

GOOD PRACTICE



- Please leave rubbish in the bins provided
- Walk on the marked trails
- Please respect private property
- Please refrain from making noise



- Capturing animals is not permitted
- Starting fires is strictly forbidden
- Plant collecting is prohibited
- Access with motor vehicles is prohibited
- Free camping is prohibited

Emergency phone: 112



MÁLAGA
SIERRA DE LAS NIEVES
PARQUE NACIONAL

MORE INFORMATION

Regional Sustainable Development Office. Málaga.
Avda. de la Aurora, 47. Edificio Servicios Múltiples, 5th and 6th floors.
Málaga 29071. Tel. 670 948 894.

ventanadelvisitante



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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



SIERRA DE LAS NIEVES
PARQUE NACIONAL

Trail

Conejeras



Junta de Andalucía
Consejería de Sostenibilidad,
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OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



ROUTE

Linear walk

LENGTH (ONE WAY)

1,5 km

ESTIMATED TIME (ONE WAY)

40 minutes

DIFFICULTY

Low

TYPE OF TRAIL

Forest trail and path

LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Flat or hilly terrain with dominated by dense holm oak forest.

SHADE

Frequent

SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Parauta

SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1065

START / END COORDINATES

36° 39' 53,08" N / 5° 4' 58,20" O

36° 39' 42,82" N / 5° 4' 39,99" O



HOW TO GET THERE

From Ronda, take the A-397 road towards San Pedro de Alcántara. After about 14 km, there is a turning to the left into the Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park. Continue along an asphalted track which then turns into a dirt track and, after about a kilometre and a half, a signpost indicates the start of the Conejeras trail on the right.



PARKING

There is an area where vehicles can be parked at the start of the trail. When parking, do not block access to the footpath, which passes next to the fire-fighting pond, so as not to impede surveillance, maintenance and extinguishing work.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

There is no public transport to the start of the trail.

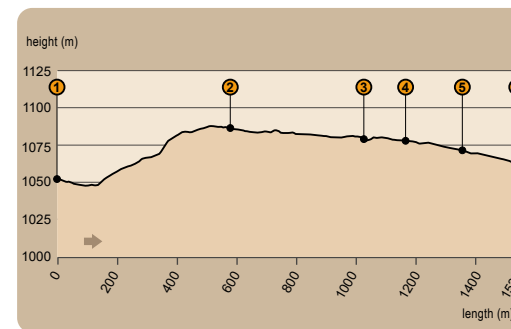
The main companies running regular bus routes in the area are Los Amarillos, Comes and Autobuses Lara. The nearest train station is in Ronda (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es).



OTHER TRAILS

Among the trails that can be followed in the Natural Park, the closest to it are the Quejigales-Torrecilla and Las Escaleretas trails.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

40 m

MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1087 m

MINIMUM HEIGHT

1047 m



THE DIVERSE RICHNESS OF THE HOLM OAK FOREST

The trail is dominated by the presence of the holm oak forest. It is a native species, which creates one of the most characteristic Mediterranean forests, especially adapted to the soil and climate conditions of the area. The holm oak grove that the trail passes through is exceptional both for its beauty and its excellent preservation, in particular the trees found on the La Nava estate. The thickness, the shadows and the shades of green and grey create a certain magical atmosphere around this forest.

Life is bustling everywhere here. If you listen quietly, you will hear the song of robins and coal tits in the air, while birds of prey such as the booted eagle and the short-toed eagle soar high above. A good pair of binoculars will be of great help in spotting these birds in their elegant flight. And, if you are lucky, you may come across the elusive roe deer, a small deer that has made these mountains its home.



Right at the gateway to the Sierra de las Nieves National Park, on a limestone and dolomite substratum, the Conejeras trail takes you into one of the best preserved holm oak forests in the natural park: the holm oak forest of La Nava. In this anteroom to the botanical, geological and landscape riches of the Sierra de las Nieves you will see gall oaks, Spanish firs, karst formations, panoramic views over emblematic peaks such as El Torrecilla and Alcojona and some of the installations that protect the entire sierra from fire. But, above all, on this mid-mountain trail you will see the explosion of life in action.

Forest protection

The start point [1] is located on an esplanade that opens up to the right of the access road to the Quejigales recreational area and where it is possible to leave vehicles. Finches, tits, warblers, chiffchaffs and other small birds invite you with their melodies to open your senses and connect with the environment. From here, even before you start walking, you can make out the outlines of the mountain range, the thick forest and some retaining walls against erosion caused by water. The influence of runoff water on the relief can be seen in numerous places along the route.

The trail begins by going around a steel cable which prevents the entry of motor vehicles, except for surveillance and fire-fighting vehicles. It descends the first few metres on a stony track, which soon turns into an uphill slope. The ascent culminates near the Conejeras fire pond [2], which has a capacity of one million litres. This reservoir is part of a network of infrastructures that protect forests from fire and is specially designed for fire-fighting helicopters, which undertake risky catch and lift manoeuvres to scoop up water.



The regeneration of holm oak forests

Next to the pond there is a drainage basin, which the trail leaves behind to enter the holm oak forest on the marked path to the right. Rockroses, gorse, purple Jerusalem sage, hawthorns, aromatic plants and the occasional gall oak accompany the holm oaks in different stages of growth. But if there is one thing that catches the eye along the trail, it is the spectacular blanket of holm oak shoots that covers the forest floor.

Small runoff streams cross the path as you advance. The largest of these [3] carries with it a multitude of rocks, stones and sand. In the rainy and thawing seasons, the waters of this stream flow into the Fuenfría stream, which is channelled to avoid problems on the adjoining vehicle path. The seasonal nature of the rainfall in the Mediterranean climate, which sometimes ends up falling in torrential downpours, causes floods that carry a large amount of material.

The karst of Sierra de las Nieves

You are now heading north. In about a hundred metres, on the right, a clearing in



the vegetation will allow you to make out the dark silhouette of the first Spanish firs [4] and, crowning the horizon, the white limestone of Torrecilla. The path you are walking on is made from the same material, which becomes apparent at some points with greater clarity [5]. These carbonate rocks, which are very susceptible to the action of water, end up forming a steep relief, cut by ravines and full of underground cavities: karst.

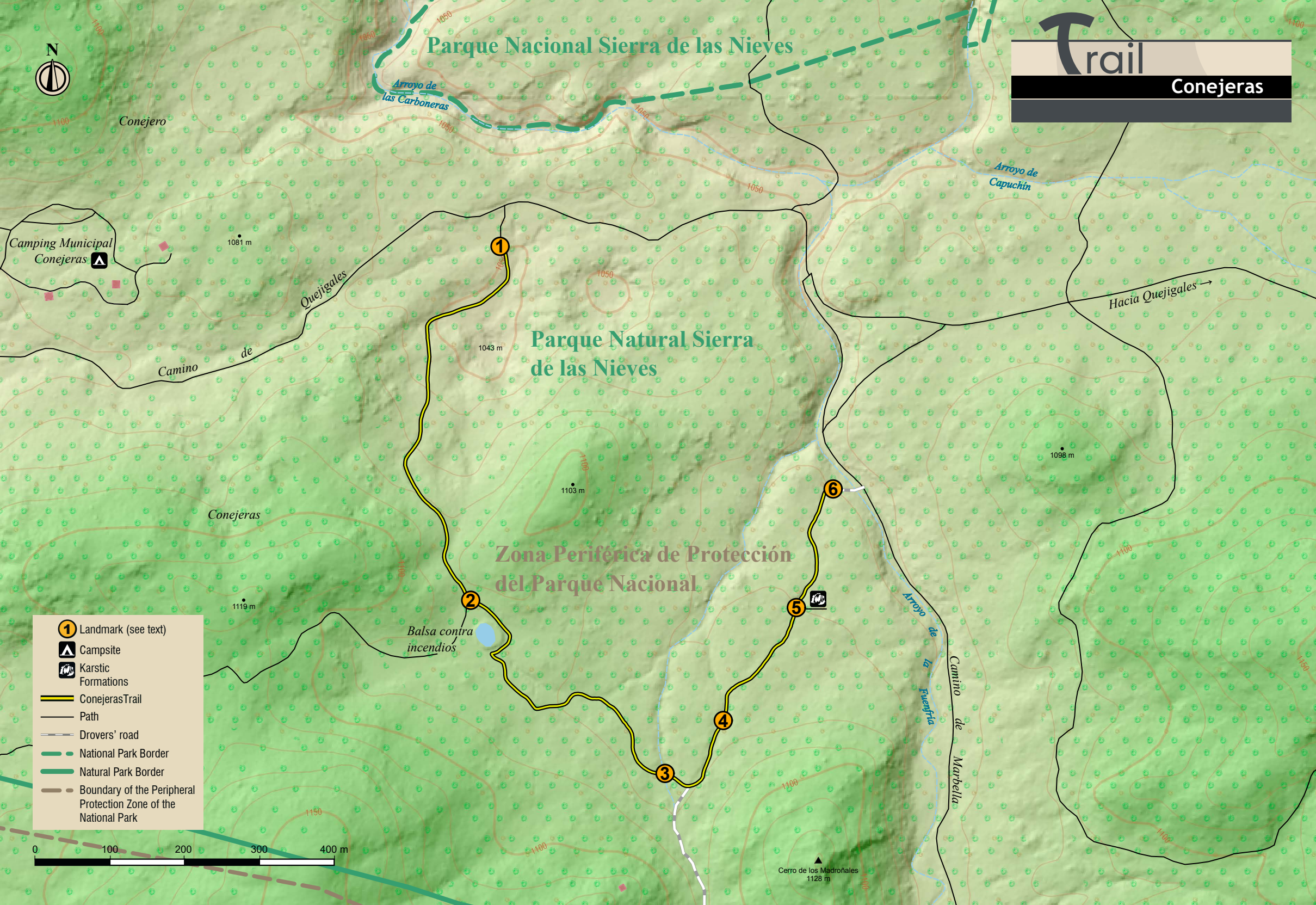
Caves, chasms, sinkholes, pits, limestone pavements, poljes, dolines, travertines and springs are some of the karstic elements that can be found in the Sierra de las Nieves and which have made it an enclave of great geomorphological and hydrological importance at regional and national level. In fact, in 1994, a 250-metre deep chasm was discovered in the vicinity of this path: the Sima de La Nava.

In 170 metres you will come to the end of the path [6], in a place where the holm oak wood gradually acquires greater prominence and density. To return to the starting point, you can retrace your steps or take the path to the left where the trail ends, which runs parallel to the Fuenfría stream until it joins the Camino de Quejigales. This track is open to motor vehicle traffic, so caution should be exercised.





Trail Conejeras



- Landmark (see text)
- Campsite
- Karstic Formations
- Conejeras Trail
- Path
- Drivers' road
- National Park Border
- Natural Park Border
- Boundary of the Peripheral Protection Zone of the National Park

