

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

CÁDIZ
MÁLAGA



PARQUE NATURAL
Los Alcornocales

MORE INFORMATION

Natural Park Office Los Alcornocales
Pza. San Jorge n.º 1. Alcalá de los Gazules. Cádiz. Tel: 956 41 86 01

Cortes de la Frontera Visitor's Centre
Av. de la Democracia s/n. Cortes de la Frontera. Málaga. Tel. 952 15 45 99

ventanadelvisitante.



UNIÓN EUROPEA
Fondo Europeo Agrícola de Desarrollo Rural



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

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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

LENGTH (OUTWARD)

4,8 km

ESTIMATED TIME (OUTWARD)

3 hours

DIFFICULTY

Average

TYPE OF TRAIL

Path. Loose materials on the surface

LANDSCAPE / VEGETATION

Narrow and deep valleys (*canutos*), covered with gallery forests, cork oak and gall oak forests. Remains of ancient buildings and an anthropomorphic tomb. An area of ornithological interest with wide panoramic views of the mountains of Cadiz and Malaga.

SHADE

Frequent

SPECIAL AUTHORISATION

Necessary (nature park office)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Carry drinking water and wear suitable clothing and footwear. Check that the water from fountains is safe to drink. Cattle are common along this route. Fog can be an added difficulty to take into account. On selective deer hunting or general hunting days, the trail is closed, so it is advisable to contact the park office for more information.

PROVINCE / MUNICIPALITIES

Málaga / Cortes de la Frontera

SHEETS OF MTN MAP 1:50.000

1063 - Algar

START / END COORDINATES

36° 31' 45,79"N — 5° 35' 13,33"O

36° 30' 37,14"N — 5° 36' 28,64"O



HOW TO GET THERE

At km 56-57 of the CA-8201 road (Jimena de la Frontera-Puerto Galis), you will find the La Saucedá recreational centre (managed by the Town Council of Cortes de la Frontera), the starting point of the trail.



PARKING

There is a carpark with some 20 places at the start of the trail.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

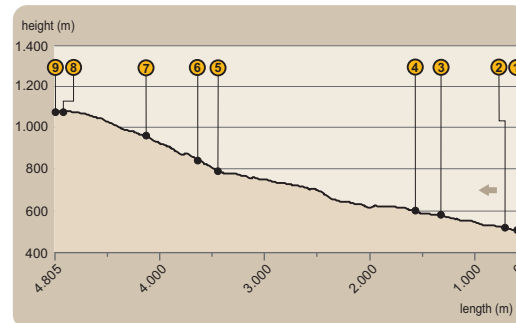
The principal company running regular bus routes in the area is Transportes Comes (tel. 902 19 92 08; www.tgcomes.es). The nearest train station is in Jimena de la Frontera (check services and timetables at www.renfe.es or tel. 902 24 02 02)



OTHER TRAILS

From the recreational area of La Saucedá another trail of interest starts: the Laguna del Moral trail, and coinciding with its end there are two others: Travesía del Aljibe and Subida al Aljibe, both of which require authorisation to walk them.

PROFILE OF ROUTE



MAXIMUM GRADIENT

574 m

MAXIMUM HEIGHT

1.079 m

MINIMUM HEIGHT

505 m



FROM THE SUMMITS

If the abundant fog and strong winds allow us to do so, from the Aljibe we will enjoy wide views. To the south and west we can see several towns in Cádiz such as Benalup-Casas Viejas, Medina Sidonia, Alcalá de los Gazules, Arcos de la Frontera, or Algar.

To the north, the impressive mass of the Sierra del Pinar, with El Torreón as the highest peak in the province of Cádiz. A little further to the left we can see the Serranía de Ronda, where the peaks of another natural park, the Sierra de las Nieves, stand out, with the Torrecilla as the highest peak in the province of Malaga.



To the east, an army radar station, the Rock of Gibraltar and the mountains of northern Morocco.

The vegetation, for its part, offers us a whole range of colours and textures that allow us to differentiate the different types of forests, the *bujeos*, the countryside and the cultivated land: a large part of the extension of this protected area of almost one hundred and seventy thousand hectares, which straddles the provinces of Cadiz and Malaga. It is also an excellent place to watch the flight of some of the eighteen species of birds of prey in the park.

CÁDIZ-MÁLAGA



La Saucedá



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



La Saucedá

A moving start

Our route starts right within the recreational area of La Saucedá (check [1] on the map). Immersed in the forest of gall oaks, cork oaks and associated scrubland [2], the path runs through the Pasadallana gorge. After the ruins of the Medio mill, we reach the village of La Saucedá [3].

Beyond a bridge, which we must cross, we will come across the ruins of an ancient hermitage [4]. At the end, after a gate, we will look for a forest track on the left.



Due to the hiddenness of this place and its difficult and controllable access, La Saucedá was a refuge for bandits, with Pedro Machuca's gang, consisting of three hundred men, being the first to leave a documentary record, in the 16th century. During the Civil War, and suspected as a hiding place for Republican supporters, the village was severely punished by Franco's troops.

The path climbs through a shady forest of gall oaks, cork oaks and colourful rhododendrons. The murmur of the water, which we will soon reach, indicates the proximity of gorges full of mosses, bright green ferns and riverside vegetation.



From the river to the peaks

Afterwards, the track gives way to a path with frequent footprints, which soon takes us under a vertical wall next to the river, and later leads us to another forest track, marked by a water reservoir.

Following this track to the right, in about ten minutes we will take a path to the left, marked out by the natural park, next to a small waterfall [5].

The path now climbs steeply uphill, and is often muddy during the rainy season. As we gain altitude, the views invite us to stop and enjoy the landscape [6].



The rhododendron, here known as ojaranzo, is one of the most emblematic shrubs in the gorges and canyons of the natural park. Its flowering, in pinkish bunches, between March and May, is an added treat for hikers.



Continuing up the path, we can see to our right some large cliffs, a place known as Puerto Oscuro [7]. This geological formation divides the municipality of Cortes de la Frontera, where we are, with the mountains of Jerez de la Frontera.

El Aljibe, the end of the journey

The path widens and the vegetation changes with the altitude: the cork oaks give way to rockroses, heathers and some oaks, relegated to this altitude. This is the domain of elusive mammals that roam the slopes.



We will find a wire fence that delimits the provinces of Cádiz and Málaga, before visiting the Pileta de la Reina [8], excavated in the sandstone.

The next rocky promontory, crowned by a geodesic point, contains the Pico del Aljibe [9], at an altitude of one thousand ninety-two metres, where we can enjoy the beautiful views over the natural park and the frequent flight of birds of prey, before resuming the return journey.



Trail

La Sauceda



- 1** Landmark (see text)
- P** Parking
- Panoramic views
- Archaeological remains
- Shrine
- Site of ethnological interest
- Recreational area
- Spring
- Bridge
- Camping area
- Shelter
- Hostel

- La Sauceda Trail
- Other trails of the natural park
- Road
- Path

