



THE MORTERO RAVINE

Classification: Excursion.

Time: 3h. 30' (one way descent)

Difference in level: 250 m.

Difficulty: Medium-easy.

Landscape interest: Rock paintings, canyons, birds of prey.



	carretera nacional		pistas de comunicación
	carretera autonómica		pistas
	carretera secundaria		sendas
	otras carreteras		límite del Parque Cultural

accesible solo en coche

accesible solo a pie



	Aparcamiento		Puente		Espeología/ Cuevas
	Casillas de Piedra		Fuente		Poblado íbero
	Pico		Lavadero		Pinturas Rupestres
	Ermita		Molino		Huellas de dinosaurio
	Corral, Masía		Barranquismo		Necrópolis-Tumbas
	Merendero		Escalada		Mirador/ Vista panorámica

A couple of kilometers from Alacón, following Las Ventas (TE-V-1101), we will get to the Borón plain (traveling by car), at the top of the Mortero ravine. There, we will find an information point and a ravine lookout. From here we will start going down the ravine. A series of stairs following a streambed will make it easier to access the top of the ravine. At the top, we will see a beautiful waterfall and pond during the rainy season.

Surrounding the top of the ravine are four shelters with rock paintings surrounding a pond. An information board will help us understand the landscape in relation to its prehistorical setting and identify the birds living in the numerous hollows and cracks along the ravine. Vultures, Egyptian vultures, kestrels, crows and rooks are only some of the rupicolous birds that will accompany our route.

In 2 hours we will arrive at the Felio hill, on the left side of the ravine, leaving the steep passages behind us. In the rock belt of the hill we can still find remains of dry stone fences around the caves where shepherds used to close their livestock during the night. Along with the traditional fences, we will notice many protection fences for rock paintings running along the rock belt.

A path starting from the ravine will help us reach the rock belt. It stretches through the Pellejas ravine, and continues to the Mortero ravine, from where we will take another path to Saint Michael's hermitage (ermita de San Miguel) and pond. We can end our descent here - if we have left our car in this place - or start the wine cellar route.

From the washhouses, in 30 minutes we will get to the foot of the hill. About 500 wine cellars lie along the terraces of this hill. The area is famous for its Alacón wine and this route is known as the wine cellar route. The information boards provide an explanation of the architecture of these wine cellars and of the farmyard neighborhood, which developed at the foot of the hill.

Any marked path in the Park will allow visitors to access places of great ecological and environmental value and to see a number of rock paintings - World Heritage sites protected by law.

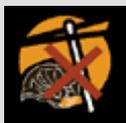
Please remember that everyone has not only the right to enjoy nature but also the obligation to preserve it.



The shelters with rock paintings and archeological sites feature a protection fence. Authorized guides are required for visits. Contact phone numbers can be found in the town halls, tourist offices or interpretation centers of the villages which constitute the Cultural Park.



Please contribute to the preservation of rock paintings. Don't touch or throw water on them and respect the protection fences. Please remember, they are part of the unique but frail heritage of the past; we have to protect them if we want to continue to enjoy them in the same environment in which they were created thousands of years ago.



Archeological and/or palaeontologic prospecting and excavation without the necessary permits is strictly prohibited, according to law 3/1999 of the Aragonese Cultural Heritage. Please contribute to the preservation of the historical, cultural and ethnographic heritage of the Park.



Please keep the place clean. Do not discard any garbage or waste material.



Please remember that lighting fires, throwing away cigarette butts and glass or any other objects that can cause fire is prohibited.



Please respect the environment. Do not uproot plants, do not dirty the water, and do not bother or attempt to capture any of the birds and animals. Many of them nest here.



If you intend to follow one of the routes, please remember to wear comfortable footwear (trainers or hiking boots). Although the trails are quite accessible, appropriate footwear will allow you to walk more confidently, avoiding falls and sprains.



Please bear in mind you are in a natural park and, although the routes have been adapted for visitors, do not forget to take precautions. Do not leave the marked path and pay attention when crossing areas with rocks or water, especially if traveling with children.