

Pinnacle – striking example of dryland erosion

by Katja Laute, Selbustrand, Norway

The Castil de Tierra has become the symbol of the Bardenas Reales region which is geographically located in the south-eastern margin of the Navarra Province in northern Spain. The Bardenas Reales is a semi-desert natural region situated in the middle-western sector of the Ebro depression. The geology is made up of Tertiary and Quaternary sediments. Rainfall events, wind and high temperatures enhance surface wash and erosional processes and have created fascinating erosional features and landforms such as canyons, isolated hills and talus flatirons. The Castil de Tierra is a striking example for differential erosion of the predominant clays and sandstones and the related landforms. Pinnacles like this one are usually considered penultimate stages of tableland dissection (via mesas and buttes).