

## 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

SEVILLA

PARQUE NATURAL  
Sierra Norte  
de Sevilla

## MORE INFORMATION

El Robledo Visitors' Centre. Ctra. A-452 Constantina-El Pedroso km 1. Constantina. Sevilla. Tel. 955 88 95 93.

ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA  
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

PARQUE NATURAL  
Sierra Norte  
de Sevilla



Los Castaños



## OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



### • ROUTE

Circular

### • LENGTH

5,6 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME

2 hours

### • DIFFICULTY

Moderate

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Path with sandy stony or compacted soil surface.

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Mountainous relief, with Mediterranean vegetation and crops, especially olive groves, which vary according to orientation and management. Dense forests of young chestnut trees.

### • SHADE

Frequent

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Check that the water from fountains is safe to drink.

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Sevilla / Constantina

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

920 - Constantina

### • START / END COORDINATES

37° 52' 49,20"N – 5° 37' 27,35"W



## HOW TO GET THERE

From Lora del Río, in the Guadalquivir valley, the A-452 leads to Constantina; from El Pedroso the A-452 and from Cazalla de la Sierra the A-455. In Constantina, close to the latter road and the bullring, the Paseo de La Alameda can be found. The trail starts in Calle Venero.



## PARKING

There is car park at the start of the trail and there are also places nearby to leave your vehicle. Constantina is an option to consider.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

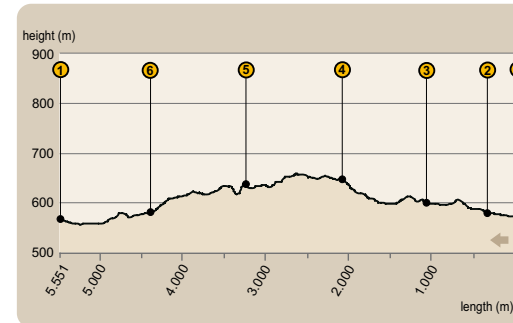
The main concessionaire of regular bus lines in the area is Linesur (tel. 954 90 23 68; www.linesur.com). The Cazalla-Constantina railway station is located between the two towns (consult services and timetables at www.renfe.es or tel. 902 24 02 02).



## OTHER TRAILS

The natural park offers a several routes for hikers. The Sierra Norte de Sevilla Greenway links the Cazalla-Constantina railway station with Cerro del Hierro, passing through San Nicolás del Puerto.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

102 m

### • MAXIMUM HEIGHT

659 m

### • MINIMUM HEIGHT

557 m

## CHESTNUT TREES

The chestnut groves of the Sierra Morena in Seville and those of Huelva are very different. They are made up of trees of different age and size, spaced one from the other and dedicated to the production of chestnuts. Those of Constantina and Cazalla are closed stands, not very extensive, of young specimens, as they were felled in shifts of 15 or 20 years to obtain construction beams, staves for barrels and casks, or fences for livestock, or in shorter felling periods to obtain sticks for olive harvesting. All of these uses have declined, to the detriment of the use and benefit of these unique copses.



These chestnut groves occupy shady areas at an altitude of over 600 metres with relatively high rainfall. They were possibly the former domain of Pyrenean oak (*Quercus pyrenaica*). They have a rich vegetation, including gall oaks, cork oaks, oak trees and strawberry trees.

In all seasons, with such a different appearance, the chestnut groves stand out among pastures, scrubland or olive groves, with their intense green colour in spring, which changes to yellowish tones in autumn, to show themselves naked in winter.





## Constantina

We begin our route in Constantina, at the end of the Paseo de La Alameda, following Calle Venero (check [1] on the map). Constantina, as well as being the most populous town in the natural park, is a monumental town, declared a Historic Site in the General Catalogue of Andalusian Historical Heritage. Visiting it, before or after the route, is highly recommended.

We start to walk uphill between old stone walls, surrounded by abundant vegetation, with elm and hackberry trees predominating, the crowns of which intertwine on both sides, providing us with shade and shelter.



We advance with a young chestnut grove on our left and an olive grove on our right. After about four hundred metres we leave the Las Erillas path on our left, and continue in a north-westerly direction [2]. The vegetation gradually thickens until it forms a gallery over the road.

*On our left we can see La Carlina, a small palace that was the work and refuge of the Belgian Nazi Léon Degrelle, and later was handed over to the Hieronymite nuns.*



## The chestnut grove

We enter a shady, boxed-in stretch, where we can find magnificent examples of gall oaks and Pyrenean oaks, the latter with their large, lobed-edged leaves.



Between olive groves and small chestnut groves, and with the occasional company of gall oaks and cork oaks, we advance in the same direction until we come across an extensive and dense chestnut grove [3], which we border leaving it to our left.



After leaving the entrance to the Cerro Gordo estate on our right, the path ascends until it changes abruptly to a south-easterly direction [4]. We continue the ascent, now leaving the great mass of chestnut trees to our left, until we reach the highest point of our route [5], from where we can observe a splendid panoramic view, being the Cerro Negrillo to the northeast, along with a splendid oak grove that evidences the great humidity of this place and the diversity of species sheltered therein.



## Descent

From this point the path descends, keeping above the chestnut grove. In a little more than three hundred metres we find ourselves in the interior of the forest, and in another three hundred metres we leave it, returning to the olive groves, where we will be able to distinguish robust specimens.



If we look eastwards we can observe the roofs of the farms that we crossed at the beginning of the trail, as well as Cerro Gibarrayo, 749 m high.



We continue along a stony road, parallel to a stone wall, until we reach an old stone portico in front of the Virgen del Carmen farm. We continue down to the vicinity of the castle of Constantina, at the foot of which we can refresh ourselves at a spring of non-drinking water [6].

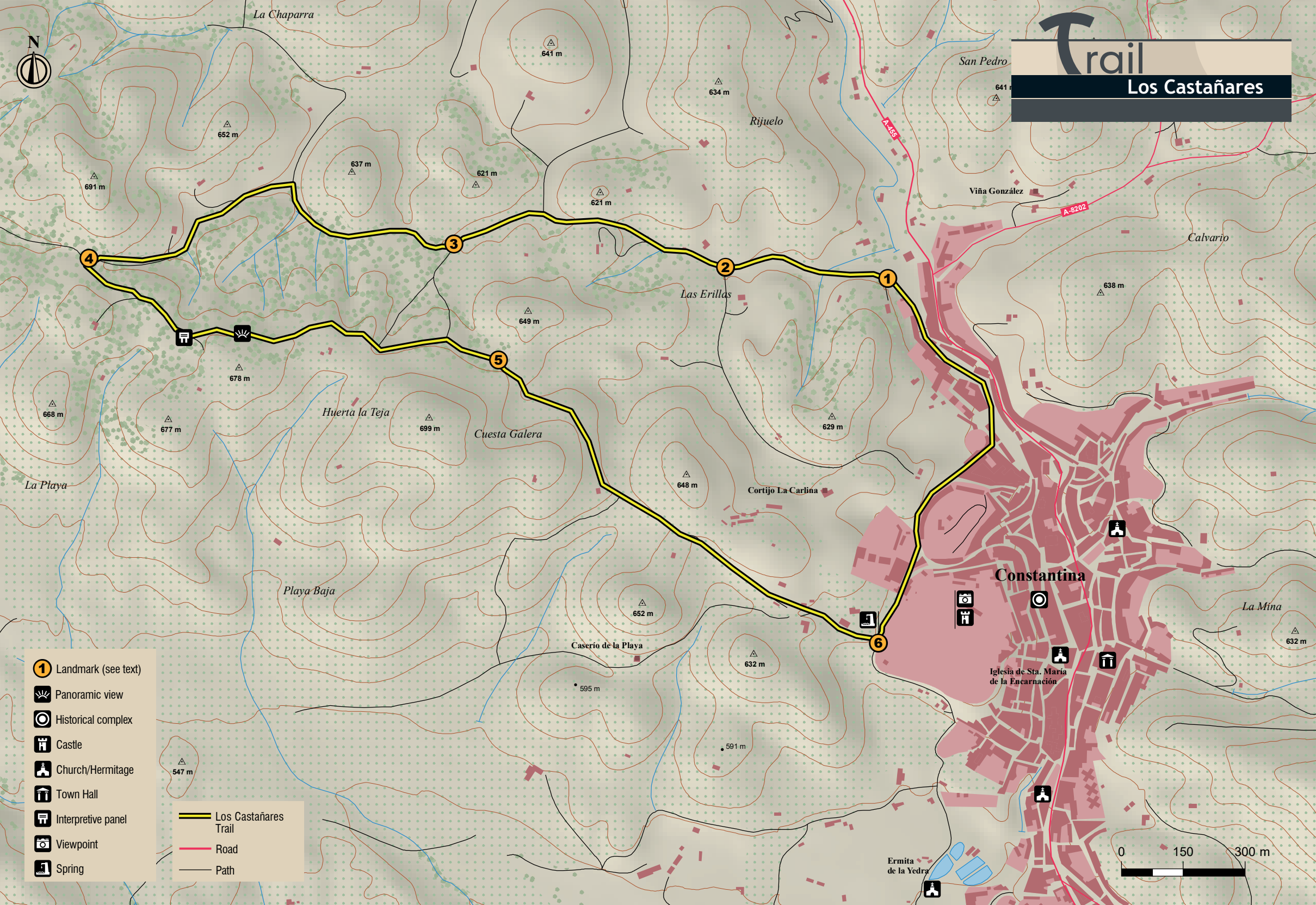


Chestnut forests are not common in our latitudes. They are, on the contrary, exceptional pieces of the landscape of these old mountain ranges, which abound with other types of plants better suited to aridity.

This trail is a proposal to go into one of these forests, and to get to know the nature that it keeps inside, and that which surrounds it on all its sides. It is also an opportunity to walk around one of the capitals of the Sierra Morena, Constantina, and see its monuments up close.

# Trail

## Los Castaños



- Landmark (see text)
- Panoramic view
- Historical complex
- Castle
- Church/Hermitage
- Town Hall
- Interpretive panel
- Viewpoint
- Spring

- Los Castaños Trail
- Road
- Path

