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NATURE TRAIL LA SIERRA GREENWAY



Guide to the
**Nature
Trails**
of Spain

SECTOR SOUTHERN PENINSULAR NATURE TRAIL LASIERRA GREENWAY

1. The trail starts at the station of Olvera. This municipality, with Arabic elements and declared an Historic-Artistic Site forms part of the White Villages Route. The old stop has been restored and converted into a small hotel with a restaurant and is next to a sports park. The initial section runs between olive groves that gave the municipality its name: Olvera, derived from Olvera.
2. The trail reaches the station of Navalgurilla, the only one that remains unrestored and where there is a small rest area and carpark that offers the opportunity of starting the trail from this point. A little after the station, the route crosses an extensive fighting bull ranch. From here to the end of the route, the trail runs through an area of Mediterranean scrubland.
3. Through this rugged landscape, sandwiched between small mountains and sculpted by rivers and rock, at around the half-way point, the trail reaches the Peñón de Zaframagón Nature Reserve, at the foot of which runs the River Guadalporcún. Some metres further on is the Peñón de Zaframagón Visitors' Centre and Vulture Observatory which opens every day of the year and houses a small interpretive exhibition on the Nature Reserve and its biodiversity with a special focus on this nature trail and the villages it passes through. On a screen on the centre's first floor, you can observe a live stream of the Peñón vultures' nests from cameras installed in the nests themselves.
4. The route continues until you encounter the start of a



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Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment. These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country. We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of La Sierra Greenway Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

5. Before crossing the viaduct at Coripe, take a detour to the El Chaparro de la Vega Natural Monument: a thousand-year-old holm oak over 14m tall and boasting crown of yom in diameter. It is located some 500m from the trail and is a traditional meeting point and setting for many celebrations for the locals of Coripe. From Coripe, the route continues, crossing the old cattle road that leads to the La Toleta recreation area, where visitors can camp provided they obtain prior authorisation from Coripe Town Council. This is also the site of the confluence of the Rivers Guadalporcún and Guadalete, one of the most important in the province of Cádiz.
6. From here, the route runs parallel to this section of the River Guadalete, through a landscape where the viaducts of Gillette and Los Azares stand out spectacularly. After crossing both viaducts, the landscape turns agricultural again.
7. The route continues and at the end we can observe a panoramic view of the village of Puerto Serrano, where the traveller will find the nature trail's interpretive centre and

OTTER COUNTRY

This trail passes through a total of 29 tunnels, cut into the heart of the mountain to build a railway line planned to connect Jerez de la Frontera and Almergen. The longest of all of these, located towards the end of the route is almost 500 metres long. In spite of all this impressive work carried out, the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War put an end to the project. The nature trail has a length of 35,5 kilometres with its starting point at Olvera station and the end at Puerto Serrano.



just past this the station, which has also been converted into a country hotel and restaurant. Next to this is a new rest area and carpark that marks the end of the route. There aren't many other trails that pass close to the La Sierra Greenway Nature Trail, except for the odd track from the municipalities through which it passes.

GUADAL: THE SOUTHERN RIVERS OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

For a long stretch of its course, La Sierra Greenway Nature Trail runs alongside two rivers: the Guadalporcún and the Guadalete. Both are in perfect condition and share a common denominator with the other rivers of the south of the Iberian Peninsula: their names begin with *Guadal*. It seems that all of these names are derived from the Arabic word *Wadi*, meaning river or stream.

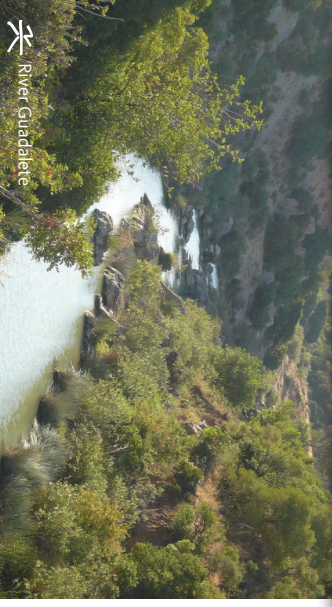
The rivers of the Iberian Peninsula's Mediterranean basin, especially those whose names begin with *Guadal*, are noted for their strong seasonality, maintaining a steady flow throughout the year except in summer when they almost completely dry out, with water in small pools maintaining the biodiversity in times of scarcity. However, this does not reduce the large numbers of species that inhabit them, and they are a popular refuge for threatened species such as the otter.



Peñón de Zaframagón



Thousand-Year-old Holm Oak



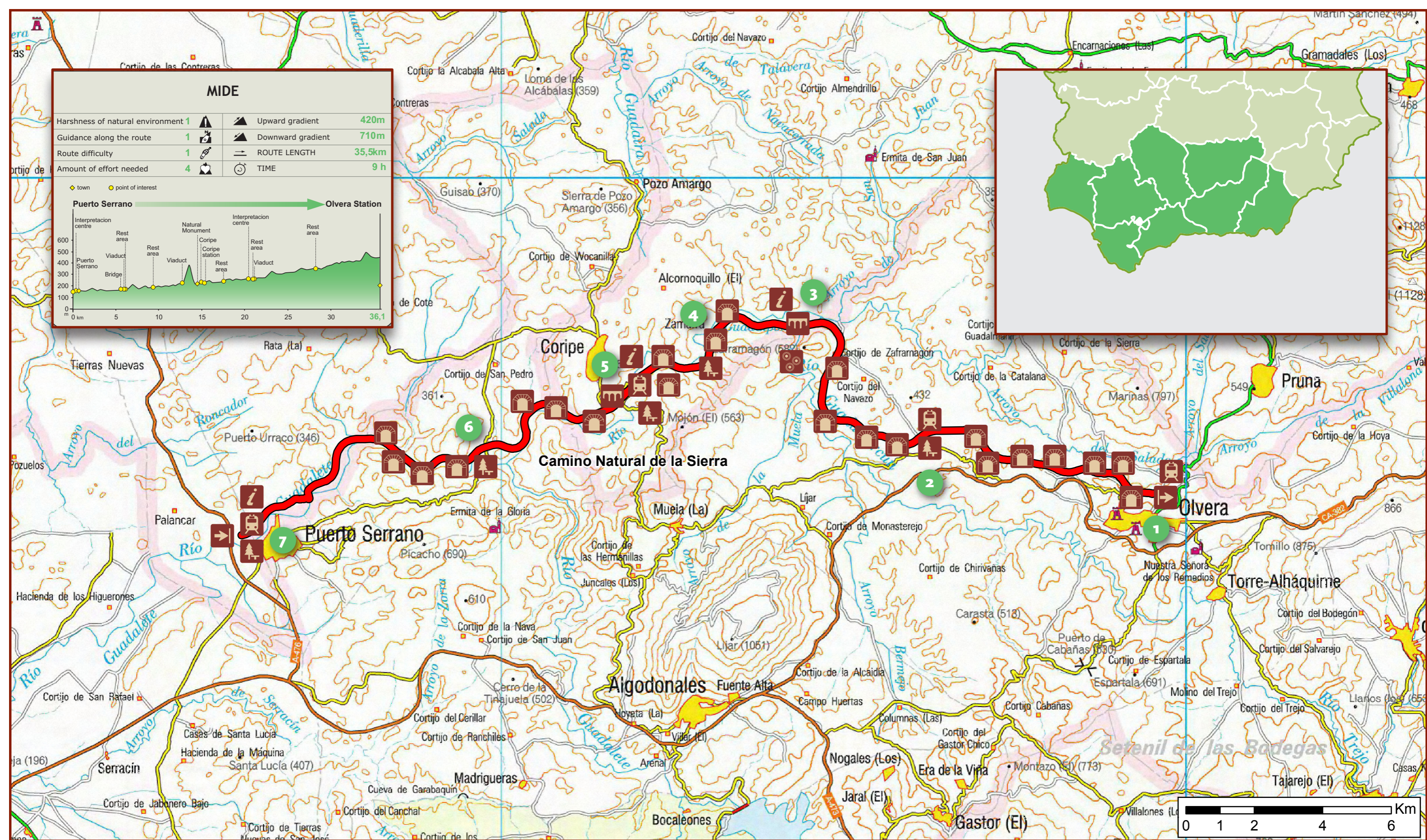
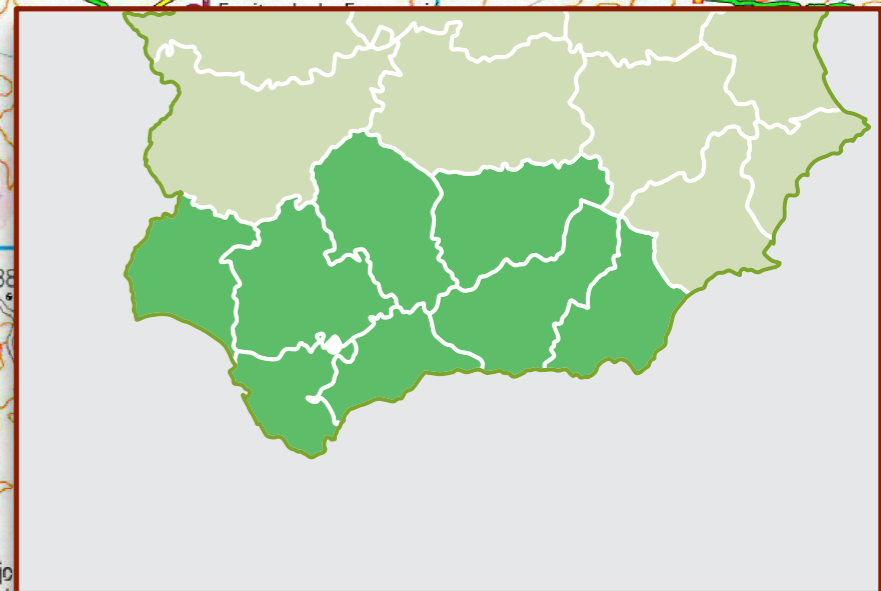
River Guadalete

MIDE

Harshness of natural environment	1	▲ Upward gradient	420m
Guidance along the route	1	▼ Downward gradient	710m
Route difficulty	1	≡ ROUTE LENGTH	35,5km
Amount of effort needed	4	⌚ TIME	9 h

◆ town ● point of interest

Puerto Serrano → **Olvera Station**



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NATURE TRAIL
LA SIERRA GREENWAY

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Rest area
- Train station
- Information centre
- Bridge
- Tunnel
- Other sights of interest