




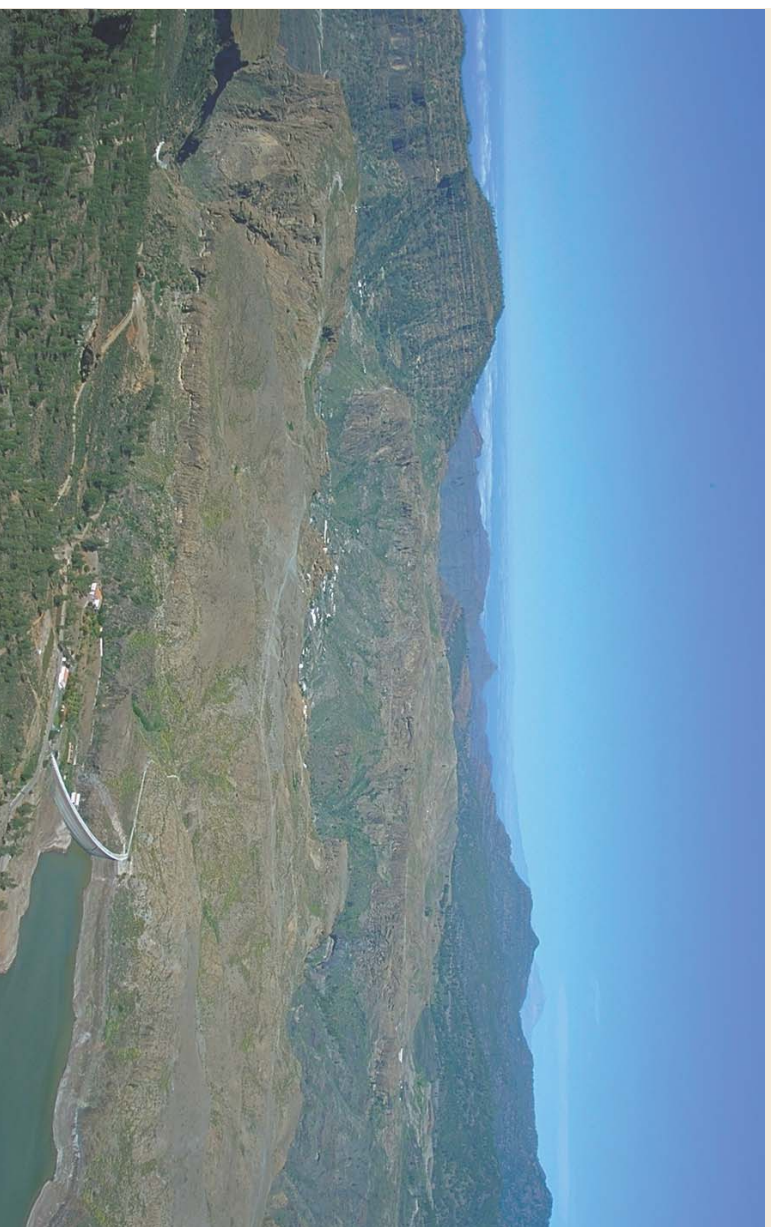
## CRUZ GRANDE-PRESA DE CHIRA

 Not all operators offer good mobile telephone coverage along the route, but calls can be made at some points. You will usually be able to access the 112 emergency telephone number throughout your walk.

It is a very easy path and is ideal for a pleasant walk with the family. The magnificent views to be enjoyed along the route are a sufficient reason to decide to do it. The fact that the distance covered is not excessive and that the path is in a perfect state of repair means that it can be completed without any problems. However, it is very hot here during the summer. So you should make sure that you take enough water with you, as you will not find any along the route, and take all the necessary measures to protect yourself from the sun, if you decide to do the route in summer.

The path goes along the ridge that separates the two basins (Pilancones and the Cuenca) and magnificent views can be had from the various cols that you go over. The flora is mainly made up of rock rose, narrow-leafed bugloss and even some examples of orchids, but the main plant to be found here is the pine tree, even though you can see the effects of the last fire in the area. The hardness of the Canary Island pine trees allows it to better withstand the devastating effect of fire.

Chira Dam



**BUGLOSS** (*Echium decaisnei*)

The bugloss species to be found on the Canary Islands are part of an exceptional group of shrubs whose closest relatives are to be found in South Africa. The evolutionary phenomena of adaptive radiation, in a similar way to Darwin's chaffinches on the Galapagos Islands, can be seen on the Canary Islands. They are some of the most attractive plants to be seen in all the gardens and areas worldwide with a sub-tropical climate.

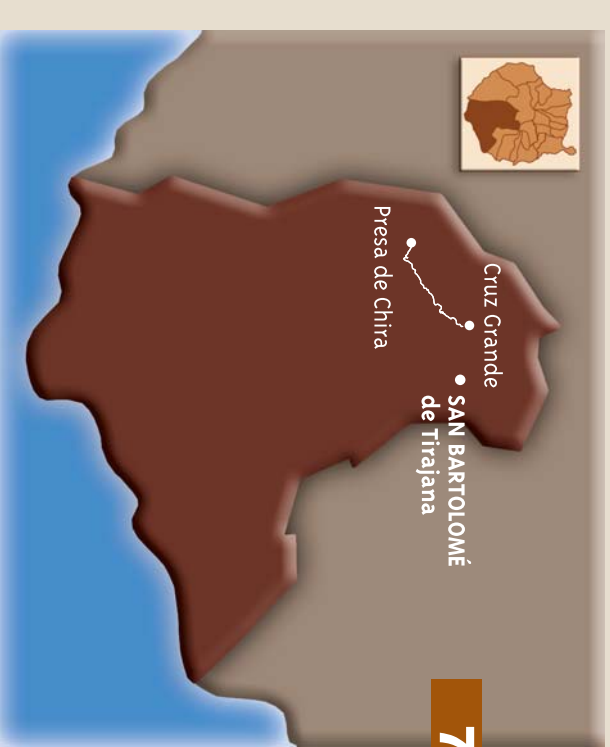


**TORTOLA**  
(*Streptopelia turtur*)

This species visits us in spring and summer and nests all over the islands. It lives in a large range of habitats, such as the ravines of the lowland areas, pine forests or farming land. It feeds on many types of seeds, including those of the Euphorbia family. Their nests are built in trees, although shrubs are sometimes used in the lowland areas. They lay two eggs.

By José Ignacio Trojaola

**MASPALOMAS**  
ESPACIO NATURAL  
**GUIA RURAL**  
Y TURISMO ACTIVO



## CRUZ GRANDE-PRESA DE CHIRA

### From Cruz Grande to the Presa de Chirac (Dam and Reservoir) over the Degollada del Sordid

This is an easy and well-kept path. It is a delightful example of the old tracks that connected the various towns and villages from the coast to the summit, and the hiker can enjoy magnificent views over the Pilancones Natural Park and the Chira basin.

Length: **6.850 km.**

Estimated time: **2 h.**

Difficulty: **2 (easy).** You will only need to take care as you descend from the pond towards the dam.

How to get there: Take Global bus no. 18 from Playa del Ingles to Cruz Grande. You will need to organise transport for the return journey.

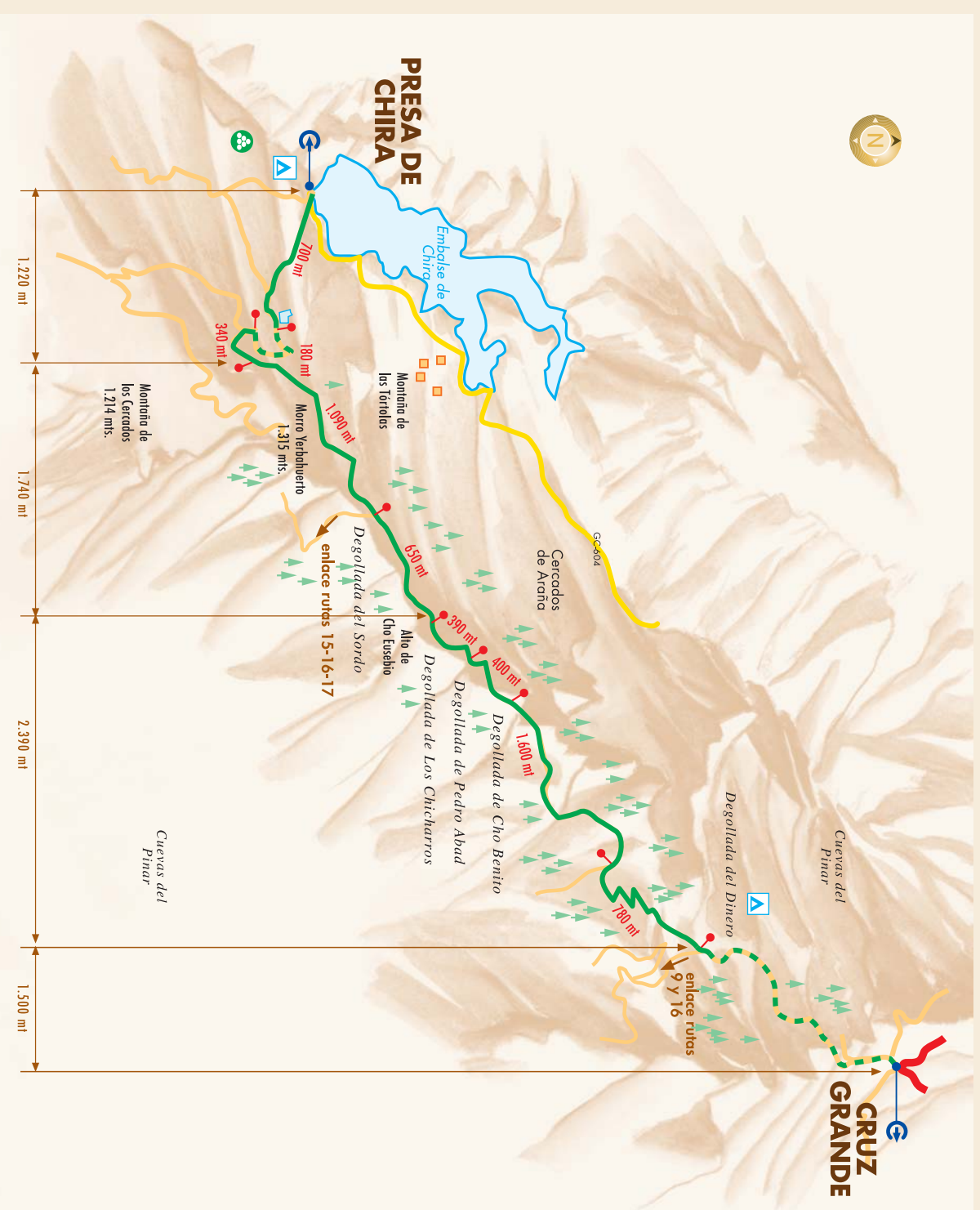




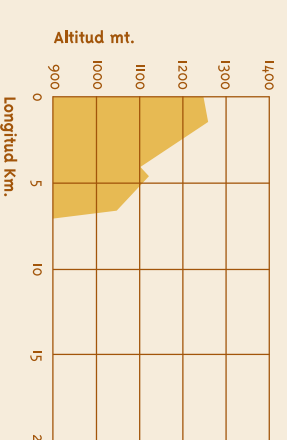
## CRUZ GRANDE-PRESA DE CHIRA

Take the dirt track that goes from Degollada de Cruz Grande to the Pilancones Natural Park. 20 m after the start, you will go past a track on the right (which is the path leading from Cruz Grande to Cercados de Araña). 50 m further on there is another path on your right leading to the forest hide that you can make out in the background. Continue along the track and after 190 m, you will come to a chain across the path to stop vehicles from entering the park. A sign tells you that you are at La Plata. Carry on along the track and after 400 m, go past a small pond that is on your left. After walking another 500 m, you will come to a sign telling you that you are now entering the Pilancones Natural Park. Continue for 300 m until you reach the Degollada del Dinero, which is the starting point of several routes. Take the path that is in front of you and which will take you momentarily into the Natural Park, where you can enjoy the first views across the park. The path zigzags downhill for 780 m until you reach a junction with a path to your left that would take you to Los Bailaderos, where you would pick up the forest track again. Continue straight ahead along the path that is easy to make out. Start climbing up towards the Degollada de Cho Benito. Once there, at 1,600 m, you can enjoy the views over the Chira basin and make out the first houses of Cercados de Araña in the background. After this first uphill stretch, the path flattens out and takes you over the cols known as the Degolladas of Pedro Abad, 400 m, of Los Chicharros, a further 400 m on, and finally, of El Sordo, 630 m. Here, you will come to another junction. The path that goes off to the left would take you over the Morro del Arco and Los Andenes to the Cruz de Agustina. The views from this point show you another aspect of the Pilancones Natural Park. Continue walking along the path until you come to another junction, 1,000 m. A path to the left goes up to the Degollada del Humo and the Morro Yerbahuerto, but you should take the right-hand path that takes you down to a dirt track. Turn right along the track and carry on for

## MASPATOMAS ESPACIO NATURAL Y TURISMO ACTIVO



180 m until you come to a pond, which is just after a bend. Continue along the path that goes along beside the pipe and carry on down the gentle slope to the wall of the Presa de Chira dam. (700 m)



### MAPKEY

(Canarian Vegetation)

- Cardonal/ Tababai
- Palm Grove
- Fruit Trees
- Canes
- Pine Grove
- Bar
- Restaurant
- Crafts
- Provisions
- Recreational Area
- Camping Area
- Medical Care Services

### PLACES OF INTEREST

- LANDSCAPE
- BOTANICAL
- GEOLOGICAL
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL
- FAUNA
- TOURIST

### ITINERARY

- Main Road
- Secondary Road
- Track
- Itinerary
- Alternative itinerary
- Direction of itinerary
- Partial Distance
- Total Distance
- Caution
- Danger