

BEST PRACTICES



Please leave rubbish in the bins provided



Walk on the marked trails



Please respect private property



Please refrain from making noise



It is not allowed to catch animals



It is strictly forbidden to make fires



It is forbidden to collect plants

Emergency phone: 112



GRANADA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de Baza

MORE INFORMATION

Narváez Visitors' Centre
Autovía A-92N. Salida 28. Baza. Granada. Tel. 662 97 40 35
ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

© / Editing / Coordinación: Regional Ministry of Agriculture, the Environment and Rural Development Department of Sustainability, Environment and Blue Economy / Environment and Water Agency of Andalusia
Production and photography: Environment and Water Agency of Andalusia

OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

8.1 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

3 hours

• DIFFICULTY

Moderate

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Path and Trail

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Pines and deciduous trees. Scrubland and holm oaks. Excellent panoramic views.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

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

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Baza

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

994

• START / END COORDINATES

37° 23'47.37"N 2° 50'35.33"O



HOW TO GET THERE

From Baza, take the A92 towards Guadix. At junction 28, take the asphalted forest road that leads to the Narváez Visitor Centre, a 5 km stretch of road. From there, follow the signs for about 4 km until you reach the recreational area of Canaleja Alta, where the trail begins.



PARKING

There are no parking facilities along the route. However, you can leave your car near the route, next to the Canaleja Alta recreational area.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

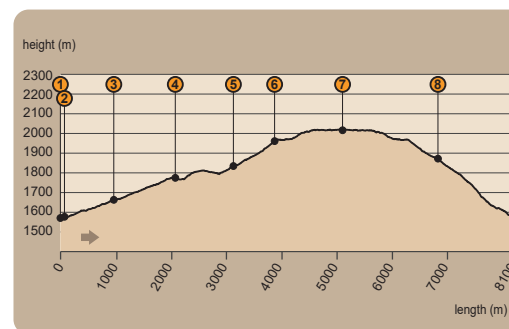
The main companies running regular bus routes in the area are ALSA (tel. +34 902 42 22 42), Autedia S.A. (tel. +34 958 15 36 36) and Hijos de Simón Maestra García (tel. +34 958 70 06 60).



OTHER TRAILS

The Natural Park has other trails to get to know the park. Mirador de Narvaez, Los Neveros and Santa Bárbara are among the closest.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

456 m

• MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

2020 m

• MINIMUM ALTITUDE

1564 m



BAZA

Baza is a monumental city full of elements of historical and artistic heritage from prehistoric times to the present day that will delight the visitor. It originated in the Iberian city of Basti, founded in the 4th century BC on a nearby estate by the Bastians, who made it the capital of their region, Bastetania. From this period comes one of the most important pieces of Iberian art, the *Dama de Baza*, a limestone sculpture over 1.3 metres high, discovered in 1971 in a tomb on the hill of the sanctuary.

Mining, which had begun in prehistoric times, resumed when Baetica was incorporated into the Roman Empire. At the time, Basti was a town that had to pay its taxes to the metropolis. But it was the Andalusian period that had the greatest impact on the city's old quarter, such as we know it today. To understand Baza's history and its impact on the present, visit the Archaeological Sites Visitor Centre, take a leisurely stroll through the historic centre, which was designated an Asset of Cultural Interest in 2003 due to the excellent preservation of the urban fabric around the old medina and the suburbs built outside the city walls.

An increasingly popular event is the unique Cascamorras Festival, held in early September in conjunction with neighbouring Guadix. It was declared a Festival of International Tourist Interest in 2013 and its inscription as Intangible Heritage of Humanity at UNESCO.

GRANADA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de Baza



Canaleja Alta -
Prados del Rey



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



Canaleja Alta - Prados del Rey

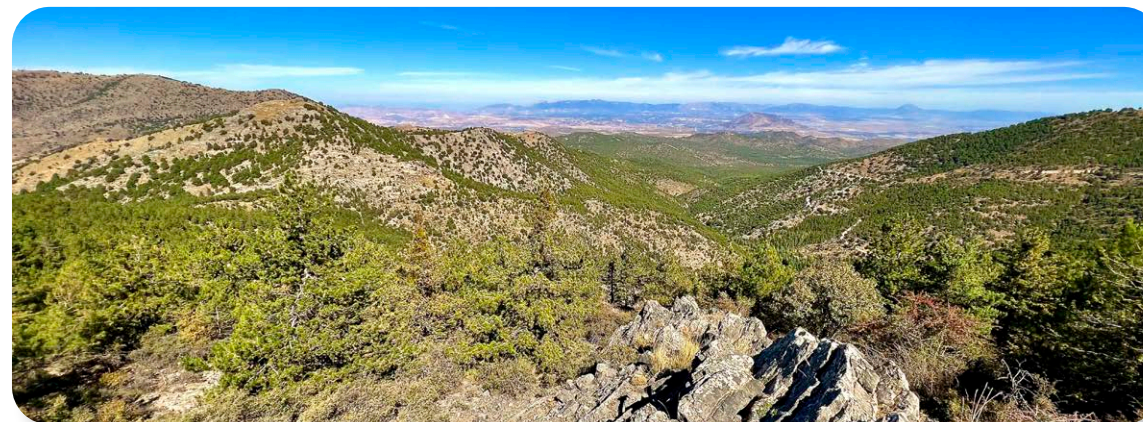
Our itinerary begins at the Canaleja Alta Recreational Area [1], next to the old forester's lodge of the same name, now converted into a refuge for ecotourism activities. It is equipped with barbecues and tables. Some of the tables have been adapted for people with reduced mobility. There is shade from a dense canopy of trees of various species. These are the remains of the flying nursery that existed here, taking advantage of the water spring, and providing plants to repopulate the nearby mountains. The forest track that has brought us to this point is one of the main routes in the Nature Reserve and leads to two of its most interesting sites: the Prados del Rey and the Calares.

About 50 metres from the start of the trail, the path forks [2] and there are two options for the rest of the way. We are going to take the path to the left, as it is not as steep as the others. It is the old route to the sierra. Until the 1960s, it was used daily by workers who climbed up the old mines that extracted the limestone. Along this route we will see areas of reforested pine forest together with a diverse group of shrubs: hawthorns, brambles, and junipers. The abundance of mistletoe in this area is remarkable, a plant that hangs onto the branches of pine trees and whose association with Christmas is becoming increasingly popular. After the first kilometre from the start [3], the path takes a sharp bend, where you can see the efforts made by the workers on the rock to open the road that was replaced by the current forest track.



Between the pine trees and the sparse scrub, some of the holm oaks native to this browsing land appear from time to time, indicating the presence of an important population of herbivores, especially deer, whose characteristic droppings can be seen all along the route.

The path runs parallel to the forest road until it is on the edge of the forest road.



It is here that we find the sign for the start of the Los Neveros route. As its name suggests, it was the path used by the workers who climbed up to the sierra to collect ice and bring it down to the villages. With our path, we plunged again into a very dense pine forest [4], this time on the north face of the sierra. The result of this change in orientation is the emergence of deciduous species that prefer cooler and wetter soils. Trees such as the maple provide colour in the autumn.



For much of the route we will be accompanied by "Monte de Utilidad Pública" cairns, which mark the boundaries of the public mountains we are walking through.

Sometimes the path opens out to the right and crosses areas of bare limestone, offering panoramic views to the north [5] and the possibility of spotting some mountain goats resting on the sunny side, quietly scanning the landscape.

The path crosses the forest track about three and a half kilometres from the start. This time we are going to walk along it for

a few metres, until we climb up the slope and cross a clear hill that is dominated by a solitary maple tree [6]. We are now at an altitude of almost two thousand metres, where the vegetation literally clings to the ground or to the rocks, or huddles together to withstand the onslaught of the extreme cold, forming landscapes that are very characteristic of mountain areas, dominated by Scots pine and bristlecone pine, juniper, and creeping juniper.



At 1,200 metres above sea level, we reach the emblematic Prados del Rey [7], a grassy area surrounded by peaks that are fed by the melting snow and remain green for a long time. From here, several paths lead through the old mines, which have been worked for centuries, their remains well conserved, thanks to the interpretive signs, we can learn about the history of the area.



The descent follows the same route. Shortly after, you cross the forest road again. This time, take the left fork [8], which is also part of the GR-7 E-4, the longest footpath in Europe, which starts in the Temple of Delphi in Greece and ends on the coast of Tarifa.

Trail

Canaleja Alta - Prados del Rey

