

## GOOD PRACTICE



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked paths



Please respect private property



The capture of animals is not permitted



Starting fires is strictly forbidden



Open camping is not permitted



Plant collecting is not allowed



Fossil collecting is not permitted

Emergency phone: 112



# MÁLAGA

## PARAJE NATURAL Torcal de Antequera

## MORE INFORMATION

Torcal Alto Visitor's Centre, Km 3.5, on the asphalted forest track leading to Torcal Alto, from the A-7075 road, between Antequera and Villanueva de Concepción. A-7075, between Antequera and Villanueva de la Concepción. Tel. 952 24 33 24. Territorial Delegation in Malaga of the Regional Ministry of the Environment and Regional Planning. Av. de la Aurora 47 3º a 7ª planta. Edif. Servicios Múltiples 29071. Málaga. Tel. 951 03 83 00 / 951 03 82 47.

ventanadelvisitante

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## OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



### • ROUTE

Circular

### • LENGTH

2,7 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME

2 hours

### • DIFFICULTY

Moderate

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Path

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Karstic landscape made up of rocky mountains of limestone material which, due to its high level of dissolution, generates very characteristic rock formations, some of which even simulate stony figures well known to the locals. Regarding plants, there are some endemic plants, especially among the rupicolous plants (they grow in the crevices). There are also holm oaks, rowan trees, maples, gall oaks... shrubs such as blackberries, wild rose bushes and in wetter areas ferns, ivy, lichens and mosses.

### • SHADE

Frequent on the first part of the route

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

In the case of active tourism companies, it is required to have the administrative authorisation regulated by the joint Order of 20/03/2012, based on the stipulations of article 10 of Law 2/1989. Procedures in the Territorial Delegation of Málaga. Regional Ministry of Environment and Land Planning.

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

Wear non-slip footwear on rainy days and warm clothing.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Antequera

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1038 - Ardales

### • START / END COORDINATES

36° 57' 16,81" N – 4° 32' 36,77" O

36° 57' 13,6" N – 4° 32' 37,85" O



## HOW TO GET THERE

From Antequera: Take the A-7075 road towards Villanueva de la Concepción, follow it until you find a crossroads on the right after passing the Puerto de la Boca del Asno and continue along the asphalted forest track that starts at this crossroads to arrive directly at the parking area where the route begins.



## PARKING

Parking area properly signposted and conditioned, asphalted, each parking area marked out for parking at an angle. The trail starts from the same parking area.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

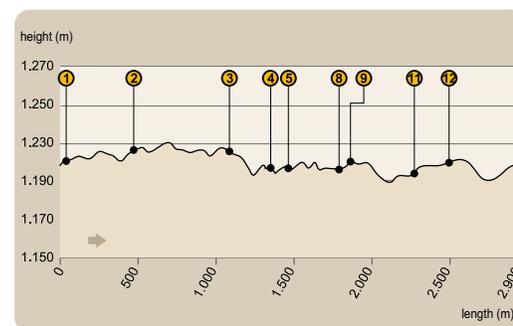
Málaga-Antequera: ALSA Buses (tel. 902 42 22 42, <http://www.alsa.es>). From Antequera take a taxi to the Torcal Alto Visitor's Centre.



## OTHER TRAILS

The natural site offers other routes for hikers, such as the Ruta Verde-Sendero del Torcal Alto and the Subida al Torcal Alto trail.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

50 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.235 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

1.186 m

## FACILITIES IN TORCAL ALTO

El Torcal presents the opportunity to increase our knowledge about the environment in its Visitor's Centre. This public facility has different areas and services to make the visit easier. Its services include an interpretative area, a multi-purpose room, a guide service, an astronomical observatory, a shop and a cafeteria. As a complement to the visit along the Ruta Amarilla, we recommend a visit to the Las Ventanillas Viewpoint, next to the Visitor's Centre, from where we can enjoy a spectacular panoramic view of the southern flank of the Sierra del Torcal mountain range as far as the Mediterranean Sea, as well as a close-up view of the village of Villanueva de la Concepción. As for the "Ruta Verde-Sendero del Torcal Alto" trail, which starts and ends in the same places as the Ruta Amarilla, it is recommended not to do so if your intention is to walk the whole of the latter, since most of the route of the Ruta Verde is included in the route of the Ruta Amarilla.



MÁLAGA

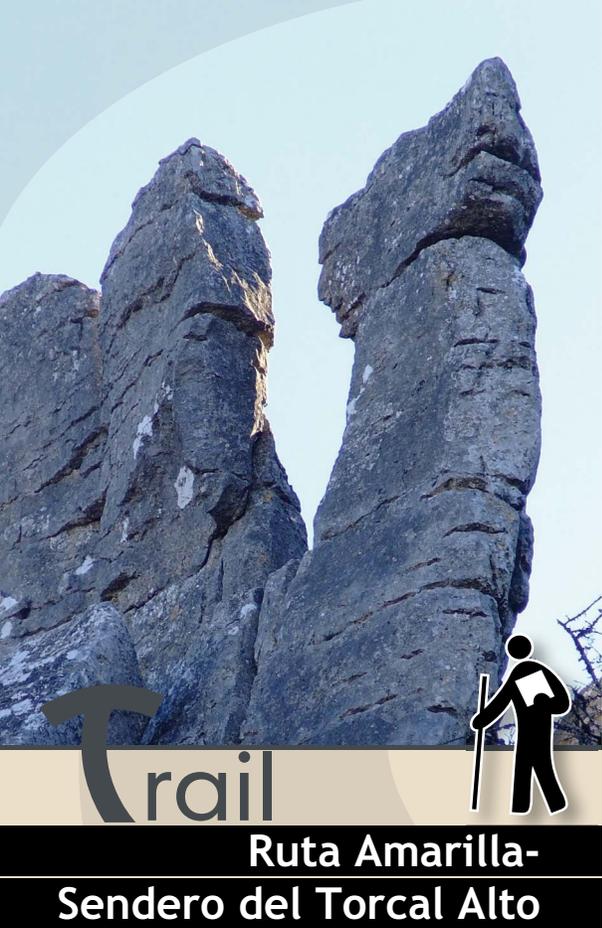
## PARAJE NATURAL Torcal de Antequera



# Ruta Amarilla- Sendero del Torcal Alto



Junta de Andalucía  
Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería,  
Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible



# Trail

## Ruta Amarilla-Sendero del Torcal Alto



### Origins

El Torcal as it is known today has been created and sculpted by nature over millions of years, due to a process whose origin goes back more than 150 million years. In that geological era the whole area was covered by the Tethys Sea. Due to the accumulation of skeletons and shells of marine animals, a process of carbonate sedimentation begins. The movements of the tectonic plates in the Iberian area and the African plate must be added to this deposit of materials and compaction, finally compressing, deforming and fracturing these sediments until they reach forms almost similar to those of the present day. The rest of the process was carried out by the meteorological agents.

### Our trail

We are going to do the yellow route with a length of almost 3 km, being in fact an extension of the green route by a path that takes us into the Torcal Alto. Both trails begin observed by the rock formation popularly known as El Vigilante (check [2] on the map), so that once past the location of the large Montpellier Maple [3] a detour can be found. Then we must continue to the right. As we advance, we can see other characteristic rock formations such as La Jarra [4], La Grieta [5] or El Burladero [6]; shortly after this, we can turn off to see the figures of El Pílon [7] and El Púlpito [8], and continue along the path to find El Camello [9] and El Adelantado [10].



Along the route we will see how the erosion of wind, ice and water has sculpted capricious shapes in the limestone rock.



This rocky corridor is an example of a diaclyse or fracture that creates a typical alleyway, its width only allowing one person at a time to pass through.

This route is undoubtedly characterised by the variety of vegetation that can be observed, as it runs through shady areas that are home, among others, to plants such as lichens, ferns, mosses of various species, ivy, brambles and certain rupicolous plants (which grow between the crevices and are endemic to the Betic mountain ranges). Following the signposted route through the so-called tobacco alley, the path takes us to a depression in the ground, known in El Torcal as a *dolina* (sinkhole), where we rejoin the green route. At this meeting point we can see on our left a unique Montpellier maple tree [11], which in the summer season has a leafy crown.



It is in these holes that many of the animals that live in the area come down at dusk, as is the case with the mountain goat. There is the occasional wild

boar or fox, although they are more elusive to human contact. After passing the rock "el Robot" [12] we start the slight ascent that will take us back to the Visitor's Centre through the holes of the donkey and the trout.



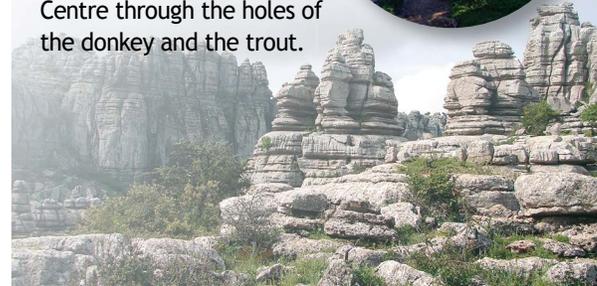
The last stretch of the yellow and green routes will surprise us as it will allow us to discover the typical alternating formations of limestone slabs or "piles of buns" which, like stone cakes on top of each other, abound on the right of the path, very close to the Visitor's Centre. These are strata of two types of limestone, one softer than the other, which through differential dissolution acquire these typical shapes over time.



### Fauna and flora

There is a great variety of vertebrate animals, although it is outnumbered by the number of invertebrates, which are mostly insects. The mountain goat belongs to our group of vertebrates and is perhaps, together with the vultures, the easiest to observe. Birds have a privileged environment here, which is why the area has been declared a Special Bird Protection Area (SPA).

In terms of vegetation, El Torcal has a considerable wealth of botanical species. Twelve species of lichens, 77 of bryophytes (mosses and liverworts), 10 of pteridophytes (ferns) and 565 of seed plants (spermatophytes) are registered. And with regard to the woodland, there are holm oaks, and to a lesser extent gall oaks, rowan and maple trees.





**Trail**  
**Ruta Amarilla- Sendero del Torcal Alto**

El Torcal Alto

Paraje Natural Torcal de Antequera

Ruta Verde

Torcal Alto

Las Ventanillas



- Ruta amarilla Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Asphalted forest track
- Path
- Torcal de Antequera Natural Site
- Landmark (see text)
- Visitor's Centre
- Interpretive panel
- Viewpoint

