

NATURE TRAIL LA JAYONA GREENWAY



Guide to the
Nature Trails
of Spain



SECTOR PENINSULAR CENTER NATURE TRAIL LA JAYONA GREENWAY

Before starting out on the nature trail, it is advisable to go to the La Jayona Mine, an open-pit mine that you can visit and which was named as a Natural Monument in 1997 and lends its name to this route. To get there, the signs for "Mirna La Joyona" must be followed. On the way to the mine, some 10 km from the station, the town of Fuente del Arco will be passed through and you will pass alongside the Virgen de Ara shrine. This is also a very recommendable visit both for the panoramic views of the mountains and the wall paintings it houses in its main nave.

1. This nature trail starts next to the ruins of the old station of Fuente del Arco, alongside a rest area dense to the station and an information panel.
2. For the first kilometre and a half, practically until crossing over the Galapagar creek, you can still note the presence of the houses that have been being built close to the station, in a landscape in which grassy crops alternate with olive groves and the aforementioned housing.
3. For the next 8 km, the trail camino enters into pastures of holm oaks of variable densities, with the continuous presence of the herds of Merino sheep (it is advisable to take a lot of care, as the estates in many sections are not fenced and it is easy to find these animals in the middle of the trail), and with the typical Mediterranean scrubland covering up the slopes next to the trail (thyme, retama, genista and flax-leaved daphne, etc.)

Interior of La Jayona mine



Holm oak pastures with grazing herds of Merino sheep

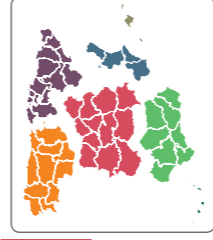
4. During this section, as well as crossing many trails with farm access, cattle grids are also frequent in order to stop the sheep passing into the estates of different owners. A highlight in this journey is the crossing over the Sotillo river, with a rest area just after crossing. Here there is an opening in the oak trees and interesting panoramic views of the Sierra del Viento mountains in the foothills of the Sierra Morena mountains.
5. In the next section the landscape changes radically, going from a continued presence of trees, to almost no trees at all. For the next 5,6 km, the trail passes through grassy crops and pastures, crossing through an olive grove in the vicinity of Valverde de Llerena. Sheep are no longer to be seen in this section, but depending on the time of year it is common to see partridges and hares crossing from one side of the trail to the other.
6. The monotony of the crop fields is broken (some 11 km after beginning the trail) by the ruins of the station that served the nearby town of Valverde de Llerena (less than 1 km from where the nature trail crosses the road to Ahiliones). Just like the other stations the trail passes by, this has a rest area and an information panel. The town of Valverde was founded in the 19th century, and a highlight of its heritage is the Purísima Concepción church
7. What remains of the La Jayona Nature Trail will be completed in the company of olive groves almost until the end, passing next to the Berlanga-San Fernando station

Old Berlanga - San Fernando station

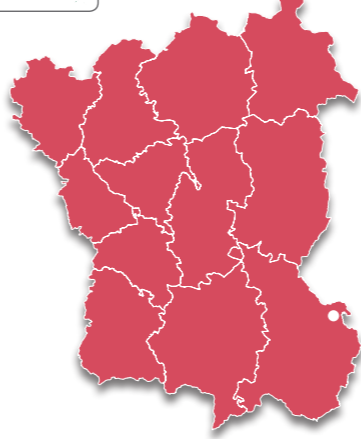


TRACES OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MINING IN THE COUNTY OF LLERENA

This trail, among olive groves and pastures of holm oaks populated by Merino sheep, passes along part of the railway line which transported products extracted from the many mines spread throughout the county of Llerena towards the province of Cordoba. The mine of La Joyona stands out above all, named as a Natural Monument in 1997, it lends its name to this Nature Trail.



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TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Fuente del Arco City Council: 0034 921 466 070
- Valverde de Llerena: City Council 0034 921 466 070
- Azuaga City Council: 0034 921 466 070
- Berlanga City council: 0034 921 466 070

DE

NPO

LA JAYONAMINE
 Located in the south east of the province of Badajoz, in the municipality of Fuente del Arco, this iron mine had its golden years at the beginning of the 20th century, and was abandoned in 1922. This state of abandonment lasted until it was declared as a Natural Monument in 1997.

This inactivity meant that the fauna could make the most of the abandoned wells, which these days are home to various species of reptiles and amphibians, as well as birds such as European eagle-owls, tawny owls and black storks, and mammals, including a colony of bats.

The main richness of the Natural Monument is, however, geological: with its slickenside and folds, iron mineralization and karstic processes, that are visible from the various levels of the wells dug by the miners. The mine can be visited.

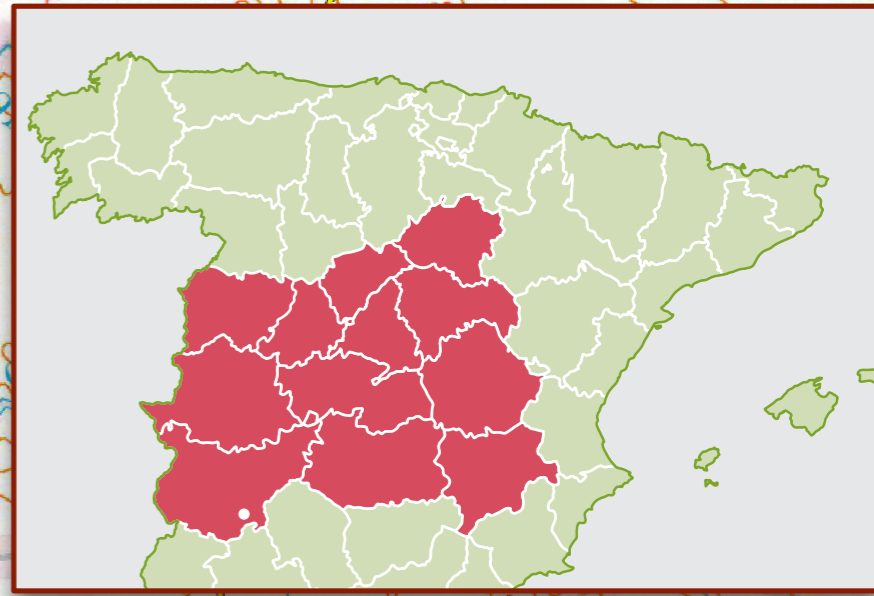
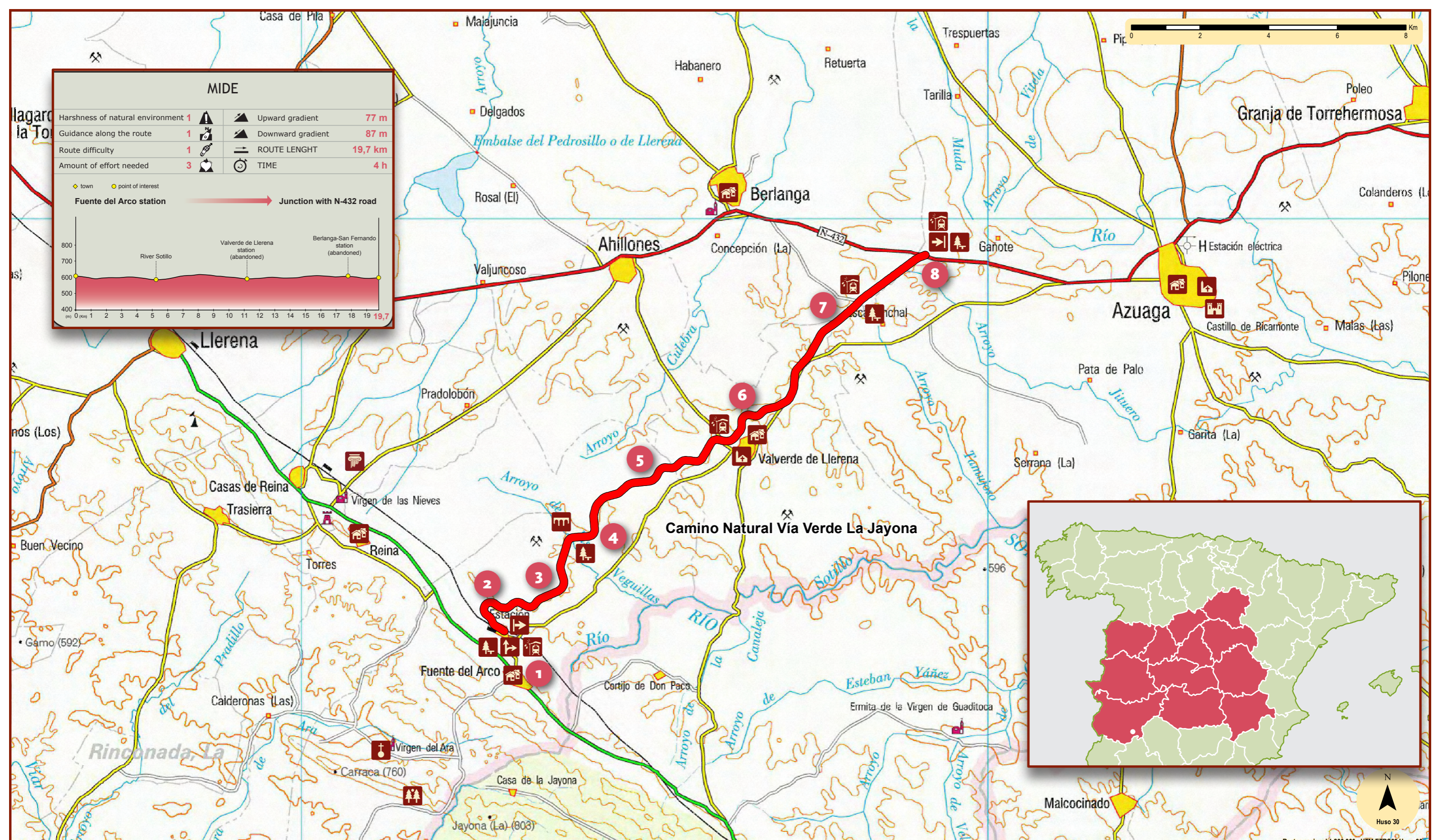
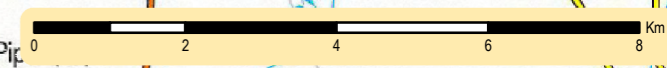
8. Going back to the trail, there are only 2 km until the end, once again in the company of grassy crops, but without completely leaving the olive groves. The trail comes to an end next to the ruins of a stop and a rest area just before reaching the N-432 road, some 5 km from Berlanga and 7 km from Azuaga, the county's most populated town.

(17 km from the start, with its corresponding panel and rest area). Despite the name, the town of Berlanga is actually more than 3 kilometres from here; although it is worth a visit to discover the rich heritage of this town with more than 700 years of history.

MIDE

Harshness of natural environment	1	▲ Upward gradient	77 m
Guidance along the route	1	▲ Downward gradient	87 m
Route difficulty	1	— ROUTE LENGHT	19,7 km
Amount of effort needed	3	🕒 TIME	4 h

◆ town ● point of interest
 ➔ Junction with N-432 road



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NATURE TRAIL
LA JAYONA GREENWAY

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Rest area
- Hermitage
- church
- Town
- Feature of environmental interest
- Detour
- Station (abandoned)
- Bridge
- Castle
- Archaeological site