

GOOD PRACTICE



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided

Walk on the marked trails

Please respect private property

Please refrain from making noise

Your dog must always be on a leash



Capturing animals is not permitted

Starting fires is strictly forbidden

Plant collecting is prohibited

Collecting rocks and minerals is not permitted

Emergency phone: 112

GRANADA
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PARQUE NACIONAL
PARQUE NATURAL

MORE INFORMATION

Administrative Centre National park and nature park Sierra Nevada.
Crtra. Antigua Sierra Nevada, km 7. Pinos Genil (Granada). Tel. 958 980 238.
pnSierraNevada.UsaPublico.csmaea@juntadeandalucia.es

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Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Sostenibilidad,
Medio Ambiente y Economía Azul

SIERRA
NEVADA
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PARQUE NATURAL



Dehesa del Camarate



Junta de Andalucía
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OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



ROUTE

Linear walk

LENGTH (ONE-WAY)

5 km

ESTIMATED TIME (ONE-WAY)

2 hour and 30 minutes

DIFFICULTY

Moderate

TYPE OF TRAIL

Forest Trail

LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Mixed Mediterranean forest of holm oaks, oaks and deciduous trees. Riverside forest. Panoramic views over the headwaters of the river Alhama, the dehesa, the peaks of the Sierra Nevada and the ravine of Las Rozas.

SHADE

Scant

SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

In autumn, access is regulated on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, and individual registration is required.

The Dehesa del Camarate is a reserve area of the National Park and walking off the path is not allowed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Lugros

SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1010

START / END COORDINATES

37°11'26.44"N, 3°14'57.91"W

37°10'28.96"N, 3°15'56.26"W



HOW TO GET THERE

From the A-92, take exit 288 towards Purullena. Follow the GR-4105 road to Lugros. 1.5 km before reaching the village of Lugros, take the lane on the right (at the drinking water tank). Continue along the Cañada Real de los Potros for about 6 km until you reach the start of the trail.

On the dates when access is regulated, the Lugros Town Hall offers, for a fee, a public transport service that runs for 8 kilometres and takes visitors to the entrance of the Dehesa del Camarate.



PARKING

There is no car park at the beginning of the trail, although you can park your vehicle nearby. There is a public car park in the village of Lugros.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

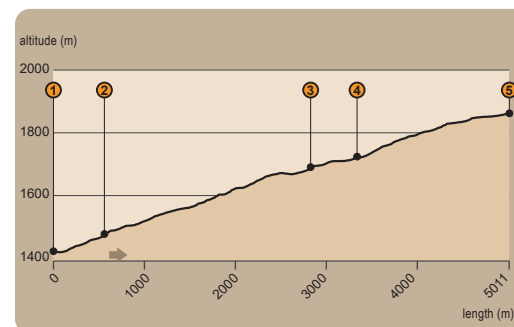
It is not possible to access the trailhead by public transport. The main company running regular bus routes in the area is Alsa (tel. 902 42 22 42; www.alsa.es).



OTHER TRAILS

In this area you can enjoy other signposted trails such as: Río Alhama footpath and access to section 17 Postero Alto-Peña Partida of the GR-240 SULAYR.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

445 m

MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

1865 m

MINIMUM ALTITUDE

1420 m

THE EXCEPTIONAL SIERRA DEL MANAR

The 1600 hectares of the Camarate estate extend along the slopes and watercourses of the Las Rozas ravine and the Alhama river valley, within the municipality of Lugros (Granada), in the Sierra Nevada Natural Area. The amount of water that falls on this territory in the form of rain and snow has favoured the development of a rich and diverse vegetation, with species as special as the thousand-year-old yew trees.

For as long as there have been records, with the donation of the estate to the monastery of the Hieronymites of Granada by the Catholic Monarchs, livestock has determined the landscape of Camarate and has allowed the maintenance of what is today the most valuable reserve area of the National Park: a mixed deciduous forest of oaks, holm oaks, gall oaks, Pyrenean oak, rowan trees, mustards, maples, ash trees, willows, barberry trees, cherry trees, apple trees and wild rose bushes which, so far south in Europe, is extremely unusual.

With the arrival of autumn, the multicoloured spectacle of ochres and life that pulsates in the Dehesa del Camarate is beyond description. In wild contrast to the snow-capped peaks, the Camarate grassy forest bursts into a thousand shades that colour the surroundings with a resplendent palette of greens, reds, oranges, browns and yellows. A vibrant and essential festival of life, it highlights nature's cycles of death and renewal with raging, poignant beauty.



The guardian of Dehesa del Camarate

The path is reached along the Cañada Real de los Potros, parallel to the irrigation channel of Guadix and the course of the river Alhama, which meanders down through thick riverside vegetation. The start sign [1] is located next to the entrance to the Camarate estate, at the fork where the river Alhama meets the river, the Alamos Negros stream and the Rozas stream. The abundance of water has allowed for the extraordinary biodiversity of this forest, which is even home to some specimens of centenary yew trees, relics of another time and another climate.

Go through the gate at the pedestrian crossing and head to the right, towards the photogenic ruins of a 19th century chapel. Amidst willows, ash trees and the sound of water running everywhere, the trail enters the estate along a cobbled lane. We soon pass by the remains of an animal corral, one of the many testimonies of the farm's livestock activity that we will find along the way, such as the clanging of cowbells, the musky fragrances, droppings, mooing, bleating and, at the end of the path, a watering trough and a *tentadero*, where the bravery of the calves was tested.

The Camarate estate has been a grazing land for fighting bulls until it was incorporated into the National Park a couple of decades ago. These cattle, wild and dangerous, prevented the land being used for walks or visits, and also the collection of firewood or any other kind. The Dehesa del Camarate was bullfighting territory. The summer pastures were used here. In the cold months, in a superb transhumance spectacle, hundreds of bulls marched with pride and verve towards the pastures of Sierra Morena. Its bravado is precisely what has allowed the

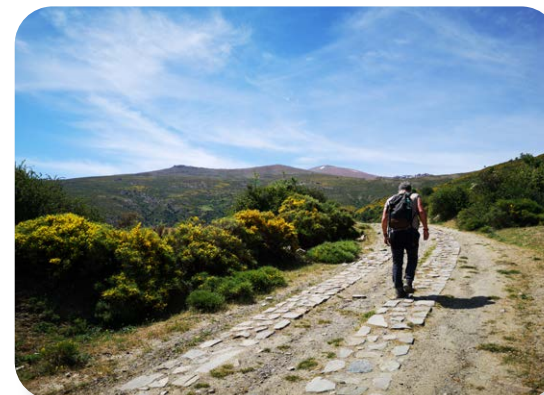


richest deciduous forest in Eastern Andalusia to survive to the present day. At present, conservation is compatible with traditional uses and public use.

The Enchanted Forest

The path runs upwards along the base of the Cerro de los Carneros, above the bed of the Las Rozas ravine. In 500 metres, at a sharp bend, the track leaves the bed [2] and leads us to the Cunilla, at the foot of the Cerro de las Calaveras. We continue our ascent parallel to the ravine. Alongside the growing number of Pyrenean oaks, a few whitebeams stand out conspicuously, their fruit shining through the grove like blood and fire.

In just over 2 kilometres, the path crosses the ravine of Las Rozas again [3] to head, through the shade, to the pass of Cerro del Camarate [4]. The misty light of the watercourse and the sounds of the forest and the wind stimulate the imagination and the senses; it is not for nothing that it is called the Enchanted Forest. Most of the trees remain green throughout winter, but over the course of the autumn, the golden and saffron tones of maples, oaks and wild apple trees will become increasingly apparent.



The open landscape

At the mountain pass, the panoramic view opens up spectacularly over the headwaters of the river Alhama. And above the valley, with more or less snow depending on the season, rise the more than three thousand metres of Picón de Jerez and another three thousand, such as Puntal de Juntillas or Puntal de los Cuartos. All around us and on the slope in front of us, the cattle meadows spread out, where the cows have dug into the soil soaked with water from the peaks. The piornal (pyramid forest) forms the border with the high mountains. If you are lucky, you may catch a glimpse of the white-capped blackbird, which usually perches on the branches of the creeping juniper.

The left-hand lane leads to the Camarate farmhouse. The path continues to the right, entering an open landscape overlooking both ravines. In 1200 metres the route returns to the northern slope. From this height, no matter the time of year, the pastures are breathtaking. Livestock sounds and smells intensify. These last few metres are more relaxed, with more shade and less gradient. The path ends at the tentadero [5]. An old elder tree stands

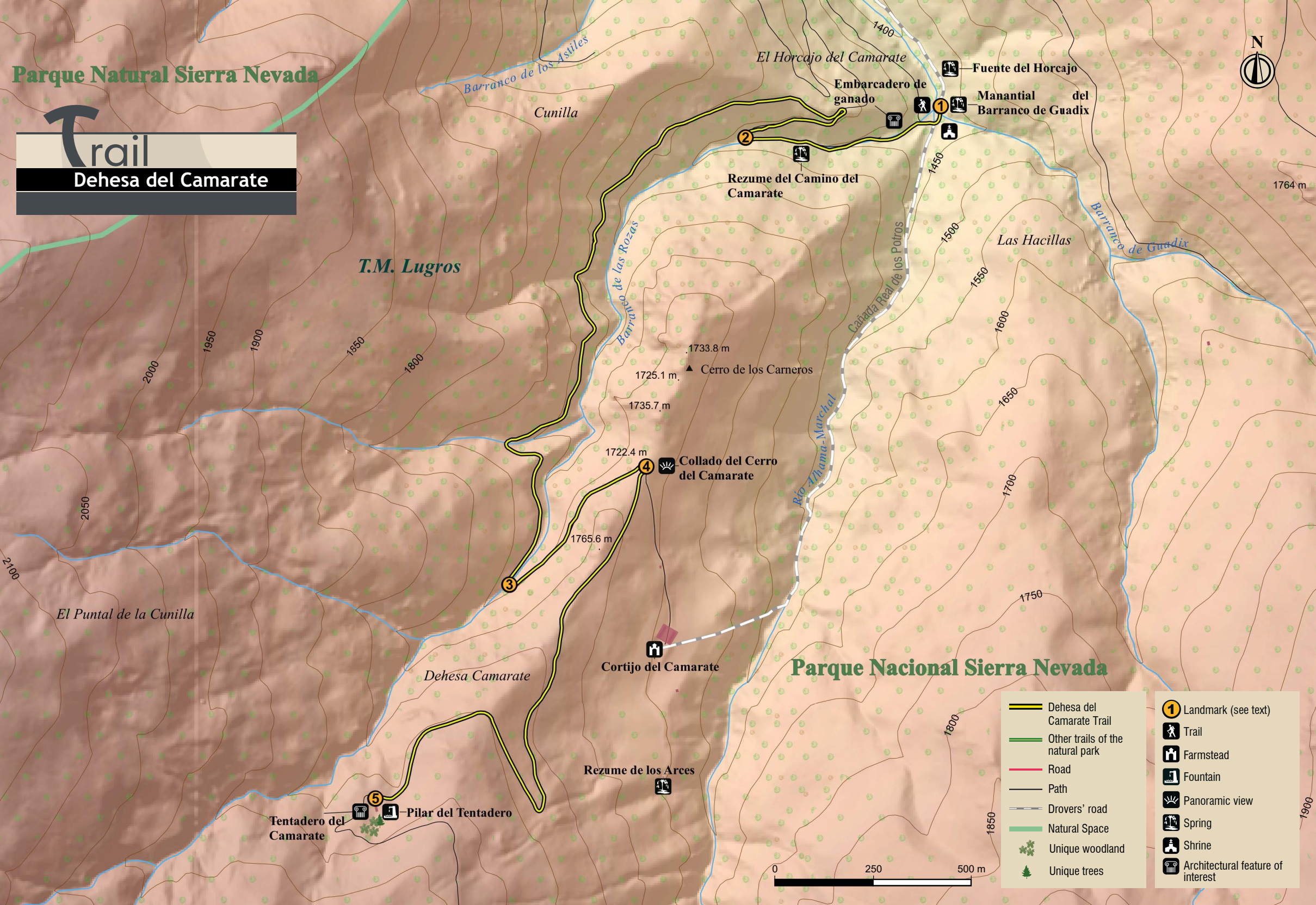


next to the steps of the bullring, said to attract good luck, although we already have the luck of being able to enjoy such an exceptional place as the Dehesa del Camarate.

Parque Natural Sierra Nevada

rail

Dehesa del Camarate



 Dehesa del Camarate Trail

 Other trails of the natural park

 Road

 Path

 Drovers' road

 Natural Space

 Unique woodland

 Unique trees

 Landmark (see text)

 Trail

 Farmstead

 Fountain

 Panoramic view

 Spring

 Shrine

 Architectural feature of interest