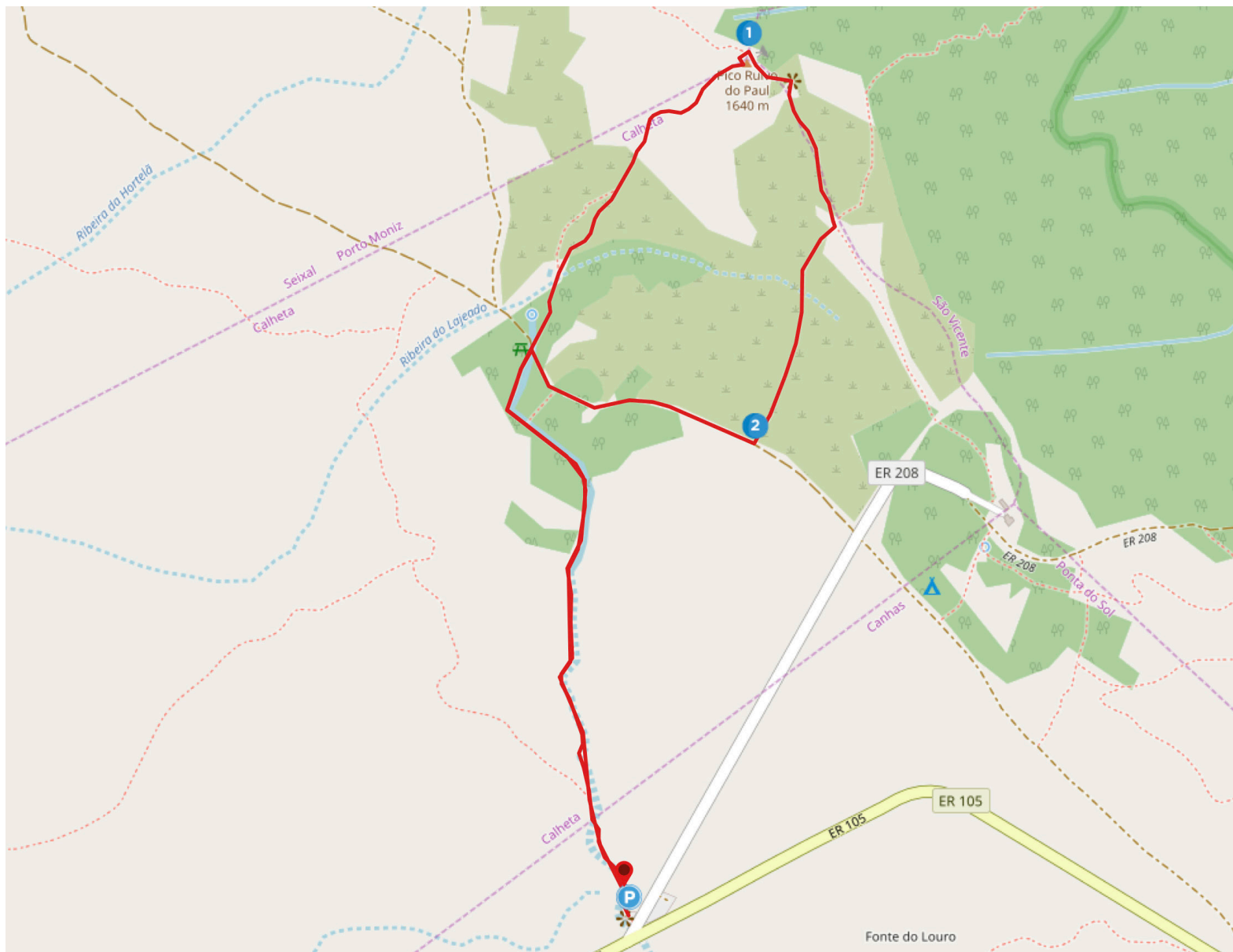


Pico Ruivo Do Paul (4966ft)

Distance: 2 miles (3.2km) Ascent: 462ft



 - Walk

Disclaimer:
This route was correct at time of writing. However, alterations can happen if development or boundary changes occur, and there is no guarantee of permanent access. These walks have been published for use by site visitors on the understanding that neither HPB Management Limited nor any other person connected with Holiday Property Bond is responsible for the safety or wellbeing of those following the routes as described. It is walkers' own responsibility to be adequately prepared and equipped for the level of walk and the weather conditions and to assess the safety and accessibility of the walk.

Pico Ruivo Do Paul (4966ft)

Distance: 2 miles (3.2km) Ascent: 462ft

Walk 15

High on the Paul da Serra plateau, the partly circuitous ascent of the Pico Ruivo do Paul provides a short walk which will have very wide appeal. The actual ascent to the summit is on a path, quite steep in places, but with an ascent which amounts to less than 500ft. and has no hazards or exposed places. The remainder of the walk is a gentle stroll, predominantly across moorland, with bracken, gorse and broom.

Start/finish:

Rough car parking areas at the junction of the main road across the Paul da Serra plateau with the minor road which descends to Sao Vicente.

Refreshments:

Picnic only

Getting there by car / taxi: From HPB use the motorway towards Ribeira Brava. After the long tunnel and the end of the motorway, go right to rise gently towards Sao Vicente. In about 4 miles turn left for Serra de Agua signed Encumeada and the steep ascent to the Encumeada Pass. At the top of the pass turn left, pass the souvenir shop and miradouro and continue to rise towards the Paul da Serra, passing through three old tunnels on the way. The road junction and parking place is about 7 miles from the Encumeada Pass.

There are a few roadside parking spaces

WALK

Start - Find a tiny levada by the car parking area to the west of the minor road. Follow the path by the side of this watercourse towards the obvious summit of the mountain. Twice cross over an earth roadway and continue, heading for a pine wood. Follow the levada through the woodland, crossing another earth roadway and passing a picnic area. At the far end of the wood pass the tiny spring which is the levada's water source. Cross a ditch to find an almost hidden path on the far side to commence the steep ascent along a path through the bracken to the summit, clearly marked by a trig point.

The views from the summit are quite staggering - part of the north coast, only 4 miles away, the deep valley containing Sao Vicente, the mighty central peaks and most of the Paul da Serra plateau.

1. Set off back by turning right (east) at the trig point, initially following the line of a rudimentary fence, soon descending towards an obvious junction of tracks at a saddle, below. There are several variations of the path but all lead to the same place. At the saddle turn right to follow a broad earth roadway, descending gently. *Alternatively go straight on slightly ascending on an obvious grass track before descending through another wood to emerge beside Estanguinlost's Posto Florestal. Turn right and walk down the tarmac road.*

2. At a junction with another earth roadway turn right, soon back into the pine wood, reaching the little levada close to the picnic area. Turn left to retrace the outward route back to the car park.

Note: It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made. Thank you for your help.

Happy walking.