

GOOD PRACTICE

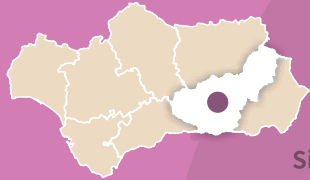


- Please leave rubbish in the bins provided
- Walk on the marked trails
- Please respect private property
- Evite hacer ruido



- Capturing animals is not permitted
- Starting fires is strictly forbidden
- Plant collecting is not allowed

Emergency phone: 112



GRANADA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de Huétor

MORE INFORMATION

Puerto Lobo Visitor's Centre. Ctra. Víznar a Puerto Lobo km 43. Víznar. Granada. Tel. 958 54 04 26.

ventanadelvisitante



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

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OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



• ROUTE

Circular

• LENGTH

7,5 km

• ESTIMATED TIME

2 hour and 30 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Low

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track and path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Maritime pine woods next to holm oaks and Portuguese oaks. Karstic landscape and panoramic views over the fertile plains of Granada and the metropolitan belt.

• SHADE

Frequent

• SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Not required

• RECOMMENDATIONS

Bring drinking water, hiking shoes, a hat and sun protection.

• PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Granada / Alfacar

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1009

• START / END COORDINATES

37°15'32"N, 3°33'0"W



HOW TO GET THERE

From the village of Alfacar we go to Fuente Grande, in the upper part of the village. From here, take the GR-3103 road, which ascends towards the Alfaguara and in about 4 km, on the right hand side of the road, you'll find the sign for the start of the path on a track with a chain.



PARKING

There are designated parking areas for vehicles.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

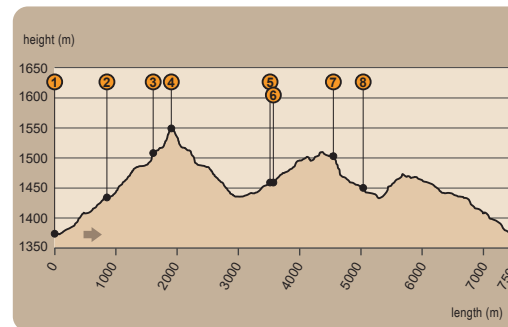
The trailhead cannot be reached by bus. Transport is provided by the Metropolitan Transport Consortium of the Granada Area (tel. 955 038 665). And the main operator in the area is the company Carlos Fernández de la Torre (tel. 958 54 30 76).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural park has other routes. Some of the closest trails to this one are The Trenches Trail, the Cueva del Agua Cave Trail, the Cruz de Víznar Cross Trail, the Puerto Lobo to Sotillo Trail and the La Alfaguara Botanical Route.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

176 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1547 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

1371 m



LA ALFAGUARA ARBORETUM

The overexploitation of forests and for wood and livestock grazing of this area since ancient times led to the disappearance of most of the original oak, gall oak and holm oak forests that covered them. At the beginning of the 20th century, the institutions set up a substantial reforestation plan which, among other actions, included the creation of forest nurseries such as the one at La Alfaguara or the Fuente de Los Pajareros. The seedlings from this nursery were used to reforest the Sierra de Víznar hills, the Cueva del Gato hill and the La Alfaguara hill.

Today, this former nursery has been restored as an Arboretum and Botanical Route. Much of the arboreal diversity of the Sierra de Huétor is concentrated here, although the stars of the show are the Spanish firs and the imposing centenary cedars, whose tops reach a height of 35 metres. In addition to conifers, in the Arboretum there are deciduous hardwoods such as hawthorns, elms, maples and poplars, and fruit trees such as cherry, pear and sour cherry trees, which recall its past as an orchard, prior to its conversion into a nursery.

In autumn, the extraordinary hues of these deciduous trees turn this hike into a spectacular view: a colourful visual festival with the particular perfume of the autumn months and the melodies of blackbirds, greenfinches, crossbills and firecrests, which have found their home in the La Alfaguara Arboretum.

GRANADA

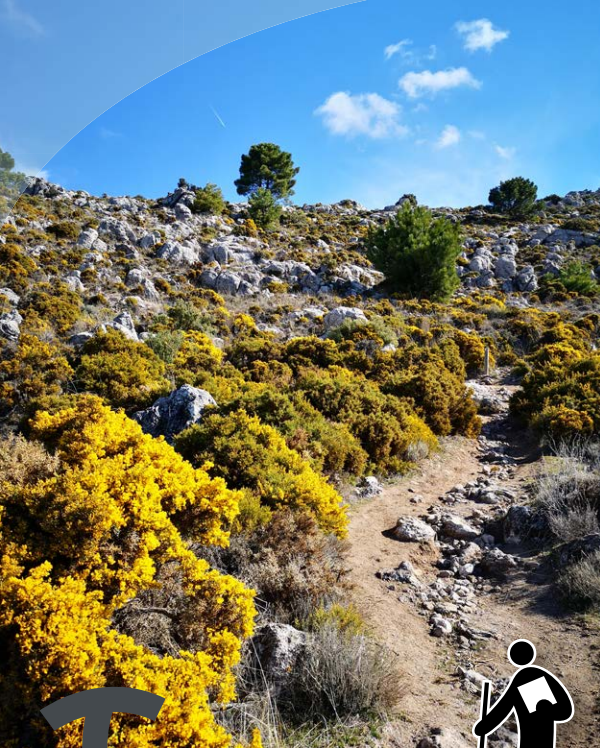
PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de Huétor



Puerto Alfacar-
Alfaguara



Junta de Andalucía
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Puerto Alfacar- Alfaguara

This trails enables to explain the formation of the karstic structures by walking over one of its characteristic elements: the limestone pavement, locally known as “calares”; the trail looks out over the magnificent limestone rock balcony to enjoy the panoramic views over the lush plain of Granada and the sprawl of the city of Granada, and then goes through the maritime pine forest that leads to La Alfaguara, where you’ll be able to learn about the history of the repopulation of the area.

The Cruz de Alfacar cross

You’ll find the trailhead [1] at the Puerto de Alfacar, 700 metres from the main sport climbing area in the Natural Park. Walkers can cross the chain barrier that prevents vehicles from passing and continue between pines and holm oaks, parallel to the Barranco del Puerto ravine along a dirt forest track. Accompanied by the melodies of robins, warblers, true finches, great tits and other forest birds, follow the track for 1 kilometre until you reach the turn-off to the Cruz de Alfacar [2]. After 100 metres, turn right again and, following the markers, continue along a stony path that climbs up the shady side of the Barranco del Puerto ravine. The deep, humid ravine is the ideal home to a series of lichens and mosses, that form an emerald green carpet over of trunks and rocks and create a dream-like atmosphere.



Footsteps are silenced by the pine needles covering the forest floor, making the walk more comfortable. The pine forest opens up right on the cornice, revealing the limestone pavement and the impressive view over Granada and the nearby towns: Alfacar, Viznar, Nivar, Albolote. Each of these villages was born and grew up around one of the abundant springs that flow from the hills. At the viewpoint of Los Calares [3], a panoramic

sign explains the formation of the karstic landscape and the origin of these water springs that allow life to thrive here.



On this stretch, cleared of trees, it is possible to spot golden eagles, Bonelli’s eagles or peregrine falcons on the lookout for some clueless pigeons or rabbits, among the Cytisus oromediterraneus, broom and junipers. We climb over the sharp edges of the limestone pavement, and then take the last steep slope to the Cruz de Alfacar Cross [4]. You may be breathless when reaching the hill summit, and you will be welcome by the song of the rock bunting.



But the effort is well worth it: an splendid panoramic view over Granada, Sierra Nevada, the Tejada and Almirajara mountains, Sierra Elvira and the Sierra de Loja.

Pine resin

After a well-deserved refreshment, you’ll start the descent along the same stony path we came along, in search of the turn-off to the recreational area [2]. At 300 metres from

the crossroads, the tree dome opens up again and the path runs for 250 metres through a clear space. An impressive specimen of maritime pine [5], well over a hundred years old, marks the entrance to the forest pine. The resin from these pines was used to waterproof boats and to rubberise boot and wineskin seams. In 1752, La Alfaguara meadow was populated with “4,000 feet of holm oaks and 3,000 large pines”. Later, many of these pines were used for firewood ovens and other uses, so that from 1907 onwards a reforestation of the area was planned and the Alfaguara nursery was created.

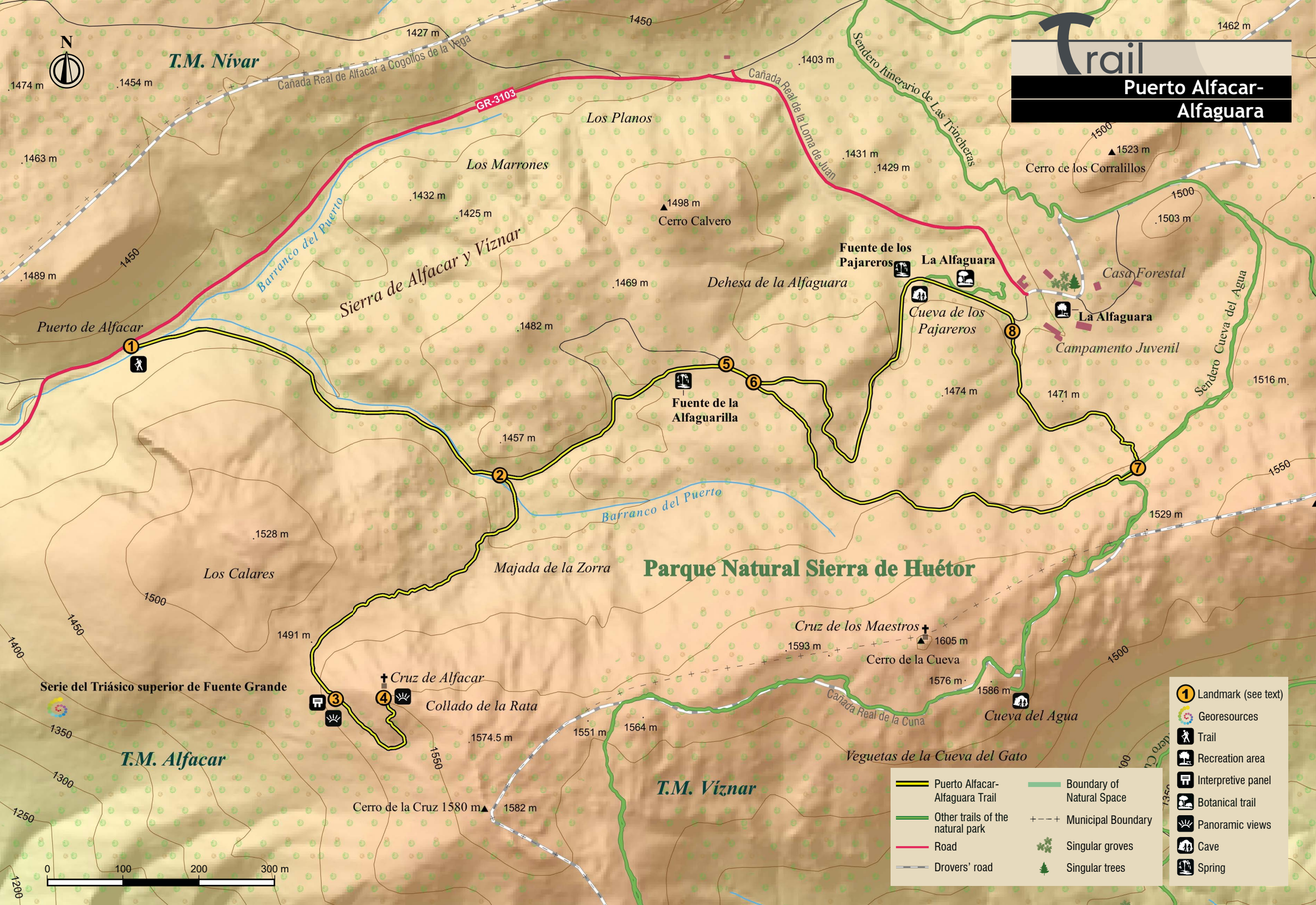


The Alfaguara

After 100 metres you’ll reach a fork [6], which corresponds to the return point of the route. After 1 km, the track on the right leads to the Cueva del Agua trail [7], which climbs up the Umbría de las Calaveras hillside. After a few metres, you’ll leave the main road and turn left onto a path that descends to La Alfaguara [8]. Tree roots criss-cross the path, which intersects with other paths. Paying attention to the trail markers, we reach the vicinity of the recreational area. In the Alfaguara, you can follow the botanical route that crosses the Arboretum.



You will leave the Arboretum behind us and continue your way through pines, holm oaks, Portuguese oaks and aromatic plants. The path leads to the crossroads [6] that closes the loop of the route; the starting and end point are a mere 1.5 km away.



Trail

Puerto Alfacar-Alfaguara



- Landmark (see text)
- Georesources
- Trail
- Recreation area
- Interpretive panel
- Botanical trail
- Panoramic views
- Cave
- Spring
- Puerto Alfacar-Alfaguara Trail
- Boundary of Natural Space
- Road
- Drovers' road
- Municipal Boundary
- Singular groves
- Singular trees

T.M. Nívar

T.M. Alfacar

Parque Natural Sierra de Huétor

T.M. Viznar

Sierra de Alfacar y Viznar

Puerto de Alfacar

Los Planos

Los Marrones

Cerro Calvero

Fuente de los Pajareros

La Alfaguara

Dehesa de la Alfaguara

Casa Forestal

La Alfaguara

Campamento Juvenil

Fuente de la Alfaguarilla

Los Calares

Majada de la Zorra

Cruz de los Maestros

Cerro de la Cueva

Cruz de Alfacar

Collado de la Rata

Cueva del Agua

Cerro de la Cruz 1580 m

Veguetas de la Cueva del Gato

Cañada Real de Alfacar a Cogollos de la Vega

Cañada Real de la Loma de Juan

Sendero Itinerario de Las Trincheras

Sendero Cueva del Agua

Serie del Triásico superior de Fuente Grande

Cruz de Alfacar

Cerro de la Cueva

Collado de la Rata

Cueva del Agua

Collado de la Rata

Veguetas de la Cueva del Gato

Cerro de la Cruz 1580 m

Veguetas de la Cueva del Gato