

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



MÁLAGA



MORE INFORMATION

Lagar de Torrijos Ecomuseum
Ctra. C-345 Málaga-Colmenar, Málaga. Tel: 951 04 21 00
ventanadelvisitante.



© / Editing / Coordination: Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development / Environment and Water Agency
Production and photography: Grupo Entorno, Federación Andaluza de Montañismo, CAGPDS archive and Dreamstime

OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE

Linear

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

0,9 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

25 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Low

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Path or track

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Hilly terrain with reforestation pine forests and the presence of holm oaks, cork oaks, strawberry trees, etc. and Mediterranean scrub. Interesting views of the park. Remains of buildings related to traditional activities, Casa de las Contadoras dedicated to environmental education. Water mines.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Vehicle traffic along the entire length of the trail.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Málaga

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1053 - Málaga

• START / END COORDINATES

36° 49' 27,46"N – 4° 23' 0,18"W

36° 49' 4,62"N – 4° 23' 17,2"W



HOW TO GET THERE

From Málaga take the A-7000 north towards Colmenar. After about 20 km, we arrive at the Fuente de la Reina fountain, where we take the path that goes off to the left, in the direction of the Las Contadoras nature classroom, where the trail begins.



PARKING

There is no car park at the beginning of the trail, although it is possible to park the vehicle at the Llano de Contadoras.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

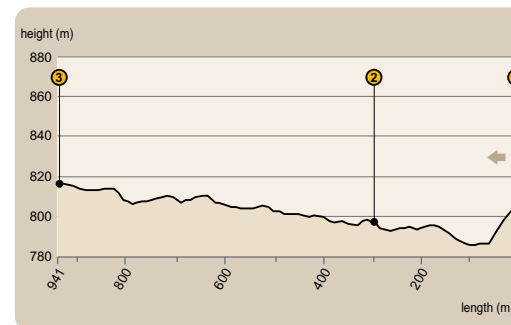
As there are no urban centres along the route of the road, there are no buses or trains with stops close to the access, which means that access must be by car. In Malaga, bus station: tel. 952 35 00 61; railway station: www.renfe.es, tel. 902 24 02 02.



OTHER TRAILS

The trail shares its beginning with the Pocopán trail. In addition, the natural park offers other trails for hikers, such as El Cerrado and Torrijos trails.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

31 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

817 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

786 m

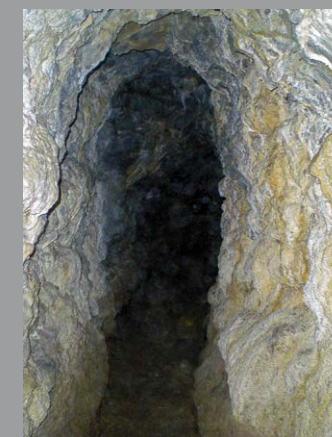
WATER MINES

Along the route of this path, we can find a mine which is one of the ways of obtaining water in the mountain ranges of Málaga.



Here we will be able to understand the catchment and storage system in different tanks such as the ones we will also see in this tour.

This was of crucial importance in a physical environment such as this, where summer rainfall was scarce, allowing the scarce flows of hidden springs to be harnessed during the summer.



The construction of galleries, like mines, was intended to collect groundwater drop by drop, which was then channelled into pools to facilitate the irrigation of crops and human consumption.

MÁLAGA

PARQUE NATURAL
Montes de
Málaga

Trail

Umbría de Contadoras



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



Trail



Umbría de Contadoras

The Contadora Plain

The path runs in the shade of reforestation pines, with a low-difficulty route that makes it ideal for all types of users.

The route starts on the Contadoras plain, where the vehicles can be parked (check [1] on the map). From here it descends a short slope until it passes by some water tanks, located next to a lane where no vehicles pass. The trail, which now continues upwards, reveals all the details of the Montes de Málaga Natural Park.



Environmental education finds in this park well-kept facilities and programmes in which to turn the visit into a revealing experience of the apparently hidden meanings of the always surprising nature.

The path is regularly used by children who take part in environmental education activities in the nearby Las Contadoras nature classroom, a facility located in a restored wine press, where they can eat, spend the night and learn about environmental issues, and which is widely used by schools, associations and summer camps.



Visible or hidden, a melting pot of life

Walking through these slate soils, we can enjoy and learn about different environmental aspects of this natural space: differentiate the song of birds typical of forest lands, such as the coal tit, crossbill, blackcap or wren; or recognise different plant species of the Mediterranean forest that have proliferated among Aleppo pines, such as wild olive trees, holm oaks, Mediterranean buckthorns, and typical scrub species such as rockroses, laurustines, roses, kermes oaks and strawberry trees.



Among the most representative fauna, it is not difficult to see squirrels by day and wild boars at night, which leave their tracks along the path in the form of holes and baths, where they wallow.



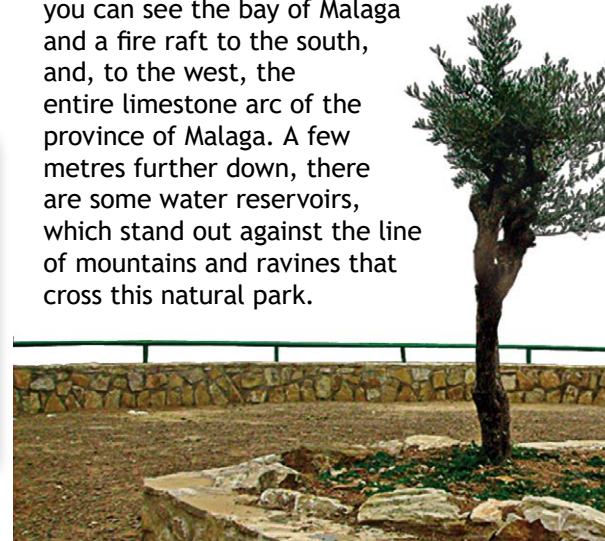
From the lookout point, there is the sea behind a sea of hills

After barely five hundred metres, we pass a water mine [2]. The path continues through the shady area to the Contreras firebreak, also called Cabreriza de Zupide, which, from the Fuente de la Reina fountain to the Contreras house, marks the two sides of the park.

At the end, and still on the firebreak, we reach the viewpoint of Francisco Vázquez Sell [3], a forestry engineer who was one of those responsible for the hydrological-forestry restoration of the Guadalmedina river basin.



The viewpoint is a good place to sit and enjoy the spectacular views, as you can see the bay of Malaga and a fire raft to the south, and, to the west, the entire limestone arc of the province of Malaga. A few metres further down, there are some water reservoirs, which stand out against the line of mountains and ravines that cross this natural park.

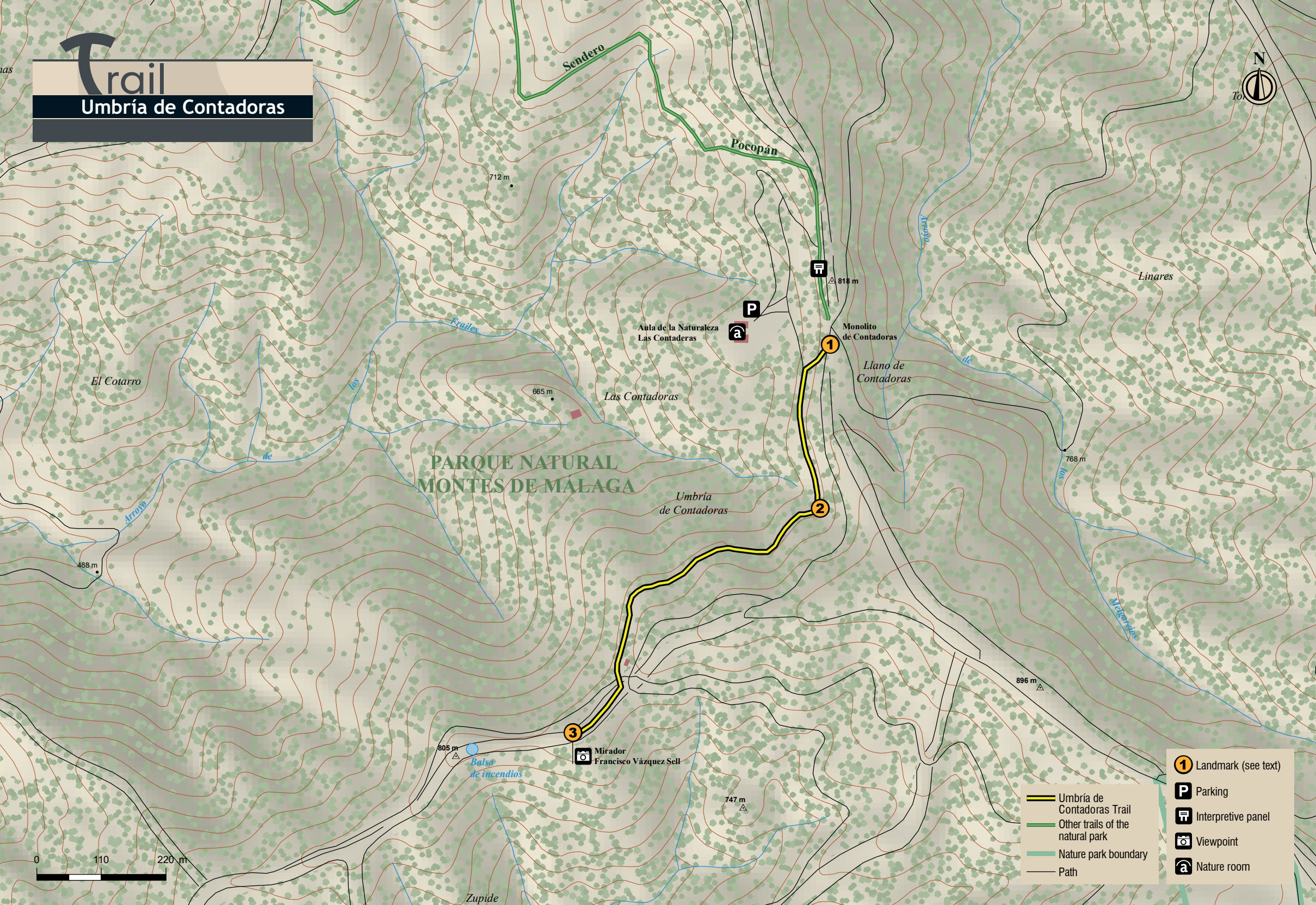


The orientation of the Montes de Málaga means that almost all the water collected there flows into the River Guadalmedina, while its slate soils hardly allow for the existence of stable springs and fountains. The search for such a precious resource led to the creation of water mines, galleries that make the most of the scarce water flows and of which there were several, such as the one we will see on this trail.

It is also the orientation of the mountains that gives its name to the trail, most of which runs through the shady area of Contadoras.

Trail

Umbría de Contadoras



- Landmark (see text)
- Parking
- Interpretive panel
- Viewpoint
- Nature room
- Umbría de Contadoras Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Nature park boundary
- Path