



Ribeiro de Baixo

Help us protect biodiversity!
A part of Melgaço's area is located in Portugal's most important preserved area, Peneda-Gerês National Park, which is recognised as World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO.

HIKING & DISCOVERING

This is the only route that, due to its location, does not have a trail connection to the network, so you need to travel by road to the starting point.

Thus, you start from Castro Laboreiro, follow the existing signs towards Ribeiro de Cima and to Pousios. On the right side of the road, there is an old Ranger's house, and the route begins to the left, on a sidewalk (a).

It gradually goes up to Currais – cattle Branda known as Curro Da Velha (B). From these mountain pastures to a small flat area (Chão da Roca), wild landscapes stand out between the green tones of the vegetation and the grey granite.

Through the broom, you go along a track made by the cattle passage, and then a paved path. In this section of the route, which follows the water line, you must be extra careful due to the steep slope. A few meters below, the path leads you to Ribeiro de Baixo, a place embedded in the bottom of the Laboreiro River valley (D), where the landscape resembles the Alps.

The opportunity to enjoy a landscape marked by terraces is unique. These structures contradict the nature of the slopes and allow man to develop agriculture in the most inhospitable places. The enhancement and preservation of these landscapes is

essential to prevent natural hazards.

You then follow the river upstream, along a fresh path that will lead you to Pousios typical castrejo village. You then see marshes and hay meadows (C) that reach all their magnificence from May to June, and the colourful sight highlights their floristic diversity.

Shortly after, you find the old forest house again, where this beautiful route began.

Fauna: Seoane's viper (*Vipera seoanei*), large psammomromus (*Psammomromus algirus*), tawny owl (*Strix aluco*)



Vipera seoane

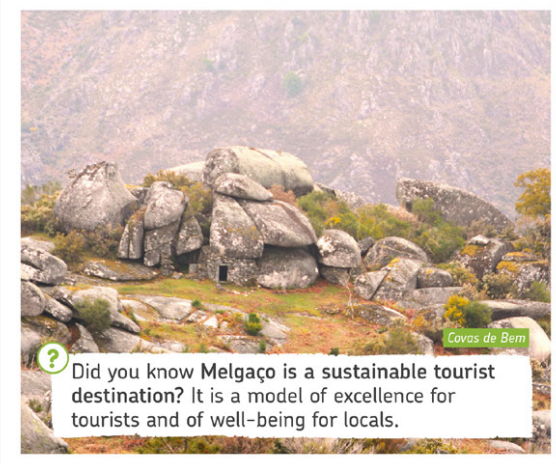


Carqueja

Flora: Thymus caespititius (*Thymus caespititius*), gorse flower tea (*Pteraspantium tridentatum*), Paradise lily (*Paradisea lusitanica*)



Caminho da volta do rio (towards Pousios)



Covas de Bem

? Did you know Melgaço is a sustainable tourist destination? It is a model of excellence for tourists and of well-being for locals.



descubra
MELGAÇO
o destino de natureza
mais radical de Portugal

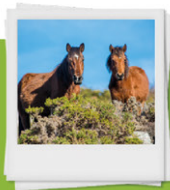
EN

MELGAÇO'S HIKING TRAIL NETWORK

PR 15
MLG **CURRO DA VELHA**

PRECAUTIONS DURING THE TRAIL

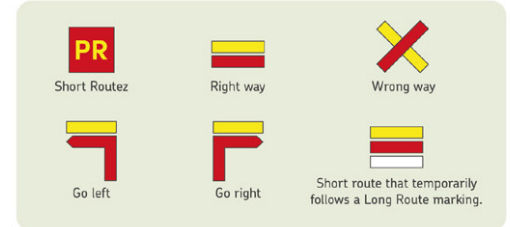
- Wear sensible clothes and shoes:** mountain boots, a hat and a raincoat.
- Do not disturb natural habitats.**
- Respect the signposted trail** and pay attention to the markings.
- Do not litter,** take the rubbish to the appropriate container.
- Respect private property.** Make sure all gates are closed.
- Do not make fire** and do not throw cigarettes on the floor.
- Leave nature unspoilt:** do not collect plants, animals or rocks.
- Do not start the trail** under severe weather conditions such as fog and snow.
- Avoid walking alone** in the mountain and always carry water.
- When there is high or very high risk of wildfires, **access might be limited.**
- Be polite** to locals.
- Beware of cattle.** Do not approach litters or cubs



AND REMEMBER...
Take only memories and photos. Do not leave anything but footsteps.

(*) O percurso pode ser efetuado em qualquer altura do ano, mas devem ser tomadas algumas precauções no verão, devido às elevadas temperaturas, e no inverno, devido às baixas temperaturas, possibilidade de nevoeiros e queda de neve e acumulação de água em alguns troços.

TRAIL SIGNPOSTING



USEFUL CONTACTS

- Melgaço City Hall**
+351 251 410 100
- Melgaço Firefighters**
+351 251 402 599
- Peneda Gerês National Park**
Porta PNPGLamas de Mouro
+351 251 465 010
- Melgaço Police**
+351 251 404 960
- Emergency Line**
112

Pedestrian route registered and approved by:



Promoting organisation:

melgaço município

discovermelgaço.pt

TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

Praça da República, 133
4960-567 Melgaço
T. +351 251 402 440
E. turismo@cm-melgaço.pt

PENEDA GERÊS NATIONAL PARK PORTA PNPGLAMAS DE MOURO

Lugar de Porto Ribeiro
4960-170 Lamas de Mouro
T. +351 251 465 010
E. portadelamas@cm-melgaço.pt

HIKING TRAIL NETWORK



1. Lamas de Mouro - Cevide 15,8 km
2. Castro Laboreiro - Lamas de Mouro 6,5 km
3. Castrejo 16,7 km
4. Interpretativo de Castro Laboreiro 5,2 km
5. Megalitismo 25,7 km
6. Rio Laboreiro 8,1 km
7. Inverneiras 6,0 km
8. Lamas de Mouro - Dorna 11,9 km
9. Interpretativo de Lamas de Mouro 4,4 km
10. Lamas de Mouro - Parada do Monte 9,3 km
11. Rio Mouro 18,4 km
12. Brandeiro 16,2 km
13. Vale Glaciar do Vez 4,3 km
14. Azeiteira 6,1 km
- 15. Curro da Velha 7,3 km
16. Transumância 10,3 km

TECHNICAL DATA

PR Circular

Starting point: Pousios - Castro Laboreiro
41°57'51.5"N 8°11'00.2"W

Ending Point: Pousios - Castro Laboreiro
41°57'51.5"N 8°11'00.2"W

Distance: 7,3 km

Duration: 04h30 | - | -

Route Type: Landscape-Cultural

Difficulty: Very difficult

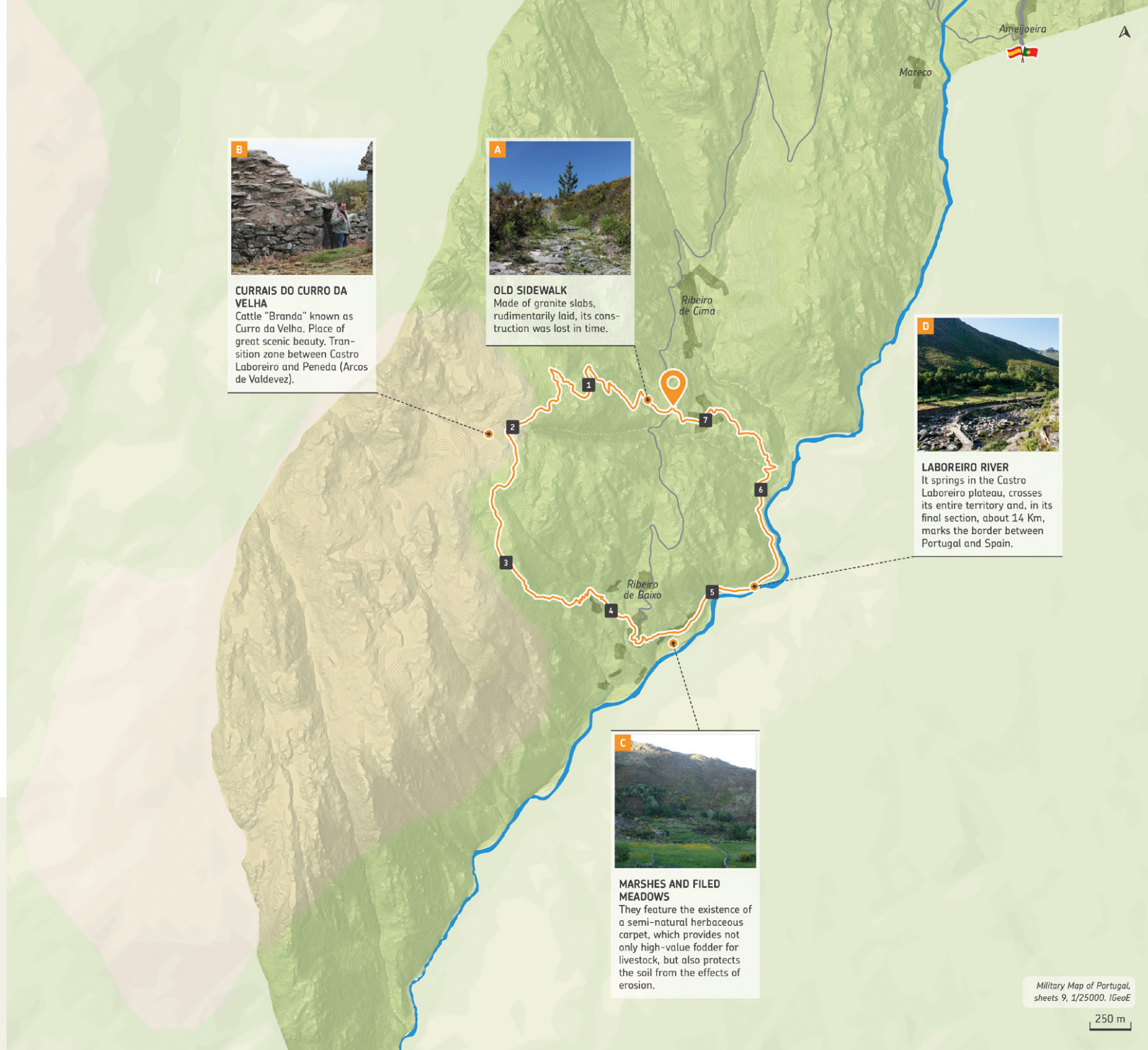
Recommended season: All year (*)

Highest altitude: 1007 meters

Lowest altitude: 575 meters

Positive elevation gain: 522 meters

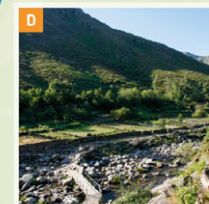
Negative elevation gain: 522 meters



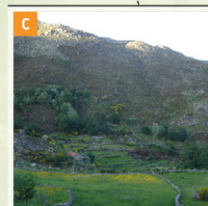
CURRAIS DO CURRO DA VELHA
Cattle "Branda" known as Curro da Velha. Place of great scenic beauty. Transition zone between Castro Laboreiro and Peneda (Arcos de Valdevez).



OLD SIDEWALK
Made of granite slabs, rudimentarily laid, its construction was lost in time.



LABOREIRO RIVER
It springs in the Castro Laboreiro plateau, crosses its entire territory and, in its final section, about 14 Km, marks the border between Portugal and Spain.



MARSHES AND FILED MEADOWS
They feature the existence of a semi-natural herbaceous carpet, which provides not only high-value fodder for livestock, but also protects the soil from the effects of erosion.

Military Map of Portugal, sheets 9, 1/25000. IGeoE

250 m

Elevation profile:



CAPTION

- Starting point
- Trail marking
- Point of interest
- Milestone
- Primary roads
- Secondary roads
- Tertiary roads
- Preferred direction

How to read milestones:

