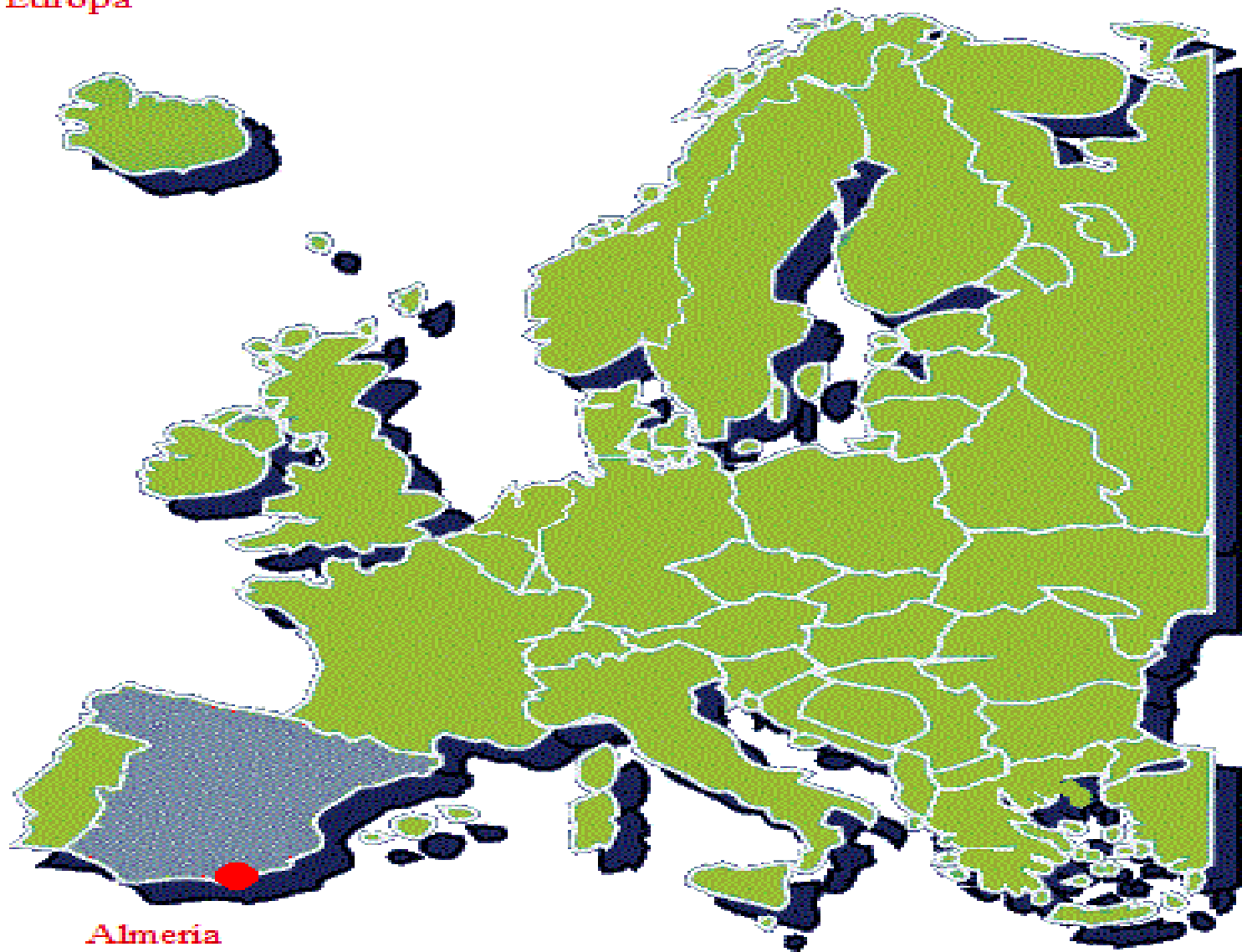


ERASMUS +

FORESTS IN ALMERÍA

Europa

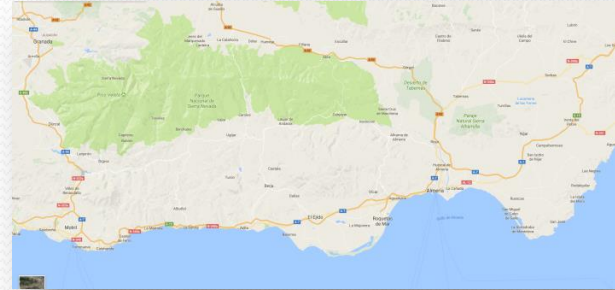


Almeria



Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada



- Sierra Nevada, is a mountain chain located in Granada and Almería.
- Second highest mountain chain in Western Europe (23 mountains over 3000 m high) after the Alps.
- Natural protected zone:
 - “Biosphere Reserve” by UNESCO since 1986.
 - Natural and National Park.

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

- High diversity of plants: around 2000 plant species (1/4 of total plant of Spain and 1/5 of Europe).
- Especially important because of its high number of endemic species (64), some of them in danger of extinction.



Wormwood
(*Artemisa granatensis*)



Sierra Nevada's daffodil
(*Narcissus nevadensis*)



Snow's star
(*Plantago nivalis*)
symbol of Sierra Nevada, similar
to Edelweiss from the Alps.

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

- Different vegetation depending on the altitude, (different bioclimatic floors):

1. **Low areas** (< 700 m high): warm winter (frost-free) and very hot in summer.

- Many cultivated plants
- Wild plants: some trees as holm oak (*Quercus rotundifolia*) and many shrubs or bushes (*Pistacia lentiscus*, Juniper, Rosmary...)



Cultivated almond trees



Juniper



Pistacia lentiscus

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

2. **Low mountain areas** (800-1300 m high): frosts in winter, hot and dry summer.

- Some trees, as holm oaks (*Quercus rotundifolia*), wild olive trees (*Olea europaea* var. *sylvestris*) and also some shrubs (Juniper, *Lonicera etrusca*)



Holm oaks

3. **Medium-High mountain areas** (1300-1900 m high):

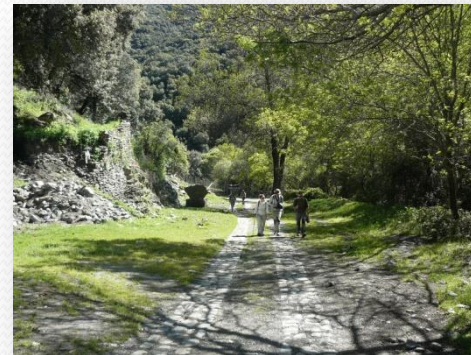
- Forest of different types of oaks ('melojo' the most abundant) and maple.
- Shrubs: Berberis hispanica, ruscus, hawthorn



Berberis hispanica



Hawthorn (Crataegus monogina)



Forest of oaks and maples



'Melojo' oak (Quercus pyrenaica)

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

4. **High-mountain areas** (1900-2700 m high): the most representative vegetation of Sierra Nevada is found in this zone.
- The most abundant vegetation are pine-trees (*Pinus sylvestris*) and *Juniperus thurifera*, but also many of the endemics plants



Pine trees



Genista versicolor



Potentilla nevadensis

Vegetation of Sierra Nevada

5. **Summit area** (>2800 m high): strong sunshine, extremes temperatures (very cold winter and hot summer).
- In this area there are not trees or shrubs because there is snow more than 8 months a year.
 - The most abundant vegetation are grasses: mountain pastures called 'borreguiles' that has certain similarities with the Artic tundra.
 - High number of endemisms.



'Borreguiles'



'Snow's star'

THE TABERNAS DESERT



Prickly pear

The prickly pear is a type of cactus, whose fruit is lead and usually grows in arid lands.



The esparto



Esparto is the name with which it is known in Spain to fibers obtained of diverse wild plants of the group of grasses. With these fibers, ropes, espadrilles, baskets and scourers are made.



Broom



The broom is a genus of shrubs with seven species, thin green stems and very small leaves adapted to the dry crop.



The FIG tree



The fig trees grow spontaneously in rocky terrain and even in walls, where few plants find opportunity. It produces fruit composed of a special type, the sycamore, which are known as figs.

CABO DE GATA.



These are the Posidonias. They are underwater in Cabo de Gata. Posidonia meadows are only found in the Mediterranean. The dense grasslands that form can be found from the surface to a depth of 40 meters, depending on the transparency of the water.



The Salinas of Cabo de Gata are the habitat of a multitude of animals and plant species.



ENDEMIC PLANTS OF CABO DE GATA



ALOE VERA

- Aloe vera gel has many medicinal properties and is often used in creams and lotions.



DWARF PALM TREE

- Dwarf palm tree is only in Almeria and it is the logotype of the nature park.

