonito fish) and tomato, all washed down with a good local wine of Cartagena. You have come to the end of this route.

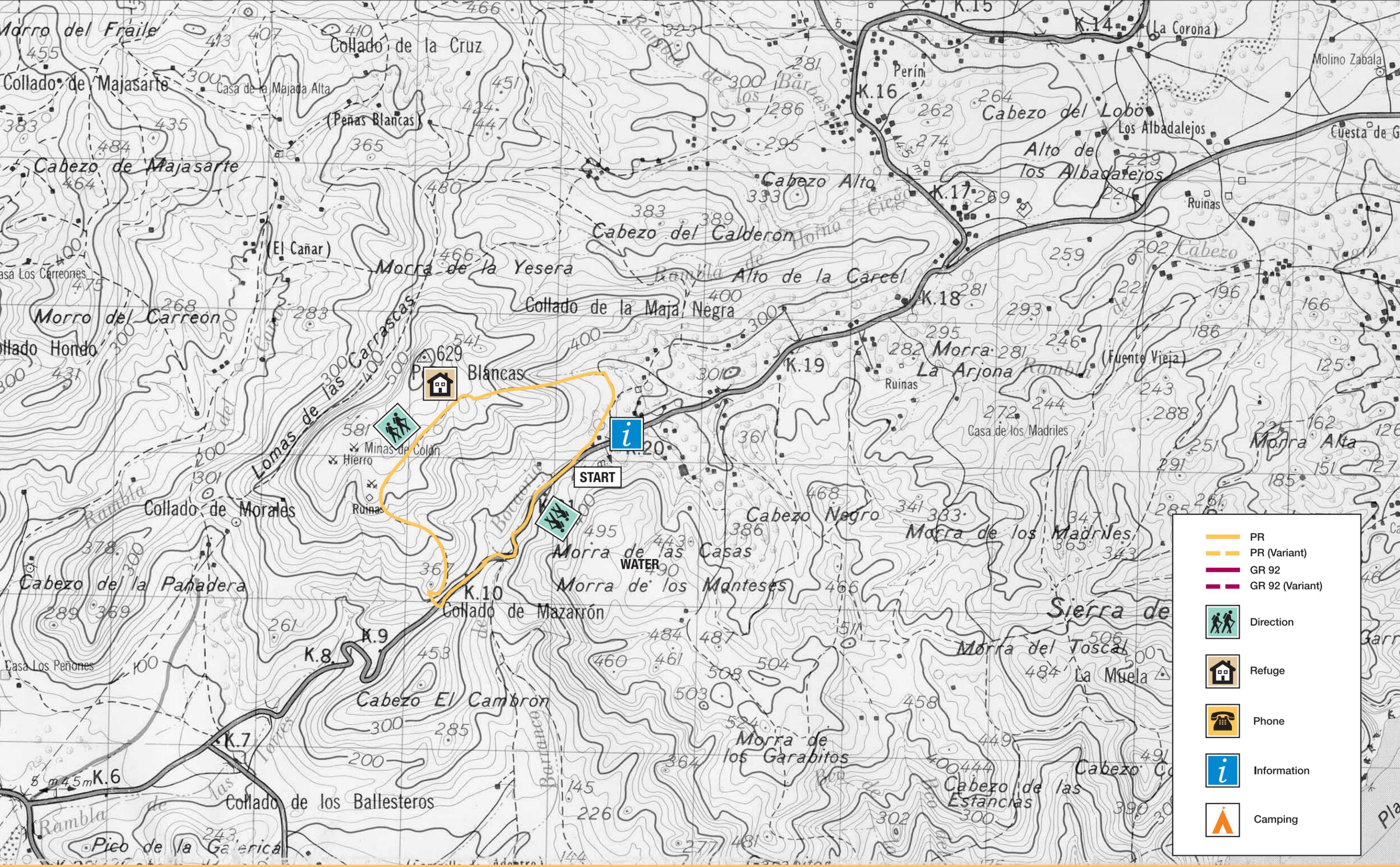


## Cuestas del Cedacero Peñas Blancas



Concejalía de Turismo  
AYUNTAMIENTO  
DE CARTAGENA





	PR
	PR (Variant)
	GR 92
	GR 92 (Variant)
	Direction
	Refuge
	Phone
	Information
	Camping

| PR 12 |