

## 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 prohibited



Flying drones is prohibited



Cycling is prohibited

Emergency phone: 112



CÓRDOBA

RESERVA NATURAL  
Laguna de Zóñar

## MORE INFORMATION

Laguna de Zóñar Visitor Centre. Ctra. A-304 Aguilar-Puente Genil, Km 4. 14920 - Aguilar de la Frontera (Córdoba). Tel: 957 335 252

Territorial Delegation in Granada for Sustainability, Environment and Blue Economy. C/ Tomás de Aquino, s/n. Edificio Servicios Múltiples, 7ª planta. Córdoba-14004. Tel. 957 734 106.

ventanadelvisitante.

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## OTHER CONSERVATION SCHEMES



### • ROUTE

Linear walk

### • LENGTH (ONE-WAY)

2,3 km

### • ESTIMATED TIME (ONE-WAY)

1 hour

### • DIFFICULTY

Low

### • TYPE OF TRAIL

Forest trail and path

### • LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

The olive grove and the reforestation copses form a mosaic of vegetation made up of holm oaks, carob trees, hawthorns, mastic trees, flax-leaved daphne, rosemary and thyme.

### • SHADE

Scant

### • SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required for individuals. Authorisation is required for environmental education activities organised by organisations.

### • RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### • PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Córdoba / Aguilar de la Frontera

### • SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

988

### • START / END COORDINATES

37°28'40.67"N 4°41'16.63"O

37°29'14.47"N 4°40'56.75"O



## HOW TO GET THERE

You can get there from the A-45 motorway (exit km 40), taking the road from Aguilar de la Frontera to Puente Genil until km 4 (A- 304). 4 (A- 304) and continue along this road, from where you can see the recreational area of Villares de Zóñar. About two kilometres from the start, you will come to the Laguna de Zóñar Visitor Centre. The facility is located at a distance of approximately four kilometres from Aguilar.



## PARKING

There is a car park at the Laguna de Zóñar Visitor Centre.



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

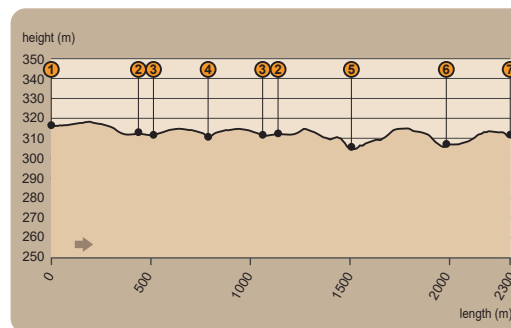
There is no public transport to the start of the trail. The main bus company in the area to Aguilar de la Frontera is Autocares Carreras (info@ autocarescarrera.es - 900 108 703). Once there, you can reach the start of the trail by taxi.



## OTHER TRAILS

The Laguna de Zóñar Nature Reserve has other public footpaths available to users. Next to this, from the same starting point, are the paths of La Carrizosa or the Observatory path.

## PROFILE OF ROUTE



### • MAXIMUM GRADIENT

29 m

### • MAXIMUM ALTITUDE

334 m

### • MINIMUM ALTITUDE

305 m



## LAGUNA DE ZÓÑAR (ZOÑAR LAGOON)

The Zóñar Lagoon is located in the municipality of Aguilar de la Frontera. It forms part of the system of wetlands in the south of the province of Cordoba, together with the Rincón, Amarga, Los Jarales, Tíscar and Salobral lagoons. At 37 hectares, it is the largest of them all and contains the most water. In periods of high rainfall, it can reach depths of up to 16m. For this reason, although its popular name is "Zóñar lagoon", it actually behaves ecologically like a lake, the deepest in Andalusia.

Surrounded by reed beds, pastures and olive groves, Zóñar is basically an area of great ornithological interest, especially relevant for the conservation of the white-headed duck in the Iberian Peninsula, both as a wintering and breeding area for the species. Marsh Harrier, Mallard, Great Crested Grebe, Purple Swamphen and Little Grebe are also common. The wetland is visited in winter by several thousand lesser black-backed gulls and black-headed gulls that use the water to clean their plumage. In its waters the pejerrey breeds, a fish that is found in some other parts of the Guadalquivir basin.

CÓRDOBA

RESERVA NATURAL  
Laguna de Zóñar

Trail

Las Fuentes de Zóñar







# Trail

## Las Fuentes de Zóñar

Our trail is based on the infrastructures linked to water in the surroundings of the Zóñar lagoon. It is necessary to bear in mind that such a rich source of year-round water, located in the middle of the Cordovan countryside, has historically acted as a kind of oasis for its inhabitants. That is why it has always been surrounded by orchards, irrigation channels, waterwheels, small aqueducts... and springs. But the lagoon has always been closely linked to the life of the inhabitants of Aguilar de la Frontera and surrounding areas.

The Las Fuentes de Zóñar trail starts at the Visitor Centre of the lagoon of the same name, the starting point of a small network of interconnected itineraries that run around this wetland area [1]. After crossing the railway track through a subway, themed with a mural on the birdlife and landscape of the area, there are three routes: the Carrizosa path, on our left, and the Observatory and Springs paths, both on the right. We will head northwest along a lane closed to traffic, which runs along this stretch through an old olive grove which is being turned back to its natural state.



### Reforestation of pine forests

As you leave this behind you, you will come to a much more open area with circular or elliptical patches of native vegetation, surrounded by a dense mesh to prevent rabbits from getting in. This is a curious method of repopulation through the planting of small copses in which holm oaks, carob trees, mastic trees, hawthorns, myrtle, rosemary, kermes oak etc. coexist, and which, once planted, will naturally and progressively spread to the rest of the territory with a high likelihood of success and, above all, with the whole range of species native to the area.



### The Brosque well and the House of Zóñar

If you continue, after a few metres you will come to a crossroads to your left that connects with a straight path leading to the area around the Zóñar lagoon. A few metres from the intersection, you will come across a curious construction to your right: the watering hole of El Brosque [2], which consists of a small hut with a hipped roof that protects the well, together with six exterior pools, three square and three cylindrical, whose function was to provide water for the livestock that grazed in the area.



A little further on is the Brosque farmhouse [3], the largest of all the houses built around the lagoon. It is a building that shows how interesting it was to live next to a permanent agricultural, livestock, hunting and leisure resource for its inhabitants. The current state of the structure makes it advisable not to get too close to its walls, which are separated from the road by a wooden protective fence. Between the two is an automated station of the State Meteorological Agency, whose data can be consulted on the Internet in real time.

From here you can decide whether to continue to the observatory [4], where you will be able to see the species of water birds that live or pass through Zóñar at some time of the year, or retrace your steps to continue along the main path that runs parallel to the railway track, a track lined with almond trees, whose explosive flowering turns the route into an attractive walk during the first months of each year.

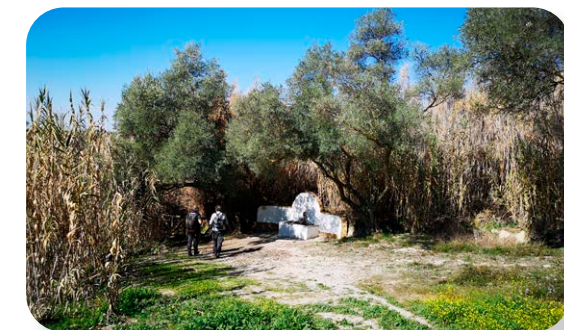


### The springs of Zóñar and Escobar

A little further on you will come to the Fuente de Zóñar (Zóñar Spring) [5], the main surface source of the lagoon which, until the 1970s, was the most important spring supplying Aguilar de la Frontera. The remains of the small stone aqueduct built for this purpose are still preserved. In addition, archaeological remains of ancient settlers who lived in the shelter of this inexhaustible source of life have been found in the vicinity of the site, some of them from prehistoric times, such as the Iberian settlement of Zúniga. The permanent fall of water from an old iron pipe over a small pool, surrounded by a dense and shady reed bed, allows you to rest and refresh yourself before continuing along the last stretch of the path.



Some 400 metres further on is the Fuente Escobar (Escobar Spring) [6], which is apparently named after a family of market gardeners who lived in the area, as one of the surrounding vegetable gardens and an old



irrigation waterwheel bear the same name. Continuing along the path a little further, you will come to a viewpoint sign indicating the end of the path [7], whose linear nature means you must now turn back towards the Visitor Centre.





**Zona de protección de la Reserva Natural Laguna de Zóñar**

**Reserva Natural Laguna de Zóñar**

	Las Fuentes de Zóñar Trail		Landmark (see text)
	Other trails of the natural park		Visitor's Centre
	Road		Trail
	Natural Space		Recreation area
	Railway		Spring
			Parking
			Observatory

