

# Hermits of the Serra d'Ossa

**Starting/Arrival Point:** Aldeia da Serra, Redondo

(Largo da Aldeia da Serra – GPS: 38.712218, -7.567156)

**Distance/duration:** 20 km – about 7h

**Degree of difficulty:** high



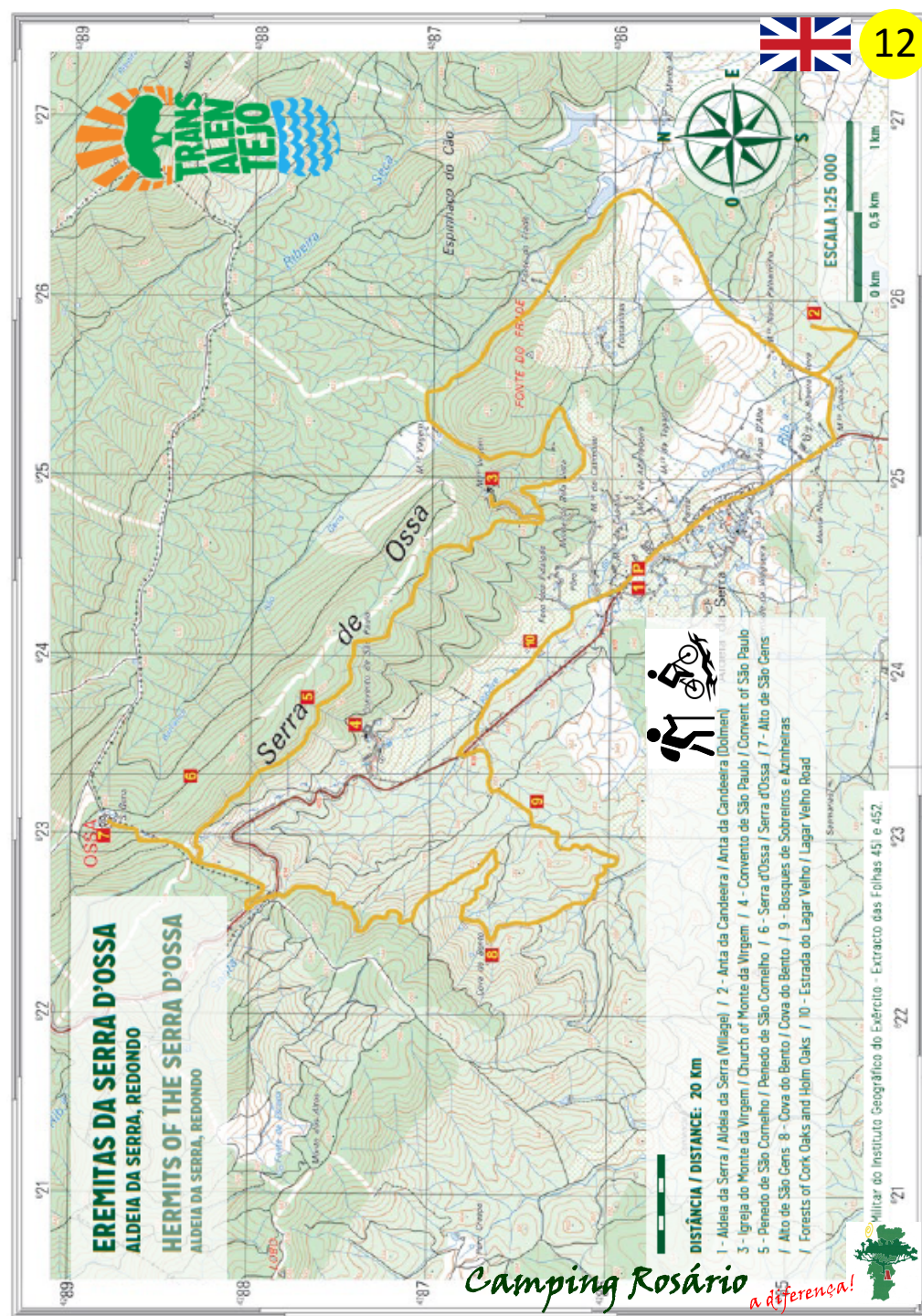
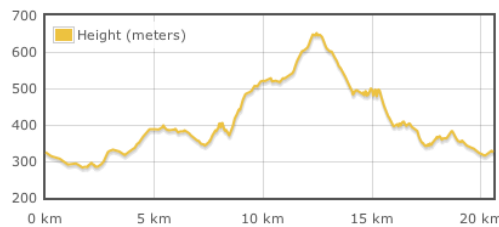
From Redondo you can see the Serra d'Ossa which, to the southwest, offers a large forest of cork oaks and holm oaks that extends to the fields at its base. Here you can also find the religious monuments that characterized the eremitic vocation of this site.

Leave the Largo da Aldeia da Serra (1) towards the South, along the side of the road until you leave the town. Turn left and immediately right, climbing a little for a short visit to the **Anta da Candeeira** (dolmen) (2). Go back to the original path, and move on through Monte Novo Palheiro. Do not turn to any side path until you see Monte Abrão on your right, where you must turn left as you start to see a cliff of tailings followed by a lake on the right. You will reach an open valley, where you should take the path to your left, which passes right next to Monte da Quinta. Keep going straight ahead until you see on the Monte Virgem church on the right, perched on some prominent cliffs. Spot the abandoned house and go around its left on a path of tight turns until you find a steep climb to the right which you should take, and keep going until you find Cruzeiro. When you reach the road, you will have access to the **Monte Virgem chapel** (3). Go back to Cruzeiro and follow the path ahead of you, then to the right. Always follow that path on the middle of the hillside, passing over the **convent of São Paulo** (4), leaving the São Cornelho rock to your right (5). Reach the access path to the top of **São Gens** (7), the ridge of Serra d'Ossa. Be sure to go back on the same road (there are other signs belonging to a Route of Estremoz that would bring your north). After reaching the road 381 turn left and about 50 metres ahead, take the path on the right, which follows on through the middle of the hillside, until you find a steep descent to the left. Halfway down the hill, turn right and meander towards Cova do Bento (8), an area of lush greenery. Then proceed until you find a path on a sharp slope, leading you close to a dam. Take the path after the water line and cross the road 381 through the underground passageway for cattle. Turn right and take the path carved into the rocks, alongside the fence of the convent itself. Further ahead you will find the imposing ruins of an old mill and then re-enter the asphalt road turning left towards the centre of Aldeia da Serra.



GPX file available at the reception

## Elevation Chart



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