

A photograph of two cyclists riding on a gravel path through an olive grove. The cyclist in the foreground is wearing a black and blue jersey and a black helmet. The cyclist behind is wearing a green and black jersey. A black wooden fence runs across the middle ground. The background is filled with rows of olive trees under a clear sky. A bright green wavy line is drawn across the top half of the image, partially overlapping the text.

Tourist Guide

Olive Oil Greenway

(Córdoba Province Section)



PATRONATO PROVINCIAL DE TURISMO | DIPUTACIÓN

English

Tourist Guide

Olive Oil Greenway

(Córdoba Province Section)

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*Old olive trees
Under the glaring midday sun,
Dusty olive groves
Of the Andalusian country!*

*The countryside of Andalusia, swept
By the scorching sun,
Knoll to knoll kept,
Olive groves on and on!*

Antonio Machado

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OLIVE OIL GREENWAY

The south of the province of Córdoba offers among its attractions for tourists, a unique opportunity for those seeking the perfect combination of activity, nature and peace and quiet: the greenways. These old railway routes, recovered and redeveloped for the enjoyment of cyclists, pedestrians and walkers are located in unique natural settings just a short distance from towns and villages filled with history, heritage, tradition and gastronomy.

In this guide we have compiled the best of the section of the Vía Verde del Aceite, or Olive Oil Greenway, that runs through the province of Córdoba. This trail, so-called because it follows the route of the old Oil Train, runs for 120 kilometres between Jaén and the old



station of Campo Real, at Puente Genil, with the addition of a 7.9 kilometre branch to Baena. This is the longest greenway in Andalusia and one of the best in terms of amenities and complementary offerings.

Along its course, the visitor will be taken by the charm of the stations, such as those of Luque or Cabra, the tunnels, its thirteen 19th century metal viaducts metal, the pedestrian walkways and the rest areas.

Each of the nine municipalities it runs through on its route through Córdoba will leave an impression on anyone. Taking advantage of the route, it offers the visitor its rich heritage, customs and traditions, its people and its gastronomy, with extra virgin olive oil from the Baena and Lucena designations of origin and the wines and vinegars from Montilla-Moriles the stars of the show. This tourist offering is completed with accommodation and hospitality that's adapted to the needs and demands of the modern tourist, focused on ensuring the highest standards of quality.

The Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park and the olive groves of the province of Córdoba provide the scenery for these routes, which can be taken on foot or by bicycle, with an option for everyone. Here at the Provincial Tourist Board of the Provincial Council of Córdoba, we are committed to accessible tourism and we are working to ensure that the greenways are accessible those with reduced mobility. It is our priority to plan and develop a provincial tourist offering for everyone. I hope that you enjoy this guide and that you can use it to discover more of the province of Córdoba.

Antonio Ruiz Cruz

President of the Provincial Council of Córdoba

Introduction

The Olive Oil Greenway invites you to visit some of the most magical corners of Andalusia along a 128-kilometre route that joins Puente Genil (Córdoba) with the city of Jaén. This Guide describes only the 73 kilometre section of the Olive Oil Greenway that runs through the province of Córdoba as a first step, to be followed by the forthcoming publication of a Guide incorporating the Jaén section. The route is remarkably easy and accessible, running as it does along the old railway line where we follow in the wake of the old Oil Train.

The splendid metal viaducts and tunnels, ditches and embankments left to us by 19th century railway engineering allow us to traverse a rich and diverse landscape with very little difficulty. Recovered old abandoned stations have been redeveloped into bustling restaurants full of life that welcome travellers equipped with boots and backpacks, bicycles and saddlebags, prams and wheelchairs. Where those with reduced mobility and of different abilities are excited to find family and friends enjoying the adventure of the Greenway, sharing the same experiences with no obstacles.



The creation and promotion of the Olive Oil Greenway has been the fruit of the combined work of many different organisations at national (including successive Ministries of the Environment, Adif and the Spanish Railways Foundation), regional and local level, including the Regional Government of Andalusia and the Provincial Council of Córdoba. Local residents and entrepreneurs have turned the Greenway into an active tourism and leisure space. The infrastructure is safe, isolated from motor traffic, well signposted and easy to travel.

The Olive Oil Greenway is a little slice of paradise that grabs us and moves us, that gives the gifts of sunrises that tinge the sky

with unimaginable colours in the heart of nature and a silence broken only by the wind and the birdsong. The vibrant villages and stations along the way offer plenty of fun enjoyment, with a warm welcome from locals to make us feel at home.

The Olive Oil Greenway is but a pretext for the traveller to explore the south of the province of Córdoba at their own pace, to be seduced by the charm of the villages, the local hospitality and the excellent cuisine of these fertile lands. The Greenway offers us history, natural and cultural monuments, landscapes and traditions to discover and make our own, leaving us longing to return even before we've left.





Symbologie

INFORMATION ON THE ROUTE

-  Greenway
-  Connection
-  12,5 km 9,1 km Distances
-  Danger/difficulty warning
-  Place of special interest
-  Climb
-  Old station
-  Tunnel
-  Viaduct

MAP INFORMATION

-  Recreational area
-  Source
-  Shrine
-  Church
-  Monastery
-  Castle/fortress
-  Urban areas
-  Industrial/residential estate

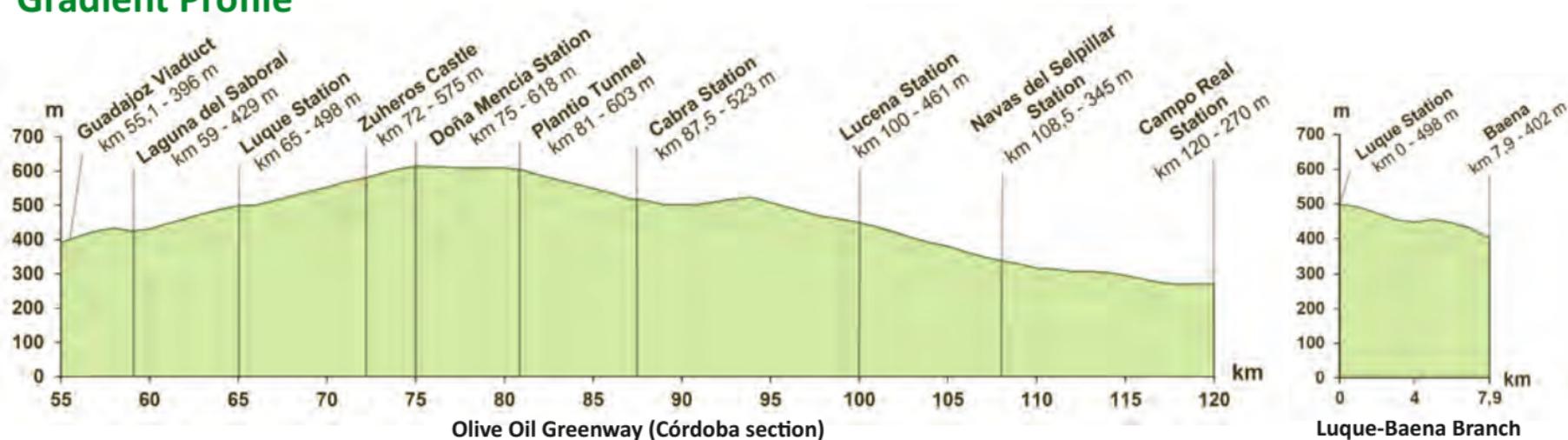
MAP INFORMATION

-  Motorway
-  National road
-  Secondary road
-  Local road
-  Asphalt path/street
-  Earth path/track

SERVICES

-  Railways
-  Provincial border
-  River
-  Hostel
-  Accommodation
-  Hotel-restaurant
-  Campsite
-  Restaurant
-  Bicycle hire
-  Tourist information
-  Train station

Gradient Profile



History of the Oil Train

In 1893, after several decades of planning and different phases of the project, the Andalusian Railway Company circulated the first trains on the Linares-Puente Genil Railway, providing transport for the output of the mining areas in the north of Jaén and Córdoba towards the ports of Málaga and Algeciras. These trains, which also transported agri-food products and travellers, were soon predominantly used for the bulk transport of olive oil in tank carriages, hence it became popularly known as the "Oil Train."

In 1918, the branch line to Baena began operations and, one year later, the Zamoranos loading dock was built, an example of the hope deposited in progress and urban development that had brought the railway to this part of Córdoba. However, the evolution of the line would not be so prosperous, despite a period of prosperity after the



Cuban War and during the Civil War from 1936 to 1939 when it served as an alternative transport route to the frequently bombed line between Espeluy and Seville. At this time, the State intervened given the precarious situation of the line, incorporating it in 1941 to the recently set-up National Network of Spanish Railways (RENFE).

The lines continued struggles came to an end in 1985, a fate that would befall many other lines throughout Spain, leaving hundreds of kilometres of railway lines out of service. On the Linares-Puente Genil line, the last trains to circulate in October 1984, when, as a result of a derailment near the station of Alcaudete, it was not worth repairing the considerable damage to the track in light of the upcoming closures of the line decreed for 31 December.



The Olive Oil Greenway: a route full of life

In the year 2000 the conversion of the Córdoba section of the old track of the "Oil Train" into a "greenway" began. Based on a project prepared by the Spanish Railways Foundation (a public body that coordinates the Greenways Programme encompassing 2,700 km of greenways), the Ministry of the Environment financed and executed the conditioning and signposting works. Over the years, additional investments have been made by the Regional Government of Andalusia, the Provincial Council of Córdoba and local authorities. In 2001, the Baena Town Council commissioned the construction of the branch line to Luque.

Until recently, the Olive Oil Greenway was made up of four sections with different denominations (the Oil, Subbética, Guadajoz-Subbética sections) managed independently of each other.

In February 2016, these sections were unified under the title "Olive Oil Greenway" heading, reaching 128 kilometres and culminating in April 2007 in the construction of a public-private partnership made up of the 14 local authorities, the Provincial Councils of Córdoba and Jaén and a group of local tourism entrepreneurs.

Joint renovations and improvements are now being carried out, in particular in relation to safety and information, such as the upgrading of the surface and the installation of uniform signposting throughout the entire Greenway, as some signs with the original designations of the separate sections are still in place. A number of promotional activities have already been carried out for the united Greenway: publication of a pamphlet, the preparation of this Guide (which will be extended to incorporate the Jaén section) and distribution in English, French and German on the official Greenways of Spain website.

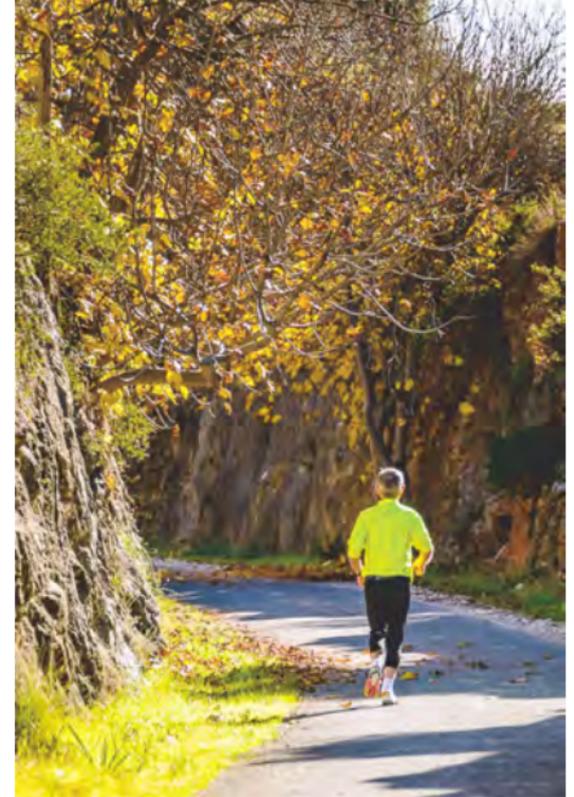


OBSERVATIONS AND ADVICE

The description included in these pages refers to the kilometre markings installed along the Greenway itself. Based on these, the Córdoba section runs between kilometre 55.1 and kilometre 120. The total length is 73.4 kilometres including the 65.5 kilometres of the main route and the 7.9 kilometres of the branch, distributed across 5 subsections in this Guide. The surface is made up of compacted earth with asphalt draining along some sections.

Remember, the journey always begins before you set off. Good planning will allow you to get the most out of what this experience has to offer and adapt the route to your physical condition and desired rhythm. Among the basic recommendations are the following which apply to any open-air activity in the rural environment:

- ✓ Avoid extreme weather conditions (hottest hours of the day, risk of precipitation) and carry sun cream and appropriate clothing. There are frequent sections with no shelter from the sun or rain.
- ✓ Always carry a sufficient supply of water (there are only water fountains at villages and stations) and food. Take into account the possible occasional closure of amenities.
- ✓ Remain conscious of other users, especially in tunnels and viaducts, and at weekends and close to villages where there may be large numbers of local residents of all ages and capacities. The use of a helmet is recommended for cyclists.



- ✓ Avoid high temperatures by making the journey in the earlier or later hours of the day, spending the middle of the day at a public swimming pool or in your accommodation. A night-time walk along the Greenway, under the lighting, is a real pleasure.
- ✓ Organise sightseeing tours to nearby sites that require motorised transport in advance (Córdoba, Priego de Córdoba, Rute, etc.), booking taxis, buses, local tourism agencies, etc.
- ✓ It is advisable to book accommodation adjacent to the Greenway in advance, especially at peak times (public holidays, weekends, etc.), when there are large numbers of visitors.
- ✓ Book early for visits that require a reservation (Los Murciélagos Cave, wine and oil tastings...), and bicycle hire.
- ✓ An experience recommended for visitors of all abilities, travel along the Greenway during the day, whether with bicycle or saddlebags, contracting local companies for the transfer of luggage between the different accommodation establishments.
- ✓ Sections particularly suitable for persons with reduced mobility are those located close to villages and old stations, where amenities and services are available.





SECTION 1: Guadajoz Viaduct - LUQUE Station (10.1 Km)



Km 55.1 A charming viaduct

The Olive Oil Greenway offers us this jewel or 19th century railway engineering by way of a welcome to the area where we start our journey. We're in for a surprise at kilometre 0 of the Greenway section running through Córdoba with one of the most beautiful landmarks along the entire route: a metal viaduct that connects the province of Córdoba with that of Jaén, over the calm waters of the River Guadajoz.

We can only reach this point along the Greenway itself, as it is inaccessible any other way - entering from Luque and the Laguna de Salobral along the N-432 and the CO-6204, or arriving from Alcaudete, the first town on the Jaén section of the Greenway.

Here we will be following the numbering of the kilometre markings installed on the Greenway itself, which begins in the city of Jaén, under the Guadajoz viaduct at kilometre 55.1.

This viaduct, at 207 metres long and 50 metres in height, is striking for its metal meccano-like appearance, built in 1891 by the French firm Daydé & Pillé, just like a number of the historical bridges over the Seine in Paris. This fascinating structure invites us to take our



time before walking or cycling to sit back and enjoy its artistic shape. The best views can be found when descending towards the base of the pillars, also in metal lattice work but anchored to a seating base, giving it certain solidity without taking away from its slenderness as a whole. Descend a steep but straightforward pass along the shore on the Córdoba side,

closes to the ruins of an old railway hut.

Once there, in the midst of the absolute silence, we let our imagination fly, evoking the impressive journey that passed here not so long ago.



The Last Bandit

If the stones and the iron of this beautiful viaduct could speak, they would tell us the incredible story that took place here towards the end of the last century. In February 1994, a Baena local disappeared without a trace and all efforts to find him proved to be in vain. Some years later, his family initiated the proceedings for him to be declared legally dead, but the story would have a truly surprising, unpredicted ending.

For almost 14 years, the disappeared man has survived by stealing food and small belongings from the farm houses of the area, taking refuge in different hiding places he sought in the Sierra Sur of Córdoba and Jaén and in a number of caves in Luque and Alcaudete. In a cave close to the town of Acaudete, he was captured one morning in July 2008, in an ambush set by a local who had had enough of his property being burgled.

Perhaps the most ingenious of his hiding places was the home he had set up as a bedroom and kitchen in the hollow of one of the pillars supporting the viaduct of the Greenway. Here, where the waters of the river rarely reached, he stored over 1,000 kilos of belongings, including magazines, canned food and small kitchen appliances. This peaceful "bandit," never harmed anyone on his raids, stealing also hundreds of personal photographs from the houses in the area, the only human faces to break his complete solitude.



Enjoying the Mediterranean nature and silence that surrounds us, we leave this viaduct behind to begin a gentle ascent of some 20 kilometres. The winding trail of the Greenway brings us to a sea of olive groves through which we continue for a great deal of our journey, alternating ditches with open spaces where the old iron path opens out onto a carpet of multi-coloured spring flowers. From the fruits of this forest comes the precious liquid gold that gives the Oil Train its name, so-called because it transported bulk oil and some local minerals and wines from Linares, Jaén and a number of Córdoba villages as far as the town of Puente Genil and the port of Málaga.

The Zamoranos Mining Train

We can rest from this first climb at the hill of Las Arcas (kilometre 58) and take advantage of the opportunity to play industrial archaeologists. Our challenge consists of finding the precarious remains of the old train loading dock stop, where

the modest narrow-track train arrived transporting minerals from the Zamoranos mines. From these nearby mines, almagra pigment, a red earth oxide used for colouring ceramics was extracted. Zamoranos is a village in the municipality of Priego de Córdoba, one of the most attractive and tourist-friendly in the area and well worth visiting to discover why it's considered a jewel of Córdoba baroque. It is best visited by car, unless you prefer to invest several hours' time and effort along winding mountain trails. It is easiest to access from Cabra, as we will see.



Km 59.0 Laguna de Salobral

On our way again, we have barely enough time to catch our rhythm before we find ourselves with another reason to stop: the Laguna del Salobral (Kilometre 59), declared a Nature Reserve and a Special Protection Area for Birds. Located some distance from the Greenway, we'll need the help of binoculars to pick out the rich birdlife the winter nest in these brackish waters. A small viewing platform with benches, bicycle racks and an interpretive panel has been built just to the left of the trail to provide a viewpoint without disturbing the peaceful life of these waterfowl. Luckily and if weather conditions permit (it is a seasonal lagoon), we may be able to pick out



among the reeds several types of duck, cranes and even the pink figure of flamingos who are accustomed to visit these parts. In the distance on our right, the houses of Luque come into view, perched on the bank and presided over by its stately castle.

When the oppressive heat dries up the lagoon, the birds seek refuge in other, fresher wetlands, as we also do ourselves, fleeing the high temperatures if we visit in summertime as this part of the track offers little or nothing by way of shelter from the sun.

In the environs of the Laguna de Salobral, the Greenway crosses



with the Camino Mozárbe to Santiago which follows the route taken for centuries by devout pilgrims from Jaén who crossed the lands of Córdoba en route to Santiago de Compostela to honour St. James the apostle.

Continue cycling or walking along the gentle climb, passing an old railway hut and crossing the local road (which leads to the nearby farm house of Los Llanos, restored as rural accommodation with a swimming pool that is very pleasant in summer) towards the cross with the N-432 road. A pedestrian walkway allows us cross over this dangerous junction safely as cars and heavy trucks speed by beneath us.

Soon, at El Alamillo industrial estate, a new local road that leads us on a 3 kilometre ascent to the village of Luque which we can make out with the silhouette of its Nazarí castle, testament to the fact that these were frontier lands in times past. Further on, other access routes to the village appear, all with an even more generous gradient.

The Bunkers of El Alamillo

If we have time, we can take the opportunity to visit the ruins of the Civil War from 1936 to 1939 spread around the area. Some 20 metres from the aforementioned crossing of the road with the Greenway, we can take a left along Camino del Alamillo where, after some 200 metres, we'll encounter bunkers and trenches, and an informative panel on their history. These are the remains of a fratricidal battle in which both sides had military interest in the railway we're following, as a strategic line of communion between the provinces of Córdoba and Jaén.



Km 65.0 Luque Station

Back on our way, we soon reach Luque station (kilometre 65), the first of the Córdoba section of the Olive Oil Greenway, which will surprise us with its wealth of tourist services, gastronomic delights and local crafts. This station grounds, located some 4 kilometres from the village of Luque itself, has been converted into a lively area in itself and an example of entrepreneurial vigour.

Some decades ago, even before the construction of the Greenway was built, a local entrepreneur decided to convert the old railway buildings into the popular Nicol's restaurant and shop, which is kept busy by travellers on the N-432 road which passes just on the other side of the station. It is an encouraging sight to see how these locals deal with Asian tourists in their own tongue when their tourist buses stop outside this station, where they leave well stocked with local foods and artisan goods prepared, of course, with the sought after olive oil



It is difficult not to make a stop at Luque station, or even an overnight stop if we wish, because there are also several forms of accommodation on offer. Moreover, the strategic location of the station allows us to use it as a base to make a visit to Córdoba (by bus or taxi), located some 75 kilometres away. There'll be similar opportunities to visit the Califal capital further on, as we pass through other areas of the Greenway.

The station offers us places to eat, both inside the building and outside under the broad canopy where trains stationed and alongside some of these old carriages, restored as a charming dining room. It would be remiss of one not to try a flamenquín, some ox tail or a home made crema catalana or at least a glass of fresh orange juice prepared from the oranges of the nearby plain of the Guadalquivir. The refurbished building houses an olive oil

A Station Straight out of the Movies

The station at Luque has more history to tell. It served as the setting for event and parties of all kinds, but its biggest claim to fame is to have served as the location for a real Hollywood star! In December 1989 the American actress Melanie Griffith spent a number of days filming at the station for an episode of the television series Hills Like White Elephants, based on a short story collection by Ernest Hemingway. Naturally, the shoot captured the interest of the local population and also provided an unexpected opportunity for many local residents to dabble in the acting world as secondary characters and extras in the scenes shot here. No doubt many Luqueños still treasure the memories, stories and anecdotes of that cinematic adventure.



museum and tastings and traditional millers' breakfasts are on offer.

For those who decide to visit, we can visit the grounds of the Nazarí castle and the Enchanted Cave, where cave paintings found in houses in Luque are reproduced and which are difficult to visit in their original location. Enjoying these splendid panoramic views from Luque is an ideal excuse to take a stroll through its whitewash streets, stopping for sustenance in the local bars.





What to do and see

Luque Tourist Office

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museo@luque.es

www.turismodeluque.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

“Luque Tierra de Fronteras” Municipal Museum

Tel. 957 667 574 / 686 774 071

museo@luque.es

www.turismodeluque.es

Luque Extra Virgin Olive Oil Interpretation Centre

Tel. 957 674 081

info@estaciondeluque.es

www.estaciondeluque.es

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Aceites Hacienda Peñillas

Tel. 957 691 373

info@aceitespenillas.com

www.aceitespenillas.com

Alanzara Sucesores Hermanos López

Tel. 957 667 202

info@gruposhl.com

www.aceiteshl.com

Subbética Viva Gestión de Servicios Turísticos

Tel. 957 667 574 / 686 774 071

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Where to sleep

Hostal Nicol's

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SECTION 2: LUQUE Station - ZUHEROS (7km) and branch to BAENA (7.9km)



Km 65.1 Baena Branch



As we leave the grounds of Luque station, we see a narrow platform of some 83 metres, over the N-432, inviting us to follow the trail, which is but a branch of the old railway line to connect with the nearby town of Baena. The town gives its name to the Baena Designation of Origin, which encompasses olive oil production in several municipalities

We continue along this easy branch for almost 8 kilometres, following the countdown of kilometres visible at landmarks along the way, winding once again through the sea of olive groves. We pass a minor crossing with a couple of roads and pass an old railway hut on the left before reaching a steep but short slope which places us on the service lane of the N-432, saving us an interruption of the old railway route. In the high zone, already at kilometre 3 of the branch, the benches of a viewing platform where we can pause to gaze at the horizon and recreate the silhouette of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park, a Geopark whose perimeter is in part delimited by the Greenway itself, and with a first rate panoramic view of the village of Zuheros.

It is here that we begin the descent that brings us across the N-432 via an underpass before returning to the railway track, between the olive groves and the odd nearby vineyard. As we approach the end of the branch, we find some apartments with a swimming pool and the suggestive name "Fuente de Salud" ("Spring of Health") before entering the space of Baena station.

It was here that, one July evening in 1918, the town's leaders and prominent families fathered to welcome the first passenger train that travelled along this branch. The "Trenillo de Baena" as it was known, was short lived, only running until 1965. It was hailed by the local population as a symbol of modernity and progress, as it connected to the main Linares-Puente Genil railway. The locals were jubilant in celebrating the arrival of the locomotive, receiving it with flowers and national flags while the accordions sounded the Royal March and the towns Archpriest blessed the railway, as tradition dictated.

We won't find any of the old station buildings today; they've all disappeared, but there is a new rest area and viewing platform

from which to enjoy views of Baena's whitewashed houses.

From here, it is easy to descend on foot via a path to the town centre, where a marked itinerary awaits us and leads us to a tourist information point. This town will provide all kinds of services and tourist attractions, before its time to retrace our steps.



Km 65.1+7.9 Km Baena: Olive Oil and Heritage



Recommended visits include Baena Castle and the splendid Archaeological Museum, housed in the Casa de la Tercia in the heart of the town centre, where many of the artefacts

found at the archaeological site of Torreparedones are on display, such as the "Lion of Baena". At this archaeological site, located 22 kilometres from the town, accessed by the A-3125 motorway towards Cañete de las Torres and by country roads, saw the discovery of the remains of 6th century B.C. Iberian walls as well as interesting relics and burials from the Roman period. On the same road that leads to Torreparedones, 8 kilometres from Baena, we find the spectacular Yeso Caves. The galleries and cavities of these caves can be visited from November to February, coinciding with the hibernation season of the bats that inhabit them.

Back in the town, there are a number of religious sites and the Museum of Olive Oil, located in an old mill, which gives us an insight into the world of olive oil from different perspectives: its gastronomic history, its use as fuel and its health benefits, passed on by the generations and today proven by science.





If passing through this area during Easter Week, don't be frightened by the beat of the drums that break the silence that usually envelops the Greenway; they're a peaceful feature of the celebration of the holiday and part of the identity of the nearby villages. In Baena, some 2,000 residents, dressed in traditional costume and representing two sides (coliblancos and colinegros), take part in a competition to prove their endurance, beating their drums like there's no tomorrow.

Easter Week is an important time of year in all of the villages adjacent to the Greenway and colourful scenes are repeated in all with the processions of beautiful baroque images through their mazes of winding streets. Baena, Cabra, Lucena and Puente Genil are all part of the "Passion Routes", focussed on these festivals celebrated throughout Andalusia and the rest of Spain.

Christmas is also a big deal here, with elaborate nativity scenes, carol singing contests, Christmas markets and the Three Kings' parade. Carnival, local festivals, fairs and pilgrimages complete the calendar of festivities repeated every year in this part of the country. But if there's one thing that Córdoba is famous for internationally it is flower-decked patios, recognised by UNESCO on its Intangible Cultural Heritage list. The villages of Córdoba are distinguished by their floral displays in courtyards, on balconies and railings, throughout the year and in particular in the month of May when locals tends to them with even greater care and pride.

Km 65.1 Towards Zuheros

Once we have returned to the Greenway at Luque station, we soon reach a crossroads with the road to the village of Luque. Here we find the entrance to the organic agricultural estate of El Cortijillo and an opportunity for a delightful gastronomy stop. There are also a couple of small apartments available for those who wish to stay the night, offering splendid views of Luque.

A little further on we'll find a rest area and a spring where we can quench our thirst. The following section offers a number of magnificent examples of railway engineering with perfectly stone cobbles embankments reminiscent of Inca walls, where large lizards and other reptiles have free reign. Even the modest crossings of the country roads over the tracks are examples of the elegance of 19th century railway engineering.

For charming rural accommodation reserved for the enjoyment of human, we have "Los Castellarejos" on the left bank, accessed by the road that connects Luque with Zuheros a little further back. These functional, modern and sustainably manages apartments offer terraces with magnificent views and a splendid swimming pool built as a balcony overlooking the dotted lines of the olive groves.

Gradually, the sight of Zuheros comes into view, a small charming village with its whitewashed houses huddled around the castle on the bank of a ravine. This sight must not



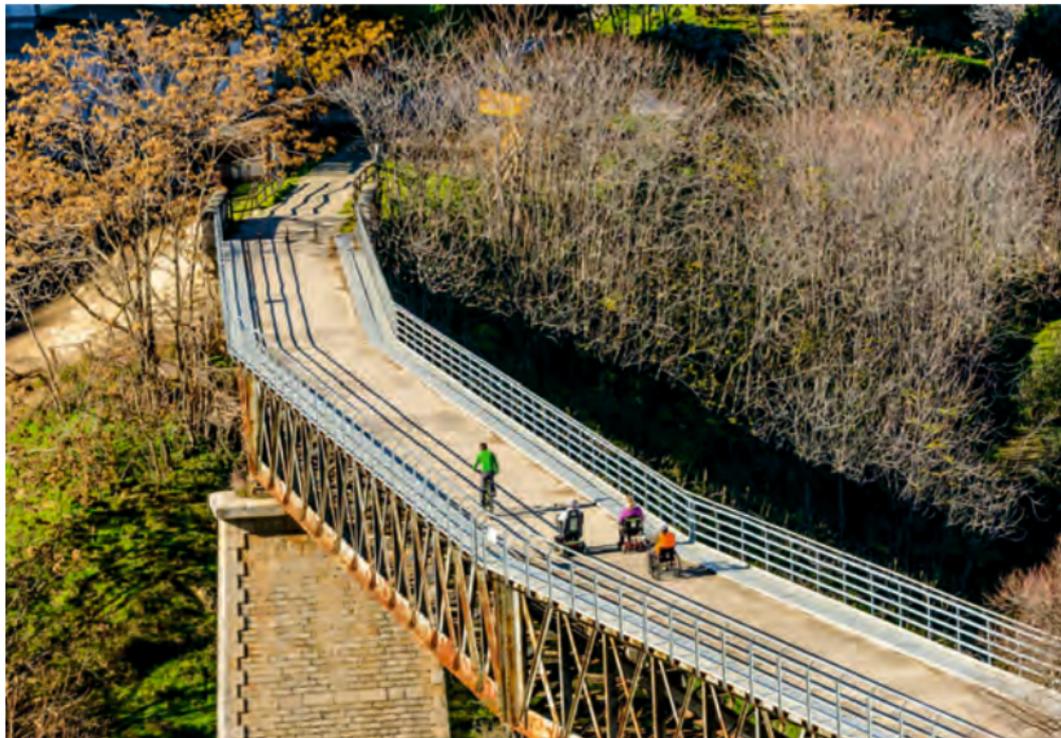
distract us, however, when we reach the crossing of the Greenway with the CO-6209 road. Precaution is necessary, as it is a diagonal crossing which can make visibility difficult. On the other side of the crossing is a refurbished railway hut that has been converted into the Francisco Poyato Studio Museum (kilometre 70) which is not open to visit, although the house museum of the painter, located in the village, is open to visitors. From this crossroads it is only one kilometre along the motorway to "Quesería Los Balanchares" cheese factory where we can sample and purchase exquisite goats' and sheep's cheeses, another example of the outstanding produce of the region.



Not far past the crossing is one of the best panoramic views of Zuheros, which appears at the end of a long straight stretch. Before we reach the streets of the village, considered one of the most beautiful in Spain, there is the temptation of stopping at the municipal swimming pool, located alongside the Greenway. This oasis offering relief from the heat of the sun might also be the perfect place to stop for lunch in its bar if visiting at the right time of day. It is recommended to take a break from walking or cycling to take a dip in the pool, lie on the grass and, why not, indulge in the delightful pleasure of a siesta, if your body requires it. Beside the pool is a pillar and picnic area where we can drink from the crystalline waters of the Sierra de Zuheros.

Km 72.0 Zuheros Viaduct

Further on, close to the old halt, at kilometre 72, is the splendid Zuheros viaduct, considered a significant piece of 19th century railway engineering for the unique construction on a curve. This 104 metre long metallic structure organised in three rectilinear sections that make up the curve, allowing the rigid, iron track to adapt to the canyon and cross the Bailón stream.



Km 72.0 Zuheros: One of the Most Beautiful Villages in Spain



The best way to enter Zuheros from the Greenway is via one of the two paths that are found at the two ends of the viaduct, climbing the short slope that separates us from the village. It might also be a good idea to spend the night in Zuheros in order to dedicate some time to exploring its corners and the paths of the rugged Bailón Ravine, over which the village is perched as well as a visit to the nearby Los Murciélagos Caves.

On the way to the Caves is "Iberfauna" an Iberian fauna reserve that will delight children and which offers a bird's eye view of Zuheros.



Los Murciélagos Cave

4 kilometres from the village are the spectacular Los Murciélagos Cave, a must-visit that must be arranged in advance as numbers are limited. Declared a Natural Monument and a Site of Cultural Interest, the Caves are important at European for study of the Neolithic period. They hose human remains, ceramics and cave paintings and some beautiful karst formations. Human remains from the Middle Paleolithic (some 35,000 years ago) have been found, corresponding to the Neanderthal.

The cave is accessed by a steep uphill winding road: the price our legs must pay if we want to enjoy the spectacular landscapes of the steep Geopark and the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park. Alternatives for a more comfortable visit to the Caves are a taxi or contract a visit with a local tour agency.



Km 73.2 Hacienda Minerva

Back on the Greenway, we continue the gentle climb while constantly turning to look back, because the sight of Zuheros is an essential photograph to take on our trip.

At kilometre 73.2 we come across "Hacienda Minerva", a magnificent farm house refurbished in traditional style where we can stay and delight in its beautiful library, panoramic lounge with its chimney, the different dining room and terraces. We can also relax, in no hurry, at the charming Arabic baths where guests can relax before a massage (advance booking required), or in the outdoor swimming pool. A quick visit to the beautiful ethnographic museum is also worthwhile to discover what life was like in an old Andalusian farm house.

Having reinvigorated our mountain body and our spirit, we set off again towards Doña Mencía.





Baena

What to do and see

Baena Tourism
Tel. 957 671 757
turismo@ayto-baena.es
www.baena.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Municipal History and Archaeology

Museum
Tel. 957 671 757
museohistorico@ayto-baena.es

Parque arqueológico de Torreparedones

Tel. 957 671 757
museohistorico@ayto-baena.es

Baena Castle
Tel. 957671757
turismo@ayto-baena.es

Museum of Olive Oil
Tel. 957 671 757
turismo@ayto-baena.es

Yeso Caves
(November to February)
Tel. 957 671 757
turismo@ayto-baena.es

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Easter Week Permanent Display
semanasantabaenaster@gmail.com

Sant'Angelo Turisme
Tel. 957 780 535 / 671626733
ofiturandalusi@gmail.com

Uniges 3
Tel. 647 572 390
baenacultura@uniges3.net

Navarro Tours
Tel. 957 670 683
navarrotours@grupoeuropa.com
www.navarrotours.es

Bodegas "Jesús Nazareno"
Tel. 957 670 225
bjn@bjn1963.com
www.bjn1963.com

Cooperativa olivarera Germán Baena
Tel. 957 670 110
germanbaena@germanbaena.com
www.germanbaena.com

**Coop. Olivarera Ntra. Señora de
Guadalupe**
Tel. 957 692 215
victor@cooperativadeguadalupe.es
www.cooperativadeguadalupe.es

Almazara Nuñez de Prado
Tel. 957 670 141
nunezdeprado@hotmail.com



Zuheros

What to do and see

Zuheros Tourist office

Tel. 957 694 545
turismo@zuheros.es
www.turismodezuheros.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Los Murciélagos Cave Visits limited

Tel. 957 694 545
www.cuevadelosmurcielagos.es
www.turismodezuheros.es

Archaeological Museum

Tel. 957 694 545
www.turismodezuheros.es

Francisco Poyato Studio Museum

www.museopintorpoyato.es

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Coop. Olivarera Ntra. Sra. Perpetuo Socorro

Tel. 957 694 552
admin@zuheroliva.es
www.zuherosoliva.es

Hacienda Minerva

Arabic Baths
Tel. 957 090 951
www.haciendaminerva.com

Iberfauna Subbética

Iberian fauna reserve.
Tel. 957 112 487 / 600 548 610
contacta@iberfauna.es
www.iberfauna.es

Quesería Los Balanchares

Restaurant and Shop
Tel. 957 694 714 / 676 062 833
www.losbalanchares.com



BAENA

Hotel la Casa Grande ***
Tel. 957 671 905.
hotelbaena@lacasagrande.es

Pensión Los Claveles
Tel. 957 670 174.
pensionlosclaveles@hotmail.com

Pensión El Rincón
Tel. 957 670 223 / 608 902 896
romicadorin@gmail.com
www.mesonpensionrincon.com

Albergue Ruta del Califato
Tel. 957 670 075 / 650 923 041 / 2
info@alberguebaena.com

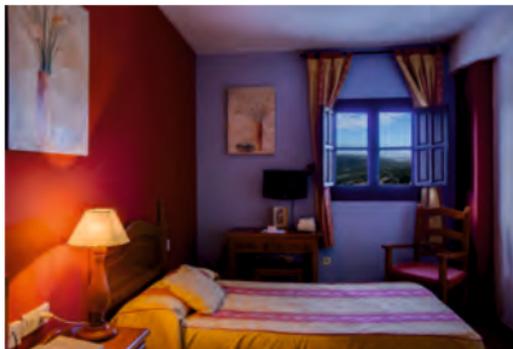
Hacienda Fuente de la Salud
Tel. 957 670 555 / 653 799 906
lahaciendaff@yahoo.es
blog: fuentedelasalud.eu

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Tel. +34 957 670 698



Where to sleep



ZUHEROS

Hotel Rural Hacienda Minerva****
Tel. 957 09 09 51

info@haciendaminerva.com
www.haciendaminerva.com

Hotel Zuhayra **
Tel. 957 69 46 93 / 957 69 47 02
hotelzuhayra@zercahoteles.com
www.zercahoteles.com

Albergue Los Tajos del Bailón
Tel. 957 69 46 42 / 650 61 36 75
www.turispain.com

Casas Rurales Ademaira I y II
Tel. 957 66 75 74 / 686 77 40 71
francisco@subbeticaviva.com
www.subbeticaviva.com

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SECTION 3: From ZUHEROS to CABRA (15.9 Km)



Km 75.0 Doña Mencía and the Subbética Cycle-Tourism Centre

Returning to the road, the gentle climb continues until we find ourselves with another unavoidable reason to stop. Passing under the CO-6203 road to Zuheros, we find ourselves at the



station of Doña Mencía (kilometre 75) with the passenger building converted into a restaurant with a spring, picnic area, children's amenities and a space facilitating the Subbética Cycle Tourism Centre in the leafy shade. It is frequented by those travelling the Greenway, being very accessible via the A-318 motorway and is located around the halfway point of the entire route. Some come here to rent bicycles while others come for the camper van sites, and increasingly more are visiting to walk or run in complete harmony with nature. Even in the coldest months of the year it is a pleasure to walk, run or cycle along the Greenway, among the almond trees that decorate the route, flowering in January and February.

The young entrepreneurs that manage this Centre can assist you with any services or activities you are interested in, such as tastings of olive oil and local wines or guided tours of the Geopark. They can also offer fantastic logistical support for anyone looking to make a single journey the length of the Greenway, with collections and drop-offs and the starting point along the way.

Alongside the station is an underpass crossing the A-318 road with a safe and accessible bicycle track, inviting us to explore the narrow, winding streets of the village of Doña Mencía which owes its name to the wife of a medieval conquistador. The village can be explored by taking the Valera Route, based on the texts of the writer Juan Valera, stopping for a wine tasting in one of the many wineries of the Montilla-Moriles designation of origin, as explained in the Wine Museum.

Our stroll through the old town, among the whitewashed houses and stately mansions brings us to the Castle, saving us the need to climb as the village is already located on the hilltop. We can visit the inside of this 15th century fortress and even climb the Torre del Homenaje tower for a magnificent view of the Sierras Subbéticas.

If we decide to spend the night here, the Hotel Mencía Subbética, opposite the station, offers us its modern facilities and swimming pool and a spacious terrace where we can sample flavoursome local dishes if the fancy takes us.



Km 77.0 Doña Mencía Railway Hut

We return to Greenway with a spring in our step, having completed the uphill stretch that has accompanied us since the Guadajoz viaduct, to enter a much easier section. After a couple of kilometres alongside one of the many railway huts that dot our old iron path, we find one that has been refurbished and whitewashed, alongside a rest area which offers a majestic panoramic view of Doña Mencía. These huts originally housed the railwaymen responsible for track maintenance and level crossing security and it was common for them to have a well and a fig tree as well as a small orchard for daily sustenance. Isolated from the villages and with no electricity or water supply, conditions were usually very tough.



Km 81.0 Plantío Tunnel

This is where the railway opened its way through the deep ditches, a number of viaducts and even a tunnel, the only one on this Greenway; the Plantío tunnel (kilometre 81) at 139 metres long with sufficient natural light to walk its full length, despite it being located on a bend. In reality, it is what is called an "artificial tunnel," a solution adopted to facilitate the consolidation of the earth where the track passes. The mouth of the tunnel is as impressive as the railway tunnel of old, with perfectly curved stone masonry and a stylised horseshoe arch.



Km 83.0 La Sima viaduct

We remain surrounded by the tapestry of olive groves that dominated the Greenway, but it progressively gives way to a richer and more diverse Mediterranean vegetation with holm oaks, carob trees, hawthorn and redfruit trees which lend more colour to the landscape. A couple of kilometres further we encounter the La Sima viaduct, a magnificent metallic structure of 132 metres over the Fresno stream.



From this privileged viewpoint it is worth making a stop to enjoy the tranquillity of nature with all the senses. If we travel in time in our imagination we can recreate the scene one cold day in January 1936 when a train derailed in the middle of the viaduct, leaving many injured, though none fatally, and five carriages destroyed.

Cavern of Cabra

The viaduct takes its name from the nearby Sima de Cabra (Cavern of Cabra), located some 800 metres high on the mountain of the same name and which consists of an incredible natural cavity the plunges vertically 116 metres into the mountain, opening at the based like a bell and forking into several galleries. This mysterious chasm has been mentioned by many writers over the centuries, as an ominous places an always with an air of mystery. Miguel de Cervantes himself, who discovered it during a stay in Cabra, mentions it in the Quixote: "Again, she bade me fling myself into the cavern of Cabra- an unparalleled and awful peril- and bring her a minute account of all that is concealed in those gloomy depths."

From the village of Cabra, there is a signposted trail to the base of the chasm, which was first explored in 1841, considered the birth of speleology in Spain. Although the records state that a full descent of the chasm was made in 1683 as part of the investigation into the murder of a local. A volunteer entered in search of the body, only after confessing to a priest and, in the presence of 300 people, among authorities, clergy and residents who received him jubilantly when he emerged from the cavity, as frightened as if it were the anteroom of hell.



Just a kilometre away, we pass over the CO-6211 via another, more modest viaduct, just 25 metres long but boasting the rather curious name of "Los Dientes de la Vieja" (the Old Lady's

Teeth). We will cross the same road another couple of times as we continue our gentle descent towards Cabra. The deep cuts of the railway ditches that once facilitated the trains, now help cyclists

and walkers to advance without fatigue through this impressive landscape where the Greenway borders the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park. We enter Cabra at its highest point, providing the Greenway with another privileged view of its maze of streets dotted with some architectural gems. The Greenway borders the old town, offering plenty of opportunities to stop but if you decide to do so, the old station is ideal (kilometre 87.5).



Geopark and the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park

The Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park was declared as a Geopark by UNESCO for its impressive geological formations and abrupt, sharp relief, and limestone rock formations of great paleontological value, guarding innumerable treasures and fossil remains, among them ammonites (extinct molluscs with a spiral shell). The Geopark encompasses territories of the municipalities of Cabra, Rute, Carcabuey, Priego de Córdoba, Luque, Iznájar, Zuheros and Doña Mencía.

Among the places with the most interesting landscapes are the Sierra de Cabra and its highest peak, Picacho (1,223 m), Pico de la Tiñosa (the highest in the province, at 1,570 m) and Los Murciélagos Cave. The Park is home to a number of indigenous species including both vegetable and animals.



Km 87.5 Cabra: the Gateway to the Sierras Subbéticas

Located in the geographic centre of Andalusia, with abundant springs and fertile orchards, Cabra enjoys a privileged location that has marked it throughout history. It became one of the most important towns in the south of Córdoba in medieval times, with its own bishop and many interesting civic buildings, convents and hospitals were built during the baroque period that are still magnificent examples of Andalusian imagery. These include the Condes de Cabra Castle, the Muslim walls and the Alcántara Romero Park, an oasis of rich biodiversity created in the 19th century. What's more, in Cabra you can also find the birth home of Juan Valera (author of Pepita Jiménez and Juanita



la Larga), and the Cerro neighbourhood, a typical example of popular architecture in Córdoba, with whitewash houses decorated with pots of flowers, in their prime in fragrance and colour to coincide with Fiestas de la Cruz.

If hunger strikes, there are plenty of eateries on hand, from restaurants recommended in the most prestigious guides to more traditional, home-made fare.

Also, Cabra has a range of accommodation options, including fully equipped rural houses and hotels of different categories.



Km 87.5 Cabra Station

Sheltered by the shade of the ancient trees, the old station has been converted into a restaurant. While the adults fill their water bottles at the fountain and boost energy levels on the bustling station terrace, the children, always tireless, can enjoy the nearby playground and even have a go at being a real train driver. Like an open air museum, at the end of the platform is an Mikado steam locomotive, a shunter and several cargo carriages. These splendid vestiges of the old Oil Train and the carefully restored railway buildings evoke the atmosphere of this station almost a century ago.



Train stations, by their very nature, are evocative spaces that conjure up nostalgia. At Cabra's it is easy to imagine the scenes that took place here when the trains stopped as the drivers alighted for lunch in the station canteen. There was no hurry and there were no high speed in those days; the train barely reached 40 km/h.

The local children collecting used tickets and "snot" (the coal residue of the steam locomotives that ran up until the 1960s) to build mountains for their Christmas nativity scenes and placing coins on the track as the train passed. Sweethearts and mothers, who came who came to throw their letters in the mail carriage, for young men who had emigrated to find a better future in other parts of Spain or in France. The young men themselves, who set off one day on trains just like this one, with the wooden suitcases and the weight of their sorrows and ambitions. The sounds of the station would be familiar to all: the station master warning of the arrival of the train from Doña Mencía using a ring of his bell, or two if was coming from Lucena.

Perhaps one of those locals enjoying a coffee under the railway canopy was one of those youngsters who ran to the station to see the arrival of the fascinating iron horse.



Returning to the Greenway, we pass a hospital and the area of Fuente del Río, an oasis of trees and waterfalls where the Cabra River begins and where an auditorium has been built. There

are also parking sites for camper vans and municipal swimming pool. Once freshened up and reinvigorated, we can continue our journey.



What to do and see

Doña Mencía Tourist Office
Tel. 957 695 075 / 691 84 35 32
oficinadeturismo@donamencia.es
www.turismodedonamencia.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Archaeological Museum
Tel. 957 695 075 / 957 676 020
www.museoarqueologicodoñamencia.es

Doña Mencía Castle
Tel. 957 695 075 / 957 676 020
www.turismodonamencia.es

**Wine Museum
(Museo del Vino Menciano)**
Tel. 957 676 016

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Bodegas Luque
Tel. 957 676 029
clientes@bodegasluque.com
www.bodegasluque.com

Bodegas Mencianas
Tel. 957 676 016

**Subbética Cycle Tourism Centre
(Doña Mencía Station)**
Bicycle hire, transfers, logistical support,
guided tours
Telfs: 691 843 532 – 672 6050 88
centrocicloturistasubbetica@gmail.com
www.centrocicloturistasubbetica.com

DOÑA MENCÍA

Hotel Mencía Subbética ***
Tel. 957 747 070
menciasubbetica@menciahoteles.com
www.menciahoteles.com

Hostal Casa Morejón
Tel. 957 67 61 69
www.turismodelasubbetica.com



Where to sleep

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Tel. 658 972 664 / 696 234 008



Cabra

What to do and see

Cabra Tourist Office
Tel. 957 523 493
turismo@cabra.es
www.turismodecabra.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Jurassic House Interpretative Centre
Tel. 957 520 100

Museum of Religious Art
Tel. 619 386 075
cofradiadelbuenfin@gmail.com

Museum of Olive Oil
Tel. 957 521 771 / 957 524 924
www.hecoliva.com

**Museum of History and Nature/ Easter
Week Museum**
Tel. 671 533 050
www.aguilaryeslava.org

Archaeological Museum
Tel. 957 520 110 / 957 520 766
www.elpaseocultural.es

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

**La Garrocha Equestrian Centre and
Equestrian Tours**
Tel. 639 788 192
Garrocha2005@hotmail.com

**Cortijo de Frías
Active Tourism Activities**
Tel. 957 334 005 / 608 555 581
cortijodefrias@cortijodefrias.com
www.cortijofrias.com

**Horsense Spain
Equestrian Activities**
Tel. 663 170 400
carmen@horsense.es
www.horsense.es

**Fíbula - Cultural, Heritage and
Educational Activities**
Tel. 677 048 475
Fibula.educ@gmail.com

**Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park
Interpretive Centre**
Centro de Visitantes Santa Rita
Tel. 957 506 986





Where to sleep

CABRA

Hotel MS Fuente Las Piedras ****
Tel. 957 529 740
fuentelaspedras@mshoteles.com
www.hotelfuentedelaspiedras.com

Hotel Mencía Mitra **
Tel. 957 529 600
info@hotelmitra.es
www.menciahoteles.com

Hotel Villa María **
Tel. 857 894 040
info@villamariacabra.com
www.villamariacabra.com

**Pensión Guerrero
(accessible accommodation)**
Tel. 957 520 507
pensionguerrero_s.l.l@hotmail.com
www.actiweb.es/pensionguerrero/

Apartamentos Cortijo de Frías
Tel. 957 334 005 / 608 555 581
cortijofrias@cortijofrias.com
www.cortijofrias.com

Apartamentos Turísticos Doña Leonor
Tel. 689 642 980
hospederiadonaleonor@gmail.com
www.hospederiadonaleonor.com

Casa Rural San Antonio
Tel. 655 485 051
info@casaruralsanantonio.es
www.casaruralsanantonio.es

Casa Rural Pío
Tel. 607 791 732/ 679 106 594
info@casaruralpio.com
www.casaruralpio.com

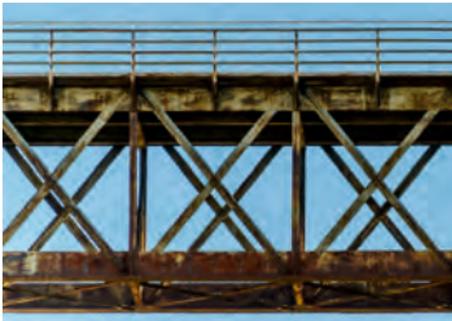
Casa Rural La Casilla El Chato
Tel. 619 432 614/ 957 524 658
info@lacasillaelchato.com
www.lacasillaelchato.com

Casa Rural La Collera
Tel. 639 788 192
garrocha2005@gmail.com

Casa Rural Las Infantas
Tel. 957 501 334/ 617 349 486
casarural-lasinfantas@hotmail.com
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Santuario de Ntra. Señora de Araceli

SECTION 4: From CABRA to Lucena (11.5 km)



Km 93.0 Alamedal Viaduct: Spain's First Steel Viaduct

After visiting Cabra, we set off into the country side where the tapestry of olive groves briefly gives way to more naturalised Mediterranean vegetation, amid deep ditches and embankments. An underpass takes us under the A-339 before a level crossing with CO-6213. In a very attractive clearing and next to a rest area that provides the opportunity to stop once again is the Alamedal viaduct (kilometre 93), at 70 metres long. According to the records of the time, this viaduct, whose platform was built in a French workshop "was the first steel viaduct built in Spain, by the "Andalusian Railways Company."

Approaching Lucena, one realises that the hegemony of the olive tree is absolute: over 76% of the municipal territory of Lucena is occupied by plantations of this age-old, twisted tree that has become a loyal companion on this odyssey across the province of Córdoba.

Surrounded to the north by the city centre of Lucena, with signs of the vitality of the city's industrial sector, in particular the areas of furniture, agri-food and metals. We reach the biggest city on the itinerary (where the population exceeds 42,00 inhabitants) and the province's second most important city in economic and demographic terms, after the capital.



Km 99.0 Lucena Station Leisure and Tourism Centre

We pass a few level crossings before reaching the esplanade of the old station (kilometre 99), where the passenger terminal has been converted into "La Estación" Leisure and Tourism Centre, housing an exhibition on local artisan crafts (gold work, pottery, woodwork, olive oil, wine) and local traditions. And even with that there's still space for a spacious restaurant and terrace offering rest and relaxation, while children can enjoy themselves in the station's playground. And no doubt children will be equally excited by the prospect of a visit to the adjoining hangar which



houses an exhibition of classic vehicles from the Museum of Automotion.

In Lucena, there's another curious museum that is also

entertaining for children: the Furniture Museum, the content of which might be obvious but what is unique about it is the building itself, as the museum is housed inside the world's biggest chair, made from solid wood and 26 metres high (the equivalent to 8 floors).



Km 99.0 Lucena: From the Pearl of the Sepharad to the Furniture Capital



Lucena boasts evidence of its eclectic history: a patchwork of Christian, Jewish and Arabic culture. The "Pearl of the Sepharad" as it was known, was an important urban centre in the Muslim period, as home to the largest Jewish community in Al-Andalus and inhabited exclusively by Jews in the 9th and 12th centuries.

To organise a visit, visit the Municipal Tourism Office, housed in the splendid example of the 18th century civil architecture that is the Palacio de los Condes de Santa Ana (in whose drawing room the Countess is said to have been held captive by her husband upon finding out that she had been unfaithful). Among Lucena's monuments, the Parish Church of San Mateo stands out, considered the cathedral of the Subbética Cordobesa. This Church was once a synagogue and a mosque and its El Sagrario Chapel is one of the best examples of Andalusian baroque. This is just one of innumerable beautiful churches that dot the streets of Lucena. If we have the opportunity to visit in spring, it is very likely that we'll encounter the many celebrations and pilgrimages organised around the venerated image of the Virgin of Arceli.

In the heart of the centre is the Moral Castle, which houses the Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum. Its tower, the Torre del Homenaje, may have been the cell of the last Moorish king of Granada, Boabdil, who was captured at the Battle of Lucena in 1483. Other sites of historical interest in the city include a necropolis, where 346 11th century tombs were discovered.

There are various garden areas where we can rest in the open air, sharing shade with local Lucentinos: the Paseo de Rojas and the Paseo del Coso (as the Plaza de España is popularly known) are those with the most shade. Lucena is full of surprises even on the inside, the Sima and Cueva del Ángel constitute an archaeological site where human settlements dating back half a



million years have been confirmed, in the heart of a beautiful geological formation which is open to visitors.

Wandering through this lively and dynamic city, our appetite grows and can be satiated in the innumerable tapas bars and restaurants. And then there's the buzzing nightlife of Lucena to be enjoyed!



If you have time, dedicate some time to one of the guided tours on offer or enjoy an olive oil or wine tasting on offer at one of the many wineries and mills. The best option is to

spend a night in Lucena, where there is a wide range of accommodation to choose from, to suit all tastes and all pockets.

In the areas along the Olive Oil Greenways, the typical ingredients of the rich Mediterranean are grown to an excellent quality: the olive, the vine and cereals. Popular recipes, accumulated down the generation, transform them into exquisite delicacies, often drizzled with excellent olive oils and local wines and anises. Fruit and vegetables from the orchards are used for traditional dishes like *salmorejo cordobés*, *gazpacho*, spinach with chickpeas, diced orange with cod, fried aubergines and big hearty stews like *roñas de habicholones lucentinos* or *empedrillo*. Olives are never far away and are a popular accompaniment, whether mashed, pickled or sliced, as are capers.



The slaughter of the pig provides a wide range of cured meats while the fresh meat is often expertly slow cooked. There is also the typical *flamenquín* (a breaded and fried roll pork fillet and serrano ham), often served in an extra large size to satisfy the most voracious appetite. Pork fillet with almonds is also popular while we must not forget the tasty meat from sheep and goats, whose milks are used to prepare





delicious local cheeses. When it comes to eating in this part of Spain, one must leave room for dessert, with a staggering selection of sweets that go by some marvellous names. Many date back to the Moorish period and include honey, almonds, cinnamon and cloves as well as the ubiquitous olive oil and anise. Some of these varieties are traditional during certain holidays, Christmas or Easter Week; some are prepared by nuns in convents or in traditional bakeries, such as the *bizcotelas* of the Augustinian nuns in Cabra or the nougats and candied fruit produced by Primitivo Picó in Lucena. Without forgetting

Baena's *gachas de mosto con coscorrónes* or the sweet quince paste, prepared slowly using equal parts sugar and quince) that Puente Genil has become internationally renowned for. Any village bakery will offer delightful sweets like *magdalenas*, *mostachones*, *pestiños*, *roscos*, *piñonates*, *hojaldres*, *tortas de aceite* and *empanadillas de cabello de ángel*.

And of course, all of these delicious dishes must be washed down with the Designation of Origin wines of Montilla-Moriles, which include white Fino and sweet Amontillado sherries, as well as the incomparable Pedro Ximénez, or even the local anis liqueurs (with the best examples found in Rute) or the popular rosolí, a combination of anis, coffee and cinnamon.





Lucena

What to do and see

Zuheros Tourism
Tel. 957 513 282
turismo@aytolucena.es
www.turlucena.com

Monuments and Natural Heritage

**Castillo del Moral
Archaeology and Ethnography Museum**
Tel. 957 503 662
museo@aytolucena.es
www.tuhistoria.org

Palacio de los Condes de Santa Ana
Tel. 957 509 990

Jewish Necropolis
Tel. 957 503 662
lucena@tuhistoria.org
www.tuhistoria.org

Sima y Cueva del Ángel
Tel. 957 503 662
lucena@tuhistoria.org
www.tuhistoria.org

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

**CMCA Foundation "Your History"
Dramatized Tours and Experiences.**
Tel. 957 503 662
lucena@tuhistoria.org
www.tuhistoria.org

Arrabá, Tourist Services
Tel. 666 266 703

Bodegas Mora Chacón de Lucena
Tel. 957 502 211
www.morachacon.com

Bodegas Torres Burgos
Tel. 957 501 062
www.vinosmontillamoriles.com

Museo Bodega Alfolí
Tel. 638 828 100
bodegaalfoli@gmail.com
www.bodegaalfoli.com
Aceites Cortijo Garay

Tel. 957 502 232
comercial@cortijogaray.com
www.cortijogaray.com

Coop. Olivarera Ntra. Señora de Araceli
Tel. 957 500 414
www.cooperativaaraceli.es

**Aventura Vertical
Climbing, ravine descents and
multi-adventures**
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comercial@aventura-vertical.com
www.aventura-vertical.es

**Eventos Gangarilla
Extra-curricular activities**
Tel. 675 469 439
eventosgangarilla@gmail.com
www.eventosgangarilla.jimdo.com

Auto alquiler Lucena
Tel. 957 509 613
www.autoalquilerlucena.es

Alfarería Granados
Tel. 957 500 609 / 652 833 520
admon@ceramicagranados.com
www.ceramicagranados.com

Alfarería Sartén
Tel. 607 194 949
alfareriasanten@hotmail.com

Orfebrería Angulo Bronces
Tel. 957 510 045
bronces@angulobronces.com
www.angulobronces.com

Orfebrería Bronces Durán
Tel. 957 500 312
broncesduran@hotmail.com
www.broncesduran.com/.es

Orfebrería Gradit
Tel. 957 500 247
info@orfebresgradit.es
www.orfebresgradit.es

Paula Orfebres
Tel. 957 502 203
contacto@paulaorfebres.es
www.paulaorfebres.es

Vaho Spa Center
Spa, thermal circuit and Arabic baths.
Tel. 957 590 010
info@vahospa.com
www.vahospa.com





Where to sleep

LUCENA

Hotel Los Bronces ****

Tel. 957 516 280
reservas@hotellosbronces.com
www.hotellosbronces.com

Hotel Santo Domingo ****

Tel. 957 511 100
reservas@hotelsantodomingolucena.com
www.hotelansantodomingolucena.com

Hotel Alyussana **

Tel. 957 500 300 / 636 590 780
info@hotelalyussana.es
www.hotelalyussana.es

Hotel Sierra de Araceli **

Tel. 957 334 666
hotelsierrade araceli@yahoo.es
www.hotelsierrade araceli.com

Hostal El Polígono

Tel. 957 502 488
manuelcuencar823@outlook.es

Casa Rosario

Tel. 606 680 438
casarosario@hotmail.com
www.casaruralcasarosario.com

Cortijo El Romeral

Tel. 957 590 586 / 649 758 025
cortijoromeral@telefonica.net
www.cortijoelromeral.com

Pensión Las Palomas

Tel. 957 501 150

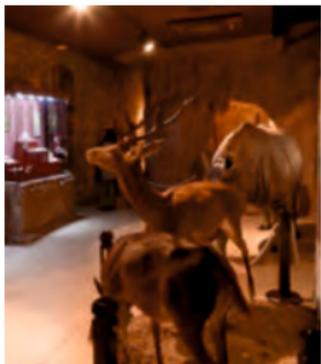
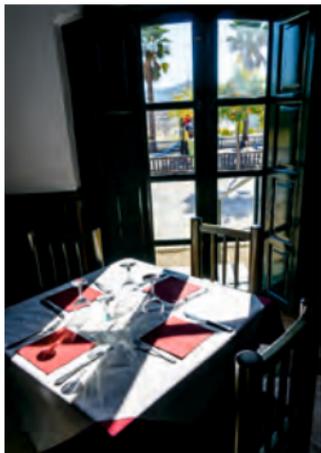
Pensión Sara

Tel. 957 516 151
pensionsaradelucena@hotmail.com
www.pensionsara.es

TAXI

Tel. +34 957 503 683
+34 957 500 356







SECTION 5: LUCENA to PUENTE GENIL (21.0 km)

Km 99.0 From Lucena Station

We continue our campaign along the Vía Verde, making for the town of Las Navas del Sempillar, through the industrial belt of Lucena and passing by Hostal El Polígono. At this suburban crossing, we take and imposing pedestrian bridge over the A-318

motorway and underpass under the A-45 before another two level crossings. We find ourselves once again among the familiar landscape of olive groves in the gently rolling countryside, mixed in with vines and dotted with fig and quince trees in the nearby orchards.

Km 108.0 Las Navas del Sepillar Wine and Gastronomy Centre

Soon after the crossing with the A-3132, which gives access to the village of Las Navas del Sempillar and the town of Moriles, is the old station of Moriles-Horcajo, which houses the Wine and Gastronomy Centre of the Montilla-Moriles Wine Route (kilometre 108). This spacious complex, fitted with benches, tables, a water fountain and plenty of shade, invites us to make a stop while we enjoy the panoramic views of the Córdoba countryside. Children can entertain themselves at the playground while elders can exercise using the outdoor gym machines that have been installed. Interesting informative panels both outside



and inside the building provide us with a fascinating introduction to the world of wine, taking advantage of the fact that we are right at the heart of the Montilla-Moriles Designation of Origin. There is also information on olive oil production which, at this stage of the journey, we should be more than familiar with! In the village of Las Navas del Selpillar itself, we can purchase and sample these famous local wines, and also take a stroll around its charming square where we find the Pilar, a water trough for livestock that supplied water to the local population in the past.

This section of the Greenway sees us cross the municipalities of Moriles, Aguilar de Frontera and Puente Genil. The towns themselves, however, are located quite a distance from our itinerary, making this the most isolated and less travelled section of the Greenway. Those who wish to visit the towns of Moriles

and Aguilar de Frontera (2.5 and 13 kilometres from Las Navas del Selpillar, respectively) can take the A-3132 to Moriles, which also goes to the Lagoons of Rincón and Zoñar, of interest to birdwatching enthusiasts. Local taxi services can help make such a detour more comfortable and, above all, safer.



Olive Oil and Wine Cure All Ills

Two of the products that make up the holy trinity of the Mediterranean diet, olive oil and wine, are in abundance as we cross the Vía Verde, having become one of the most universal and recognised elements of the area's identity. The Regulating Councils created decades ago to supervise production, guarantee the quality standards of these products under the Designation of Origin.

The Greenway crosses the Montilla-Moriles Designation of Origin wine production area, which encompasses the wines of Puente Genil, Aguilar de la Frontera, Moriles, Lucena, Cabra, Doña Mencía and Baena. It includes many varieties of wines and vinegars made from different white grape varieties, appropriate for many different occasions and for pairing with all kinds of foods: whites, finos, amontillados, olorosos, palo cortado, moscatel, cream and, most famously of all, the famous and sweet Pedro Ximénez.

The liquid gold or the green gold as olive oil is sometimes called also has an illustrious history in the areas crossed by the Greenway. Some of these municipalities are encompassed by the Baena Designation of Origin. Luque, Zuheros, Doña Mencía, Cabra and Baena. The extra virgin olive oil obtained by pressing olive of different varieties produced in the area (picuda, picual, hojiblanca, manzanilla, lechín, chorrúa and pajarera) is recognised internationally for its excellent quality. It is demonstrated that its daily consumption prevents cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and cholesterol problems among other maladies as well as warding off the effects of ageing.

The quality of Córdoba's olive oil is recognised by the most esteemed international experts. In 2016, 73% of the oils selected as the top 100 in the world were Spanish.



Km 108.0 +2.5 Km Moriles: the Cradle of the Wine Designation of Origin

In the relatively young town of Moriles (it only dates back to 1912), one gets the impression, for the first time on our journey, that the vine assumes greater importance than the olive tree. On its outskirts there is a network of wine presses, agro-industrial operations where after the harvest, the first phases of the transformation of grapes into wine beings with the preparation of the must. The Modern Centre of Wine Culture has become the epicentre of wine tourism in Moriles, organising visits and tastings at many of the wineries and cellars, and at the modern facilities of the centre itself.

In the Village itself is the Museum of Must, and many wineries replete with oak barrels where the crianza ageing process is explained and tastings offered. There is no better way to end any wine trip of Moriles that by enjoying some local cuisine in the tapas bars or traditional restaurants.



Km 108.0 +13.0 Km Aguilar de la Frontera, in the South Country

Those wishing to visit Aguilar de la Frontera will have to pedal on for a further 8 kilometres. Take the CP-101 (after 4 kilometres, take the exit for Laguna del Rincón, located some 500 m away) which intersects the N-331 which brings us to Aguilar de la Frontera. If we want to extend the journey as far as Laguna de Zoñar, there is a further 3 kilometres distance to cover as far as the Visitors Centre.

In Aguilar de la Frontera (only 52 kilometres from Córdoba) we can lose ourselves in its interesting neoclassic octagonal square and baroque clock tower, decorated in a combination of bricks and tiles. Our relaxing stroll through Aguilar is also an opportunity to try some tapas to enjoy a real "tasting menu" of local delicacies which is within reach of all budgets.



The Olive Oil Greenway crosses close to some of the six lagoons of Southern Córdoba, declared Natural Reserves for their value as places for wintering and nesting of migratory birds. Among them, the biggest is the seasonal Laguna del Salobral (Luque). The importance of the Laguna de Zoñar and the neighbouring Laguna del Rincón (much smaller, and also with water all year round) lies in that they have allowed for the recovery of the ruddy duck population, when fewer than fifty mating couples remained in all of Europe. In these environs we can find the red-crested pochard, the northern shoveller, the crested coot, the little grebe, the great crested grebe and the mallard. At the Laguna de Zoñar Visitors Centre, there are illustrative guides to these Cordobesa wetlands.

Km 112.0 The Lagares de Moriles Route

One of the outdoor panels at Las Navas del Sempillar station describes the Lagares de Moriles route, whose route (10.7 km) we can begin, if the legs aren't ready to stop, 4 kilometres from the station (kilometre 112) beside a rest area equipped with benches, picnic tables and bike racks. At this point we abandon the Subbética comarca to enter the comarca of Campiña Sur de Córdoba.

We say goodbye to the old Oil Train track amidst white lands dotted with green vines and olive trees and the occasional



farmhouse or wine cellar. Far from the hustle and bustle, we can enjoy the peace and quiet of nature with only the song of the cicadas for company in summer. Presently, an pedestrian walkway takes us over the A-318 in the form of stylised red-coloured pedestrian walkway, a high point for observing the countryside with the Sierra del Castillo in the background, crowned by the tower of the Anzur Castle. Some 3 kilometres on, a wide ford takes us across the Navalunga stream.



A few kilometres later, we reach the end of the Greenway close to the station at Campo Real (kilometre 120), whose buildings are still in ruins but where there is a car park accessible from the CO-6223, which is an exit off the A-318. We are now on the outskirts of Puente Genil, some 6 kilometres from the town centre.

At this station, the Linares-Puente Genil railway (our Greenway) connected with the main Córdoba-Málaga line, with the terminal itself located right in the middle of the fork in the tracks. With the closure of line we've been travelling along, the Campo Real Station was downgraded to a halt and subsequently abandoned.

With the Greenway track ending here, if there is time to visit Puente Genil, the second most populous city on the Greenway, we can continue a signposted route for 6 kilometres, combining country paths and small sections of roads. An informative panel placed at the end of the Greenway informs us, with a very detailed map, of the distances, surface type and gradient profile of this route. As always, another alternative is to contract the services of a tourist agency or local taxi which will collect us and take us to Puente Genil or whichever point is convenient for us.

Km 120.0 +6.0 Km Puente Genil: Where the Sun Shines Sweetly

The Bridge over the River Genil, the town's most emblematic feature and that which gives it its name, has been remodelled on various occasions since it was first built in the 16th century, replacing an old wooden bridge. It joins the two historic parts of the town, a maze of streets dotted with worthy examples of religious and civil heritage, among them the Casa de la Mayordomía, which has the most beautiful stone façade in the town. In the old town, the three most important buildings are the Ermita del Dulce Nombre, el Teatro Circo, which owes its name to the many different spectacles it once hosted and the headquarters of the La Aurora electricity factory.

It must be pointed out that in 1889 Puente Genil was the second municipality in Spain (after Barcelona) to have wired electricity, taking advantage



of the flow of the River Genil, as recalled today in the La Alianza Industrial Complex. This fact led to a real industrial revolution in the town, reaching its economic apogee, which has left its architectural legacy with the likes of the Casino Liceo Mercantil, built at that time, along with several stately homes.

At the Easter Week Permanent Display, the importance of this holiday in Puente Genil is there for all to see, valued for its artistic value of its imagery and, in particular, the uniqueness for representing over 400 biblical figures alongside classic images of the Passion. This tradition began at the behest of the locals themselves in the 17th century, despite the strict prohibition and threats of excommunication issued on the part of the ecclesiastical authorities, who were contemptuous of such popular displays of religiosity.



3 kilometres from the village by road (heading north-east on the CV-297) lies the Fuente Álamo Roman Villa, where an interesting collection of mosaics has been preserved. Some of the pieces found at this site are on display at the local History Museum, which also boasts an ethnography room dedicated to the production of quince, the most emblematic element of Puente Genil's agri-food industry. In the late 19th century, the impact of electrification on the artisanal process of quince production saw the industry enjoy a real boom, with 18 factories operating in

the town in those days. Nothing illustrates the international recognition of Puente Genil quince better than the fact that it was already being exported to the Philippines at this time, when the territory was still under Spanish control.

Perhaps it is the fruit of this enterprising spirit of the locals and of the early electrification of the town that sees one family business from Puente Genil decorate the streets of the Spanish capital and half the world, including cities like Hong Kong and New York, with colourful Christmas displays using thousands of LED lights.



And so the time comes to end our journey. An ideal option for doing so is to head for Puente Genil-Herrera AVE station (6 kilometres away, not to be confused with the other more central station with no passenger service) by taxi or by other local transport and take a high speed train to Córdoba or Málaga. The rest of the province of Córdoba has a thousand and one attraction to prolong our stay.

We leave the south of the province of Córdoba with our body full sensation, emotions and flavours of great experiences, lots of memories and plenty of souvenirs because it would be impossible to leave without filling our suitcases, saddlebags or backpacks with local olive oil, wine or the other exquisite sweets produced here: gifts for others who could not accompany us but also for ourselves, to help us relive those moments we experienced on Spain's Olive Oil Greenway and its surroundings.





Moriles

What to do and see

Moriles Tourism
Tel. 957 537 000
www.moriles.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Centre of Wine Culture
Tel. 696 684 476
www.facebook.com/CulturadelVinodeMoriles

Museum of Mosto
Tel. 957 537 783
info@castillodemoriles.com
www.castillodemoriles.com

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Bodega Lagar de Casablanca
Tel. 697 728 726 / 672 466 682
lagarcasablanca@gmail.com

Bodega La Casilla
Tel. 617 930 399

Bodega Sánchez Real
Tel. 617 438 820

Bodega A. Doblás Martos
Tel. 957 537 942
www.bodegasdoblasmartos.com

Bodega Lagar de los Naranjos
Tel. 957 53 7 1 26

Bodega San Pablo
Tel. 957 537 445 / 957 537 552
moriles@bodegassanpablo.com
www.bodegassanpablo.com

Bodega Lagar El Monte
Tel. 957 537 103 / 957 537 755
653 286 117
www.bodegaselmonte.com

Bodega Los Gabrieles
Tel. 957 537 785 / 600 411 666

Cooperativa Vitícola N.S. Rosario
Tel. 957 537 146 / 607 967 529
680 514 262

Bodega Lagar Santiago
Tel. 957 537 202

Cooperativa Vitivinícola San Jerónimo
Tel. 957 537 607





What to do and see

Aguilar de la Frontera Tourism
Tel. 957 688 203
turismo@aguilardelafrontera.es
www.aguilardelafrontera.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

"Cerro del Castillo" Archaeological Site
ciphaf@aguilardelafrontera.es
www.ciphaf.com

**Centre for the Interpretation of the Landscape
and History of Aguilar de la Frontera
Cerro del Castillo**
Tel. 957 661 771-957 688 203
cultura@aguilardelafrontera.es
www.ciphaf.com

Toro Albalá Cultural Museum of Wine and the Vine
Tel: 957 660 046
rsanchez@toroalbala.com

Sightseeing Tours, Olive Oil Tours, Wine Tours and Other Activities

Bodegas Toro Albalá
Tel. 957 660 046
rsanchez@hotmail.com

Cooperativa Vitivinícola Local
Tel.: 957 688 626
coopvitilocal@gmail.com

Coop. Andaluza Olivarera Jesús Nazareno
Tel. 957 660 093
cop.jesusnaz@terra.es





Puente Genil

What to do and see

Puente Genil Tourism

Tel. 957 600 853
turismo@aytopuentegenil.es
www.turismopuentegenil.es

Monuments and Natural Heritage

Archaeological Museum

Tel. 957 605 034

"José Díaz Arroyo" Ethnographic Collection

Tel. 957 605 549

Fuente Álamo Roman Villa

Tel. 957 605 034 ext 388
fuentealamovillaromana@gmail.com
www.turismopuentegenil.es

Easter Week Permanent Display

Tel. 687 812 545
agrupacioncofradiaspg@gmail.com
www.mananta.net

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cydonia.tcc@hotmail.com
www.cydoniatcc.jimdo.com

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Cooperativa Vitivinícola la Purísima

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administracion@vinoleapurisima.com
www.vinoleapurisima.com

Coop. Agrícola Olivarera Ntra. Sra. Desamparados

Tel. 957 601 262
info@codegenil.es
www.codegenil.es

Aceites Cortijo El Canal

Tel. 957 609 162
aceite@aceitecortijoelcanal.com
www.aceitecortijoelcanal.com

Membrillo El Quijote S.A.

Tel. 957 609 096
www.quijotefood.com

Membrillo La Góndola

Tel. 957 600 329
comercial@membrillo-lagondola.com.
www.membrillo-lagondola.com

Membrillo San Lorenzo

Tel. 957 600 296
info@membrillosanlorenzo.com
www.membrillosanlorenzo.com

 **Where to sleep**

MORILES

Casa Rural Cortijo El Patriarcal
Tel. 663 860 826

Casa Rural Lagar Los Donceles
Tel. 607 912 129
www.lagarlosdonceles.com

TAXI

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+34 957 536 059
+34 670 492 865

AGUILAR DE LA FRONTERA

Casa Rural Hacienda Capricho Andaluz
Tel. 655 832 290
info@haciendarural.com
www.haciendarural.com

Casa Rural Cortijo San Francisco
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info@cortijosanfrancisco.es
www.cortijosanfrancisco.es

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+34 957 661 052
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PUENTE GENIL

Hotel El Carmen ***
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recepcion@hotelescarmenpuentegenil.com
www.hotel-elcarmen.es

Hotel Las Acacias ***
Tel. 957 600 011
reservas@hotellasacacias.es
www.hotellasacacias.es

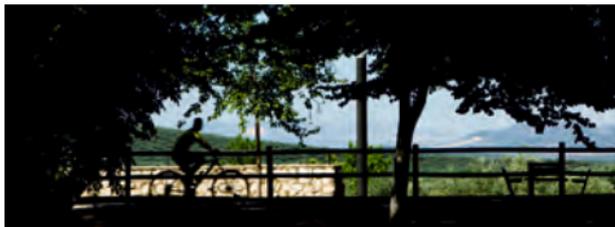
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Tel. 957 606 835
hostalmezquita@telefonica.net
www.hostalrestaurantemezquita.com

Casa Rural Esmeralda
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marichia@telefonica.net
www.casaruralesmeralda.com

TAXI

Tel. +34 957 600 408







Comarca de Guadajoz-Campiña Este

The comarca of Guadajoz-Campiña Este, comprising Baena, Castro del Río, Espejo, Nueva Carteya, Valenzuela and the parishes of Albendín and Llano del Espinar offers the remains of Iberian, Roman and Muslim sites, all attracted by the richness of these lands and the River Guadajoz. The comarca is known for its gastronomy, with Extra Virgin Olive Oil produced under the Baena Designation of Origin, while there are also excellent wines, horticultural products, cured meats and other meat products. These lands, also an essential stop on other tourist routes like the Caliphate Route and the Mozarabic route of the Camino de Santiago, have plenty to offer: Castro del Río, known for its olive wood furniture; Espejo, with its medieval Castle; Nueva Carteya, with its seven peak and Valenzuela, with its Corpus Christi festival. The Vadomojón reservoir offers lots of opportunities for recreational fishing, hiking and water sport activities. It's an area that will surprise you!

Mancomunidad de Guadajoz-Campiña Este

Tel. 957 665 084

gerencia@guadajoz.org

www.guadajoz.org





Comarca de la Subbética Cordobesa

The comarca of the Subbética Cordobesa, comprising 14 municipalities (Almedinilla, Benamejí, Cabra, Carcabuey, Doña Mencía, Encinas Reales, Fuente Tójar, Iznájar, Lucena, Luque, Palenciana, Priego de Córdoba, Rute and Zuheros) is well known for its Natural Park, with an unrivalled geographic richness, declared a World Geopark by UNESCO. It also stands out for its baroque monuments, its architectural legacy, its artisan crafts, gastronomy and traditions. Priego de Córdoba, the birthplace of Cordobés baroque, with its narrow winding streets, is worthy of special mention as is Rute, with its traditional cuisine and liqueurs and Christmas sweets. If you're looking for a unique and exciting experience, the water sport activities at Playa de Valdearenas (Iznájar) and Rafting on the River Genil are recommended. Or why not enjoy a Roman lunch at the El Ruedo de Almedinilla Villa.

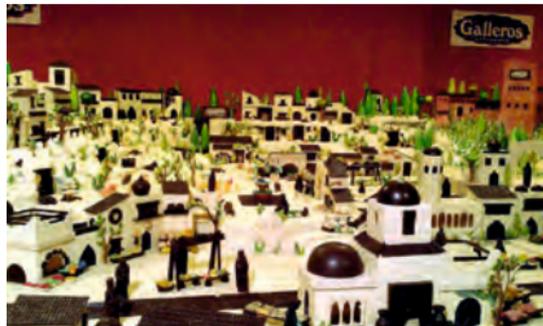
Mancomunidad de la Subbética

Tel. 957 704 106

turismo@subbetica.org

www.turismodelasubbetica.es





Comarca de la Campiña Sur Cordobesa

The comarca of Campiña Sur Cordobesa is comprised of 11 municipalities: Aguilar de la Frontera, Fernán Núñez, Montalbán de Córdoba, Montemayor, Montilla, Monturque, Moriles, Puente Genil, La Rambla, San Sebastián de los Ballesteros and Santaella. Located between the city of Córdoba and the Sierras Subbéticas, its gently rolling hills conceal centuries of history, with an important architectural, artistic, ethnographic and gastronomic heritage as well as well-rooted popular traditions. Here one can sample the rich gastronomy, breath in the aromas of wines and cellars; stroll among the Roman ruins. listen to bells of the towers and hear stories that draw one into that history; that touch and feel the mud and the bunches of grapes. The privileged location makes in a special place to discover art and archaeology, a great wine making heritage and magnificent natural environments. The Campiña Sur Cordobesa is a "Universe in All of the Senses".

Mancomunidad de la Campiña Sur

Tel. 957 662 090

info@campisur.es

www.campisur.es





General Interest Information on the Olive Oil Greenway (Córdoba)

Tourist information

Greenways of Spain (National Accounts of Spain)
Information on the full Olive Oil Greenway (128 km)
In Spanish and English
www.viasverdes.com

Turismo de Andalucía
www.andalucia.org

Provincial Tourist Board of the Province of Córdoba
Tel. 957 491 677 / 78 / 79
turismo@cordobaturismo.es
www.cordobaturismo.es

Telephone emergencies 112

Spanish National Accounting. +34

Organising your trip and logistical support on the Greenway

Subbética Cycle Tourism Centre
(Doña Mencía Station)
Telfs: 691 843 532 – 672 6050 88
centrocicloturistasubbetica@gmail.com
www.centrocicloturistasubbetica.com

Centro de Servicios Turísticos 4U
Tel. 957 540 952 /692 153 284
Turismo4u@gmail.com
www.4uviajes.com

Viajes Aquasur
Tel. 957 500 165
reservas@viajesaquasur.com
www.viajesaquasur.com

Agencia de Viajes en Bicicleta Vivebike
Tel. 678 624 020
info@vivebike.travel
www.vivebike.travel

Ecotour Córdoba
Accessible travel, hire of accessible
vehicles
Tel. 615 573 127 /957 047 473
info@ecotourcordoba.com
www.ecotourcordoba.com

Astroandalus
Astronomy observations
Tel. 953 150 050
info@astroandalus.com
www.astroandalus.com

Correos
(Transport of bicycles in Spain and Europe)
Tel. 683 440 022
elcamino@correos.com
www.elcaminoconcorreos.com

Transport

Airports

Closest international airports to the Olive Oil Greenway: Sevilla, Jerez de la Frontera, Málaga, Granada and Almería
Tel. 902 404 704 / 913 211 000
www.aena.es

Buses

The Valenzuela, Alsa, Carrera and Daibus-interbus companies provide services to all of the villages along the Greenway.
Baena Bus Station, Tel. +34 957 670 025
Cabra Bus Station, Tel. +34 957 521 302
Lucena Bus Station, Tel. +34 957 501 632
www.estacionautobuseslucena.es

Train

There are train services and both ends of the Olive Oil Green Way. See conditions for admission of bicycles on trains.
Puente Genil-Herrera Train Station: 6 kilometres from Puente Genil, AVE high-speed trains. (There is another station in the centre of Puente Genil, but without passenger services).
Jaén Train Station (At kilometre 0 of the Olive Oil Greenway)
Tel. 902 320 320
www.renfe.com

Services of interest by municipality

Town	Distance to Greenway (km)	Population	Healthcare	Pharmacy	Bus	Train	Bicycle hire	Taxi / transfer	Campervan area	Accommodation
LUQUE	4	3,071	●	●	●			●		●
BAENA	0.2	19,782	●	●	●			●		●
ZUHERDOS	0.1	657	●	●	●		●	●		●
DOÑA MENCIA	0.1	4,789	●	●	●		●	●		●
CABRA	0	20,704	●	●	●			●	●	●
LUCENA	0	42,615	●	●	●			●		●
MORILES	2.5	3,819	●	●	●			●		●
AGUILAR DE LA FRONTERA	13	13,511	●	●	●			●		●
PUENTE GENIL	6	30,072	●	●	●	●		●		●

OLIVE OIL GREENWAY Jaen Province Section (55.1 km)

The Olive Oil Greenway runs 128 kilometres along the route of the old "Oil Train" between the city of Jaén and Puente Genil (Córdoba). The Greenway, which is marked along its course, has a total of 12 stations (many redeveloped and equipped for tourism), 13 splendid metal viaducts of the Eiffel school, 3 tunnels, 6 pedestrian walkways, 45 rest area, 13 car parks and 5 water fountains.

In the city of Jaén, the Greenway begins at the Las Fuentezuelas municipal sports centre close to the current railway line. We leave the city behind using country paths for some sections of the old railway line that were occupied by the A-316 bypass. The Greenway advances gently uphill among olive groves and farmhouses, passing a water fountain around the kilometre 6.3 mark. After crossing the motorway over a metal pedestrian walkway, we reach the station at Torredelcampo (kilometre 11), which also has a water fountain. A short while later, we reach the first tunnel and a number of old viaducts and pedestrian walkways over the motorway, taking us to Torredonjimeno (kilometre 15). We continue towards the imposing

Rock of the area of Martos, where we can take a route through century-old olive trees and, leaving the station behind (kilometre 23) we begin to descend the gentle slopes to the River Guadajoz. We cross the viaduct of Salado (kilometre 34), the station of Vado Jaén (kilometre 37), rather isolated from nearby populations, in rehabilitation, and the spectacular 224-metre viaduct of Víboras (kilometre 42) which casts a shadow over the medieval bridge.

Alongside the station at Alcaudete (kilometre 48), we can hydrate ourselves before going through the level crossing. Caution is required here, at what can be a dangerous crossing, while the good news is that a pedestrian walkway will soon be built. We then continue towards Laguna Honda (kilometre 50). We must still cross another viaduct before reaching the Guadajoz viaduct at kilometre 54.9 (207 metres long), which takes us into the province of Córdoba where the Olive Oil Greenway continues for another 65.5 km until it ends at Campo Real station on the outskirts of Puente Genil.





- Hospital 
- Tourist office 
- Train station 
- High-speed train 
- Bus station 
- Motorway 
- National road 
- Local road 
- Country road 
- Olive Oil Greenway 





Andalucía

