

STEAM ON THE SIERRA

Fictitious Iberian style route for TS 2015

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Update to TS 2015 of many add-ons and elements of the route: Daniel Garrón (blas_dani)

Route's version: 3.0

Previous Note:

The author of this route wants, first of all, sincerely thanks Daniel Garrón (blas_dani), the enormous effort that has been made by him in order to update a lot of add-ons of the route, to the TS 2015 standards (new shaders, new scripts, etc.). In addition to installing new add-ons, and reinstall most of the forests of the route, using the tool "asset block", which has significantly improved the performance of it.

Steam on the Sierra is a fictitious route including two railway lines (a broad gauge line and a metric gauge line) and a tramway network with two urban lines and a suburban line.

All these lines are made with an Iberian atmosphere, intending to evoke environments and landscapes of the peninsular railways and tramways from Spain and Portugal.

Nevertheless, the route could also evoke some South-European environments (of Mediterranean style).

The name of the route is "Steam on the Sierra", and it is a memorial of the title of the legendary book written by the railway enthusiasts and tireless British travellers Peter Allen and Robert Wheeler.

The book was an extraordinary description of the railway landscapes of the Iberian Peninsula's narrow gauge on the fifties, and it has turned into a classic inside the hobby's world of the Iberian Peninsula's railways.

The tracks' schemes of some stations, some sections of the lines, and its orographic environment, are sometimes inspired on actual stations and line's sections, in order to make an evocation of them (see here below, in the lines' description).

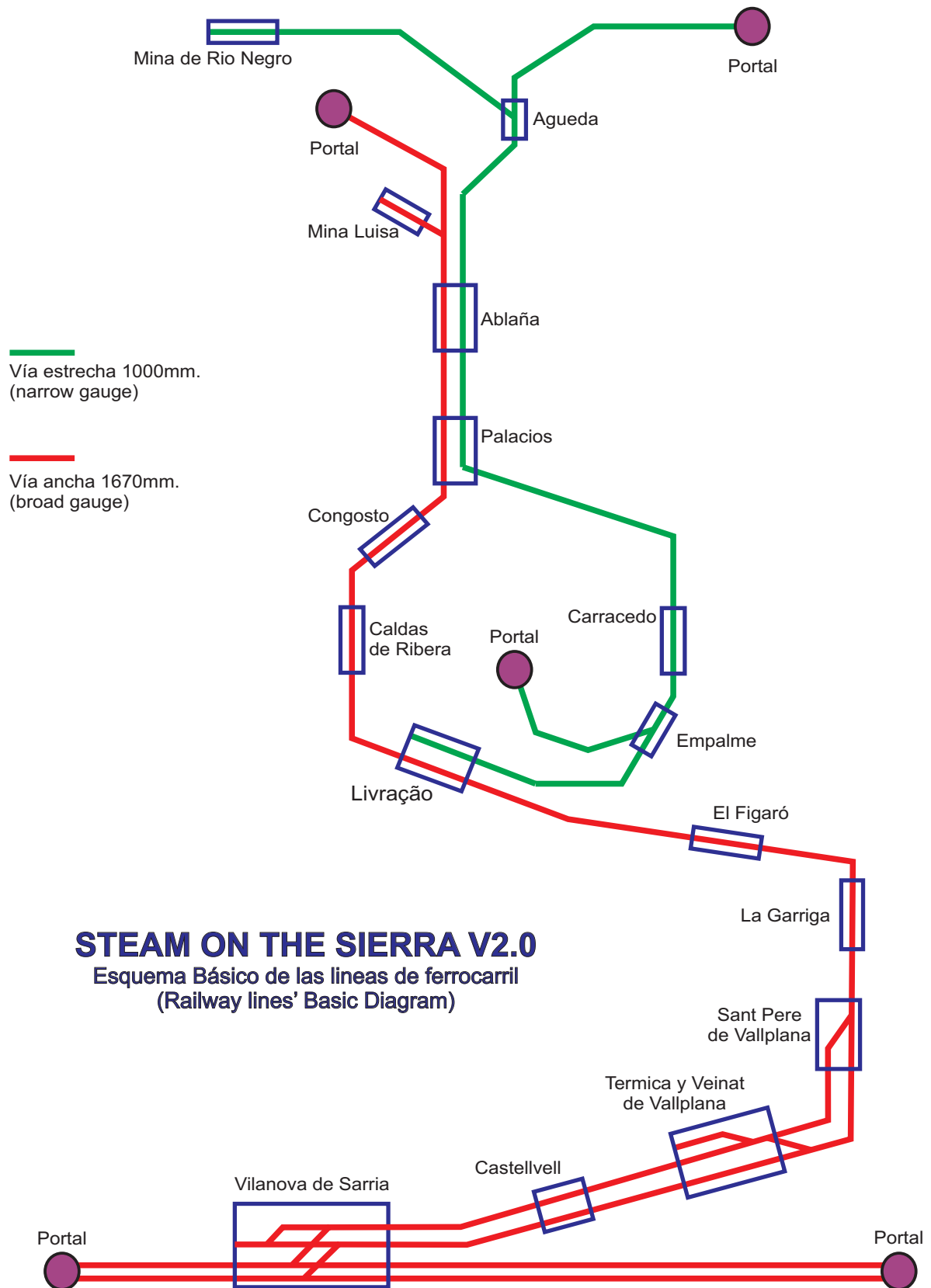
The purpose of this route is the evocation rather than the reproduction. This last possibility would need a very hard work, reproducing a lot of particular objects, buildings, etc. of the specific route being reproduced... Anyway, the simulator has still a big lack of decorative stuff, mainly of the geographical area object of this route.

The route, set in Iberian landscapes, has been created in order that it could be used as a base by the creators for the development of railway and tramway models from this geographical area, and also, in order that it helps the fans to start in the use of the simulator, in a more Mediterranean look and environment, which aren't reproduced in the original routes of the simulator.



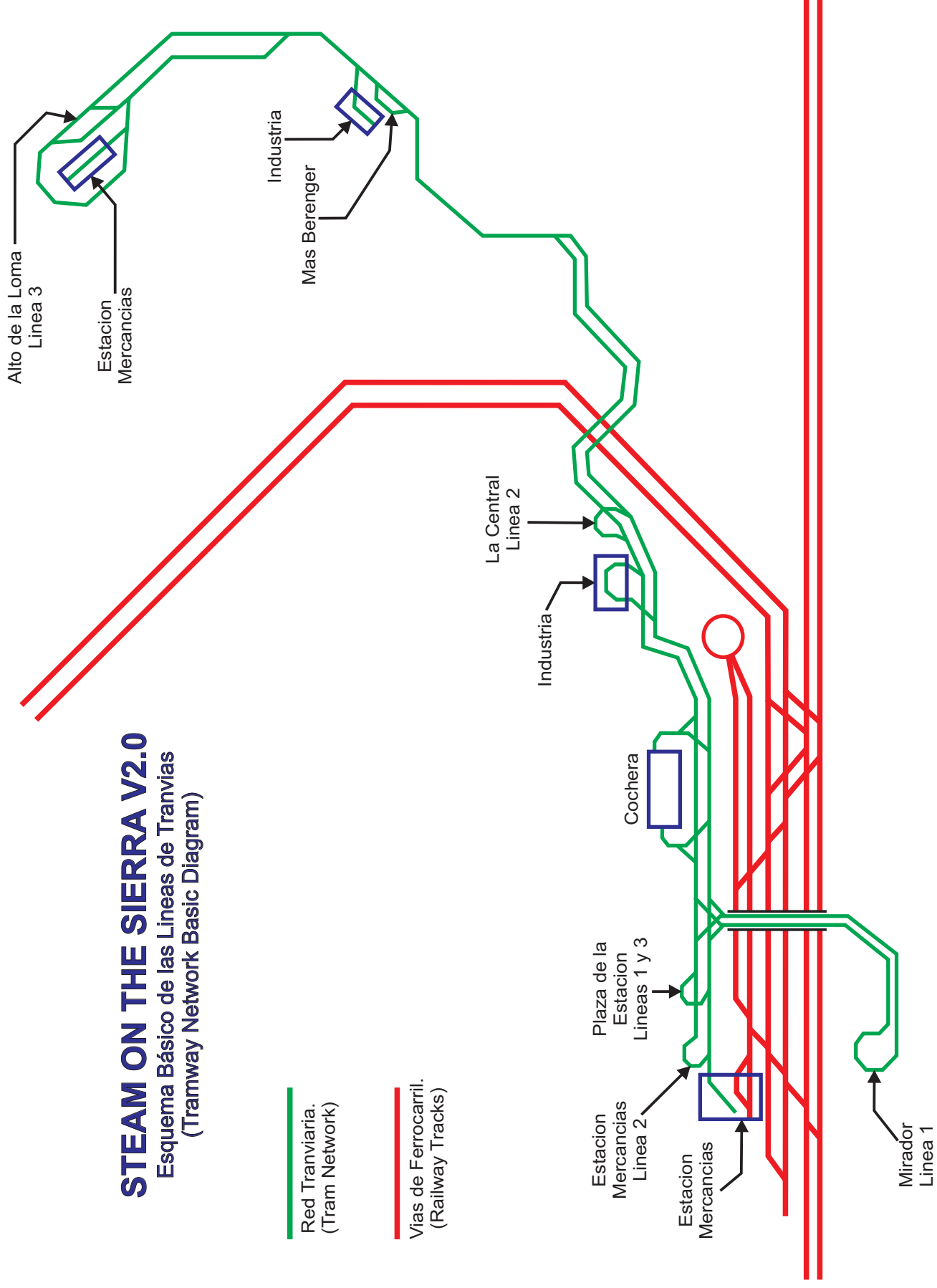
Route structure

The basic route's structure of its railway and tramway lines is according to both following schemas.



STEAM ON THE SIERRA V2.0

Esquema Básico de las Líneas de Tranvías (Tramway Network Basic Diagram)



Consequently, the lines are the following:

1. Broad gauge line (1668mm gauge).

It is a single track line (its first 10 kilometres are of double track) with a fictitious route. Nevertheless, four stations and a section of the line evoke actual places and installations. Concretely, these actual places are:

- The Portuguese station of Livração, placed on the Douro's broad gauge line.
- The stations of La Garriga and El Figaró, on the Barcelona to Ripoll and Puigcerdá line.
- A section of the above mentioned Barcelona - Ripoll - Puigcerdá line, between La Garriga, El Figaró and the viaduct of Fontmolsa placed several kilometres after El Figaró.
- The broad gauge station of Ablaña on the León - Gijón line.

The broad gauge line has its starting point on the fictitious station of Vilanova de Sarriá, that is a junction station with a double track main line, which is foreseen for the AI traffic.

This AI traffic will give life and atmosphere to this junction station during the shunting activities of the trains destined the single track line object of the route.

The trains' traffic on the single track line includes: express and regional passenger trains, freight trains, and coal trains (some of them in combination with the metric gauge line) with destination to the Vallplana's power station.

Two points regarding the electrification of this broad gauge line:

- In the beginning of the route work, there was the intention to equip the line with the DC 1500V type overhead poles of the Spanish company "Camino de Hierro del Norte de España" (NORTE). But, as this type of poles were not available in TS 2015, then they must be replaced by 1500V overhead poles of the former French MIDI company, which are very similar to those of NORTE.

- With regard to the electrification of the Portuguese station of Livração:

As the progressive electrification of the actual Douro's line not arriving yet to Livração, then in the present route the station and the part of the line adjacent to it has been equipped with the French AC 25 KV overhead poles. It is due that this is the standard electrification equipment used by the Portuguese railways in their electrifications; and therefore it is the ones that probably will be used on the Livração actual station, in the case that the electrification of the Douro line may be extended.



2. Narrow gauge line (1000mm gauge).

It is a single track line with a fictitious route, in which there are evoked three actual stations and a section of the actual line adjacent to one of these stations.

These actual places are:

- The lovely and warm Portuguese station of Livração, which is the starting point of the actual metric gauge line of Livração - Arco de Baulhe. This is also the interchange station with the Douro's broad gauge line.
- The Portuguese station of Carracedo, on the Regua - Chaves metric gauge line.
- The double horse-shoe track route starting from the Carracedo station, which is placed in the confluence of two small valleys allowing the line to climb with a constant ramp and with a really scenic and spectacular route.
- The metric gauge station of Ablaña, adjacent to the broad gauge station, and placed on the Oviedo - Collanzo line.

The trains' traffic on the line includes: coal trains and local passenger and goods trains.



2. Tramway network (1000mm gauge).

This network is formed by three lines (two urban and one suburban).

In the network there are also several connections for local goods traffic:

- A connection with the Vilanova de Sarriá goods station.
- Two connections with two local industries.
- A terminus for goods activities at the end of the suburban line in Alto de la Loma.



Some points to be aware for the route running and for the creation of scenarios

- At the moment, the broad gauge turntables are placed in the route in a temporary way. They are the standard gauge simulator's default turntables (1435mm gauge) and they may be replaced together with their attached tracks, when broad gauge turntables may be available.

- There are several junctions in the streetcars' network in which there are crossings that were not possible to be made (the simulator does not allow it). Consequently, the signal system of the network cannot protect these crossings because they are not identified by the system. This could cause collisions between the AI tramcars, or between the tramcar of the player and the AI tramcars.
The same situation happens in the level crossing with the railway line.
Then, it is very important to carefully make the schedules of the AI traffic in order to avoid encounters in these points of crossing.
At the same time, the player must also drive his streetcar with special caution in the mentioned crossings, and give priority to the AI tramcars when one of them is coming to the crossing.
Regarding the level crossing: The player must be also attentive if the crossing's barriers going down (like in the reality). And also quickly cross the crossing in case the barriers are activated in that moment. The level crossing links are placed at enough distance, but the train may approaching at high speed and appear in the level crossing in a little time.
Summarizing: The crossings are not identified by the signals' system. But the "bounding boxes" of the rolling stock are well identified by the simulator, and then the collisions can be produced with the consequent derailing and the end of the scenario.
- No metric gauge rolling stock and metric gauge tramcars are available yet in TS 2015.
Therefore, to create "explore route" scenarios for the narrow gauge line, it has been necessary to use the rolling stock of the Isle of Wight route (steam locomotive, passenger cars, and plank wagon) as well as some default English wagons of the simulator. The small loading gauge of them allows to have a less strange look of them when are placed on the metric gauge track.
Also, to make the tramway network's "explore route" scenarios it has been necessary to use the "Personnel Carriers" of the Isle of Wight route and its flat goods trailers.

Acknowledgments

The route's author is sincerely very grateful to all the add-ons' creators for their objects used in the route, which helped him to reach the desired Iberian atmosphere.
Also he's very grateful with the creators for their willingness, encouraging words, and collaboration for the inclusion of their add-ons in the route.

These creators are (in alphabetical order):

Asdru	Gsi (Geluc)	Peter Hill
BCN Termino	Hannibal Smith	Philip Baines
Blackie	iceman	PierreG
Blas_dani	javierfl	pml3
Brill	Jeff Layfield	RailX
brian yeomans	jjlor	Garcia Richard
Balogh Gábor	José Sosa	Richard Ham
Carthago	Josef72	Roger Vergara
Carlo D'Albero	Julien416	SAD27
Claudio Mussa	Kevin McGowan	Sierra
David Lorenzo	LBA	Stefan van Vliet
Dede34	Marco Pedretti	Suso
Dominique (PapiNic)	Mundo	Tiziano
Duarn	Németh Csaba	Trevor Burt
Edsolis	Pere	Vagoneta
Grupo_STR	Peter Hill	Xartix

I'm very especially grateful (for the important help that I have received) to: Carles Romero (Brill), Javier Fernandez (javierfl) and Pere Comas (Pere).

They made some add-ons from my request (track parts, overhead parts, and decorative elements) with a special design for this route.

And a very especial acknowledgment (as I'm mentioning earlier in this document) to Daniel Garrón (blas_dani), whose dedication and skill, for a lot of hours, allowed to upgrade this route (overcoming the big quantity of the simulator's changes), in order to allow that the fans can continue to enjoy it. Many of the add-ons' modifications made by Daniel, for upgrade them to the current simulator's standards, are creations of 3rd party creators which have provided permission for such improvements. To all them, also many thank.

The route installation

- Uninstall the previous route version (very important in order to avoid subsequent confusions).
- Use the simulator's Package Manager to install the route's file "Steam_on_the_Sierra(1000-1668)V3-0.rwp".
- Install also all the add-ons contained in other eight ZIP files using the same system. It is very important, to install these add-ons following the numerical order of the ZIP files in which they are located, because some add-ons must be installed before other ones.
- **To run this route, it is absolutely necessary to install also the following add-ons:**
- Route "Isle of Wight" from Railsimulator.com (<http://www.railsimulator.com/productdetail.php?Ref=24021>).
- "Rural Landscapes Freeware Edition", from 3DTrains (<http://www.3dtrains.com/forums/index.php/forum/89-freeware-file-downloads/>).
- "Scale Road Freeware Edition + Update", from 3DTrains (<http://www.3dtrains.com/forums/index.php/forum/89-freeware-file-downloads/>).
- Regarding the add-on "UK Buildings Model Pack (Vol. 1)" by Railsimulator.com (also required for the route) which was a freeware add-on: It is now no longer available for download. Nevertheless, the objects of it are now included in several "payware" routes of the simulator; like for example, the "Woodhead Route" or the "Western Lines of Scotland".

Credits

This route has been created by Jordi Hernandez Perallon (JORDIHP) and is property of him.

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Granollers, 30th November 2014.

