

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



HUELVA

PARQUE NATURAL
Sierra de Aracena
y Picos de Aroche

MORE INFORMATION

Cabildo Viejo Visitors' Centre. Plaza Alta s/n. Edificio Cabildo Viejo. Aracena. Huelva. Tel.959 12 95 53/54.

ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

© / Editing / Coordination: Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Sustainable Development / Environment and Water Agency
Production and photography: Grupo Entorno, Federación Andaluza de Montañismo and OAGPYJOS archive

OTHER CATEGORIES OF PROTECTION



NATURA 2000



Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura
Red Española de Reservas de la Biosfera

• ROUTE

Linear walk

• LENGTH (OUTWARD)

4,6 km

• ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

1 hour and 45 minutes

• DIFFICULTY

Average

• TYPE OF TRAIL

Track and Path

• LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Typical hilly landscape with moderate slopes. Open fields with chestnut woods, dehesas, olive groves and Mediterranean forest. Extensive cattle breeding of cattle, sheep and pork (at the montanera feeding state, that is, letting the pigs feed on acorns just before being slaughtered). Small agricultural holdings. Footpaths typically lined by masonry walls. White villages.

• 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

Huelva / Aracena y Linares de la Sierra

• SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

917 - Aracena

• START / END COORDINATES

37° 53' 15,49"N – 6° 34' 28,94"W

37° 52' 48,37"N – 6° 37' 10,48"W



HOW TO GET THERE

The main road to Aracena is N-433 (Seville-Lisbon). Once there, look for the old path to Alájar; you will have to pass by the festival grounds and the town pool. At the pool, take the new tracing of the road HU-8105, and turn right when reaching the Aracena roundabout (avoiding the house developments).



PARKING

There is a car park with some 50 places at the start of the trail.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

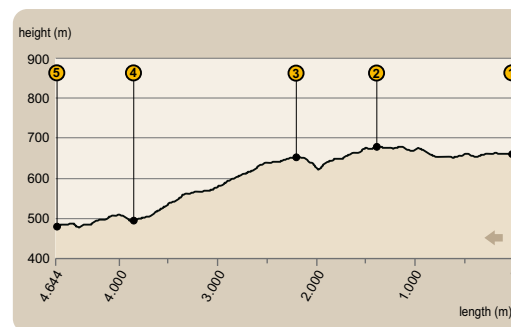
The main companies running regular bus routes in the area are Casal (tel. 954 99 92 90; www.autocaresbernardo.com) and Damas (tel. 959 25 69 00 ; www.damas-sa.es).



OTHER TRAILS

The natural park has an extensive offering of marked trails. The closest trails are two that begin in Aracena, in the direction of Fuenteheridos and Conrteconcepción, and other two that start in Linares de la Sierra (Alto del Chorrillo and Linares de la Sierra - Alájar).

PROFILE OF ROUTE



• MAXIMUM GRADIENT

201 m

• MAXIMUM HEIGHT

679 m

• MINIMUM HEIGHT

478 m

FOUNTAINS AND ABREUVOIRS



In the past, settlements in this area always were made next to springs and fountains, since people needed water to drink, to feed their livestock, to water their vegetable gardens and to build their industry. Although this is the case in many other places, in this area water is particularly relevant, and a relationship can be drawn between the abundance of fountains and spring and a settlement pattern which is hugely different from the rest of Sierra Morena and other mountain areas.



Historically, water-related Infrastructures have a high economic value since they are the cornerstone to almost all productive activities, and they also have an important social and symbolic value.

Fountains, abreuvoirs or washhouses were, and still are to a certain degree, spaces for meeting and socialising; they are often the centre of popular festivities or events or even play a key role in community identities.

Other water-related infrastructures, either public or private, were also significant, such as irrigation canals or pools, water mills, fulling mills, tanneries or spas.

HUELVA



Aracena Linares de la Sierra



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



Trail



Aracena Linares de la Sierra

Aracena

The trail starts just outside Aracena, on the road to Alájar. Once past the festival grounds, turn left towards the town pool. Then you will find yourself in the old path to Alájar; go ahead past the last houses, where the footpath starts (see [1] on the map). The first section runs by the road that leads to the same destination (HU8105). Urban elements and the vegetable gardens typical of the area, called ruedo serrano, gradually give way to a more rural environment, dominated by dehesas, one of the most characteristic landscapes of this Natural Park.



The trail goes up towards the San Ginés Hill (869 m), seen at the other side of the road. The lower hills at the other side of the valley show their northern slopes, which are more shadowed and humid and thus greener than the southern sides, as is the one that you are crossing. North and south sides have different vegetation due to their different climate conditions. Portuguese oaks are only found in the north side, as are other plants that thrive in shadow and coolness.

South side, north side

After walking for one and a half, you will leave a broad path to your left [2] (this path leads to the scattered houses seen across the slope and the valley.) A hundred metres further down the road, the trail turns left away from the road and goes gently downhill for about four hundred metres. It goes uphill again after entering the municipality of Linares de la Sierra.



This uphill section is short (barely two hundred metres) and is followed by a long section that goes gently downhill [3] towards the Plamencia stream. Now you will be in the north slope, technically called the ubac, so we can see the changes in vegetation. Northern slopes are characterised by dense undergrowth of ivy, common smilax, turpentine tree, common hawthorn, heather, myrtle or butcher's broom, which grows under Portuguese oaks, cork oaks and even some Pyrenean oaks. This environment is called a humid Mediterranean forest.



Making friends along the way

Know that you are being observed! Eurasian jays, true thrushes, great tits, great spotted woodpecker and many other birds have their nests in these trees. Birds of prey, such as Eurasian eagle-owls and cinereous vultures cross the skies in search of food. You will also be observed by mammals, although those are more difficult to spot and usually nocturnal. However, a trained eye may spot the traces of genet, Egyptian mongoose, wildcats, weasels, badgers or foxes who live in the forest.



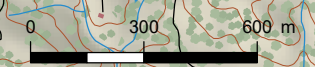
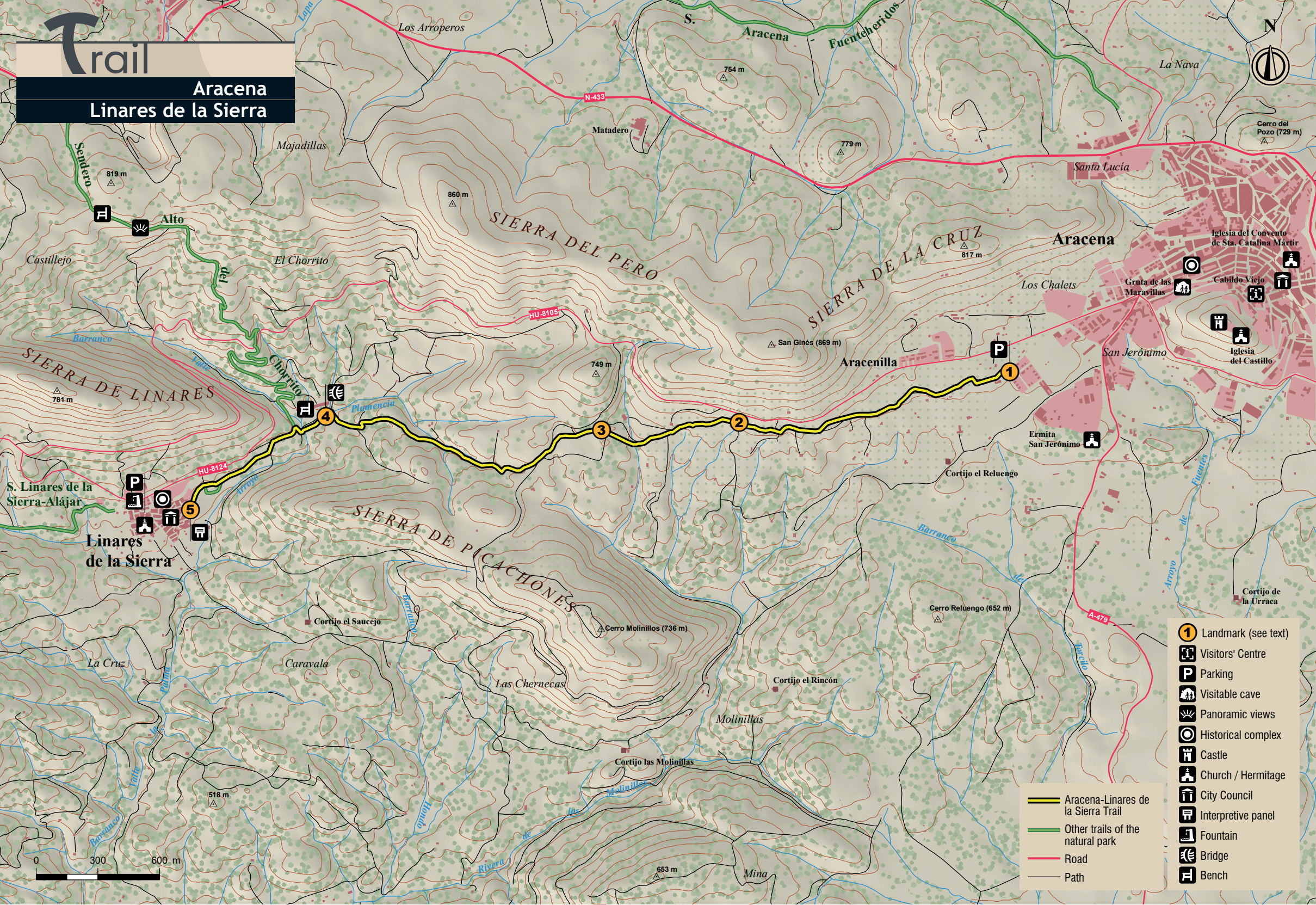
After one kilometre and a half you will reach the Plamencia stream [4], lined by typical riverside vegetation such as oleander and willows, and populated by water animals and amphibians, such as frogs, toads and salamanders. After crossing a river, you will walk along the riverside and shortly reach Linares de la Sierra, the end of the trail [5]. Just before, the trail continues along another path, in which an abreuvoir stands. You can avoid the road by taking the paved road.



The Sierra de Aracena has the most extensive network of towns and villages in the entire Sierra Morena. A dense network of roads and paths was built to connect these towns and villages, and it has mostly survived to this day, although its value is more cultural and historical than as an infrastructure. Walking this path between the main town of Sierra Morena, Aracena, and one of the prettiest villages, Linares de la Sierra, will give you an opportunity to appreciate the landscapes and cityscapes of yore, which do not seem too distant in the past thanks to its superb conservation.



Aracena Linares de la Sierra



- Landmark (see text)
- Visitors' Centre
- Parking
- Visitable cave
- Panoramic views
- Historical complex
- Castle
- Church / Hermitage
- City Council
- Interpretive panel
- Fountain
- Bridge
- Bench

- Aracena-Linares de la Sierra Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Road
- Path