

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



Fishing is prohibited



Plant collecting is not permitted

Emergency phone: 112

GRANADA

RESERVA NATURAL CONCERTADA
Charca de Suárez

MORE INFORMATION

Charca de Suárez Concertada Nature Reserve. Camino del Pelaillo (Playa de Poniente) - Motril (Granada). Tel: 618 217 508. charcadesuarez@motril.es. Tel. para grupos: 651 819 134.

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

RESERVA NATURAL
CONCERTADA
Charca de Suárez

Trail

Ruta de las Lagunas



• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

1,9 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

45 min

• DIFFICULTY

Low (trail accessible for persons with reduced mobility)

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Compacted earth track. Adapted for reduced mobility.

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

The Charca de Suárez is one of the most important wetlands in the province of Granada. Wetlands are ecologically important for the preservation of many species of birds, as their vegetation (reedbeds, rushes, reedbeds, etc.) provide an ideal refuge for many species and are strategic resting points during the migration season.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Authorisation required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

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

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Motril

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1055

• START / END COORDINATES

36°43'20.27"N - 3°32'31.68"O



HOW TO GET THERE

From Motril, or from the N-340, take the N-347 towards the port. When you reach the port, turn right towards "Playas".

From Granada, take the A-44 and then the A-7 towards Malaga and then exit 325 onto the N-347a to the port of Motril. When you reach the port, turn right towards "playas".



PARKING

There is no parking at the trail. It is possible to leave the vehicle near the entrance to the Reserva Concertada.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

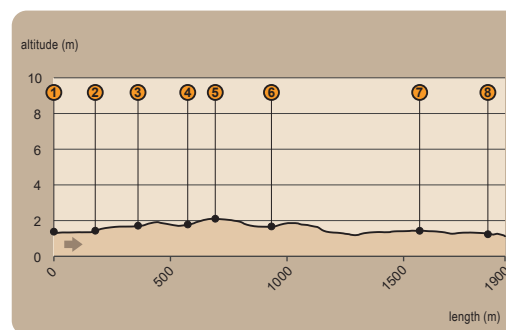
Motril can be reached by bus. The main company running regular bus routes in the area is ALSA (tel. 902 42 22 42). Once there, head towards Motril (Playa-Pueblo Mediterráneo). La Charca de Suárez is 500m away.



OTHER TRAILS

The Reserva Concertada does not offer any other marked trails.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

4 m

• MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

4 m

• MINIMUM ALTITUDE

0 m



THE RED-KNOBBED COOT

With black plumage, it is very similar to the common coot, with a light blue bill and white frontal shield, but it has a pair of very striking protuberances on the front of its head, of an intense red colour, like small horns, which make it unmistakable, especially during the breeding season.

The coot is a purely North African species, almost exclusively Moroccan, which also reaches the south and east of the Iberian Peninsula and its population situation is critical. This is why it is included in the National and Andalusian Catalogues of Threatened Species as "Endangered" and at serious risk of extinction at a global level. At the beginning of the 1990s, it was on the verge of disappearing definitively from Spain, although today it is showing certain signs of general recovery, which allow us to look to the future with a certain optimism.

After the successful reintroduction in 2013 of several specimens bred in captivity, today the Suárez Pond has become the most important wetland for the future of the species in Europe. At the moment it is home to almost a quarter of the breeding pairs in our country, around 30.



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Trail

The Ruta de las Lagunas trail in the Charca de Suárez Nature Reserve is a pleasant circular walk of just under two kilometres, linking a network of bird observatories strategically located to facilitate the contemplation of the fauna that inhabits the group of lagoons that make up this protected area. The Reserve is managed by Motril Town Council, with the collaboration of an extensive network of volunteers from the world of conservation, research and environmental education.

The path starts as soon as you go through the gate [1] which is accessed from the Camino del Pelaillo, a wide avenue located at the back of the coast of Motril where you can find parking. If you can't find space there, continue some 150 metres in the direction of Salobreña until you come to a parking area for the beach. Although it is free to visit, the opening hours change with the seasons of the year and the breeding seasons of the endangered species, so it is necessary to contact the managers beforehand, especially if you intend to make a group visit.

Once inside the Reserve, continue along the branch of the path that is in front of you, in a northerly direction, but if in doubt, a signpost clearly indicates the way to go. Throughout the route there are many information signs, both about the protected area, its genesis and management, and about certain species of flora and fauna of interest, making the walk a pleasant but also very educational experience. It must not be



forgotten that Charca de Suárez is a island of nature in the middle of a highly developed area, where the sound of cars and human activity is muffled by the dense vegetation that surrounds it and is transformed into a comforting silence, broken only by the twittering of birds or the quacking of ducks.

Beginning with the two observatories of the Laguna del Taraje (Tamarisk Lagoon) [2 and 3], the route will then take you to the observatory of Laguna de la Caña de Azúcar (Sugar Cane Lagoon) [4] and that of Laguna de las Aneas (Bulrush Lagoon) [5], and continue on to the two observatories of Laguna del Trébol (Clover Lagoon) [6 and 7] until coming to that of Laguna del Lirio (Lily Lagoon) [8], near the end of the trail. There is another observatory at Laguna de las Aneas, but it is exclusively of a scientific nature and cannot be visited. One of its observatories at this lagoon also shares space with the nature classroom, making it a unique and priceless resource



for environmental education activities, and has allowed the birds to be accustomed to the presence of humans, so they are particularly bold and more easily to spot there.

In order to enjoy birdwatching at the observatories, it is important to go there alone or in small groups, to behave as quietly as possible inside and, above all, never to lean out of the windows or take anything out of them (telescopes, lenses, hands...). The secret to seeing without being seen lies remaining in the dark all the time and without making any sound, so that the birds are calm and can be observed naturally, showing themselves as they really are.

The trail and its facilities mean that a very large number of different birds may be observed, many of them endangered. Fifty-one of Andalusia's ninety-two protected species are present in the area at some time of the year. In total, more than 160 different bird species have been counted, making the Charca de Suárez the main coastal wetland in the province of Granada. Of all of them, the true emblem of the Reserve is the red-knobbed coot, thanks to the successful reintroduction of the species carried out in recent years. But it's not just the red-knobbed coot; other endangered species such as ferruginous duck and marbled duck also breed or live in the Reserve, which is increasingly becoming a true wildlife sanctuary. Something previously inconceivable for a site that was on the verge of being drained and urbanised only a few years ago and a model of management which is exportable to other areas of our Autonomous Community.





Trail

Ruta de las Lagunas

T.M. Motril

Reserva Natural Concertada Charca de Suárez

- Ruta de las Lagunas Trail
- Road
- Path
- Natural Space
- Ditch
- 1 Landmark (see text)
- Trail
- Observatory
- Nature room
- Wildlife Park
- Accessible installation

