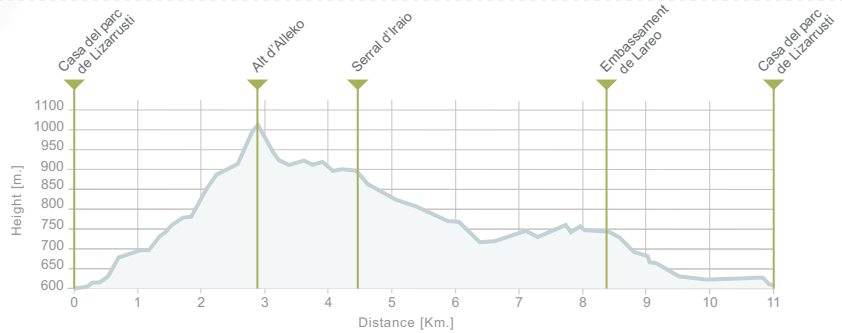




4. Footpaths Alleko

MÍN. HEIGHT: 605 m.
 MÁX. HEIGHT: 1019 m.
 DIF. IN HEIGHT: ▼ 477 m. ▲ 462 m.
 DISTANCE: 10,97 km.
 DURATION: 3 h.
 DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY: intermediate

4. ALLEKO



4. ALLEKO

➤➤ THE PARK KEEPER'S HOUSE IN LIZARRUSTI › THE ALLEKO PEAK › THE IRAIO HILL › THE LAREO RESERVOIR › THE PARK KEEPER'S HOUSE IN LIZARRUSTI



- | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------------|
| Car Park | Cave | Drinking Fountain | Forest | Picnic | Dolmen | Fence | End of route |
| Starting point | Crossroads | Bridge | Park/Play area | Tunnel | Rest area | Hill | |

▶ LIST

P. Car park. We leave the car in the car park situated to one side of the Lizarrusti park keeper's house on Lizarrusti Hill.

1. Starting point. We set off from the car park; we come out onto the road and begin to look for the GR-12 signs to go towards Navarre.

2. GR-12. When we come to the old "Venta Isabel", which is in ruins, we follow the GR-12 path or the red and white signs of the path of the water borders, leaving the road on one side and turning left. We carry on ahead with a line of hazelnut trees on one side and make for the upper part of the Lizarrusti crags.

3. Saroiondo. We are now on top of the Lizarrusti crags. We carry on along the path following the GR signs through the impressive beech grove.

4. Beorresiko harratea. At the point where the fence turns to the left, we see a plain; this is Beorresiko harratea, the door which leads us back into the beech grove. Here, we will leave the GR signs on one side and climb up, turning towards the left as far as Alleko, going past a large yew.

5. Alleko (1019 m). The peak affords breathtaking views of both Gipuzkoa and Navarre: Beriain, Urbasa, Putterri, Askoa, Intsusburu, Aizkorri, Agautz, Leizadi and Aralar. After enjoying the views of the landscape, we will make our way back downhill and start following the GR signs where we left them before.

6. Akaitzerreka. We turn to the left to follow the route along the riverside.

7. To the left. When we come to the large beech, we take the trail to the left, leaving Iruerreketa to the right. Further ahead, on the embankment, a cave can be seen.

8. GR-35. When we are close to the Lareo reservoir, we turn left, following the GR-35 signs, leaving the Lareo reservoir on our right.

9. The Lareo Dolmen. We will be able to see the dolmen to our left before continuing on our way.

10. Lareo. When we reach one of the edges of the reservoir wall, we take the path downhill to the left, following the sign that says Lizarrusti.

11. The Malkorburu Cave. When we are making our way down from the reservoir, a few metres after going through the gate, we will see to our left the cave that hides the overflow of water from the reservoir. But the path carries on ahead.

12. Bridge. We cross the River Maizegi and follow the path.

13. The Akerreta Tunnel. On the path, we go through a tunnel cut out from the rock.

14. The Akerreta drinking fountain. After drinking from this fountain to quench our thirst, we take the path to the left.

15. The Sukaldezarra Cave. The cave is to be found on the left of the path, above the rock; those who wish may go and have a look.

16. Wooden fence. After crossing this wooden fence, we turn right and come to the end of the walk.

=1. End of route. We are back in the car park, which belongs to the Lizarrusti park keeper's house, where the walk ends.

PUNTS D'INTERÉS



THE LAREO RESERVOIR

The Lareo reservoir was built in 1989, on the spot surrounded by the Malkorburu, Sarastarri, Akaitz and Alleko mountains, to ensure the ecological flow of the River Agauntza and the supply of water to the inhabitants of Ataun. It covers an area of 20 hectares and has a volume of 2.35 hm³.



THE AKERRETA TUNNEL

This tunnel was built in 1916 by a man whose surname was Arana. It is cut out of rock and it was used to bring charcoal and stones down from the mountain. Later, it was used by a company called Quifosa, to transport beech wood for the production of alcohol.



THE PARK KEEPER'S HOUSE IN LIZARRUSTI.

It was built in 1887 by the mikeletes (the Basque militia), to watch the traffic between Gipuzkoa and Navarre. This is why it is also called the House of the Mikeletes. This place has become one of the main entrances to the Natural Park in Aralar. At present, the Aralar interpretation centre is situated here and it also serves as a refuge and a bar (closed for refurbishment; the information office is situated at the crossroads in the district of San Gregorio).