




## CRUZ GRANDE-CRUZ GRANDE

 As is the case of all the routes that go through the Park, you have to make sure that you take enough water with you, as there is practically no possibility of getting supplies there. The mobile telephone coverage is rather patchy during the walk. There is only a minimum of coverage of some networks from the Degollada de Manzanilla to the Degollada de Rosiana and in the higher parts of the route, although it is usually easier to get in contact with the 112 emergency number.

This simple route is an easy way to get to know the Pílancones Natural Park and to enjoy the magnificent landscapes (which are numerous in this Park) and observe part of the wealth in flora to be found there. Specifically, there is the orchid (*Orchis canariensis*), Gran Canarian lavender (*lavandula minutiflora*), rock rose, (*cistus symphytifolius*), narrow-leafed bugloss (*echium onosmifolium*), etc. As far as the fauna is concerned, mention should be made of the Canary Island Great Spotted Woodpecker (*dendrocopos major thanneri*). If you leave the route slightly, you can also visit the archaeological remains at Morro de la Cruz and Morro de las Vacas (see The Archaeological Guide of San Bartolomé de Tirajana). This route also lets you walk the old path, which has practically disappeared due to the building of the various tracks through the Park. The few stretches that can still be found are in a reasonably good state of repair.



### ROCK ROSE (*cistus symphytifolium*)

This can be easily recognised thanks to the intense pink colour of the flowers and their large size, as they can reach up to 5 cm across. However, the flowers of this member of the *cistus* family are very delicate, and can be easily destroyed by a storm. Each flower only lasts for one day, although the plant continues to flower for several months. It is a bush that grows up to one metre high, with leaves on either side of its branches. The leaves are velvet-like and with prominent veins. It is more common on the lower part of the tree line of the pine forests.

It propagates from seeds and its leaves can be used to relieve toothache. It is an endemic species to the Canary Islands.

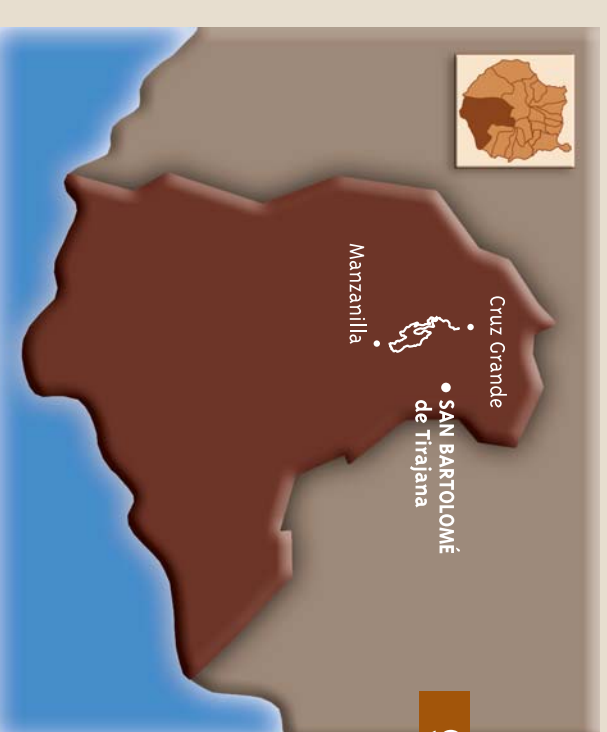


Por José Ignacio Trojaola

**ORCHID**  
(*orchis canariensis*)  
This orchid with dark pink flowers can be found on the higher part of the spurge area, particularly in shady spots and in pine forests.



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



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## CRUZ GRANDE-CRUZ GRANDE

### From Cruz Grande through Bailaderos and Manzanilla to Cruz Grande.

This route is particularly recommended for those hikers who want to get a first idea of the Natural Park before exploring it more thoroughly, and to discover the range of landscape and flora to be found there, or its typical rural buildings that still stand within the Park, for example, Las Tederas.

Length: **14,6 km.**

Estimated time: **4 h. 30 min.**

Difficulty: **2 (easy)**

How to get there: Bus no. 18 leaves from Playa del Inglés (near Viuda de Franco)

Departs at 08:00 hours

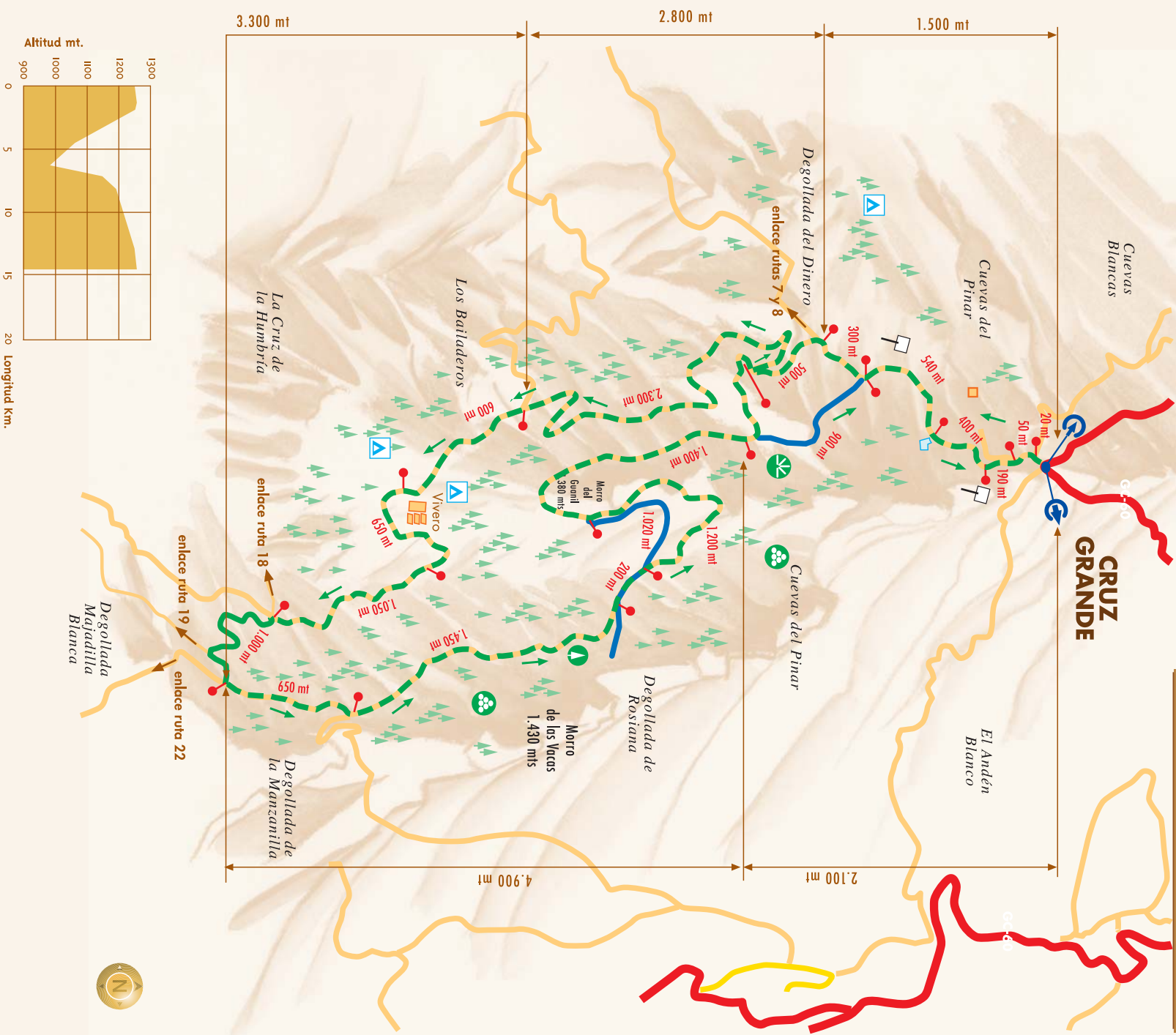
Arrives at Cruz Grande at 09:30 hours

Or go by car along the GC-60 from Maspalomas to Ayacata through San Bartolomé You can leave your car at Cruz Grande.



## CRUZ GRANDE-CRUZ GRANDE

Take the dirt track that goes from Degollada de Cruz Grande to the Pílancones Natural Park. 20 m after the start, you will go past a track on the right. 50 m further on there is another path on your right that goes 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 in 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 Pílancones Natural Park. Immediately afterwards, after about 40 m, you can see the old path that is given as an alternative to the dirt track, and which appears in blue on the map. Continue for 300 m until you reach the Degollada del Dinero, where you will see straight ahead the path that will take you towards Chira, and which is also the point where you can join several other routes. Continue along the track for a further 500 m until you come to a junction. Take the path to the right and start going downwards into the Natural Park. The route is not at all difficult in this area and you will be able to enjoy all the grandeur of Pílancones. After walking for about 30 minutes, approximately 2,300 m, carry on past a track going off to your right (towards Cruz de Justina). Continue for a further 600 m until you have passed the path that goes off to the left to the Vivero de Tirajana (a camp site). Carry on for 650 m until you reach a bend, where you will see pipes that go from the track to the ravine. 425 m further on, you will find a pine tree in the middle of the track, then carry on for another 650 m until you reach the junction with the path that you have to take to the left (the path to the right joins the route that goes towards the Pino Pílancones - Las Tederas - Ayagaures). A short, but steep climb up this path will take you to the upper track and past the Pino Manzanilla on your left. Once you have reached the upper track, turn left and carry on for 650 m, until you reach the Degollada de Manzanilla, from where you will enjoy the beautiful view over part of the Ravine or Barranco de Fataga and part of the Caldera de Tirajana. You can decide to go down the path that can be seen from the col and that goes to San Bartolomé de Tirajana (3,250 m to where the Camino del Pinar meets the road in San Bartolomé de Tirajana). If you continue along the planned route, you will reach Degollada de Rosiana after you have walked for 20 minutes, 1,460 m. You need to pay attention if you want to find the old path that goes off to your left about 200 m after the col. No problem if you do not find it, as the track goes in the same direction. Although you will have to walk 180 m further and it does not have the same charm. This stretch of the old road is roughly 1,020 m long. Once you have rejoined the track, carry on walking for 1,400 m and then turn right down a track for 900 m. This will bring you back to the track that you used to enter the Park and then trace your way back to the Degollada de la Cruz Grande.



### MASPATOMAS ESPACIO NATURAL Y TURISMO ACTIVO GUARURAL

#### MAPKEY

- (Canarian Vegetation)
- Cardonal/ Tabaibal
- 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