

## 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-HUELVA  
SEVILLA  
DOÑANA  
PARQUE NACIONAL  
PARQUE NATURAL

## MORE INFORMATION

La Rocina Visitors' Centre. Finca La Rocina.  
Carretera A-483. El Rocio-Matalascañas km 27,5.  
El Rocio, Almonte. Huelva. Tel. 959 43 95 69.

ventanadelvisitante



UNIÓN EUROPEA  
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

DOÑANA  
PARQUE NACIONAL  
PARQUE NATURAL



Trail  
Charco de la Boca



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

## OTRAS FIGURAS DE PROTECCIÓN



### • ROUTE

Linear sections and circular sections

### • LENGTH

3,8 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME

1 hour and 50 minutes

### • DIFFICULTY

Low

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

On a wooden footpath

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Pine and riparian forest. Holm oak, shrubs and marsh vegetation.

### • SHADE

In circular sections

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Huelva / Almonte

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1018 ; El Rocio

### • START / END COORDINATES

37° 7' 25"N – 6° 29' 48"O



## HOW TO GET THERE

From the A-483, that joins the town of Matalascañas with the helmet of El Rocio, take the exit to La Rocina and El Acebrón. Just off the main road, next to the car park, stands the visitor's centre and, next to it, the beginning of the trail.



## PARKING

There is a car park next to the Visitors' Centre.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

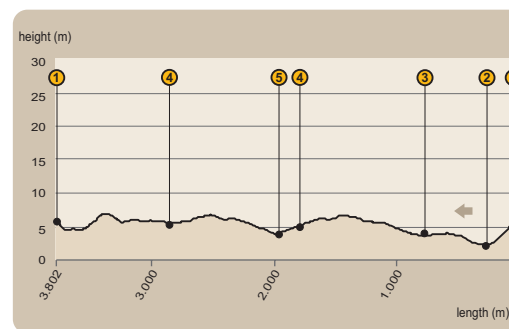
Regular buses in the area are mainly operated by the company Damas SA (tel. 959 256900). The nearest train station is Huelva. Check services and timetables at [www.renfe.es](http://www.renfe.es) or tel. 912 320 320).



## OTHER TRAILS

Several trails allow to get to know the Doñana Natural Area, including the Charco del Acebrón and the Sendero del Acebuche trails.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

5 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

7 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

2 m

## A MYRIAD OF LANDSCAPES

Doñana is a landscape characterized by the coexistence of a myriad of contrasting ecosystems with a rich wildlife. The Doñana Natural Area, which is formed by the Doñana Natural Park and the Doñana National Park, includes some of the most important wetlands in Europe. Due to its extension and strategic situation, it is an important wintering place for migratory birds, which makes it a birdwatcher's paradise.



In early autumn and winter, they can enjoy the presence of thousands of aquatic birds, such as greylag geese and Anatidae from northern Europe. In spring and summer, many species of birds including storks, herons and swallows, fly from Africa in search of food and milder temperatures.

This is also a privileged area considering its variety of landscapes. El Coto del Rey, El Abalarío and the Algaída pine woods include extensive stone pine woods and a dense Mediterranean scrubland, which is the right ecosystem for several species of birds of prey, such as the Spanish imperial eagle, and the Iberian lynx, the symbol of the area.

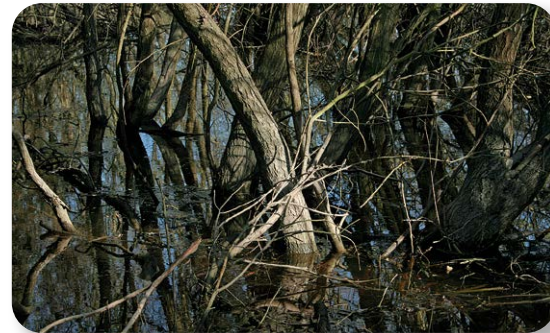
Another attraction of this area is the fossil dune system in Asperillo. Once on the beach, you can admire the cliffs in Asperillo, classified as a Natural Monument.



## Charco de la Boca

### From and to La Rocina

The Charco de la Boca trail starts in the front yard of the La Rocina Visitors' Centre (see [1] on the map), near which stands a typical El Rocío thatched cottage, which represents the ancient ways of life, today virtually disappeared. Such thatched cottages were built with the materials available in the environment: eucalyptus, Sabina juniper or pine timber and pignut from the marshes. This type of construction, which is especially well adapted to the climactic conditions of the area, has been used to build the observatories placed along the trail.



The course of the trail progresses towards the creek banks through a low pine patch, under which grasses grows densely. The presence of stone pines (*Pinus pinea*) in the area is documented in as early as in the 18th century, and nowadays it is one of the most representative landscapes in the area.

The first observatory [2] is located by the creek, which in this last section becomes wide and shallow. This area is flooded for months, a circumstance that attracts many birds during these months. Species such as Western swamphen, little bittern and marbled duck have found that this is an ideal breeding area, and other species such as glossy ibis, little egret, and grey and purple heron can also be spotted.

The next section of the trail goes along the Algaída del Carrizal, a stream that discharges on the creek, and which is covered by lush vegetation. The walkway zigzags among reeds and willows and offers a magnificent view over the flooded areas.

### La Algaída

After crossing the stream, the trail progresses across a pine patch, that occupies the entire section to the second observatory. Behind this second observatory runs the Algaída del Meloncillo, another tributary stream that discharges on the creek [3].



On both riverside, dense ferns grow as a transition towards the riparian vegetation that covers the water course. Several large specimens of cork oaks stand out by the water, surrounded by willows. At this point the trail forks, and you can choose to continue walking along the wooden walkway or across the pine woods [4].

If you choose to follow the first option, this second walkway will lead you to a flat, clear field, in which pine trees gradually give way to a landscape called *monte blanco* ("white fields" or "white hills") dominated by extensions of *Halimium halimifolium* dotted by aromatic species such as rosemary, wild lavender or *Thymus albicans*, a type of thyme.

Near the stream, the soil is more humid and richer, and vegetation becomes more diverse; here, wild olive trees, kermes oaks, mastic or European fan palms. From two observatories located by the trail tracing you can admire an alternative view over the stream that runs parallel to the trail [5].



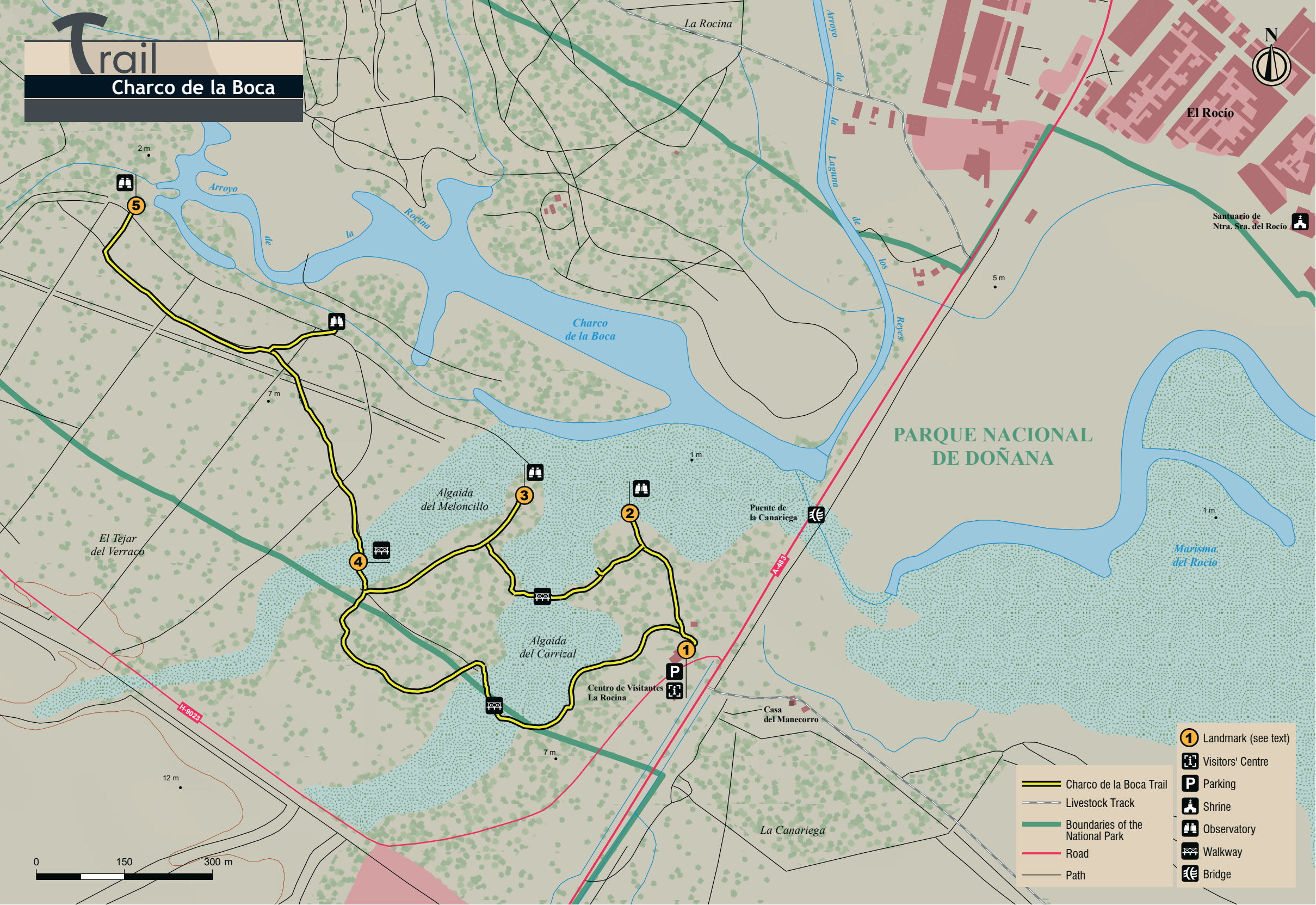
If you choose to follow the second option, you will cross a pine patch before arriving, again, to Algaída del Carrizal and its reed-dominated landscape. These are intertwined with the vines of climbing species, that use reeds to climb towards the light: common smilax, honeysuckle, field bindweed and wild blackberry.



After leaving the walkway, different plant formations are aligned in succession to the riverside, from the pine trees, which are relatively away from the water to the reeds and cattails that grow right in the middle of the water course, with cork oaks, ferns and willows in the middle, composing a landscape with a rich diversity in strata, forms and colours. You only have to walk just under one kilometre until you reach the end of the trail at La Rocina Visitors' Centre [1].

# Trail

## Charco de la Boca



El Rocio

Santuario de Ntra. Sra. del Rocio

PARQUE NACIONAL DE DOÑANA

El Tejar del Verraco

Algaida del Meloncillo

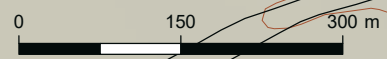
Algaida del Carrizal

Centro de Visitantes La Rocina

Puente de la Canaria

Casa del Manecorro

La Canaria



- Charco de la Boca Trail
- Livestock Track
- Boundaries of the National Park
- Road
- Path
- Landmark (see text)
- Visitors' Centre
- Parking
- Shrine
- Observatory
- Walkway
- Bridge