

## PICONES ROUTE

### DESCRIPTION:

It's an especially steep course, with ridges (*Picones*, in mirandese) and slopes that face the Douro River, along its path. It has great diversity, in terms of Flora and Geology. In geological terms, along the Arribas do Douro, near Freixiosa, there are metasediments, brown in color, composed alternately of schists and graywackes (500 million year's old) and granites, that are the result of granitic magmas deposited under those metasediments, during the Devonian era (around 320 million years ago), at a depth of 7.000 meters, where, once cooled, they crystallized, forming granites.

In terms of Flora, there are various characteristic species, like the Prickly Juniper (*Juniperus oxycedrus*), the Holm Oak (*Quercus rotundifolia*) and the Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia*), some of which have a profound influence of men, like the supported terraces created for Olive trees (*Olea europaea*), that produce the delicious olive oil of the *Arribas do Douro* (Douro Cliffs), whose gastronomic value is without equal.

The itinerary goes through the villages of Freixiosa and Vila Chã da Braciosa.

### POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Bodega* (wine cellar), in Freixiosa;
- *Picones* of Freixiosa;
- Dovecots of Freixiosa;
- Church of Freixiosa;
- *Vulture place*;
- Porch of *passal*, in Vila Chã da Braciosa;
- Little chapel of *Santa Cruz*, in Vila Chã da Braciosa;
- Chapel of the *Santíssima Trindade* (XVI century), in Vila Chã da Braciosa;
- Rock press's, in Vila Chã da Braciosa;

### COURSE DETAILS:

- **Location** – south of Miranda do Douro / parish of Vila Chã da Braciosa / Miranda do Douro area / Bragança district / Trás-os-Montes / Portugal
- **Course** – circular / generalist
- **Point of departure and arrival** – *Bodega* de Freixiosa
- **Distance to travel** – between 13 to 15 km
- **Ground unevenness** – deep
- **Minimum altitude** – 525 m
- **Medium altitude** – 653 m



- **Maximum altitude** – 710 m
- **Duration** – 4 hours
- **Type of Course** – sportive, panoramic, environmental and cultural
- **Paths** – rural paths
- **Difficulty level** – medium
- **Favourable season** – there isn't any

#### TO BETTER ENJOY THIS ACTIVITY, WE ADVISE THE USE OF:

- Suitable shoes, fit for walking in the country/mountains;
- Soft socks, without seams;
- Head protection, suitable clothes to according weather;
- Binoculars;
- Camera;
- Sunscreen in the Summer;
- Small backpack with food and water.

#### PRICE:

- ½ day = 22,00 €/person (\*)

(\*) **Includes:** Specialized guide and obligatory insurance.

For more information please refer to the **Terms and Conditions**.

We advise you to read the section  
**Good Practices**

MORE THAN ADVENTURE, NATURE AND CULTURE

