



2

CÚBER

**T**he route begins at kilometre 33.8 on the road from Sóller to Pollensa, next to the canal that takes water from the Gorg Blau reservoir to the Cúber reservoir. From here, you go up until a small car park. On your left is Font des Noguer which used to supply water to the houses on the Cúber estate. Several benches and some grills make this zone a very busy recreational area at weekends.

On the opposite side, a wooden stile indicates the route to follow, always running parallel along the road, until you reach the pass to Cúber. To the left, on the slope of Puig de Sa Font, you can observe the reforestation of pine trees and holm oaks. Over time, they will turn the old grazing land into an extensive forest.

You immediately leave the paved road and head off along the path located opposite, signposted with GR 221 signs. It skirts around the north side of the reservoir, taking advantage of a path created during its construction.

Shortly afterwards, at a crossroads, a little concrete bridge on the left indicates the route to follow. Now walk between the reservoir and Serra de Cúber

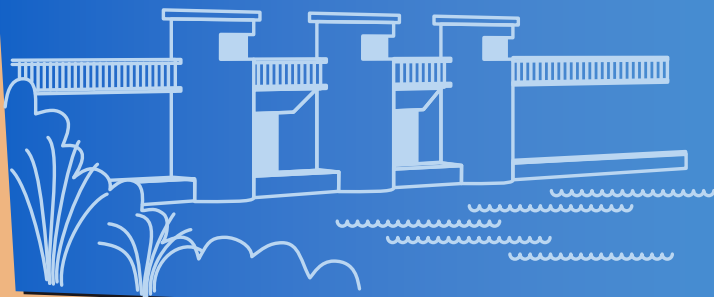
until you come across the stream that comes down from L'Ofre and cross it using a path of stepping stones, if there is water in it.

Continue straight on until you find the pass that marks the boundary between the public estate of Cúber and that of Binimorat. Without crossing it, leave the GR 221, and turn to the left in order to continue along the route that is suitable for cars. It quickly takes you to the vicinities of the small Cúber refuge, a facility where you can spend the night if you make a booking in advance.

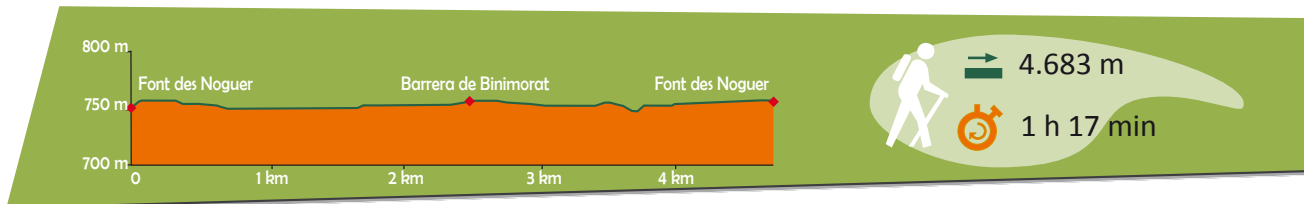
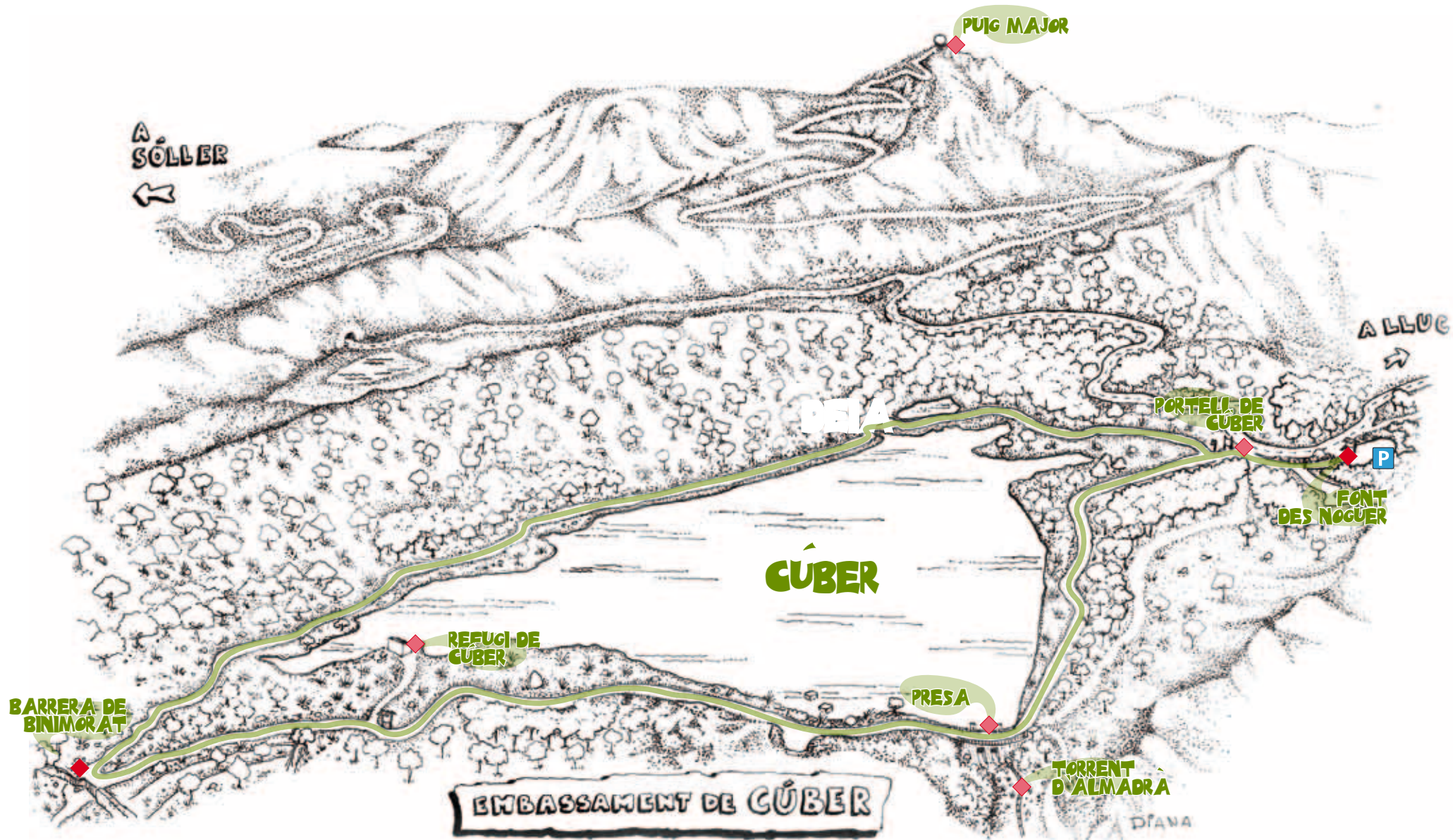
You keep walking, close to the water, alongside an area of reforestation that is characteristic of riverbank woodland, with several ash and elm trees. Before finishing the route, you will go over the dam where water from Torrent d'Almadrà passes through. The houses of the Cúber estate were located to the north of this area. Afterwards, you should ignore the path on your right which follows the course of the stream, continue along a paved stretch and you will once again reach the Cúber boundary, from where you return to the starting point.

## THE WATER OF PALMA

The two reservoirs in the municipality of Escorca are located on land belonging to the Cúber, Almallutx and S'Estret estates. These areas have been populated since ancient times, and they are where the Muslims resisted for three years in very tough conditions following the conquest of the island in 1229.



Not long ago, remains were rediscovered, under the waters of Gorg Blau, a reservoir initially designed to produce electricity, but which was reconverted in order to provide water for human consumption. Its water is pumped in order to travel upwards and led afterwards to Cúber up a narrow canal that is more than 5 kilometres long; from there it is directed towards Palma through a long pipe network.





**Start / End:** road Sóller to Lluc Ma-10,  
km 33,8 (752 m)

**Distance:** 4.683 m

**Time required:** 1 h 17 min

**Difficulty:** low

**Net increase  
in altitude:** 45 m

**Net decrease  
in altitude:** 45 m

**Not suitable for:** prams and wheelchairs  
can only go as far as the  
Cúber dam along the paved road  
(approximately 1 km)

2

CÚBER

## TRANSUMANCE OF HERDS

Mallorca has always been an island conducive for sheep. It is said that in the past there were more than 200,000 sheep, which were used for their wool, a prime material for the significant community of weavers, and milk, which was used to create a highly valued cheese.

These high, cool and rainy valleys provided an abundance of grazing land in summer, a time of year when it was harder to find in lower areas. However, during winter, snowfall harmed the cattle which made it advisable to move them. Back then, shepherds with flocks that sometimes numbered one thousand animals, took the so called “mountain routes” to the arranged estates, with a large ram with curved horns leading the procession, known as the “xot passador”, and accompanied by dogs and the sound of sheep bells. The shepherds retraced this path each year when the weather improved. Sometimes the return was complicated by the hunger of the sheep, who did not care about the fact that they were banned from entering the crop areas next to the route.

