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Alcántara - Carbajo





In Alcántara, supplemented by its very important historical legacy, we start the eighth stage of the *Ciclosenda del Tajo* (Tajo Cycle Route), which runs a few kilometres from the longest river of the peninsula to reach Carbajo, passing first through Membrío and its anthropomorphic tombs. From this stage we are left looking at the magnificent surroundings which will accompany us along the way: the Tajo International Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, the Llanos de Alcántara y Brozas and the Sierra de San Pedro mountains.

What will you find on this route?

This first part of the itinerary runs south of the Tajo International Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, where we can see one of the most important megalithic sites in Europe, made up of more than 100 dolmens and menhirs such as *the Cabezo*, as well as enjoying breathtaking views of the Tagus, the Roman bridge of Alcántara and the reservoir dam, particularly beautiful from the Balcon del Mundo viewpoint.

On dirt trails, we will cross the Llanos de Alcántara y **Brozas**, a steppe area between the Salor and Tajo rivers. The route continues between holm oaks and rockroses which will take us to **Membrío**.

Once there, we will visit the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Church and, on the outskirts, the San Bernabé Chapel, a small church with paintings in its interior. To the south, there are very interesting anthropomorphic tombs measuring 2 metres in length and 60 centimetres in depth excavated in the rock. They are probably Visigothic, although their exact origin is not known.

We will continue to **Carbajo**, cycling along trails with the San Pedro mountain range as a backdrop, another area belonging to the Natura 2000 Network.

Tajo International Transboundary Biosphere Reserve



This natural park of more than 25,000 hectares runs across eleven municipalities, between the Roman bridge of Alcántara and the Cedillo Reservoir Dam, forming a solitary extraordinary nature route.

An area of great significance thanks to the diversity of its flora and fauna. It is easy to spot the black vulture or the imperial eagle, which is why it is classified as a *Special Protection Areas for Birds, SPA* and Site of Community Interest. The valuable historical heritage of the area is added to its imposing landscapes to make this reserve a unique natural park on the border with Portugal, a country where it will continue to stretch across with the same characteristics but different management.



