



Huelva

Practical Provincial Guide / Map



Routes Huelva

Art and Culture Handicrafts Festivals and Traditions Gastronomy

The Coastal Route

From the mouth of the **Guadiana** to the mouth of the **Guadalquivir** Huelva's **Costa de la Luz** offers **122 kilometres** of almost uninterrupted beaches of **white sand**, bordered by **pine woods**. Apart from the **luminosity** of the natural light and the **mild climate**, the coast offers an unusually unspoilt natural environment which is illustrated by the large number of officially **protected areas**: the Marismas de Isla Cristina, Marismas del Piedras y Flecha del Rompido, Los Enebrales, Marismas del Odiel, Doñana... The 11 municipalities of the route (Aljaraque, Almonte, Ayamonte, Cartaya, Huelva, Isla Cristina, Lepe, Moguer, Palos de la Frontera, Punta Umbría and Villablanca) offer an **artistic heritage** which reflects the **profound history** of these lands and can only add to their list of attractions.

which are known as the **Columbus Sites** due to their decisive role in the discovery of the **New World**. Witnesses to this great event are the **Convent of Santa María in La Rábida**, the **Church of San Jorge y La Fontanilla** in Palos, and the **convents of St. Clara and San Francisco** in Moguer. Other interesting places include the **University of La Rábida**, the **Las Carabelas quay**, and the **Celestino Mutis Botanical Park**.



The Condado Route

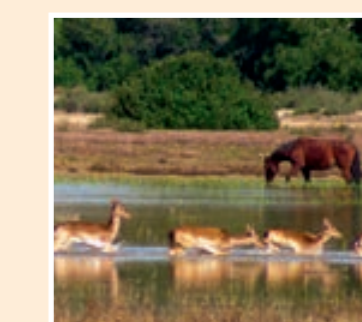
From the ancient **walled city of Niebla**, to the beautiful **bodegas** which produce the **renowned local wines**, and **Doñana**, with its hamlet of **El Rocío**, the **El Condado** area offers the visitor a wide range of possibilities. The prosperity of the past is clearly evident in historic places such as **Niebla** with its wonderful monuments such as the **Castle of the Guzmanes** or the **churches of San Martín and Santa María de la Granada**. There is no doubt however that the most attractive feature of the area is the **Doñana Natural and National Park** which has been designated a **World Heritage Site**, and a **Biosphere**



The Route of the Columbus Sites

Moguer (birthplace of Nobel Prize Winner Juan Ramón Jiménez), **Palos de la Frontera**, and **La Rábida** are the towns which go to make up the unique areas

Reserve, in recognition of its enormous ecological value. At the heart of the park is the hamlet of **El Rocío**, which, each year during Pentecost, attracts approximately a million pilgrims, making it the **largest religious pilgrimage** in Spain.



The Andévalo Route

The Andévalo area stretches from the **sierra** to the **sea**, on the eastern bank of the river **Guadiana**. This land, which has always been a mixture of **hill-side meadows and mining areas**, has two **key elements** which make it so attractive: **fresh air and water**. Old **wind-mills** such as that of **La Divisa**, in **Cabezas Rubias**, have now been joined by the modern **wind farms** which are dotted around the landscape, whilst water has a route of its own: the **Guadiana route**. Heading upstream from Ayamonte, we come across the small port of **Sanlúcar de Guadiana**, which precedes the old **mining port of La Laja**. As well as the natural environment, with its **rich variety of wildlife**, there is also the **architecture** of the **white villages** with their local **gastronomy** and unusual **fiestas**, as well as their deeply rooted traditions such as the **fandango**, a type of song which is particularly popular in **Alosno** and **Calañas**.



The Route of the Mines

This route passes through the municipalities of the **Andévalo mining area**: Berrocal, Campofrío, El Campillo, La Granada de Río Tinto, Minas de Río Tinto, Nerva, and Zalamea la Real. The mineral wealth of the area is the central theme and a visit to the **Río Tinto Mining Park** is highly recommended. Its attractions include: the fascinating **Mining Museum; Corta Atalaya**, the

biggest open cast mine in Europe; the **tourist train** passing through the mine works; and the **Peña del Hierro** mine. One mustn't forget that the mining operation was in the hands of British companies and their time here is still clearly visible in the **English barrios** such as **Bellavista**, as well as the **Presbyterian chapel**, and the **English Club**. This has its own significance as it was the **first place** both **football and golf** was played in the Iberian Peninsula. As an interesting footnote, **NASA** is currently investigating the similarity between the area around Río Tinto and the planet **Mars**.



The Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Route

The Sierra de Huelva, part of which comprises the **Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Nature Park**, offers a wide range of attractive, colourful landscapes, and surrounds the towns of Cortegana and Aracena. The **chestnuts, holm oaks**, and **cork trees** form the natural habitat of a wide range of species, some of which, like the wildcat, the genet, ferret, or otter, are in danger of extinction. There are also a significant number of **birds of prey**, including the black and griffon vultures. A well-established **network of hundreds of kilo-metres of sign-posted walks** allows the visitor to feel part of this rich natural environment. In terms of **historical buildings** the towns and villages all have much to offer and the **medieval castles of Santa Olalla del Cala, Cumbres Mayores, Aracena, and Cortegana** still stand watch over the sierra. The gastronomy is notable particularly for the delicious **ham** which is produced all over the sierra and is protected by the Jamón de Huelva Denomination of Origin.



Naturally a **mixed society**, Huelva has always been both an **importer and exporter of cultures**. Throughout history, many different civilisations have been attracted by the wealth of possibilities this land has to offer. Thus the **Tartessians, Phoenicians, Romans, Visigoths, Moors**, and **Christians** have all left their mark, for example, on the **city walls of Niebla**, the **Mosque of Almonaster**, and the ancient **mine-workings of Riotinto**.



If there is one **historical event** which is indelibly linked to the province it is the **discovery of America**. The **first voyage by Columbus** to the New World was planned and organised in **La Rábida** and many of the **brave seafarers** who manned the ships came from **Palos de la Frontera** and **Moguer**, most notably the **Pinzones** and **Niño brothers**. Around these towns, the **places and monuments** which witnessed those events, have now become part of the **Route of the Columbus Sites**.



Traditional crafts in Huelva are notable for the production of **goods and implements** associated with **farming and the rearing of livestock**. Thus, the making of country style boots, saddles and riding tackle, cowbells, and **earthenware products** for cooking and storing water are all important craft industries.



The town of **Valverde del Camino** for example, apart from producing **boots** which have become famous all over the world, is also known for making traditional **cowbells** from sheets of iron and brass.



The **equestrian** world plays an important role in the survival of **craft industries** and products such as saddles, reins, and leather chaps continue to be made in the province. Similarly **metal spurs and bits** are still being produced in **Cortegana**, which has the only two forges dedicated to these products still operating in Spain. The **El Rocío** pilgrimage is important for these crafts which



is why there are a number of workshops producing horse accessories in the nearby towns of Almonte and La Palma del Condado. Another craft which continues to thrive is that of **barrel making**, to serve the **wine industry**, particularly in the town of **Bollullos del Condado**.



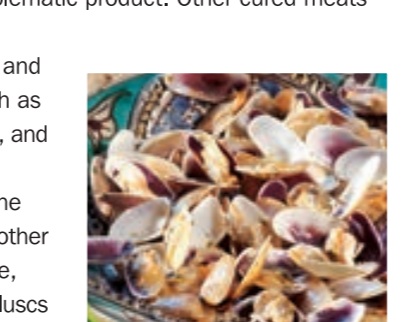
is also very much alive in the province, with an endless range of different styles depending on its place of origin. Prestigious and successful **cultural events** include the **Ibero-American Film Festival in Huelva**, the **Theatre and Dance Festival Castle of Niebla**, and the **Classical Music Festival in Ayamonte**. There is also a **Medieval Festival in Cortegana**, whilst the **Ibero-American Forum in La Rábida** programmes a number of events throughout the year.

Ancient traditions and more modern celebrations combine to make up the festive calendar of Huelva, but the most important event is undoubtedly the hugely popular **pilgrimage to El Rocío**, in the heart of Doñana. **Easter Week** is also of great importance and the processions in **Huelva**, **Moguer**, and **Ayamonte** are particularly notable.

Other interesting and unusual festivities include the **Crosses in Berrocal**, the **Los Jarritos water battle in Galaroza**, the **sword dance in La Puebla de Guzmán**, and the **pilgrimages of the Virgen de los Angeles in la Peña de Arias Montano** and **San Benito Abad in El Cerro del Andévalo**. The ritual surrounding the **slaughter of the pigs** is another tradition which remains popular in areas such as the **Sierra**. The art of **flamenco** is also very much alive in the province, with an endless range of different styles depending on its place of origin. Prestigious and successful **cultural events** include the **Ibero-American Film Festival in Huelva**, the **Theatre and Dance Festival Castle of Niebla**, and the **Classical Music Festival in Ayamonte**. There is also a **Medieval Festival in Cortegana**, whilst the **Ibero-American Forum in La Rábida** programmes a number of events throughout the year.



Diversity is the essential feature of Huelva's cuisine, with a combination of seafood and products from the sierra which means that **shellfish** and **ham** are the two **most important ingredients**. The sierra is famous for its **Iberian pigs** with ham bearing the **Jamón de Huelva Denomination of Origin**



being by far the most emblematic product. Other cured meats include **cañas de lomo**, **chorizos**, and **morcones** and there are fresh meats such as **solomillo**, **presa**, **secretó**, and **pluma**. Another delicious product of the sierra are the mushrooms. The sea, the other great larder of the province, yields up shellfish and molluscs including the delicious and much heralded **white prawns**, **king prawns**, as well as **small, donnax**, and **razor shell clams**. Fish such as **tuna**, **monkfish**, and **shade fish** are also landed and no meal table in Huelva is complete without the famous **choco** or cuttlefish. The **wines from El Condado**, young, fruity, and generous, are highly renowned, as is the **vinegar**, and both have their own **Denominations of Origin**. **Citrus fruits**, which are widely grown and are of exceptional quality, are a main ingredient in the traditional **cakes and pastries**.



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- 189.686 kg of wood

Huelva

Covering an area of some 10,000 square kilometres from open beaches to lush sierras, Huelva marks the frontier between Spain and Portugal. It enjoys an agreeable climate, with mild temperatures all year round, and the quality of the light is very special in itself. With a rich, varied landscape, its traditions and gastronomy make Huelva a unique destination, a place to delve into a land of discoveries.

The improvement in communications has contributed to increasing the number of visitors who have come to appreciate the many attractions of the province. The nearby international airports in Seville and Faro, and the excellent road and rail networks have brought it much closer to the rest of Spain, Europe, and the world as a whole.



- Provincial Capital
- Town/city of over 100,000 inhabitants
- Town of from 20,000 to 100,000 inhabitants
- Town of from 5,000 to 20,000 inhabitants
- Town of less than 5,000 inhabitants
- Tourist area
- Airport
- Yachting Harbour
- Trading Port
- Dual Carriageway
- Motorway
- "A" road
- "B" road
- Local road
- High Speed Railway
- Railway
- Tourist Information
- World Heritage City
- World Heritage Complex
- Moguer Town declared of Monumental Interest
- Museum
- Castle/Walls
- Civil Monument
- Religious Monument
- Megalthic Monument
- Archaeological Remains
- Parador
- Tourist Town
- Spa
- Ski Station
- Campsite
- Nature Park
- Panoramic View
- Cave
- Mountain Pass
- Water Park

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Nature and Active Tourism

Nature has been generous to the province of Huelva and in fact a third of it comprises protected natural areas. These include: the **Natural and National Parks of Doñana**, which make up the **largest single protected area in Spain**, and thanks to the

variety of flora and fauna are considered to be amongst the most important in Europe as a whole; the **Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Nature Park**, which contains the spectacular **Gruta de las Maravillas** cave system; and

eight other natural areas of great ecological value - three natural reserves and five natural monuments. **These spaces are truly unique natural environments with a combination of marshlands, dunes, wooded hillsides, and gallery forests** which are home to emblematic species such as the **Iberian lynx**, the **imperial eagle**, the **black stork**, and the **black vulture**.

The **beaches of Huelva**, occupying some 120 kilometres of coastline are another major attraction, and the province has one of the **lowest densities of coastal development in Spain**, which guarantees that visitors can enjoy some remarkably **unspoilt beaches**.

The range of different landscapes means that the scope for outdoor pursuits is almost unlimited. There are **ten different marinas and sailing clubs** for lovers of water sports whilst for those who prefer **walking** there is an **extensive network** to cater for all tastes. There are some **700 kilometres**

of tracks and paths in the **Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Nature Park** and there are also three **green corridors**: those of the river Guadiana, the water mills, and the coast. Other activities such as **routes on horseback** or

hunting are available in the **Andévalo** area. There are a considerable number of **golf courses** and the range of facilities is expanding to cater for a demand which is growing thanks to the **perfect climate**, which allows golfers

to practise their sport all year round, and the **wonderful surroundings** in which the courses are situated.

Festivals of National Tourist Interest

- ALÁJAR** - Pilgrimage of Nuestra Señora de los Angeles
- ALMONTE** - Pilgrimage of El Rocío
- AYAMONTE** - Easter Week
- BONARES** - May Crosses celebrations
- CORTELAZOR LA REAL** - Pilgrimage of Nuestra Señora Coronada
- EL CERRO DEL ANDÉVALO** - Pilgrimage of San Benito Abad
- HIGUERA DE LA SIERRA** - Parade of the Three Kings
- HUELVA** - Fiestas for the patron saint San Sebastián - Easter Week - Fiestas in celebration of Columbus - Fiestas for the patron saint, the Virgen de la Cinta
- LA PALMA DEL CONDADO** - Real Feria and Harvest Festivals
- PUEBLA DE GUZMÁN** - Pilgrimage in honour of the Virgen de la Peña

Tourist Offices

ALMONTE OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Alonso Pérez, 1 ☎ 959 450 616	EL ROCÍO OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Andá, de la Canaliega, s/n ☎ 959 443 808	ISLANTILLA OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Riofrio, s/n ☎ 959 486 198	MOGUER OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Castillo, s/n ☎ 959 371 853
ARACENA OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Pozo de la Nieve, s/n ☎ 959 128 206	HUELVA OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO DE ANDALUCÍA Jesús Nazareno, 21 ☎ 959 002 000	LA PALMA DEL CONDADO OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Plaza de España, 14 ☎ 959 402 319	NIEBLA OFICINA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO Campo Castillo, s/n ☎ 959 363 851
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