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TALES AND LEGENDS

TOURIST GUIDE FOR THE AXARQUIA · COSTA DEL SOL

TALES

LOCAL PERSONALITIES

LEGENDS

NAME OF INHABITANTS



Plan de Dinamización
del Producto Turístico
Axarquía

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desarrollo y promoción territorial

INDEX

Alcaucín	6
Alfarnate	8
Alfarnatejo	10
Algarrobo	12
Almáchar	14
Árchez	16
Arenas	18
Benamargosa	20
Benamocarra	22
Canillas de Aceituno	24
Canillas de Albaida	26
Colmenar	28
Comares	30
Cómpeta	32
Cútar	34
El Borge	36
Frigiliana	38
Iznate	40

La Viñuela	42
Macharaviaya	44
Moclinejo	46
Nerja	48
Periana	50
Rincón de la Victoria	52
Riogordo	54
Salares	56
Sayalonga	58
Sedella	60
Torrox	62
Totalán	64
Vélez-Málaga	66
Index of Personalities and home towns	68
Plan for Developing the Axarquia Tourist Product	70

ALGARROBO

Its name comes from the Arab word “al-karat”.

NAME OF ITS INHABITANTS:

Algarrobenos.

FAMOUS PERSONALITIES:

A personality worth mentioning is **Enrique Ramos Ramos** who was born in 1890 and died in exile in 1958. He participated decisively in the setting up of the Second Republic. He was President of the Council of Ministers in all the cabinets presided by Manuel Azana. He was President of the National Tourist Board and Minister for Employment, Health and Social Security and later Chancellor of the Exchequer in Casares Quiroga's government.

The heroic defense by its inhabitants during the French invasion, as a result of the bravery and astuteness of its guerrillas, gave rise to a legend. The story goes – and in this case there might be an element of truth, still to be confirmed – that one of these bands made up mainly of men from Algarrobo and lead by a certain Segovia ambushed and killed an unknown number of French soldiers.

The French commanding officer's reaction was swift. He blamed the whole town for the death of the invaders, as the members of the band came from the town and were protected by it, and therefore he decided that Algarrobo, as a taunt to the neighbouring towns, should be reduced to ashes and its inhabitants annihilated. The mayor asked for clemency and for the sentence to be delayed until the French governor in Málaga was notified of the case, hoping that he would be merciful and forgive them.

The commanding officer accepted this and calculated the time it would take a man to go and to return from Málaga, as well as carry out the task, and took off some hours to avoid the mission from succeeding, and that was the time the town was given to save itself from destruction. Time was not on the side of the desperate townsfolk and to gain time it was decided to give one of the best horses to one of the best horsemen in the town who, by running the animal to the ground in his desperate ride, arrived in time with the letter with the reprieve which saved the town of Algarrobo.

The fascination of legends for underground passages is clear in Algarrobo, as there is a story that says there is one of these passages between the fortress of the town and Bentomiz Castle, built – most certainly – so as to carry supplies from one place to the other without having to go out to open ground during sieges. The tunnel has not been found but the legend continues.



INDEX OF NAMES AND PLACES

NAME	TOWN	PAGE
Alí ibn Ahmd ibn Muhammad Al-Hasn�	Sayalonga	58
Almanzor Abo-Amir Muhammad Ben Abi Mer	Torrox	62
Antonio de Canillas	Canillas de Aceituno	24
Antonio Molina	Total�n	64
Antonio Ortega Escalona	V�lez-M�laga	66
Avelino Aurelio Ramos Acosta	C�mpeta	32
Baltasar de la Pe�a y Avil�s	Colmenar	28
Eduardo Oc�n y Rivas	Benamocarra	22
Enrique Castillo	Total�n	64
Enrique Ramos Ramos	Algarrobo	12
Evaristo Guerra Zamora	V�lez-M�laga	66
F�lix Lomas Mart�n	Canillas de Albaida	26
Gonzalo Fern�ndez de Coalla	Colmenar	28
Hernando el Darra	Frigiliana	38
Hisio Francisco Centuri�n	Nerja	48
Jos� A. Mu�oz S�nchez	Riogordo	54
Jos� Manuel Lucena Gordo	Benamocarra	22
Jos� Beltr�n Ortega	Benamargosa	20
Jos� G�lvez y Gallardo	Macharaviaya	44

José Marín Ortega	Canillas de Albaida	26
José Pinto y Palacios	Benamargosa	20
Juan José Villaluenga y Marfil	Iznate	40
Liborio Apolinar Acosta de la Torre	Frigiliana	38
Luis Muñoz García	El Borge	36
Manuel Cañizares Martín	Alcaucín	6
Manuel Vertedor	Totalán	64
María Zambrano Alarcón	Vélez-Málaga	66
Martín Vázquez Ciruela	El Borge	36
Mohamed den Ahmed ben Daud Abu Abdallah	Vélez-Málaga	66
Monseñor Francisco Núñez Aguilar	Riogordo	54
Salvador Rueda	Macharaviaya	44



PLAN TO REVITALIZE THE AXARQUIA TOURIST PRODUCT

A Plan to Revitalize a Tourist Product is a series of long-term measures for tourist destinations with the aim of accelerating economic growth and ensuring the sustainability of the area's natural resources.

The Plan to Revitalize the Axarquía Tourist Product (PDAX) has a total public budget of 4,155,000 euros, to be completed in four years. The project is being funded equally by the three government departments involved: State Secretariat of Tourism of the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade, Department of Tourism, Trade and Sport of the Andalusian Regional Government and the Málaga Provincial government. These three departments, together with the Association for the Promotion of tourism in the Axarquía (APTA) and the Centre for Rural Development of the Axarquía signed the Cooperation Agreement in 2006 and make up the Monitoring Commission. The Plan started in September 2006 and it is managed by the Tourist Planning Department of the Tourism Section of Territorial Development and Promotion of the Málaga Provincial Government which is therefore the department responsible for carrying out and justifying the measures.

The geographical limits of the PDAX include the 27 towns in the interior of the district: **Alcaucín, Alfarnate, Alfarnatejo, Algarrobo, Almáchar, Árchez, Arenas, Benamargosa, Benamocarra, Canillas de Aceituno, Canillas de Albaida, Colmenar, Comares, Competa, Cútar, El Borge, Frigiliana, Iznate, Macharaviaya, Moclinejo, Periana, Riogordo, Salares, Sayalonga, Sedella, Totalán y La Viñuela.**

The following are the measures included in the Plan:

LINE 1: MUNICIPAL UNITS FOR TOURIST INFORMATION (UMIT)

- Creation and equipping of the UMITs.
- Provision of UMITs (Canillas de Aceituno).
- Provision of UMITs (Riogordo).
- Provision of UMITs (Totalán).
- Provision of the Visitors' Centre for the Axarquía- La Viñuela Reservoir.

LINE 2: ENHANCEMENT OF TOURIST RESOURCES

- Acquisition of racks for tourist brochures (Axarquía).
- Virtual reconstruction of the historical fortifications in the Axarquía (Zalía Castle in Alcaucín, Bentomiz Castle in Arenas and Comares Castle).
- Main Plan for the creation and improvement of accessible tourist itineraries in the Axarquía.
- Guide for the design, production and marketing of tourist souvenirs of the Axarquía.
- Recipe book of the Axarquía.
- Design and production of a digital information and map system about itineraries, resources and tourist services in the Axarquía.
- Information sessions of the PDAX-Axarquía.
- Climbing routes in the Upper Axarquía (Comares).
- Honey Museum of Malaga (Colmenar).
- Consulting and technical assistance study to adapt the Baths of Vilo as a tourist product (Periana).
- Refurbishment of the Baths of Vilo (Periana).
- Visitors' Centre for the Axarquía (La Vunuela).
- Museum of Gastronomic Festivities of the Axarquía (Sedella).
- Extension of contents in the Galvez Museum (Macharaviaya).
- Restyling of the El Alcazar Recreational Area (Alcaucín).
- Restyling of the El Río Recreational Area (Alcaucín).
- Museum of Monfi (Cútar).
- Fitting and improvements of the Church of Saint Jacinto (Macharaviaya).
- Fitting and improvement of the church in the Galvez Mausoleum (Macharaviaya).
- Fitting and improvement of the birthplace of Salvador Rueda (Macharaviaya).
- Fitting and improvement of the Church of Benaque (Macharaviaya).
- Covered wooden bins in the tourist routes of the Axarquía.
- Enhancement of the Mudejar Route.
- Enhancement of the Route of the Sun and Wine.
- Enhancement of the Route of Oil and the Mountains.
- Enhancement of the Route of the Sol and Avocado Pear.

- Enhancement of the Route of the Raisin.
- Extension of the Moorish Museum (Sayalonga).
- Museum of Art and Customs (Competa).
- Beautification of the Walk of Health.
- Refurbishment of the eastern entrance into Iznate.
- Fitting of the municipal ornithological-botanic park in El Borge.
- Extension of the Archeological Museum in Frigiliana.
- Adaptation of itineraries for improved access: Path of the Fountain (La Vinuela).
- Adaptating of itineraries for improved access: Route of the River and the Mills (Archez).
- Adaptation of itineraries for improved access: Route of the Mountain (Salares).
- Jacobean Route of the Axarquía.
- Adaptation of the El Ejido city park (Alfarnate).
- Landscaping of the La Erilla Park (Alfarnate).
- Guide-book of trees and green zones (Alfarnate).
- Refurbishment of the Southern entrance (Alfarnatejo).
- Fitting of the El Chorro Fountain (Moclinejo).
- Fitting of Avenida Almachar (Moclinejo).

- Beautification of "El Valdes" (Moclinejo).
- Touristic Mural on "The Crossing of Riogordo" (Riogordo).
- Exterior lighting of historical buildings of the Town Hall (Riogordo).
- Fitting of recreational area on the Mudejar Route (Arenas).
- Beautification of the square in Calle Arroyo, in Salares.
- Exterior lighting of the Shrine of Saint Anne, in Alfarante.

LINE 3: SIGNPOSTING

- Complete signposting of the District of the Axarquía.
- Signposting of the Mudejar Route.
- Signposting of the Route of the Sun and Wine.
- Signposting of the Route of the Oil and Mountains.
- Signposting of the route of the Sun and Avocado Pear.
- Signposting of the Route of the Raisin.

LINE 4: QUALITY TRAINING AND COURSES

- Implementation of an Approximation Model for Tourist Quality in economic and public service subsectors in the

District of the Axarquía.

- Audit for the Evaluation of the Approximation Model for Tourist Quality.
- Technical workshop to present the "Guide for the design, production and marketing of tourist souvenirs of the Axarquía".

LINE 5: CONSULTANCIES

- Study for the recovery and viability of the Velez-Zafarraya Green Path.
- Study to promote the adaptation of the Sierra Tejeda, Almijara and Alhama Nature Reserve to the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism, and a studio that will develop active and nature tourism in the Axarquía.
- Participative analysis of the tourist sector in the area of the Axarquía.
- Technical assistance to compile promotional material for the Axarquía.

LINE 6: MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION

- Production of tourist brochure-maps.
- Production of tourist Routes in the Axarquía.
- Guide book of tourist resources of the Axarquía.
- Management and promotion.

Details of measures can be consulted on:

www.axarquiacostadelsol.es

MONITORING COMMISSION OF THE PLAN TO REVITALIZE THE AXARQUIA TOURIST PRODUCT (MALAGA)

D. Jesús Mora Calle

Deputy for Territorial Development and Promotion, Malaga Provincial Government. President of the Monitoring Commission.

D. Antonio Muñoz Martínez

Director General for Tourist Planning, Department of Tourism, Trade and Sport, Andalusian Regional Government.

D^a. M^a José González Serrano

Secretary of state for Tourism, Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade.

D. Constantino Ramírez de Frías

General Directorate for Tourist Planning, Department of Tourism, Trade and Sport, Andalusian Regional government.

D^a. Estefanía Martín Palop

Office of the Government Delegate to the Autonomous Community.

D. Carlos Vasserot Antón

Head of Tourism, Malaga Provincial Government.

D. José Luis Navas Camacho.

President of the Association for Tourist Promotion in the Axarquía.

D. Juan Millán Jabalera.

President of the Centre for Rural Development of the Axarquía.

D^a. Elisa Páez Jiménez

Association for Tourist Promotion of the Axarquía.

D. David Camacho García

Centre for Rural Development of the Axarquía.

MANAGEMENT OF THE PLAN

D. Pablo Blas García

Department of Tourism, Malaga Provincial Government.

Manager of the Plan to Revitalize the Axarquía Tourist Product.

D. Antonio Cuñado Bernal

Department of Tourism, Malaga Provincial Government.

Co-responsible for the Plan to Revitalize the Axarquía tourist Product.

D^a. Sandra Trujillo González

Department of Tourism, Malaga Provincial Government.



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