



Road Trips

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

UNESCO Global Geopark



Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Road Trips Guide



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Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

<https://www.geoparquevilluercas.es/>

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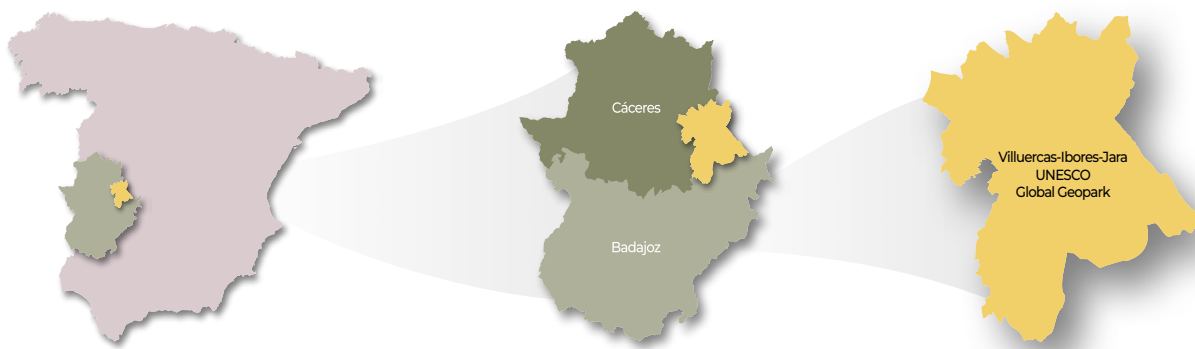
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Let's drive!





Here is the Scenery for the Road Trips: the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

In the southeast of the province of Cáceres, in Extremadura, a network of secondary roads passes through some mountain ranges that were part of the seabed more than 550 million years ago.

These mountains are now part of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, a unique area because of its geological relevance, morphology and the integration of the way of life of its inhabitants into the environment.

If you need more information about UNESCO Global Geoparks, follow this link <https://www.geoparquevilluercas.es/geoparque-extremadura/redes/>

Geosites, as the places of interest of a geopark are known, are scattered throughout the region and you will visit them on the road trips presented in this guide.

Each kilometer you travel will help you get to know this region in-depth and will bring you closer to its ancient inhabitants through the cave paintings, fossils and great natural, geological and cultural places of interest.

An Appalachian landscape, sculpted for millennia, will guide you through synclines and anticlines to discover the best local products and traditional gastronomy, capable of bringing the most authentic flavors to your palate.

Buckle up as you are in for an epic journey through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Enjoy the route that fully respects the environment and, if you leave a mark, be sure it is a positive one.

How to use this Road Trips Guide

In this Road Trips Guide, you will find a series of road trips designed and optimized to allow you to visit every corner of the 2544 km² Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, stop by its population centers and discover its main geosites.

The primary goal of these road trips is to offer you different itineraries, of varied duration, so that you can create your own route across the region visiting the maximum number of highlights while driving as few kilometers as possible.

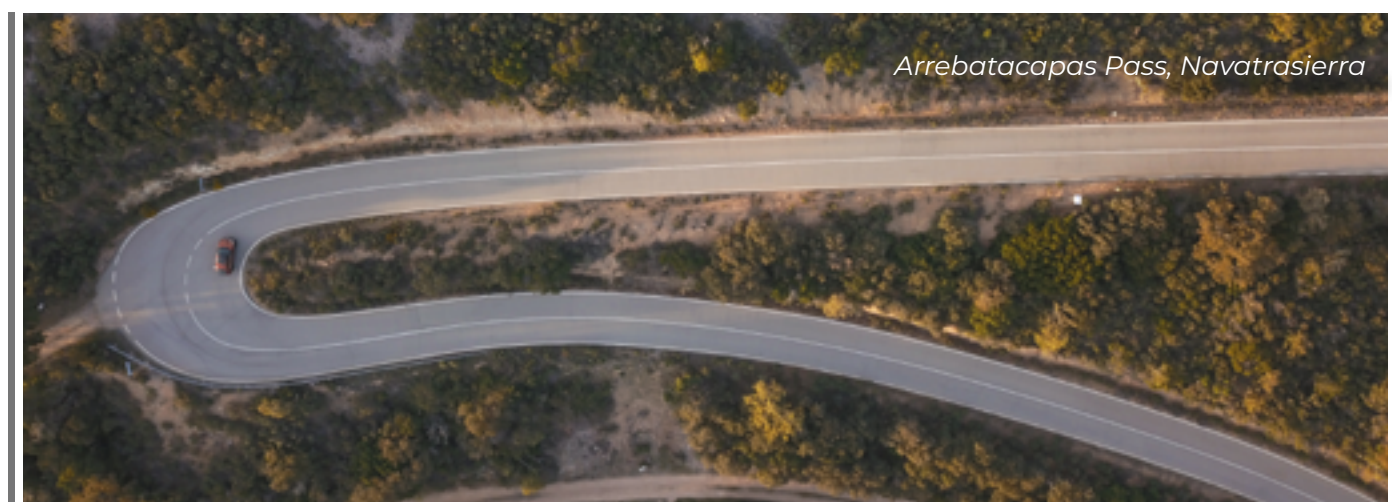
To optimize both the itineraries and the guide content, and to avoid duplication, the details of the visits, **the description of places of interest and all the necessary resources to plan your route are only found in the pages dedicated to The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.**

This means that in the chapters of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark, The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence and the three one-day road trips you will only find information of each itinerary. In order to complement the content, in each itinerary there is a message indicating the pages of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth where you can find the content that corresponds to the area that the itinerary covers.

This way, you will only have to check the pages that correspond to the indicated parts and select the content that fits the itinerary and matches the number of days that you have available.

Do not forget to use the supplementary maps to this guide, both in interactive and printable format.

And remember that the suggested itineraries are loop routes so that they can be easily adapted to your pace, interests and availability.



How to get to the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark by Road

There are as many ways to get to the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark as there are places from where visitors come.

It may be necessary to clarify that the limits of a geopark, unlike those of other types of parks, are defined by the boundaries of the municipalities that comprise it. That is, it is not a closed territory with only one entrance or exit. To enter or exit a geopark you only need to cross the border of its municipalities.

With this explanation in mind, it is easier to understand that you can access the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark from different points.

However, being so close to highway A5, the main access routes to the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark come from this highway. They are as follows:



Exit 152 and 148 of the A5 at Oropesa to access the Geopark via Valdelacasa de Tajo or Villar del Pedroso.

Exit 178 of the A5 at Navalmoral de la Mata to access the Geopark via Bohonal de Ibor towards Peraleda de San Román or Navalvillar de Ibor.

Exit 219 of the A5 to access the Geopark via Deleitosa.

Exit 240 of the A5 to access the Geopark via Aldeacentenera.

Exit 253 at Trujillo to access the Geopark via Logrosán and Cañamero.

These are not the only accesses to the Geopark, but they are the most common ones.

Driving in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: what you should know

Before starting to discover the road trips, it is advisable to learn a few details about the roads that you will encounter in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

The main roads, used for the road trips included in this guide, are suitable for any type of vehicle.

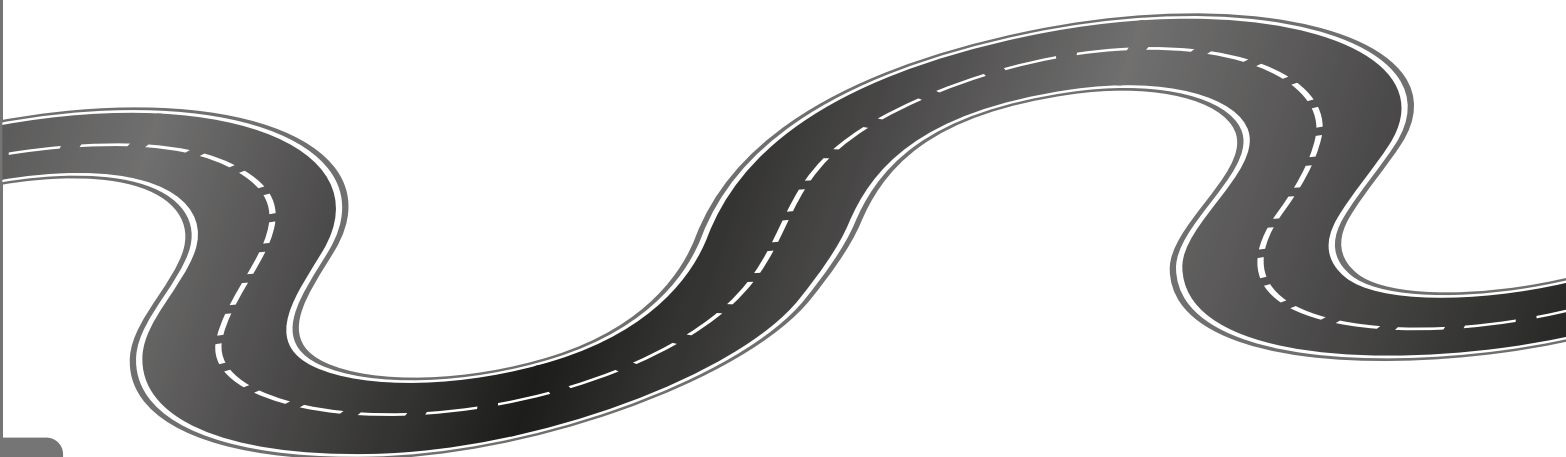
If the route passes by a narrower road or extreme precautions must be taken, it will be indicated in the corresponding part in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Most of the geosites and places of interest are accessible with a standard vehicle or by hiking. However, there are others, such as the Craggs of la Trucha, the Paper Houses or the Craggs of El Vadillo, which require an off-road vehicle, ride a mountain bike or go on foot.

The presence of animals on the roads is common, especially in the sections with less traffic, so it is advisable to drive with caution and respect them at all times.

Keep in mind that you will be driving on secondary roads, two-way roads and, in some cases, winding narrow roads. As a result, it may take longer than estimated to cover the planned distances.

We recommend enjoying the rides, taking your foot off the accelerator and not being in a hurry to reach your destination. The journey itself is an essential part of the experience.





Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark for Recreational Vehicles



The Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is a region with many attractions for those who love traveling in recreational vehicles, such as motorhomes, camper vans, cellule 4x4, or similar.

For a smooth experience, it is advisable to learn some particularities of this region of Extremadura. Also, take into account some recommendations for your trip.

If you are going to visit the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark in a recreational vehicle, you need to know the following information:

The streets in the towns and villages are usually narrow, devious and often steep. It is advisable to park the vehicle in the main streets or designated parking lots. Walk around villages and towns.

The roads in Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark that link villages are regional or local roads, wide enough for two vehicles. Nevertheless, there are narrower sections where bigger vehicles must be especially careful.

Dumping and filling up must be done in the designated areas, such as service areas and campgrounds. You will find more information in the next chapter.

Staying overnight in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is subject to the Spanish regulations and the specific regulation of Extremadura, which prohibit free camping. To obey these regulations, you should know the difference between parking, overnight stay and camping. It is advisable to spend the night in the designated places.



Overnight Stopovers and Campgrounds for Recreational Vehicles in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

Nowadays, within the territory of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, there are two official motorhome stopovers and one campground.

Motorhome stopover in Logrosán



Motorhome stopover Logrosán

The motorhome stopover in Logrosán is a free public area to park and overnight, with points for filling up and grey and black water dumping.

It has an area with trees and shadow, and it is located outside Logrosán, next to an industrial park.

Location: carretera de Villanueva s/n, Logrosán.

Capacity: 10 vehicles.

Coordinates: [39°19'55.2"N 5°28'50.0"W](#)

Motorhome stopover Deleitosa

The motorhome stopover in Deleitosa is free and offers electricity, water fill-up and grey and black water dumping point. These services are managed through an automatic machine.

It is located on the outskirts of Deleitosa, next to the field and a children's playground.

Location: calle Las Eras s/n, Deleitosa.

Capacity: 3 vehicles.

Coordinates: [39°38'25.1"N 5°38'46.7"W](#)



Motorhome stopover Deleitosa

Campground Las Villuercas, Guadalupe

The campground Las Villuercas is located on the outskirts of Guadalupe and offers all the necessary services.

You can find more information on the website <http://campinglasvilluercasguadalupe.es/>



These are two tips to get the most out of your route through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark in a recreational vehicle:

Do not give up on enjoying the gastronomy of the region while en route. If you do not have time to eat out, but you want to taste the traditional local cuisine of Cáceres, you can call a restaurant in advance and ask for a meal to go. This way, you can enjoy freshly cooked dishes at one of the picnic areas in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

If you plan on doing some activities with any of the active tourism companies in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, talk to them in advance and ask if you can spend a night on their premises. Some companies are happy to welcome road-trippers and allow them to stay overnight after completing the activity or buying something from them.

Road Trips Maps





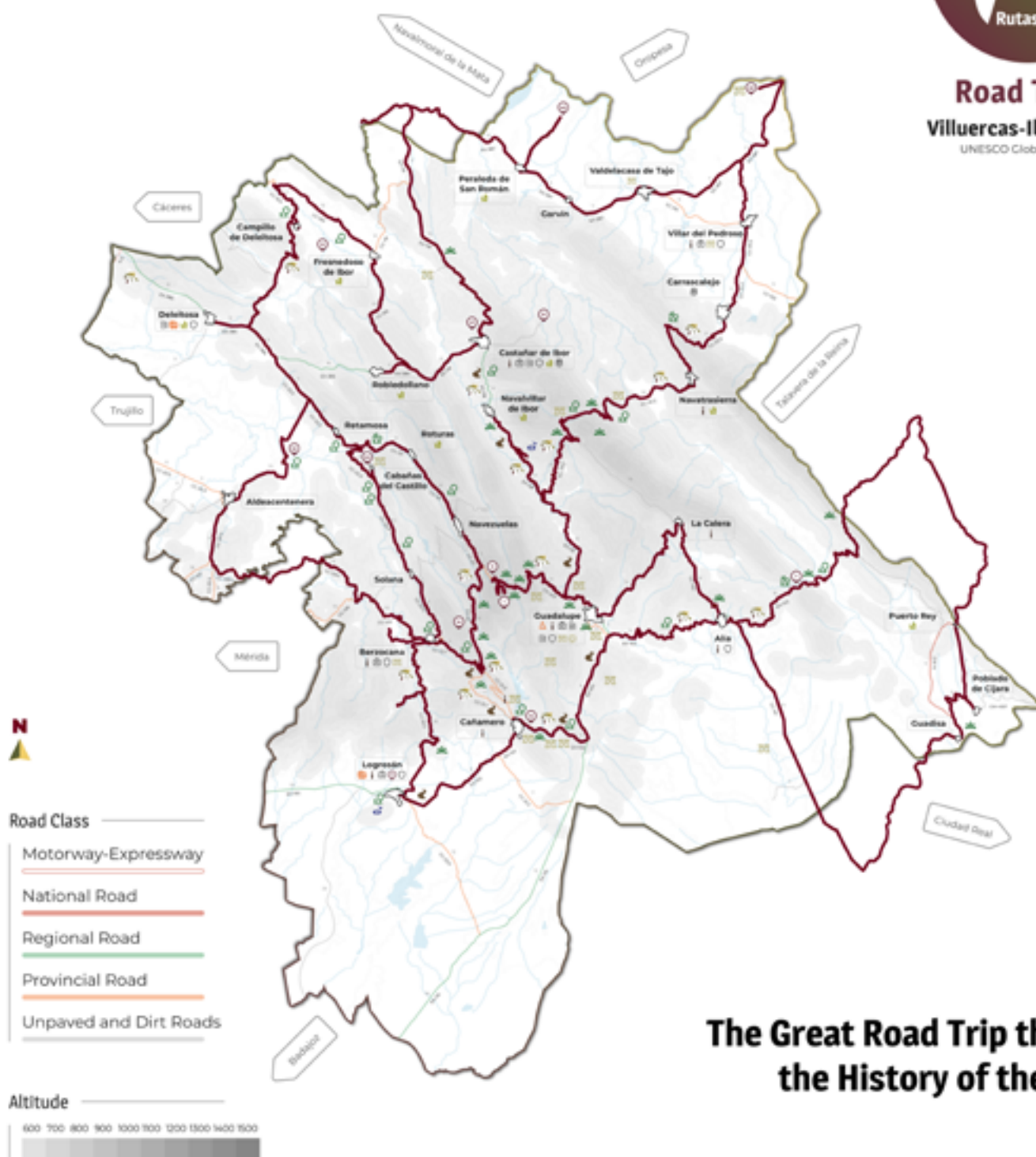
Road between Valdecaballeros and Puerto, Guadalupejo river



Road Trips

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

UNESCO Global Geopark



Map Key

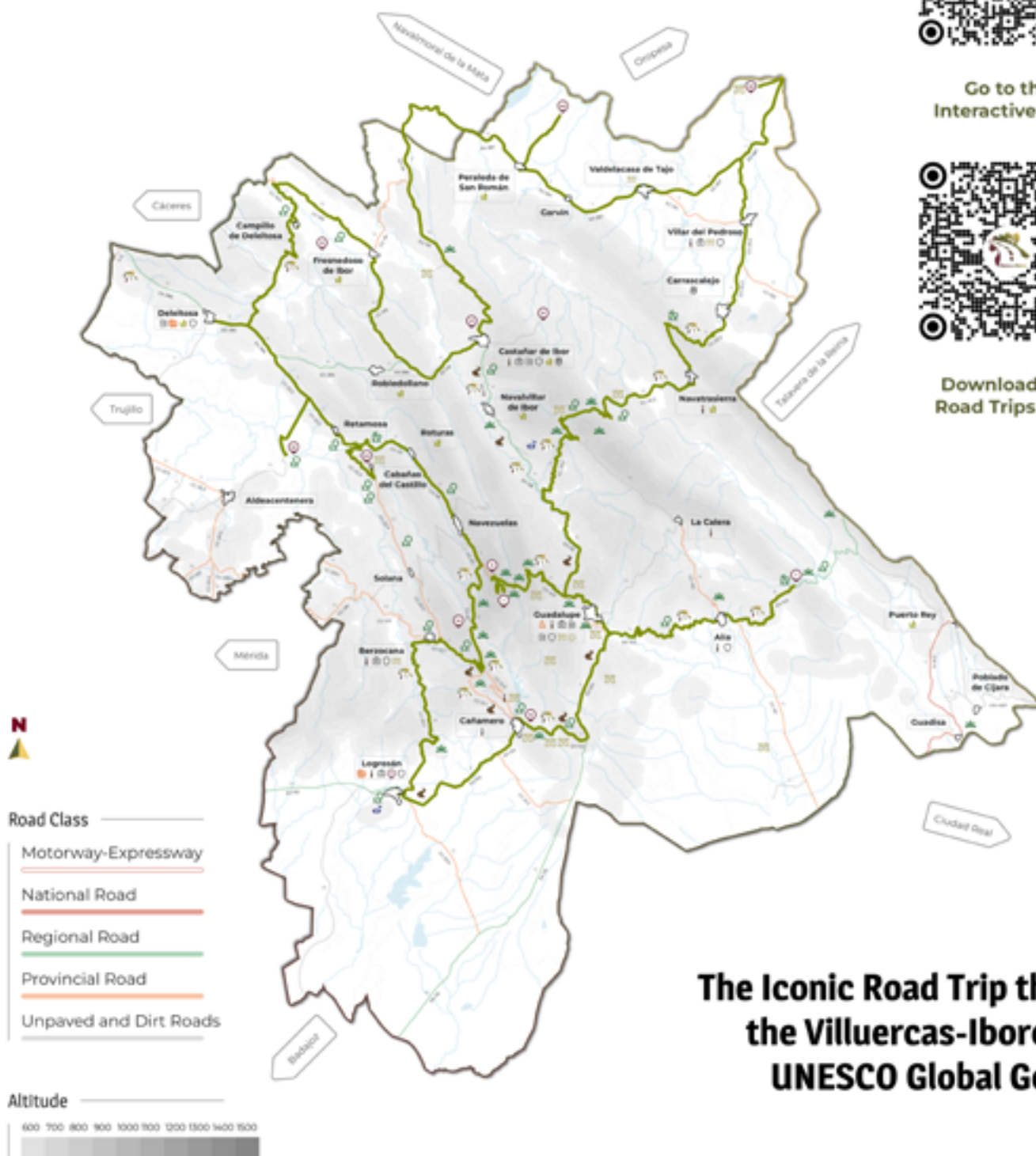
- Motorhome Stopover
- Campground
- Visitor Centre
- Healthcare Centre
- Scenic Road
- EV Charging Station
- Gas Station
- Civil Guard Police Station
- Cultural Landmark
- UNESCO Site
- Picnic Area
- Viewpoint
- Viewpoint and Picnic Area
- Astronomical Viewpoint
- Playground
- Village
- Garage
- Scenic Sections

Main Geosites

- 1 Crag of La Villuerca
- 2 Phosphorite Mine La Costanaza
- 3 Ravine of Peña Amarilla
- 4 Crag of Las Sábanas and El Llorero
- 5 Source of the River Almonte
- 6 Gorge of the River Ruedas
- 7 Rock Pass of the River Almonte
- 8 Castañar Cave Natural Monument
- 9 Waterfalls of Calabazas
- 10 Ravine of El Pedroso
- 11 Spheroidal Weathering of Peraleda and Valdecastillo Boulder
- 12 Viewpoint of the Sierra de la Juncaldilla
- 13 Puente del Conde

4-5 days Road Trip

The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

Go to the
Interactive MapDownload the
Road Trips Map

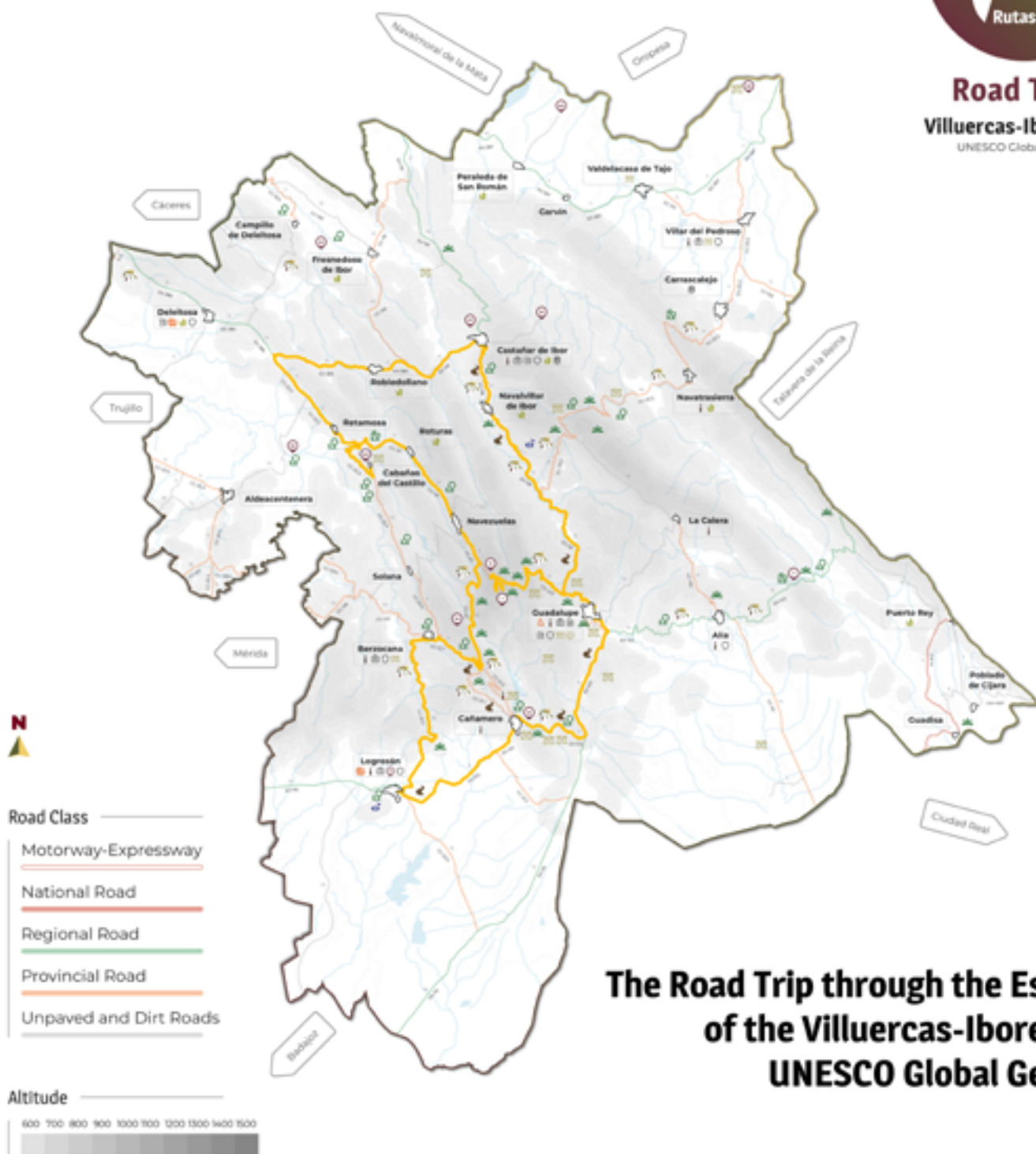
The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Map

2-3 days Road Trip

Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark



Road Trips

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara
UNESCO Global Geopark

The Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Map

Road Trips

1 day Road Trip

Around Guadalupe

1 day Road Trip

Around the Santa Lucía Syncline and the Almonte Anticline

1 day Road Trip

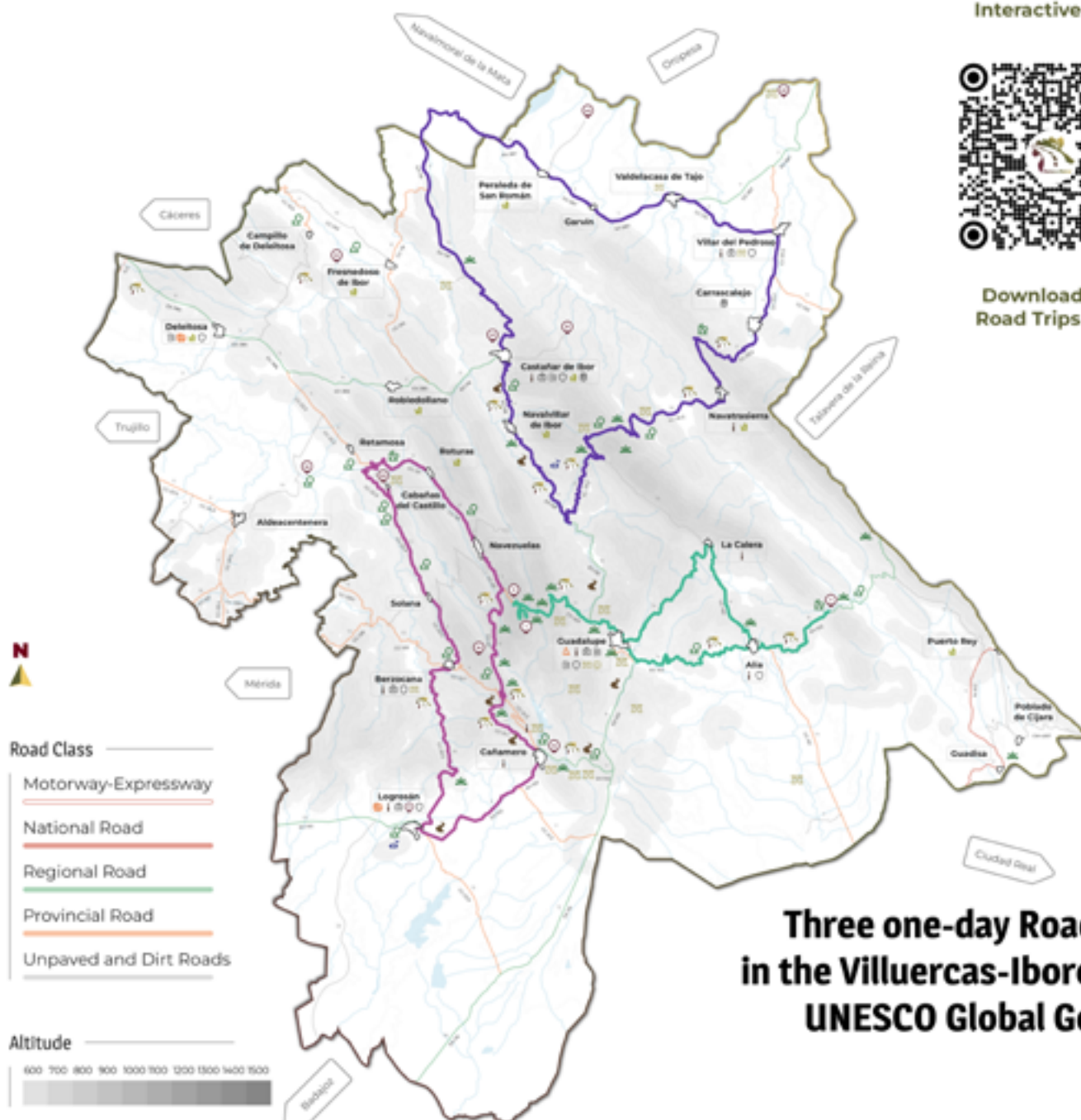
Around the Ibor Anticline and the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline



Go to the
Interactive Map



Download the
Road Trips Map



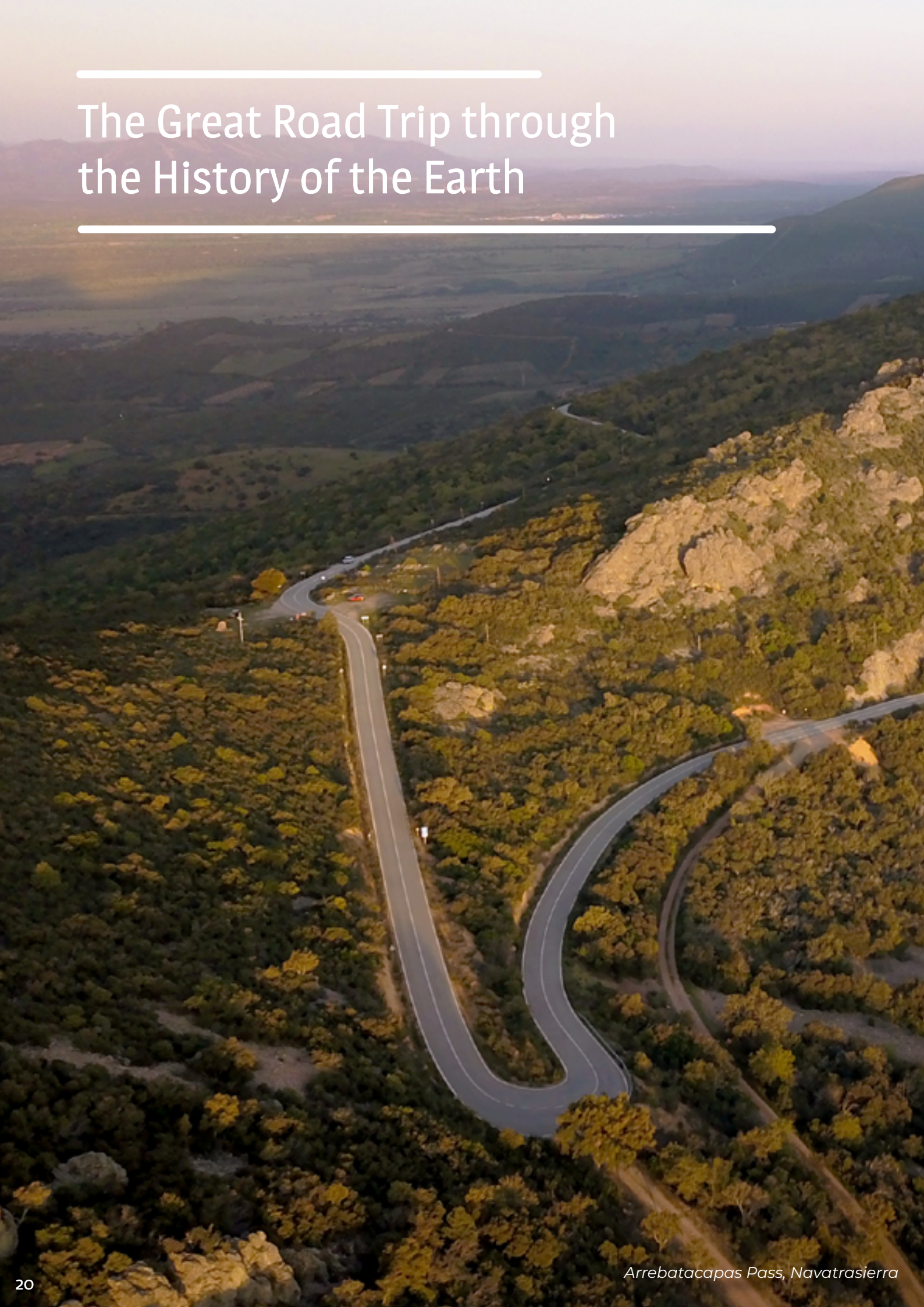
Map Key

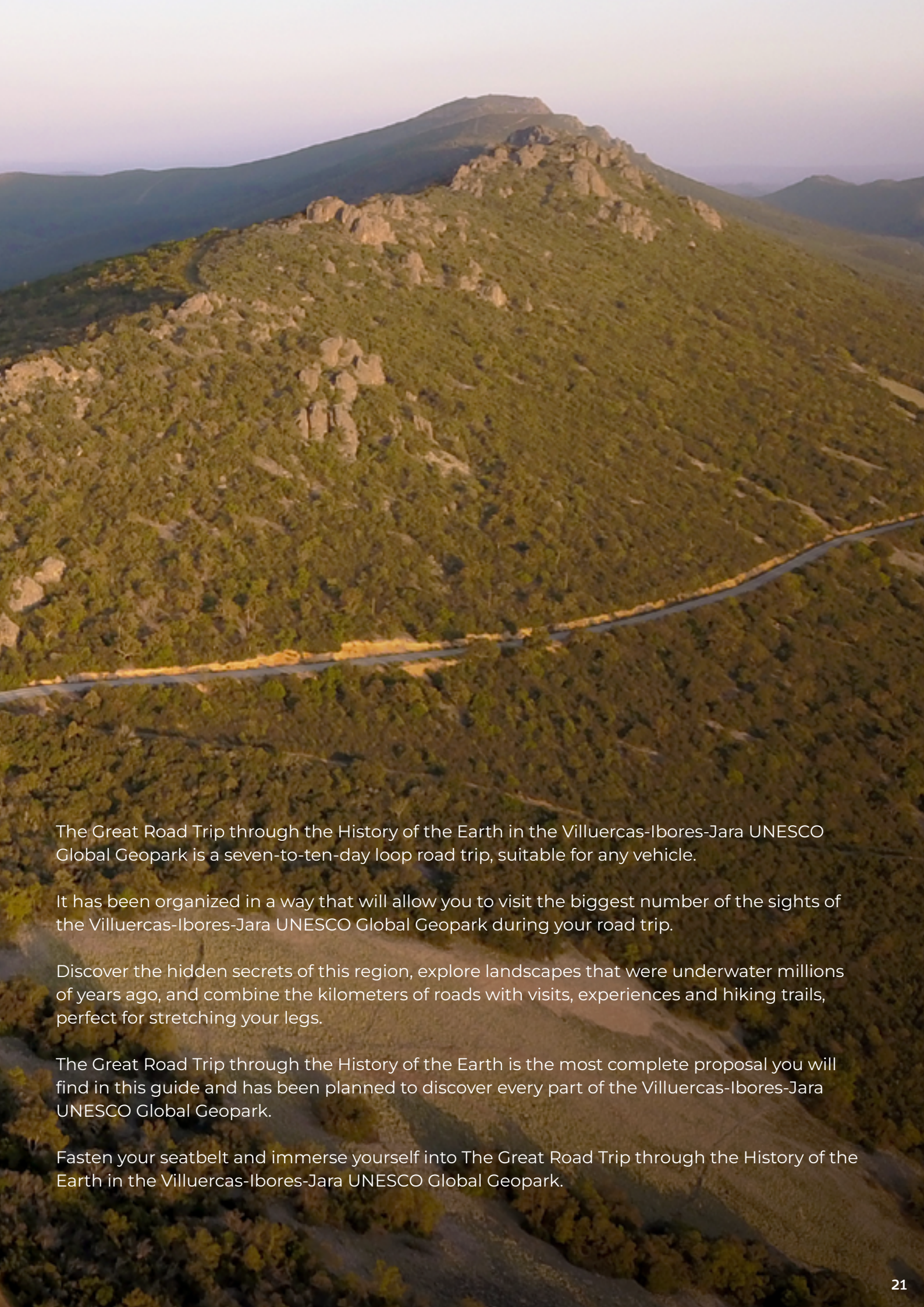
- Motorhome Stopover
- Campground
- Visitor Centre
- Healthcare Centre
- Scenic Road
- EV Charging Station
- Gas Station
- Civil Guard Police Station
- Cultural Landmark
- UNESCO Site
- Picnic Area
- Viewpoint
- Viewpoint and Picnic Area
- Astronomical Viewpoint
- Playground
- Village
- Garage
- Scenic Sections

Main Geosites

- 1 Crag of La Villuerca
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- 13 Puente del Conde

The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth





The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is a seven-to-ten-day loop road trip, suitable for any vehicle.

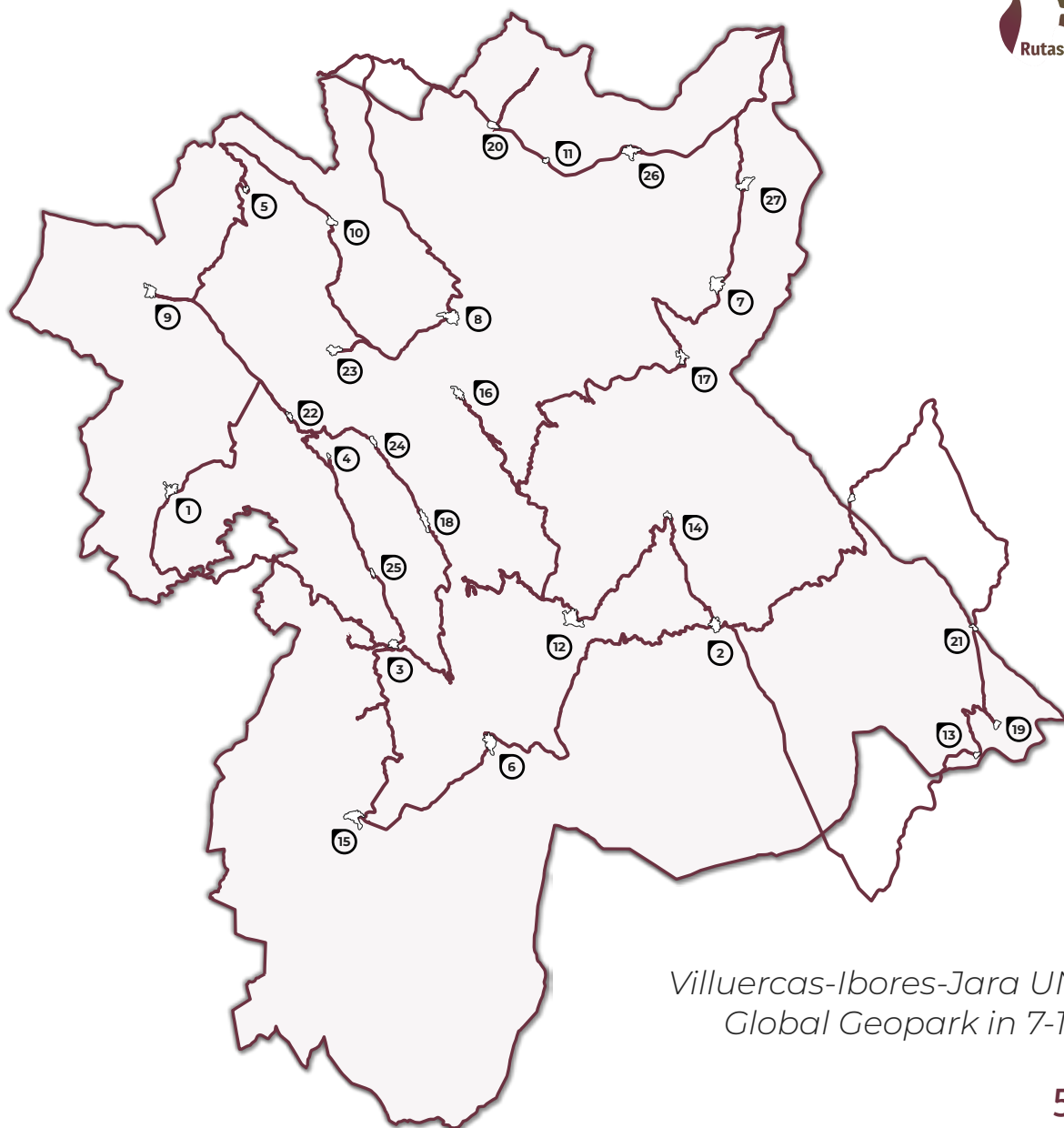
It has been organized in a way that will allow you to visit the biggest number of the sights of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark during your road trip.

Discover the hidden secrets of this region, explore landscapes that were underwater millions of years ago, and combine the kilometers of roads with visits, experiences and hiking trails, perfect for stretching your legs.

The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth is the most complete proposal you will find in this guide and has been planned to discover every part of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Fasten your seatbelt and immerse yourself into The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

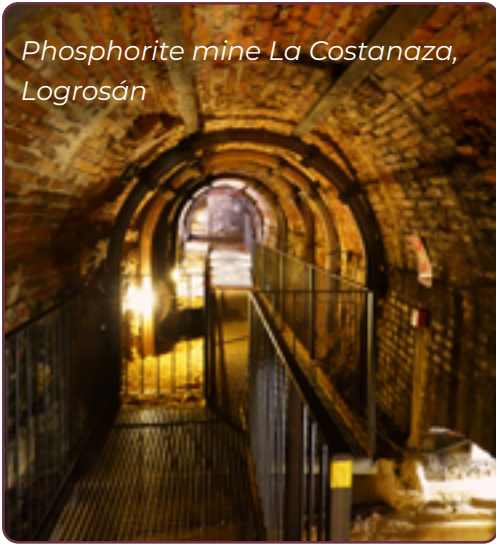
The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth Map



VILLAGES

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ① Aldeacentenera | ⑧ Castañar de Ibor | ⑮ Logrosán | ⑳ Retamosa |
| ② Alía | ⑨ Deleitosa | ⑯ Navalvillar de Ibor | ㉑ Robledollano |
| ③ Berzocana | ⑩ Fresnedoso de Ibor | ⑰ Navatrasierra | ㉒ Roturas |
| ④ Cabañas del Castillo | ⑪ Garvín | ⑱ Navezuelas | ㉓ Solana |
| ⑤ Campillo de Deleitosa | ⑫ Guadalupe | ㉐ Poblado de Cijara | ㉔ Valdelacasa de Tajo |
| ⑥ Cañamero | ⑬ Guadisa | ㉑ Peraleda de San Román | ㉕ Villar del Pedroso |
| ⑦ Carrascalejo | ⑭ La Calera | ㉒ Puerto Rey | |

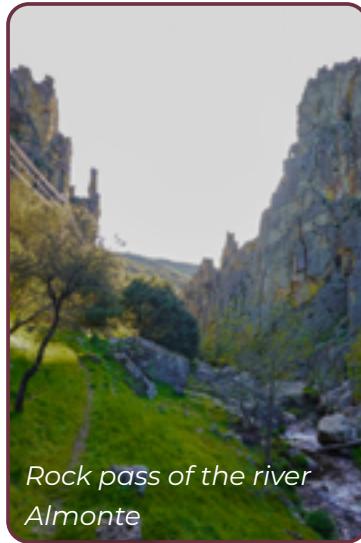
*Phosphorite mine La Costanaza,
Logrosán*



Cabañas del Castillo castle



*Rock pass of the river
Almonte*



The Road Trip in Pictures

This is an intense route, of about 560 kilometers, that you can adapt to your own pace and time available.

*Valdecastillo boulder,
Peraleda de San Román*



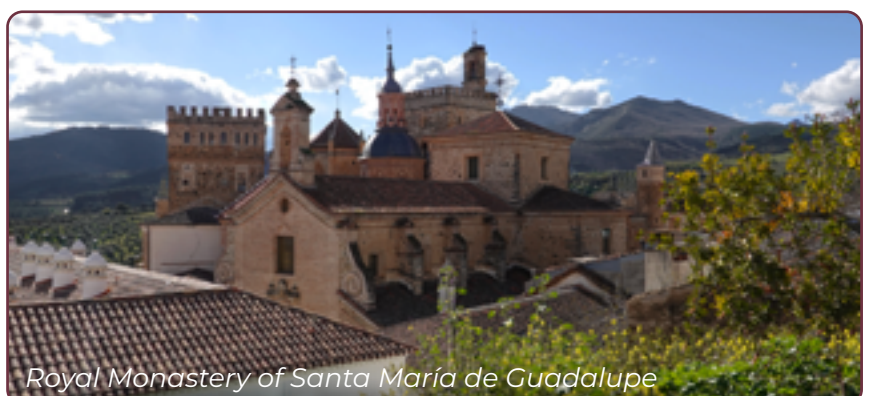
*Fossils Interpretation Centre,
Navatrasierra*



*The Aqueduct of Herrerías,
Campillo de Deleitosa*



Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe





37 km



1 h (on the road)

Stage 1



CAÑAMERO



Cañamero Visitor Centre



Gorge of the River Ruecas



LOGROSÁN



Phosphorite mine La Costanaza



Roble de la Nava



BERZOCANA



Geosite



Trail



Unique Tree



Village



Visitors Centre



From Cañamero to Berzocana

through Logrosán

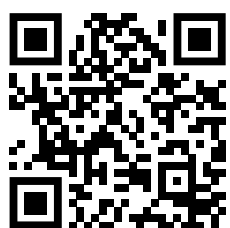
Start this stage at the Visitors Centre in Cañamero and learn in-depth about the origin, evolution and characteristics of the setting for The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth: The Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Explore thoroughly the surroundings of Cañamero, the gateway to the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, where the first geosites await you.

You can go directly from Cañamero to Berzocana by one of Extremadura's Scenic Roads (CC21.1).

However, we suggest a detour to visit one of the most interesting attractions of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: The phosphorite mine La Costanaza.

Discover the mining past of Logrosán and choose one of the most beautiful roads of the Geopark to get to Berzocana, the final point of this stage.





Visitor Centre, Cañamero

If possible, we recommend that you make your first stop in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark at the Visitors Centre in Cañamero.

Some didactic explanatory panels and a varied collection of fossils and minerals found in the Geopark will allow you to learn in detail about the origin of the territory you are going to visit, its evolution, and everything you need to know in order not miss anything.

After this visit, you can stroll through the village streets, visit the ruins of the castle or taste local cuisine.

Hop into your car and head to one of the geosites close to Cañamero: the Gorge of the River Rucas.

This gorge runs parallel to a section of the road between Guadalupe and Cañamero, the EX-102, where erosion has exposed the most resistant rocks which balance on the road slopes.

To top off your experience, take part in a local activity, such as a visit to a wine cellar and a wine tasting of DO (Designation of Origin) Ribera del Guadiana.



Wine tasting in the Bodega Ruíz Torres, Cañamero

Do not miss any detail! This is one of the most spectacular places of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

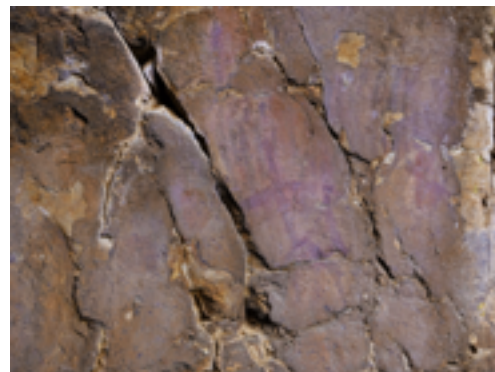
Apart from enjoying the Ruecas River Gorge from your car window, we suggest that you step out of your vehicle and take a walk in one of the natural landscapes formed by the Ruecas River close to Cañamero.

Park your vehicle approximately one kilometer down road CC-21.3 (coordinates: [39°23'10.5"N 5°23'25.9"W](#)), where you will see a vertical sign indicating the beginning of the walking route to Álvarez Cave, also known as Chiquita Cave.

On the way to this place, you can visit the Interpretation Centre of ZEPA (SPA, Special Protected Area) Sierra de las Villuercas y Valle del Guadarranque, where explanatory panels and audiovisual material offer information about the ecosystems and birds of the area.

The trail to Álvarez Cave, also known as Chiquita Cave, is an easy hike, barely one kilometer long, that will take you through the Ruecas River Gorge to one of the best-known examples of cave art in the province of Cáceres.

IT'S WORTH A VISIT



Based on their schematic features and techniques used, the cave paintings of Chiquita Cave, or Álvarez Cave, were dated between the Neolithic period and the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age.

On the wall of an open-air rock shelter, you will contemplate, free of charge, a series of schematic cave paintings, distributed into several groups that are easy to identify and interpret thanks to the explanatory panels.

After observing the cave paintings of Chiquita Cave, continue the route to a place known as El Charco de la Nutria, a natural pool in the middle of the Ruecas River Gorge where, in the hottest months, you can take a bath and enjoy the picnic area.



Natural pool El Charco de la Nutria, Cañamero

DO NOT MISS!



- *Cañamero Visitor Centre*
- *Gorge of the River Ruecas*
- *Phosphorite mine La Costanaza*

Head back to your vehicle and continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth along the EX-102, towards Logrosán.

In about 13 km you will have arrived at the parking of the Costanaza Mine Interpretation Centre. Park and go to the hall, where guided tours begin.

This activity, highly recommended for children, begins with an introduction to the history of the mine in the Interpretation Centre and continues with a visit to the powder house, now transformed into a “black room”.

The visit continues with a descent to the adapted galleries of the mine La Costanaza and ends in the Vicente Sos Baynat Geological and Mining Museum.

After visiting the mine La Costanaza, take a walk around Logrosán and discover, firsthand, its gastronomy and traditional products.

Return to your vehicle and get back on The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth along one of the most beautiful roads of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, the CC-22.5.

If you want to visit the *Phosphorite mine La Costanaza* in Logrosán, it is essential to book in advance by calling **+34 927 36 01 80** or sending an e-mail to minasdelogrosan@gmail.com. The visit lasts two hours.

Sight of the San Cristóbal Hill and Logrosán from road CC-22.5

This road links Logrosán and Berzocana and traverses one of the geosites of the Geopark of high geological value: the Cabeza del Águila surroundings.

The characteristic silhouette of San Cristóbal Hill appears in your rear-view mirror after the first bends. It's the granite stock of Logrosán through which you have just descended into the bowls of the Earth.

Halfway between Logrosán and Berzocana, there is an intersection to the left (coordinates: [39°24'14.1"N 5°28'05.3"W](#)) that will take you to one of the unique trees of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

It is the Roble de la Nava, a 400-year-old oak, that stands out because of its good state of preservation and enormous size.

The stretch up to the Roble de la Nava runs along an unpaved road in good condition that crosses several private farms with livestock roaming freely.

After the detour, retrace your path to the asphalt to continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth to Berzocana.

The fields of cherry and chestnut trees will accompany you at the end of this stage.



Roble de la Nava

QR Codes of this Stage



Stage Track



Parking Chiquita
Cave and Rucas
River Gorge



Intersection Roble
de la Nava

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

CAÑAMERO

Restaurante y Hotel Rural Villa de Cañamero 🍴🍷

Avenida Cervantes, n.º 19, Cañamero | 927 36 92 60 - 627 34 49
60 <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-rural-villa-de-canamero/>

Albergue Villuercas 🏠

Carretera Berzocana, Cañamero | 927 22 34 15 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/albergue-villuerca/>

Turismo Rural Candela 🏠

Paraje del Horcajo, Cañamero | 927 19 53 16 - 653 67 33 73 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/turismo-rural-candela/>

Turismo Rural Cancho del Fresno 🏠

Pantano del Cancho del Fresno, s/n, Cañamero | 659 23 08 81 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/turismo-rural-cancho-del-fresno/>

La Alberguería 🏠

Carretera Extremadura 102, km 61, 8, Cañamero | 670 43 26 81 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/la-albergueria/>

Restaurante Ximenez 🍴🍷

Avenida de Cervantes, n.º 9, Cañamero | 927 36 91 41 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/restaurante-ximenez/>

Bodegas Ruiz Torres 🍷🛒

Carretera EX-116 km 33, 8, Cañamero | 927 36 90 27 - 927 36 90 24
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/bodegas-ruiz-torres/>

Bodegas Cañalva 🍷🛒

Calle Coto, n.º 54, Cañamero | 927 36 94 05 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/bodegas-canalva/>

Légola Servicios Turísticos 🧑🏻🧑🏻

Calle Miralrío, n.º 11, Cáceres | 927 22 34 15 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/legola-servicios-turisticos/>

Birdwatching Villuercas 🧑🏻🧑🏻

Calle Alcornocal, n.º 2, Cañamero | 646 95 15 33 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/birdwatching-villuercas/>

Cooperativa de Aceite de Oliva Santo Domingo Guzmán 🛒

Calle Coto, n.º 9, Cañamero | 927 36 91 15 - 680 27 02 10 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/cooperativa-santo-domingo-guzman/>

Ingema Solar ☀️

Polígono industrial, Calle Afueras, s/n, Cañamero | 927 15 72 19 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/otros-servicios/ingema-solar/>

Audiovisuales Taiga 🎥

Calle Cervantes, n.º 5, Cañamero | 927 15 72 06 - 627 57 70 25 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/otros-servicios/audiovisuales-taiga/>

E-Geomapping 📱

Calle San Idelfonso, n.º 40, Cañamero | 638 71 89 34 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/e-geomapping/>

LOGROSÁN

Complejo Rural y Restaurante El Prado 🏠

Carretera Guadalupe, km 49,5, Logrosán | 927 36 07 95 - 637 00 18 84 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/complejo-rural-el-prado/>

Minas de Logrosán 🧑🏻🧑🏻

Carretera Guadalupe, 11, Logrosán | 927 36 01 80 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/minas-de-logrosan/>

Lovemidu 🍷🛒

Calle Palacios, n.º 7, Logrosán | 669 45 08 34 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/lovemidu/>

Autocares y Taxis Ramos Vicente 🚗

C/ Mario Roso de Luna, Logrosán | 927350147 - 639878767 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/autocares-y-taxis-ramos-vicente/>

La Yaya de Logrosán 🛒

Avenida Mario Roso de Luna, n.º 20, Logrosán | 650 12 19 62 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/la-yaya-de-logrosan/>

SYMBOLS	🏠 Accommodation	🛒 Product	🧑🏻🧑🏻 Activities	🍷 Handcraft
	🍴🍷 Restaurant	🛒 Others		

The works in the mine La Costanaza started in 1863, and it became the most important phosphorite mine in Europe. The phosphorite obtained in this mine was mainly transformed into fertilizer for agricultural use and was, for a long time, the main economic engine of Logrosán. In 1946 the mine La Costanaza closed down as the mineral extraction was no longer profitable.














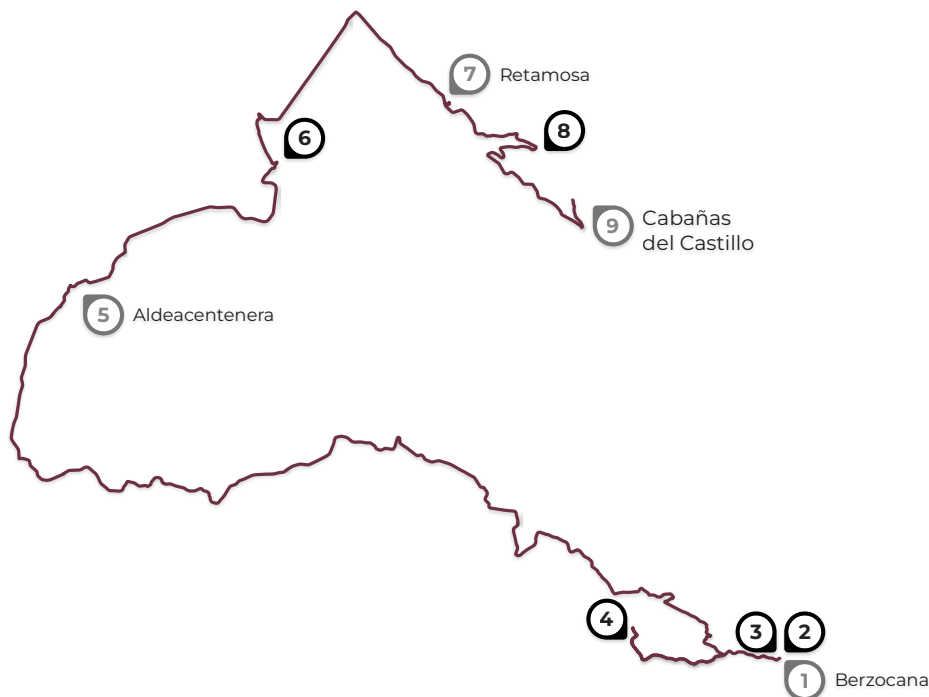
59 km



1 h 20 min (on the road)

Stage 2

- ①  BERZOCANA
- ②  San Juan Bautista Church
- ③  Archaeology Interpretation Centre
- ④  Mesto de la Dehesa
- ⑤  ALDEACENTENERA
- ⑥  Puente del Conde
- ⑦  RETAMOSA
- ⑧  Rock Pass River Almonte
- ⑨  CABAÑAS DEL CASTILLO



From Berzocana to Cabañas del Castillo

through Aldeacentenera and Retamosa







This stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth begins with a visit to Berzocana and finishes, 59 km later, in the astonishing village of Cabañas del Castillo.

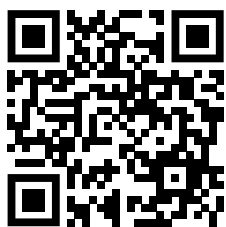
Magical geosites, places of cultural interest and unique natural corners will surprise you along this route.

The boulders that crown the geological folds of the Santa Lucía Syncline are the starting point of this stage.

When the landscape turns into pastures, you will know that you are at the western limit of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, bordering the region of Trujillo.

The stage ends some kilometers further north of the Santa Lucía Syncline.

-  Cultural Site
-  Geosite
-  Interpretation Centre
-  Trail
-  Unique Tree
-  Village





Berzocana from the rural lodge Cielo Abierto


Start the stage by walking through Berzocana, a tiny village whose history, legends and nature will leave you speechless.

In 1961 a local shepherd found here the valuable Tesoro de Berzocana (Berzocana Treasure), an ensemble formed by two golden torcs (necklaces) and a tray. It can be seen in the National Archaeological Museum in Madrid.

In the Berzocana Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre, there is a replica of the Treasure on display, along with other pieces of great archaeological value found in the region. There are also information panels on the history of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark villages.

The next stop we suggest is the church of San Juan Bautista of Berzocana, declared a Historic Monument of National Interest in 1977.

The Berzocana Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre is located in Santa Florentina Street. Consult its opening hours by calling +34 927 150 030 or sending an e-mail to ciarqueologiaberzocana@gmail.com.

A wide-angle photograph of the interior of the San Juan Bautista church in Berzocana. The church features a high, vaulted ceiling with intricate stone arches. Large, fluted columns support the structure. The floor is covered with dark wooden pews. In the center, a white altar is visible, topped with a crucifix and surrounded by religious statues and paintings. A small, ornate altar is located to the left of the main altar. A text box in the upper left corner provides information about visiting the church.

If you find the San Juan Bautista church closed, head to the town hall in Plaza de España and they will explain how to visit it.

San Juan Bautista church, Berzocana

Its size and cathedral-like appearance put it on a par with the history and legends that surround it.

Inside, in a small altar located to the left of the high altar, you can see a sarcophagus with the remains of Saint Fulgentius and Saint Florentina to whom various miracles are attributed. They were brought here by Seville clergymen, together with the carving of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

In Berzocana you can also hike through one of the geosites of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: Crags of Las Sábanas.

You can visit the cave paintings, such as Los Morales or Los Cabritos, on your own. Otherwise, you can pay a visit to the Cabeza del Moro, a rock that has been keeping its balance, as if by magic, for centuries.

You may choose to start this hike in the village or drive up the gravel road until you reach a signposted parking lot (coordinates: [39°26'31.8"N 5°27'01.1"W](#)).

After the hiking route through the high part of Berzocana, we suggest you come back to your vehicle and take a walk around the meadows.

Unique tree Mesto de la Dehesa, Berzocana



To visit the Mesto de la Dehesa, take CC-129 road from Berzocana and then, a junction (coordinates: [39°26'15.5"N 5°28'29.1"W](#)) that will take you across some private properties. Park without interfering with traffic (parking coordinates: [39°26'38.8"N 5°29'48.6"W](#)) and continue on foot for 15 minutes along the path flanked by holm oaks and cork oaks until arriving at the Mesto de la Dehesa.

The goal now is to reach one of the unique trees of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the Mesto de la Dehesa. This specimen has earned its place among the unique trees because it is a hybrid between holm oak and cork oak, a very rare species to find.

Get back to your car and continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth to the next stop: the village of Aldeacentenera.

In order to optimize the route, you will drive outside the geographical limits of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark for some kilometers.

Once in Aldeacentenera, we suggest you park and walk through the quiet streets of this village. Do not miss the Plaza de España, where you can find the San Bartolomé Apóstol church and an interesting fountain dedicated to a local school teacher.

A few kilometers from there, towards Retamosa, you will come across one more essential geosite of this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth: the Puente del Conde bridge.



Plaza de España, Aldeacentenera

The Puente del Conde, declared a Bien de Interés Cultural (Heritage of Cultural Interest) is a bridge located in an idyllic place. It has been restored and a picnic area has been installed nearby.

This is a perfect spot to take a break, have a snack and enjoy the landscape next to the Almonte River.

Continue the stage until you reach the junction with the CC-22.3 and turn right.



**IT'S
WORTH
A VISIT**



*Puente del Conde,
Aldeacentenera and Cabañas del Castillo*


Before you know it, you will have arrived in Retamosa de Cabañas, a peaceful district of Cabañas del Castillo.

At this stop you will be touched by the murals on the façades depicting the daily life of the village. Some of them are just beside the road.

Little by little, the route starts to reveal one of the most iconic postcard views of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the village of Cabañas del Castillo.

You know it is the end of the stage and you feel impatient to finish it but there is one more surprising geosite on your way that is a “must”: the Rock Pass of the River Almonte.

DO NOT MISS!



- *Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre in Berzocana*
- *Puente del Conde bridge*
- *Rock Pass of the River Almonte*



Murals, Retamosa de Cabañas

Park the vehicle just past the bridge over the Almonte River (coordinates: [39°33'34.0"N 5°31'13.7"W](#))), carefully cross the road and follow the path that goes upwards along the river.

Step by step, you will enter one of the most special places of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the Rock Pass of the River Almonte.

Watch your step but, at the same time, do not stop looking up.

The beauty of the landscape and its geological importance add up to the incredible bird flight spectacle. Griffon vultures and Egyptian vultures choose these ancient rocks to nest.

Slow down, sit over a rock, take a deep breath and enjoy the magic of the place.

Head back to your vehicle and continue your route where you left it. Now you will reach the end of this stage in Cabañas del Castillo.

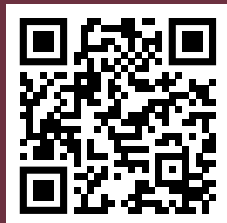
It is not recommended to drive through Cabañas del Castillo since the streets are very narrow and quite steep. The best option is to park in Corral Concejo Street or at the end of it, in the vicinity of the bus stop (coordinates: [39°32'50.8"N 5°30'42.0"W](#)).



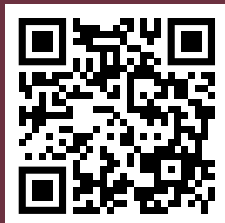
QR Codes of this Stage



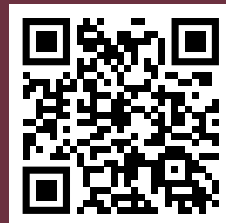
Stage Track



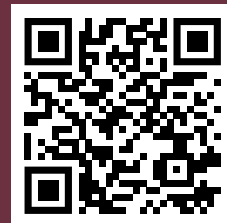
Hiking Trail Crags of
Las Sábanas and
Cabeza del Moro



Intersection Mesto
de la Dehesa



Mesto de la Dehesa



Parking Rock Pass
River Almonte

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

BERZOCANA

Cielo Abierto Turismo Rural 🏠

Finca Cerro de las Viñas, s/n. Berzocana | 669 26 44 49 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/cielo-abierto-turismo-rural/>

Rutas por Extremadura 👤

Berzocana | 636 99 84 62 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/rutas-por-extremadura/>

Cerezas y Castañas Puerto de la Charca 🛒

Carretera a Logrosán | 608 70 15 03 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/cerezas-castanas-puerto-de-la-charca/>

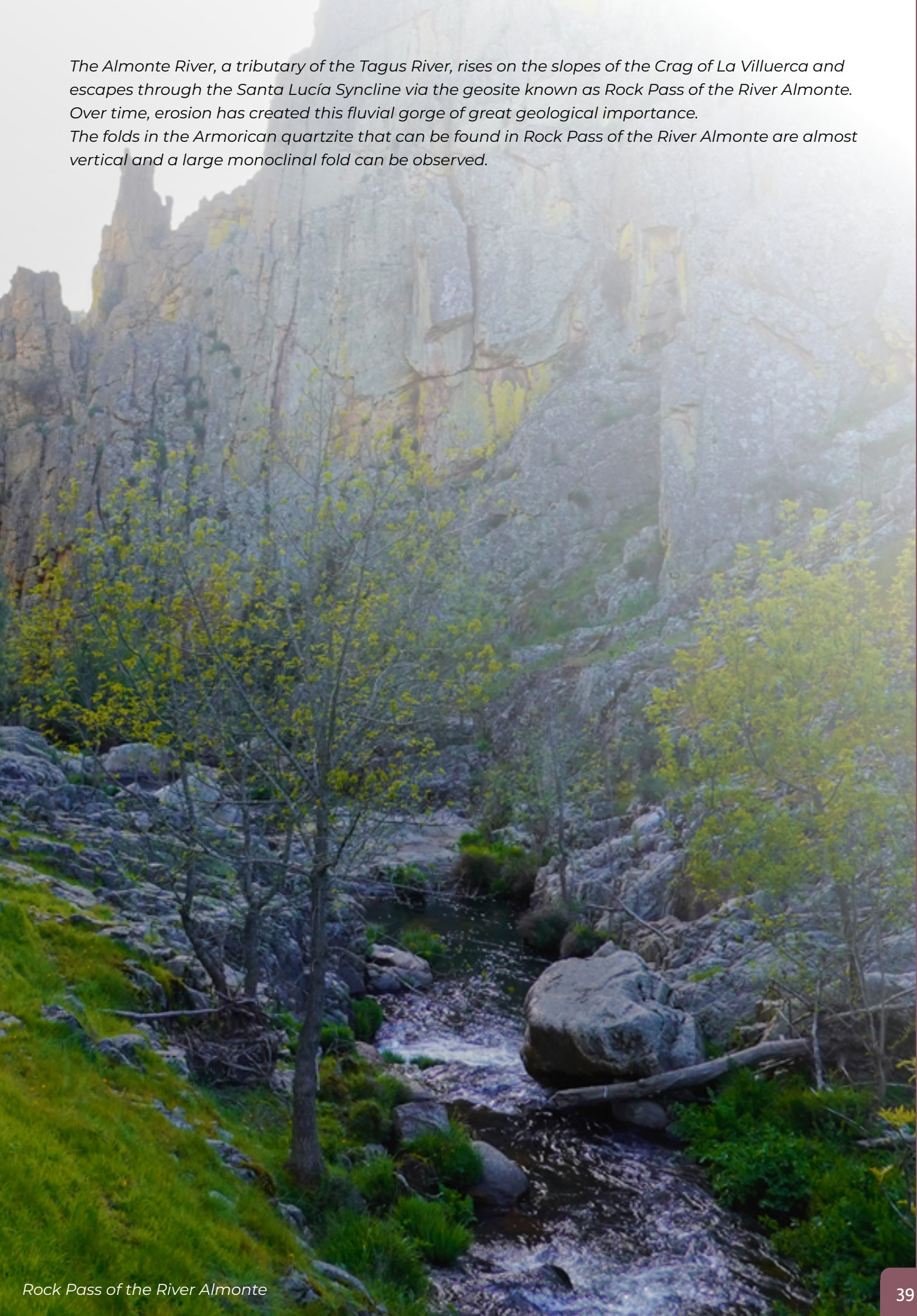
ALDEACENTENERA

Casa Rural El Caserón 🏠

Calle La libertad, n.º 4 | 629 18 50 30 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-el-caseron/>

SYMBOLS	Accommodation		Product		Handcraft	
	🍴	🛒	👤	👤	🛍️	🛍️
	Restaurant	Activities			Others	

The Almonte River, a tributary of the Tagus River, rises on the slopes of the Crag of La Villuerca and escapes through the Santa Lucía Syncline via the geosite known as Rock Pass of the River Almonte. Over time, erosion has created this fluvial gorge of great geological importance. The folds in the Armorican quartzite that can be found in Rock Pass of the River Almonte are almost vertical and a large monoclinal fold can be observed.















62 km

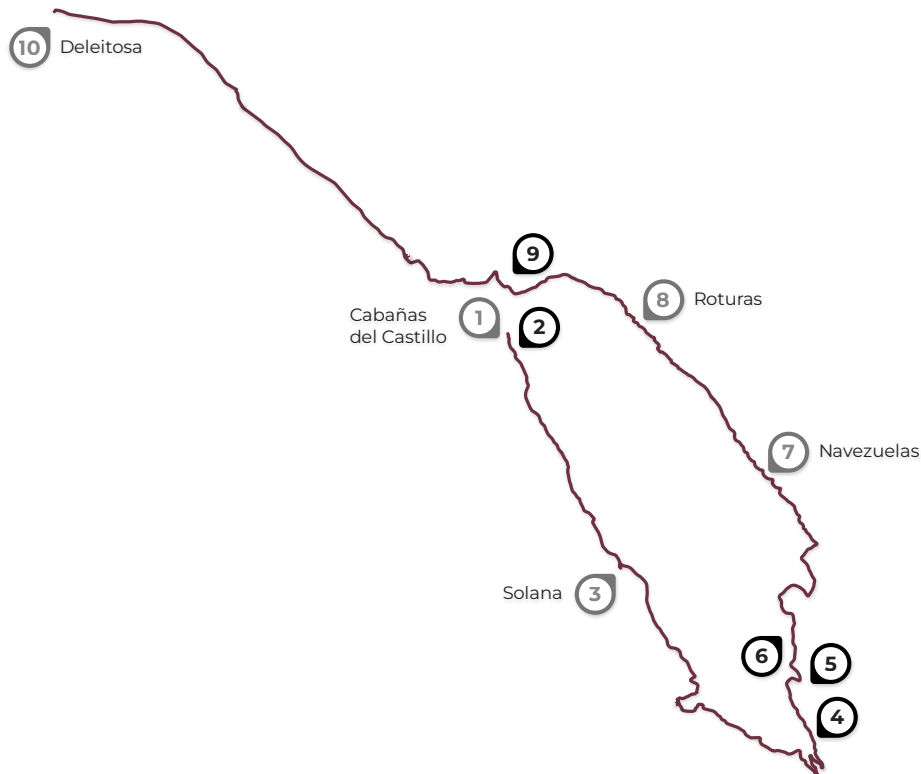


1 h 10 min (on the road)

Stage 3

- ①  CABAÑAS DEL CASTILLO
- ②  Cabañas del Castillo Castle
- ③  SOLANA
- ④  Collado del Mazo Viewpoint
- ⑤  Rucas Valley Viewpoint
- ⑥  El Brazo mountain pass. Watershed slopes
- ⑦  NAVEZUELAS
- ⑧  ROTURAS
- ⑨  Rock Pass River Almonte
- ⑩  DELEITOSA

-  Cultural Site
-  Geosite
-  Viewpoint
-  Viewpoint and Picnic Area
-  Village



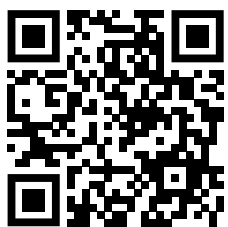
From Cabañas del Castillo to Deleitosa

through Solana, Navezuelas and Roturas

During this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth you will discover 62 kilometers of astonishing landscape that will make you pull over to contemplate its majesty.

Those responsible for your astonishment are the two protagonists of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the Santa Lucía Syncline and the Almonte Anticline.

Actually, there are just 20 kilometers between Cabañas del Castillo and Deleitosa, but we suggest a side trip to calmly explore some of the most impressive roads of the Geopark.





This stage starts in Cabañas del Castillo, where you would park your vehicle, stretch your legs and climb to the castle crowning one of the two crags that protect the village.

The ascent (1,5 km long) begins on a well-marked path that goes behind the church of Nuestra Señora de la Peña.

Some sections are more demanding, but the route is equipped with holds and supports that will help you go up and down more easily.

You will reach the top in about 20 minutes, depending on your starting point.

The ruins of the medieval castle of Cabañas del Castillo and one of the most impressive viewpoints of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark await you at the top.

On a clear day, you can even catch a glimpse of the Sierra de Gredos.

This is also one of the best places in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark for bird watching, as they nest in the rock bends.

IT'S WORTH A VISIT



Cancho del Reloj, Solana de Cabañas

After recharging your batteries with amazing views and fresh air, get into your vehicle and continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth to the next stop: Solana de Cabañas.

In a few kilometers, a new geosite will appear in the left window: Crag of El Reloj.

This crag, in addition to its high geological value due to the special characteristics of its rocks, has served throughout history as a shelter for the inhabitants of the region, who have left their mark on the walls in form of cave paintings.

Without losing sight of it, you will reach Solana de Cabañas, where we suggest making a stop and strolling through its quiet streets.

Solana, a district of Cabañas del Castillo, has witnessed important findings that confirm the fact that this region has been inhabited since ancient times.

The Estela de Solana de Cabañas, an ancient stele, is a proof of this. Nowadays, it is on display at the National Archaeological Museum in Madrid.

Roundabout of the Tesoro de Berzocana, Berzocana



Stay on the road till you get to the roundabout with the Tesoro de Berzocana monument, on the outskirts of Berzocana, and there, take CC-97 road towards Navezuelas.

You are about to start one of the most astonishing road sections of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

As soon as you take the detour, you will see a dirt road to the right with a sign indicating a geosite. This is the dirt road that leads to the Sierra de la Madrila, the mountain ridge that lies between Berzocana and Cañamero, and the starting point for several hiking trails.

The paved road now climbs a long steep mountain pass until reaching the first viewpoint of this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth: Collado del Mazo (coordinates: [39°25'33.7"N 5°25'13.0"W](#)).



Pull over for a moment and take in the scenery.

Do not forget that the cliffs that emerge in front of you and will dominate the next section of the road are more than 470 million years old.

Drive down to the next viewpoint along road CC-97 (coordinates: [39°26'37.9"N 5°25'27.8"W](#)) and repeat the procedure: stop, get out and be amazed.

From this viewpoint, you will enjoy exceptional views of the Rucas River valley and, in the background, the Cancho del Fresno reservoir.

The next road section traverses El Brazo mountain pass, another geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark (coordinates: [39°27'00.3"N 5°25'32.9"W](#)).

This place, of great geological value, is the watershed of the Guadiana River and the Tagus River.

DO NOT MISS!



- Cabañas del Castillo and the castle viewpoint
- The views from the viewpoints on CC-97 road
- Rock Pass of the River Almonte viewpoint

Geosite El Brazo mountain pass



The impressive rocky crests that, thanks to their strong composition have endured the passing of time, now crown the mountains, earning the respect of those who enter this territory.

Continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth that, during the next kilometers, will guide you out of the Santa Lucía Syncline and into one of the most closed valleys of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the valley formed by the Almonte Anticline.

One more change of scenery. This time, it is dressed up with fields of chestnuts and olive trees and the 1600-meter-high Villuercas Peak with its characteristic antennas through the right window.

The next stop we recommend is Navezuelas, a small town at the foot of Villuercas Peak. Take advantage of this stop to walk along its streets and stretch your legs.

Stay on CC-121 road for 6 km and you will arrive in the next village: Roturas de Cabañas.

You can drive up Villuercas Peak from the intersection near Navezuelas or from a junction on the road that connects Navalvillar de Ibor and Guadalupe. We recommend the Guadalupe option since the road is wider and has been recently asphalted.



If you are doing The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth in the hot season, you can cool off in the natural pool of La Calera on the outskirts of Roturas de Cabañas.

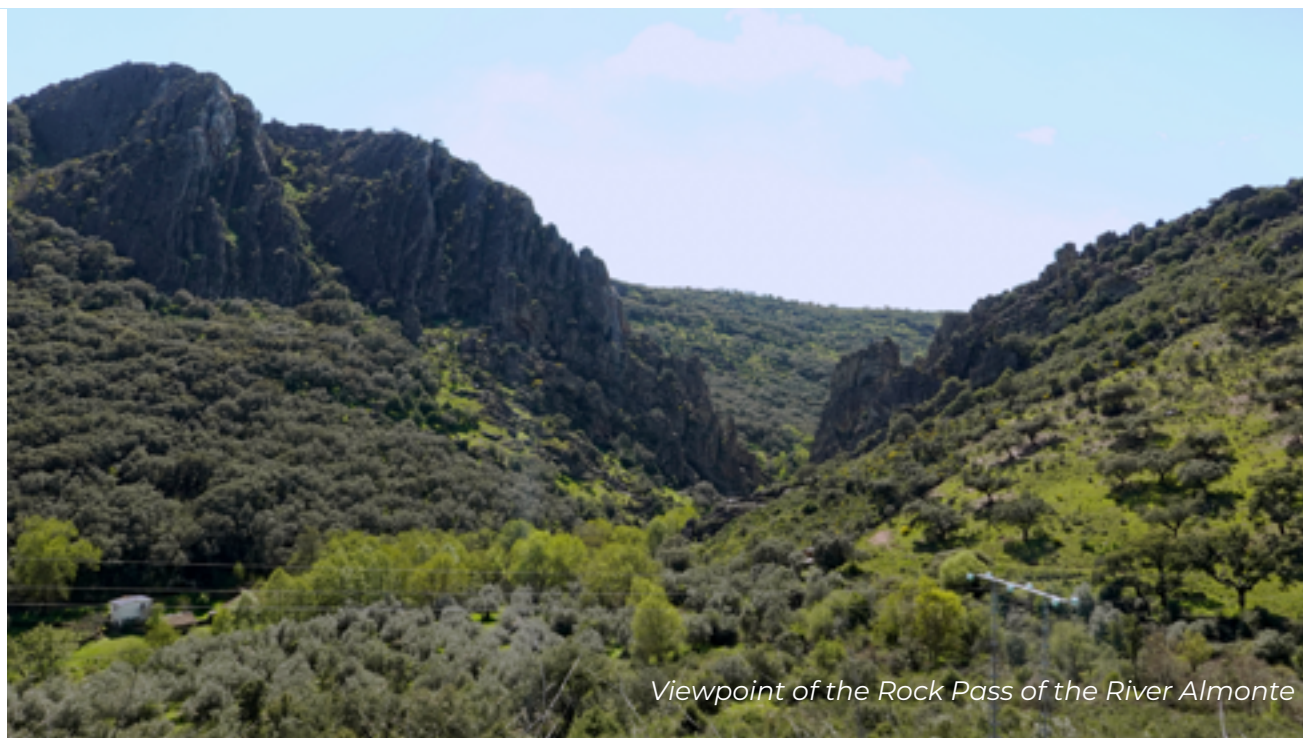
Very close to Roturas de Cabañas, on road CC-121, you will pass by a viewpoint with a picnic area that offers a different perspective of the Rock Pass of the River Almonte (coordinates: [39°33'41.4"N 5°30'46.5"W](#)).

From this side of the Rock Pass of the River Almonte, you can clearly see the way the Almonte River follows through this great rock wall. We recommend a stop here. Take out your binoculars and watch the birds that nest in this river gorge.

Pick up The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth and give yourself some time to enjoy the road section ahead of you, leading to Deleitosa, the end of this stage.

If you feel like it, stop again in Solana de Cabañas and enjoy the postcard view of Cabañas del Castillo in your rearview mirror once more.

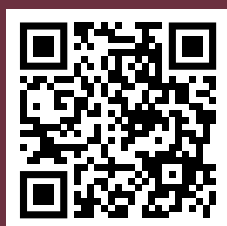
You will finally arrive in Deleitosa, a village full of history and artisan gastronomic products, such as ham, cheese and charcuterie, that will help you recover the energy for the next stage.



Viewpoint of the Rock Pass of the River Almonte

We recommend going on foot to the Rock Pass of the River Almonte, contemplate closely the “knee” (monoclinal) fold formed by its walls and enjoy this magical spot in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. You can find more information about the Rock Pass of the River Almonte in the second stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth (from Berzocana to Cabañas del Castillo).

QR Codes of this Stage



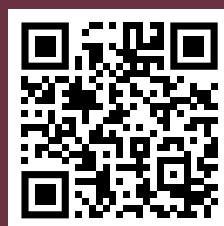
Stage Track



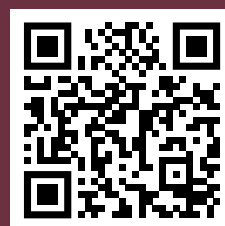
Collado del Mazo Viewpoint



Ruelas Valley Viewpoint



El Brazo Mountain Pass Viewpoint



Almonte River Viewpoint and Picnic Area

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

CABAÑAS DEL CASTILLO

Casa Rural y Apartamentos La Peña 

D. Juan Ureta, n.º 12, Cabañas del Castillo |

927151067 - 620 25 46 12 |

<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-y-apartamentos-la-pena/>

SOLANA DE CABAÑAS

Restaurante Doña Tomasa 

Calle San Miguel, n.º 15, Solana de Cabañas |

927 10 01 67 - 616 34 14 32 |

<https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/restaurante-dona-tomasa/>

SYMBOLS	 Accommodation	 Product	 Handcraft
	 Restaurant	 Activities	 Others

The castle of Cabañas del Castillo was built in the 12th century on a rock that is more than 70 meters high. The purpose of the castle was purely defensive. From this location there is an exceptional 360° view of the surroundings. Nowadays, you can still see the remains of a keep and another tower, located further up, as well as the line along which the wall ran.





52 km



1 h 10 min (on the road)

Stage 4



DELEITOSA



CAMPILLO DE DELEITOSA



Aqueduct of Herrerías
and the Descuernabras
Gorge



FRESNEDOSO DE IBOR



ROBLEDOLLANO



Fault mirror and Crag of
Las Narices



CASTAÑAR DE IBOR



Geosite



Trail



Village



From Deleitosa to Castañar de Ibor

through Campillo de Deleitosa, Fresnedoso de Ibor and Robledollano

52 kilometers of road await you during this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth. We will also offer you a hike that you won't be able to decline. Discover one of the most interesting hiking routes in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark!

Although there is a direct road that stretches between Deleitosa and Castañar de Ibor, this stage takes a short side trip to accomplish this route's objective: explore the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark in detail.

History, landscapes and great gastronomy are the three main attractions of the stage you are about to begin.





Plaza de España, Deleitosa

This stage starts with a visit to Deleitosa, a small town granted the status of “villa” in the 14th century, according to the “rollo jurisdiccional” (pillory) in Plaza de España. Deleitosa became the protagonist of a photographic report which made it famous worldwide.



Cold meats from Deleitosa

In 1950, a renowned American photographer, Eugene Smith, chose Deleitosa for a photographic report to portray the life of the so-called contemporaneous “Deep Spain” (rural territories situated in the central part of Spain). The report was published in the Life Magazine.

These photos earned considerable popularity, because of their quality and the political controversy they aroused. Nowadays, they are permanently exhibited in the town hall of Deleitosa.

You cannot leave Deleitosa without tasting its cold meats and cheeses, its distinguishing mark and a perfect ingredient for your sandwiches for the stage that lies ahead.

Buckle up! You are about to drive through one of the loneliest sections of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: CC-19.5 road.

Almost without realizing it, you will have arrived at Campillo de Deleitosa, the next stop on The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Park and walk through the quiet streets of this village, one of the least populated in Extremadura.

Put your hiking boots on and load your backpack with water, because the next stop is a hiking route through one of the geosites of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the aqueduct of Herrerías and the Descuernacabras Gorge.

Popularly known as “the route of the aqueduct of Herrerías”, it goes through the valley formed by the Descuernacabras Gorge along the course of an aqueduct, whose remains can still be seen. It was built to transport water to the blacksmiths in the area.

The most impressive image of the route can be taken from the point where this hydraulic engineering masterpiece has 20 arches and reaches an 8-meter height.



The Aqueduct of Herrerías hiking route

The hike starts in Eras Street, next to the town hall of Campillo de Deleitosa.

There are three alternatives, of different duration and length.

The shortest and easiest option is about 7 km long (return) and it is highly recommended if you do not want to spend much time. It goes to the point where the aqueduct reaches the height of 8 meters and returns along the same path.

The second option is a loop hike of about 11 km (return). It continues along the aqueduct to the ruins of the blacksmiths', beyond the final point of the first option, and returns to Campillo de Deleitosa ascending the side of a cliff and by forest dirt roads. This route can be tough at certain points.

The third option is the longest one. If you want to complete the stage, you will probably not have enough time to do it. It goes behind the blacksmiths' and follows the path along the Gargantilla Stream and returns to Campillo de Deleitosa.

We do not recommend this route during the hot seasons. You should always wear appropriate shoes and bring enough water.

After some physical activity and a dose of fresh air, go back to The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth and continue to the next stop: Fresnedoso de Ibor.

Road signs warn about the possible presence of lynxes in this area, so keep an eye out for them.

Fresnedoso de Ibor awaits you! Take this opportunity and walk through the quiet streets of this town before going back on the road.

Continue along the narrow but astonishing road CC-163. In 8 km you will reach the intersection with the regional road EX-386.

Instead of going directly to Castañar de Ibor, we suggest turning right at the crossroads to visit another village in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: Robledollano.

DO NOT MISS!



- *Deleitosa*
- *Aqueduct of the Herrerías*
- *EX-386 road*

Fresnedoso de Ibor

The village is only 2 km away from the crossroads. Walk through its streets and, if you are traveling with children, enjoy a playground and sports courts. They are perfect to play for a while before wrapping up this stage.

Return to EX-386 road and head to Castañar de Ibor. There are about 10 km ahead of a mountain road. It is one of the most beautiful sections of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Through the window, you will see again the characteristic crests that accompanied you during the first stages of this road trip.



Castañar de Ibor

This shows that you are heading, once again, towards the oldest area of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

The stage ends in Castañar de Ibor, where you can rest and regain strength at the foot of the geosite Castañar hill Palaeontological Deposit, known as “el Camorro de Castañar”.

Fault Mirror. Geosite in Castañar de Ibor



Geosite Fault Mirror – Crag of Las Narices

On the EX-386, before reaching Castañar de Ibor (coordinates: [39°36'22.8"N 5°27'34.5"W](#)) you can see one of the geosites of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: The Fault Mirror.

Just below Crag of Las Narices, so called because of its shape, the Viejas Syncline and the Ibor Anticline meet. The passing of time and road construction works have brought this unusual geological phenomenon to light.

You can see the fault mirror from your window or, if you prefer, you can park (if your vehicle is not big) on the dirt road that branches off the main road (coordinates: [39°36'16.9"N 5°27'37.3"W](#)) and, with extreme caution, walk a few meters behind the crash barrier at the sharp bend with poor visibility.



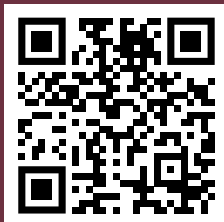
QR Codes of this Stage



Stage Track



Fault Mirror



Fault Mirror Parking

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

DELEITOSA

Asador El Majano 🍴

Carretera de Retamosa, km 13, Deleitosa | 629 55 31 55 | <https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/asador-el-majano/>

Fábrica de embutidos Sierra de las Villuercas 🛒 👤

Carretera Retamosa, km 11, Deleitosa | 927 54 03 47 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/fabrica-de-embutidos-sierra-de-las-villuercas/>

Fábrica de embutidos Hijas de Eduardo Nieto 🛒 👤

Avenida de la Virgen de la Breña, s/n, Deleitosa | 927 54 00 93 - 927 54 03 54 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/fabrica-de-embutidos-hijas-de-eduardo-nieto/>

Quesería Almonte 🛒 👤

Calle Eras, s/n, Deleitosa | 927 54 02 77 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/queseria-almonte/>

Ganatur 👤

Calle Cruz de los Ángeles, n.º 10, Deleitosa | 633 13 39 89 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/ganatur/>

SYMBOLS				
	🛏 Accommodation	🛒 Product	👤 Activities	🧶 Handcraft
🍴	Restaurant			Others



The exact construction date of the aqueduct of Herrerías is not known, but its purpose is clear. Throughout history this aqueduct has been used to transport water to different industries situated in the Descuernacabras Gorge. Most of the hiking route of the aqueduct of Herrerías follows the course of the water.



117 km

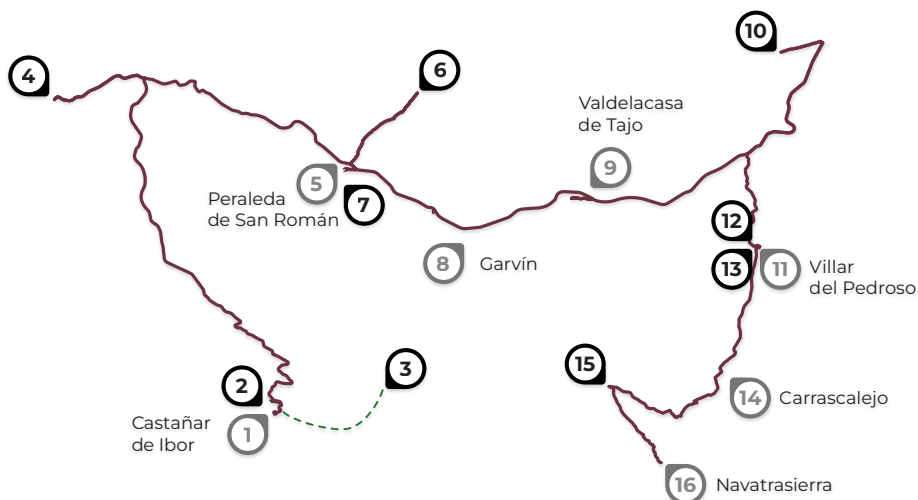


2 h 50 min (on the road)

Stage 5

- ① 🏠 CASTAÑAR DE IBOR
- ② ⓘ Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre
- ③ 🚶 Waterfall of Calabazas
- ④ 📍 Ibor Potholes
- ⑤ 🏠 PERALEDA DE SAN ROMÁN
- ⑥ 📍 Spheroidal weathering of Peraleda and Valdecastillo Boulder
- ⑦ 📍 River Gualija Valley and Marialina Mine
- ⑧ 🏠 GARVÍN
- ⑨ 🏠 VALDELACASA DE TAJO
- ⑩ 📍 Ravine of El Pedroso
- ⑪ 🏠 VILLAR DEL PEDROSO
- ⑫ ⓘ Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre
- ⑬ 🏠 San Pedro church
- ⑭ 🏠 CARRASCALEJO
- ⑮ 🚶 Arrebatapapas Pass
- ⑯ 🏠 NAVATRASIERRA

- 🏠 Cultural Site
- 📍 Geosite
- ⓘ Interpretation Centre
- 🚶 Trail
- 📍 Viewpoint and Picnic Area
- 🏠 Village



From Castañar de Ibor to Navatrasierra

through Peraleda de San Román, Garvín, Valdelacasa de Tajo, Villar del Pedroso and Carrascalejo

This stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth features several interesting places to visit and some hiking routes to do. Depending on the places you want to include in your route, you might want to divide it into two parts.

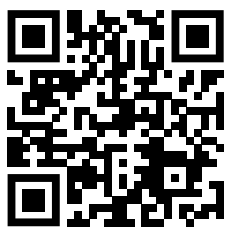
Go through the suggestions and adjust the 117 kilometers of this stage to your pace and preferences.

You will depart from the Ibor valley and enter the region of Jara Cacereña. You will realise it when cliffs will give way to plains.

At the end of the stage, in Navatrasierra, cliffs and mountains will amaze you once again.

The granite will be present throughout the whole route, as well as the water and local traditions.

This stage will treat you to one of the undoubted highlights of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: Castañar Cave.





Waterfalls of Calabazas, Castañar de Ibor

Start this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth in the village of Castañar de Ibor, where the first attraction will make you put on your hiking boots and discover a new geosite: the waterfall of Calabazas.

This is one of the most beautiful hiking routes in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. Both the waterfall of Calabazas itself and its surroundings are part of the appeal.

470 millions-year-old quarries accompany the 17 centuries-old chestnut trees of the Postuero Pass and guide you through the 11-kilometer return route (point-to-point hike, you will have to retrace your path, although a loop trail is being developed).

This is an easy hike. Remember to wear appropriate shoes and bring water.

You may also stop off at the Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre, dedicated to Castañar Cave, declared a Natural Monument of Extremadura in 1997.

Explanatory panels and audiovisual materials provide information on the fauna and flora of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, as well as on its creation, history and special characteristics of Castañar Cave.

**IT'S
WORTH
A VISIT**



The Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre, Castañar de Ibor

Castañar Cave was discovered in 1967 by a farmer from Castañar de Ibor while he was plowing the field and, since then, it has become one of the most celebrated attractions in the area.

In order to preserve the cave, the visits are guided and in small groups.

If you want to visit it, make a reservation in advance. Nowadays, the reservation application period opens once a year, on April 1st.

If you need more information, contact the [Centro de Información de la Cueva de Castañar](#), by sending an email to cueva.castanar@juntaex.es or calling [+34 27 554 635](tel:+3427554635).

Particularly noteworthy is a room with a recreated section of the cave and a great terrain model of the whole Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Before leaving Castañar de Ibor, try their local products such as oil, honey or cheese, and enjoy the local cuisine in its restaurants.

Now it is time to get into the vehicle and drive through EX-118 road towards Bohonal de Ibor. You will see how Camorro hill becomes smaller and smaller in your rear window.

On the stretch to Bohonal de Ibor, the road first takes you through olive groves and a large high plain. This place is known as the Fanglomerates (rañas) of Las Mesillas, another geosite that you could visit during this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Then the road starts to descend gently and, in the background, a giant body of water appears. This is the Valdecañas reservoir.

You will leave the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark for some kilometers to go to the geosite of the Ibor potholes in Bohonal de Ibor.

When you get to the Bohonal junction, turn left onto CC-19.3 road. In just five minutes you will see a great bridge over the Ibor River (coordinates: [39°46'18.4"N 5°31'11.3"W](#)).

Park just under the bridge and lean out carefully to discover the rounded shapes of the hardest rocks sculpted throughout time by the force of the water and erosion.

If you feel like it, take a walk in the surroundings and along the Ibor River banks.

Take your car and come back to the crossroads. At this point, take EX-387 road where a vertical sign informs that you are entering again the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.



Boulders dotting the terrain are a clear sign of the next geosite we propose visiting on The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth: the spheroidal weathering of Peraleda and Valdecastillo boulder.

When you arrive in the village of Peraleda de San Román, you will see a dirt road to the left (coordinates: [39°44'32.3"N 5°23'03.3"W](#)). Vertical signs mark the correct direction you should follow to get to Cancho Valdecastillo.

From the crossroads, there is about 5 km that you can drive or walk. If you choose the second option, avoid the hottest hours of the day.



Ruins of Marialina Mine, Peraleda de San Román

The incredible balancing rock of Cancho Valdecastillo will let you know that, without a doubt, you are at the right spot.

Take the opportunity to walk through Peraleda de San Román. Another geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark stands out: River Gualija Valley and Marialina Mine (coordinates: [39°43'49.2"N 5°24'50.4"W](#)).

The ruins of this mine of copper, zinc and lead, active at the end of the 19th century, are on a private estate close to the remains of the San Román chapel. Both places are surrounded by centuries-old olive trees from Roman times.

The dirt road is not easily accessible and not advisable for large vehicles.

Back to the route! The next village you come across is Garvín. Next to the road, a mural of the project Muro Crítico with a clear activist message will call your attention.

The landscape surrounding the village will help us guess its star product: olive oil.



Boar of Valdelacasa de Tajo

On the next road section, olive groves and pasture are mixed up in perfect harmony for the creation of regional products.

Next up is the village of Valdelacasa de Tajo, where you can visit its church and see one of the boars that the Vettones, pre-Romanesque settlers, left as a representative figure.

In Valdelacasa de Tajo you can also taste local products, such as oil and honey, do activities with children and enjoy a wellness treatment in the middle of nature.

From Valdelacasa de Tajo, we suggest taking the EX-387 for 16 km, to Puente del Arzobispo, and doing the hike to the Ravine of El Pedroso.

After hiking, go towards Villar del Pedroso to continue the route.



Ravine of El Pedroso,
Villar del Pedroso

Hiking route of the Ravine of El Pedroso

In Villar del Pedroso we suggest a detour to discover one of the most astonishing places of this part of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: Ravine of El Pedroso.

The starting point of this hike is at the bridge of Puente del Arzobispo, 15 km away from Villar del Pedroso.

This is an easy point-to-point route, of about 4 km in total that starts in the parking before Puente del Arzobispo (coordinates: [39°47'54.0"N 5°10'08.1"W](#)).

This walk will take you to the gorge created by the Pedroso River when it joined the Tagus River.

The force of water and erosion have given the rocks impossible shapes. If you do this route during the rainy season or in the spring, you will be amazed by the great waterfall.

Do not forget to wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Avoid hot seasons.

Check the opening hours of the [Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre](#) by calling [+34 927 555 040](#) or sending an e-mail to cicarnavaldeanimas@villardelpedroso.es.

If you do not want to do the hiking route of the Ravine of El Pedroso, you can take CC-119 road from Valdelacasa de Tajo and, in less than 10 km, you will arrive in Villar del Pedroso, a village where one of the most original Spanish carnivals takes place.

Here you may visit the Saint Peter's church, known as the "cathedral of La Jara" and the Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre. The Carnaval de Ánimas is declared a Celebration of Regional Tourist Interest and every year it takes color and tradition to the streets of Villar del Pedroso.



In the Interpretation Centre, you will find more information about this festival, as well as an exhibition of the traditional costumes that are very different from the typical carnival outfit.



Whether you took the detour to the Ravine of El Pedroso or went directly to Villar del Pedroso, The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth continues to the next stop, Carrascalejo.

In addition to walking through its streets, you can top off your visit by tasting famous local products, olive oil and cheese, and engage in some of the activities offered by the companies in the area.

One of the unique trees of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, the Carrascalejo juniper, can be visited in the surroundings of Carrascalejo.

You can reach this big centuries-old juniper by vehicle or walking, since it is less than 4 kilometers away from the village.

Before finishing this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth in Navatrasierra, you will cross the Arrebatacapas Pass.

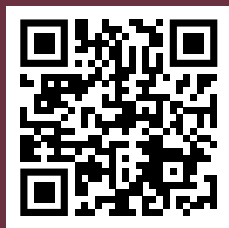
This Pass is one of the most astonishing viewpoints in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark from where to observe the geographical contrast of the region.

On one side you have the view of the road you have just traveled, with the great plain of Toledo as the backdrop, and on the other, the succession of mountain ridges that form the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline. And it is just a taste of things to come in the next stage.

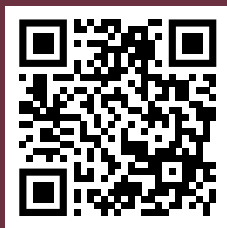
After enjoying the views from the upper part of the Arrebatacapas Pass, you need to descend the winding road that will take you to the end of the stage.



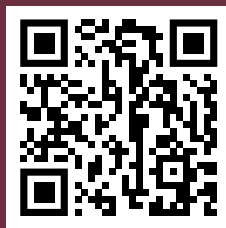
QR Codes of this Stage



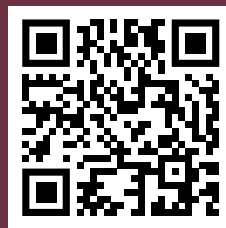
Stage Track



Ibor Potholes



Detour to
Valdecastillo
Boulder



River Gualija Valley
and Marialina Mine



Parking Hiking Trail
Ravine of El Pedroso

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

CASTAÑAR DE IBOR

Hostal Restaurante Solaire

Av. de Guadalupe, n.º 29, Castañar de Ibor | 927 55 41 25 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hostal-restaurante-solaire/>

Hotel Rural Las Mozas

Avenida de Guadalupe, n.º 10, Castañar de Ibor | 927 55 43 87 -
691 47 65 24 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-rural-las-mozas/>

Restaurante El Chiringuito

Carretera Castañar de Ibor s/n, Castañar de Ibor | 636 08 39 47 -
690 22 61 25 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/el-chiringuito/>

Olibor

Avenida Extremadura, n.º 26, Castañar de Ibor | 927 55 41 13 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/olibor/>

GARVÍN

El Olivar de San José

Finca La Trastada, s/n, Garvín | 649 09 09 63 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/el-olivar-de-san-jose/>

VALDELACASA DE TAJO

Casa Rural El Quinto y Medio

Avenida Del Calvario, n.º 30, Valdelacasa de Tajo | 675 61 46 48 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-el-quinto-y-medio/>

Finca Los Encepados

Carretera CC 119 PK 2,500, Valdelacasa de Tajo | 650 840 924 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/finca-los-encepados/>

WOM Viajes

Calle Pizarro, n.º 7, Valdelacasa de Tajo | 664 46 03 02 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/wom-viajes/>

Aceites Valdelagar

Carretera EX-387, Valdelacasa de Tajo | 648 10 49 40 - 927 19 81 61
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/aceites-valdelagar/>

VILLAR DEL PEDROSO

Casa Rural El Pedroso

Calle Ayuntamiento, n.º 7, Villar del Pedroso | 607 94 33 14 -
648 11 37 86 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-el-pedroso/>

CARRASCALEJO

Casa Rural La Posada del 42

Plaza de la iglesia, n.º 3, Carrascalejo | 655251514 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-la-posada-del-42/>

Los Chozos del Geoparque







Carretera Navatrasierra, s/n, Carrascalejo | 927289425 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/los-chozos-del-geoparque/>

Quesería Caprijara

Calle Estrella, n.º 10, Carrascalejo | 652 44 66 41 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/queseria-caprijara/>

Oleoext

Calle de la iglesia, n.º 4, Carrascalejo | 655251514 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/oleoext/>

SYMBOLS	 Accommodation	 Product	 Handcraft
	 Restaurant	 Activities	 Others



The balancing rock of Valdecastillo Boulder

This granite balancing rock is of impressive size, especially when you are at the bottom of it and look up. This rock, with a really small base, in proportion to its size, seems to be about to start rolling. The surroundings of Valdecastillo Boulder have served as a place of refuge for settlers and shepherds for a long time. Stroll among the granite rocks and be surprised, once again, by the mind-blowing geology of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.



84 km

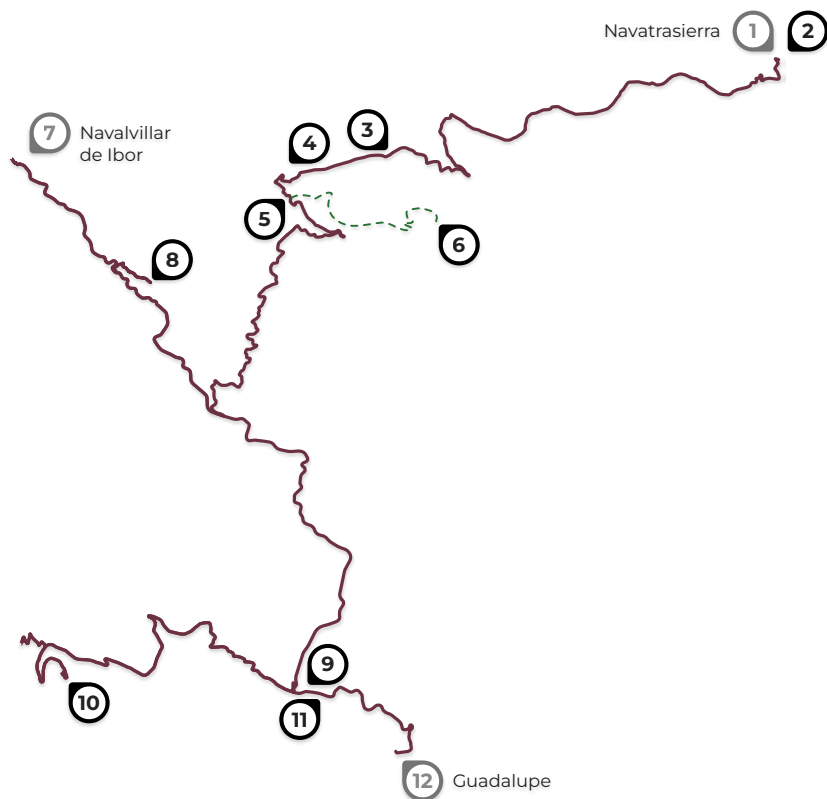


1 h 50 min (on the road)

Stage 6

- ① NAVATRASIERRA
- ② Fossils Interpretation Centre
- ③ Crags of El Ataque Viewpoint
- ④ Hospital del Obispo
- ⑤ Alto del Hospital Viewpoint
- ⑥ Carbonero Crag
- ⑦ NAVALVILLAR DE IBOR
- ⑧ Astronomical Viewpoint in Navalvillar de Ibor
- ⑨ Humilladero Chapel
- ⑩ Crag of La Villuerca
- ⑪ Guadalupe Viewpoint
- ⑫ GUADALUPE

- Astronomical Viewpoint
- Cultural Site
- Geosite
- Interpretation Centre
- Trail
- Viewpoint
- Village



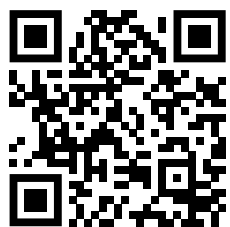
From Navatrasierra to Guadalupe

through Navalvillar de Ibor and the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

This stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth will take you to one of the oldest regions of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark where fossils, viewpoints and history blend along the 84 kilometers, creating an unforgettable experience.

Most sections of this stage's roads are classified as "top" by road-, vertigo- and curves-enthusiasts.

The stage begins in Navatrasierra and ends in one of the most famous pilgrimage places in the world: Guadalupe.





Fossils Interpretation Centre, Navatrasierra

The Fossils Interpretation Centre is located in the former building of the Navatrasierra old schools. You can check its opening hours by calling +34 927 55 52 46 or sending an e-mail to cifnavatrasierra@gmail.com.

Start this stage with a visit to the Navatrasierra Fossils Interpretation Centre that offers the most complete fossils collection in the entire Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Navatrasierra's surroundings are quite special. That is why we suggest that you walk through its streets and take your time to think about the longevity of the cliffs and crests around you. Millions of years ago they were underwater.

Keep this in mind, return to your vehicle and get ready to immerse yourself into one of the most beautiful road sections of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the CC-20.2.



Bridge over the Gualija River, Navatrasierra

This is a narrow and winding road and there are more animals, such as deer or fallow deer, than vehicles on it. You need to drive extremely carefully.

Before starting, make sure your navigator, in case you are using one, shows the correct route through the junction with EX-118 road (coordinates: [39°31'33.8"N 5°21'55.1"W](#)).

Depending on the configuration, it may take a shortcut through an impassable road, only fit for an off-road vehicle.



Viewpoint of the Crags of El Ataque geosite

**IT'S
WORTH
A VISIT**



The first essential stop is the viewpoint over the Crag of El Ataque geosite (coordinates: [39°35'02.4"N 5°19'43.4"W](#)).

Get out of your vehicle, breathe deeply and take in the awe-inspiring rock folds formed more than 470 million years ago.

A few meters ahead, you will find yourself in the middle of another geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the Peat bog of El Hospital del Obispo.

The landscape of peat bogs and chestnut forests varies greatly depending on the time of year.

Stop in El Hospital del Obispo (coordinates: [39°34'48.9"N 5°20'53.4"W](#)) to visit one of the cultural sights of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

El Hospital del Obispo was built in the 14th century as a hostel for pilgrims on their way to Guadalupe. Nowadays, it is a cultural sight. Next to it, you may enjoy a pleasant stop at the picnic area with a fountain.

Continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth to the Alto del Hospital viewpoint (coordinates: [39°34'25.3"N 5°21'01.6"W](#)).

The views from this point make it clear that you still have a long stretch of road ahead of you, among trees and silence.

At this point you are very close to another geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: Carbonero Crag Palaeontological Deposit.



Carbonero Crag, in addition to its geological relevance, is an amazing viewpoint of this area of the Geopark. Proof of this is a guard house at the top.

Let the road guide you through this winding section until you reach the junction with EX-118 road.

A climb to Carbonero Crag: geosite and viewpoint

On the other side of the road, parallel to the Alto del Hospital viewpoint, you will see a gate that leads to a forest road. If your vehicle is big, we recommend parking at the viewpoint and walking up. If it is a smaller one, you may drive a part of the route and walk the rest.

It is a 3-kilometer climb along which you can see plenty of fossils on the rocks, most of which are daedalus. Do not forget to wear comfortable shoes, bring water and avoid hot days.

The EX-118 section between Guadalupe and Castañar de Ibor has been declared an Extremadura's Scenic Road.

We suggest a detour to the right at the crossroads, towards Navalvillar de Ibor, to enjoy the views of the Ibor Anticline. You can also pay a visit to the village.

On your way, pull over at some viewpoints to admire the surrounding Appalachian landscape.



Astronomical Viewpoint in Navalvillar de Ibor

This area has been described as a perfect place for stargazing thanks to the quality of its sky. That is the reason why an astronomical viewpoint has been installed in the middle of the mountain range. Now visitors can enjoy stars during the dark nights of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

*Viewpoint coordinates: 9°33'20.0"N
5°22'54.3"W.*

The next suggestion is situated at the edge of the road you are on, the EX-118, just where the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca starts.

It is the Humilladero chapel, a place full of history on the outskirts of Guadalupe, and one of the best viewpoints of the town.

Leave the vehicle in the parking (parking coordinates: [39°27'53.6"N 5°20'59.9"W](#)) and carefully cross the road following the signs for "Ermita del Humilladero".

You will be there in 5 minutes.

After visiting this historic setting and enjoying the views of Guadalupe, we suggest driving the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca and watching the sunset from there.

The Humilladero chapel



DO NOT MISS!



- The Navatrasierra Fossils Interpretation Centre
- Carbonero Crag
- Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

The Humilladero chapel

This chapel-temple was built in the 15th century and it is similar to the shrine that can be visited in the cloister of the Guadalupe monastery. Its name “Humilladero” is related to the place where it was built. This is where the pilgrims of the Camino de Guadalupe saw the monastery for the very first time and fell down on their knees, “humiliating” themselves in front of the Virgin.

The climb starts in the parking where you are now and it will take you to the “roof” of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Villuercas Peak, with its 1600-meter height, is the highest peak in Extremadura accessible by car. The 11 kilometers of bends and vertiginous slopes are quite an experience, and highly recommended for road enthusiasts.

In order to avoid making this stage too long and being able to include every detail of this mountain pass, please, check all the details on Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca in a separate chapter ([p. 114](#)).

We finish this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth on road EX-118 towards Guadalupe.

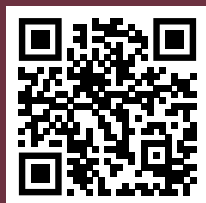
Let us recommend just one last stop. It is a viewpoint on the same road, with perfect views of Guadalupe at night (coordinates: [39°27'51.2"N 5°20'54.4"W](#)).

The end of this stage is Guadalupe, where you can walk, have dinner in one of its restaurants and enjoy its calm streets. Of course, you cannot miss the illuminated monastery of Guadalupe at night.

QR Codes of this Stage



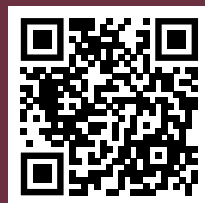
Stage Track



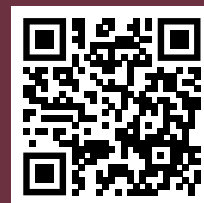
Road Junction:
CC-20.2 and EX-118



Crag of El Ataque
Viewpoint



Hospital del Obispo



Carbonero Crag



Alto del Hospital
Viewpoint



Astronomical Viewpoint
Navalvillar de Ibor



Humilladero Chapel



Guadalupe Viewpoint

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

NAVATRASIERRA

Casa Rural Bioagroturismo Las Lucías

Carretera CV-20 Villar del Pedroso, Navatrasierra | 629 78 46 09
- 636 13 34 05 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-bioagroturismo-las-lucias/>

Germen Viajero

Travesía de la Constitución, 6, Navatrasierra |
637 00 07 93 - 687 80 71 78 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/otros-servicios/germen-viajero/>

GUADALUPE

Hostal Alba Taruta

Calle Chorro Gordo, n.º 2, Guadalupe | 670 44 91 76 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-alba-taruta/>

Casa Rural Arco del Tinte

Calle Tinte, n.º 10, Guadalupe | 606 41 97 92 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-arco-del-tint/>

Casa Rural Puente de los Álamos

Carretera EX-118, Guadalupe | 616 926 685 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-puente-de-los-alamos/>

Hostal Restaurante Altamira

Calle La Cruz, n.º 4, Guadalupe | 606 94 85 55 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hostal-altamira/>

Hotel Restaurante Parador de Guadalupe

Calle Marqués de la Romana, n.º 12, Guadalupe | 927 36 70
75 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-parador-de-guadalupe/>

Hotel Rural Posada del Rincón

Plaza de Santa María de Guadalupe, n.º 11, Guadalupe | 927 36 71
14 - 687 94 94 36 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-rural-posada-del-rincon/>

Hotel Hispanidad

Avenida Conde de Barcelona, n.º 1, Guadalupe | 927 15 42 10 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/hotel-hispanidad/>

Casa Rural El Descanso del Peregrino

Calle Plasencia s/n, Guadalupe | 687 44 72 29 - 646 46 34 95 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-el-descanso-del-peregrino/>

Apartamentos Rurales Mirador de las Villuercas

Calle Francisco Moreno Ocampo, n.º 7, Guadalupe | 620 26
79 78 - 680 21 05 86 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/apartamentos-rurales-mirador-de-las-villuercas/>

Apartamentos Turísticos Mirayuste

Avenida Juan Pablo II, n.º 20 | 600 50 62 07 - 927 36 72 45 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/mirayuste-apartamentos-turisticos/>

Apartamentos Rurales Llana 12

Calle Llana, n.º 12 | 609 56 78 95 | <https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/apartamentos-rurales-llana-12/>

Restaurante Guadalupe Jordá

Plaza de Santa María de Guadalupe, n.º 17, Guadalupe | 927 36
70 80 - 657 86 35 29 | <https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/restaurante-guadalupe-jorda/>

Bar Chipi

Avenida Alfonso XI, n.º 14, Guadalupe | 678 67 00 05 | <https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/bar-chipi/>

Hospedería del Real Monasterio de Guadalupe

Plaza Juan Calos I, s/n, Guadalupe | 927 36 70 00 | <https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/hospederia-del-real-monasterio-de-guadalupe/>

Hostal Restaurante Cerezo

Calle Gregorio López, n.º 20, Guadalupe | 927 36 73 79 | <https://geovilluercas.org/donde-comer/hostal-cerezo/>

Natural Astrovilluercas

Guadalupe | 654 37 68 03 - 640 67 80 71 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/naturalexplorers-del-geoparque-astrovilluercas/>

Geoabejas

Avenida V Centenario, n.º 42, Guadalupe | 655 42 56 68 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/geo-abejas/>

Tienda de Productos Naturales Naianais

Plaza Santa María de Guadalupe, n.º 19, Guadalupe | 642 09
89 52 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/tienda-productos-naturales-naianais/>

Supermercado Covirán

Calle Cáceres, n.º 1, Guadalupe | 927 36 72 48 | <https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/supermercado-coviran-guadalupe/>

Instalaciones Eléctricas Óscar Tello

Calle César Martín Cano, n.º 21, Guadalupe | 927 15 44 13 - 646 46
34 95 | <https://geovilluercas.org/otros-servicios/instalaciones-electricas-oscar-tello/>

SYMBOLS	 Accommodation	 Product	 Handcraft
	 Restaurant	 Activities	 Others

The rocks of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark and, especially those of the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline, are a graphic encyclopedia of what life was like in this territory hundreds of millions of years ago. Their conditions are perfect to preserve the fossils of those living beings that inhabited the seabed covering these mountain ranges.





150 km



3 h (on the road)

Stage 7



GUADALUPE



Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe



LA CALERA



Interpretation Centre of Limestone Kilns of La Calera



ALÍA



Ravine of Peña Amarilla



Picnic area of the Guadarranquejo Stream



PUERTO REY



POBLADO DE CIJARA



Fault of Puertollano



Gorge of the River Rucas



CAÑAMERO



Geosite



Interpretation Centre



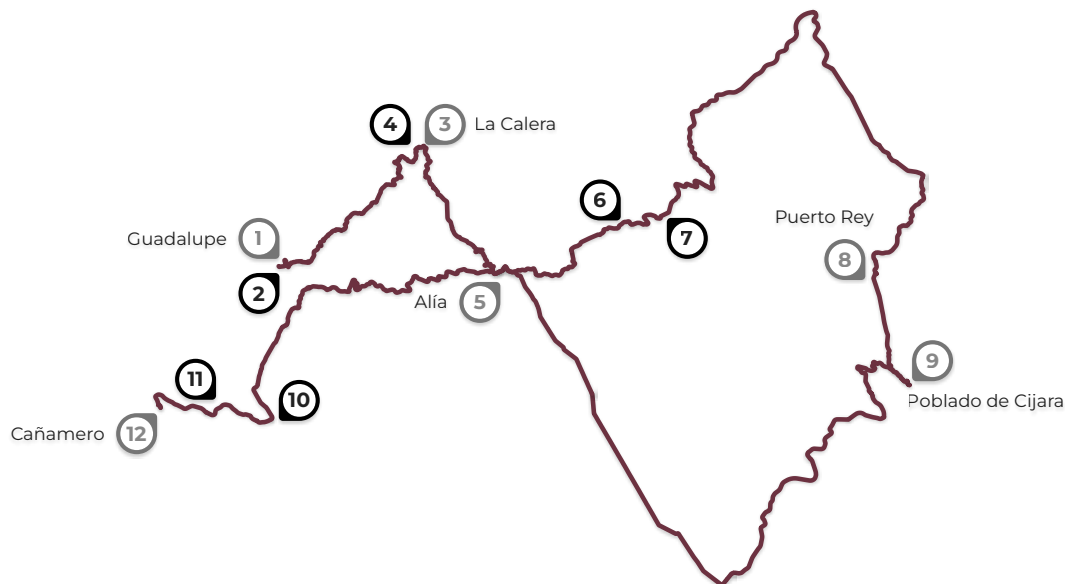
Picnic Area



UNESCO Site



Village



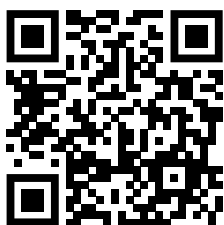
From Guadalupe to Cañamero

through La Calera, Alía, Puerto Rey and el Poblado de Cijara

This stage includes the southeastern region of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark and, in some sections, leaves the Cáceres province to optimize the route.

The 150 kilometers of this stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth will offer you breathtaking viewpoints, the company of unique birds of prey and landscapes with water as the protagonist.

If you have enough time, it may be a good idea to divide this stage into two parts: spend a day visiting Guadalupe and finish the route on the second day.



Guided visit in Guadalupe with Natrural



You can start this stage by visiting Guadalupe. We recommend going to the Tourist Office, in the Plaza de Santa María, where you will receive detailed information so that you can enjoy your experience to the fullest.

We suggest a visit to the basilica and the Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993, where you will discover an essential part of the town's history.

Walk around the streets, full of flowers and legends, go through the arches that have welcomed pilgrims throughout the centuries, explore the “barrios de Arriba y de Abajo” (neighborhoods in the upper and lower parts of the town), and discover the history of town hospitals. In a few words, let the essence of Guadalupe guide you.

The best way to enjoy your time to the maximum in Guadalupe, get to know all the details and avoid missing anything is by joining a guided tour.

Take some time to taste the local products, such as honey and black pudding and, if you have a sweet tooth, try the muédagos, rosquillas and perrunillas.

Once you have soaked up the atmosphere of Guadalupe, get into your vehicle to continue The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth towards La Calera.

In order to get to La Calera from Guadalupe, take a paved country road that is a little narrow, but in perfect condition. If you like driving on roads full of bends, you will enjoy this section.

This section is 13 km long. We recommend driving calmly and letting yourself be carried away by the scenery.

In La Calera you can visit the Interpretation Centre of the Limestone Kilns of La Calera and discover how lime was extracted from the limestone rocks in the village quarry.



Check the opening hours of the [Interpretation Centre of Limestone Kilns of La Calera](#) by calling [+34 927 36 60 02](tel:+34927366002) or sending an e-mail to turismoalia@gmail.com.

The origin of La Calera is closely related to the limestone kilns, considered a geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

You can see some kilns on your way from La Calera to the limits of the private estate where they are situated. These kilns played an important role in the construction of the monastery of Guadalupe, back in the 14th century. You can see them from the outside (coordinates: [39°30'42.6"N 5°15'38.5"W](#)).

Return to your vehicle and continue the route towards Alía, the next stop marked on the map. As you advance along the road, the landscape opens up slowly until it turns into a plain wide pasture.



In Alía we suggest visiting the exhibition of the Silo Museum Centre and the Joaquín Araujo Interpretation Centre, where you will find information about the local flora and fauna.

You cannot leave Alía without tasting two of its most famous products: oil and wine. Complete your experience visiting the oil mill or winery and learn everything about local products.

Ravine of Peña Amarilla



The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth follows EX-102 road to Puerto de San Vicente, running into one of the most beautiful road sections of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

About 15 minutes away from Alía you will encounter the next geosite: the viewpoint of the Ravine of Peña Amarilla.

You are in one of the best places in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark for bird watching, especially griffon vultures and Egyptian vultures. It is also an important place due to its geological relevance.

At first glance, the yellow color that covers the rocks in front of you draws your attention and turns this place into one of the most impressive viewpoints in the Geopark.

Get out of the vehicle and feel the peace transmitted by the flight of the birds of prey. Take some time before going back on the road.

DO NOT MISS!



- Guadalupe
- Ravine of Peña Amarilla
- Views of the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline between Alía and Puerto de San Vicente (EX-102 road)



Picnic area of the Guadarranquejo Stream

Very close to Ravine of Peña Amarilla, at kilometer 96 of the EX-102, you will find one of the most bucolic picnic areas of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

We recommend a stop between old stone bridges and next to the Guadarranquejo Stream, close to the Guadarranque River, where you can have a snack, rest or just enjoy the area.

The section from Alía to Puerto de San Vicente runs along the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline, granting some privileged views of the Appalachian landscape, characteristic of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Vertical road signs let you know that you are leaving Extremadura and entering Castilla-La Mancha, but geology knows no borders.

Once at Puerto de San Vicente, continue to El Campillo de la Jara by CM-411. Then take CM-4162 road to the junction with the N-502.

It will lead you to Puerto Rey, where you will enter Extremadura once again.

The next suggested stop is the Poblado de Cijara, about 8 km away from Puerto Rey on the shore of the reservoir of the same name.



Water-related activities and sport fishing are the two main attractions in this part of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. If you take this route in the warmer months, you can enjoy an inland beach in Poblado de Cijara. It is perfect to escape the high temperatures.

Continue the route along the reservoir until you reach the Cijara dam and leave your vehicle in the parking lot. You will be thrilled by this hydraulic engineering masterpiece and the views of the surrounding area.



On the next road section, national road N-502, you will go from Cáceres to Badajoz for some kilometers and come back to the Geopark via the municipality of Alía, the biggest one in the Geopark and the seventh in Extremadura.

Take BAV-7118 road, as straight as if drawn with a ruler, until you get to Alía.

In the background, the Appalachian landscape with Villuercas Peak on the left side will mark the end of this stage.

This section will take you through private estates. Some of them are inhabited by herds of sheep and goats that give milk for the most exquisite cheeses in this area. And others are covered with vineyards that give the best grapes for the regional wine.



If you have already visited Alía, continue on EX-102 road towards Guadalupe.

The infinite straight road you come from is now just a memory. It seems that the asphalt has gone crazy in this part of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth, creating the most winding roads.

When you get close to Guadalupe, the road adapts to the course of the Guadalupejo River. At the roundabout, you will see the sign that indicates the end of this stage: Cañamero.

From the roundabout to Cañamero, the road still has surprises for you in the form of geosites.

The first one is the Fault of Puertollano (coordinates: [39°22'23.9"N 5°19'49.6"W](#)). This geographical feature can be observed from the window of your car or outside of your vehicle.

To do so, pull over at the beginning of the dirt road, take the underpass under the crossroads and you will get to the explanatory panel.

The second surprise is the Gorge of the River Ruelas, the one we described in detail in the first stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth. Just as before, you can enjoy the Gorge of the River Ruelas from the window or get out of the vehicle and walk around.



Gorge of the River Ruecas ,
between Cañamero and Guadalupe

This road section is one of the most astonishing in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, so take your time and enjoy the landscape.

The stage ends in Cañamero, where we started seven stages ago.

If you would like to have more detailed information about Cañamero, review the first stage's chapter: From Cañamero to Berzocana through Logrosán (p. 24).

QR Codes of this Stage



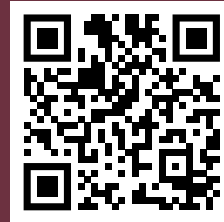
Stage Track



Limestone Kilns of
La Calera



Fault of Puertollano



Ravine of Peña
Amarilla Viewpoint

Services, activities and typical products you can enjoy during this stage:

LA CALERA

Apartamentos Rurales en Plena Sierra 🏠

Calle Mirasierra, n.º 32, La Calera | 619 57 56 90 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/apartamentos-rurales-en-plena-sierra/>

ALÍA

Casa Rural La Herencia 🏠

Calle Virgen de Guadalupe, n.º 5, Alía | 638 03 18 62 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/la-herencia/>

Casa Rural El Hogar de Ardwiná 🏠

Calle Hernán Cortés, n.º 20, Alía | 927 36 61 44 - 626 09 47 28 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/el-hogar-de-ardwiná/>

Almazara y Aceite Cooperativa Santa Catalina 🛒 👤

Camino de Guadalupe, n.º 31, Alía | 927 36 60 68 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/almazara-de-alia/>

Bodegas Caraval 🛒

Carretera CC-115 | 917 34 61 52 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/productos/bodegas-carabel/>

POBLADO DE CIJARA

Casa Rural Cijara 🏠

Calle Libertad, n.º 2, Poblado de Cijara | 676 87 90 14 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-cijara/>

Pêche Cijara 👤

Pantano de Cijara, Poblado de Cijara | 927 09 04 63 -
609 97 28 08 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/que-hacer/peche-cijara/>

CASAS DE DON PEDRO

Casa Rural El Nidal 🏠

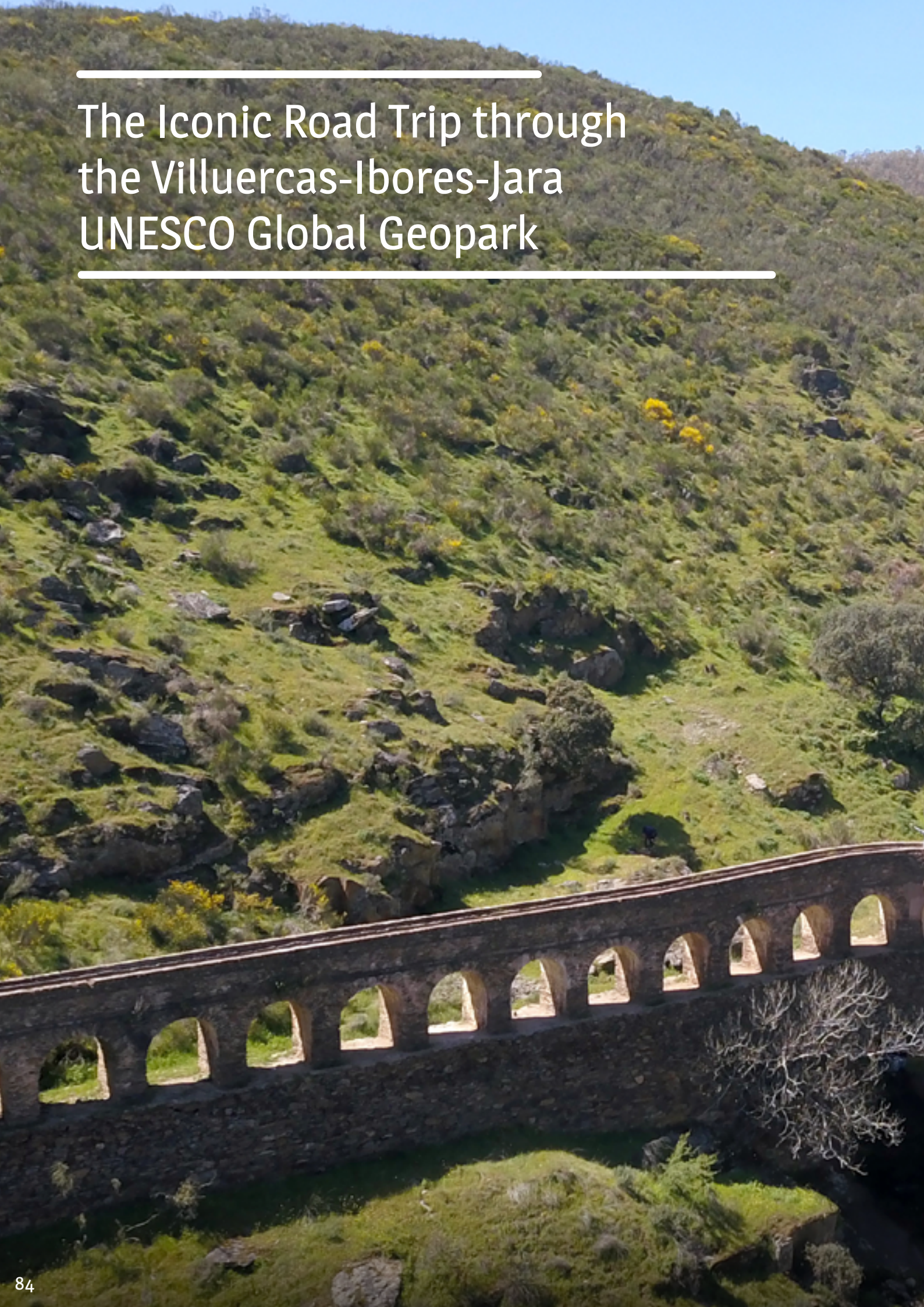
Calle Ramón y Cajal, n.º 20, Casas de Don Pedro |
609 28 04 44 - 656 37 41 46 |
<https://geovilluercas.org/alojamientos/casa-rural-el-nidal/>

SYMBOLS	🏠 Accommodation	🛒 Product	👤 Activities	🍷 Handcraft
	🍴 Restaurant	👤 Activities	🧶 Others	

The Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993, has been one of the main pilgrimage destinations in the entire world throughout history. The settlements built around it after its construction, in the mid-14th century, were the origin of the present-day town of Guadalupe. There are still traces of Guadalupe's pilgrim past in every street of its historic center.



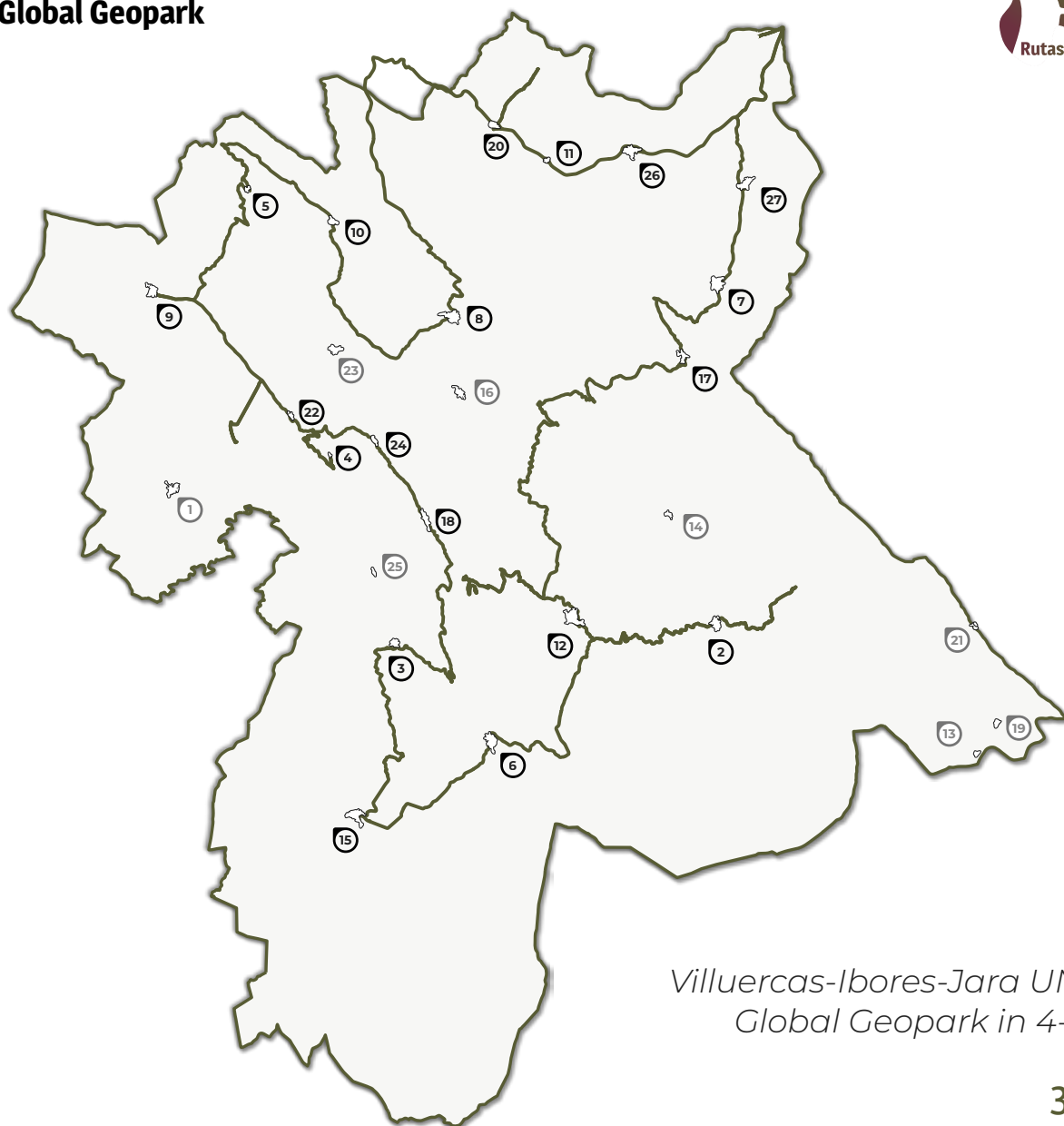
The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark





*Aqueduct of the Herrerías,
Campillo de Deleitosa*

The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Map



VILLAGES

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ① Aldeacentenera | ⑧ Castañar de Ibor | ⑮ Logrosán | ⑳ Retamosa |
| ② Alía | ⑨ Deleitosa | ⑯ Navalvillar de Ibor | ㉑ Robledollano |
| ③ Berzocana | ⑩ Fresnedoso de Ibor | ⑰ Navatrasierra | ㉒ Roturas |
| ④ Cabañas del Castillo | ⑪ Garvín | ⑱ Navezuelas | ㉓ Solana |
| ⑤ Campillo de Deleitosa | ⑫ Guadalupe | ㉐ Poblado de Cijara | ㉔ Valdelacasa de Tajo |
| ⑥ Cañamero | ⑬ Guadisa | ㉑ Peraleda de San Román | ㉕ Villar del Pedroso |
| ⑦ Carrascalejo | ⑭ La Calera | ㉒ Puerto Rey | |

The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

4 to 5 days road trip

If you have 4 to 5 days to discover what makes this part of the province of Cáceres unique, The Iconic Road Trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is for you.

This itinerary will take you through Prehistoric landscapes to astonishing viewpoints, road sections that dance to the rhythm of the rivers, hiking trails that will take you to magical places, deep-rooted traditions that give vibes to the ambiance and flavor to each dish, as well as local businesses founded by people with a rural soul and entrepreneurial spirit.

On this Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark, you will discover the Santa Lucía and Guadarranque-Gualija Synclines, lean out at viewpoints towards the inaccessible Viejas Syncline and get thrilled by the topography of the Ibor and Almonte Anticlines.

Each section, designed and optimized to cover as many sights in a few kilometers as possible, awaits you with a total of 378 kilometers, 15 towns and multiple experiences.

Below, you will find the itinerary divided into sections and with several suggestions of places to visit, hikes to do, as well as their approximate duration. Please, remember that it is really difficult to see everything in only 4 or 5 days. That is why we suggest that you choose in advance the places that best suit your tastes, interests and preferences, and adjust the route to your pace.

If you want to know all the details about the places to visit, experiences, hiking routes and services, you should check the stage of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth indicated in each case of this guide.

The Iconic Road Trip is a perfect route to discover the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark in a long weekend or a getaway.



68 km



1 h 25 min (on the road)

Stage 1



Follow the Route



Village

From Cañamero to Cabañas del Castillo

through Logrosán, Berzocana, Navezuelas and Roturas

*Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages **1 (p. 24)** and **3 (p. 40)** of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.*

This stage of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark starts in Cañamero with a recommended tour to the Visitors Centre (around 1 hour). In Cañamero you can also see such attractions as the Gorge of the River Rucas, Chiquita Cave and Charco de la Nutria.

The route continues on EX-102 road to Logrosán. Here we suggest visiting the Phosphorite mine La Costanaza, a “must” of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Go from Logrosán to Berzocana by the CC-22.5 road. Visit the San Juan Bautista church and the Archaeology Interpretation Centre (about 30 minutes).

Leave Berzocana and go to the roundabout with the monument to the Treasure of Berzocana. There, take CC-97 road towards Navezuelas.

In this section you will find viewpoints to contemplate the jaw-dropping Appalachian landscapes and catch the first glimpse of Villuercas Peak, “the Geopark’s roof”.

The Almonte valley will take you to the villages of Navezuelas and Roturas de Cabañas, and beyond, to the viewpoint of the geosite Rock Pass of the River Almonte.

Continue this Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark and take a junction at the roundabout to CC-22.3 road towards Cabañas del Castillo.

If you love the outdoors, park your vehicle next to the Almonte River bridge and follow the path that will lead you to the bottom of the rock pass that you have just observed from the viewpoint (about 1 hour).

Wrap up this stage in Cabañas del Castillo, a postcard scenery, dominated by two cliffs and guarded by griffon and Egyptian vultures.



Phosphorite mine La Costanaza , Logrosán



78 km



1 h 35 min (on the road)

Stage 2



Follow the Route



From Cabañas del Castillo to Castañar de Ibor

through Retamosa, Deleitosa, Campillo de Deleitosa and Fresnedoso de Ibor

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages [2 \(p. 32\)](#) and [4 \(p. 48\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

This stage of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark starts with an optional climb to a viewpoint and the ruins of the Cabañas del Castillo castle (about 1 hour). That is where the previous stage ended.

Continue on CC-22.2 road and shortly after passing Retamosa de Cabañas, you will see an intersection to the left towards Aldeacentenera.

This way you can reach the Puente del Conde bridge, declared a Place of Cultural Interest. This bridge was built in the 15th century over the Almonte River in a bucolic landscape. It is about 6 km away from the crossroads.

To get to Deleitosa, our next stop, go back to CC-22.2 road. If you decide not to take this side trip, stay on the road.

In Deleitosa you can taste local products, such as Iberian cold meats or cheese.

The route continues on the CC-19.5 road to Campillo de Deleitosa, where you may want to put on your hiking boots and discover one of the most beautiful hiking routes in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the Herrerías aqueduct (between 2 and 5 hours depending on the route you choose).

During the hike, you will enter the Descuernacabras Gorge and walk through the region's pioneering masterpiece of hydraulic engineering.

The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark continues on road CC-19.5.

Do not miss the road to the right, towards Fresnedoso de Ibor.

From Fresnedoso, follow the CC-163 that will take you to the EX-386 towards the end of the stage in Castañar de Ibor.



*Puente del Conde bridge,
Aldeacentenera y Cabañas del Castillo*



96 km



2 h (on the road)

Stage 3



Follow the Route



From Castañar de Ibor to Carrascalejo

through Peraleda de San Román, Garvín, Valdelacasa de Tajo and Villar del Pedroso

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stage [5 \(p. 56\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Start this stage of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark by visiting Castañar de Ibor, with its local products, incredible landscapes and the Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre, one of the main treasures of the Geopark.

Hit the road again and take the EX-118 towards Bohonal de Ibor, where you will leave the Geopark for some kilometers to optimize the route.

At the Bohonal crossing take EX-387 road that runs to Peraleda de San Román where you can do an out-and-back to visit one of the most magical places of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark: Valdecastillo boulder (about 5 km away from the intersection, by a dirt road in good condition).

Continue on EX-387 road to Garvín and Valdelacasa de Tajo. In these villages, you can taste exquisite regional products, such as olive oil and honey.

If you want to hike to the Ravine of El Pedroso, go to Puente del Arzobispo, a village in Toledo, from Valdelacasa de Tajo. Do the hike (between 1 and 2 hours), retrace your path along EX-387 road to the junction with road CC-20.1 and continue to Villar del Pedroso.

If you choose not to hike, it will take you about 10 minutes to go from Valdelacasa de Tajo to Villar del Pedroso by CC-119 road.

In Villar del Pedroso you can visit the San Pedro church, known as “the cathedral of La Jara”, and the Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre. Here you can find all the information about one of the most deep-rooted Festivals of Regional Tourist Interest in Extremadura.

Take CC-20.2 road and in about 7 kilometers you will have arrived in Carrascalejo, the end of this stage and a fantastic place to take a break and recharge your batteries for the next day.





136 km



1 h 40 min (on the road)

Stage 4



Follow the Route



From Carrascalejo to Cañamero

through Navatrasierra, the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca and Guadalupe

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stage [5 \(p. 56\)](#), [6 \(p. 66\)](#) and [7 \(p. 74\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

You can start this stage of The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark by taking a walk through the quiet streets of the village, discovering the unique Carrascalejo juniper and getting surprised by the authentic tastes of the local products, such as olive oil and cheese.

You are about to start one of the most breathtaking sections of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: CC-20.2 road.

Start by crossing the Arrebatacapas Pass, with one of the most spectacular 360° views in the Geopark. Then go to Navatrasierra, where we suggest visiting the Fossils Interpretation Centre.

On the stretch between Navatrasierra and the crossing with EX-118 road, the lanes are narrower. Here the drive turns into an experience itself.

Extreme caution is recommended: the visibility is poor and you can find animals along the way.

In this section, you can stop and, for example, contemplate the Crag of El Ataque from the viewpoint or enjoy the landscape of the Hospital del Obispo. Both attractions are next to the road.

Take it easy and enjoy this scenic route.

Now take EX-118 road towards Guadalupe. Before you get to Guadalupe, you may turn off to drive the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca (11 km of winding mountain road, go and return by the same road).

When you arrive in Guadalupe, we recommend visiting the town and the Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Take EX-102 road to relish the viewpoint of Ravine of Peña Amarilla and come back to Cañamero to wrap up this stage and The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark.

If you have enough time, you can divide this last stage into two parts.



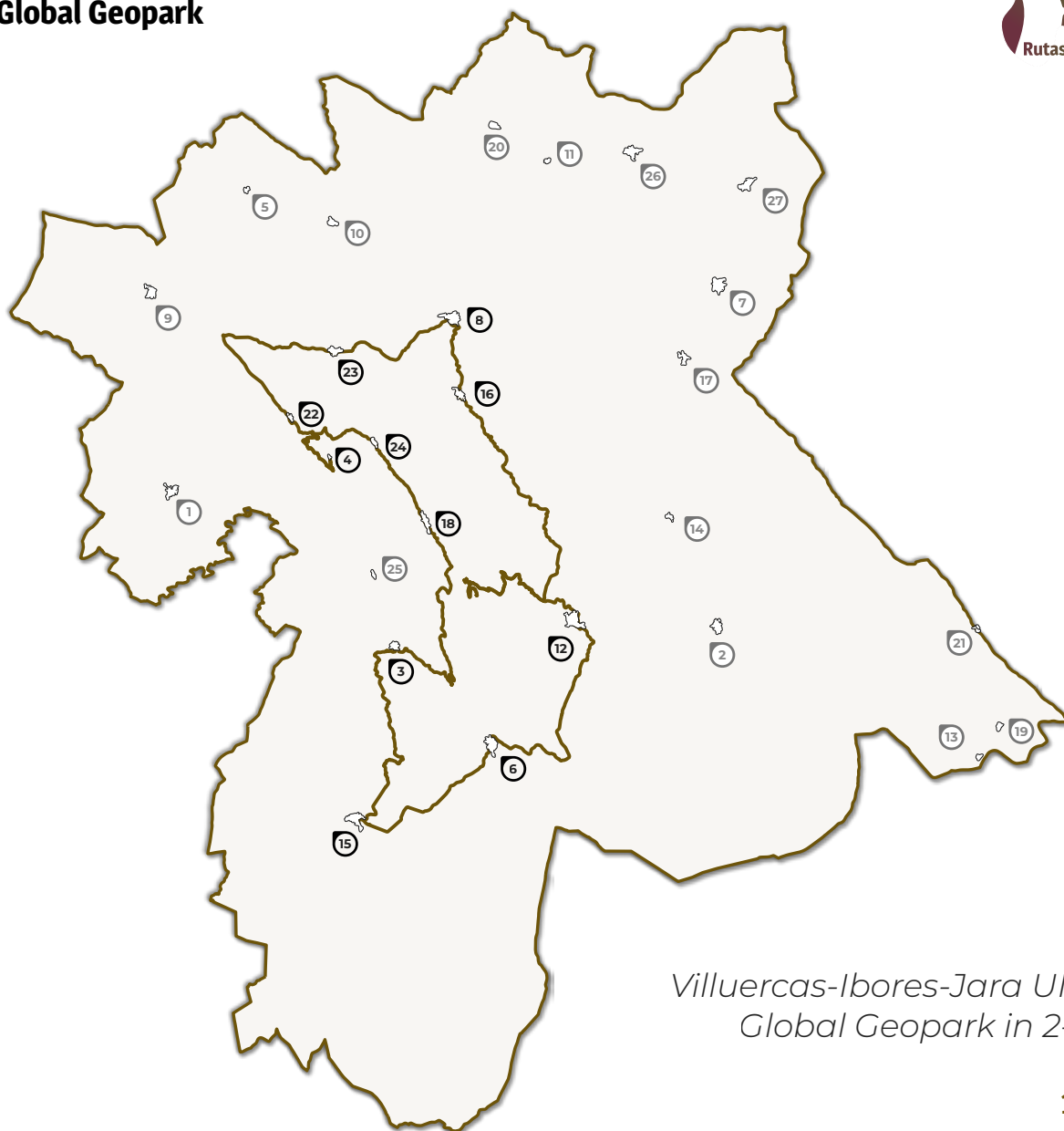
Crag of La Villuerca

Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark





The Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Map



VILLAGES

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ① Aldeacentenera | ⑧ Castañar de Ibor | ⑮ Logrosán | ⑳ Retamosa |
| ② Alía | ⑨ Deleitosa | ⑯ Navalvillar de Ibor | ㉑ Robledollano |
| ③ Berzocana | ⑩ Fresnedoso de Ibor | ⑰ Navatrasierra | ㉒ Roturas |
| ④ Cabañas del Castillo | ⑪ Garvín | ⑱ Navezuelas | ㉓ Solana |
| ⑤ Campillo de Deleitosa | ⑫ Guadalupe | ㉐ Poblado de Cijara | ㉔ Valdelacasa de Tajo |
| ⑥ Cañamero | ⑬ Guadisa | ㉑ Peraleda de San Román | ㉕ Villar del Pedroso |
| ⑦ Carrascalejo | ⑭ La Calera | ㉒ Puerto Rey | |

Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

2 to 3 days road trip

If you only have 2 or 3 days to visit the main attractions of this part of Extremadura, The Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is for you.

Live an intense experience visiting places of unique geological and topographical importance, as well as towns full of history. Go to the depths of the Earth, climb to the highest points to touch the sky and reach places that were part of the seabed hundreds of millions of years ago.

Discover the center of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark through the 171 kilometers of asphalt and its greatest hits.

The itinerary of The Road Trip through the Essence of the Geopark is an extract from The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth optimized for 2 or 3 days. You can find detailed information about the places to visit, hikes and landscapes in the specific sections of The Great Road Trip, also included in this guide.

Below, you will find suggestions of sights located in the described itinerary. To cover all of them in such a short period of time is complicated, so we recommend adjusting the itinerary to your likes and preferences.

The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence is perfect for a weekend or a short getaway. It will allow you to get an overall picture of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.



100 km



2 h (on the road)

Stage 1



Follow the Route



N Village

From Cañamero to Castañar de Ibor

through Logrosán, Berzocana, Navezuelas, Roturas, Cabañas del Castillo, Retamosa and Robledollano

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages [1 \(p. 24\)](#), [2 \(p. 32\)](#), [3 \(p. 40\)](#) and [4 \(p. 48\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

For your first stop on The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence, we recommend going to the Visitors Centre in Cañamero, where you will find detailed information about the Geopark, geosites and places of interest.

From Cañamero you can continue by EX-102 road to the Phosphorite mine La Costanaza in Logrosán, a highly recommended visit that will take you about 2 hours. Another option is to drive along CC-21.1 scenic road between Cañamero and Berzocana.

You can visit Berzocana, the Archaeology Interpretation Centre (about 30 minutes) and the San Juan Bautista church and then continue the route. Alternatively, you can continue the route directly taking road CC-97 at the roundabout with the monument to the Treasure of Berzocana.

The section ahead, running through Navezuelas and Roturas de Cabañas, will offer you some privileged views of the Appalachian landscape, so characteristic of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

During this route, through the Almonte Anticline, you will come across a viewpoint to observe the Rock Pass of the River Almonte. It is located just past Roturas de Cabañas, on the same road.

Continue to the roundabout and take a 6-kilometer detour by CC-22.3 road to discover an idyllic village: Cabañas del Castillo.

You can park in the village and go on foot to the viewpoint and the ruins of the castle (about 1 hour).

In order to continue The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence, undo the road to the roundabout, and take again the road towards Retamosa de Cabañas and follow CC-22.2 road.

At the crossing with road EX-386, go towards Robledollano and Castañar de Ibor, to finish the stage.



*Centuries-old chestnut trees in Postuero,
Castañar de Ibor*



71 km



1 h 22 min (on the road)

Stage 2



Follow the Route



Village



Side Trip

From Castañar de Ibor to Cañamero

through Navalvillar de Ibor, the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca and Guadalupe

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages [5 \(p. 56\)](#), [6 \(p. 66\)](#) and [7 \(p. 74\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

Start this stage of The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence in Castañar de Ibor, visiting the Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre and discovering local products.

If you want to hike during The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence, we recommend the route of the Waterfalls of Calabazas and the Chestnuts of Postuero (about 2 or 3 hours).

This is a simple hike, perfect for any season, with a great diversity of scenery. The route crosses the Postuero Pass, where there are up to 17 centuries-old chestnuts, and gets to one of the geosites, known as the Waterfalls of Calabazas.

From Castañar de Ibor you can take EX-118 road, declared a Scenic Road, and allow it to lead you parallel to the Ibor River until arriving in Guadalupe.

On this 30-kilometer stretch, apart from visiting Navalvillar de Ibor, you can stop at several viewpoints to observe the Appalachian landscape of the Ibor Anticline or to visit the Humilladero chapel, where you will have some amazing views of Guadalupe from a higher point.

You can also drive the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca, an 11-kilometer mountain pass, with several viewpoints, and then descend by the same road.

The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence continues to Guadalupe, an international pilgrimage destination throughout history.

Take some time to explore its streets, enjoy its gastronomy and local products, and visit the Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

A good way to save time when exploring the Geopark in just a few days is by joining a guided visit around Guadalupe or to Villuercas Peak.

From Guadalupe stay on EX-102 road and it will take you through the Gorge of the River Ruelas, another geosite of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, and then, to the starting point of this Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence in Cañamero.



View of Guadalupe from the Humilladero chapel

Three one-day Road Trips in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark





Road Trip 1

Road Trip around Guadalupe

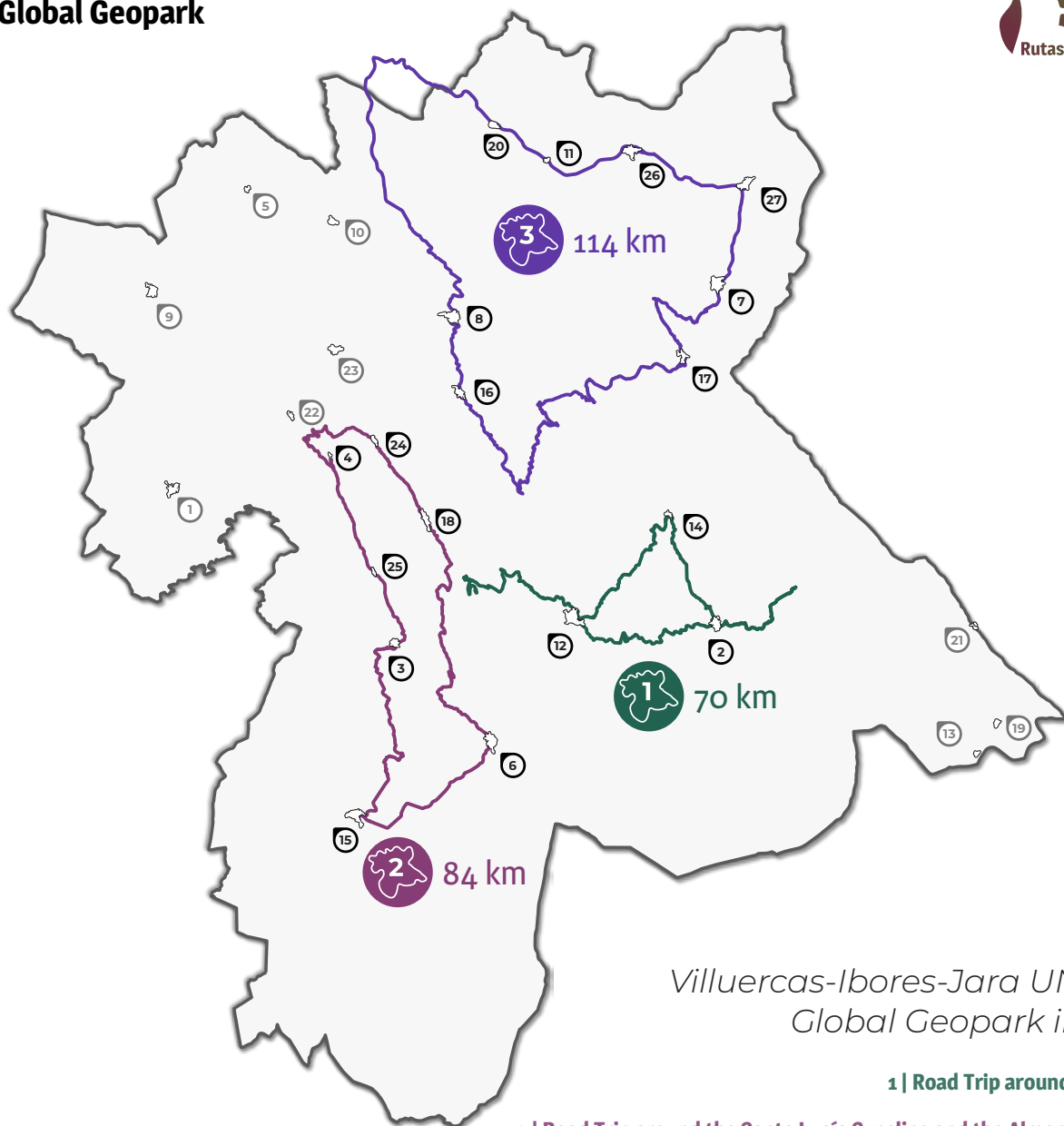
Road Trip 2

Road Trip around the Santa Lucía Syncline and the Almonte Anticline

Road Trip 3

Road Trip around the Ibor Anticline and the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline

The Three one-day Road Trips in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Map



*Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO
Global Geopark in 1 day*

1 | Road Trip around Guadalupe

2 | Road Trip around the Santa Lucía Syncline and the Almonte Anticline

3 | Road Trip around the Ibor Anticline and the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline

VILLAGES

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Aldeacentenera | 8 Castañar de Ibor | 15 Logrosán | 22 Retamosa |
| 2 Alía | 9 Deleitosa | 16 Navalvillar de Ibor | 23 Robledollano |
| 3 Berzocana | 10 Fresnedoso de Ibor | 17 Navatrasierra | 24 Roturas |
| 4 Cabañas del Castillo | 11 Garvín | 18 Navezuelas | 25 Solana |
| 5 Campillo de Deleitosa | 12 Guadalupe | 19 Poblado de Cijara | 26 Valdelacasa de Tajo |
| 6 Cañamero | 13 Guadisa | 20 Peraleda de San Román | 27 Villar del Pedroso |
| 7 Carrascalejo | 14 La Calera | 21 Puerto Rey | |

Three one-day Road Trips in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark

1 day road trips

As shown on the map, this guide brings together three one-day road trips, which explore different parts of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

The three routes cover areas of high geological, cultural and scenic value and complement each other. They are three invitations to come and discover this part of the province of Cáceres.

Each one-day road trip is an optimized itinerary inspired by the routes that form part of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth, also included in this guide.

Therefore, the content of this chapter will describe the itinerary to follow, but the detailed information related to places, visits and activities should be consulted in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth section.

If you want to spend more than one day in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, you can combine these routes with the itineraries designed for several days, such as The Road Trip through the Geopark's Essence or The Iconic Road Trip through the Geopark, included in this guide.

You need to check the opening hours of the information centres en route and book visits and activities in advance if required.

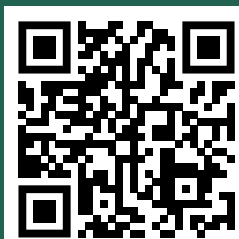


82 km

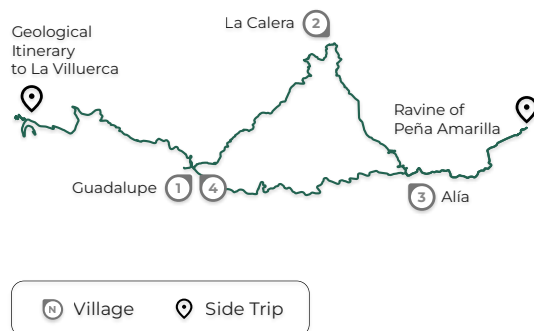


1 h 50 min (on the road)

Road Trip 1



Follow the Route



One-day Road Trip around Guadalupe

*Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages **6 (p. 66)** and **7 (p. 74)** of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.*

This 82-kilometer road trip will take you to sights in the vicinity of Guadalupe in one day.

Start in Guadalupe and head to La Calera by the rural road branching from the EX-118. This narrow but paved stretch will take you through pastures, a small dam, and finally, to La Calera.

Here you can visit the Interpretation Centre of Limestone Kilns of La Calera and discover its purpose and historical importance. If you want to stretch your legs, you can walk to the limit of a private estate where you can see the remains of some old kilns.

Take CC-130 road from La Calera to Alía, and visit the Joaquín Araujo Interpretation Centre and the Silo Museum Centre, as well as taste local products, such as olive oil and wine.

Continue the route around Guadalupe by EX-102 road until you arrive at one of the most astonishing viewpoints of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark: the viewpoint of Ravine of Peña Amarilla.

This geosite is perfect for fossils and bird watching, mainly griffon and Egyptian vultures, that nest in these strikingly colored rocks.

To continue the route, go back to Alía and, from there, towards Guadalupe by EX-102 road.

The road stretch between Alía and Guadalupe imitates the terrain, so curves, ascents and descents will accompany you until you arrive again in Guadalupe.

At the roundabout, without entering the town, take road EX-118 and go towards the starting point of the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca.

Here you can visit the Humilladero chapel or climb the peak.

Remember that the detailed information can be found in the chapter dedicated exclusively to the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca, included in this guide.

After enjoying the views and the drive, go back to Guadalupe to wrap up the itinerary.

If you feel like it, you can do this route the other way around. That is, first drive the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca and then visit La Calera, Alía and the Ravine of Peña Amarilla.

If you have a big vehicle or you feel insecure, we recommend that, instead of drive the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca on your own, you book a guided trip by all-terrain vehicles from Guadalupe.



Limestone Kilns of La Calera



84 km



1 h 45 min (on the road)

Road Trip 2



Follow the Route



Village

One-day Road Trip around the Santa Lucía Syncline and Almonte Anticline

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages [1 \(p. 24\)](#), [2 \(p. 32\)](#) and [3 \(p. 40\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

This 84-kilometer Road Trip will take you to the roads in the area of the Santa Lucía Syncline and the Almonte Anticline.

The first stop on this route is Cañamero, where you can visit the Visitors Centre of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark and learn everything you need to know about the region where you are now.

In Cañamero you could also visit the Gorge of the River Ruecas, with the cave paintings of the Chiquita Cave and the Charco de la Nutria sight.

If you are going on a guided tour to the Phosphorite mine La Costanaza, continue the route towards Logrosán by road EX-102, visit the mine (about 2 hours) and take CC-22.5 road towards Berzocana.

If you are not visiting the mine, you can continue from Cañamero through the Scenic Road CC-21.1 to Berzocana.

Once you are in Berzocana, you can visit the San Juan Bautista church and the Archaeology Interpretation Centre (about 30 minutes).

Continue towards Solana and Cabañas del Castillo. In this section, you will enjoy road views, rugged landscape and distinctive cliffs, such as Crag of El Reloj, close to Solana.

When you arrive in Cabañas del Castillo, you can park your vehicle and climb to one of the most breathtaking viewpoints in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, located at the ruins of the castle (an out-and-back climb of about 1 hour).

From Cabañas del Castillo, the road will take you over the Almonte River. If you have time, you can park before crossing over the river to hike to the geosite Rock Pass of the River Almonte (an out-and-back hike of about 1 hour).

If you do not stop there, do not worry, because you can see the Rock Pass of the River Almonte from a viewpoint.

If you decide to go to that viewpoint, continue the route and take CC-121 road towards Roturas. In about 2 minutes, you will see it on the right side.

You can see the Rock Pass of the River Almonte from there without hiking.

Now the road will take you through the anticline, parallel to the Almonte River, through the Roturas de Cabañas and Navezuelas. Take the CC-97 and enjoy the views until you reach the roundabout with the monument to the Treasure of Berzocana.

From the roundabout, follow the Scenic Road CC-21.1 to the end of the itinerary in Cañamero.



*Rock Pass of the River Almonte
from the viewpoint on CC-121 road*



155 km

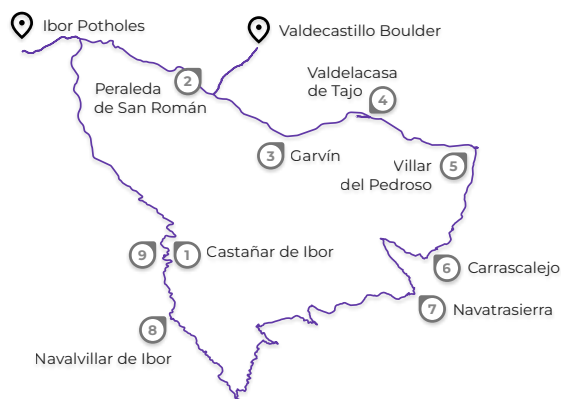


3 h (on the road)

Road Trip 3



Follow the Route



N Village

Side Trip

One-day Road Trip around the Ibor Anticline and the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline

Remember that this is only the itinerary of the stage. You can find detailed information about places, visits and experiences in stages [5 \(p. 56\)](#) and [6 \(p. 66\)](#) of The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth.

This Road Trip will take you through the roads around the Ibor Anticline and the Guadarranque-Gualija Syncline covering 155 km.

Begin in Castañar de Ibor, with a visit to the Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre, one of the main treasures of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. Here you can also do a hiking route to the Waterfalls of Calabazas and the Chestnuts of Postuero (about 2 or 3 hours).

From Castañar, follow EX-118 road towards Bohonal de Ibor. When you arrive at the crossing, take the road to visit the Ibor potholes (about 5 minutes from the crossing) or continue towards Peraleda de San Román.

Close to Peraleda de San Román, there is a road to the left that would take you to Valdecastillo boulder, one of the geosites of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. You can drive to it (5 km by a dirt road in good condition).

Continue on road EX-387 through Garvín and Valdelacasa de Tajo, where you can take CC-119 road towards Villar del Pedroso.

In Villar del Pedroso you could visit the San Pedro church or the Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre, a Festival of Regional Tourist Interest that animates the village every year.

From Villar del Pedroso continue on CC-20.2 road, which will take you to Carrascalejo, the Arrebatacapas Pass and Navatrasierra until reaching again EX-118 road about 37 km ahead. It takes about 1 or 2 hours to make a detour. Drive with extreme caution as there could be animals, such as roe deer and deer, on the road.

Stop your vehicle up at the Arrebatacapas Pass and take full advantage of the viewpoint with one of the most contrasting views in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

If you are interested in fossils, in Navatrasierra you may want to visit the Fossils Interpretation Centre, with a great collection of interesting fossils discovered in the region.

On the section between Navatrasierra and the crossing, you will come by several geosites, such as the viewpoint of Crag of El Ataque or the Peat bog of El Hospital del Obispo. You will also visit the Hospital del Obispo, viewpoints, and picnic areas where you can stop off and enjoy the landscape, take a break and stretch your legs.

When you arrive at the crossing with EX-118 road, turn right to Navalvillar de Ibor. Finally, you will reach Castañar de Ibor at the end of this itinerary.

EX-118 road between Guadalupe and Castañar is declared a Scenic Road, and, in this section, you will enjoy some privileged views of the Ibor Anticline.



*Castañar Cave Natural Monument,
Castañar de Ibor*

Road Trip to the “Roof” of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark





Pico Villuerca
1595 m

300 m

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

















11 km



15 min (on the road)

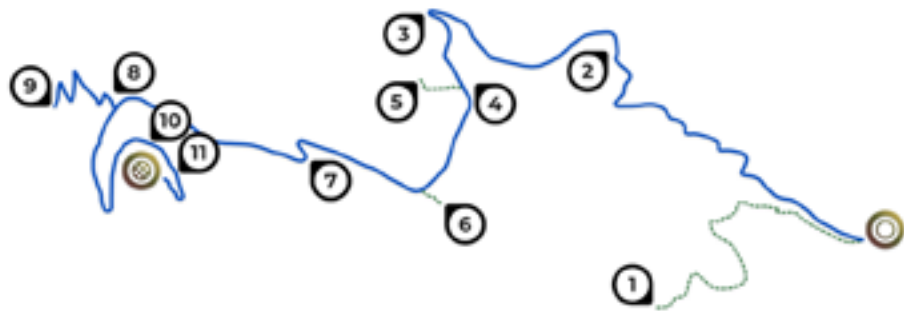
Stage

-  Humilladero Chapel Parking
-  Arca del Agua Watermines
-  Fault Viewpoint
-  Vendotaenids Site
-  Viejas Syncline Viewpoint Parking
-  Viejas Syncline Viewpoint
-  Pozo de las Nieves
-  Trinchera Viewpoint
-  Collado Ballesteros Viewpoint
-  Source of the River Almonte
-  Villuercas Peak Viewpoint
-  Appalachian Viewpoint
-  Villuercas Peak

-  Cultural Site
-  End of the Stage
-  Geosite
-  Start of the Stage
-  Trail
-  Viewpoint



Follow the Route



Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

starting point at EX-118 road

Villuercas Peak is nowadays the highest place in Extremadura reachable by vehicle. Its altitude is 1600 meters, but you can only drive up to 1595 meters, after 11 kilometers of winding mountain roads.

Climbing to the “roof of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark” is a must if you are in the area. During the ascent, you will come across numerous stops to enjoy the landscape and places of interest.

At the top, you will enjoy one of the most breathtaking viewpoints in the province of Cáceres: an old heliport esplanade of the former military base with an almost 360° view.

Get ready to experience the ascent to the top of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark. Be amazed by an invisible river that can be heard but not seen, by a pit used as a refrigerator centuries ago and by a narrow, almost impenetrable, valley that used to be populated by bears.

The Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca is included in the following stages:

From Navatrasierra to Guadalupe in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth ([stage 6 - p. 66](#)).

From Carrascalejo to Cañamero in The Iconic Road Trip through the UNESCO Global Geopark ([stage 4 - p. 48](#)).

From Castañar de Ibor to Cañamero in The Road Trip through the Essence of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark ([stage 2 - p. 102](#)).

Road Trip around Guadalupe in one day ([p. 108](#)).

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca and types of vehicles

Panoramic view, Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca



There is no official limitation on the types of vehicles that can climb the Villuercas Peak, but you need to know some details that will allow you to decide whether your vehicle is suitable for that, so that you can enjoy the ascent.

First, the route we suggest to climb Villuercas Peak is the one that starts at the EX-118 intersection, as described below in the following chapter.

This is a very busy road, especially on weekends, not only with vehicles but also cyclists and hikers, so you have to be extremely cautious.

The maximum gradient during the ascent is 15 %. Consider this in case your vehicle is very heavy.

Although the asphalt is in good condition and the road is wide, on some stretches the dividing line is not painted, or it just marks the middle of the road.

When you reach the highest part, you will find an unpaved plot on the left (coordinates: [39°28'03.5"N 5°24'01.1"W](#)).

If you have a big vehicle, such as a motorhome, we recommend parking there. If you go further up, it may be complicated to turn around.

If you have a smaller vehicle, such as a car, you can go up and turn around at the fence of the military base and park in the parking lot indicated on the roadside.

Anyhow, there is a sign that prohibits the entrance of vehicles into the heliport.

Starting the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

You can ascend Villuercas Peak by road by two routes: one that begins in the area of Navezuelas and another that starts on the road linking Guadalupe and Navalvillar de Ibor.

The first, the route from Navezuleas, starts on road CC-97 and has sections with an extremely steep slope, very sharp hairpin turns and a really narrow roadway.

On the contrary, the route from Guadalupe, renovated in 2020, is the most recommendable one for driving. The information in this chapter will focus on this option, road CC-437, known as Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca.

Starting point of Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca on the road CC-437



To start the 11-kilometer ascent by the mountain road, take the road indicating the climb to Risco de la Villuerca on the EX-118 at kilometer mark (k. m.) 4, between Guadalupe and Navalvillar de Ibor. The exact point is the parking lot at the Humilladero chapel.

It is also a starting point for a network of hiking trails to hike or visit places of interest in the area, such as the Arca del Agua watermines geosite (which can only be visited as a guided tour).

During the first 4,5 kilometers of the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca, the slopes are moderate. The initial forest will slowly disappear as you go up.

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca: between kilometers 4 and 6

In just 2 kilometers of the route, between k. m. 4 and 6, there are four places worth a visit.

You will find the first one just at the road. It is a Vendotaenids site, one of the oldest fossils ever found. To enjoy the site, park your vehicle in the parking lot marked on the floor.

The second one is just after a sharp hairpin turn. There is an unpaved esplanade with an explanatory panel on the left.



It is a crack produced by a fault, located on the other side of the road. Materials deposited millions of years ago are now in plain sight.

About 600 meters from this fault, there is one of the viewpoints of the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca.

It is the viewpoint of Collado de las Arenas with the exceptional views of the Ibor Anticline. Here a route to the viewpoint of the Viejas Syncline starts.

To reach the Viejas Syncline, walk for 10 minutes by a post-signed path starting at the parking lot.

The views of one of the most impenetrable synclines in the whole Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark are worth a visit.

Go back to your vehicle and climb one more kilometer until k. m. 6, where you will see an intersection on the left with the sign of the estate La Quebrada and the explanatory panel of the Viejas Syncline geosite.

Park without obstructing the traffic and enjoy a different perspective of the syncline.

Here you may start a new path that, in about 5 minutes on foot, will take you to another attraction in your ascent to Villuercas Peak: the Pozo de las Nieves.



This structure, built by the Hyeronimite monks from the Guadalupe monastery in the 17th century, was kept ice and snow for the pilgrim hostels in the town fresh in the summer.

From here, in the distance, you can see the Granja de Mirabel, a palace used for centuries as a holiday residence of the nobles who visited Guadalupe, including Queen Isabella “the Catholic” on several occasions. Nowadays, no visits are allowed, except on May 3rd.

Once you have visited this area, head back to your vehicle and continue the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca.

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca: between kilometers 6 and 9



Between k. m. 6 and 9, the slope becomes steeper.

First, you will come by the viewpoint of the Trinchera on the left, with some breathtaking views of the Almonte Anticline and the Santa Lucía Syncline.

To access this viewpoint during the ascent is more complicated, so we recommend visiting it on your way back.

On the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca, between k. m. 8 and 9, there is a junction to the right with a sign indicating Navezuelas in the place known as Collado de Ballesteros.



This is the road that comes from Navezuelas, the one not recommended to ascend Villuercas Peak. However, along this way, there is a unique geosite: the Source of the River Almonte.

The source of the River Almonte is on the slope of Crag of La Villuerca. It runs from the geosite of the Rock Pass of the River Almonte and flows into the Tagus River. The river gives its name to the anticline we explore on some of the road trips suggested in this guide.

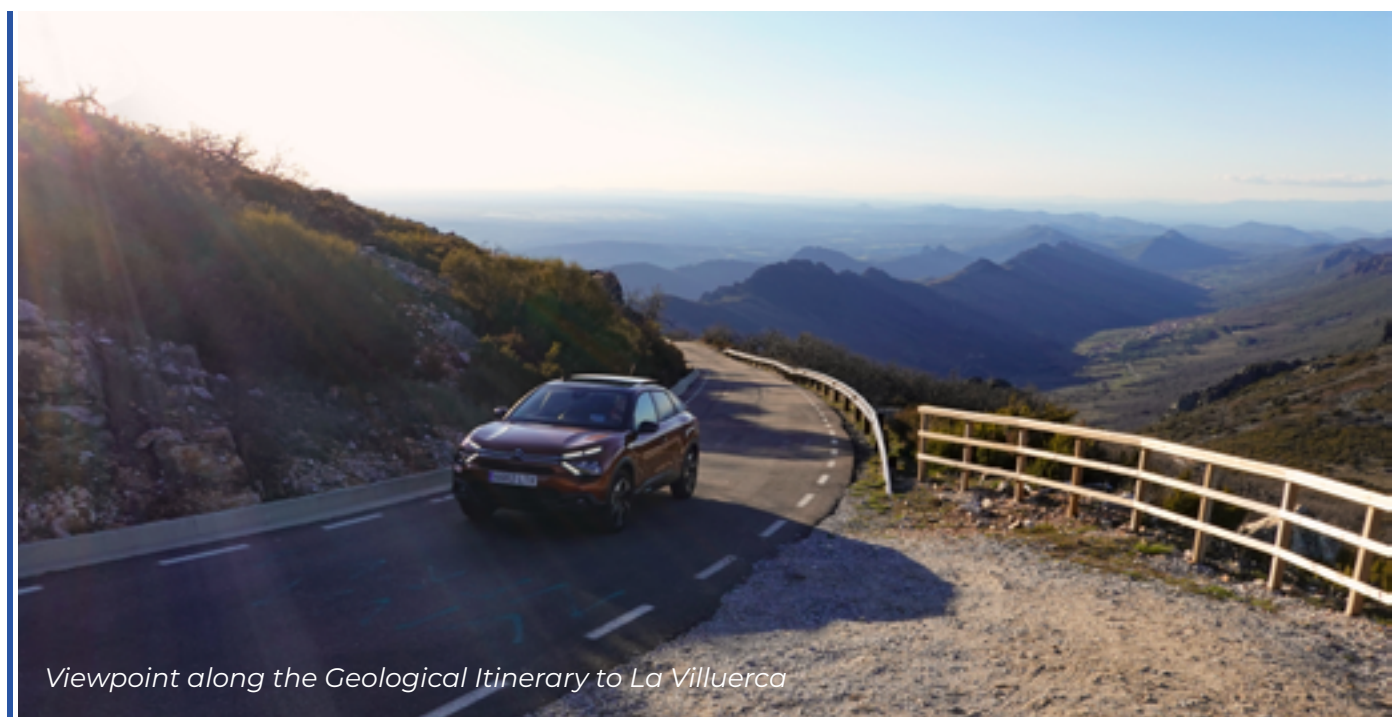
We recommend visiting this place, especially in the spring and in the rainy seasons. The river originates under a great rocky area and creates a unique effect: you will hear a strong distinctive sound, similar to boiling water, but you will not be able to see the source of it since it is under the rocks.

It is possible to reach the Source of the River Almonte by a small vehicle, like a car or a motorbike. But be advised, the slope on this stretch of the road is extremely steep, partially potholed with sharp hairpin turns.

If you have a large vehicle, such as a motorhome or a camper van, or if you do not want to take risks, it is better to park in the area you will find before the junction and go on foot (about 20 minutes).

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca: between kilometers 9 and 11

Go back to your vehicle to finish the ascent to the roof of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.



Viewpoint along the Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca

Only two kilometers keep you away from the summit: the first is smoother, and the last one is steeper.

If you look up, you will clearly see the antennas of the military base that mark the end of the itinerary.

The last section offers you the opportunity to enjoy two more viewpoints, this time, towards the Appalachian relief of the Viejas Syncline and, again, to the Ibor Anticline.

After these two viewpoints, very close to each other, you will see a hairpin turn to the right and, on the left of it, a leveled unpaved terrain. It is 300 meters away from the peak.

This is the place where, as we said at the beginning of this chapter, you should park if you drive a large or heavy vehicle. If you go further up with this type of vehicle, it will be quite complicated to turn around and go down (it is the same road to go up and down).

If you have a smaller vehicle, such as a car or a motorbike, you may go to the top. Park at the parking sign next to the road.

Regardless of where you park, go up on foot to the old heliport of the military base to enjoy the best views of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Take your time to relish this unique moment on the “roof” of the Geopark. If you can choose the time of the day to visit this place, we recommend the sunset.

Once you have finished, descend by the same road. If you missed any of the suggested sights, you may visit them now, on your way down.

Views from the heliport on the top of Villuercas Peak



Road Trips through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark with Children



When you organize a road trip with children, you need to consider some elements so that the youngest ones can enjoy it as well.

In this chapter, you will find information about the resources, services, activities and experiences that suit best families with children. We will also give a series of recommendations that you should take into account before and during the route.

Is the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark a good destination to travel with Children?



Public playground in Navalvillar de Ibor

The most important thing to know when choosing a destination to travel to with children is what you will encounter once you are there.

That is why, before deciding if a road trip through the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark with children is a good idea, you need to know what the destination is like and if its offer suits your children's tastes and likes.

The Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is a destination closely related to the history of the Earth and the evolution of mankind, so fossils, caves and cave paintings are scattered throughout the region.

On the other hand, a visit to the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark is always in contact with nature and its two main protagonists, animals and plants.

There are hiking routes of different difficulty levels and lengths, so you can choose the ones that adjust to the age and experience of your little explorers.

The interpretation centres are educationally-oriented, as they receive visitors of different ages from educational centres and associations every week.

That is why the materials you will find in the interpretation centres, such as explanatory panels or audiovisual materials, focus on teaching and arousing the curiosity of the younger visitors.

Also, the explanations during the guided visits can be adapted so they are fun for kids. In addition, there are activities, related to agrotourism and astrotourism, designed especially for children.

The road trips in this guide are divided into relatively short sections, with interesting stops every few kilometers. Also, in many villages, you can find a playground or a sports area to play in for a while and take a break.

Interpretation Centres for Children



One way of spreading the values of the territory and educating on the surroundings is by visiting the interpretation centres scattered around the villages and towns of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

The twelve centres are very interesting, but some may be more didactic and fun for children than others due to their approach or the resources used to display the information.

This is a short descriptive summary of the most remarkable interpretation centres for children.

Visitors Centre in Cañamero

Here, little explorers will find information about geoparks in general and the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark in particular.

There are explanatory panels, samples of fossils and minerals, and an audiovisual presentation that explains the origins of the Geopark. It is the best starting point to understand what you will encounter throughout the route.

Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre in Castañar de Ibor

The Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre is an essential visit for young speleologists. In this interpretation centre, with the help of the explanatory panels and audiovisual presentations, not only will they learn about the creation of Castañar Cave, but they will also find out more about the fauna and flora of the Geopark.

The replica of a part of Castañar Cave installed in one of the rooms of the interpretation centre is especially interesting.

Fossils Interpretation Centre in Navatrasierra

The Fossils Interpretation Centre in Navatrasierra has the finest collection of fossils in the entire Geopark.

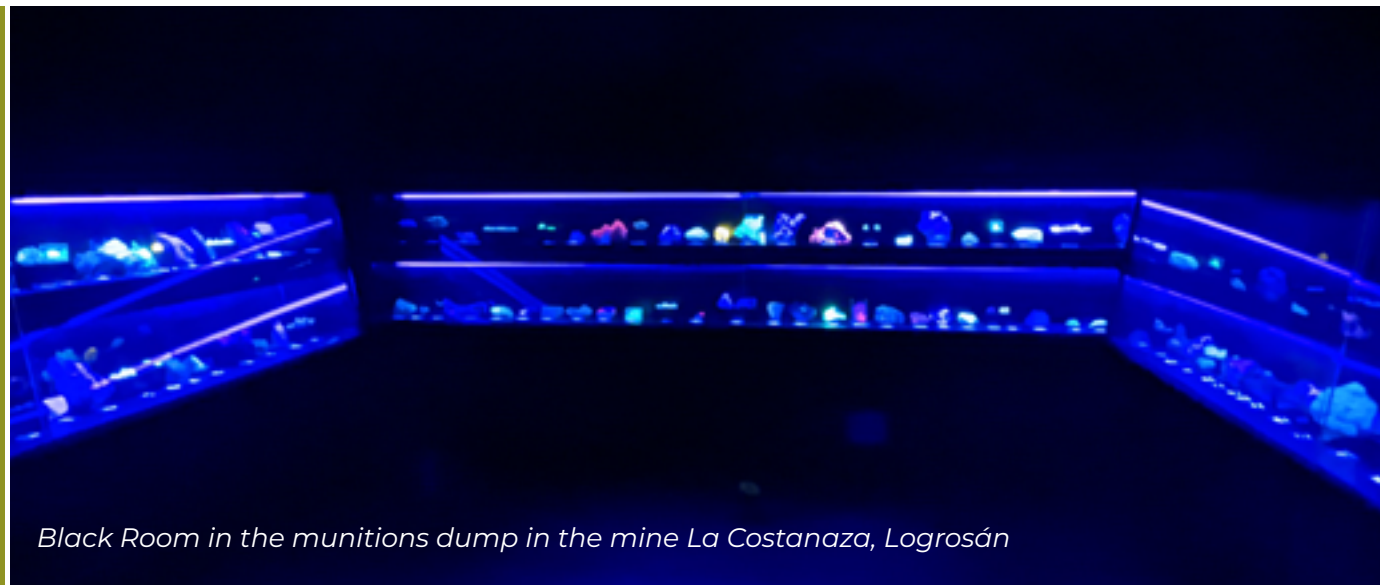
It makes this visit essential for children curious about fossils and the history of the Earth. Here they will find a lot of didactic materials to understand the creation of the Geopark.

Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre in Berzocana

The Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre is located in Berzocana and may be especially interesting for those young historians who want to know more about what life was like in this territory in the Prehistoric times.

The objects of great archaeological interest, among them, a replica of the Treasure of Berzocana, graphic explanatory panels and audiovisual materials make it easy to understand the region's past and its evolution throughout the centuries.

Top 3 Geosites for Children



Black Room in the munitions dump in the mine La Costanaza, Logrosán

Sometimes it is difficult for a child to feel passionate about the same things that an adult might be enthusiastic about.

Some of the most relevant geosites in the Geopark have great geological value but, for children, their significance may be challenging to grasp. That is why we will highlight the three geosites that may be more interesting for the youngest members of the family.

Phosphorite mine La Costanaza

The guided visit to the mine La Costanaza is a unique experience for children and adults. After an explanation of the mine's history, there is a guided tour through the munitions room and the galleries where the miners worked extracting the mineral. The visit is really entertaining and fun for children. You need to book in advance by phone at [+34 927 36 01 80](tel:+34927360180) or by e-mail at minasdelogrosan@gmail.com.

Valdecastillo Boulder

Outdoors and free of charge, the randomly placed granite boulders and the huge balancing rock of Valdecastillo boulder transform this place into a unique playground in the heart of nature. Children will discover caves and impossible nooks and crannies among granite rocks in this part of the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Gorge of the River Ruecas: the Chiquita Cave

There are several locations in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark to contemplate cave paintings. But the most accessible one for children is Chiquita Cave in Cañamero, in the Gorge of the River Ruecas.

Some explanatory panels help find the cave paintings and explain their origins. In order to get there, hike for about 1,5 km through the field. If you visit it on your own, it is free of charge.

Top 3 Hiking Routes for Children



In a place where nature and geology are the protagonists, hiking routes are a perfect complement to road trips.

In the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark, there are hiking routes of different difficulty levels and lengths, so choose the ones that adjust best to your children's physical condition and hiking experience.

It does not mean that the routes suggested in this guide are suitable for everyone; they can suit children who are used to walking and have hiking experience.

Hike in the Ravine of El Pedroso for Children

It is a hiking route on easy ground, a 4-kilometer out-and-back path with no ascents or descents. Once you arrive at the gorge, go down over some rocks. It may be a little more complicated, but it is feasible, and many children are capable of doing it.

If you need more information on this route, check the stage [From Castañar de Ibor to Navatrasierra in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth \(p. 56\).](#)

Hike of the Aqueduct of Herrerías for Children

If you do this hiking route with children, it may be a good idea to choose an out-and-back trail, since it is shorter (7 km in total). The descent at the beginning may be a little challenging, but once you arrive at the aqueduct, the route becomes really easy.

If you want to know more about this hike, check the stage [From Deleitosa to Castañar de Ibor in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth \(p. 48\).](#)

Hike to the Waterfalls of Calabazas for Children

The hike to the Waterfalls of Calabazas is easy but longer than the two previous routes (11 km return). The route passes by the centuries-old chestnuts of Postuero, which may also be of interest to all the family.

If you want to know more about this route, check the stage [From Castañar de Ibor to Navatrasierra in The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth \(p. 56\).](#)



Activities and Experiences for Children



Views of the geosite Rock Pass of the River Almonte from the viewpoint of Roturas de Cabañas

If you want to complete the road trip with some children-oriented activities or experiences, you may need more information on the active tourism companies in the Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark.

Agrotourism, astrotourism or specific workshops awaken children's curiosity and broaden their knowledge about the rural and natural environment.

There are also experimental and educational fun activities to enjoy. For example, they can get honey directly from a hive, make their own cheese from the milk they have just milked, travel to the stars through a telescope or enter the world of olive oil.

Check the proposals of the active tourism companies in the Geopark on the website <https://geovilluercas.org/> and organize your road trip, considering their schedules and availability.

The most Astonishing Sections of these Road Trips





View of the road from the top of Villuercas Peak

HIGHLIGHTED ROAD SECTIONS

**Road CC-20.2:**

section between Carrascalejo and the EX-118 intersection.

**Road EX-102:**

section between Puerto de San Vicente and Guadalupe.

**Road CC-437:**

Geological Itinerary to La Villuerca.

**Road CC-97:**

section between the roundabout with the monument to the Treasure of Berzocana and Navezuelas.

**Road EX-102:**

section between the junction with the EX-116 (Puertollano fault) and Cañamero.

**Road CC-21.1:**

section between Cañamero and Berzocana.

**Road CC-21.3:**

section between Cañamero and Berzocana (narrow mountain road).

**Road EX-118:**

section between Castañar de Ibor and the junction of the CC-20.2 road.

**Road CC-22.5:**

section between Logrosán and Berzocana.

**Road CC-19.5:**

section between Campillo de Deleitosa and EX-386 road.

**Road EX-386:**

section to drive into the Geopark from Deleitosa.



Services and Information for Visitors



Websites of interest

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark	UNESCO Global Geoparks in Spain	Geovilluercas (Association of Enterprises of Geopark)
https://www.geoparquevilluercas.es/	https://geoparques.es/	https://geovilluercas.org/
Cáceres Tourism Board	Extremadura Tourism Board	
https://www.turismocaceres.org/	https://www.turismoextremadura.com/	

Visitor Centres and Tourist Offices

Visitors Centre in Cañamero	Castañar Cave Interpretation Centre	Regional Archaeology Interpretation Centre
Paseo de Extremadura nº6 Cañamero +34 675 061 982 crvgeoparque@gmail.com	Ctra. del Camping, s/n. Castañar de Ibor +34 927 554 635 cueva.castanar@juntaex.es	c/ Santa Florentina, s/n. Berzocana +34 927 150 030 ciarqueologiaberzocana@gmail.com
Interpretation Centre of Limestone Kilns of La Calera	Fossils Interpretation Centre	Carnaval de Ánimas Interpretation Centre
Ctra. de Alía a La Calera, s/n. La Calera +34 927 366 002 turismoalia@gmail.com	c/ de las Escuelas, n.º 6 Navatrasierra +34 927 555 246 cifnavatrasierra@gmail.com	c/ Real, n.º 10 Villar del Pedroso +34 927 555 040 cicarnavaldeanimas@villardelpedrosoes
Geomineral Museum in Logrosán	Interpretation Centre of ZEPA Sierra de las Villuercas	Costanaza Mine Interpretation Centre
ctra. de Guadalupe s/n. Logrosán +34 927 360 1802 museo.logrosan@hotmail.com	ctra. del embalse de Cancho del Fresno, s/n. Cañamero +34 675 061 982 / +34 682 798 459	ctra. de Guadalupe, s/n. Logrosán +34 927 360 180 minasdelogrosan@gmail.com
Silo Museum Centre	Joaquín Araujo Interpretation Centre	Tourist Office in Guadalupe
c/ Silo, s/n. Alía +34 927 366 002 turismoalia@gmail.com	ctra. de Alía, s/n. Alía +34 695 356 394 / +34 927 366 002 turismoalia@gmail.com	Plaza de Santa María de Guadalupe, s/n. Guadalupe +34 927 154 128 oficinadeturismo@ayuntamientodeguadalupe.es



Road Trips

Villuercas-Ibores-Jara

UNESCO Global Geopark

In this Villuercas-Ibores-Jara UNESCO Global Geopark Road Trips Guide, you will find a series of different itineraries designed to discover this region of Extremadura and suitable for any type of vehicle.

Between one-day road trips, enough to get a feel of the surroundings, and The Great Road Trip through the History of the Earth, designed as a seven-to-ten-day loop road trip, you will find different proposals which fit perfectly for a weekend or a getaway.

Choose the road trip which better suits your availability and adjust the route to your pace in order to live a genuine experience driving through a part of the Earth's history.