

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



CÁDIZ
MÁLAGA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de
Grazalema

MORE INFORMATION

El Bosque Visitors' Centre. Federico García Lorca nº 1.
El Bosque. Cádiz. Tel. 956 70 97 33.

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

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de
Grazalema



Trail
Llano del Republicano

CÁDIZ-MÁLAGA



OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



NATURA 2000



Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura



Red
Espanola de
Reservas de
la Biosfera

• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

6,5 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

2 hour and 30 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Average

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track and path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Holm oak forest in foothills. Limestone massifs Karst formations. Llanos del Republicano polje. Sima del Republicano. Llanos de Líbar polje Excellent views.

• SHADE

Scant

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing. Take a mobile phone with you Stony and rocky in places. We recommend you wear hiking boots or similar footwear to avoid slipping or straining. Caution with stray cattle.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Villaluenga del Rosario /
Cortes de la Fronteras

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1050 - Ubrique

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 41' 48,43" N – 5° 22' 52,69" O
36° 40' 24" N – 5° 19' 29,45" O



HOW TO GET THERE

The trail begins in Villaluenga del Rosario, in the carpark near the swimming pool. From Ubrique, take the A-2302 for 11 km towards Grazalema. We reach Villaluenga del Rosario and stay on the sane road until we reach the carpark near the swimming pool. From Grazalema, take the A-372 4km to Puerto de los Alamillos. There, take the A-2302 for 8km towards Villaluenga. This swimming pool and carpark are just and the entrance to the village.



PARKING

There is a spacious, paved carpark at the start of the route.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

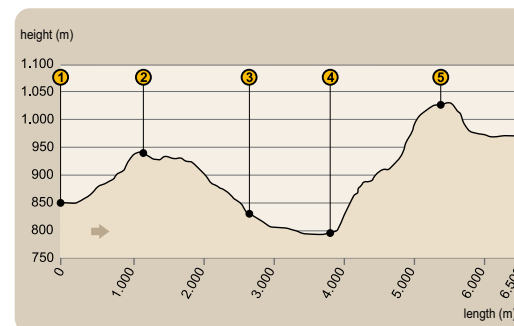
The bus company in the area is Los Amarillos (www.losamarillos.es/ tel. 902 21 03 17). The nearest train station is in Ronda (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es or tel. 902 320 320).



OTHER TRAILS

The nature park offers another trail. The entire route of the trail is shared with the GR-7 long distance trail.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

240 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1030 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

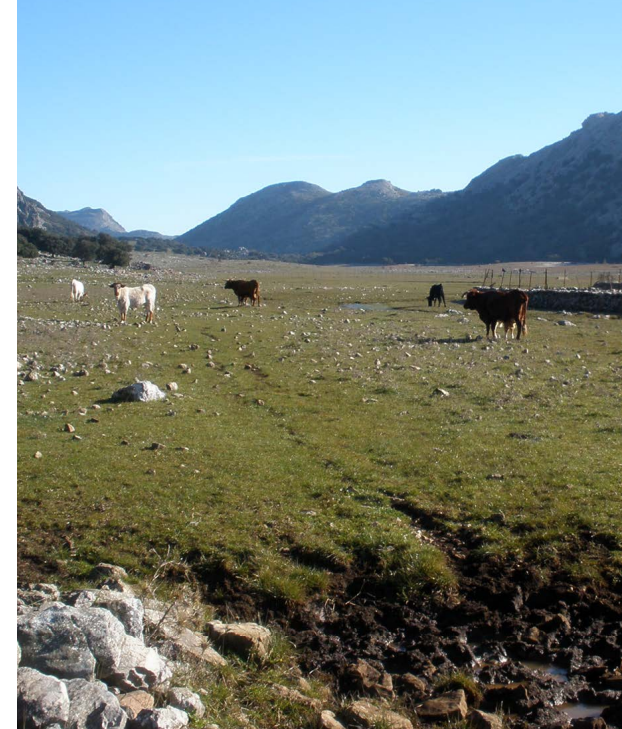
790 m

THE LIVESTOCK OF THE NATURE PARK

Limestone offers very few survival resources for humans who inhabit this area. One of them is grass with which to feed livestock. But the eroded shapes of the limestone prevent any development of the soil for grass. By just removing the large quantity of forest mass, and scrubland, grass can grow.

This is how *dehesas* and wooded meadows are created, so characteristic of the plains of Líbar and other areas of the park. Cows, pigs, sheep and goats can be fed and, in exchange, humans can obtain their products. This type of livestock farming adapts perfectly to the concept of sustainable development of the rural environment, producing quality foods. Managed rationally, it contributes to the conservation and maintenance of mountain areas.

It's common to see livestock grazing on the plains



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



Trail

Llano del Republicano

Cabra payoya

The trail begins at Villaluenga del Rosario (see [1] on the map), an area that, apart from being the highest in the province of Cádiz, is quite renowned thanks to the production of cheese, especially cheese produced from papoya goat's milk.



The papoya goat is a Spanish caprine breed from the Sierra de Grazalema and the Serranía de Ronda mountains. The climate conditions of these mountains create pastures with special characteristics that gives the goats a very unique milk, used for much sought-after cheeses.

The trail rises along a cement track as far as Puerto del la Masa or Puerto de las Viñas [2], we look forward to see Villaluenga in the foothills of the Sierra del Caillio, where we find an old restored quarry. On the right we find a repopulated from the 1950s. From here, we continue along a forest track.



Livestock is fundamental for the economic development of the area.

After some 300 metres, we find a gate and a sign warning us that vehicles are prohibited beyond this point. Until we reach the plains, we walk under the shade of the holm oaks. There is no shortage of the iconic ibérico pigs for company along this section, taking advantage of the rich acorns as a source of food. We emerge from the holm oak forest onto an enormous plain with pastures. We have reached Los Llanos del Republicano [3]. It is not strange to see cows or sheep grazing on the pastures. These animals roam freely so please respect their movements and do not bother them. They are not wild but they may behave in an unpredictable manner.



Llanos del Republicano

It's a name that reflects Spain's historical memory. During the civil war, when nationalist troops took the villages of these mountains, some republicans took refuge in the caves in the area and others fled in the direction of Málaga which had remained loyal to the constitutional government of the Republic. Two of those republicans died in these fields and the place was named in their memory, as were Sima del Republicano, Cabo de Ronda and Sima Cabito.

The plains of Llanos del Republicano are a long, elongated depression of some 6 km long and just 500 metres wide at the centre. It is a semi-polje, as its boundaries are limited by the sandstone walls of the cistern. The floor of the depression is comprised of red



clays, with temporary streams like the Los Álamos stream, whose waters drain into the chasm of the Tiro de la Barra.

The chasm is close to our trail but one needs special speleology knowledge, the appropriate material and an authorisation from the nature park to access it. The chasms of Sima del Republicano, Cabo de Ronda and Tiro de la Barra are cavities with depth of up to 1,100 metres with beautiful karst formations on the interior.



According to some studies, the main discharge point of this sink is the source of the Charco del Moro pool, located 15 km south of here, in the area of the river Guadiaro, known as the Garganta de las Buitreras.

From Llanos del Republicano, a trail rises through the Sierra de Libar and in about an hour takes us to Puerto del Correo. On the ascent we can enjoy not just the great views of the trail but the pavement formation through which the path winds [4]. We make our ascent along the saddle of the Tiro de la Barra and find ourselves the



The views of the sierra are magnificent

curious cistern of Peñon Bermejo, an oasis of water for the mountains' livestock. We can see how every drop of rain that falls in its ceiling is stored for later use.

The trail takes a winding path to avoid the steepest gradients on the climb, while the odd holm oak grows here or there. The terrain begins to flatten out, offering some relief before tackling another climb. As we gain altitude, the views of the mountains behind us get even better.

Llanos de Libar

The trail flattens out once again and we find a panel close to the GR 7. The GR 7 crosses Spain from Andorra to Tarifa and forms part of a longer trail, the E-4, which connects Tarifa with the Peloponnese peninsula in Greece. Upon reaching Puerto del Correo [5], there is another spectacular view, this time of the Llanos de Libar, a polje between the Sierra de Libar and the Sierra del Palo. This is the largest of all the poljes in the nature park.



These plains have the same characteristics as the Llanos del Republicano, but they are smaller. Once again we can see freely roaming livestock and should take the necessary precautions. We continue in parallel to a wall with fencing and ultimately reach a crossing of paths alongside a puddle and a gate.

Here ends our trail. If we want to continue discovering the Sierra del Libar, the Llanos del Libar path offers us this opportunity.



Trail

Llano del Republicano



Villaluenga del Rosario

- Llano del Republicano Trail
- Other trails
- Road
- Livestock Track
- Long Tour Trail
- Path
- Electricity network
- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Interpretive panel
- Town Hall
- Farmstead

