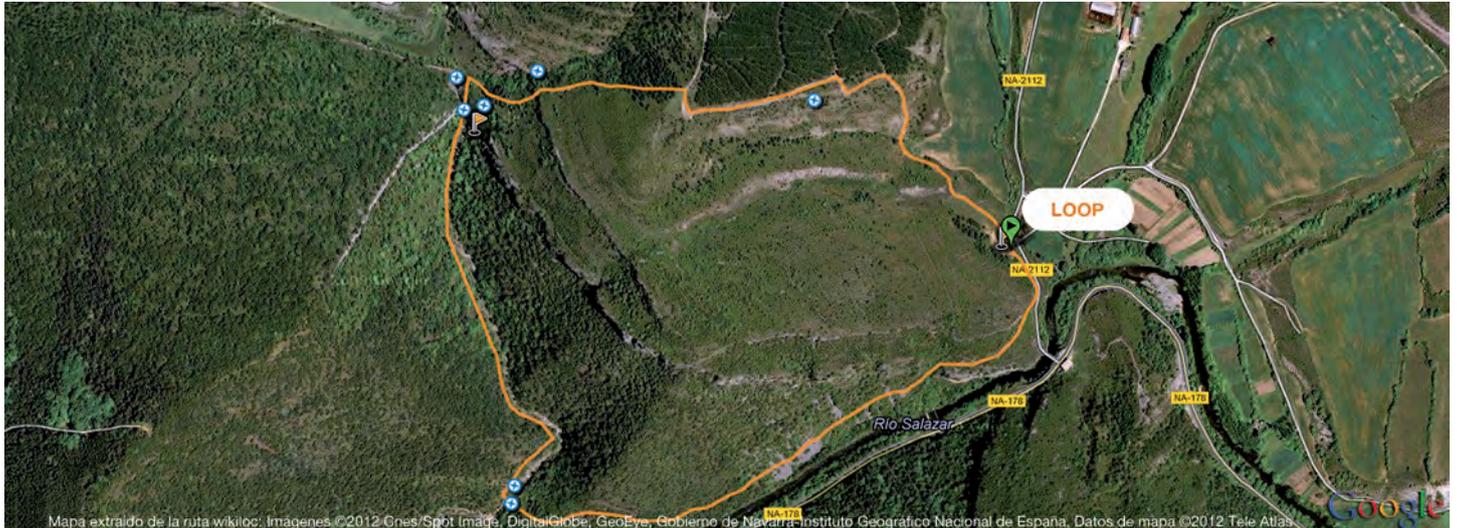


VULTOURIS ROUTES: Santa Colomba Gorge (Navarra)

DIFFICULTY:
MODERATE



The path sets out from a parking area at a bygone gravel pit along the road to Aspuz. Following a brief climb, the route runs along the northern slopes of the Foz de Aspuz. Cut by the Salazar river and host to a highway, the gorge harbors forests, cliff-bands and scree slopes. After passing the ruins of a shepherd hut half-covered by vegetation, a short descent leads to a bridge over the Egúrzanos River.

From this point on, the path navigates the shore of the river amidst dense vegetation. The mouth of the Moro/Ososkia Cave can be seen on the slopes above, a site where there is record of human presence dating back to prehistory.



Upon reaching the point where the rocky walls encroach upon the river, one must wade across it. There are a few rungs inserted in the

ROUTE FILE



Distance: 3.09km.
Minimum elevation: 559m.
Maximum elevation: 685m.
Total ascent: 126m.

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rock wall on the opposite side to aid in scrambling up to retake the path.

Soon the route conforms to a wild boar trail until merging with another old path that leads to a pass. From here there is a view of the town of Aspuz. Rambling along the border of a reforested pine wood, the path leads back to the starting point.
(Source: Senderos por el Pirineo Navarro).

Similarly to other formations of their kind, that is to say canyons with flowing rivers, Santa Colombo and Aspuz are important refuges to fauna and cliff-side vegetation. It's easy to come across characteristic bird species such as the griffon vulture, chough, jackdaw and Egyptian vulture.