



Form del Vidre Viaduct



Old dam or "parat" in a ravine



Views of the crop fields from the trail

THE "DÍA DE LA VELLA"

This curious event, which is celebrated three weeks after Ash Wednesday, is the most famous local celebration of Agost. Its origin, which dates back to time immemorial, basically consists in hanging "velles" (dolls representing typical costumes or places of the town) on houses or school's doors. As a curious fact, these dolls often include signs simulating what the "velles" say; in most cases, they refer to real town events in a satirical tone.

POTTERY OF AGOST

Agost is a town with a pottery tradition that dates back to the 18th century. Its famous white clay "botijos" are the products which have given more fame to its artisans, due to the pleasant taste they leave in the water. Half of the currently active potters keep working following the traditional technique, with local clay, modelling pieces with their hands and firing the product in a Moorish wood-fired kiln. In order get immersed in the town's pottery tradition, the city council of Agost set up a museum in an old alfar's (potter) workshop that was in use until 1975. It also created a route that tours the house-workshops of the town, the settling ponds, the water supply fountain and an old mine.



THE ROUTE OF THE ALFARES

This nature trail follows a railway line built in the 1920s as an outlet for the important industrial production of the city of Alcoy through the port of Alicante. The works, which started under the Guadalhorce Railway Plan during the dictatorship of General Primo de Rivera, were never completed because of the Civil War.



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Guide to the
Nature Trails
of Spain



NATURE TRAIL MAIGMÓ

1. This well-indicated route starts at the halt of Agost, next to a bicycle park. After leaving paved tracks behind, the traveller will see old clay extraction facilities and the famous crops of the Vinalopó grape variety. This stretch of the trail is dominated by El Cid Range, while in the surroundings of the route there is a brick factory and the town of Agost.
2. The route continues through a green metal bridge over the road that will lead the traveller to a new stretch among crops. Here and there water irrigation ponds can be observed, one of them being totally covered by a green plant known as pigface (*Carpobrotus edulis*).
3. Shortly after, the trail becomes a cutting dug to level the railroad. This stretch of the route allows the traveller to appreciate the old works of the railway, such as deep excavations and bridges. After having passed that point, the trail turns towards El Cid Range and continues along a cemented stretch crossing a couple of bridges.
4. The trail gets close to a water irrigation pond with some interpretative display panels about the birdlife of the area. In this part of the route, plenty of tobacco-related plants, known as tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), can be found.
5. The route continues and after crossing a ravine, it goes straight on until reaching the first tunnel, which was an ammunition dump during the Civil War (there is still

- a guard post on the hillside right above it). After this tunnel, the traveller will find the sidings, designed to prevent pedestrians sharing the track from being run over by the train. Later, the trail reaches the first viaduct, known as Forn del Vidre. From the bridge, the traveller will be able to see the works of a dam that never came into operation. Following the railway, the trail goes through a cutting and a little later the route leaves a large reservoir aside, until reaching a rest area.
6. The trail continues through a paved track until the next large viaduct, crossing another ravine before reaching the next tunnel. The route continues towards two aqueducts crossing it, and then to yet another tunnel, in whose entrance some panels inform travellers about the crops in the ravine.
7. Later, there is a dam that once served to dam the water. The route continues to reach the next tunnel. Continuing on the journey, the route goes through a few more tunnels, which include a large retaining wall.
8. After the last tunnel, which contrary to what the panel indicates, is not illuminated, the nature trail comes to an end in a clay extraction area.

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 Maigmó 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.

TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Alicante Council:

0034 965 98 89 00



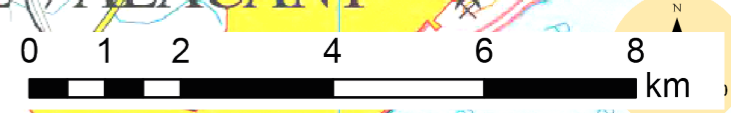
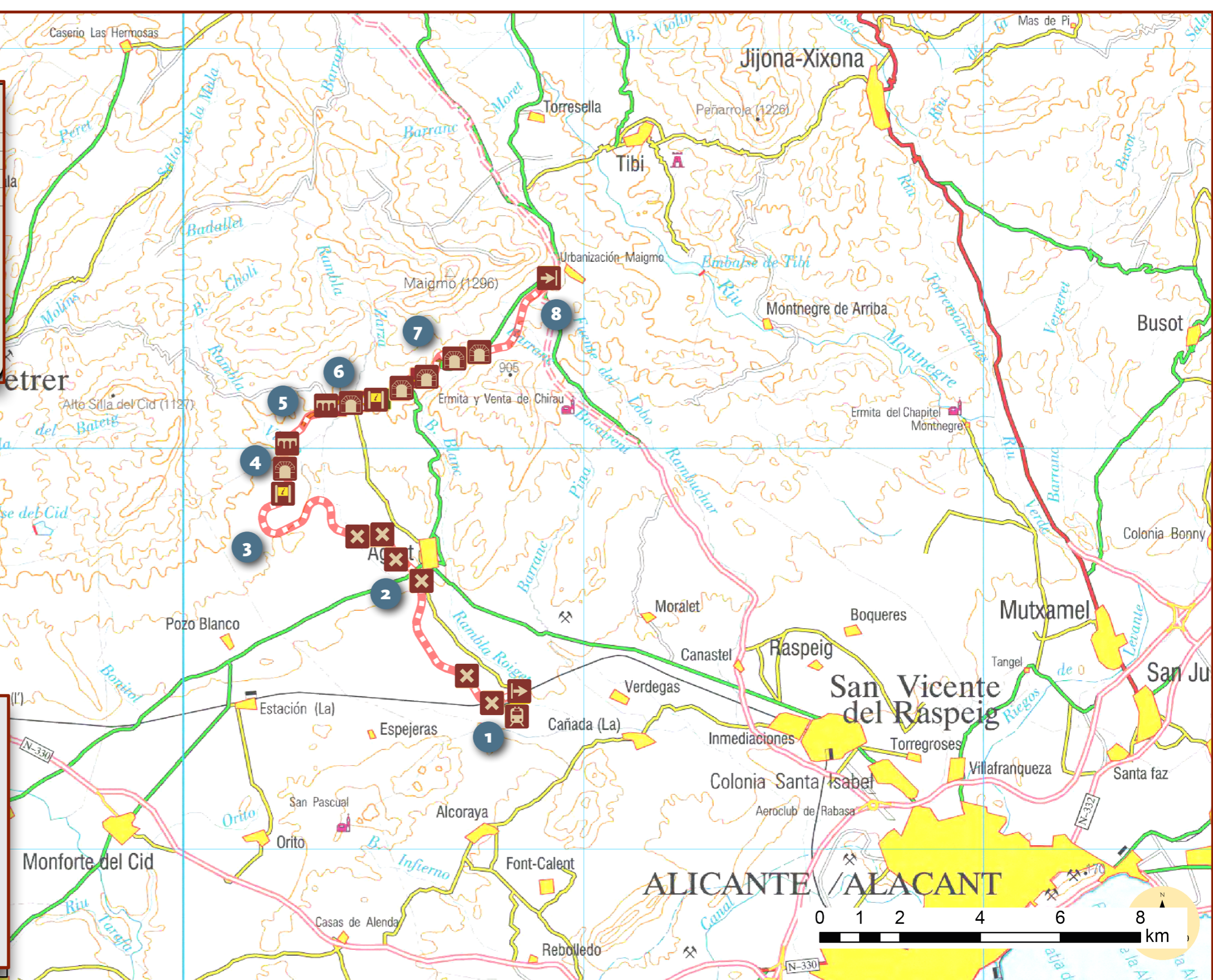
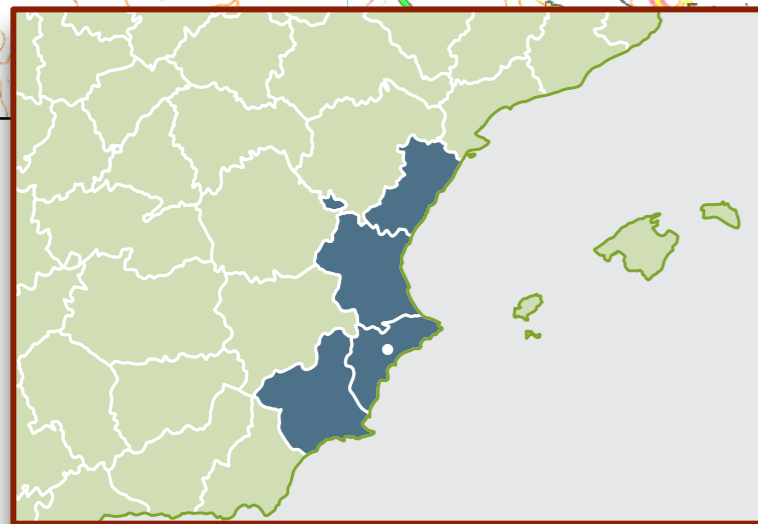
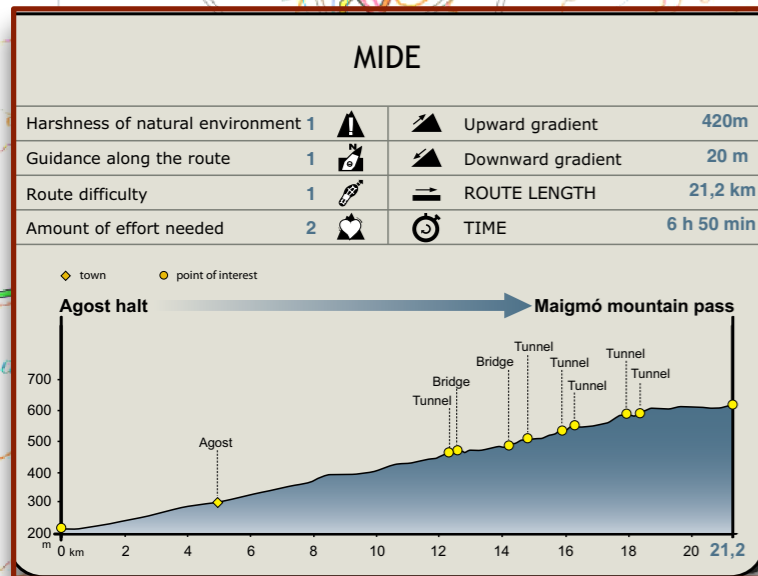
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Agost to Maigmó
[Valencian Community]



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NATURE TRAIL
MAIGMÓ

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Train station
- Information panel
- Junction
- Puente
- Tunnel