

Los Tres Puertas - The Three Passes - www.abdet.com

Abdet - Confrides - Puerto Xarquera - Benasau - Port D'Ares - Puerto Del Tosal - Abdet 28km. 800 Metres of Ascent.

Attempting some passes is a challenge many cyclists enjoy, and this short but hilly ride over three passes (Puertas) in the mountains to the West of Guadalest is ideal for a half day's cycling. You will find some steeper sections here that will certainly have you selecting bottom gear!

Puerto Xarquera

Take the main road out of Abdet and turn right up the bends to Confrides. Carry straight on in the direction of Alcoy but look out for the minor road on the left just over 1km out of the town. This road climbs very steeply in places, and also passes some steep rock walls. Also keep an eye out for some rough sections where landslips have occurred. In late summer and autumn you may also find some nice grapes growing through the fig trees at the side of the road.

The ruin at the top of this first pass, (we call it Puerto Xarquera - 1050 metres) is a welcome sight, and the highest point of the ride. The Aitana Peak mountain bike ride heads off the track on the left at this point. You have now climbed 350 metres despite only traveling 7.5 kms.

Take care of the steep descent as the road surface is rough in places. Look out for the small village of Ares Del Bosque on your right, you will be passing this later on the ride.

Port D'Ares

Eventually you will come to a junction with another road (altitude 700 metres), turn left here if you wish to explore the old mill town of Alcolecha, or to continue on the main circuit turn right here and climb up slightly to meet the main CV70. If you wish to have a meal or snack turn left here, Restaurant Serella is a few hundred metres away on the edge of Benasau. Heading right takes you on the Alpine style ascent of Port D'Ares. After skirting the edge of Ares Del Bosque the climbing really starts, however the gradient is relatively friendly and the views more than compensate for the effort! Keep an eye out for some well known teams and names painted on the road - the Tour of Spain frequently passes through this way. When you reach this summit you have ascended over 650 metres. Once over this second summit which is just under the 1000 metres mark you will reap the rewards for all your hard work in a delightful sweeping descent on a smooth road surface. Turn left just before reaching Confrides and take the minor road underneath the impressive rock pinnacle.

Puerto Del Tossal

The final pass (we call it Puerto Del Tosal) is not far away, and you may be thankful that it is the smallest of the three! There is just 160 metres more climbing to be done to its summit at 860 metres. Be careful on the steep return to Abdet, there is gravel in places and one section where the road has started to slip down the hillside. Also do take time to enjoy the great views towards Guadalest and the mediterranean. Turn right at the ruined vintage truck and then left to return back to your starting point.

Tres Puertas Gallery



Ares Del Bosque and Alcolecha



View towards Alcolecha



Bends on the Port D'ares



The deserted roads around Alcholecha



Descent to Confrides



View towards Guadalest

