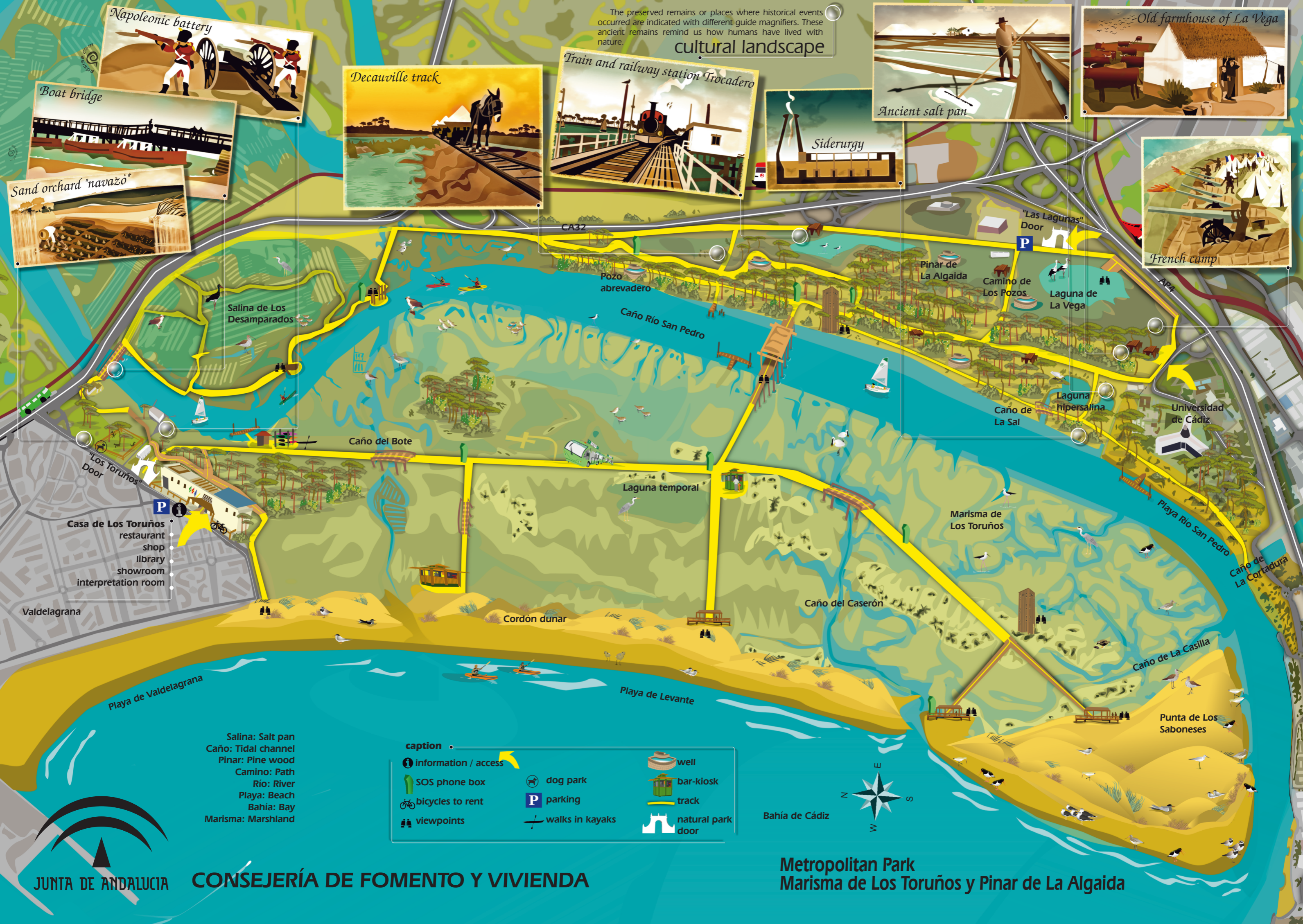


The preserved remains or places where historical events occurred are indicated with different guide magnifiers. These ancient remains remind us how humans have lived with nature.

**cultural landscape**



- Los Toruños Door
- Casa de Los Toruños
  - restaurant
  - shop
  - library
  - showroom
  - interpretation room

- Salina: Salt pan
- Caño: Tidal channel
- Pinar: Pine wood
- Camino: Path
- Río: River
- Playa: Beach
- Bahía: Bay
- Marisma: Marshland

- caption**
- information / access
  - SOS phone box
  - bicycles to rent
  - viewpoints
  - dog park
  - parking
  - walks in kayaks
  - well
  - bar-kiosk
  - track
  - natural park door



**CONSEJERÍA DE FOMENTO Y VIVIENDA**

**Metropolitan Park  
Marisma de Los Toruños y Pinar de La Algaida**



## Metropolitan Park Marisma de Los Toruños y Pinar de La Algaida

Located in the heart of the Metropolitan Area of the Bay within a territory that covers more than 1.000 hectares, it is the largest metropolitan park in Andalusia.

The Andalusian Public Department Consejería de Fomento y Vivienda, through the Andalusian Public Company AVRA, is responsible for the management of this maritime/land area. Our visitors can enjoy the park through different activities: cycling, tracking, environmental activities, music, cultural trips, etc.

Just a step away from the city, you will find an amazing variety of landscapes and activities. We invite you to walk along the Park's tracks and to participate in its guided routes and river activities (sailing, canoeing...)

### Enjoy your visit!

As a part of the Regional Park - Parque Natural Bahía de Cádiz - (1989), the Metropolitan Park is catalogued as a Zone for the Special Protection of Birds (1993), and as a Wetland of International Importance (2003). It is a maritime/land public domain area.

Teléfonos de seguridad:  
649 796 870  
649 796 880

### To enjoy your visit the most while preserving the facilities, resources and habitats in the Park, follow these indications:

-Inform yourself at the entrance on the Park's facilities, routes and activities.

-Do not stray from the paths as all the vegetation and the dunes form part of the conservation area. Please be aware of any signs throughout the park.

-Take a pair of binoculars to enjoy the landscape and the fauna without disturbing them.

-Ride your bicycle carefully and slowly in order to avoid the risk of accidents.

-Remember that the wooden bridge is for pedestrians only.

-Take water, sunscreen and appropriate walking shoes with you (rubber-sole shoes to use in canoes and sailing boats).

-Dogs must be kept on a lead to avoid possible accidents or trouble with the local fauna or other users.

-Do not alter the environment: the best souvenir you can take with you is your experience and a good picture.

#### Casa de Los Toruños

7, Del Mar Avenue. Valdelagrana 11500. El Puerto de Santa María  
parquedelabahia@juntadeandalucia.es  
Tfno. 856 580 524 - Fax 956 903 288

## Natural heritage

Dunes, temporary lagoons, marshland, pine forest, Salt marsh, pasture.

The different natural environments within the park are linked in to the Guadalete river. The San Pedro river, actually a tidal channel, was a branch of this river. Together with its associated marshes formed the estuary at the mouth of the Guadalete.

Tidal channels cross the marshland. The larger tidal channels El Bote, El Caserón and La Casilla flowing into the beach "Playa de Levante". This unspoiled beach also marks the inland access of the San Pedro tidal channel into sandy island called "Los Toruños"

The pine forest - Pinar de La Algaida - grows on the left bank of Río San Pedro, on an ancient barrier island. Its name derives from the Spanish Arabic word, algayda, meaning thick scrubland. This forest is the result of the 19th century reforestation works in the area.



## What is there to do?

### Casa de Los Toruños

You can ask for information for events and activities, visit to the interpretation room, the library, the shop and our restaurant-bar.

The Park have resting zones with picnic areas and toilets, and there is a security patrol service 24 hours. If you need advice or help, please do not hesitate to call us or use one of the SOS phone boxes.

Many of this activities offered take place during the weekends and holidays, but if you belong to a numerous group you can choose weekday activities.

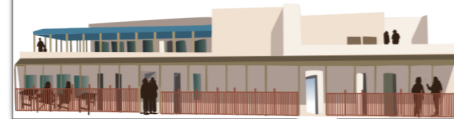
You have the opportunity to ask your guide on specific matters in our guided routes, both by bicycle or by train. Also if you are lucky with the tide, you may learn to identify birds species with the help of a telescope.

If you would rather not worry about time schedules, you can rent a bicycle. The park has bicycles for people with special needs or a limitation.

Another possibility is to make the most of the tide and go canoeing or sail in a dinghy/catamaran.

We support and develop volunteer programs environmental and school campaigns all year.

Take a look at our website and request information on events, competitions, leisure, cultural activities and celebrations that complete the park activity programme.



## The Park's inhabitants

### Tidal Channels

The abundance of invertebrates living in the mud (snails, razor shells, wedge shells, fiddler crabs, etc.) attracts thousands of birds that choose this environment as breeding and wintering quarters. Feeding in the channels, we can observe plovers (1), dunlins (2), godwits (3), curlews (4), redshanks (5), black-winged stilts (6), herons (7), storks (8), spoonbills (9), etc. The system of tidal channels is as well a breeding area for many fish species (mullet, sea-breams, gilthead breams, etc.), susceptible to being predated by the osprey (10).

### Levante Beach

In the beach - Playa de Levante - we can highlight the presence of oystercatchers (11), turnstones (12), dunlins (2), as well as of little terns (13) and plovers (1), which find in it an ideal nesting and breeding place.

### Pine and Juniper Forest

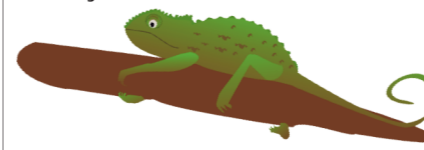
Pine and juniper woods: The pine and juniper woods is the home of robins, blackbirds, nightingales, golden finches, warblers, etc.

### Scrubland

The scrubland is a refuge for mammals like the genet cat, the dormouse, the hedgehog, the rabbit and the mongoose, reptiles like the ocellated lizard, various snakes and the chameleon.

### Temporary lagoons

Temporary lagoons are important breeding, feeding and freshwater supply areas for the bird fauna. Invertebrates and amphibians like the Spanish ribbed newt, the Western spadefoot toad or the Natterjack toad can also be seen there.



## Tracks

### 1-Pinar de La Algaida

#### Salina de Los Desamparados

Access from the University Campus or from the restaurant Venta El Macka in El Puerto de Santa María.

Length: 6 Km one way.

Characteristics: Coastal pine forests, salt marshes and marshland.

### 2-Los Toruños

Access from the Avenida del Mar at Valdelagrana.

Length: 5,5 Km one way.

Characteristics: Channels and natural marshland, beach and associated dune system.



### 3-Vía Verde Matagorda

Access from the University Campus.

Length: 3,5 Km one way.

Characteristics: Old tracks of the Jerez-Trocadero railway line.

### 4-Casa de los Toruños Playa de Levante

Access: from Valdelagrana seafont or Casa de Los Toruños system.

Length: 800 meters

Characteristics: Marshland and dune system.

## What can you see?

### Pinar de la Algaida

Associated to the Stone pine, there are junipers and a thick scrubland formed by broom, mastic tree, cistus, European fan palm, etc.

Thousands of wild flowers colour the pine forest ground in spring, while the African tamarix grows in certain clearings and freshwater temporary lagoons are covered with a white bed of buttercups.

### Dune chain

Only hard, wind and sea spray-resistant plants live here, growing slowly. Among them, the European beach grass (Ammophila arenaria), the Creta grefoil (Lotus creticus), the sea daffodil (Pancratium maritimum), etc.

### Flooding horizons

Marisma de los Toruños - Marshland: There are plants adapted to tidal flooding. They can tolerate high salinity and low oxygen levels. The flora of a salt marsh is differentiated into levels according to tolerance of plants.

### Intertidal plains

Covered with water almost permanently. The dominant vegetation in them consists of marine phanerogams like Zostera noltii and green algae like Enteromorpha and Ulva (sea lettuce).

### Low marshes

Carpeted with Spartina maritima, low marshes are every day flooded twice by the tide.

### Medium marshes

Chickenclaws (Sarcocornia perennis) and glasswort (Salicornia ramosissima) are predominant here.

### High marshes

These areas are only flooded with strong equinoctial high tides. Limoniastrum monopetalum, Halimione portulacoides (sea purslane), Frankenia laevis (sea-heath) and Cistanche phelypaea all live there.

## How do you get here?

### Metropolitan Park

Marisma de Los Toruños y Pinar de La Algaida

- bus
- suburban train
- catamaran
- metropolitan tramcar (under construction)
- airport



## Paisaje cultural

### Environment and human being

Human activity has shaped the landscape and environment. The remains preserved or the places where they occurred historical facts are indicated in different "magnifiers" in the map. These ancient remains remind us how humans have lived in the wild.

### Traditional land uses

The different traditional uses in the area have left their imprint on the landscape we now see: pastures used for cattle grazing, vegetable groves on sandy land close to the beach (navazos), soap production out of prickly glasswort, etc. The area was also a hunting reserve (hares, rabbits and partridges).

### Salt production

Since the 15th century Los Toruños and San Pedro river area becomes an important place of salt production and fish farm. From eighteenth century, Los Desamparados (salt pan) became a big production centre where the salt harvesting process were made. We can find also the remains of several river docks, a cowshed and a small fish farm which still works today.

### Napoleonic war

In the nineteenth century, in order to besiege Cadiz, Napoleon's troops set up camp in Pinar de La Algaida, also they built batteries. After the withdrawal of troops, the San José ditch was built.

It was because of the needs of defense to the Trocadero. Here was the main stage of the Battle of Trocadero in which they emerged victorious Hundred Thousand Sons of St. Luis. The parisian Trocadero gardens were named in its memory.

### Industrial heritage

The Jerez-El Puerto-Trocadero line, is the first Spanish railway project and the first railway line built in Andalusia. It runs through the park transformed into greenway. Its construction is linked to the export of sherry wine to the UK. He was instrumental in the industrial project Bay. Linked to her and the yard of Matagorda it was tried to build an auxiliary steel industry in the area of Algaida. Another important place about this issue is the track of a Decauville railway.

### Waterways

In the park and its surroundings the Underwater Archeology Andalusian Center has located numerous shipwrecks, including Roman shipwrecks and Battle of Trafalgar shipwrecks.



www.parquedelabahia.es

