

BEST PRACTICES



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided

Walk on the marked trails

Please respect private property

Please refrain from making noise



Capturing animals is not permitted

Starting fires is strictly forbidden

Fishing is prohibited

Plant collecting is prohibited

Emergency phone: 112



GRANADA

PARQUE NATURAL

Sierra de Baza

MORE INFORMATION

Narváez Visitors' Centre.
Autovía A92N. Salida 28. Baza. Granada. Tel. 662 974 035
ventanadelvisitante.



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Production and photography: Environment and Water Agency of Andalucía

OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

5.2 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

2 hours

• DIFFICULTY

Moderate

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Path or Trail

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Open landscape with excellent panoramic views, dominated by scrubland and some isolated holm oaks and creeping pines.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

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

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Charches

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1011

• START / END COORDINATES

37°18'23.47"N 2°54'33.94"O



HOW TO GET THERE

By car, on the A-92 towards Guadix- Almería, take the exit towards Charches. From the village, take the Calle Agua in the direction of the controlled camping area La Fraguara, which is about 6 km away. There, you'll find the trailhead.



PARKING

There is a car park near the controlled camping area of La Fraguara, where the trail begins.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

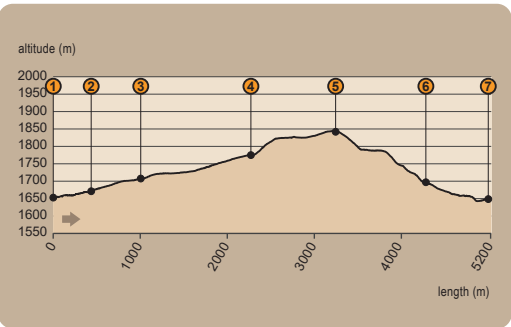
There is no regular public transport service to the trailhead. In nearby villages, you can get transport on demand: Taxi Valle del Zalabi: 958 698 431. Taxi/Microbus Charches: 630 341 117.



OTHER TRAILS

The Natural Park has other signposted trails to get to know the park. Among the closest are the Los Blanquizaes trail, the Álamos Centenarios trail and the Casas de Don Diego trail.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

182 m

• MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

1834 m

• MINIMUM ALTITUDE

1652 m



THE GEOPARK OF GRANADA

The UNESCO Global Geopark of Grenada was granted this status on 10 July 2020 through the United Nations International Geoparks and Earth Sciences Programme. It covers 4,722 km2 belonging to 47 municipalities in the regions of Guadix, Baza, Huéscar and Montes. It was the successful outcome of a long and highly participative administrative process that began in 2002, which included stages for inventory and awareness-raising, institutional collaboration and tourism promotion and, finally, from 2017, the official presentation and assessment of the candidate.

The Geopark includes the current river valleys created during the Quaternary in the north of the Province of Granada, as well as a large part of the Guadix-Baza Basin and part of the surrounding mountains. This territory has traditionally been known, from a geographical point of view, as the depressions or hoyas of Guadix and Baza.

Its unique geology has influenced the life and culture of the inhabitants of these regions of Granada from prehistoric times to the present day. Geology, geomorphology, archaeology and cultural heritage are closely intertwined in one of the territories with the oldest human remains and ancestral traditions in Europe.

GRANADA

PARQUE NATURAL

Sierra de Baza



Mirador Las Juntas





Trail

Mirador Las Juntas

The Mirador Las Juntas trail is strongly linked to water. It begins in the area known as La Fraguara, whose name in Arabic means “spring that emerges with force”, with the same etymological root with which the neighbouring Alfaguara mountain range is named. Its lower area is dotted with spring, irrigation ponds and irrigation ditches. From its heights, you can enjoy the views over the village of Las Juntas, called so because it is located near the junction of the Gor River with the Las Casas de Don Diego Creek and other small temporary watercourses that flow down from the mountain range.

You'll leave the surroundings of the Fraguara Baja farmhouse and its old forest house [1], today converted into a fundamental part of a controlled camping area, much in demand by groups of people and collectives for ecotourism and sports activities in the Natural Park. It is surrounded by pine trees, but also by fruit trees and even a small patch of small redwoods. To begin your journey, you must leave the forest track that has brought you to this spot and take a detour to the left along another uphill track that runs parallel to the Gallinas ravine. You'll soon come across a small check dam on the right and, after crossing the riverbed, a beautiful poplar grove [2] on the left bank of the stream, sometimes flanked by repopulation Atlas cedars.



The dirt track splits again a little more than half a kilometre after the start. This time you must take the right branch, leaving the GR7-E4 path to the left. After a couple of bends you'll reach the farmhouse of La Fraguara Alta [3], which has completely collapsed, although the old orchards area can still be seen, as well as the water source and old almond and walnut trees that have withstood the passing of time better than the buildings.



While you keep climbing up the trail, the forest track heads through reforested pine woods on old terraces towards a wide firebreak [4] that divides and protects the forest masses from the spread of forest fires and will serve as a direct path to the top of the *sierra*. This is the steepest section of the path, but the climb is worthwhile, as the views open up in all directions, until you reach an altitude of 1800 metres.

You'll walk along the ridge to the right, at the watershed, which is the boundary of the municipalities of Gor, to which Las Juntas belongs, and Valle del Zalabí, to which the village of Charches, the largest population centre within the Natural Park, belongs. In this area, sticking out from the sparse aromatic bushes, you can sometimes see some striking piles of stones, some of which have the remains of trunks and branches that show that these were built as natural hiding place. These are hunting posts for the hunting of partridge with a decoy, a small game hunting activity popular in these mountains, as is big game hunting of deer and boar.

The trail stops at the highest point of the divide, where you can enjoy the views over



the landscape of the Sierra de Baza Natural Park and the Granada Geopark [5]. If you turn to the right, you can also see the imposing Sierra Nevada massif in all its majesty.

You'll continue a little further along the rope until you start the descent, just as you reach the Gallinas pass and before climbing the Peral hill (1868 m). It is a steep descent, in the middle of the terraces of the reforested pine forest. It is about 1700 metres long, and you must follow the signposted path, until you reach an old, rewilded pond from which an irrigation channel used in the past to irrigate crops that today can hardly be seen in the landscape. A few metres away you'll find the recently restored Peral spring [6], which provides spring water all year round.



Further on, in the watercourse, at the point where several small ravines converge, you'll take a path that runs alongside the bed of a seasonal stream and flows into the La Fraguara Recreation Area with its characteristic Tornajos fountain. Walking a few metres along the Charches forest track, you'll arrive back to your starting point [7].



Trail

Mirador Las Juntas



- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Recreation area
- Spring
- Viewpoint
- Farmhouse
- Monitored camping area
- Mirador Las Juntas Trail
- Footpath
- Municipal Boundary