

## 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 MÁLAGA



PARQUE NATURAL Los Alcornocales

## MORE INFORMATION

Natural Park Office Los Alcornocales

Pza. San Jorge n.º 1. Alcalá de los Gazules. Cádiz. Tel: 956 41 86 01

Cortes de la Frontera Visitor's Centre

Av. de la Democracia s/n. Cortes de la Frontera. Málaga. Tel. 952 15 45 99

ventanadelvisitante.



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

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## OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



### • ROUTE

Circular

### • LENGTH

5,1 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME

3 hours

### • DIFFICULTY

Low

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Compacted soil track or path. Loose materials on the surface

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Narrow and deep valleys (canutos), with gallery forests, cork oak groves, gall oak groves and clay soils (bujeos) with wild olive trees.

### • SHADE

Scant

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Check that the water from fountains is safe to drink. Cattle grazing can usually be found. On days of selective hunting and controlled hunting, the trail is closed, so it is advisable to inform yourself beforehand. Fog can be an added difficulty to take into account.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Cortes de la frontera

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1063 - Algar

### • START / END COORDINATES

36° 31' 45,79"N – 5° 35' 13,33"O

36° 32' 70,36"N – 5° 36' 70,85"O



## HOW TO GET THERE

At km 56-57 of the CA-8201 road (Jimena de la Frontera-Puerto Galis), you will find the La Saucedá recreational centre (managed by the Town Council of Cortes de la Frontera), the starting point of the trail.



## PARKING

There are about 20 parking spaces in the recreational centre La Saucedá.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

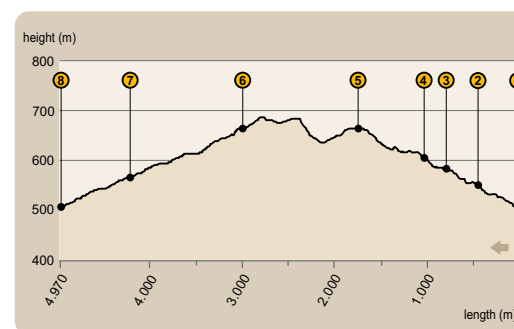
The principal company running regular bus routes in the area is Transportes Comes (tel. 902 19 92 08; www.tgcomes.es). The nearest train station is in Jimena de la Frontera (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es or tel. 902 24 02 02).



## OTHER TRAILS

From the recreational area of La Saucedá starts another interesting trail, which takes its name from this ancient village.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

182 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

685 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

503 m

## LAGUNA DEL MORAL, A HAVEN OF PEACE

The Moral Lagoon was shaded by an immense black mulberry. Today, however, it is the gall oaks that are reluctant to throw their leaves into the water, which remain on the branches until the arrival of new shoots.

The place is awe-inspiring in its beauty and tranquility, the abundant shade and the sounds of an immensely lush forest. Inside the lagoon, newts and frogs celebrate the arrival of the rains and, with them, the water that will gradually be lost with the arrival of summer.



## FERNS FROM THE PAST

The gallery forests are mainly made up of species such as laurel, hazel, holly, and the striking rhododendron. In the highest part of these watercourses, in the wildest areas of torrents and streams, an ecosystem unique in Europe is formed, called *canuto*. There, it is possible to recognise a great variety of ferns, some exclusive to these mountains, others only existing in tropical zones, several thousand kilometres away from these areas.



CÁDIZ-MÁLAGA

PARQUE NATURAL Los Alcornocales



La Laguna del Moral



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

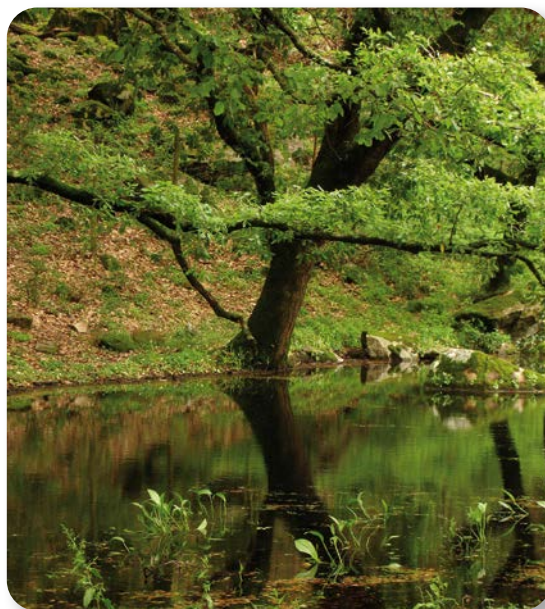


## Trail La Laguna del Moral

### The Moral lagoon, a seasonal cistern in the middle of the forest

The trail starts at the forest house (check [1] on the map), near the La Saucedá recreational centre.

A track climbs up through an area of *bujeo* [2], with fertile soil, used for cultivation and grazing of the Retinta cattle, whose meat we can enjoy after this beautiful walk. We will come across several tracks, but our path continues in a north-westerly direction until we come to a path that is not very well marked on our left, where we leave it to enter the cork oak grove, before reaching the small Moral lagoon [3].



After enjoying the beauty of this secluded spot, we will look for the path that descends until we come to a gate with a passage on the left.



### Always descending

We then cross an area of pastureland, with almost no trees, in a stretch where the road surface worsens, and which leads us to a new gate with its corresponding side path, where we turn off to the right.

The path now runs through more vegetation-free terrain, allowing us to enjoy magnificent views [4].



*These forests are home to mammals such as roe deer, deer, feral pigs, foxes, genets, martens, etc., as well as a large number of species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and invertebrates.*

The descent towards the Pasadalallana gorge becomes steeper when we leave the track along a path that emerges on our left (if we were to continue along the track we would follow another highly recommended signposted path, Travesía del Aljibe, which after crossing the mountain range and its peaks, from which we can admire views of the province of Málaga and Cádiz, the Strait of Gibraltar or, on clear days, the African coast, ends at the El Picacho recreational area).

However, our circular trail starts at La Saucedá, announced by the remains of the old hermitage [5], on a plain.



### Refuge of bandits and republicans

Shortly after, we cross the gorge to reach the village of abandoned houses [6], all of them one-storey, except for the mayor's house, practically destroyed during the Spanish Civil War.

The Pasadallana gorge allows us to have more contact with this special vegetation. The riverbeds are in the form of streams squeezed into narrow valleys between the sandstone. In the lower part of these valleys, the vegetation forms gallery forests, of the subtropical type, known as laurel forest, due to the resemblance of many of the species that form it to the laurel.



*After the autumn rains, a great mycological diversity can be found in these places. Edible and poisonous, these species require expert knowledge to be collected.*

Following the trail we will pass by the ruins of the Mendo or Medio flour mill [7]. The vegetation that surrounds us now includes gall oaks and alders, but above all cork oaks, a species that makes up the largest forest in Spain and one of the largest in the Mediterranean area. The whole grove forms a shady, almost mysterious atmosphere, with large sandstone blocks covered with mosses and ferns.

We arrive at the recreational centre of La Saucedá [8], from where we will look for the road and, after two hundred metres, return to the car park.





# Trail

## La Laguna del Moral



- Landmark (see text)
- Parking
- Panoramic views
- Shrine
- Site of ethnological interest
- Recreational area
- Spring
- Bridge
- Camping area
- Shelter
- Hostel

- La Laguna del Moral Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Road
- Path