

## 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



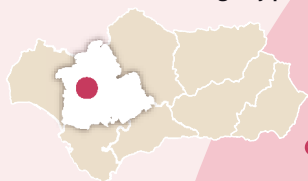
Fishing is prohibited



Plant collecting is not allowed

Emergency phone: 112

SEVILLA



## MORE INFORMATION

Guadiamar Visitor's Centre.  
Protected Landscape Green Corridor of the River Guadiamar.  
Ctra. Antigua de Pilas, s/n. Aznalcázar. Sevilla. Tel. 954 49 70 43 / 675 43 89 75

ventanadelvisitante.

© / Editing / Coordination: Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development / Environment and Water Agency  
Production and Photography: Grupo Extremo, Federación Andaluza de Montañismo and Environment and Water Agency

## OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



### • ROUTE

Linear

### • LENGTH (OUTWARD)

64,4 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

4 days

### • DIFFICULTY

Low

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Track

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

This route runs parallel to both banks of the River Guadiamar at all times. We will find mainly gallery forest, pasture land and many recently reforested areas with which the landscape is recovering.

### • SHADE

Frequent

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

Binoculars are recommended for bird watching. If we march in silence, we can surprise animals such as otters, which is not difficult. Beware of flood zones during the rainy season.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Sevilla / Aznalcollar, Olivares,  
Sanlúcar la Mayor, Benacazón,  
Huevar del Aljarafe, Aznalcázar and  
Villamanrique de la Condesa

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

961 - Aznalcóllar  
983 - Sanlúcar La Mayor  
1001 - Almonte

### • START / END COORDINATES

37° 18' 12,61" N – 6° 15' 35,89" O  
37° 26' 59,76" N – 6° 13' 8,81" O



## HOW TO GET THERE

From exit 795 on the A-66, continue towards Aznalcollar for 13 kilometres. The entrance to the corridor is very well signposted. It can also be accessed from the Las Doblas recreational area, the Buitrago recreational area and from the Vado del Quema.



## PARKING

There is ample parking area at the entrance to the track. Parking spaces are also available at the other access points to the route.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

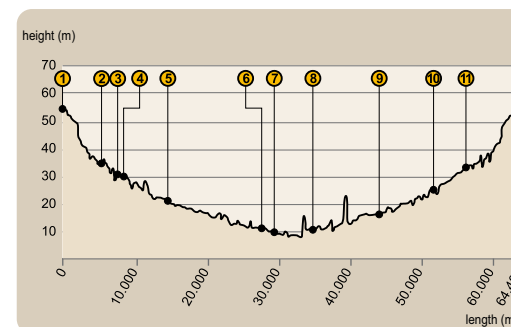
Metropolitan Transport Consortium. SEVILLE AREA (Information: tel. 902 45 05 50; usuarios@ctas.es).



## OTHER TRAILS

The protected landscape offers other routes, with paths leading from the corridor to all the nearby villages. In addition, at the southern end of the route, there are several signposted livestock trails.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

48 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

55 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

7 m

## RECOVERED RIVER

The name Guadiamar was resulted from the name given to this river by the Arabs. The Romans used to call it Menoba, and since then man has established a balance with the river that lasted with few modifications until the middle of the 20th century.

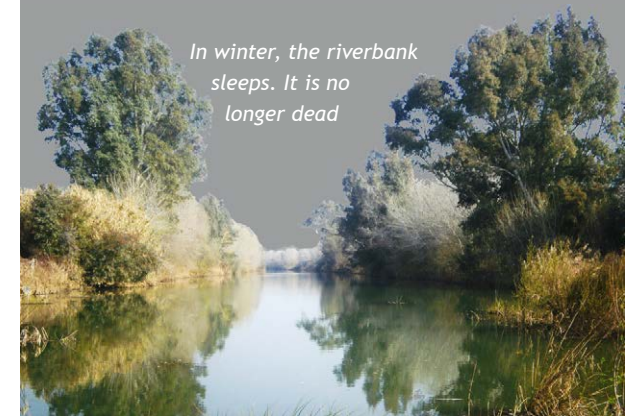
From then on, it began a slow but constant degradation with the construction of walls and dykes to contain its floods, deforestation to plant crops, destruction of hedges to extend the cultivated area, installation of pipes and wells for irrigation, urban, agricultural and mining pollution... In spite of everything, until the 1970s, the river was still clean enough for people to come from places like Sevilla to bathe and enjoy its cool avenues.

But the degradation accelerated, and the climax of all the aggression came on 25 April 1998. Six billion litres of acidic water laden with heavy metals and toxic sludge flooded into its waters. 4,600 hectares were affected.

Only immediate action to clean up the sludge and counteract the acidity of the water prevented a major catastrophe.

When the time came to consider its recovery, it was thought that it was not enough to leave it as it was, but to fully recover a space that would connect the Sierra Morena with the marshes and allow animal species to move through it. A great economic and work effort is being made to achieve this. The latest scientific studies and regular monitoring of its waters, land and animals show that it is recovering rapidly, and that this area will continue to develop into a mature and rich riverside landscape.

*In winter, the riverbank sleeps. It is no longer dead*



SEVILLA

PAISAJE PROTEGIDO  
Corredor Verde  
del Guadiamar

Trail

Del Guadiamar



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



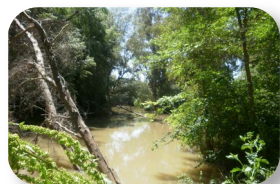
## The basin can be divided into three main areas according to landscape components

The Guadiamar rises in the Sierra Morena, between Seville and Huelva, and its waters feed the marshes of the lower Guadalquivir and Doñana. In its course, we differentiate three main areas, according to their landscapes and main natural elements. The area of Sierra Morena to the north, the Marismas and Doñana to the south and the middle area of the Campiña and the Aljarafe. The latter is the one we will follow on this trail, along both banks of the River Guadiamar between the towns of Aznalcóllar and Aznalcázar, on the border with Villamanrique de la Condesa. We will also be able to start touring it from the points that we will be pointing out.



## Site of the Aznalcóllar environmental disaster

The first section (check [1] on the map) runs in a southerly direction, parallel to the River Agrío or Crispinejo, where the acidic waters were discharged in 1998 and, 1.5 km from the start, we can still find the remains of the dam that contained them. The route is well surfaced, and we should only pay attention to the flood zones in times of flooding, and we should consider turning back if the current is high.



*The gallery forest is recovering rapidly, forming an almost continuous green corridor*

After 5.5 km, on the left, we cross a wooden footbridge [2] to the opposite bank of the Guadiamar. Here the River Agrío has already reached the Guadiamar, which we will not leave during the whole route.

## Protected Landscape Green Corridor of the River Guadiamar

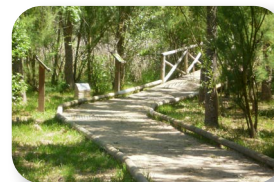
On the left, in the Guadiamar riverside woodland, we can find poplars, ash trees, hackberry trees... and on the right, the fields bought by the Regional Government of Andalusia, so that they would not be cultivated and to avoid possible contamination of the crops. Many of

these fields have been replanted with native species of holm oak, cork oak, wild olive, carob and a multitude of shrubs.

After 7.8 km from the start we come to a bridge [3], which allows us to cross to the other side and optionally return to the start. However, if we decide to continue, we will find in the next section a place set up as a bird observatory, "El Palmar" [4]. The hollow of an old gravel pit drains the water and forms an ideal wetland for birds.



Fifteen kilometres from the start, we find another bridge, over which the A-472 road passes, linking Sanlúcar la Mayor with Castilleja del Campo [5]. Continuing downstream, we will also pass under the Seville - Huelva motorway, although access from there is not possible. The next access or exit point of the path is in the recreational area of Buitrago [6], where there is also a botanical itinerary adapted for the disabled.

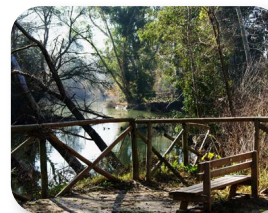


On the opposite bank, crossing over an old bridge, we find the Guadiamar visitor's centre [9]. This equipment is an excellent information point to better understand the functioning of the

river, the ecological disaster of the mining accident and the reconstruction work that was carried out, as well as its results.

From Buitrago we will continue downstream towards the Vado del Quema. This 15 km stretch will bring us closer to the Doñana Park, which is noticeable due to the increasingly sandy terrain. We will walk through crops, olive groves and riverside woodland to the Vado de Valdegallinas [7], the return point of this branch of the path.

At the southern end of this path, there are several possibilities for further walking, although outside this route: Route to Villamanrique, Route of the Pinares, Route of the South of the Aljarafe...



We will pass by the Vado del Quema [8], a point of great ethnographic and religious relevance, an obligatory part of the Rocío pilgrimage. We will return to Aznalcázar,

upstream on the other bank, passing by extensive peach groves. Once we reach the Vado de Valdegallinas, we will cross it to return the way we came, although if the current is strong, it is best to continue along the path we came from, which will take us along a short stretch of road to Aznalcázar. From Aznalcázar, and taking the visitor's centre as a starting point [9], we can also start a stage of this trail.



*The old gravel pits have been converted into lagoons that are helping to restore the river*



Upstream along the right bank of the river, we will pass under the Aljarafe hills. At its highest point we can find villages such as Benacazón and Sanlúcar la Mayor overlooking the corridor. At 8 km from Aznalcóllar, we can turn off towards the Benacazón viewpoint

[10], some 500 metres from the path, in an elevated position that offers a spectacular panoramic view of the whole valley. Continuing north we will pay attention to the pass under the Seville - Huelva motorway, as it is a flood zone during the rainy season.

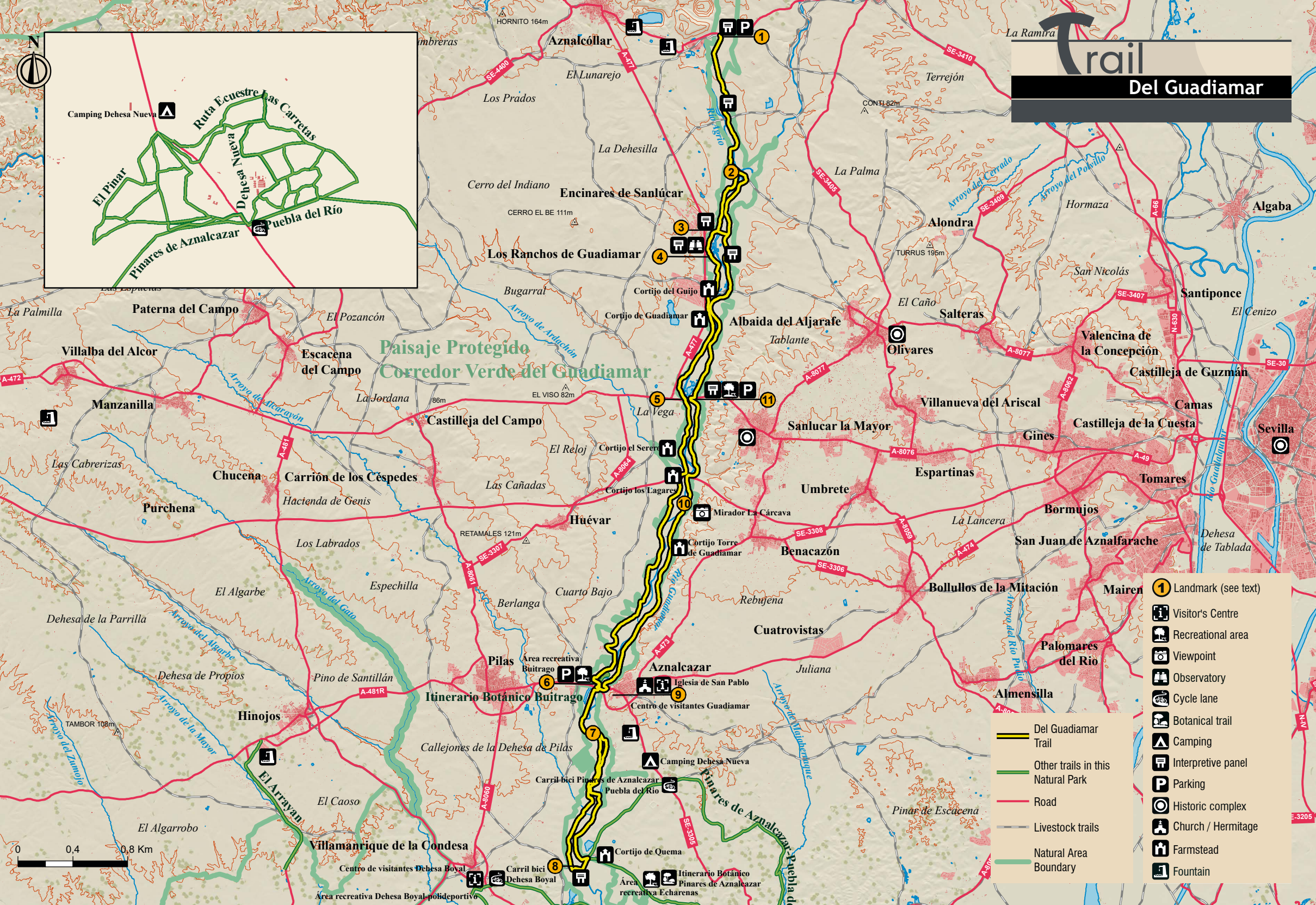
The next underpass is the one mentioned above on the A-472 road. Then we find the recreational area of Las Doblas [11]. Continuing on, we reach the first bridge we pass, as we descend to the south, and finally the wooden footbridge at the beginning [2].



*The old gravel pits have been converted into lagoons that are helping to restore the river*

The River Guadiamar became infamous in the spring of 1998 for the spillage of water and acid sludge from the bursting of a mine dam in the Aznalcóllar area. This caused an unprecedented ecological disaster in Andalusia. The seriousness of the situation forced the public administrations to act with the utmost urgency and a clean-up and decontamination campaign was undertaken, which was completed with recovery actions for the more than 4,600 hectares affected. Today it can be said that the river is on the way to recovering the balance it had decades ago.

# Trail Del Guadamar



- Landmark (see text)
- Visitor's Centre
- Recreational area
- Viewpoint
- Observatory
- Cycle lane
- Botanical trail
- Camping
- Interpretive panel
- Parking
- Historic complex
- Church / Hermitage
- Farmstead
- Fountain

- Del Guadamar Trail
- Other trails in this Natural Park
- Road
- Livestock trails
- Natural Area Boundary

**Paisaje Protegido  
Corredor Verde del Guadamar**

**Itinerario Botánico Buitrago**

**Itinerario Botánico Pinares de Aznalcázar**

