



SENDERISMO - MONTAÑA

Peaks of Cellorigo 914 mts. (From Cellorigo)

Pablo Vozmediano Salazar

***STARTIN POINT**: Cellorigo. You can also start this short ascent from the road from Foncea to Bugedo, and from some other points, but I am only going to relate the ascent to the crags.

***TIME REQUIRED**: To reach the summit directly from the village, we only need 20' at a leisurely pace. If we do the circular itinerary, without climbing the crags before the summit, 1 hour is enough. In case of climbing some of the crags, we can add 10' more for each of them.

* **DIFFICULTY**: The ascent to the main peak, the highest, offers no more problem than a short climb (F+), about 10 meters, with good grip. If we climb some of the nearby crags, we must keep in mind that the difficulties increase, being some of them PD or PD+ (II or II+), and must be reserved for more expert mountaineers. In no case, it is advisable if the rock is wet.

* **HOW TO GET THERE**: From Haro, the best option is to go through Casallerreina and Tirgo, and after leaving this village on the left, take the exit that indicates Sajazarra and Miranda de Ebro. About 7 kms before Miranda, at the top of a small ascent, we have on the left the detour that takes us to Cellorigo. It's about 22 kms. We can park in an open space, to the right of the fountain.



We cannot say that we know the mountains near Haro, without having visited this modest mountain. This is one of the most beautiful and impressive areas of the Obarenes Mountains. These are the Picos de



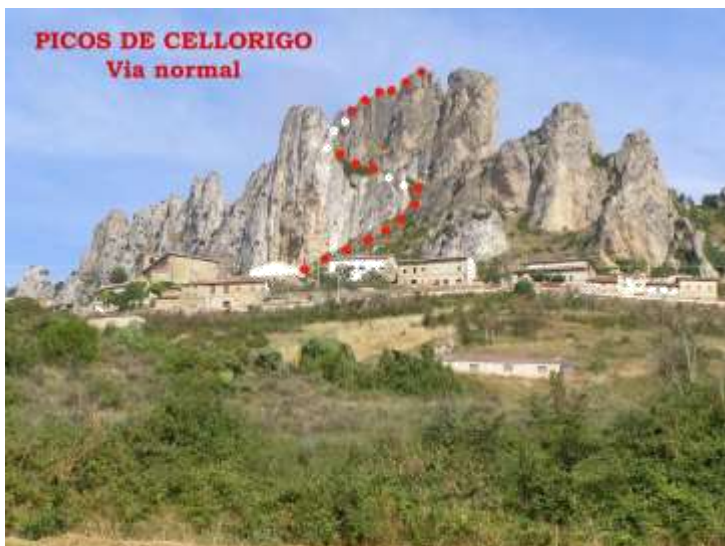
Cellorigo, or Peña Lengua, as the main peak is sometimes called.



The itinerary that I am going to propose is not limited to the direct ascent to the summit, since it would be an excessively short excursion. This is a easy circuit that allows us to have a different and unknown view of the crags from different angles.

The proposed circuit, has no difficulty, if you just do it without venturing into the successive peaks that we have on the sides. But for who likes to clamber, we also offer you other options that will allow you to reach the highest peaks of the itinerary.

It only remains to warn, that in case of choosing these other options, you must discard them in case of being the rock wet, because without being excessively difficult, the climbing to those peaks can sometimes be dangerous.



Itinerary:

We begin the itinerary in the church, or on the fountain (0').

Above it, or under the church, we leave the village to the left, a few metres below the base of the crags. We take this path and continue without gaining altitude for about 5 or 6 minutes, avoiding entering the area of bushes that we have on our right.

Once we are located under the last of the rocks, we can begin to ascend the slope on the left looking for a path which allows us to place ourselves at the top of the mound.

From here, we see a well defined path that goes to the right, which will allow us to make a short tour through the high areas, from hill to hill, without any difficulty and let us enjoy some of the best views of the Picos de Cellorigo.



We thus reach the first summit of 904 mts. This first crag is easy and can be climbed without any problem (20').

To continue to the main peak, we descend a few meters to the 888 m hill. The path goes to the southern slope, losing a few metres and going up again to a new hill (30'), where we have on the left the next summit of 911 mts.

**If you want to climb to this summit, you must look for the remains of a path that leads to a breach to the left of a rock embedded at the top of the ridge, and over which you must pass to reach the highest point. The ascent to this peak can be done in 3 or 4 minutes, but but be extremely careful, because it is a climbing PD (II or II+), somewhat risky at the end. The view of the rest of the tour is impressive from here.*

Once again on the hill, we continue with a new descent of several meters and a new ascent to another hill of 884 meters. (35'), where we are going to see on the left a sharp rocky wall.

**If you wish, you can climb this peak of just over 900 metres, in 3 or 4 minutes, also from its left (remains of the path on the left, behind the wall), with a new climb "PD (II or II+)", until the summit that is cut on the right by a deep breach.*



If you have decided to continue the path without climbing this peak, a new descent, followed by another ascent, finally places us on the last hill (40'), already under the main summit, also on the left.

We can identify this hill, observing that the descent to the other side is longer than the previous ones, because it is the descent to the village.

To go up to the mountain mailbox, we must look for a somewhat hidden path to the left of the hill, and among the bushes (there is some white paint marks). The path enters a kind of canal, and with an easier climb than the previous F (I+), we reach the main



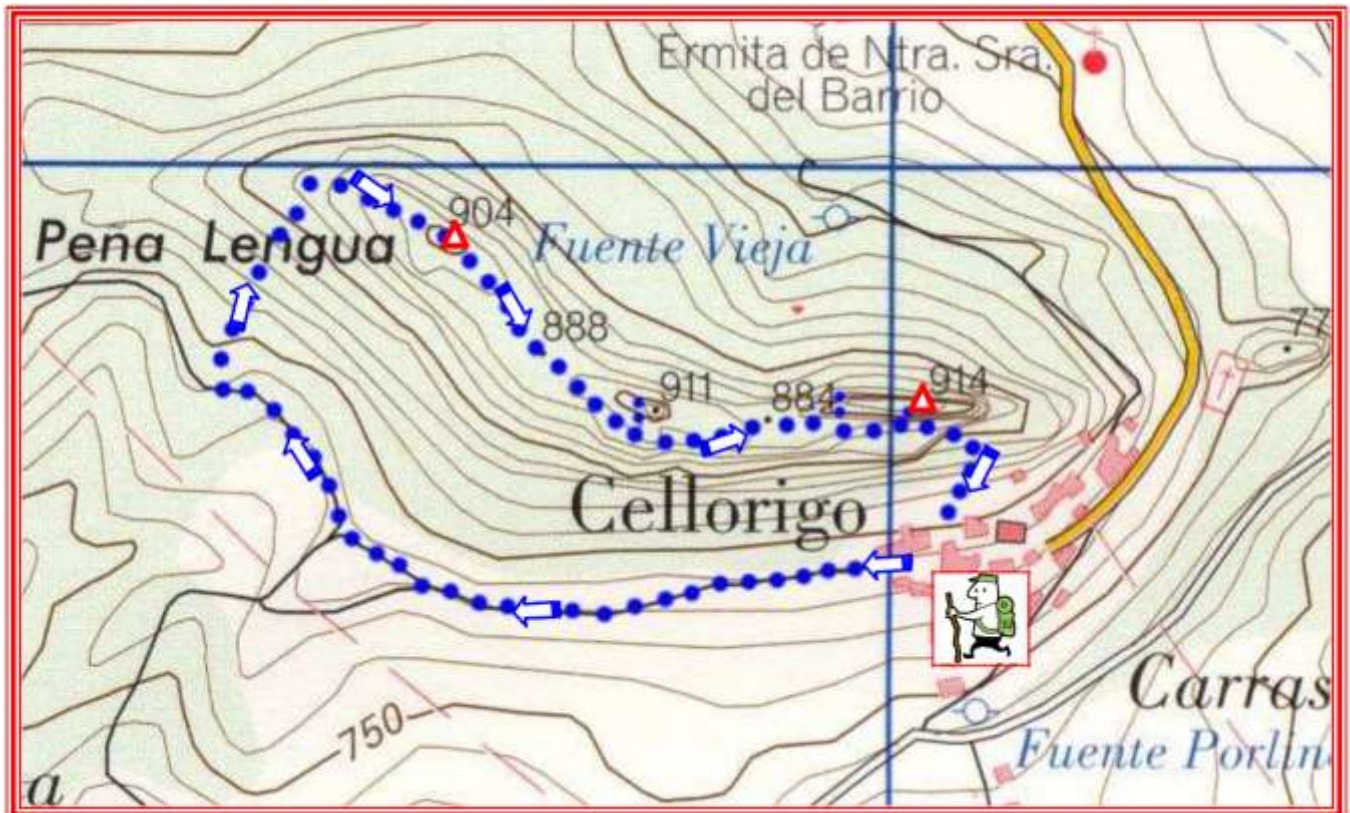
summit of the Picos de Cellorigo (45'). This climbing has very good grips, and is easier than it seems in principle, so we encourage you all to do it, of course, with the appropriate precautions.

From the top the views are beautiful, and with good weather, you can see all the Rioja Alta, the Sierra de Cebollera, La Demanda and San Millán, the Obarenes Mountains to the west and east, the Gorbea, Anboto..., and in the background, to the east, the Sierra de Toloño, as well as the impressive aerial view from here of the village of Cellorigo.

DESCENT:

To go down to the village, once again on the hill under the summit, we continue along the path in the same direction we were going, which goes down in a decided and evident way towards a hollow (it is not necessary to go up to the next hill, after the first descent). We go down on our right by some rocky slabs, with a bit of caution, and before we realize it, we are already next to a chalet in the highest part of the village.

To go down to the village, 10 or 15 minutes from the summit are enough.



* Author's note.

I'd like to make a little introduction to these routes.

First of all, I want to make it clear that I am just a simple mountain enthusiast, and that I am not qualified enough to make technical comments on flora, fauna, history and other similar topics.

For that reason, I prefer to leave such matters to more capable people. I apologize for any mistakes I may have made in referring to some names of municipal districts, historical facts, or any other name used by me, when making these routes.

I am simply an unconditional lover of Nature in all its facets, and I have always regretted the lack of sensitivity that politicians have shown in everything related to these issues.

The Haro region and the Rioja Alta have privileged places where you can enjoy natural environments, sometimes unknown by the inhabitants of the area. In spite of having a great landscape and fauna richness, at an institutional level, there has always been an absolute lack of any kind of printed information about trekking or mountain routes in our region, which shows how little interest has been taken in it.

However, the reality is that at the grassroots level, there is a great fondness for it. This is demonstrated by the large number of people who every Sunday take their backpacks and go to the mountains. Also, the two existing mountain associations in the town, counting at present the Toloño Sports Association (to which I belong), with more than 300 members.

For that reason, I have always tried to collaborate as much as possible, to spread that richness in the mountain environment in which I usually move.

On one occasion, I coincided in a mountain activity with the manager of Camping de Haro, Carlos Contreras, and during a short conversation, I voluntarily and totally disinterestedly accepted the commitment to facilitate some routes. In this way, people who visit our city and the camping, and wish to do trekking or mountain, or simply know our environment, can have at their disposal, a minimum of information to do so.

As I promised, and although these simple routes are the work of an amateur, I hope they are useful for those who, like me, share that interests in Nature. Les ofrezco en principio estos pocos itinerarios que en un futuro próximo, irán ampliándose con otras rutas futuras.

Before I finish, I'd like to ask everyone who makes these routes **MAXIMUM RESPECT FOR ANIMALS, PLANTS, AND NATURE IN GENERAL. WE MUST NOT IN ANY WAY DEGRADE THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE ARE.**

Neither should we forget that on some occasions, we will be passing through areas close to private properties (vineyards, farm fields...etc), or through places with a great cultural and historical richness, which we will also have to respect.

Finally, if anyone wishes to contact the author of these routes, for any suggestion, additional information, or any criticism, they can do so at:

www.pablovozmediano@yahoo.es or on the telephone number **699 001252** (Pablo Vozmediano Salazar).