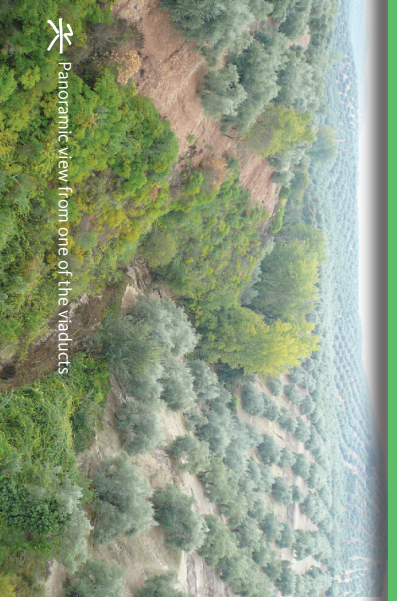
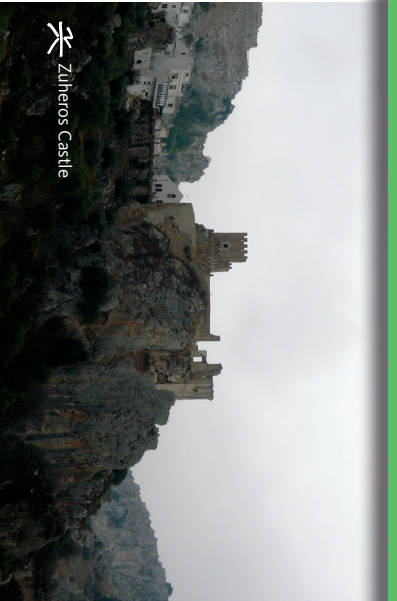


✧ Detail of the landscape near Zúñeros



✧ Panoramic view from one of the viaducts



✧ Zúñeros Castle

The impact of water on the limestone rock that makes up the Sierra Subbética shaped myriad formations of considerable geological importance, including caves. Among all the caves in this mountain range, the Cueva de los Murciélagos or Bat Cave, located in Zúñeros and an essential stop for any visitor taking the nature trail, is undoubtedly the most special. Its origins go back to the collapse of a large slab of rock, giving rise to a fissure through which water flowed, creating underground lakes and many striking limestone formations such as stalactites and stalagmites. This site is not only interesting on account of its geological beauty; it also features an important Neolithic archaeological site featuring a burial site. The cave was inhabited by Neanderthals and later by the first men to populate the area, as demonstrated by the flint arrowheads and remains of vessels and utensils carved from bone along with other personal effects, remains of food and several cave paintings.

### GEOLOGY, HISTORY AND NATURE: LA CUEVA DE LOS MURCIÉLAGOS (THE BAT CAVE)

This section of el Aceite Greenway Nature Trail connects a multitude of routes, two Protected Natural Spaces (the Laguna del Conde and the Sierra Subbética Natural Park), allowing the traveller to take different routes on foot or by bicycle. From each locality along the trail there is also the possibility of taking any of a number of historical and cultural routes, such as the Caliphate Route (Luque) or the Wine Route (Lucena).

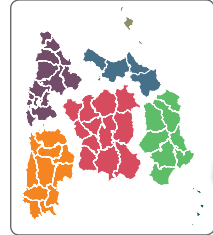
Since 1993 the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment. These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity 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 El Aceite Greenway Nature Trail. La Subbética section 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.



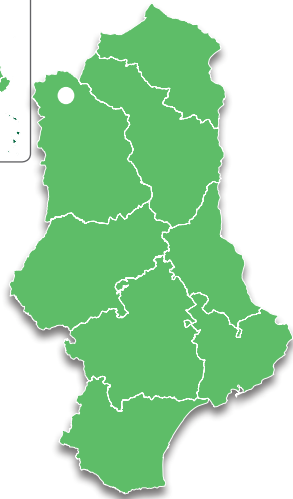
### LAGOONS, CANYONS AND CAVES AMID OLIVE GROVES

This trail follows the route of the old "Oil Train" which, starting in Jaén, used to cross part of this province and that of Córdoba, before reaching the end of the line in Málaga. The train, which offered a transport outlet for the area's produce, especially olive oil, made its way through the same landscape we see today, dominated by olive groves on all sides.

This trail is the continuation of Jaén section of the Oil Greenway Nature Trail (57.3 kilometres between Jaén and the River Guadajoz) and connecting with the Córdoba section (7.9 kilometres, from border of the municipalities of Moriles and Lucena and the station at Campo Real).



### SECTOR SOUTHERN PENINSULAR



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DL: NIPQ

#### TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Municipalities community of la Subbética: 0034 957 70 41 06

## SECTOR SOUTHERN PENINSULAR NATURE TRAIL ACEITE GREENWAY. SUBBÉTICA SECTION

1. This route begins at the viaduct over the River Guadajoz, close to the municipality of Luque (Córdoba) which can only be reached by the Nature Trail itself. At the start of the route are the ruins of the old station.
2. A little further on is the Laguna del Conde or Salobral Nature Reserve, a karst wetland that it is part of the wetland area known as Lagunas del Sur de Córdoba, where a bird observatory has been built.
3. Upon arriving at Luque, it is possible to take a brief rest and refreshment in its old railway station, now a bar and restaurant. This area belongs to the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Park, a unique environment both for the cultural richness of the area and for the beauty and diversity of the geological formations of the landscape shaped by water.

With an environment that makes it particularly suitable for the nesting of all kinds of birds, the trail continues towards Carcabuey through a cleared area known as the Route of the Vultures' Nests (8 km), as it is home to an important colony of griffon vultures. Continuing along the trail, just before arriving a Zúñeros, overlooked by the silhouette of the old Moorish fortress of Zúñeros Castle is a cabin where travellers can find tourist information.

4. From Zúñeros station it is possible to visit the Cueva de los Murciélagos or Bat Cave, of great geological and historical significance. The streets and squares of the village itself are worth visiting and have been declared a Site of Cultural Significance. From Zúñeros there are a number of paths



Guide to the  
Nature  
Trails  
of Spain



## NATURE TRAIL SUBBÉTICA GREENWAY





SECTOR  
SOUTHERN PENINSULAR



## NATURE TRAIL ACEITE GREENWAY. SUBBÉTICA SECTION

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Train station
- Rest area
- Information
- Viewpoint
- Detour
- Junction
- Underpass
- Walkway
- Bridge
- Tunnel

