



CASTLE OF EL REAL ROUTE

OLOCAU, TOWN FOR TOURING

VEGETATION AND GEOLOGY

One of the charms of taking a walk through the Calderona mountain range is the colourful duality of the view. The red sandstones (rodano) and limestones cause the combination of red and white lands, which conditions the flora of this path, depending on the species being adapted to acidic (siliceous) or basic (calcareous) grounds.

In this route, we will find trees as the Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) and the cluster pine (*Pinus pinaster*), kermes oak (*Quercus coccifera*), terebinth (*Pistacea terebinthus*), myrtle (*Myrtus communis*) and Mediterranean buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*). We can also find more mediterranean flora like the common juniper (*Juniperus communis*), the flax-leaved daphne (*Daphne gnidium*), elmleaf blackberry (*Rubus ulmifolius*) and capper bush (*Capparis spinosa*); that last one can be found cultivated or wild and its traditionally consumed after being preserved in a brine solution, both the caper bud and fruit. In the more shaded areas, we can find sarsaparille (*Smilax aspera*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera implexa*).

One of the most curious geologic formations in this route is the *Quebrantà del Frare*, a depression of the calcareous ground because of the subsoil erosion.

GET TO OLOCAU

From Valencia you could take two routes: for the first one, take the Ademuz highway (CV-35) to Liria, taking the exit to Marines-Olocau (CV-25). After 8 km you will arrive to Olocau.

For the second one, take the Ademuz highway (CV-35), then take the exit to Bétera (CV-336); once in Bétera, passing through it towards Náquera (CV-310), leave Bétera and cross the ravine of Carraixet, turning left and taking the exit to Olocau (CV-336), Olocau is 17 km away from this point.

CASTLE OF EL REAL ROUTE



ETHNOLOGY AND HERITAGE

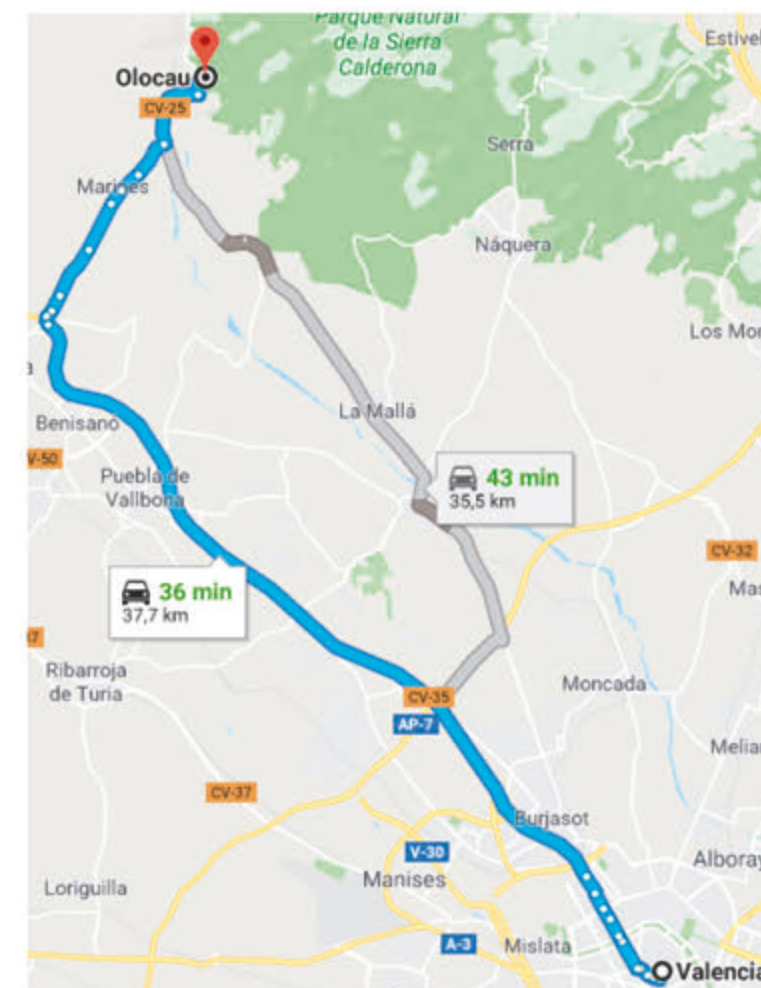
The route starts at the *Casa de la Senyoria*, an antique manor that belonged to the Count and Countess of Olocau, built in the 18th century, and together with the Islamic tower built in the 13th century, the *Torre de Pardines*, they form what is known as "El Castell". Here you can find the Tourism Office and the Museum Collection of the *Puntal dels Llops*, (an Iberian fortress with a watchtower dated in the 5th century BC.), with archaeological material from that settlement.

Walking until the end of the San José Street, we will pass through the path of the *Terreta Blanca* until arriving to a crossroad. We will take the left path that leads to the Castle of *el Real*, and after visiting the fortress, we will return to this crossroad, and we will take the path to the right to continue towards the *Canyaeta de Xavielet*.

The castle of *el Real*, built in the 11th century, appears in the historic compilation of *Ibn Idari* (Arab 13th century writer) named as «*Hisn al Uqab*» and in the *Historia Roderici* (12th century biography of the Cid) named as «*Castrum que dicitur Olokabet*»; the castle gives us amazing views thanks to his 574 m above sea level, and offers a combined enjoyment of the historic and natural heritage. This Muslim fortress was one of the last to surrender during the conquest of the Christian king James I -founder of the Kingdom of Valencia-, and it stills preserves remains of several phases of construction, given that it was not abandoned until the expulsion of the *moriscos* in 1609.

Going down the castle and taking the road of the *Canyaeta de Xavielet*, leaves us next to the cistern of *la Quebrantà* or of *el Castellet*, an antique dry stone construction. After that we will connect with the road of the Fountain of *el Frare*; and back to Olocau we will pass a lime kiln, the *Quebrantà of el Frare*, the Cave of *el Cego*, the Fountain of *el Frare*, the Fountain of *la Cava y l'Arquet*, a recreational area with centenary carob trees and the remains of a Roman aqueduct, renovated in the 18th century.

LAYOUT OF THE ARRIVAL TO OLOCAU



- Type: By foot.
- Length: 7.5 Km.
- Hardness: Low.
- Slope: 285 m.
- Duration: 2,5 h.

SPECIFICATIONS



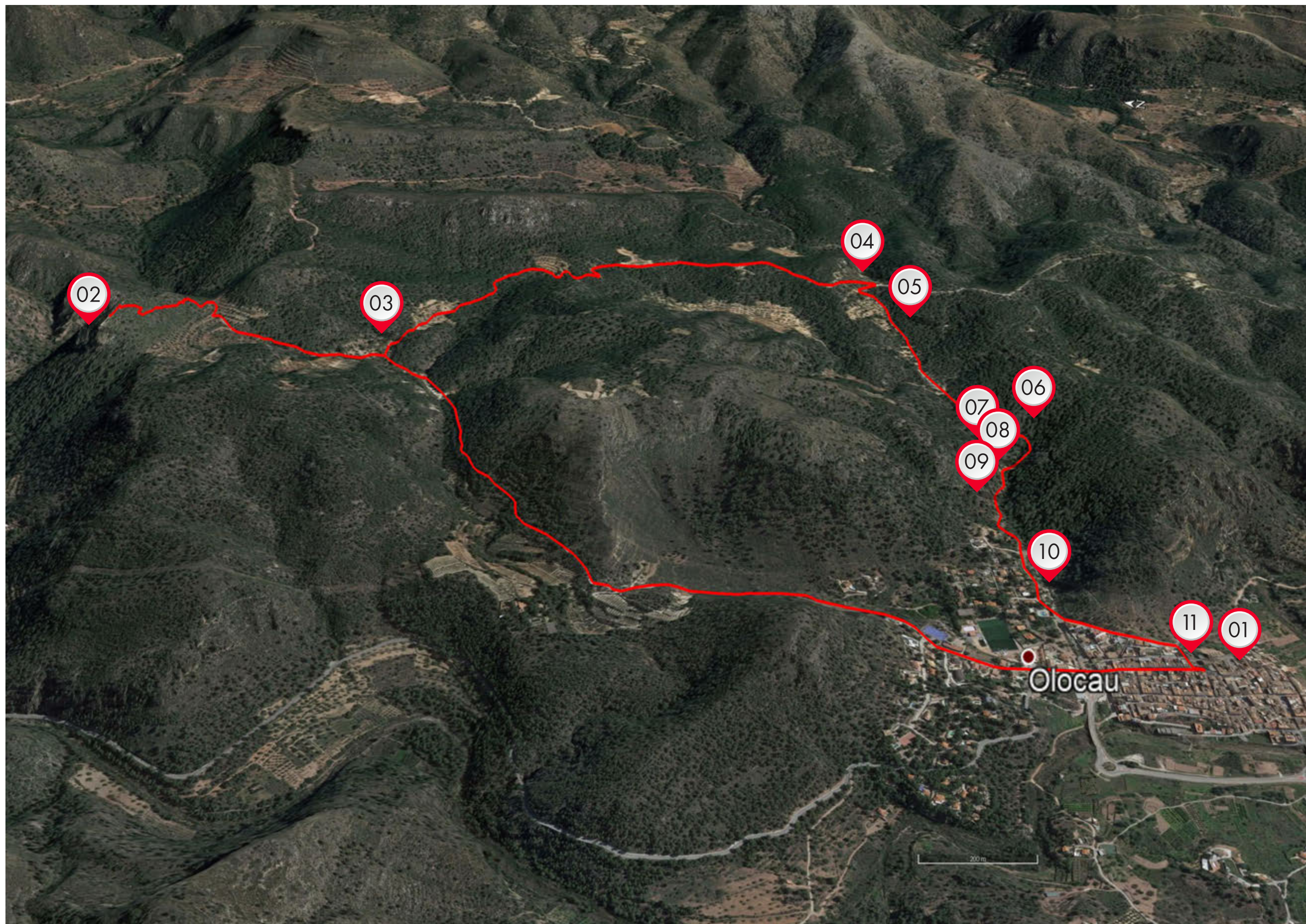
Ajuntament de la Vila d'Olocau

*València València Turisme



Patronat Provincial de Turisme de València





USEFUL INFORMATION

OLOCAU TOWN HALL

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TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

WORKING HOURS:
 Wednesday to Monday; 10 to 14 h.
 Tel. 672 79 44 04 - puntal.llops@olocau.es

LOCAL POLICE AND EMERGENCY PHONE

Local police: 647 55 99 03
 Emergency phone: 112

BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Bar Els Amics: 96 273 98 06
 Bar Faustino: 96 273 96 86
 Tasca Maber: 677 84 44 97
 Rt. l'Arquet: 96 273 98 14
 Rt. Pol. Pedralvila: 698 76 63 49
 Bakery Ximo i Yoli: 664 61 12 48

ACCOMMODATION

Rural House "La Calderona-Olocau"
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Hostal l'Arquet
 Tel. 96 273 98 14 www.arquetolocau.com

Mas del Capellà
 Tel. 96 357 08 58 www.masdelcapella.com

Muntanyes d'Olocau
 Tel. 626 42 21 88 www.albergueolocau.com

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