

'Make My Day' Special

EXPERIENCES THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

The Geopark cannot be summarised with just ten experiences; if you come, you'll see what we're talking about. The time has come to put what we have learned into practice – we've chosen them for you sure that you'll have a blast. It's time to travel!

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

01

THE MONASTERY OF GUADALUPE: YOU CAN'T NOT GO

Coming to the region and not visiting Guadalupe is punished with a thousand years in Purgatory. Well, that may not be true, but it's hard to forgive something like that. Do not miss the two cloisters, the museum of miniature books, and the sacristy (paintings by Zurbarán).

02

COSTANAZA MINE AND MINING MUSEUM

I'm a miner... and not in the Sierra Morena Mountain range but instead in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. Discover the area's rich past in mining operations in these two essential visits.

03

WALKING THE STREETS OF LA PUEBLA DE GUADALUPE

Guadalupe doesn't just live from its monastery. There is a self-guided tour that will take you to the most authentic corners of this town, declared a historical ensemble site.

04

BIRDS AND MUSHROOMS

Two of the best things to do in nature. Gathering mushrooms and watching birds. Excellent!

05

CASTILLO DE CABAÑAS AND VILLUERCAS PEAK

In addition to belonging to the select club of geosites in the Geopark, these are two great viewpoints to see the Appalachian terrain, watch birds, and – of course – have a snack before heading back down.

06

CASTAÑAR CAVE

A "must" because of its mysterious and eccentric aragonite "flowers". Do not forget to reserve your visit in advance.

07

CAMINO NATURAL DE VILLUERCAS

All roads lead to Guadalupe. This one can also take you, but the best thing is that it links the greenways of La Jara and Las Vegas del Guadiana.

08

ÁNIMAS CARNIVAL

One of the region's most curious carnivals. For one week, Villar del Pedroso celebrates with theatrical performances, popular dances, music, and gastronomic samplers – a military and religious festival that dates back to the 17th century.

09

VISIT A WINERY OR AN OIL MILL

Get to know the wineries that are affiliated with the Ribera del Guadiana Protected Designation of Origin and enjoy their extraordinary wines. The oils are not far behind either.

10

SIT AROUND THE TABLE!

Black pudding from Guadalupe, cheeses, honey, and PDO wine, "migas" (a traditional breadcrumb-based dish), lamb stews... Isn't your mouth watering?

GEOTOURISM

THE APPALACHIAN LANDSCAPE

Villuercas, Ibores, and Jara have a terrain similar to that of the Appalachian Mountains of the United States, which take their name from a native tribe. More than 500 million years of geological history that come oozing out in the form of synclines, anticlines, faults, and stone formations. Is all that Greek to you? Well, it's not Greek... it's Appalachian, remember. And if you don't know about those things, don't worry. There are marked routes designed to be done on foot or by MTB for you to learn to speak the unique language of these unique geological features.

www.geoparquevilluercas.es

If you want to get an idea of the immensity of this place, it is best to go up to the Villuercas Peak. From there you will be able to take it all in, from the synclines of the Viejas River and Santa Lucía to the anticline of the Almonte River.

THE GEOPARK IN DATA

50 Geosites

05 Geological routes

10 Information centres

TOURIST EXPERIENCES



CABAÑAS CASTLE

In addition to belonging to the select club of geosites, this castle is a great viewpoint from which to see the Appalachian terrain and the birds of the geopark.



Cañamero Visitors' Centre

Your first contact with this region. They will help you to interpret the landscape and learn how to enjoy it, featuring a great number of fossils to see and geological maps of the area.



Castañar de Ibor Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre

The visit to the caves is by appointment. If you can't get an appointment, the Interpretation Centre will teach you all about this treasure of the Geopark.



Logrosán Mining museum

This was an important mining area for cassiterite and phosphorite. Review its history and enjoy the mineral display on a free guided tour.



Navatrasierra Fossil Interpretation Centre

Meet the first inhabitants of Villuercas from 450 million years ago, and see the area's interesting collection of fossils.

BIRDWATCHING

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE TIPS FOR WATCHING BIRDS

01 ON YOUR OWN

So don't forget your binoculars and your bird guide and if you don't have them, don't worry; you can hire one of the many local guides who will show you where to look.

02 PARAJE DE LOS HOYCIOS

We will find the source of the Guadalupe river. Peregrine falcon, Egyptian vulture and griffon vulture nest on the rocks.

03 RISCO VILLUERCA

With its 1,601 meters, it is a perfect vantage point to observe the Appalachian relief and birds such as the red-billed chough, the golden eagle, the peregrine falcon, the red rock and common accentors. A 360° vision.

04 RIVER GUADALUPEJO

Area declared as an ecological and biodiversity corridor. You'll find the great spotted woodpecker, the European green woodpecker, the black stork, Eurasian eagle-owl, golden eagle, and peregrine falcon.

ESTRECHO DE LA PEÑA VIEWPOINT

A spectacular rocky area full of quartzite where you can observe a great colony of griffon vultures, in addition to the black stork, Eurasian eagle-owl, golden eagle, and peregrine falcon.

MTB, CROSSING THE GEOPARK

You can cross the Geopark from north to south or vice versa and connect the Villuercas natural path with that of the Tagus. Itinerary: Bohonal de Ibor - Guadalupe. Length: 61 km.

ROYAL ROAD OF GUADALUPE GR 119

This is the original way from Madrid (or from Titulcia and Aranjuez) to the Monastery of Guadalupe if you are travelling on foot or by bicycle. Its last 63 km run through the geopark – from Puente del Arzobispo ("Archbishop Bridge") to the monastery.

THE TRAILS OF THE GEOPARK

Top Selection

01 THE DISCOVERERS TRAIL

This trail unites the municipalities of Cáceres and Trujillo to the Monastery of Guadalupe and its monastery, travelling a total of 133 km.

02 HIERONYMITES TRAIL

It runs from the Yuste Monastery and enters the geopark by means of Bohonal de Ibor, finally culminating in another Hieronymite monastery: the Guadalupe Monastery.

03 THE ISABELLA I OF CASTILE ROUTE

Measuring 13.7 km and connecting Cañamero and Guadalupe, The El Abuelo Chestnut tree can be found along this path a tree in its last cycle of life.

PLEASE, COME IN WITHOUT KNOCKING.

FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR CULTURE.

"Not everything in the Geopark is rock – a word and a concept very popular with geologists – there is also bone, wood, and a lot of stone. You can choose to do a route that includes Cabañas del Castillo, Berzocana, Guadalupe, Villar del Pedroso, and the Castros fortress."



Tracey Jones
Travel influencer

This tireless traveller is visiting all the UNESCO Global Geoparks. She has been kind enough to answer our survey:

A PICTURE
The views from the Castle in Castillo de Cabañas; they were just incredible.

AN UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTER
Guadalupe is a unique place in the world; I'm telling you, I've seen many (winks).

A SPOTIFY PLAYLIST
This is a Geopark rock, rock, and more rock.

A "MUST"
Guadalupe is a unique place in the world; I'm telling you, I've seen many (winks).

BERZOCANA

In the Church of San Juan Bautista ("St. John the Baptist"), in Berzocana, the remains of St. Fulgentius and St. Florentina are kept – these are highly venerated saints, siblings of St. Isidore of Seville and Theodosia, the wife of King Lluivigild.

EVENTS AND MUSEUMS

"A very noteworthy event is Hispanic Day in Guadalupe, a Festival of Tourist Interest in Extremadura attended by hundreds of horsemen from all over Spain."



Pilar Armero
Journalist and Blogger

EUROPEAN GEOPARKS WEEK

A geological week full of activities all around the geopark: routes, workshops, music, and guided tours.

1

GEOPARK VISITORS' CENTRE

CAÑAMERO Personalised information for you to get to know the Geopark's attractions before going out to explore it.

2

ÁNIMAS CARNIVAL INTERPRETATION CENTRE

VILLAR DEL PEDROSO An array of exhibition materials tell about the origin, essence, and development of this unique carnival doing so in an entertaining way

HISPANIC DAY FESTIVAL

Do you speak our language? It doesn't matter, celebrate festival on horseback or on foot in Guadalupe. And remember, on October 12 you have a date with the Queen of Hispanic Culture.

GASTRONOMY

VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA: GRUB'S UP!

Breakfasts

Try the "migas", they're considered a super-food. For any breakfast or lunch.

"Muédago" Pastries

Known as "muédago", "nuégano" and "candelilla" pastries. They are very typical of the region and are made with flour, eggs, honey, anise, and orange extract.

Star Products

Here's the shopping list: sweets, honey, PDO cheeses and wine, olive oil, mushrooms, and black pudding. Is your mouth watering?

Seasonal Mushrooms.

The entire region is a true mycological paradise: chanterelle, boletus, Caesar's mushroom... I never want to leave!

Partridges, venison, and wild boar

These are game dishes. In stews and roasts, these are full of flavour. Olive oil, garlic, water, and salt. To the table, please. Mmm...!

"Pumpkin Tails"

*NOTE: Accompany these dishes with blood sausage from Guadalupe. A mega-star.

Special Super-food

Protected Designation of Origin Villuercas-Ibores-Jara honey, of course. Come and get it!

ENJOY!

UNESCO Global Geopark Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

TOURIST MAP

It's happening!

10 AMAZING EXPERIENCES!

THE WHOLE GEOPARK

UNESCO TERRITORY
GUADALUPE MONASTERY

50 GEOSITES TO VISIT
+10 APPROVED ROUTES

English

10 experiences that will change your life: it's time to live like never before

Tourist map: Trails, information points, museums, bird watching...

Province of Cáceres

Province of Cáceres

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Province of Cáceres

Province of Cáceres

Province of Cáceres

GEOPARQUE VILLUERCAS-IBORES-JARA

UNESCO Global Geopark Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

Meeting point

Meeting point

Meeting point

Meeting point

Meeting point

Meeting point

Meeting point

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

www.turismocaceres.org

UNESCO Global Geopark Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

Tourist map

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara is a treasure of nature to the east of the Province of Cáceres. It shares its northern border with the Campo Arañuelo region, its eastern border with the Province of Toledo, in neighbouring Castile-La Mancha, its southern border with the Province of Badajoz, and to the west is the region of Miajadas-Trujillo. It is an area of mountains and valleys declared a Global Geopark by UNESCO due to the international value of its geological heritage. The mountainous relief stands out therein, Appalachian in nature, having begun to form about 300 million years ago, folding in materials that hid fossils and the history of the Earth from 300 million years earlier.

But the Geopark is not only a space for geology experts, the interpretation centres, routes, and guides explain this unique and spectacular landscape to all visitors. In addition, the region has monumental complexes such as the Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

The oak and chestnut forests, as well as the rocks, are home to numerous species of birds that make this region a place of special ornithological interest. And to round off your days in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara, you must try the local gastronomic delights: honey, cheese, and wine with Designations of Origin, game meats, and the excellent black pudding from Guadalupe.

"The Geopark has it all: terrestrial energy in the mountains, placidity in the valleys, and a certain evocation of childhood in the villages".

POINTS OF INTEREST

Interpretation / Information Centres

- 01 Villuercas-Ibores-Jara Geopark Visitors' Reception Centre
- 02 Guadalupe Tourism Office
- 03 Kilns of La Calera Interpretation Centre
- 04 El Silo Ethnographic Museum
- 05 Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre
- 06 Sierra de las Villuercas and Guadarranque Valley SPA Interpretation Centre
- 07 Castañar de Ibor Cave Interpretation Centre
- 08 Costanaza Mine Interpretation Centre
- 09 Vicente Sos Baynat Geological and Mining Museum
- 10 Fossil Interpretation Centre
- 11 Ánimas Carnival Interpretation Centre

Places of Cultural Interest

- 01 Church of San Juan Bautista
- 02 Guadalupe Historical Ensemble Sites
- 03 Sta. M^a de Guadalupe Royal Monastery
- 04 Humilladero Hermitage
- 05 Mirabel Farm
- 06 Valdefuentes Farm
- 07 Cabañas Castle
- 08 Castros Fortress
- 09 Parish Church of San Pedro
- 10 Snow Pit

Trails

- 01 La Breña Trail (SL-CC 42) Circular / 7,0 km
- 02 Berzocana Rock Paintings Trail (SL-CC 254) Linear / 3,6 km (round trip)
- 03 Isabella I of Castile Trail (PR-CC 242) Linear / 13,7 km (one way)
- 04 Strait of the Peña Trail (PR-CC 243) Linear / 12,2 km (round trip)
- 05 La Ortiñuela Trail (PR-CC 144) Linear / 10,8 km (round trip)
- 06 Los Montes de Toledo Trail (GR 212) Linear / 11,9 km (one way) / Alía - Guadalupe
- 07 Alfonso Onceno Trail (GR 117) Linear / 14,9 km (one way) / Navezuelas - Guadalupe

Otros itinerarios

- 15 Apreturas del Almonte Geosite (20)
- 16 Castañar Cave Geosite (27)
- 17 Chorrera de Calabazas Geosite (28)
- 18 Pedroso Gorge Geosite (42)

At the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, there are 50 identified geosites. Here are a few of them that you cannot miss. (The numbering in parentheses corresponds with the particular nomenclature of the 50 geosites)

- 09 Villuercas Peak Geosite (1)
- 10 Costanaza Mine Geosite (3)
- 11 Strait of the Peña Amarilla Geosite (7)
- 12 Canchos de las Sábanas Geosite (10)
- 13 Almonte River Source Geosite (11)
- 14 Rucias Gorge Geosite (12)

Are you here?

Download all the Materials



The Geopark has it all. Fifty geosites, interpretation centres, routes, and guides explain this unique and spectacular landscape to all visitors. In addition, is the Royal Monastery of Guadalupe, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Do you accept the terms and conditions?

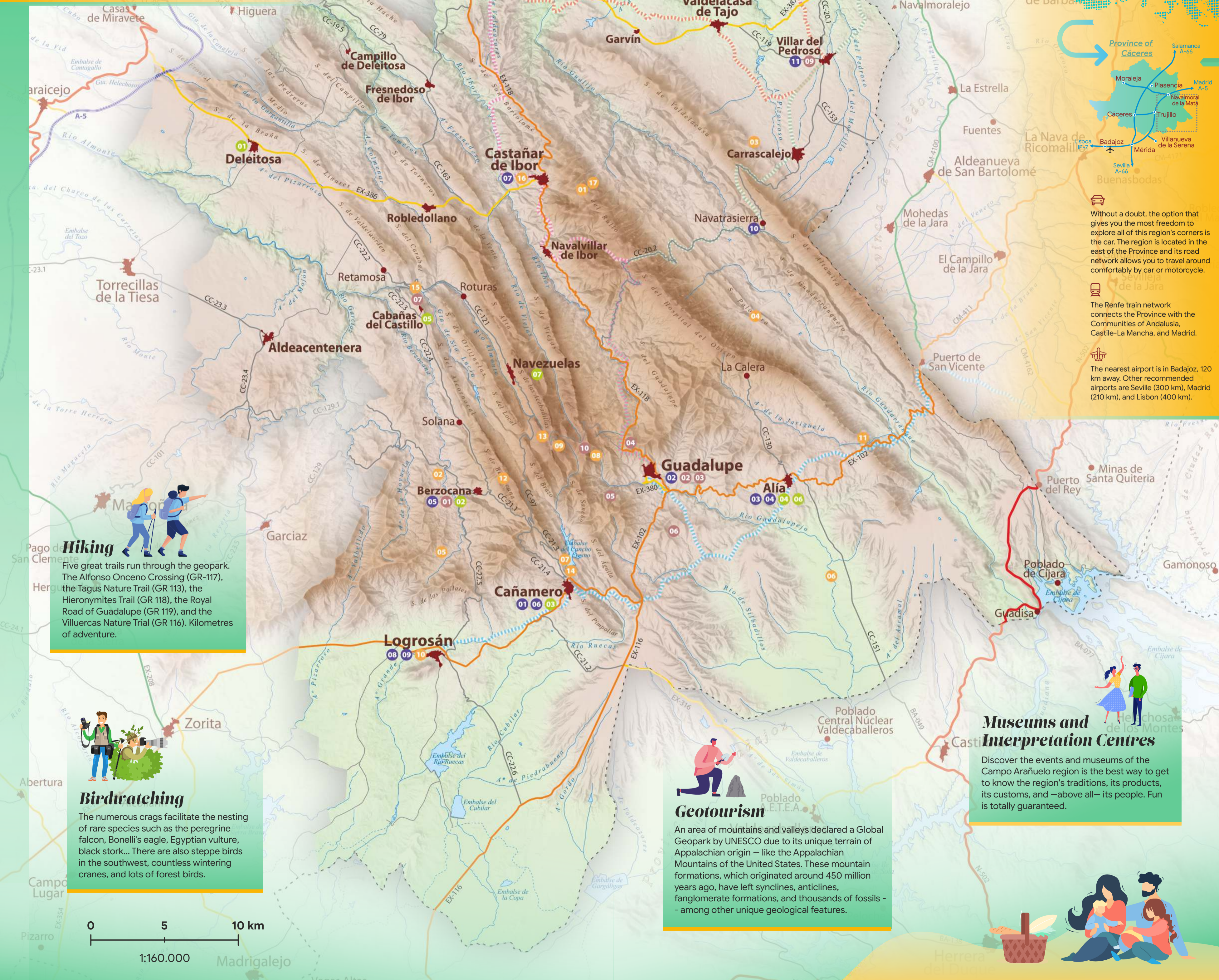
Situation Map



Without a doubt, the option that gives you the most freedom to explore all of this region's corners is the car. The region is located in the east of the Province and its road network allows you to travel around comfortably by car or motorcycle.

The Renfe train network connects the Province with the Communities of Andalusia, Castile-La Mancha, and Madrid.

The nearest airport is in Badajoz, 120 km away. Other recommended airports are Seville (300 km), Madrid (210 km), and Lisbon (400 km).



Hiking

Five great trails run through the geopark. The Alfonso Onceno Crossing (GR-117), the Tagus Nature Trail (GR 113), the Hieronymites Trail (GR 118), the Royal Road of Guadalupe (GR 119), and the Villuercas Nature Trail (GR 116). Kilometres of adventure.

Birdwatching

The numerous crags facilitate the nesting of rare species such as the peregrine falcon, Bonelli's eagle, Egyptian vulture, black stork... There are also steppe birds in the southwest, countless wintering cranes, and lots of forest birds.

Geotourism

An area of mountains and valleys declared a Global Geopark by UNESCO due to its unique terrain of Appalachian origin – like the Appalachian Mountains of the United States. These mountain formations, which originated around 450 million years ago, have left synclines, anticlines, fanglomerate formations, and thousands of fossils – among other unique geological features.

Museums and Interpretation Centres

Discover the events and museums of the Campo Arañuelo region is the best way to get to know the region's traditions, its products, its customs, and –above all– its people. Fun is totally guaranteed.

