GOOD PRACTICE



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked paths



Please respect private property



Please avoid making noise



The capture of animals

It is not permitted to collect

is not permitted

rocks or minerals

Plant collecting is

Fishing is

not allowed

Bathing is not

Emergency phone: 112



SEVILLA

PAROUE NATURAL Sierra Norte de Sevilla

MORE INFORMATION

Cerro del Hierro Information Point, Casa de los Ingleses, next to Cerro del Hierro car park, San Nicolás del Puerto, Sevilla,

El Robledo Visitors' Centre, Ctra, A-452 Constantina-El Pedroso km 1. Constantina, Sevilla,

ventanadelvisitante.



Junta de Andalucía



Cascadas del Huéznar



OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION









• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

0.6 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

30 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Medium-Low

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track

LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Gallery forest, with elms, ash, willows and alders. Riverside landscape with pools and waterfalls.

• SHADE

Plentiful

SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and sun protection in summer and wear suitable clothing and footwear.

PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Seville/ San Nicolás del Puerto

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

920

START / END COORDINATES

37°59'41.82"N, 5°40'6.80"W

HOW TO GET THERE

1.5 km from San Nicolás del Puerto, on the road that goes to Cazalla de la Sierra, we find the entrance to the El Martinete recreational area. The trailhead is in the car park of El Martinete restaurant.



PARKING

There is a car park with about 25 parking spaces next to the beginning of the trail. At some times of the year, there is a charge for use of the car park.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is no public transport at the start of the trail. You can reach San Nicolás del Puerto by bus. The starting point of the trail is approximately 1.5 km from the town centre. Alternatively, you can take the train to Cazalla-Constantina station: call 902 320 320 or go to www.renfe.com. Then take a taxi.



OTHER TRAILS

The Natural Park has an extensive network of signposted trails. Among the nearest trails to the Natural Park are: Cerro del Hierro, El Rebollar and Las Dehesas. Another option is the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Greenway cycle path.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

25 m MAXIMUM ALTITUDE 559 m MINIMUM ALTITUDE

534 m



THE RIVERA DEL HUÉZNAR RIVER

The Rivera del Huéznar is one of the many living arteries of Sierra Morena that contribute with their permanent waters to the greatness of the Guadalquivir. It rises in a karst spring in the same town of San Nicolás del Puerto, known locally as El Borbollón: the main discharge spring of the Guadalcanal-San Nicolás aguifer and the largest spring in the province of Seville. The main recovery area of this aguifer is in the karst of Cerro del Hierro, where it collects rainwater that has seeped through limestones that are hundreds of millions of years old. The water has been dissolving and penetrating these calcareous materials until it reaches the impermeable slate floor of the aguifer, to emerge from the ground, now as the Rivera del Huéznar, crystalline and bubbly, and enriched with the carbonates dissolved in its subterranean adventure. That is why the waters of this river, when precipitating the carbonates downstream, produce deposits of calcareous tuffs or travertines.

Flanked by imposing masses of forest, the Rivera del Huéznar flows along the floor of a valley of gentle slopes. In these forests, evergreen and deciduous species intermingle, which burst into a symphony of colours with the changing of the seasons. Of the 65 kilometres that the river travels from the spring to its mouth in the Guadalquivir, 32 kilometres, including the Natural Monument of Cascadas del Huéznar, flow through the interior of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla Natural Park.



Much more than a set of waterfalls., the Huéznar Waterfalls constitute one of the most interesting, surprising and attractive environments of the Natural Park. The spectacular gallery forest that flanks the river is maintained thanks to the flow of the Rivera del Huéznar. Its crystal-clear waters, which at the head of the river emerge from underground aquifers in limestones more than 500 million years old, in its middle section leap in several waterfalls to get across the vertical faults of the terrain. These leaps are also known as the Chorreras and the Chorreritas.

This wonderful and refreshing corner of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla was declared a Natural Monument in 2001, and you will be able to get to know it first-hand after a journey of just 600 metres.

Una roca con hojas A rock with leaves and branches

We found the start sign [1] in the car park of the restaurant El Martinete. The markers of the path direct us to the inner courtyard of the building, passing beneath an arch of stone and undressed brick on the facade itself. We leave the courtyard by a wooden walkway that guides us, through the dense forest, to the recreational area. Before reaching the picnic area, you will notice porous rocks covered by the emerald green of the mosses and lianas of numerous climbing plants. These are formations of great geological interest, called travertines [2]. The waterfalls themselves produce rocks of this type. The falling water loses CO₃, which encourages the precipitation of the carbonates dissolved in the water on the leaves, stems and nearby branches. Later, when the plants rot and disappear, the rock retains the holes in the shape of the plants.

Where the vegetation clears, we find the tables, benches and barbecues of the recreational area El Martinete [3]. The name comes from the place for an old installation, a drop hammer (martinete, in Spanish), which is an apparatus used in forging work: a heavy hammer that falls on an anvil laid on a block of



wood, which employed the force of the mighty waters of the Rivera del Huéznar to drive it. The trail runs through the upper part of the recreational area. On the route itself, which may be covered by the fallen leaves of the tree cover, a wooden pole points towards the natural monument.

The Huéznar waterfalls

A few metres away, the trail bends as it enters the heart of the forest. Accompanied by the murmur of the water and the melodies of the nightingale, the blue tit or the robin, we walk along a dirt path. In about one hundred and fifty metres, letting us know that the waterfalls are near, the whisper of the river turns into a rumble. Taking a small detour [4], we get close to the Chorreritas [5].



What can we say about this gift of nature? The Huéznar Waterfalls are sheer river leaping on the rocks, turning them green with life and refreshing the atmosphere even in the suffocating Sevillian summer. They constitute the beautiful way in which this tributary of the Guadalquivir manages to overcome the obstacles of the terrain: a series of staggered fault leaps that are part of the complex and unique geology of the Sierra Norte de Sevilla.

The beat of life in the riverside forest

But the Rivera del

Huéznar is not all show. Its waters are teeming with life.
Native fish such as barbels, bogues, with the possible presence of the common trout, but also otters, Spanish pond turtles, water snakes, grey herons, grey wagtails and kingfishers are some of the inhabitants of this vibrant riverside ecosystem. Take your time to perceive it with all your senses.

The trail continues among willows, poplars, ash trees and alders [6], and an undergrowth of honeysuckle, ivy and sarsaparillas. As soon as you cross the threshold of the tree canopy, turn 90 degrees to the left and follow the markers. In the open sky now, the route heads towards the restaurant in search of the starting point, which is also the end of this extraordinary trail.



