Circular Itinerary

Approximate Distance: 16 km.

Aproximate Time: 5h without stopping **Starting Point:** Parking *Collado Mangueta* **Arrival Point:** The same (circular itinerary)

Ascent Drop: 638 m. **Descent Drop**: 638 m.

Cartography: Esc. 1/25.000 of the IGN: 932-IV Sierra Espuña

Los Pozos de la Nieve built between the 16th and the 18th centuries, were used to store the snow. Nowadays, they are some of the most important historical remains within the Sierra Espuña's heritage. The snow was changed into ice, then cut and brought down by animals. The wealthy families of Murcia, Cartagena and other towns used the ice on sanitary purposes or for their proper consumption.

The itinerary for this one day walk will include showing how the extinction of these sites followed the discovery of electricity; it will also give us the opportunity to discover one of the most spectacular views of the mountain range from the summit *Pedro López*.

In the shadow of the pines and next to Los Pozos of Cartagena, Orihuela and of Villa, we will reach the Hill of *Los Pozos de Don Eleuterio* where we can find the lovely White Pines feature. We will take the way that comes from Carrasca, in order to straight away walk towards Pedro López. Practically without dropping in height, we will reach the second summit of the mountain range, enjoying the wonderful landscape which is underneath our feet. We must remember that the access to this summit might be restricted from February to July due conservation work under construction. The white and yellow marks of the PR will lead us on the circular way to the mountain and then, travelling on down towards La Casa de la Carrasca.

We will take the forest way underneath the vertical and orange walls of Pedro López, to finally enter at the right side onto a path that carries on down to *La Casa de la Carrasca*. In this lovely place, we can have a last rest before facing the zigzag path that goes up the hill to *Los Pozos de Don Eleutorio* by the junction 63.1 in order to reach our starting point in the Hill Mangueta.

