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Coinciding in part with the Arrifana » Carrapateira section of the Historical Way, this walk allows you to journey through the Mediterranean woodland on foothills of the Serra de Espinhaço do Cão and discover the incredible interior region surrounding the charismatic village of Bordeira.

This route crosses Mediterranean scrubland of extraordinary diversity, rooted in poor shale soil. There are aromatic plants, such as Lithraea, rosemary, and white barn. Other common shrubs here are gentian, heaths, arbutus, mastic, mariola, flax-leaf daphne, heather, and the sea squill. At the water's edge, the tamarisk, the willow, and the cork oak can be seen. Notice on the trail the marks on the barriers of the path made by the mammals, which are very active in these parts during the night. On these trails, it is possible to see footprints or droppings of the animals that use them: wild boar, fox, Egyptian mongoose, badger, weasel, and genet.

The parish of Bordeira, which includes Carrapateira, has less than 500 inhabitants and a population density of just over 5 inhabitants/km². However, the village makes itself greater because of the generous and cosmopolitan soul of its inhabitants and the splendour of the nature that surrounds it. At the beginning or at the end of the route, it is worthwhile to walk down the narrow streets, stop at the village cafe and visit the charming little Church of Nossa Senhora de Encarnação. This church, built in 1746, has a simple architecture with a small atrium and, inside, a single nave with a triumphal arch. The altarpiece

is in gilt baroque carving with regional motifs from the Algarve. The images are from the 16th to 18th centuries. The font is Manueline style.

REGRAS E RECOMENDAÇÕES

-  Walk only along the marked trails
-  The circulation of motor vehicles puts hikers at risk. Choose alternative paths.
-  The trails cross private properties; always close gates and fences. The cattle are tame but can get aggressive if you approach their offspring.
-  Respect Nature. Do not collect or disturb animals, plants or rocks.
-  Do not camp or light fires outside designated areas.
-  Trails without WC, bring a bag and leave the paths clean
-  Keep your dog on a leash and clean up after it.
-  Prepare your hike well, don't run any risks from lack of preparation or planning.

SOS

Emergência: 112
GNR Ambiente e Território: 808 200 520

Para informações sobre alojamento, restaurantes e actividades culturais ou desportivas, consulte: rotavicentina.com

AJUDE-NOS

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ENDIABRADA AND THE HIDDEN LAKES

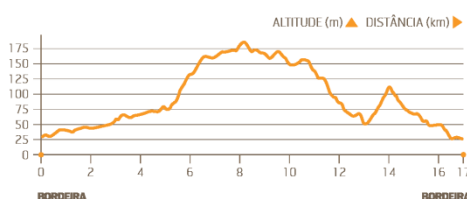
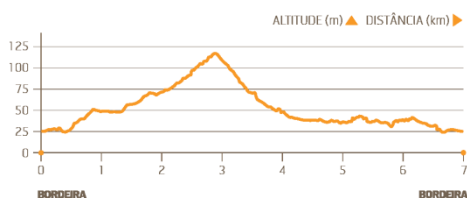
CIRCULAR ROUTE | 7 KM / 17 KM

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DESCRIPTION OF ROUTE

From Bordeira, start walking towards Arrifana – the trail will overlap with the Historical Way for 300 m. Then, follow the the first path to the right. From here, you will gradually ascend through a valley with rich vegetation, cork oaks and shaded areas. Once you arrive at the crossroads of 6 paths, you are in Endiabrada. Turn left, then, turn right, continuously descending. At the fork, you can continue going straight for a quicker return to Bordeira (shortening the route to 7 km), or turn right to walk the whole trail. If you decided to turn right, you will pass a stream and, at the end of a small ascent, see the first lake. You are in a well-preserved valley with little human intervention, where you can feel the essence of this area – forests of vegetation, native to this coastal region.

A little further on, you will pass by the second lake and then ruins of a house. Turn right after the ruins, entering a pinewood area, which later changes to a more arid landscape. Continue walking until you reach the easternmost end of this trail; then, make a sharp left turn. You have made exactly halfway of the route. From here, the trail begins to descend for almost 2 km, with the ocean and mountain range enhancing the landscape. Afterwards, turn to the right for a steep descent, crossing the path at the bottom of the valley embellished by huge cork oaks. As you reach area of eucalyptus trees, take the path on the left to join the Historical Way; continue to follow it until the end of the route. Pass the hamlet of Samouqueira and keep going straight to return to Bordeira, with the national road N268 running parallel on your right side.



FACT SHEET:

Distance: 7 km / 17 km

Approximate duration: 2h 30 / 5h 30

Accumulated descent: 150 m / 400 m

Difficulty level : Easy / Average

Max. / Min. Altitude 190 m / 20 m

Recommended direction counterclockwise

Recommended season September till June

WHERE TO START?

Bordeira: at the Bordeira square, following the Historical Way in the direction of Arrifana.

IMPORTANT WARNINGS:

Route marking: Pay attention to the signs marked in white, red and yellow on the Circular Routes that overlap with the Historical Way. The signs marked with yellow and red are for the Circular Routes.

TIPS:

Shorten this route: The total distance is 16 km but if you prefer, you can opt for a shorter walk of only 7 km, following the signposts in the area of Samouqueira at km 3.7.

Refreshments along the way: Only in the village of Bordeira

Download the **Rota Vicentina APP** and take it with you all the information about this route

