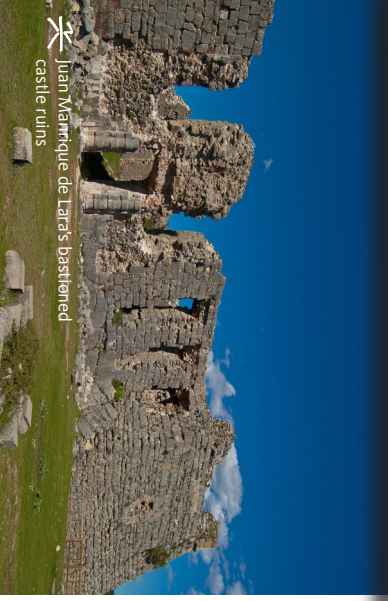


Cañón de río Lobos Natural Park



Juan Martínique de Larra's bastioned castle ruins



Hontoria del Pinar former train station

Likewise, without leaving the canyon of the Lobos River, you can visit the San Bartolomé Chapel, one of the main points of interest of this natural area. The extraordinary location of this temple, surrounded by pools full of water lilies and dragonflies, provides an idyllic picture in the middle of the wild nature. The chapel, built in the XII century in Romanesque style, gathers the neighbours of the area together every 24 August for the celebration of the chapel's pilgrimage. In addition, next to the chapel, the Caves of San Bartolomé must be highlighted, which consist of two caves (Maíor and Minor), close to each other with different rock engravings inside. Within this protected natural area (PNA) other caves can be found, such as the Cueva Conejas (Rabbit Cave), La Galiana (Transhumance Cave) and Cueva Negra (Black Cave).

It is a spectacular place cut into the limestone rocks of the environment over the years by the waters of the Lobos River, which meander throughout this landscape.

The park is a space of great environmental value where it is possible to find large colonies of griffon vultures. You can penetrate deep into this spectacular environment thanks to the numerous hiking routes that cross this space and allow you to follow the steps of the Lobos River through this landscape of unique beauty. The Bridge of the Seven Eyes is one of the main accesses to this natural enclave that crosses the river, and there is a recreational area next to it.

The Cañón del río Lobos Natural Park is a natural enclave that measures about 10,000 hectares spread between the provinces of Burgos and Soria.

#### CAÑÓN DEL RIOLOBOS(RIVERLOBOSCANYON)

6. The trail leaves on its right a small industrial area, which precedes the first homes of San Leonardo de Yagüe. The trail continues with the town centre remaining on the right of the route. Then, shortly after reaching the 9<sup>th</sup> kilometre, you will arrive at the former station of San Leonardo de Yagüe, which brings this section of the Santander - Mediterraneo Nature Trail to an end. In this way, the municipalities of Hontoria del Pinar and San Leonardo de Yagüe are thus connected and, accordingly, the provinces of Burgos and Soria.

5. The old railway track traces a curve that is now moving in a south-easterly direction while the density of the pine forest increases. After the 6<sup>th</sup> kilometre, a forest of Pyrenean oaks (*Quercus pyrenaica*) breaks the hegemony of the Scots pine. This is a widespread species of key importance in the province of Soria, where a large part of its economy has been based on the wood of this high-quality pine, which is mainly used in construction.

crossed by two operational bridges. Shortly after, the typical signalling of natural roads indicates the exact location of the traveller: the provincial boundary between Burgos and Soria.

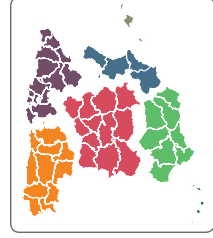
1. In the centre of the Burgos town of Hontoria del Pinar, this short section of the Santander-Mediterranean Sea Nature Trail begins which, at a little more than nine kilometres of length, joins the provinces of Burgos and Soria.
2. A rest area is located just before one of the accesses to the Lobos River Canyon Natural Park, which is an extraordinary environment where the griffon vultures (*Gyps fulvus*) fly over and nest in the beautiful cliffs cut with patience by the river's waters.
3. Returning to the old railway line, you can reach the different buildings of the Hontoria del Pinar former station, where all of them are in perfect condition (except the warehouse), since nowadays they are in operation as a tourist lodge. After a new rest area, located next to the warehouse of the station, you can move on while being able to enjoy the first foothills of the Lobos River Canyon Natural Park. The riparian vegetation of the Mayuelo and Laprima Rivers decorates this part of the trail.

4. The trail runs parallel to the N-234 road while the pine forest (*Pinus sylvestris*) begins to become greener, highlighting the salmon colour of the upper part of its trunks that provides the route with a special beauty. After overcoming another kilometre, the aforementioned road and an old variant thereof are

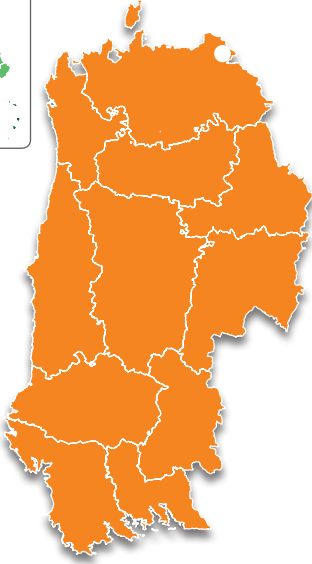


#### IN THE PAST, THE TRAIN COVERED THE ROUTE BETWEEN THE PROVINCES OF BURGOS AND SORIA, ENTERING GOING DEEP INTO PINE FORESTS

This small section begins in the town of Hontoria del Pinar, located next to the Lobos River and very close to its Natural Park, which downstream leads to spectacular canyons and cliffs in which the impressive griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) lives. From this town in the province of Burgos, you can move on by faithfully following the old railway line until you reach San Leonardo de Yagüe, which is already in the province of Soria, after a pleasant and comfortable trip.



#### SECTOR NORTHWESTERN PENINSULAR



Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of Santander-Mediterranean Nature Trail. Hontoria del Pinar-San Leonardo de Yagüe section and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

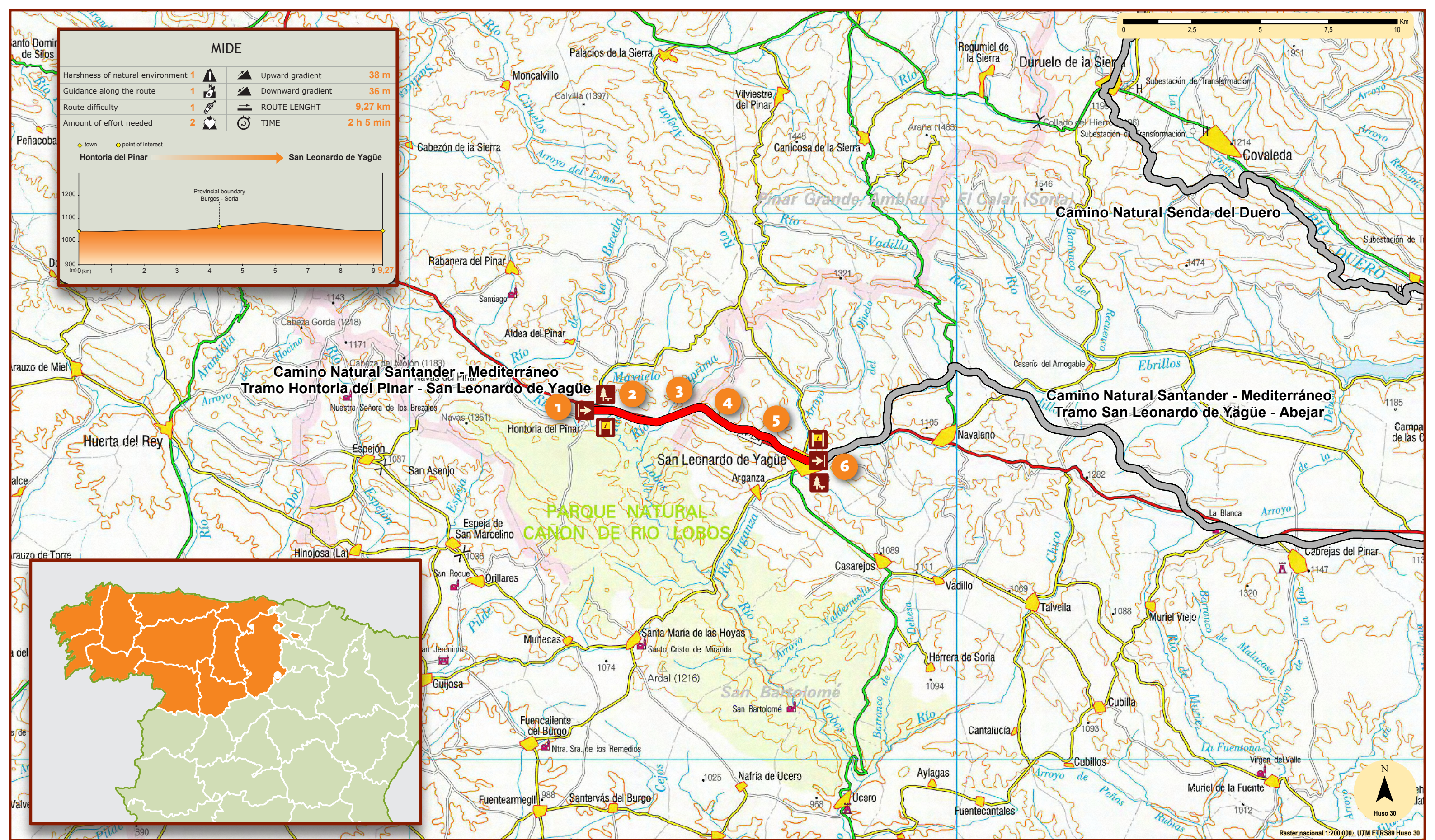
#### TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Hontoria del Pinar town council: 0034 947 38 61 41
- San Leonardo de Yagüe town council: 0034 975 37 60 27
- Cañón de río Lobos Park's house: 0034 975 36 35 07



## NATURE TRAIL SANTANDER- MEDITERRÁNEO. HONTORIA DEL PINAR-SAN LEONARDO DE YAGÜE SECTION

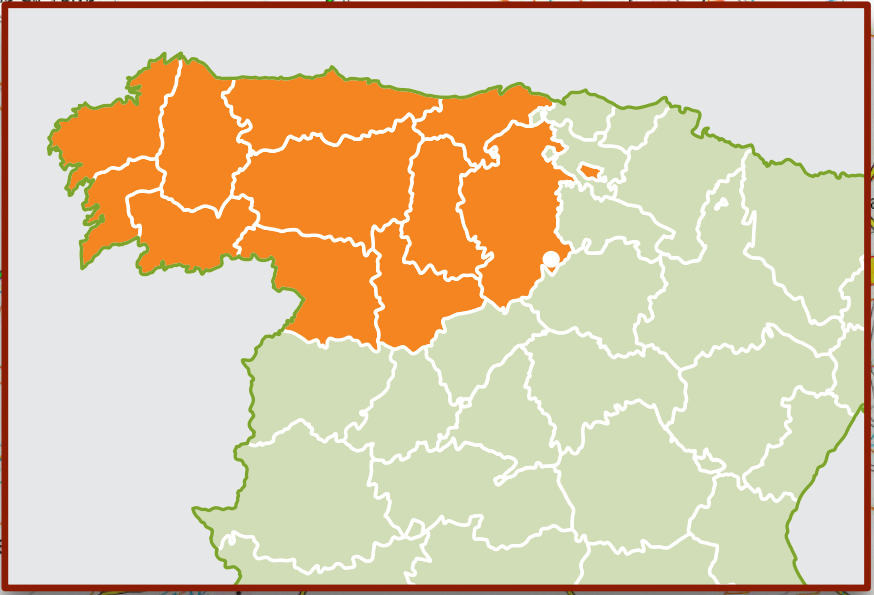




**MIDE**

Harshness of natural environment	1	▲ Upward gradient	38 m
Guidance along the route	1	▼ Downward gradient	36 m
Route difficulty	1	≡ ROUTE LENGHT	9,27 km
Amount of effort needed	2	⌚ TIME	2 h 5 min

◆ town    ● point of interest  
 Hontoria del Pinar → San Leonardo de Yagüe



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NATURE TRAIL  
**SANTANDER-MEDITERRÁNEO**  
**HONTORIA DEL PINAR -**  
**SAN LEONARDO DE YAGÜE SECTION**

- Starting point
- End of section
- Information panel
- Rest area