

DISCOVER
Jaén
A journey
THROUGH THE TREASURES
of the PROVINCE

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12 months



Jaén: a province you'll want to visit again and again

Gateway to Andalusia, strategic territory and a key player in Spanish history: Jaén Province is waiting to be discovered. Its archaeological records remind us that the Iberians, one of the earliest populations to settle in Spain, were able to develop their innovative culture and society thanks in large part to the rich resources of this region. Today, visitors can explore the history of this unique culture, which is unlike any other in Europe, by taking **A Journey Back to the Time of the Iberians**. The Roman Empire gained ground in its fight against the Carthaginians in Cástulo, on the outskirts of present-day Linares, and left examples of its artistry throughout the region. During the time of the Renaissance, powerful nobles and patrons decided to make Jaén one of the richest and most developed provinces in all of Andalusia. **The World Heritage cities of Úbeda and Baeza** are perfect examples of how architects (such as Andrés de Vandelvira), great painters, master craftsmen, nobles, clerics and other leading figures bestowed upon Jaén a historical and cultural heritage that is matched by few other regions.

Jaén's history makes us proud of who we are and where we come from. The **Castles**

and Battlefields Route invites visitors to discover this history through the 400+ castles, fortresses, towers and ruins that provide the perfect complement to the stunning natural beauty of our unique landscapes. With its four **natural parks**, Jaén boasts the largest expanse of protected areas in Spain and is a paradise for lovers of nature and adventure. In Jaén, we are able to cater to even the most inquisitive visitors; what is more, we do so with the satisfaction and conviction of knowing that our province is truly unique, with a wealth of attractions we are eager to show off.

Home to Spain's largest olive grove (comprising more than **66 million olive trees**), Jaén's landscape is intimately linked with the character of its inhabitants, who have managed to maintain a balance between modernity and tradition. Our extra virgin olive oil is among the finest on the planet, while our cuisine is as surprising and fascinating as our culture, which is as deep and rich as the region's heritage. Jaén is a province you'll want to visit again and again, because its limits are only marked by the boundaries of your imagination. With this guide, we invite you to embark on a trip you'll wish could last forever.



14.496 | 97
KM² IN SIZE | TOWNS AND CITIES

JAÉN

638.000
INHABITANTS

2
WORLD HERITAGE CITIES

47
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES



23
SITES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

254
SITES OF CULTURAL INTEREST

THE LARGEST PLANTED FOREST IN THE WORLD



400
CASTLES FORTRESSES TOWERS AND WALLS:

THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF SUCH FORTIFICATIONS ANYWHERE IN EUROPE



300.000
HECTARES OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST PRODUCER OF OLIVE OIL

66 MILLION
OLIVE TREES



How to get here

To
JAÉN
from the rest of the world

By bus, car, train, plane - however you wish!



Jaén is one of Andalusia's eight provinces. Situated in the north of the region, it is linked via a network of motorways: the A-4 crosses the province on its way from Madrid to Cádiz; the A-44 provides connections to Granada and Málaga; and the N-322 links Jaén to Albacete and eastern Spain, as well as connecting the World Heritage cities of Úbeda and Baeza to the Sierras de Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park.

You can also visit us by plane

Federico García Lorca Granada-Jaén Airport is just 45 minutes from the city of Jaén by road. Málaga Airport is just 2.5 hours away, while Madrid Adolfo Suárez-Barajas Airport is 3 hours away by car or train.

10 reasons TO FALL IN LOVE with Jaén

The largest concentration of castles and fortresses in Europe; two World Heritage cities which, along with the city of Jaén, constitute southern Europe's most important examples of Renaissance architecture; a living museum that is home to the most extensive Iberian legacy in

Spain; a spectacular landscape formed of 66 million olive trees; and an endless amount of historical heritage, sitting amidst the country's largest expanse of natural parkland. You can find all this and much more in Jaén.

PROVINCIA BELLÍSSIMA



1. JAÉN CAPITAL OF THE INLAND PARADISE

Jaén Cathedral is unique in Spain. This majestic building is considered the most representative example of **Andalusian Renaissance** architecture. The architect Andrés de Vandelvira conceived it as a place of worship where pilgrims could receive the blessing of the Holy Face of Jesus from its balconies. Along with **Santa Catalina Castle**, it is an iconic element in the city's unique skyline.



2. Úbeda A MUSEUM OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE OPEN AIR

Take a walk around any part of this **World Heritage Site** and you will be whisked back to the Middle Ages. The unique buildings that adorn **Plaza Vázquez de Molina** represent Spain's finest examples of Renaissance architecture.

3. Baeza COUNTRYSIDE OF BAEZA, I'LL DREAM OF YOU WHEN I NO LONGER SEE YOU!

The verses of **Antonio Machado** are alive in the streets of Baeza, the pious, peaceful university city that became the poet's home. Declared a **World Heritage Site**, Baeza invites visitors on a journey of thoughtful discovery through its noble and religious architecture.



4. Castles and battlefields THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF CASTLES AND FORTRESSES IN EUROPE

A real-life game of thrones led to the construction of one of Europe's oldest castles at **Baños de la Encina**, the fortress of La Mota at **Alcalá la Real**, and the castles of **Jaén, Alcaudete, Lopera, Sabiote, Jódar, Segura de la Sierra, Cazorla** and La Iruela, among others. These sites inspire visitors to relive stories filled with castles, legends, princesses, caliphs, monks and knights.



5. THE IBERIANS PRINCESSES, GODDESSES AND HEROES OF ANOTHER AGE

Fortified towns such as **Puente Tablas** and **Cástulo**, shrines such as the **Cave of La Lobera** and the **royal tombs of Toya and Hornos** are examples of the extraordinary archaeological legacy left by this astounding civilization over the course of seven centuries. **Jaén Iberian Museum** is the starting point for a fascinating journey to uncover the traces and earliest memories of the Iberian Peninsula.



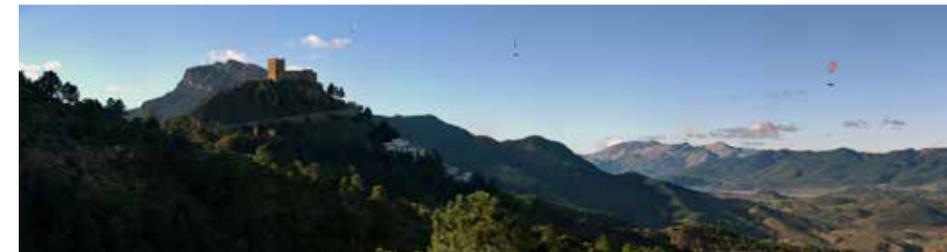
8. Olive oil tourism GREEN IS THE COLOUR

Green is the colour of the mountains and of the **sea of olive** trees that carpet the province's landscape. It is the colour of the olives grown in Jaén, which is also the world's largest producer of extra virgin olive oil. Home to more than **66 million olive trees**, Jaén is synonymous with olive oil culture. Museums and olive mills are waiting to take visitors on a unique journey filled with culinary and cultural experiences.



6. 23 Sites of historical interest SURPRISING WEALTH OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Each of Jaén's **23 sites of historical interest** have something special to offer, such as unique hidden spots, oases of calm, and winding streets that will transport you back to an earlier age. We invite you to visit them and experience these special sites to the fullest.



9. Gastronomy GOING OUT FOR TAPAS

Visiting Jaén means discovering unique dishes, dressed **with the world's finest extra virgin olive oil**. Traditional cooking, designer cuisine and restaurants of national renown can all be found throughout the province. In Jaén you can enjoy the flavours of **tapas culture** like nowhere else.

7. Enchanting villages within natural parks HISTORY ENTWINED WITH NATURE

Jaén's **four natural parks** - **Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas; Sierra Mágina; Despeñaperros;** and **Sierra de Andújar** - are not only fascinating and idyllic natural spaces; they are also home to a number of towns and villages nestled within them, whose beauty simply cannot be missed.

10. Festivals and traditions A CALENDAR FILLED WITH EMOTION

Visit Jaén and discover the **romería of Our Lady of La Cabeza, the oldest procession in Spain**; Holy Week celebrations that have been declared Festivals of Tourist Interest in numerous municipalities; and countless fiestas, festivals and unique events that take place throughout the year. You're sure to find the perfect festival to complement your trip.

Plaza
Vázquez de Molina

THE SOUTHERN *RENAISSANCE*

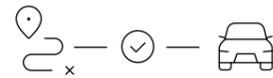
THE SOUTHERN RENAISSANCE IS ONE OF ANDALUSIA'S MOST OUTSTANDING ROUTES, AND THE BEST WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT THAT THE RENAISSANCE HAD ON JAÉN. FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MASTER ARCHITECT ANDRÉS DE VANDELVIRA, YOU WILL BE TRANSPORTED BACK TO A GOLDEN AGE WHEN ÚBEDA, BAEZA, JAÉN, VILLACARRILLO, HUELMA, LA GUARDIA, SABIOTE AND CANENA SHONE IN ALL THEIR SPLENDOR. LET'S START OUR JOURNEY!

Holy Chapel
of El Salvador

ÚBEDA

World Heritage Site

JUST 40 MINUTES BY ROAD FROM JAÉN LIES ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS OF RENAISSANCE SITES IN ALL EUROPE. LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF LA LOMA, ÚBEDA IS ONE OF TWO CITIES DECLARED WORLD HERITAGE SITES BY UNESCO IN 2003.



A renaissance that looks towards the south

Úbeda is one of the finest examples of civic architecture to be found anywhere in Europe. Here, beauty lies above and all around you, as you cannot help but be seduced by some of the most elegant, noble and majestic Renaissance buildings of the 16th and 17th centuries. It is impossible to remain unmoved by the work of master architect Andrés de Vandelvira, who created many of the city's iconic buildings.

We begin in the bustling Calle Real at the heart of Úbeda, before making our way along the streets leading towards one of the city's most splendid squares, **Plaza Vázquez de Molina**, home to many buildings that hold the key to understanding Úbeda's history.

ÚBEDA'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE IS CLOSELY LINKED TO THE FIGURE OF FRANCISCO DE LOS COBOS, SECRETARY OF STATE TO EMPEROR CHARLES V.

De los Cobos is buried - along with his wife - in one of the most iconic buildings in Plaza Vázquez de Molina: the **Holy Chapel of El Salvador del Mundo**, the largest private mausoleum in Spain. Next to the chapel is **Deán Ortega Palace**, designed by Diego de Siloé and built by Vandelvira during the first half of the 16th century. It was one of the first stately homes in the country to be turned into a *Parador Nacional* (state-owned historic hotel).



THE FINEST VIEWS

As its name indicates, Vázquez de Molina Palace refers to another key figure in Úbeda's history, Juan Vázquez de Molina, the nephew of De los Cobos. His presence in the city attracted many other nobles, which in turn caused the ripples of the Renaissance to spread out through the city's streets, civic buildings, stately homes and churches.



IT IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE "PALACE OF CHAINS" OWING TO THE DESIGN OF THE FAÇADE, AND IS ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF 16TH CENTURY RENAISSANCE ARCHITECTURE IN SPAIN. TODAY IT HOUSES THE OFFICES OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

WE RECOMMEND:

Visiting the Plaza at dusk, when the last rays of the sun cast their light onto the buildings and create a truly picture-perfect scene. Our gaze will then be irresistibly drawn to the church standing opposite, **Santa María de los Reales Alcázares**, which is Úbeda's oldest and most important church and stands on the site of an earlier mosque.

Caryatid,
Holy Chapel of
El Salvador

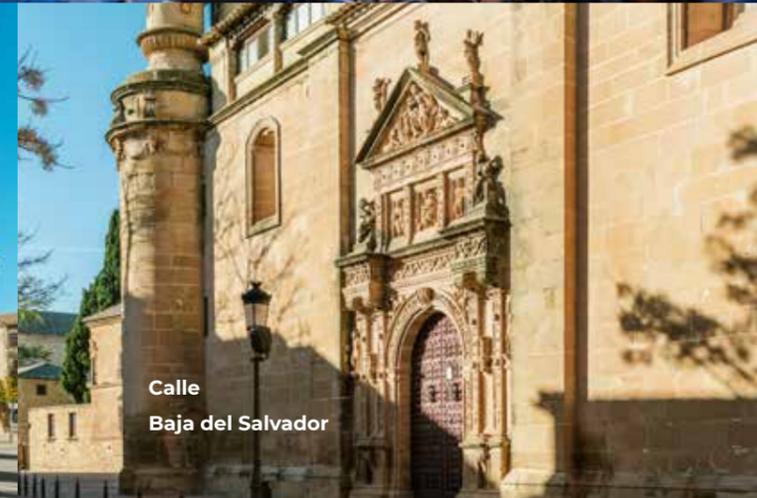
Palace of the
Counts of Guadiana



Holy Chapel of
El Salvador



Church
of San Pablo



Calle
Baja del Salvador

A never-ending story

Our stroll through Úbeda will enable us to admire countless stately homes, whose collective beauty extols the magnificence of a city that is justly proud of its civic architectural heritage - which is virtually without rival in Andalusia. The sites we have already mentioned stand alongside other splendid buildings such as the **Palacio de los Salvajes** ("Palace of the Savages"), so-called for the two figures on its façade that represent the ancient lineages of the city; the **Palace of the Counts of Guadiana**; **Vela de los Cobos Palace**, home to another noble family that contributed to the Renaissance development of Úbeda; and the **Casa Mudéjar** ("Mudéjar House"), which is now home to the city's fascinating **Museum of Archaeology**.



Renacimiento del Sur
Jaén, Renacimiento del Sur



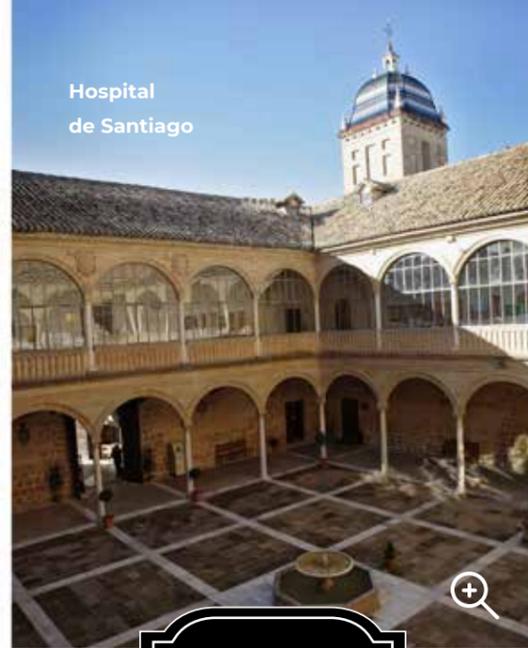
A visit to the **Sinagoga del Agua** ("Synagogue of the Water") immerses us in the life of Úbeda's Jewish community during the 16th century. Comprised of six rooms, the synagogue not only provides an insight into the Jewish presence in the city, but also that of the Spanish-Arabic community and even the Inquisition, as the organization owned this building for many years.

Next to the city's bustling open-air shopping quarter we find the 16th century **Santiago Hospital**, declared a National Monument. Nowadays, its large central courtyard hosts many of Úbeda's most important cultural events. Its stunning cloister staircase and the vaulted ceilings of the sacristy, church and ante-sacristy - all of which are decorated with frescoes - are considered one of the finest examples of Renaissance painting in Spain.



We cannot leave Úbeda without taking two very special walks that offer an insight into its monumental architecture. The **Redonda de los Miradores** ("Circuit of the Viewpoints") provides some fantastic views, including the sea of olive trees that carpet the county of La Loma. A truly unforgettable landscape. And if we walk down Calle San Lorenzo, we can sneak into the church and enjoy magnificent vistas over the city. Close by these viewpoints is Plaza Primero de Mayo, home to the Gothic church of San Pablo and the Antiguas Casas Consistoriales ("Old Town Halls"), which bear mute witness to the city's medieval past.

TO ROUND OFF OUR JOURNEY, WE CANNOT FORGET TO PAY A VISIT TO THE **ARTISANS' QUARTER ON CALLE VALENCIA**. FOR CENTURIES, ÚBEDA HAS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH HANDICRAFTS, AND THE LEGACY OF THE ARTISANS' WORK CAN STILL BE SEEN IN THE NUMEROUS MOZARABIC KILNS THAT WERE USED TO FIRE THE UNIQUE GREEN GLAZED POTTERY FOR WHICH THIS COUNTY IS SO RENOWNED.



Hospital de Santiago

ON THE HILLS OF ÚBEDA

AN OLD LEGEND TELLS OF A KNIGHT IN THE SERVICE OF KING ALFONSO VIII, WHO MET A BEAUTIFUL MOORISH PRINCESS ONE EVENING AND ENJOYED AN AMOROUS LIAISON WITH HER ON THE VERY SAME DAY THAT THE KING ARRIVED AT ÚBEDA IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONQUER THE CITY..

The King bad-temperedly asked the knight where he had spent the night, to which the knight replied: "On those hills of Úbeda, my lord, on those hills...". This story gave rise to a saying that is still used today, as recognised by the Royal Academy of the Spanish Language, to refer to "a place that is very remote or off the beaten track; a statement that is incongruous or out of place; or a person who rambles or strays off course in their reasoning or discourse".



Baeza Cathedral

BAEZA

World Heritage Site

THE ENSEMBLE OF ARCHITECTURAL WONDERS THAT COMPRISE BAEZA HAS MADE THE CITY A DESERVED RECIPIENT OF WORLD HERITAGE STATUS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ÚBEDA. LOCATED JUST NINE KILOMETRES FROM THE LATTER, BAEZA IS A MUST-VISIT DESTINATION ON YOUR TRIP TO JAÉN PROVINCE.

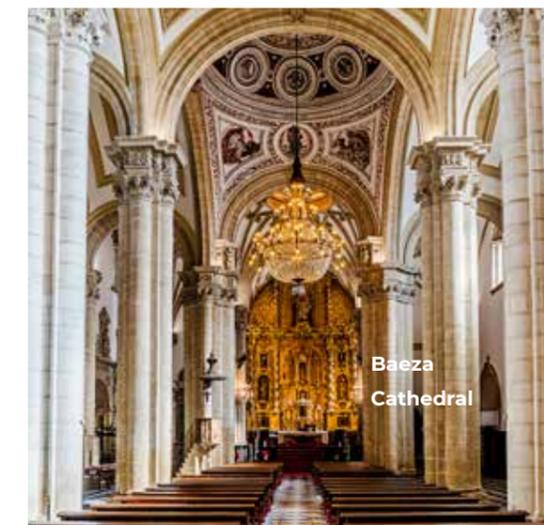
A STUNNING CATHEDRAL AND NARROW STREETS FILLED WITH HISTORY

Nestled in the county of La Loma y Las Villas, the venerable and placid city of Baeza invites us to discover the imprint of the Andalusian Renaissance, which finds ample expression here in the poetry of Machado, the spirituality of the city's traditional links to the clergy, and the wisdom embodied by its renowned university. If Úbeda is a showcase for the grandeur of the aristocracy of the 16th and 17th centuries, **Baeza is an expression of civic architecture and the power of the church.**

Our first big impression of Baeza is **Plaza de Santa María** and its stunning cathedral. The square rises gently, allowing the **cathedral** to soar even more majestically up into the

sky. The architect Andrés de Vandelvira helped to design this remarkable structure, which was built on top of a Moorish mosque. Once inside, visitors can play at spotting some of the ornamental and architectural elements that pre-date Vandelvira's work: these include Gothic pillars, Mudéjar chapels and Islamic arches, which are hidden inside the 11th century tower. The 18th century processional monstrance is unlike any other piece in Andalusia. Before entering the cathedral, your eye may have been drawn to the fountain in the square. Known as the Fuente de Santa María, it was built to commemorate the installation of the city's water supply during the 16th century. Without leaving the square, you can also admire

some of Baeza's historic **civic buildings** and the **Seminary of San Felipe Neri**, founded in the 17th century by the Bishop of Jaén, Fernando de Andrade y Castro. **Of particular note is its façade, covered with vitores: these intriguing pieces of graffiti were painted during the 16th and 17th centuries** by members of the university community to honour those who obtained their doctorate



Baeza Cathedral

NOBLES, CLERICS AND A PRINCESS

THE WINDING STREETS OF
BAEZA WILL LEAD YOU TO
ANOTHER UNMISSABLE SITE

Jabalquinto Palace stands out for its highly elaborate façade. It is one of the most striking buildings in the province, and was built on the instructions of a relative of King Ferdinand the Catholic. Today it houses the seminary and the Antonio Machado campus of the International University of Andalusia (UNIA). Nor will you have to walk far to discover the only example of late Romanesque architecture in Andalusia: namely, the **Church of Santa Cruz**. Continuing our stroll through Baeza,

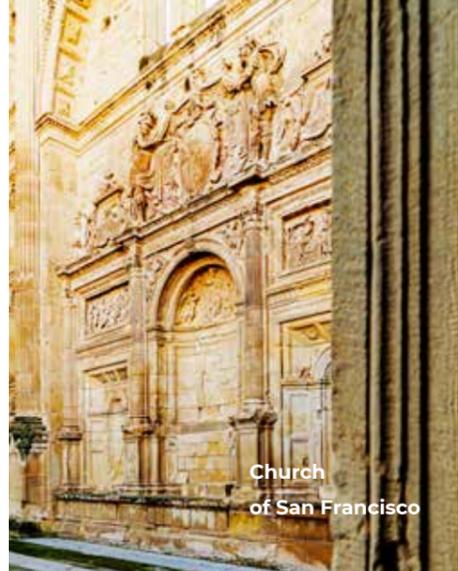
In **Plaza del Pópulo (also known as Plaza de los Leones)** our gaze is drawn to the fountain depicting Himilce, the wife of the Carthaginian Hannibal Barca. It

was discovered in Cástulo, one of the largest Iberian settlements in Spain, located on the outskirts of present-day Linares. The square is flanked by two beautiful buildings: the **Antiguas Carnicerías** (old slaughterhouse) and the **Escribanías Públicas** (office of the notary public), which is now home to Baeza Tourist Office. A friendly welcome is extended by two arched gateways: the **Arco de Villalar** and the **Puerta de Jaén**, once the obligatory starting-point for journeys to the provincial capital.

“Our visit to Baeza will take us to Plaza de la Constitución”

This public square is flanked by grand colonnades adorned with balconies, of which the **Balcón del Concejo and Balcón de la Alhóndiga** are of particular note. The influence of Andrés de Vandelvira can be seen in the ruined **Convent of San Francisco**, and he may also have designed the 16th century building that is currently home to the **city council**. The city’s extensive collection of monumental buildings also includes the churches of **San Pablo** and **San Andrés**, initially built in the Gothic style and subsequently altered during the Renaissance.

Church of Santa Cruz



Church of San Francisco

Our tour of the city’s Renaissance treasures is sure to have given us an appetite. Baeza boasts a multitude of options for visitors who want to explore the region’s cuisine. Unmissable dishes include the preserved pork loin, stews, stuffed buns, olive and partridge pâtés, broad bean casserole and Baeza-style cod. The pastries known as virolos make the perfect snack.



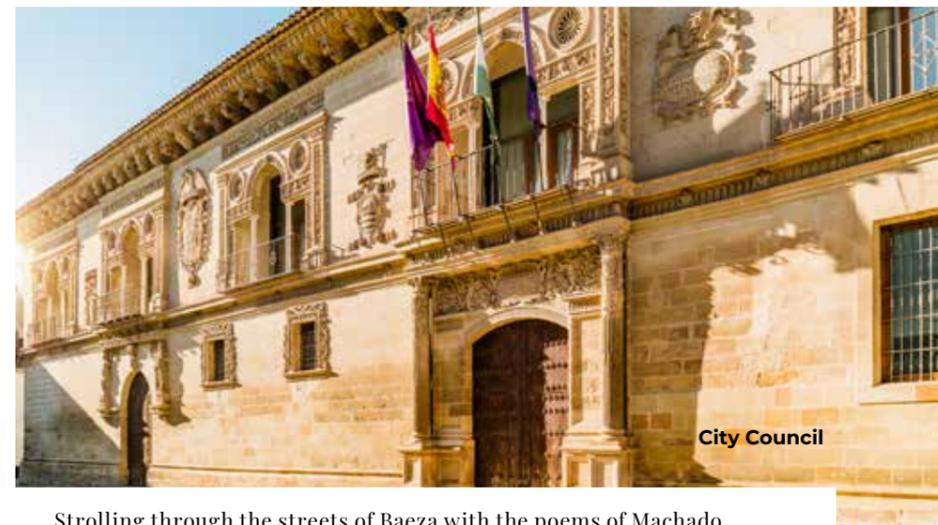
Calle Conde Romanones



Jabalquinto Palace



School of the Santísima Trinidad



City Council

MACHADO

Strolling through the streets of Baeza with the poems of Machado.

Strolling through the streets of Baeza with the poems of Machado. The Seville-born poet **Antonio Machado** spent a number of years in Baeza as a French teacher at the School of the Santísima Trinidad. It is not difficult to picture him strolling through the narrow streets, composing some of the verses that perfectly articulate his love for the city: Countryside of Baeza, I will dream of you when I no longer see you. Machado, whose presence can be felt throughout the city, also gave his name to one of the most beautiful viewpoints in Jaén Province.

TAKE A DETOUR



PUENTE DEL OBISPO

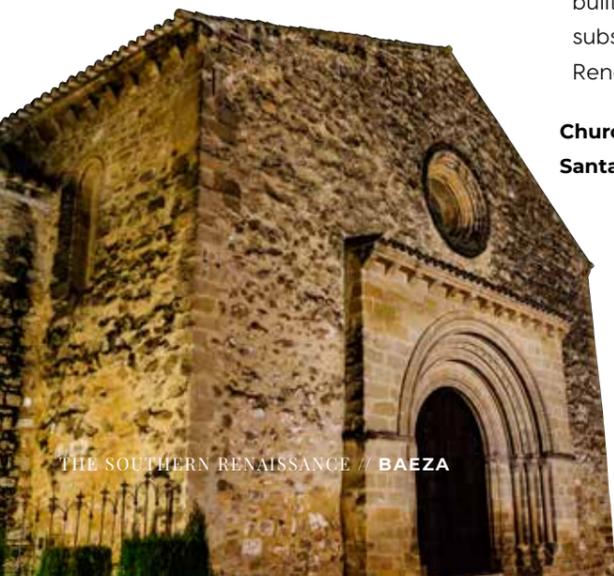


BEGÍJAR OLIVE-GROWING TRADITION



Museum of Olive Culture

A 10-minute trip by car brings us to **Begíjar**, whose historic town centre is listed in Andalusia’s General Catalogue of Historical Heritage as a Site of Cultural Interest. The town has a strong olive-growing tradition and a number of its mills offer tours that show how the world’s finest olive oil is made. In **Puente del Obispo**, a suburb of Baeza, you will find the **Museum of Olive Culture**: a must for those wishing to learn about the olive culture that is so deeply rooted in Jaén Province.



THE SOUTHERN RENAISSANCE // BAEZA



Plaza del Pópulo

JAÉN

A capital with a Holy Face

AT THE FOOT OF THE CERRO DE SANTA CATALINA LIES JAÉN, THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL.

Elinga, Auringis, Aurgi, Auringe, Flavia, Chién, Gaén, Gayán, Giyén, Xáuen, Yayyán, Jaenium, Jaeno, Jahén, Oringi, Gien...

You need to take a deep breath before listing the 20 or so names by which Jaén, one of the oldest cities in Andalusia, has been known. All throughout the city you can see traces of the Iberians (one of the most fascinating civilisations in the Mediterranean region), Romans, Visigoths, Arabs and Christians. They all fell in love with a city that will not fail to enamour you.



“The Holy Face”

JAÉN CATHEDRAL IS HOME TO ONE OF ONLY THREE SURVIVING IMPRINTS OF THE CLOTH WITH WHICH SAINT VERONICA WIPED THE FACE OF JESUS ON THE WAY TO CALVARY. THE OTHER TWO ARE IN ROME AND MILAN. FOR THIS REASON, JAÉN IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE CAPITAL OF THE HOLY KINGDOM.

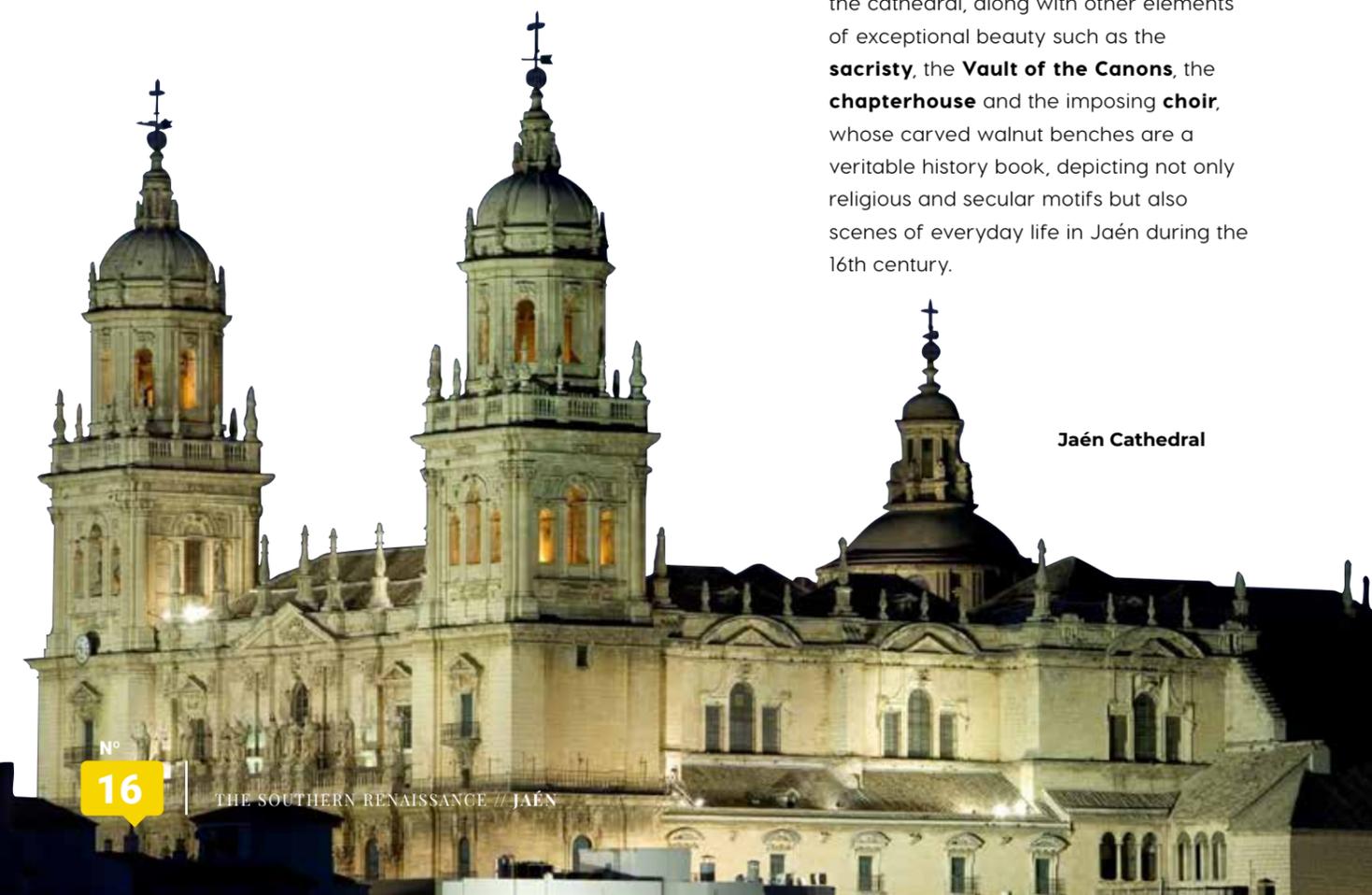
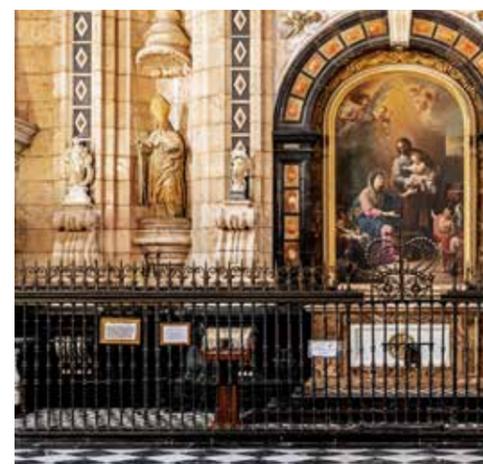
The relic, adorned with precious stones, was originally displayed on the cathedral's balconies; now it can be viewed inside the cathedral, along with other elements of exceptional beauty such as the **sacristy**, the **Vault of the Canons**, the **chapterhouse** and the imposing **choir**, whose carved walnut benches are a veritable history book, depicting not only religious and secular motifs but also scenes of everyday life in Jaén during the 16th century.

Jaén Cathedral



Jaén Cathedral in Latin America

If you travel to Yucatán (Mexico), Peru and Cuba, among other locations, you will find cathedrals that look very similar to the *Santísima Iglesia de la Asunción de la Virgen* in Jaén. The **template** created by master architect **Andrés Vandelvira** in the 16th century enjoyed **widespread influence**, owing to the stonemasons who emigrated overseas and especially the book of plans and designs published by his son, **Alonso Vandelvira**, which popularised the architect's work and had a significant influence on other architectural projects around the world.



“Wandering through history”

The cathedral is our starting point for exploring a city jam-packed with history.



We now make our way into the nearby **Plaza de San Francisco**, home to the **Provincial Palace**, which formerly housed the Convent of San Francisco and is now occupied by the offices of the Provincial Council.



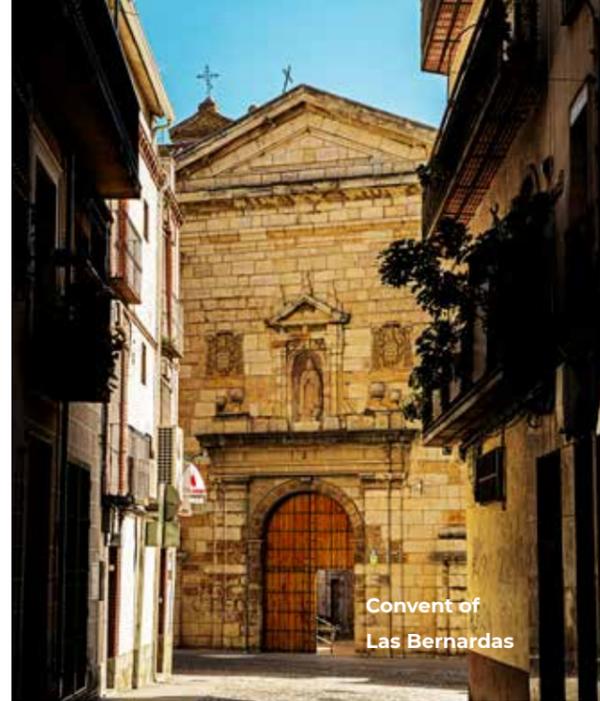
Another must-visit site is the **Basilica and Sanctuary of San Ildefonso**, a Gothic structure that houses the **tomb of the architect Andrés de Vandelvira**, the genius who left his mark in many locations throughout the province.

Dating back to the 13th century, it is home to **Our Lady of La Capilla**, the city's patron saint along with Saint Catherine of Alexandria. Legend has it that the Madonna descended upon the city and made her way, with a celestial entourage, from the cathedral to the basilica.

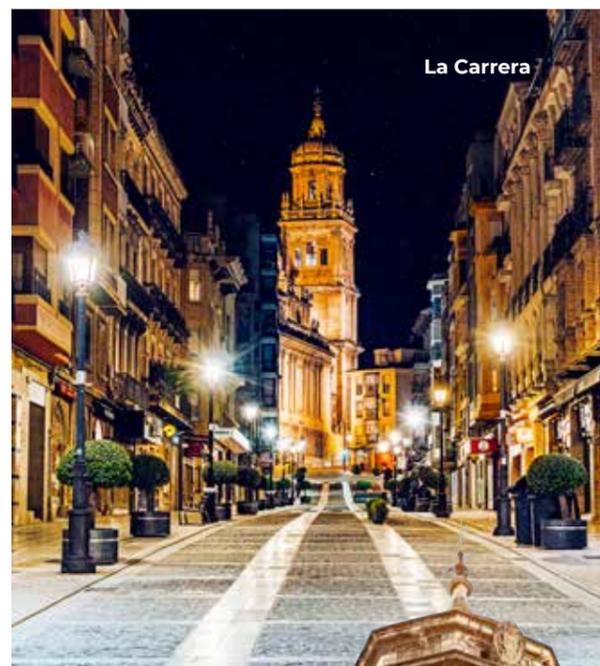


Napoleon, Saint Catherine and a watchful castle

We now go up the winding road to **Santa Catalina Castle**, one of the most important fortresses in the province. Iberians, Moors, Christians and even Napoleon's troops - who set up a hospital there during the occupation - all saw the strategic heights of the Cerro de Santa Catalina as the ideal place to build a castle overlooking the city. Next to the fortress is the city's historic hotel, the Parador de Turismo.



Convent of Las Bernardas



La Carrera



Hammam

“HAMMAMS TO DREAM OF”



With a floor area of almost 500 m², **Jaén's hammam** may very well be the largest in Spain. Built in the year 1002, the Almohad-style decorations that can still be found in some of the rooms suggest that the hammam was restored towards the end of the 12th century. Comprising a vestibule and cold, warm and hot rooms, the hammam is bathed in beautiful light thanks to the openings that allow rays of sunshine to penetrate into this unique structure. Located in the oldest part of the city, in the heart of the Magdalena neighbourhood, these baths are among the easiest to visit of Spain's ancient hammams. Specifically, they are situated in the basement of **Villadompardo Palace**, which also houses the **International Museum of Naïve Art** and the **Jaén Museum of Arts and Popular Customs**.

The Magdalena neighbourhood in central Jaén is the ideal place for an unhurried stroll. The church that bears the same name is one of the city's oldest, and still preserves a beautiful Moorish washroom and part of the old minaret. Inside, it houses the image of Jesus Christ that is paraded through the city during Holy Week, which has been declared a Festival of Tourist Interest. Opposite is the fountain known as the *raudal de la Magdalena*, home of the famous **legend of the Lizard of Jaén**. Visitors should not miss the **Church of San Juan**, whose Torre del Concejo (“Tower of the Council”) houses the city's official clock. Nearby is the building that formerly housed the **Hospital of San Juan de Dios**, now home to the Institute of Jaén Studies; and the **Convent of Santo Domingo**, which now contains the province's historical archive and boasts a magnificent Baroque cloister. The City Council has recently reopened the **Naranja hammam** as a place of cultural interest. The city is also home to two beautiful Mudéjar churches: **San Bartolomé** and **San Andrés**.

Visitors to Jaén should not miss the opportunity to sample traditional cuisine: from **Calle Maestra** to **Plaza del Pósito**, by way of the **neighbourhood of San Ildefonso**, there is no shortage of taverns and restaurants that will round off a visit to what is undoubtedly the capital of an inland paradise.



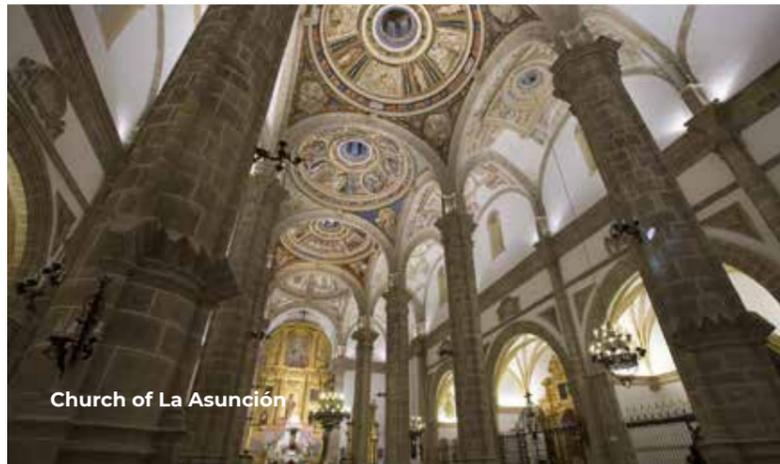
Plaza San Ildefonso



Santa Catalina Castle

+ RENAISSANCE IN THE PROVINCE

STUNNING RENAISSANCE ARCHITECTURE
AROUND EVERY CORNER



Church of La Asunción

VILLACARRILLO

THE
SOUTHERN
RENAISSANCE
ROUTE

and the footsteps of Andrés de Vandelvira lead us to **Villacarrillo**, where the master architect lived while he was working on one of the most beautiful churches in the province: Nuestra Señora de La Asunción. Declared a National Monument in 1931, it features several elements typically found in the architect's work, such as sail vaults.

CAZORLA, HORNOY AND ORCERA

In **Cazorla**, Vandelvira worked on another church, Santa María, which still presents a majestic appearance even though it is partially ruined. At **Hornos**, in the heart of the Segura mountains, Vandelvira designed the parish church - also dedicated to Santa María - as well as its counterpart in **Orcera**, where we find the first reference to the architect in conjunction with the name of his father-in-law, Francisco de Luna.



SABIOTE Y CANENA

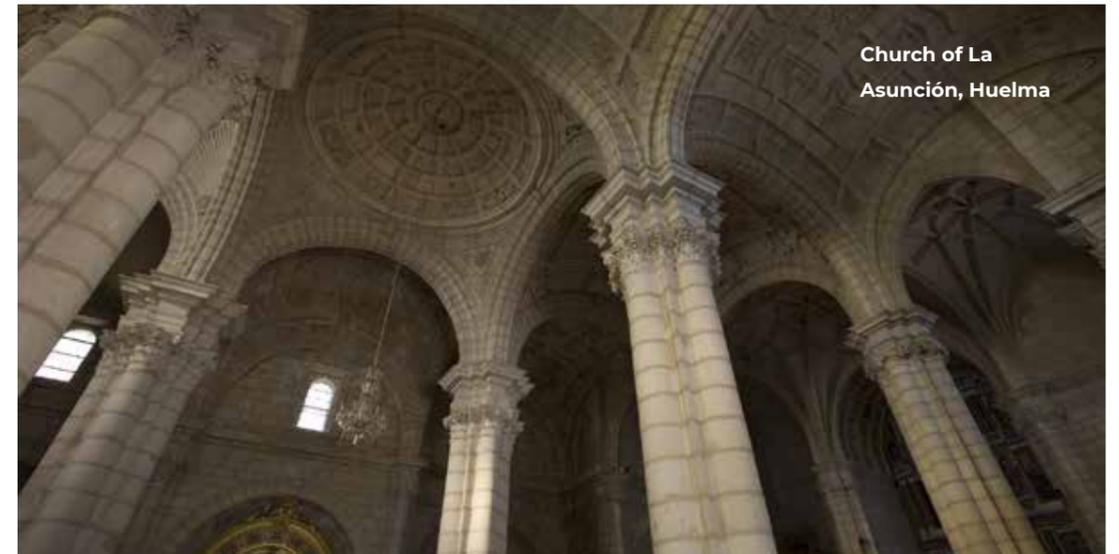
Continuing our tour of all of Vandelvira's works in Jaén Province, we make our way to Sabiote and Canena, where during the 16th century Francisco de los Cobos (the great patron of Úbeda) commissioned the architect to renovate an old fortress, which became the palatial Sabiote Castle. Vandelvira also built the similarly palatial Canena Castle, which boasts a stunning inner courtyard with a double colonnade and cloister staircase.



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HUELMA AND MANCHA REAL

The Church of La Asunción in **Huelma** is another place where we can explore one of the most sublime works by this master architect, who dedicated a significant part of his life to bestowing a unique style upon the churches of the province. In neighbouring **Mancha Real**, he articulated this style on a larger scale with the impressive Church of San Juan Evangelista.



Church of La Asunción, Huelma

LOSE
YOURSELF
IN



LA GUARDIA

Vandelvira's style is also evident in the Church of La Asunción in **La Guardia**, just a few kilometres from the provincial capital. The architect left his mark on the building's crossing (a defining element of his design approach) and the vaulted ceiling of the presbytery.

ALCAUDETE, YALCALÁ LA REAL AND MARTOS

We now make our way by car to **Alcaudete**, where the versatile, Italian-influenced architect Francisco del Castillo worked on a number of buildings, including the Church of Santa María in Alcaudete and the Town Hall in **Martos**, which stands out for its Mannerist façade. Just a few kilometres away, in the grounds of La Mota Fortress in **Alcalá la Real** we find the Abbey Church of Santa María, which was worked on by renowned architects such as Martín de Bolívar and Ambrosio de Vico.

ANDUJAR, SANTISTEBAN DEL PUERTO, CASTELLAR AND SORIHUELA DE GUADALIMAR

Following in the footsteps of the indefatigable master architect we come to **Andújar**, where he not only designed the Church of Santa María but also left his Renaissance-inspired mark on the Church of Santiago. The influence of the Renaissance can also be observed in the Collado-designed Church of Santa María in the town of **Santisteban del Puerto**, in the county of El Condado. In nearby **Castellar**, Vandelvira's unmistakable style can be seen in the collegiate church of Colegiata de Santiago, while in **Sorihuela de Guadalimar** he designed the riverside town's largest church, Santa Águeda.

Castles and Battlefields

La Iruela Castle

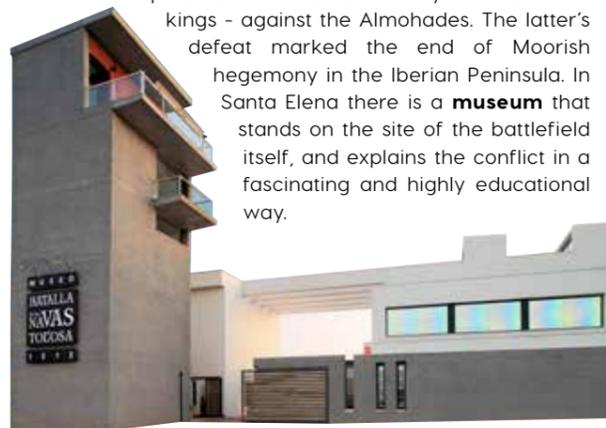
WHEN HISTORY CHANGED COURSE

The landscape of the **Castles and Battlefields Route** is filled with fortresses and watchtowers, testament to centuries of strife between kingdoms and religions and conflicts over territory. Straddling the border between Al-Ándalus and Spain's Christian kingdoms, the region stands out for its wide variety of military architecture, ranging from Moorish castles to the fortresses built by the orders of Calatrava and Santiago. Jaén is even home to an abbey constructed under royal patronage. We invite you to travel back in time, to witness the events that took place in Jaén and left a legacy of over **400 sites, including castles, towers, fortresses and citadels**, which together make our province unique in all of Europe. Let's get started!



BATALLA OF LAS NAVAS DE TOLOSA

The **Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa** irrevocably changed the course of history. It took place during the 13th century, at the height of the Reconquista (reconquest), and pitted Christian forces - led by three Christian kings - against the Almohades. The latter's defeat marked the end of Moorish hegemony in the Iberian Peninsula. In Santa Elena there is a **museum** that stands on the site of the battlefield itself, and explains the conflict in a fascinating and highly educational way.



Museum of the Battle of Navas de Tolosa

BATTLE OF BAILÉN

The **Museum of the Battle of Bailén** explores the key aspects of the first major open-field victory against Napoleon's forces in the Peninsular War, which marked a dramatic change of course in European history. This epic battle took place on 19 July 1808, and provided the setting for the remarkable story of Maria Bellido (among others). In Bailén, the battle is still commemorated every July and reenacted every October.



Museum of the Battle of Bailén

Another major battle that took place in Jaén was the

BATTLE OF BAÉCULA

which was fought by the Carthaginian and Roman armies in 208 BC and marked a decisive point in the Second Punic War. Researchers at the Andalusian Centre of Iberian Archaeology have located the battlefield in the present-day municipality of Santo Tomé. Work is currently ongoing to set up a visitor centre.

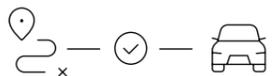
A WEALTH OF HISTORY TO DISCOVER ON THE SPECTACULAR CASTLES AND BATTLEFIELDS ROUTE



Santa Catalina. Castle, JAÉN

A CASTLE TO WATCH OVER THE WORLD

Just five kilometres to the west of Jaén is the imposing **Santa Catalina Castle**, which welcomes visitors to the city from its lofty perch atop the hill of the same name.



THE CASTLE WAS BUILT BY KING FERDINAND III ON THE REMAINS OF AN OLD MOORISH FORTRESS IN 1246, AFTER THE RECONQUEST.

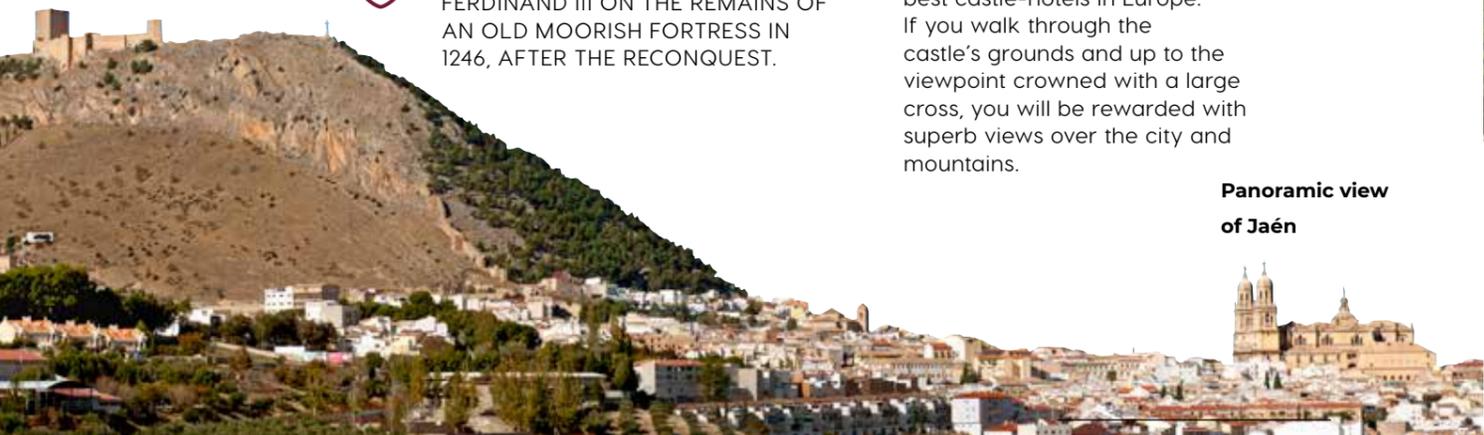
FROM HERE, THE WALLS EXTENDED OUT TO ENCLOSE THE ANCIENT CITY OF JAÉN

This fortress played a key role as a guard post and defensive bastion for the kingdom of Castile and (centuries later) during the Peninsular War, when it was converted into a major centre of operations for Napoleon's troops.

THE FINEST VIEWS

The castle currently houses Jaén's Parador (state-owned historic hotel), which is rated by visitors as one of the 10 best castle-hotels in Europe. If you walk through the castle's grounds and up to the viewpoint crowned with a large cross, you will be rewarded with superb views over the city and mountains.

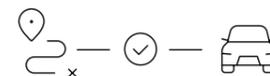
Panoramic view of Jaén



Baños de la Encina

ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST FASCINATING CASTLES IN ALL OF EUROPE

Less than three hours from Madrid by car lies **one of the oldest castles in Europe**. From Jaén, the journey takes barely 40 minutes. Baños de la Encina has recently been declared one of the prettiest towns in Spain.



Burgalimar Castle in Baños de la Encina. This 12th century Almohad castle sits atop a hill offering spectacular views over the Rumbiar reservoir, the Guadalquivir Valley and the mountains of the Sierra Mágina. It is known as the Castle of the Seven Kings, as it was inhabited by Alfonso VII, Alfonso VIII, Alfonso IX, Peter II, Sancho VII, Ferdinand III and Ferdinand the Catholic.

At the foot of the castle lies the medieval citadel of Baños de la Encina, which retains its original layout and iconic buildings such as the Chapel of Cristo Llano, home to the largest Baroque shrine in the province; the **Church of San Mateo**; and the **Santo Cristo windmill**, built in the 18th century.



Fortress of La MOTA

ALCALÁ LA REAL

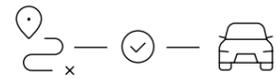
The majestic Fortress of La Mota is clearly visible from afar and alerts visitors that they are approaching one of the most complex defensive systems of ancient Al-Ándalus. After the Christian conquest, it became one of the most important centres of culture and power in the region. The site comprises three fortified structures: the medina, the fortress and the arrabal, or outer zone. Alongside the fortress rises the **Abbey Church of Santa María la Mayor**, one of the Renaissance jewels in the province's crown. The town sits at the foot of the fortress, retaining its original Moorish layout, stately homes and churches: all evidence of its rich history. Examples of these architectural gems include the **Convent of La Trinidad**, the churches of **La Consolación and Las Angustias**, the **Abbot's Palace**, the **Town Hall** and the **Convent of the Capuchins**.

THE MOST IMPRESSIVE CITY-FORTRESS YOU CAN IMAGINE

Alcaudete Castle and Palace

THE GREAT FORTRESS OF THE WARRIOR MONKS

Just 25 minutes by car from Alcalá la Real lies one of the best-restored fortresses in Spain.



This castle is a prime example of the power attained by the **Order of Calatrava** in the Middle Ages. King Ferdinand III, the Saint, entrusted the Order with the defence of the western border of the kingdom of Jaén against the Nasrid kingdom of Granada. A visit to the castle is a truly unique experience: there is a **visitor centre** dedicated to the castle's history, particularly the time of the warrior-monks and the site's transition from castle to palace.

Next to the castle, the Gothic **Church of Santa María** is another must-visit site, along with the **Renaissance Church of San Pedro**, the **Chapel of La Aurora** and the **Town Hall** that stands alongside the **Arco de la Villa**, the gateway to the medieval town



Lopera CASTLE

A FORTIFIED CHURCH BUILT ON A PLAIN

Lopera Castle was built by the **Order of Calatrava**, to whom this town was given after it was conquered in 1242. The castle began life as a church, and was later fortified. It stood guard over the area of Campiña Norte, and protected the local populace with its five external towers. Inside the castle there are another two imposing towers, San Miguel and Santa María, joined by two curtain walls from which access to the complex was controlled.

The Gothic **Church of La Inmaculada Concepción** is another of the town's iconic structures, along with the **Casa de la Tercia** and the **Baroque Chapel of Cristo del Humilladero**.

TORREDONJIMENO Castle

A CASTLE CONVERTED BACK INTO A CHURCH

It is said that **Spain's earliest book on bullfighting was written in the keep of this castle**, during the 16th century. Only one copy of the book exists, and it is held at the Library of Salamanca. Built by the Moors on the site of an old hamlet between the 8th and 10th centuries, this castle was originally a farmstead before being converted by the Military Order of Calatrava following the reconquest.



Towards the end of the Middle Ages it became a stately home, and still retains Mudéjar-style painted wooden ceilings in some of its rooms. Today, it houses a **Visitor Centre** for the **Visigothic hoard** that was found near the town; the second-largest such hoard to be discovered in Spain.

Renaissance CASTLES



Sabiote CASTLE

A UNIQUE EXAMPLE OF RENAISSANCE MILITARY ARCHITECTURE

Sabiote Castle is considered one of Andalusia's most important military structures. It has its origins in an ancient Hispano-Muslim castle that, centuries later, was transformed by Francisco de los Cobos into a **Renaissance palace**, with stables, warehouses, rooms for the wealthiest (and most fortunate) lords, and even dungeons. Sabiote offers another perspective on the work and achievements of Vandelvira, who divided his efforts between civic and military architecture (as in this example). We also recommend that you visit the town's other iconic buildings, such as the **Church of San Pedro** and the old **Convent of Las Carmelitas**, and take a stroll around the wall that previously enclosed the old town of Sabiote.



THE RENAISSANCE CAPTURED IN STONE

Part of the Southern Renaissance Route, the spectacular and palatial Canena Castle was **designed by Andrés de Vandelvira** and owned by Francisco de los Cobos, Jaén's great patron and man of action, during the 16th century. Now in private hands, it lends its name to one of the province's most renowned brands of extra virgin olive oil. A visit to this castle on its lofty perch will make you feel like a knight for a few hours. Another example of Renaissance architecture can be found in the **Church of Nuestra Señora de la Concepción**, while the town also boasts Roman-era **thermal baths with medicinal mineral waters**.





La Yedra Castle, Cazorla

INFINITE NATURE

□ Cazorla welcomes you to the Natural Park. Located at a height of almost 900 metres, La Yedra Castle - also known as the Castle of the Four Corners - is perched above the picturesque town and key tourist destination of Cazorla. Built by the Berbers, taken over by Muslim forces and later conquered and held by the Christians, La Yedra stands out for its keep, main gate and *albacara*, the area where most of Cazorla's townspeople would seek shelter in times of conflict. Today, the castle houses the **Museum of Arts and Popular Customs of the Upper Guadalquivir**. Although it is worth a visit at any time of year, the image of La Yedra blanketed in winter snow truly takes the breath away.

La Iruela Castle

HOME OF THE MOST NATURAL SKYLINE

□ The rocky landscape that surrounds this imposing castle will take your breath away, and makes for magical sunsets. Formerly the headquarters of the Order of the Temple, La Iruela is one of the finest examples of the architectural fusion of Moorish and Christian styles. It is comprised of three distinct walled enclosures, and within its grounds lies the remains of the **Church of Santo Domingo de Silos**, built by architects who studied under Andrés de Vandelvira.



Segura de la Sierra Castle

LOSE YOURSELF IN ONE OF SPAIN'S PRETTIEST TOWNS

Segura de la Sierra Castle is a magnificent example of a military fortress, and stands out for its beautiful natural setting

□ Perched at a height of nearly 1200 metres, this fairytale castle is visible from many miles away and stands guard over one of the country's largest natural parks. Of Mudéjar origin, the castle overlooks the town and has retained most of its towers, as well as its surrounding wall.

♡ From the top of the keep (18.5 metres) there are magnificent panoramas, while inside the castle grounds you can find a chapel, ramparts with wooden gable roofing, a water cistern, and a hammam. It is currently home to the **Borderlands Visitor Centre**, where you can learn more about the Order of Santiago and the medieval period.

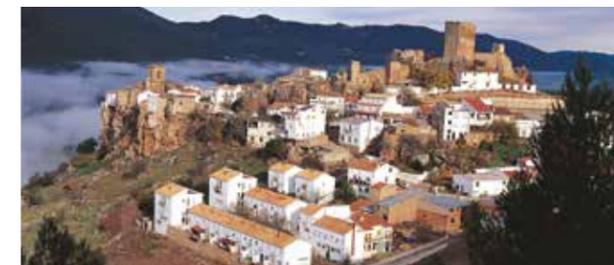
Jódar CASTLE

THE MAGIC CASTLE

Jódar marks the gateway to the magical mountain range of Sierra Mágina Natural Park. It is one of the oldest castles in Andalusia, having been mentioned in documents dating back to the year 860.

□ It came to prominence in the Moorish era, during the Muladí rebellions. The castle boasts two keeps, one of Moorish origin and the other built by the Christians. They are both virtually square in shape: the old keep is entered via the first floor, and has two sets of arrow slits. The new keep has a water cistern and a central wall. Its arrow slits are similar to those of the northern tower, while its inner ceilings boast 16th century sail vaults.

♡ Other notable structures in the town include the **parish church of La Asunción** and the **Church and Sanctuary of Cristo de la Misericordia**.



Hornos de Segura, Castle

A WATCHTOWER FOR WATCHING THE STARS

Barely 30 minutes from Segura by car,

□ this castle harks back to a time when the enemy was known to be close by, and towns such as Hornos de Segura built castles to watch for any attempts to move into or out of the province. This unique fortification formed part of a comprehensive defensive network. Built between the 13th and 14th centuries on a small rocky outcrop, it overlooks a large part of the town and boasts impressive views: not only during the day but also at night, as it is now home to the **Cosmolarium** and **Astronomy Centre**, meaning your visit can now extend into the early hours.



Boabdil's Tower PORCUNA

This octagonal tower is one of the most attractive defensive structures in Andalusia. According to tradition, **Boabdil "El Chico", the last king of Granada, was imprisoned** in this tower after being captured by the Christian army in the Battle of Lucena and kept there until he surrendered to the demands imposed by the Catholic Monarchs.



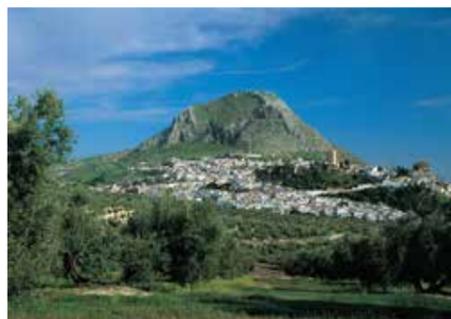
Castle of the troubadour MACÍAS ARJONILLA

The setting for the celebrated romance of the troubadour **Macías**, this castle of Moorish origin was renovated by the Order of Calatrava with the addition of a tower and gateway. The legend, which served as inspiration for writers like Lope de Vega and Larra, tells the story of the unfortunate love between the young Macías and Doña Elvira. It is also the main argument of the medieval seminars held in the town each autumn. Just a few kilometres away is **Arjona**, which in medieval times was defended by the Muralla del Alcázar, one of the most complete fortified structures in the Iberian Peninsula. It now has its own visitor centre.



La Villa and La Peña Castles, MARTOS

On the *Peña* (rocky outcrop) above Martos stand the remains of a castle that once belonged to the Order of Calatrava and has witnessed a number of **legendary events, such as the feats of the Carvajal brothers, the brave Doña Mencia de Haro, and Isabel de Solis**, who fell in love with the emir of Granada. There is a path up to the summit and your efforts will be rewarded with one of the most stunning views in the entire province. Chosen by the Order of Calatrava for their strategic location, the castles of La Villa and La Peña comprised one of the most important defensive enclaves in Jaén Province.



La GUARDIA Castle

WATCHING OVER THE
SIERRA MÁGINA



Just a few kilometres from the city of Jaén lies the sizeable fortress of La Guardia. **Most of its defensive structure was built during the era of Al-Ándalus**: later renovations principally focused on the castle building, which was used as a lordly residence during the 15th and 16th centuries. The keep affords superb views over the mountains of the Sierra Mágina.

Villardompardo Castle

THE CASTLE OF PEDRO
AZNAR PARDO

The construction of Villardompardo Castle changed the lives and destinies of the local people forever. **In the 13th century, King Ferdinand III put this town on the map of southern Jaén** by making both town and castle the defensive and feudal heart of the area. Of particular note is the 16th century façade and the keep, which boasts a height of four storeys.



EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



FOR THOSE LOOKING TO RELIVE HISTORY AT FIRST HAND, JAÉN OFFERS A MULTITUDE OF UNIQUE EVENTS AS PART OF A YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMME OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES FOR ALL AGES, TOURNAMENTS, CONCERTS AND SHOWS BY CANDLELIGHT, MEDIEVAL MARKETS, THEMED DINNERS, AND EVEN HISTORICAL REENACTMENTS OF KEY MOMENTS AND EVENTS FROM TIMES PAST, IN WHICH YOU CAN BECOME THE PROTAGONIST OF THIS THRILLING ADVENTURE AND DISCOVER NOT ONLY THE PROVINCE'S LANDSCAPES, BUT ALSO THE HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULINARY HERITAGE OF JAÉN.

www.jaenparaisointerior.es/castillos-y-batallas/actividades

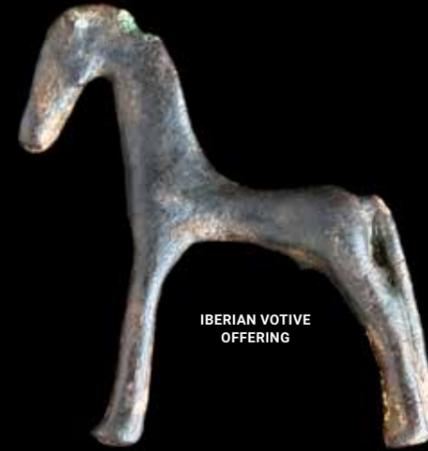


Medieval festival
Alcalá la Real

WARRIOR WITH
TWO LAYERS OF
ARMOUR



IBERIAN
PLAQUE



IBERIAN VOTIVE
OFFERING



HORSEMAN
SPEARING
ENEMY, CERRILLO
BLANCO

A JOURNEY *back to the* TIME OF THE *Iberians*

AN ADVANCED CIVILISATION JAM-PACKED
WITH PRINCES, NOBLEWOMEN, GODDESSES
AND WARRIORS

Occupying the south and east of the Iberian Peninsula during the Iron Age, the Iberians were among the first to discover the benefits of cultivating olives and fruit trees, as well as to forge iron weapons and develop the tools that helped to make agriculture their principal way of life. They were farmers, with a hierarchical society, and **stood out as one of the most advanced civilisations of the period.** They were given their name by the Greeks, in order to differentiate them from other groups that had settled inland and already established separate territories.



RELIEF CARVING OF FAMILY, ATALAYUELAS



IBERIAN
COIN



THE MOST *extensive* IBERIAN LEGACY IN EUROPE

THE CRADLE OF IBERIAN HERITAGE

A Journey **Back to the Time of the Iberians** will take us on a tour of shrines, fortified cities, necropolises, and even royal tombs. All of the sites are accompanied by museums and visitor centres, to ensure we won't miss a single detail. It sounds like a great plan, so let's jump in the car and get started!



GREEK KRATERS



Jaén
IBERIAN MUSEUM

JAÉN

A NOBLEWOMAN, A PRINCE,
A HERO, A GODDESS, AND A
SUNSET



WOLF OF EL PAJARILLO

Jaén's **Iberian Museum** houses a large part of the treasures that remained buried in the province's archaeological sites for centuries. The museum is one of the largest in Spain and boasts an unrivalled collection of Iberian art. It contains a number of highly valuable pieces from a range of different sites, such as the wolf's head from the shrine of El Pajarillo in Huelma, which has been exhibited abroad on several occasions. On our proposed itinerary you will be able to admire key artefacts from one of the least-known and most fascinating civilisations. To complete the first part of our journey, just 200 metres from the

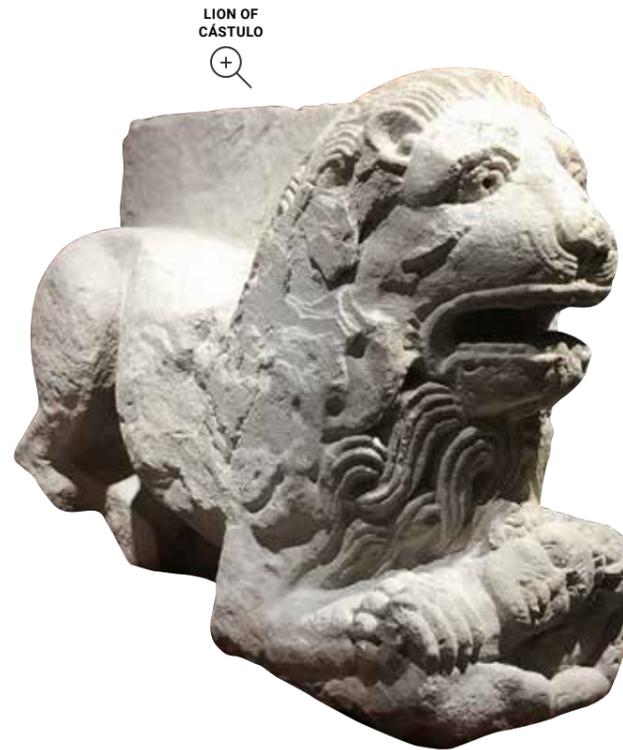
museum you will find more information on the Iberians at the **Museum of Jaén**, which also contains many of the artefacts found within the province. Just seven kilometres away, on the outskirts of the city, is one of the most important sites in the Iberian culture: the **oppidum of Puente Tablas**, an example of a typical fortified city of the period. The site's enormous heritage value is reflected in its lengthy human occupation, from the Bronze Age all the way up to the Islamic era. However, it reached its greatest levels of splendour during the Iberian period, especially in the 4th century BC. Visitors can travel

back in time thousands of years and walk in the footsteps of our ancestors through the ancient city. Of particular note is the magnificent **Puerta del Sol**, or "Gateway of the Sun", which is intimately linked to the Iberians' religious beliefs. At every autumn and spring equinox, the light of the rising sun shines through and illuminates the figure of the goddess. ●



Puente
Tablas

THE SITE HAS A VISITOR CENTRE THAT EXPLAINS THE EXCEPTIONAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS SETTLEMENT



LION OF CÁSTULO



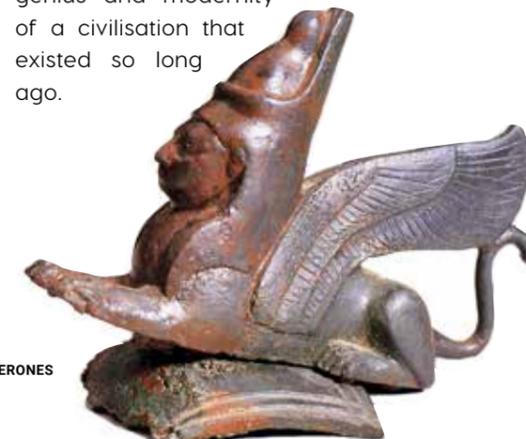
We now make our way to Mengibar, just 30 kilometres from Linares, to visit Illiturgi: City of the Three Rivers. At this Visitor Centre we will learn about the history of the city, its role in the Second Punic War, and its destruction at the hands of General Scipio Africanus.

LINARES

A LION, AN ANCIENT CAPITAL, AND THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY MOSAICS

Just half an hour away by car, we find the next stop on our unique journey to discover the history of the Iberians. It is an iconic site that is certain to take your breath away. Linares is home to the **archaeological complex of the Ibero-Roman city of Cástulo**, one of the most important Iberian sites in all of Europe and the capital of the region known as Oretania, which occupied part of the southern stretch of the Sierra Morena mountains. One of the many interesting things about Cástulo is that it was continuously occupied from the third millennium BC all the way through to the 15th century AD. It is also home to the *oppidum*, or settlement, that is believed to be the largest population centre in Iberian Oretania, and which later became a Roman city. Such was its importance that Pliny named it as one of the key cities of the classical world. The archaeological complex and museum house some of the superb pieces discovered at the

site, such as the "Mosaic of Love", the Ibero-Roman lion's head from the 1st century BC, and the "Patén of Christ" from the 4th century AD, both of which are on display in the museum. Our visit to the settlement simply would not be complete without exploring everything that the on-site **Archaeological Museum and Visitor Centre for the Ibero-Roman city of Cástulo** have to offer. The pieces on show range from domestic objects that provide an insight into the Iberians' everyday lives, to items of a more monumental and sacred nature. There are also numerous sculptures and carvings that serve to remind us of the genius and modernity of a civilisation that existed so long ago.



SPHINX OF LOS HIGUERONES



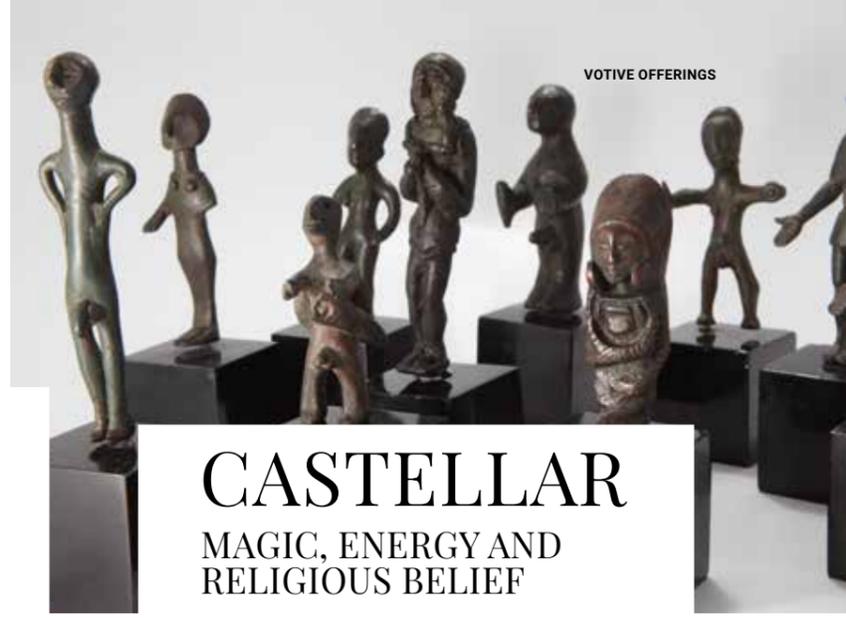
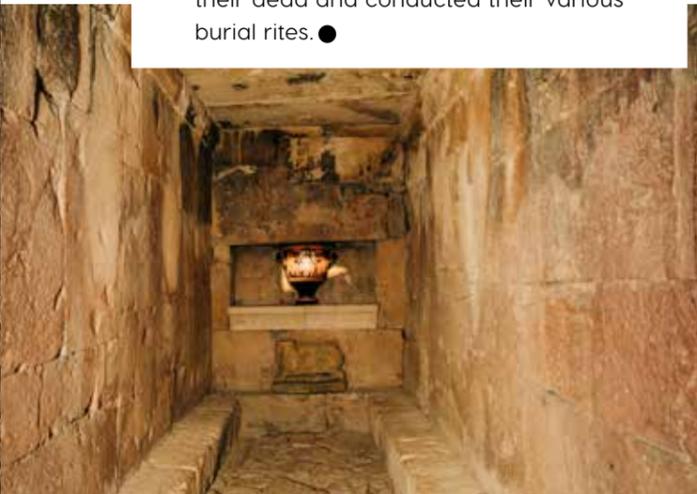


PEAL DEL BECERRO

A TALE OF PRINCES AND PRINCESSES

To find out how the Iberians settled in different locations throughout Jaén Province, we will now make our way to Peal de Becerro. If the oppidums showed us how the settlements and houses were laid out, i.e. how the Iberians lived their lives, then at **Toya and Hornos** we will learn about their relationship with death. Two very well-preserved royal tombs show us how the Iberians paid homage to their dead: in this instance, to their princes.

The royal tombs of Toya and Hornos are a pair of veritable archaeological treasures, where we can visit the burial chamber built during the 4th century BC for the Iberian Prince of Tugia and his family. There are two side chambers, which are further subdivided into an additional two chambers. The funerary objects found here were of such splendour that some of them are housed at the National Museum of Archaeology. Many others are displayed at the **Peal de Becerro Visitor Centre**, where we can learn all about how the Iberians attended to their dead and conducted their various burial rites. ●



VOTIVE OFFERINGS

CASTELLAR

MAGIC, ENERGY AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF

At the **Museum of the Iberian Shrine in Castellar**, little more than an hour from Peal de Becerro, we have the opportunity to discover another aspect of this fascinating culture. The **Iberian shrine of La Lobera in Castellar** is filled with an air of magic and energy, and marks the place where a magnificent collection of votive offerings in the form of figurines were found. These artefacts are now on display in the museum.



EQUINOX AT THE CAVE OF LA LOBERA

The Iberians used these offerings to try and build a relationship with their gods. It is a place charged with religious energy, bearing in mind that, some 2500 years ago, the ancient Iberians believed that the **Cave of La Lobera** and the shrine constituted the sacred dwelling-places of their gods. We can still pay our respects to them and breathe in the air of spirituality, which transports us back to the rites and rituals of one of the holiest sites in all of the Upper Guadalquivir. A visit to this site at the autumn and spring equinoxes is truly magical, when the fading light illuminates the figure of the goddess. ●



FEMALE VOTIVE OFFERING

mosaics at
Cástulo



CERRILLO BLANCO



CYCLOPEAN WALL

PORCUNA

WARRIORS, SPHINXES AND MYTHICAL CREATURES

The **archaeological site of Cerrillo Blanco** has produced finds of incalculable value. The warrior with his two layers of armour, and the bear seemingly unable to escape from the hunter, are two of the most iconic pieces found at one of the province's most surprising sites. This burial mound from the Tartessian period (7th century BC) contained 24 individual graves and one megalithic tomb. Iberian society was very hierarchical and the authority of the nobility was widely recognised. Consequently, many of the elements in this necropolis are related to the history of this powerful lineage that seized control of the settlement of Obulco in present-day Porcuna. The adjacent **Visitor Centre** provides key details regarding this iconic archaeological site. After your visit, we recommend that you make your way to the 15th century Boabdil's Tower, which houses the **Museum of Porcuna** and its extensive collection of Ibero-Roman sculptures. ●

VILCHES

WHERE HISTORY WAS WAITING TO BE MADE

The hill that is home to this archaeological site offers superb vistas over the surrounding landscape. The gleam of Giribaile reservoir adds the finishing touch to the view of mountains and olive groves, not to mention the many caves that date back to the first millennium AD and are interconnected by narrow passageways. The mark left by successive settlers on Vilches also includes a 15-hectare oppidum, which now lies buried beneath a medieval fortress that stood guard over this area during the conquest of 1212. At the **Visitor Centre for the fortified city of Giribaile** we can learn more about the historical evolution of this site. ●

ÍBROS

WALLS AND MYTHICAL CREATURES

Just 40 minutes from Jaén, 20 from Úbeda and 30 by car from Castellar (another of the stops on our journey), Íbros will surprise you with its wealth of archaeological remains dating back to the end of the Iberian period, when the Romans reached the Iberian Peninsula. The **Cyclopean wall** that runs through the heart of the site formed part of a structure with towers and walled enclosures that was probably built between the 2nd and 1st centuries BC. The Romans used the fortifications to fend off the attacks of enemy forces, and today the site is considered one of the finest examples of a structure of this type. ●



GIRIBAILE



CASTULO IBERO-ROMAN FESTIVAL, LINARES



MUSEUM OF JAÉN



MUSEUM OF JAÉN

AS THE JOURNEY BACK TO THE TIME OF THE IBERIANS INCORPORATES AN ENDLESS RANGE OF PARALLEL ACTIVITIES, WE INVITE YOU TO DISCOVER THEM THROUGH OUR DRAMATISED VISITS AT THE MOST ICONIC SITES, AND TO TAKE PART IN OUR SERIES OF CONCERTS, HISTORICAL REENACTMENTS, EQUINOX CELEBRATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND MORE. THE AIM OF OUR PROGRAMME OF EVENTS IS TO SHOWCASE THIS ANCIENT CIVILISATION, SO THAT YOU FIND IT JUST AS AMAZING AS WE DO.

www.jaenparaisointerior.es/iberos/actividades





Festivals and *historical* REENACTMENTS

Bailén

ATTACK THE FRENCH!

♥ THE PROVINCE BOASTS NUMEROUS HISTORICAL REENACTMENTS THAT IMMERSE US IN TIMES PAST

In October, we can experience life in 19th century Bailén at first hand. It is 1808, and we find ourselves in the midst of one of the most important battles in Spanish history. With the incredible realism of its artillery cannons, cavalry, rifles, genuine gunpowder and skirmishes involving nearly 500 combatants, the **reenactment of the Battle of Bailén** is considered the best event of its type in all of Andalusia. And if you're feeling hungry? In the Mercado de la Independencia ("Independence Market") you'll even find a period tavern!

Úbeda

TO THE PALACE!

♥ TO COMMEMORATE UNESCO'S DECLARATION OF ÚBEDA AS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE, IN JULY WE RECREATE THE UNIQUE RENAISSANCE PERIOD IN ALL ITS SPLENDOUR.

Street processions, workshops to immerse yourself in the city's history, exhibitions and interactive demonstrations of traditional trades are just some of the activities on offer during the **Renaissance Festival**. Who wouldn't want to be a great lord? Well, you can become one, by (for example) taking part in events such as the arrival of Emperor Charles V in Úbeda, and joining his retinue. Additionally, the Holy Chapel of El Salvador offers you the opportunity to attend a mass conducted in accordance with the Renaissance procedure.

RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL,
ÚBEDA

Linares

TO THE LIONS!

♥ IN MAY, LINARES ONCE AGAIN BECOMES PART OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, AT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF CÁSTULO. IBERIAN, ROMAN AND CARTHAGINIAN LEGIONARIES PARADE THROUGH THE STREETS - AND YOU CAN JOIN THEM BY CREATING YOUR OWN COSTUME!

The **Cástulo Ibero-Roman Festival** is an outstanding re-creation of life at the time of the Empire, with a Roman circus, encampments, combat training, gladiators risking their lives... and, of course, period cuisine. Linares offers you a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture of these three civilisations.

Medieval era

BACK TO STAY

♥ SUCH WAS THE IMPACT OF THE PROVINCE OF JAÉN IN THE MEDIEVAL TIME THAT NUMEROUS TOWNS RECREATE ALL ITS SPLENDOUR. MANY OF THEM ARE LINKED TO THE ROUTE OF CASTLES AND BATTLES.

Our journey can also be arranged to coincide with some of the medieval festivals that take place throughout the year and fill the province with history, heritage, culture, education and fun. Examples include the Calatrava Festival in Alcaudete; the commemoration of the Battle of Navas de Tolosa; the Atardeceres en la Frontera ("Sunsets on the Frontier") Festival in Alcalá la Real; and the Troubadour Macías Festival in Arjonilla. We will become Nasrids during the special evening events that take place in Arjona; Andalusians during the Noche de la Rosa ("Night of the Rose") in Baños de la Encina; and Visigoths in Torredonjimeno. We will also be transformed into feudal knights at the medieval festivals and period markets in Sabiote, Porcuna, Vilches and Canena, as well as those that take place at Lopera Castle, which belonged to the Order of Calatrava.



The most natural historical heritage

EVOO

Jaén: bullfighting culture

Cave paintings

Religious Jaén

Jaén in literature

Mining heritage

New towns

A great province for little adventurers

Crafts

Jaén: 12 months

PROVINCIAL
ARCHIVE, JAÉN

Jaén

A PROVINCE
FULL OF
HISTORY



the most

natural
historical
heritage



Jaén is home to **a larger expanse of protected natural areas than any other province in Spain.** The diversity of our flora, fauna and landscapes lends Jaén's natural heritage a unique splendour. Moreover, this natural heritage has coexisted in harmony with each of the ancient sites that comprise the building-blocks of our distant past.

Infinite nature

Visiting the **Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park** means losing yourself amidst pure and unspoilt nature, while being surprised by some of the prettiest towns in the province.



Cazorla welcomes you to the Natural Park. This picturesque and highly popular tourist destination sits on the rocky outcrop of the Peña de los Halcones, and is home to heritage sites such as La Yedra Castle, which stands guard over the town's traditional houses, stately homes, monuments (such as the Castillo de las Cinco Esquinas, or "Castle of the Five Corners"), Plaza de Santa María, the Casa de las Siete Fuentes ("House of the Seven Fountains") and the churches of San Francisco and San José. We recommend taking a stroll under the vaulted arches beside the River Cerezuelo, beneath the ruins of the Church of Santa María. The church was designed by the architect Andrés de Vandelvira, who also brought his exceptional architectural style to Cazorla.



IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF **QUESADA**, JUST 18 KILOMETRES FROM CAZORLA, WE FIND THE SOURCE OF ANDALUSIA'S MOST **ICONIC RIVER**

The Guadalquivir

rises silently among the rocks at an altitude of 1400 metres. Travellers can visit the spring and watch the birth of this mighty river, whose banks were settled by thousands of people over the course of centuries. The town also celebrates the work of the poet Miguel Hernández, at the museum that bears his name.

Nor should you miss the Cueva del Agua ("Water Cave") and the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Tíscar, a stunning natural setting that leads on to our next destination: the Roman settlement of Bruñel. Built between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD, Bruñel incorporates a necropolis and rural villa, surrounded by geometric mosaics decorated with female figures and representations of animals and flowers.

Our route continues on to **La Iruela**, a beautiful town filled with steep, narrow and winding streets. With barely 2000 inhabitants, it is the principal urban centre in a group of around 20 small villages that are dotted around the largest reservoir in the province: El Tranco, whose green waters reflect the pine forest that stands on its banks. The 15th century Chapel of San Julián, the Chapel of Nubla, the Hermitage of La Magdalena and the rocky walls of the via ferrata are just some of the attractions of this picturesque town.

Without leaving the park, we can visit another of the iconic locations on our route: Segura de la Sierra, whose imposing castle will make you feel part of history. **Segura de la Sierra** is considered one of Spain's prettiest towns, and for good reason: it has been declared a Picturesque Landscape and a Site of Historical and Artistic Interest. You are sure to fall in love with the steep yet tranquil streets of the town, which is located in an area that was declared a Maritime Province by the Ministry of the Navy and Mountain Resources, in view of the fact that timber from its forest was used to build ships.

When strolling through Segura, you're sure to encounter a small slice of history around virtually every corner. The hammam, which dates back to between the 11th and 12th centuries, reminds us of the origin of the town's customs and the Moorish community that lived here. A short walk away is the Romanesque Church of Santa María del Collado and Plaza de la Encomienda, which marks the ideal starting point for our visit. Interestingly, this town inspired the poet Jorge Manrique to write some of his best-





Hornos de Segura



Mata Behid area of natural beauty



Bedmar y Garciez



Torres

Continuing with our route, we cannot leave the park without first visiting **Hornos de Segura**, which is barely 30 minutes from neighbouring Segura. Retaining its medieval layout of small, narrow streets, Hornos stands out as a town where the landscape changes depending on where we are looking: it affords views of the waters of El Tranco and the peak of El Yelmo, where all kinds of water-based and flying-related activities are available; the olive groves of the valley and hillsides; and the wilder natural landscape of the pine forest. The intense green of the landscape contrasts with the whiteness of the streets, which are home to several places well worth visiting: for example, the 16th century Church of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, and (of course) the town's monumental castle.

the most magical mountain range

The **Sierra Mágina Natural Park**, the closest natural park to the city of Jaén, boasts a wealth of flora and fauna and a host of enchanting towns.

One such example is Jimena, home to a list of protected sites including the Cánovas Pine Forest, declared a Natural Monument for its environmental and scenic value; the cave paintings at Cueva de la Graja; and of course the castle, which stands in the historic town centre.

The highest peak in Jaén Province reaches an altitude of 2167 metres and is located in **Albanchez de Mágina**. At the foot of the town's 15th century castle is a flight of 360 steps, at the top of which you will be rewarded with one of the most beautiful views in the province.

For nature lovers, the natural heritage of **Bedmar y Garciez** is a must: key sites include the source of the River Cuadros, in the Cuadros area of natural beauty located just four kilometres from the town. This area is home to one of the largest oleander groves in Europe, as well as the Chapel of Our Lady of Cuadros and a Moorish tower. Other examples of the town's historical heritage include the churches of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción and San José; the Palace of the Marquis de Viana; and the new castle. At the PaleoMágina museum and centre for prehistoric research we can learn more about how our distant ancestors lived.

MORE ESSENTIAL SITES YOU CAN VISIT WITHOUT LEAVING THE SIERRA MÁGINA NATURAL PARK:

Torres is home to the Fuenmayor, a spring that freezes in winter; and the Zurreón waterfall, which gushes non-stop in spring when the blossoming cherry trees acquire a white mantle that is very different to the one left by the snow some months previously. We cannot leave Torres without visiting one of its most intriguing heritage sites: the two-storey Palace of the Marquises de Camarasa, where the influence of Andrés de Vandelvira can be seen in both the main and the inner façades. Inherited by the descendants of Francisco de los Cobos, it was used to store goods and belongings that the lords collected from the town.

A stroll through the wide streets of **Jódar** will make you wonder why powerful medieval nobles chose the location of this particular town, which became one of the most fortified settlements in the Sierra Mágina. The historic town centre is an excellent starting point for a tour that will take in the Town Hall, a building in the historicist style with a façade incorporating Solomonic columns; and the beautiful gardens of Plaza de España. The historical influence wielded by the town's nobility can be seen in the chapels and churches such as Nuestra Señora de Fátima, Cristo de la Misericordia and La Asunción; and the castle perched on the flanks of the Cerro de San Cristóbal.

The faces of Bélmez

Just 45 minutes by car from Torres lies the town of **Bélmez de la Moraleda**, which bore witness to one of the most infamous paranormal events of the 20th century. To find out more, the **Faces of Bélmez Visitor Centre** was set up in order to investigate what really happened in the home of María Gómez during the 1970s.



Less than an hour from Cazorla is another of the region's most enchanting towns, **Iznatoraf**. Gateway to the mountains of the Sierra de las Villas, its old quarter was declared a Site of Historical Interest in 2012 and is home to a wealth of heritage sites from the era of Al-Ándalus. Pass through any of the gates in the wall and you will find yourself in a Moorish medina, its narrow streets decorated with flower pots that wind their way between medieval houses. The town's rich heritage includes a number of churches, such as the Chapel of Cristo de la Veracruz and the 16th century parish church of Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, which was designed by Alonso Barba, a student of master architect Andrés de Vandelvira.



Iznatoraf



Albanchez de Mágina



The Sierra Mágina



EVOO

The ancient culture of the five senses (plus one more)

Jaén is the **world's leading producer of extra virgin olive oil** and the destination par excellence for olive oil tourism. Museums, olive mills, themed restaurants, rural accommodation, farmhouses, spas offering olive oil treatments, festivals, and tastings all combine to produce a rich and varied range of tourist attractions, where olive groves and olive oil are the stars of an authentic, healthy, enriching and fascinating experience, set amidst a sea of olive trees unlike any other.

Jaén marks the start of a **journey to discover the essence of olive culture**, where visitors can observe the process of olive oil production at first hand - from cultivation to bottling. It is a journey through the endless opportunities for olive oil tourism, and the chance to enjoy a unique experience you will never forget. ●



5 Senses

VISION A **LANDSCAPE WITHOUT EQUAL**

In recent years, **olive oil tourism** has become one of the most important activities for the province's social development and tourist industry. There are countless activities related to olive-growing and olive oil production, here in the world's richest olive-growing region. Let's sharpen our five senses and get started!

Numerous viewpoints illustrate the importance and scale of Jaén's **olive grove landscapes**. The castles that pepper the region are ideal spots for admiring the panoramic views, as are the natural viewpoints found in Úbeda, Baeza, Segura de la Sierra, Hornos, Albánchez de Mágina, Iznatoraf, the Olive Oil Green Route, the Peña de Martos, Porcuna and Hacienda de La Laguna, all of which offer unbeatable vistas of the olive groves. Jaén-based companies specialising in active tourism offer packages that enable you to explore the olive groves on foot, by bike, in 4x4s, on horseback or via trails such as the **Olive Oil Green Route**, which traverses the sea of olive trees along the old railway line from Jaén to Puente Genil in Córdoba Province.

The **Museum of Olive Culture** at Puente del Obispo in Baeza; **Terra Oleum** in Mengibar; the **Visitor Centre for Olive-Growing and Olive Oil** in Úbeda; the **Alcalá Oliva Museum of Olive Oil** in Alcalá la Real; the **Sierra Sur Regional Network of Tourist Olive Mills** and the **Oleotour Centre** in Cazorla all offer an excellent starting point for your journey to discover the secrets of the "green gold". ●

WE ALSO HAVE GREAT TASTE



Expert-guided tastings, culinary experiences, cookery workshops, traditional millers' breakfasts and lunch among the olive groves... These are just some of the activities offered by the olive-oil producers that form part of the **OleotourJaén** network. Exploring the essence of Jaén's olive culture also means enjoying its EVOO through the province's rich culinary traditions. Dozens of restaurants, lauded by the most prestigious food guides - including **two Michelin-starred restaurants** - tempt visitors with seductive gastronomic proposals that give centre stage to the province's star product. Have you ever imagined tasting EVOO in the form of pearls, or jam? Or sampling a gin and tonic made with EVOO? In Jaén, you can! ●



TOUCH

OleotourJaén is a journey through all the senses, not only the sense of taste. EVOO has many different uses and benefits, including health, beauty and wellness. More and more spas are offering EVOO-based treatments. In the city of **Jaén**, and at the **Balneario San Andrés** in Canena (in the **Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park**), visitors can enjoy beauty and wellness treatments with body wraps and exfoliation therapies that use the finest olive oils. There is nothing better than a massage with one of the healthiest and most natural products in the world.



Additionally, many brands offer soaps, moisturising creams and gels made from EVOO, a **natural cosmetic** that enables you to take a small piece of Jaén home with you. Your gaze will also be drawn to the many **hand-crafted products** made from olive wood: their modern and functional designs will make a superb souvenir of your trip. ●



HEARING: THE SOUND OF SILENCE

A forest formed of millions of olive trees, complemented by architecture that respects these peaceful surroundings, offers you the chance to leave your stresses behind amidst this singular landscape. **Farmhouses, olive mills and rural accommodation** provide a place to stay, personalised services, and the opportunity to celebrate events in a truly unique environment. Experience full immersion in the world of olive oil and sustainable tourism. ●

AND A SIXTH SENSE: YOURS

To fully enjoy the world of EVOO, olive-growing and the olive grove landscape, we need one additional sense. We suggest that this sixth sense should be your sense of adventure: the experiences you enjoy as you discover an ancient culture and embark on a journey like no other.

A getaway to Jaén in November to experience the **Festival of the First Oil**, which takes place each year in different towns throughout the province, or the **Olive Festival in Martos** will make you fall in love with our province and its early-harvest olive oils. ●

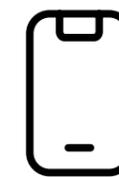


Let's stay for tapas!

In Jaén, EVOO from the Picual variety is the unifying element in a surprising, healthy and natural cuisine that finds expression in many dishes made from local vegetables, such as *pipirrana* (the province's standout dish); game dishes, which are called "mountain dishes" in Jaén and reflect the province's rugged sierras; and dishes made with fish from Jaén's mountain streams and rivers. Our casseroles and pastries (often originating in religious institutions) combine to produce a cuisine that is truly legendary: floury stews such as *andrajos*, whose traditional recipes are reinterpreted in a homage to the past; *papajotes* (fried dough), *ajoatao* (garlic sauce), partridge pâté, *ochíos* (buns), black pudding, *gachas* (hasty pudding), *migas* (fried breadcrumbs), and countless other dishes - from appetisers to desserts - all made using the region's star product: the olive oil that dressed the traditional millers' breakfasts.

If there is one thing that makes Jaén's cuisine unique it is the sublime tapas, which reaches its zenith in cities such as Jaén and Linares. It is worth noting that throughout Jaén, the tapa is included in the price of the drink.

In almost any bar in the province you can sample Jaén's most celebrated wines, including those produced in Alcalá la Real, Bailén, Arjona and Torreperogil, and the organic wines of La Puerta de Segura. ●



Download details of the range of tourist activities offered by OleotourJaén here





Orellana Perdiz livestock farm

Faén: BULLFIGHTING culture

Bulls without barriers

For centuries, Jaén Province has been intimately linked with bullfighting culture. It is one of the places in Spain where fighting bulls can be raised in a privileged environment, in the heart of the Sierra Morena mountains.

Jaén: Bullfighting Culture is a tourist product designed for lovers of bullfighting as well as those seeking to enjoy the unspoilt pastures where the bulls roam freely, the architectural heritage of many of the province's bullrings, and - of course - our outstanding cuisine.



Bullring, Linares

First stop Linares, Úbeda and Baeza

Our first stop is at **Linares**, whose historic bullring, opened in 1867, is sadly known for the death of the matador Manolete in 1947. Inside the bullring there is an interesting chapel dedicated to him, along with a display and information on the chapel and crypt of Los Marqueses Hospital, where he died. To fully immerse yourself in the city's bullfighting history and legends, make sure you visit the El Pósito Visitor Centre, where there is a permanent exhibition titled "Linares and the Legend of Bullfighting". Visitors are also bound to enjoy El Lagartijo tavern and museum, where you can experience the living history of bullfighting while enjoying some of Linares' finest tapas (which are part of the city's identity).

The historic bullring at **Baeza** incorporates a museum, which boasts unique exhibits such as the outfits worn by the legendary El Lagartijo and Enrique Ponce on their débuts. Built in 1892, the neo-Mudéjar style is present both inside and out, with horseshoe arches predominating on the exterior façades. The San Nicasio bullring in Úbeda enjoys protected status as part of Andalusia's General Catalogue of Historical Heritage. Opened in 1857, it was among the first five bullrings to be built in Spain.

Second stop The Sierra Morena. Ample pastures and great bulls

Jaén is home to up to 80 livestock farms where fighting bulls are bred. Many of these farms are among the most prestigious in Spain and offer tourist services and packages, where visitors can observe the bulls in their natural habitat and learn about how they are raised on the farms. Unique farmhouse accommodation, venues for events, professional exhibitions and even training bullfights - for visitors who want to take a turn in the ring - are available.

And many more stops

There are up to 15 bullrings we can visit as part of the tourist product of Jaén: Bullfighting Culture. For example, **Jaén's** 19th century bullring marks the end of Spain's bullfighting season in October, during the Festival of Saint Luke, the city's patron saint. The neo-Mudéjar bullring in **Villanueva del Arzobispo** has its own museum, while the bullring at **Benatac** has a strange semi-circular shape and the bullring in **Segura de la Sierra** is... square!



01. El Cotillo estate, Carboneros | 02. El Añadío livestock farm, Vilches | 03. Bulls running
04. El Añadío livestock farm, Vilches | 05. Puerto Laca bull breeders, Santisteban del Puerto | 06. Routes on horseback
07. El Lagartijo tavern and museum, Linares | 08. Bullring, Villanueva del Arzobispo
09. El Cotillo estate, Carboneros | 10. Orellana Perdiz livestock farm, La Carolina

Unique bullfighting festivals

Coinciding with the Feast Day of Saint Mark, the towns of **Arroyo del Ojanco** and **Beas de Segura** celebrate the festival of the toros ensogaos (bulls tied at the horns). At Beas, these festivities date back to the 16th century and have been declared a Festival of Tourist Interest in Andalusia. In September, **Villacarrillo** becomes a mini-Pamplona, with its own version of the San Fermín (running of the bulls). The regions of El Condado, Las Villas and Segura are renowned for the festivals of Toros de San Roque in Siles, the night-time bull runs of Torafe in **Iznatoraf**, and similar events in **Chiclana de Segura**, **Sorihuela del Guadalimar**, **Santiago Pontones**, **Hornos**, **La Matea** and **Villanueva del Arzobispo**.

Here you can download all of the information on livestock farms, historic bullrings, bullfighting museums and festivals.





La Cimbarra,
Despeñaperros



Cueva
del Reloj
Quesada



Cueva
de los Soles
Otíñar

CAVE Paintings

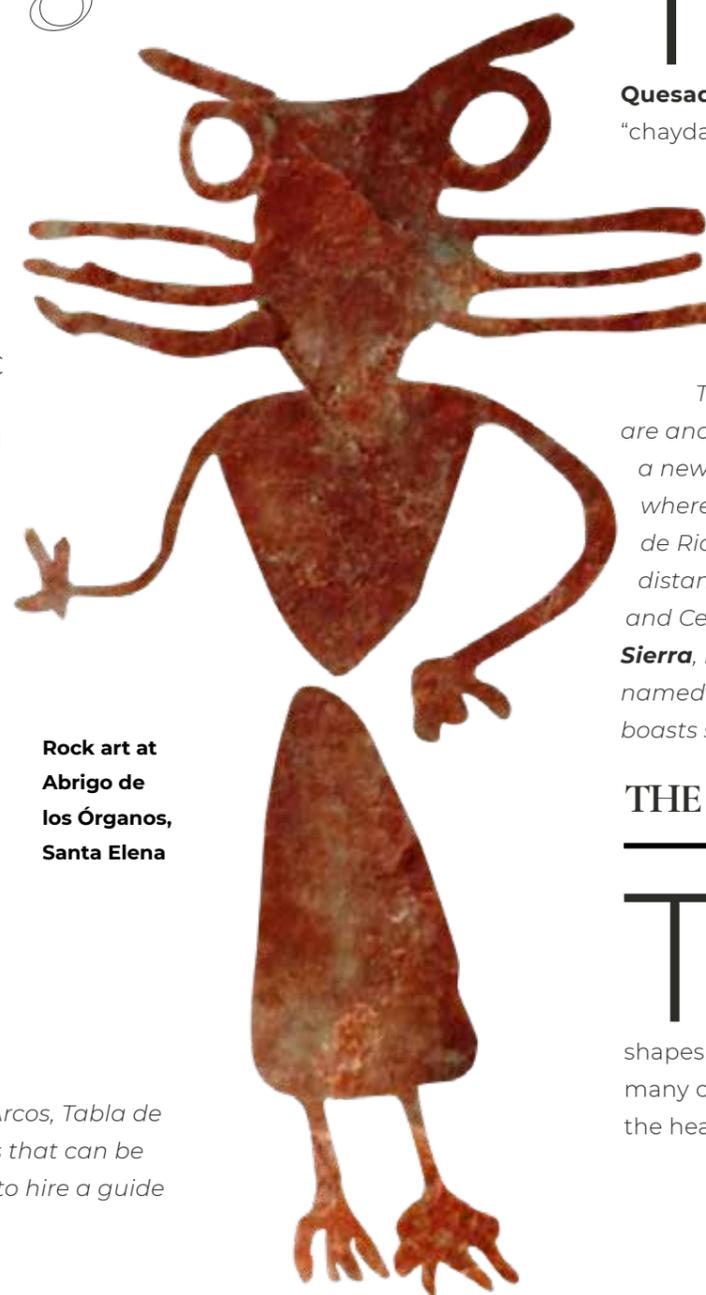
A PREHISTORIC PRADO MUSEUM

The archaeological sites of Jaén Province are so numerous, and so replete with history, that they deserve their own special route to discover the traces left by our earliest ancestors. Prehistoric artists created their artworks in remote locations, which allowed them to remain intact for thousands of years. The group of sites that comprise the **Rock Art of the Mediterranean Basin** date back to between 8000 and 3500 BC (approximately). Of the 700-plus sites that make up the group, nearly 50 are located in Jaén. **Collectively, they were declared a World Heritage Site** in 1998. ●

ART IN DESPEÑAPERROS

Aldeaquemada is a veritable paradise for lovers of cave paintings and archaeology. The surrounding area is home to some **18 archaeological sites** that enjoy a lush natural setting. We begin at La **Cimbarra**, an impressive 40-metre waterfall that has been declared an Area of Natural Beauty owing to its exceptional scenic and geological value. It has also witnessed the discovery of marine fossils around 500 million years old, from an age when Jaén was under water. Prehistory, nature, the Enlightenment, and new settlers: all of these elements converge at the **Pablo de Olavide Visitor Centre**, which adds context to Aldeaquemada's history and boasts a special room dedicated to cave painting and archaeological heritage.

Barranco de la Cueva, Garganta de la Hoz, Prado del Azogue, Cueva de los Arcos, Tabla de Pochico and Cimbarillo del Prado de Reches are just a few of the other sites that can be visited; remember, however, that the area is very rocky and it would be wise to hire a guide who knows the area well, to ensure you don't miss any details. ●



Rock art at
Abrigo de
los Órganos,
Santa Elena

QUESADA. PLACE OF BEAUTY

The Sierras de Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park forms part of the Andalusian Network of Protected Natural Spaces (RENPA) and is the largest natural park in Spain. It is also home to the next stop on our tour of Jaén's artistic heritage, **Quesada**, whose name is a conflation of the Arabic words "casa" and "chayda", meaning "place of beauty".

The cave of Cueva del Enajero has been declared a National Heritage Site and a Site of Cultural Interest. It houses some magnificent examples of Bronze Age and Copper Age cave paintings, coloured with the carmine and dark red hues so typical of the era. Effectively, it is a prehistoric Prado Museum, dating back to 8000-3500 BC. Incredible, right?

*The nearby caves of Cueva del Reloj and Abrigo del Cerro Vitar are another two outstanding sites and could mark the starting point of a new route, which would lead us to **Santiago-Pontones**. Other sites where Neolithic art can be found include Cañada de la Cruz, Abrigo de Río Frío and Cuevas del Engarbo. At **Santisteban del Puerto**, our distant ancestors chose the caves of Cueva de Apolinario, Alamedilla and Cerro de la Caldera to practise their art; while in **Segura de la Sierra**, renowned as one of Spain's prettiest towns, the spiritually named Cueva de la Diosa Madre ("Cave of the Mother Goddess") boasts some truly unique examples of cave painting.* ●

THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE BRONZE AGE

The mountains of the **Sierra Sur** is another place where visitors can admire art by the earliest inhabitants of Jaén. The little-visited rocky overhangs of **Otíñar** are home to some of the most spectacular cave paintings in the province: diagrammatic black and red images of seemingly anthropomorphic figures, petroglyphs, and symbolic shapes scratched into the rock itself. These marks are considered the precursors of writing, and many of them enjoy the status of protected monuments and sites of cultural interest. Rock art in the heart of nature, transforming your trip into an unforgettable experience. ●

THE QUESADA CENTRE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE (CIPAQ) PROVIDES VISITORS WITH AN INSIGHT INTO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLY HUMANS WHO LIVED IN THIS PART OF THE PROVINCE. THE CENTRE ORGANISES VISITS TO VARIOUS NATURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY



El abuelo
Jaén

Jaén

In the early hours of Good Friday, the streets of Jaén are filled with revellers anxious to catch a glimpse of the figure of **El Abuelo**, representing Nuestro Padre Jesús Nazareno ("Our Father Jesus the Nazarene"), an incarnation of Jesus Christ. This full-size figure is the subject of several fascinating legends.

WORLD HERITAGE *religious heritage* Úbeda and Baeza

Úbeda and Baeza, key sites on the Southern Renaissance Route, are also the best examples of the sombreness that characterises many of the province's religious processions.



Cofradía
Jesús de la Caida
Úbeda

The Holy Week celebrations in **Úbeda** are among the most renowned: around 19 cofradías (religious associations) fill the streets with silence and respect.



Cofradía del Rescate
Baeza

In **Baeza**, thousands of tourists take the opportunity to visit a city that comes alive as the associations parade through streets that are decked out in all their splendour. Baeza's historical links to the clergy are evident in Holy Week celebrations that go back to the 16th century, when the first religious associations were formed.

Religious Jaén

JAÉN ENJOYS A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH RELIGION THAN MANY OTHER PLACES IN ANDALUSIA. THE IMPRINT OF THE **HOLY FACE**,

one of just three such relics to have survived anywhere in the world, is only the starting point for a spiritual communion in which devotion, passion and belief share an intimate bond with the province's populace.

A HOLY WEEK *with a difference*

ITS SPLENDOUR IS RECOGNISED AS A FESTIVAL OF TOURIST INTEREST

Úbeda, Baeza, Jaén, Linares, Martos, Torredonjimeno, Alcalá la Real... These are just a few of the key places for gaining an insight into a week of celebrations that combine the fervour of Andalusia with the austerity of Castilian Spain. The sculptural creations that are on display during this period stand out for their majesty and beauty.

Cofradía de los
Estudiantes
Jaén

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS AND SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA

Úbeda is the resting place of one of Spain's greatest mystic poets. **Saint John of the Cross** lived and died in one of the city's monasteries, and today we can learn about his life and that of **Saint Teresa of Ávila**, his closest companion in faith. They both lived around the same time, and left a significant legacy: Saint Teresa, by establishing a number of convents for the Order of the Discalced Carmelites, beginning with the convent in Beas de Segura (her first convent in Andalusia); and Saint John, as part of a religious community that welcomed him into their midst after he escaped from a prison in Toledo.

HE IS BURIED IN THE **ORATORIO (CHAPEL) OF SAN JUAN DE LA CRUZ** IN ÚBEDA. IN 1978, THE CITY PAID HOMAGE BY OPENING A MUSEUM DEDICATED TO THE SAINT, WHERE VISITORS CAN LEARN ABOUT HIS LIFE AND EXAMINE SOME OF HIS MANUSCRIPTS.

Procession of Our Lady
of La Cabeza, Andújar



On the last Sunday of every April, Andújar is filled to bursting with half a million pilgrims who have come to attend **one of the oldest processions in Spain**.

Declared a Festival of National Tourist Interest, the **Procession of Our Lady of La Cabeza** dates back to the 13th century and transforms the town into a staging-post for the journey into one of the province's most iconic mountain ranges, the **Sierra de Andújar Natural Park**. As such, it is the perfect place to learn

about the region's historical, cultural and religious heritage. The peak of Cerro del Cabezo, with its Basilica and Sanctuary, is an iconic place of worship that is well worth visiting at any time of year.

The processions of Our Lady of La Estrella in **Navas de San Juan**, Our Lady of Victory in **Martos** and Our Lady of Alharilla in **Porcuna** are all classed as Festivals of Tourist Interest in Andalusia.

THE CORPUS CHRISTI YOU CANNOT MISS

The Feast of Corpus Christi is celebrated fervently throughout the province and especially in Villadompardo, where the streets are decorated with eye-catching altars. However, if there is one place where this celebration has truly made history, it is Villacarrillo.



Corpus Christi
Villacarrillo

For over 650 years the town has decked itself out with elaborate and colourful decorations made from flowers and branches. For centuries, every resident has brought their flowerpots out onto the streets to celebrate this unique occasion, recognised officially from the 19th century. Of particular note is the opening ceremony, in which leading figures from the world of Spanish literature inaugurate the Feast of Corpus Christi in Villacarrillo.

EN QUESADA, EN PLENO PARQUE NATURAL DE CAZORLA, SEGURA Y LAS VILLAS, SE ENCUENTRA EL **SANTUARIO DE LA VIRGEN DE TÍSCAR**. SU MULTITUDINARIA ROMERÍA TIENE LUGAR EL PRIMER DOMINGO DE SEPTIEMBRE. EN LA CUEVA DEL AGUA, LA LEYENDA SITÚA LA APARICIÓN DE UNA IMAGEN QUE DESPIERTA DEVOCIÓN, PASIÓN Y RELIGIOSIDAD EN UNO DE LOS PARAJES MÁS INCRÍBLES DE LA PROVINCIA DE JAÉN.

Jaén in literature

QUEVEDO, SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA, GARCÍA LORCA, MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ, ANTONIO MACHADO, JORGE MANRIQUE... JAÉN IS ENGRAVED ON THEIR HEARTS AND IN THEIR LITERARY WORKS



Saint John of the cross was also here

He came to Úbeda to find a cure for some minor ailments, but sadly ended up dying here. The city commemorates him at the **Oratorio (Chapel) and Museum**, where you can visit the room in which he penned his final texts. The museum is a true one of a kind, much like the universally admired saint himself. At the stately home of Casa de los Méndez a number of his relics are venerated, while the Holy Chapel of El Salvador del Mundo was the setting for some of the stages in the process of his beatification. He was assisted by the surgeon Ambrosio de Villareal at the time of his death, and a visit to the surgeon's house - as well as the Convent of La Inmaculada Concepción - will transport us back to the final days of one of Jaén's most important thinkers.



Quevedo in jaén?

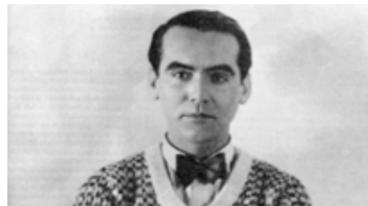
Jorge Manrique was not the only writer to fall in love with Segura de la Sierra. **Francisco de Quevedo** visited the town a number of times, occasionally just for pleasure and at other times on the way to his estate at Torre de Juan Abad. Segura is just two hours away from Ciudad Real and the Madrid-born Quevedo would often escape the city and seek refuge at his estate (or his "hamlet", as he called it), visiting Segura along the way.

"ÚBEDA IS ON THE MAPS AND MÁGINA IS IN THE LITERATURE. I CAN CHANGE MÁGINA HOWEVER I LIKE; I CAN GIVE IT A STATION, TAKE IT AWAY..."

These are the words of **Antonio Muñoz Molina** (Úbeda, 1956). A journey through the works of this great novelist, recipient of a number of major literary awards, takes us to the hidden corners of his birthplace of Úbeda, and the landscape dominated by the mountains of the Sierra Mágina.

The verses penned by Jorge Manrique in Segura de la Sierra

A statue of **Jorge Manrique** welcomes us to Segura, where the great poet was born and grew up amidst the landscape of olive groves. To walk the streets of Segura is to explore the childhood of a poet whose birthplace still retains its original 16th century façade.



Lorca's travels in Jaén

Federico García Lorca and Antonio Machado both had links to the "Generation of 27". They also met one another in Baeza, where Machado was teaching and Lorca was on a study visit. In *Impressions of the Trip II. Baeza: the City*, Lorca records how impressed he was by the architecture of the cathedral, the winding streets, Plaza del Pópulo and Jabalquinto Palace during his uniquely poetic visit.



Saint Teresa of Ávila: A journey through mysticism and poetry

A YOUNG NUN TRAVELS TO BEAS DE SEGURA TO ESTABLISH THE FIRST CONVENT OF HER ORDER - THE DISCALCED CARMELITES - IN ANDALUSIA. The **Visitor Centre for Beas de Segura and Mancha Real**, where Saint Teresa also opened a convent, form part of the route followed by the mystic herself and her retinue, as they made their way to the places she would consecrate throughout the province.

Wanderer, there is a path as you walk

WE HAVE PARAPHRASED **ANTONIO MACHADO** IN ORDER TO JOIN HIM IN EXPLORING THE CITY OF BAEZA, WHERE HE TAUGHT FRENCH PRIOR TO HIS EXILE.

There are 11 key sites to explore, if we are to follow in Machado's footsteps during his time in Baeza. We begin at the School of the Santísima Trinidad, where the classroom in which he taught is still visible. Our route then leads to the casino, the site of the old Comercio Hotel, and of course Plaza de Santa María and Baeza Cathedral, which cannot help but remind us of the great Machado and his immortal works.

Eslava Galán: Almost always among castles.

Eslava Galán (Arjona, 1948) was so enamoured of the province that he wrote his doctoral thesis on siege warfare and fortifications of the Late Middle Ages in the Kingdom of Jaén. Even though his novel *En busca del unicornio* won him the Planeta Prize, Eslava Galán remained wedded to Jaén. Reading *Los paraísos perdidos*, we are transported to the most iconic castles and fortresses that comprise the province's Castles and Battlefields Route. The movie adaptation of his novel *La Mula*, set during the Spanish Civil War, was filmed in Lopera.



Descarga aquí información sobre las rutas literarias por la provincia de Jaén



Joaquín Ramón Martínez Sabina (Úbeda, 1949) is a singer and poet. He has published nine books of the lyrics to his songs, in addition to the collections of poems that were published over the years in the now-defunct weekly magazine *Interviú*, in the section titled "This Mouth Is Mine". His lyrics are veritable works of poetry, not least of all in the eyes of another great writer, Benjamín Prado, with whom he published *Incluso la verdad*, *Ciento volando de catorce*, *Palo seco* and *Nos sobran los motivos*. The city boasts a space dedicated to this remarkable singer-songwriter.

A singer who creates poetry



The olive-pickers of Miguel Hernández

THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE WRITER'S BEST-KNOWN POEMS, AND ONE THAT MANY PEOPLE IN JAÉN IDENTIFY WITH. Indeed, the poem provides the words to the official anthem of the province. **Miguel Hernández** knew the mountain town of Quesada (in the Sierra de Segura) very well, as his wife, Josefina Manresa, was born there. However, that is not the poet's only link to Jaén and Quesada: during the Spanish Civil War he was the Cultural Commissioner for the Jaén Front, where he ran the newspaper *Altavoz del Frente*. Today, his legacy can be explored in its entirety at the **museum** that bears his name in Quesada: it is a unique space where we will always be able to enjoy the verses, so rooted in the land, written by the poet who died in prison.

3,2,1...action!

Jaén. land of Cinema

"A sad captain, and challenges at sword-point"

The movie adaptation of the popular saga of Captain Alatriste by Pérez Reverte was filmed in Úbeda and Baeza. Viggo Mortensen, playing the central role, immersed himself in the Renaissance tenor of the two cities. Filmed in 2006 and directed by Agustín Díaz Yanes, it had the second-largest budget in the history of Spanish cinema.



Descarga aquí información sobre Jaén territorio de cine

THE THINGS OF LOVE, I'M THE ONE, THE CONSPIRACY, CAPTAIN THUNDER AND THE DAUGHTER WERE ALL PARTLY FILMED IN JAÉN PROVINCE. AND YOU ARE SURE TO REMEMBER THE THEME TUNE TO THE SERIES CURRO JIMÉNEZ, FEATURING TV'S MOST FAMOUS BANDIT, AND THE NATURE DOCUMENTARY SERIES EL HOMBRE Y LA TIERRA BY FELIX RODRIGUEZ DE LA FUENTE, BOTH OF WHICH WERE FILMED IN JAÉN'S NATURAL PARKS.





San Vicente
Linares

J A É N MINING HERITAGE

A PARADISE BELOW GROUND

The Industrial Revolution that took place during the 19th century placed the mining district of Linares-La Carolina on the world map. Its industrial architecture has left a legacy unlike any other, with train stations, one-of-a-kind buildings, pumping stations, derricks and trails that provide a surprisingly industrial backdrop to the province.

The first foreign companies arrived in the 19th century in order to operate the region's mines. Britons, Belgians, Frenchmen and Germans established an extensive industry that transformed this region into the world's leading producer of lead.

The areas of **Linares, La Carolina, Guarromán, Bailén, Baños de la Encina, Carboneros, Santa**

Elena and Vilches are surrounded by mines, shafts, chimneys, foundries, pumping stations and railway lines, which transported minerals to the rest of Spain. Some 65 of these singular structures are listed in Andalusia's General Catalogue of Historical Heritage.

In **Linares**, many of them are fully integrated into the urban fabric of the city itself. In order to explore an industrial heritage that is unlike any other in Europe, our visit will commence at the **Mining Industry Visitor Centre**, the starting point for six short routes that provide a tour of the city's mining heritage. The English Cemetery, which is considered "significant" by the Association of Significant Cemeteries of Europe, is another essential stop on our Mining Route.

"LINARES IS NOT LINARES, IT IS A SECOND MADRID! WHO HASN'T SEEN THE TRAIN PASS THROUGH LINARES?" LINARES WAS SERVED BY UP TO SIX RAILWAY LINES. AT ITS ZENITH, THE CITY'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATURE ATTRACTED MANY SEEKERS OF OPPORTUNITY FROM OUTSIDE THE REGION. THE BANK OF SPAIN OPENED ITS FIRST BRANCH HERE, NUMEROUS COUNTRIES ESTABLISHED VICE-CONSULATES, PLACES OF LEISURE SUCH AS CASINOS AND CINEMAS WERE OPENED, AND SOME OF THE MOST STRIKING MODERNIST STRUCTURES IN THE PROVINCE WERE BUILT.

One of the most notable of these structures is Marqueses de Linares Hospital, whose crypt (located in the chapel) houses the remains of Don José and Doña Raimunda. Their tomb is one of the finest in all of Andalusia, and was made by the same sculptor who created the monuments to Bécquer in Seville and Miguel de Cervantes in Madrid.



San Francisco
Baños de la Encina



Red de Senderos PR.
Linares

Senderos entre siglos

LINARES OFFERS SIX SHORT DISTANCE (PR) HIKING ROUTES. WITH A LENGTH OF LESS THAN 50 KILOMETRES, THESE MINING TRAILS ARE DESIGNED TO ENABLE HIKERS TO ENJOY THE NATURAL SURROUNDINGS. THEY ARE CIRCULAR, WITH SPECIALLY DESIGNED INTERCONNECTIONS THAT ENABLE HIKERS TO ADAPT THEIR ROUTE IN LINE WITH THE TIME AVAILABLE. SOME OF THESE TRAILS LEAD TO SPECTACULAR METAL HEADFRAMES, SUCH AS THE ONE AT LA ESMERALDA, OR EXAMPLES OF MINING INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS EL COBRE, ADARO AND LA CARLOTA IN THE NEARBY TOWN OF **BAILÉN**. ON FOOT? ENDURANCE RUNNING? BY BIKE? ON HORSEBACK? ANY MODE OF TRANSPORT OFFERS A GREAT WAY TO ENJOY THE UNIQUE LANDSCAPES THAT SURROUND THIS MINING DISTRICT.

And there's more

The **Mining Industry Visitor Centre for the New Towns, in La Carolina**, provides the historical context for us to explore the city and nearby sites, such as the Torre de Perdigones ("Tower of Bullets"), an arms factory whose weapons were used in international conflicts such as the War of Cuban Independence. Now we must grab our helmets, lanterns and picks, as we make our way into the tunnels of Galería de la Paloma, lying more than 500 metres beneath Aquisgrana Forest Park. Leading off from the **Visitor Centre** are a number of signposted trails that will take us to some unique examples of mining architecture, such as the Pozo Mejorada shaft at the La Rosa mine, and the small mining town of Sinapismo, which offers views of a truly unique landscape.

Just eight kilometres from La Carolina is another small mining town, El Guindo, whose houses retain their original layout on the flanks of the hill that gives the town its name. In **Baños de la Encina** we can explore the settlement of El Centenillo, which is laid out like a typical English mining town and where, it is said, the first tennis court in Spain was built. It is a truly beautiful location in the heart of the Sierra Morena mountains.

At Los Palazuelos (**Carboneros**), mining activity can be traced back to the Roman era, when the Carthaginian general Hannibal obtained large amounts of silver from this area. A Roman bas-relief discovered nearby is now on display at the Museum of Bochum in Germany. At El Alcázar mine in **Vilches** we can also find old tunnels and shafts, while La Española is one of the most complete and representative examples of mining infrastructure in the area. **Guarromán** is home to the shafts of San Andrés and San Eugenio, at the mine of San Pascual, which boasts Europe's only example of a Bull-type pumping station.



Mina la Española
La Carolina



Virgen de la Araceli
Baños de la Encina

Complejo
Minero
La Tortilla
Linares



New TOWNS

THE KING VERSUS THE BANDITS ON THE ROYAL HIGHWAY

OVER 250 YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE FOUNDING OF LA CAROLINA AND THE NEW TOWNS, ONE OF THE LARGEST DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ENLIGHTENMENT EUROPE. LA CAROLINA, NAMED AFTER KING CHARLES III, WAS THE FOREMOST SETTLEMENT IN THIS PROJECT INVOLVING THE CREATION OF 44 BODIES AND 11 TOWNS.

Charles III believed that attracting more than 6000 colonists - mostly of German and Flemish origin - to resettle the Sierra Morena region would help to reverse the depopulation process and restrict bandit activity.

Each settler received the same grant: land, a house, tools, livestock, grain and furnishings, in order to make them self-sufficient. Attracting settlers with nicknames such as "the land of oranges" or "the treasure chest", around a dozen towns saw their streets become bustling again, which in turn promoted prosperity, modernity, agricultural development, trade and many industrial innovations.

The towns were planned in line with imported European designs, governed by the Neoclassical ideals of uniformity, symmetry and neatness.

La Carolina

The orderly layout of La Carolina's streets has earned it the nickname of the "jewel in Andalusia's urban planning crown". Under the management of Pablo Olavide, it became one of the most important industrial centres of the period. To learn about the history of La Carolina and the New Towns, a visit to the Palace of Intendente Olavide - which houses the **Museum of La Carolina** - is a must.



La Carolina



Aldeaquemada

In addition to the grid layout and settlers' houses, the beautiful town square - whose church is the epitome of the New Town design - and granary are of particular note. To find out more about this town's settler history under King Charles III, and its natural surroundings, the **Pablo Olavide Visitor Centre** is an obligatory stop.



Santa Elena

In the heart of Despeñaperros Natural Park, this town is the gateway to Andalusia and can be reached via the A-4 motorway. Although it shares the same layout as the New Towns, this settlement was formed around the old Chapel of Santa Elena, which traces its origins back to one of the region's most important historical events: the Battle of Navas de Tolosa.



Carboneros

The layout of this town is among the most atypical, with an elliptical square presided over by the monumental Church of La Inmaculada and the farmers' granary, designed in line with the Neoclassical style of the period.

Montizón

Like the other New Towns, Montizón has a geometrical grid layout, reminiscent of a large chessboard or Roman fort, with a large square presided over by a small church.



Arquillos

Our tour ends with a visit to Arquillos. Considered the gateway to El Condado, this town stands out for its layout and hilly areas that are home to areas of natural beauty, particularly those next to the Guadalén and Giribaile reservoirs.

INTERESTINGLY, WE CAN STILL FIND EXAMPLES OF THE SETTLERS' SURNAMES, SUCH AS Bayer, Liz, Waterman, Wizner, Wizneter, Feter, Liotor, Güiza, Kabel, Kraf, Zulat, Eismer, Saniger and Teklemayer, among others.



This repopulation strategy resulted in the creation of around a dozen towns throughout the province whose symmetrical layout and singular traditions (such as **pintahuevos**, or egg-painting) make for a fascinating and authentic cultural route across northern Jaén.





A GREAT PROVINCE FOR *LITTLE* adventurers

Jaén boasts a wide range of options to ensure that little ones can enjoy their own activities. Visiting the heritage attractions that are of interest to adults doesn't have to be boring for children. These are just some of the fun and entertaining activities on offer.

A TRAIN JOURNEY INTO THE PAST...



Can we visit **Baeza** by train? Yes, if we hop aboard the little engine and open carriages that take us on a tour of the city. Simple and educational, for parents as well as kids, this train takes in the city's most interesting sites, such as the Church of San Andrés, Salcedo Palace and the ruined Chapel of San Francisco.

Jaén's other World Heritage City, **Úbeda**, offers the same option for touring its most iconic sites by train.

...AND A BOAT TRIP THROUGH PROTECTED

El Tranco reservoir in the **Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park** enables visitors to admire their surroundings from the water. The solar-powered boat moves at the ideal speed to allow many native animals to be spotted without alerting the wildlife to our presence.

And we can't miss a visit to the **Collado del Almendral Wildlife Park**, whose tourist train visits some of the areas where Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente filmed his renowned nature documentary series *El Hombre y la Tierra*.

At night, we can search for life beyond Earth at the **Cosmolarium in Hornos de Segura**: like many other locations in the province, this observatory forms part of the **Starlight international astronomy network** and guarantees unbeatable views of star-filled skies.



LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

The **Castles and Battlefields and A Journey Back to the Time of the Iberians** routes not only enable adults to learn about the province's history over the centuries; they're also great fun for kids. The historical reenactments of major events such as the **Battle of Bailén**, which take place at various locations within the province, along with facilities such as **Navas de Tolosa Museum** in Santa Elena and the interactive activities at the Iberian Museum in Jaén, are just some of the great options where children can learn through play. Nearly all of the province's museums and visitor centres have adapted their content to suit families: from the **Museum of Olive Culture** in Puente del Obispo (near Baeza), to the one-of-a-kind **International Museum of Naïve Art** in Jaén, which is sure to awaken the artistic spirit of children and adults alike.



FOR daredevils, adventurers - and cooks

Jaén's protected natural spaces offer adrenaline-packed activities such as rafting, zip-lining, hiking across hanging bridges, canoeing, and cycling the Olive Oil Green Route. Animal lovers can follow the trail of the **Iberian lynx** at **Andújar Natural Park**, which is home to more of these endangered wild cats than anywhere else in the Iberian Peninsula.

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE HANDS-ON: MANY OF JAÉN'S FARMS AND COUNTRY ESTATES HAVE PLACES WHERE CHILDREN CAN LEARN TO MILK COWS, FEED THE ANIMALS OR HARVEST OLIVES. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THEIR PARENTS, THEY CAN EVEN TAKE A BOTTLE OF SELF-HARVESTED OLIVE OIL HOME WITH THEM, OR BECOME LITTLE CHEFS AND LEARN HOW TO PREPARE DELICIOUS DISHES MADE WITH EVOO. AND TO LET LOOSE THEIR CREATIVITY, JAÉN'S CRAFT CENTRES OFFER WORKSHOPS WHERE KIDS CAN BECOME ARTISANS FOR A DAY AND MAKE THEIR OWN MINIATURE WORKS OF ART.



LET THE *Music* play

A good concert or festival is the perfect complement to a family trip. For example, you could plan a visit to Alcalá la Real to coincide with one of the country's most renowned world music festivals, **Etnosur**. Alcalá is also home to the annual **Titereal Puppet Festival**, which incorporates a number of shows for children.

The year-round, province-wide programme of cultural activities also includes some excellent options for rounding off your trip with a wide range of family-friendly experiences.



FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE RENAISSANCE, WE MAKE OUR WAY TO **SANTISTEBAN DEL PUERTO** JUST A FEW KILOMETRES AWAY, WHERE WE FIND ANOTHER SET OF FOOTSTEPS: SPECIFICALLY, 24 FOOTPRINTS LEFT BY DINOSAURS FROM THE TRIASSIC PERIOD. **THEY ARE MORE THAN 230 MILLION YEARS OLD AND ARE NOT FOUND ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD**





Crafts in Jaén

Hands with soul

A JOURNEY
TO JAÉN
THROUGH
THE
PROVINCE'S
CRAFTS

Wherever you are in the province, you can always find artisans whose hands have soul. They will offer you a close-up view of their professions, their workshops and their daily activities, with visits and live demonstrations where you can create your own handicrafts and immerse yourself in the local culture and traditions that Jaén's artisans have kept alive through the generations.



Descarga aquí información sobre la Artesanía de Jaén y talleres visitables



The influence of the different civilisations that have passed through the province over the centuries has left Jaén with not only an exceptional cultural and historical heritage, but also a particular way of life that continues to shape the economic and social activities of many towns throughout the province.



Jaén's artisans have managed to preserve long-standing traditional techniques that have been handed down over the centuries.



Potters and ceramicists; experts in wrought iron, fashion, jewellery, embroidery and traditional headgear; weavers, glassmakers, stonemasons, iron-workers, restorers, sculptors, carvers and soap-makers; specialists in esparto grass and coffered ceilings... Jaén is home to nearly a hundred artisans who have not only preserved their traditions, but are developing them in highly promising directions. The **Craft in Progress** project promotes Jaén's contemporary crafts in markets outside Spain, showcasing the work of our artisans and creators to the rest of the world.



MANY MUNICIPALITIES STAND OUT FOR THE SKILL OF THEIR ARTISANS: ÚBEDA, BAEZA, ARJONILLA, ANDÚJAR, BAILÉN, ALCALÁ LA REAL, BEAS DE SEGURA, CAZORLA, JAÉN, LA CAROLINA, MARMOLEJO, PEGALAJAR, PORCUNA, ORCERA, AND TORREPEROGIL, TO NAME JUST A FEW.



Explore the crafts of Úbeda

Calle Valencia is located in the heart of **Úbeda's** artisan district, San Millán, and marks the starting point of our immersion in the crafts of this World Heritage City. Not only is this iconic street home to master craftsmen and the **Pablo Tito Craft Museum**, with its displays of unique examples of traditional crafts; it also boasts one of the largest, most diverse and most intriguing concentrations of artisans' workshops anywhere in Andalusia. With around 14 workshops, the city enjoys the rare title of being an **Area of Artisan Interest**; it is also home to seven Points of Artisan Interest and eight master craftsmen who keep history alive through their work with iron and metal-forging, jewellery, pottery and glass.



Úbeda's pottery is Mudéjar in origin and continues to use the same shaping and firing techniques. The city is also home to some of the country's few period Moorish kilns that still remain in use. The esparto grass of the Sierra Mágina mountains is still used in Úbeda to weave ubedíes, traditional rugs whose exportation was swelling the city's coffers as far back as the 11th century. Esparto grass, raffia, jute, twine and wool are some of the materials used by the few artisans that still practise these crafts in Spain.



Museo de Alfarería Paco Tito

With regard to wrought iron, the city's artisans have not only kept this popular tradition alive, but also adapted their forging techniques in line with changing times, without losing the natural origins of the craft. Likewise, Úbeda's glassmakers, famed for their artistry during the Renaissance, still stand out for the quality of their work today.

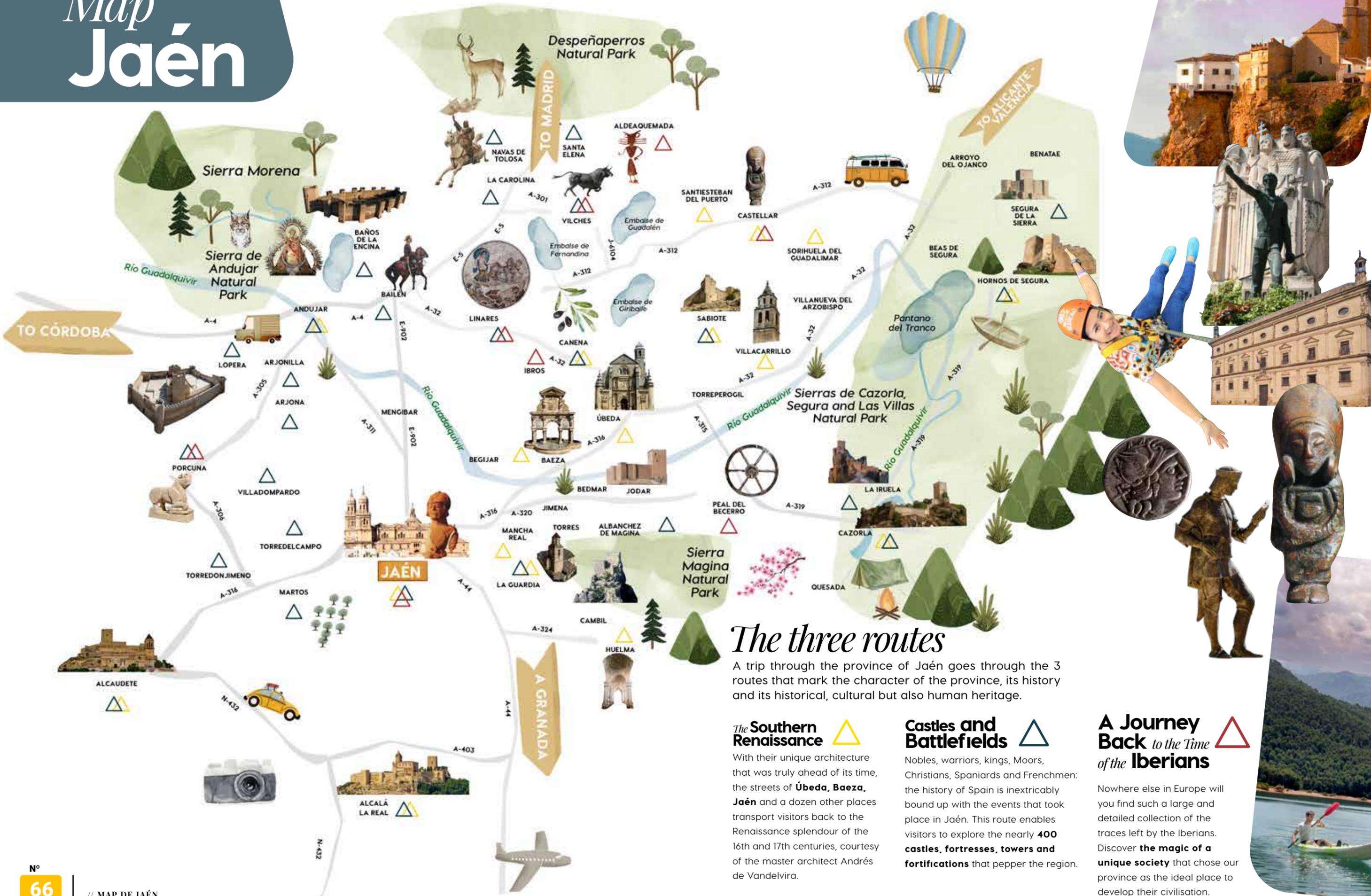


Jaén's pottery tradition

BOASTING ROMAN INFLUENCE, MOORISH HISTORY AND NODS TO THE CRAFTS OF GRANADA, SEVILLE AND TOLEDO, JAÉN'S POTTERY AND CERAMICS ARE CHARACTERISED BY A DIVERSITY OF TECHNIQUES, COLOURS AND TYPES. USING RED OR OCHRE CLAY, WITH BLUE, GREEN, RUST-BROWN OR WHITE GLAZING, THE PROVINCE'S POTTERS CREATE OLIVE OIL JUGS, TILES AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD OBJECTS, OR UNIQUE PIECES SUCH AS JARRAS GROTESCAS ("GROTESQUE JUGS") AND CLAY WHISTLES THAT HARK BACK TO THE BATTLE OF BAILÉN.

If you would like to complement your artisan experience, Úbeda boasts a number of establishments designed around the theme of crafts.

Map Jaén



The three routes

A trip through the province of Jaén goes through the 3 routes that mark the character of the province, its history and its historical, cultural but also human heritage.

The Southern Renaissance

With their unique architecture that was truly ahead of its time, the streets of **Úbeda, Baeza, Jaén** and a dozen other places transport visitors back to the Renaissance splendour of the 16th and 17th centuries, courtesy of the master architect Andrés de Vandelvira.

Castles and Battlefields

Nobles, warriors, kings, Moors, Christians, Spaniards and Frenchmen: the history of Spain is inextricably bound up with the events that took place in Jaén. This route enables visitors to explore the nearly **400 castles, fortresses, towers and fortifications** that pepper the region.

A Journey Back to the Time of the Iberians

Nowhere else in Europe will you find such a large and detailed collection of the traces left by the Iberians. Discover **the magic of a unique society** that chose our province as the ideal place to develop their civilisation.

JAÉN ALL YEAR ROUND



12 months

WHATEVER THE SEASON, THE WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITIES ON OFFER IN JAÉN PROVINCE ALLOW YOU TO PLAN A CULTURAL VISIT AT THE TIME OF YOUR CHOOSING. WE'RE OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR!



In the New Year, we hit the ground running - literally. The **Hogueras (bonfires) de San Antón** and the **International Street Race** are events of National Tourist Interest and take place in January in the city of Jaén. The Hogueras de San Antón originated in the 19th century, when farmers and olive-growers would burn the pruned olive branches after harvesting the fruit. Enjoying popcorn, roast pumpkin and local wine in front of a log fire is another great attraction at this time of year.

#JAÉN ALSO BLOOMS IN #SPRING



Time for the grand piano Jaén

The **Jaén International Piano Competition** needs little or no introduction for the musicians and enthusiasts who crowd into the Infanta Leonor Theatre every year to enjoy the competition and its parallel activities, such as meetings with composers. Every April, this international piano competition provides a showcase for the great musicians of the future.



Linares: theatre, music and much more

The city's performance venues are filled with music, theatre and dance during the **International Festival of Music and Performing Arts (FIMAE)**: a melting-pot showcasing the best of our culture, in a city that is also a must-visit destination in spring.



Film and music hit the heights

Sierra de Segura

El Yelmo, soaring to a height of almost 2000 metres in the Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park, is the setting for one of the most unique events in the country: the **Film Festival of the Air (FIA)**, with a focus on films involving flight. Every June, dozens of filmmakers and artists exhibit their audiovisual creations, while hundreds of fans and professionals take the opportunity afforded by the festival's location to fly (literally) above the mountains. It is an absolutely breathtaking spectacle, especially at sunset.

With regard to music, you simply cannot miss this delightful music festival in one of the prettiest towns in Spain. Music in Segura takes place in summer and autumn, and invites you to enjoy cultural activities in uniquely beautiful settings.

Music, dance and World Heritage

Úbeda

The **City of Úbeda International Festival of Music and Dance** has taken place every June and September for more than 30 years. It is a first-class feast for the senses that enables visitors to enjoy the monumental character of this World Heritage City.



Pleasure for the five senses

Jaén

In July, **Consentidos Jaén** brings together the best of Spanish music with an endless range of activities in the areas of gastronomy, culture, tourism, and everything else that visitors can enjoy with their five senses. This pioneering event in the provincial capital offers new and unique experiences that take full advantage of the city's iconic architectural heritage and its beautiful natural surroundings.



Torreperogil

A sea of songs

If there is one festival that stands out for its success, it is Un **Mar de Canciones** ("A Sea of Songs") in Torreperogil. Los Secretos, Revólver, Ismael Serrano, Pablo Milanés, Kiko Veneno and Jorge Drexler are just some of the artists who have taken the opportunity to visit Jaén and perform at the festival, which takes place in July.

Cazorla

International theatre and blues

The **Cazorla International Blues Festival** is designed for lovers of outstanding live music. Since 1994, festival-goers have flocked to the city every July in order to see performers such as Canned Heat, John Mayall and Johnny

In 2014, the event was awarded the title of World's Best Blues Festival at the 35th edition of the Blues Foundation's Blues Music Awards.

Also in July, Cazorla hosts the **International Theatre Festival (FIT)**, which has attracted leading professionals such as Nuria Espert and Juan Luis Galiardo.

Alcalá la Real

The world next door

Etnosur is one of the country's longest-standing world music festivals. Boasting an alternative ambience and a camping area, it takes place every July in the mountains of the Sierra Sur.

Etnosur was conceived as more than just a music festival: for this reason, it also provides a meeting point where numerous NGOs present and share their solidarity-related projects.



Martos

hits the high note

If you don't want to miss out on a major summer festival but the crowds make you think twice, this is the event for you. The **Vertigo Festival** in Martos takes place in July and enables visitors to enjoy the best Spanish and international bands, without the crowds. It also provides an opportunity for new independent artists from Andalusia to get up on stage, where they compete each year for the Vertigo Award.

Linares

The song of the mines

The **National Tarantas Contest** takes place every August in Linares and is one of the country's foremost flamenco singing events. It also serves as an opener for the San Agustín Festival. The contest is a homage to the taranta, a flamenco palo or style that characterises this mining city. During its 50-plus years of history, the contest has featured artists such as Lebrijano, Camarón de la Isla, Miguel Poveda, Carmen Linares and Estrella Morente.

#VERANO



Province

The magic that lights up the night

"Nights of Light" in the castles of Jaén offers a packed programme of night-time activities that will make us forget all about going to bed. Bathed in candlelight, and taking advantage of the pleasant night-time temperatures in the months of July and August, the province's castles and fortresses are decked out in order to welcome audiences who are eager to enjoy music, circus shows, fire acts, theatrical performances, magic, and even breathtaking vertical dance displays. The events take place at castles that are renowned for their cultural, historical and heritage status, such as those in Jaén, Alcalá la Real, Alcaudete, Sabiote, La Iruela, Cazorra, Segura de la Sierra, Baños de la Encina, Lopera, and Jódar (among others), and which also form part of the Castles and Battlefields Route.



#AUTUMN

Úbeda

Curtain up!

The **Autumn Theatre Festival** transforms the city into one large stage, with performances of major classics as well as the latest and most innovative trends. This international festival welcomes theatre companies with works for all audiences, and with almost 30 years of history it has become one of the key events in the cultural calendar.



#WINTER

Linares

An unmistakable sound

In view of the fact that the great Spanish guitar maestro Andrés Segovia was born here, this event could not have been given any other name. The **Andrés Segovia International Guitar Festival** offers master classes and workshops by renowned guitar virtuosos; a cycle of concerts where visitors can enjoy the finest Spanish guitar performers; and even a competition in which a prize is awarded to the best international performer. The festival takes place at the Andrés Segovia House and Museum in November.

De música humana
Úbeda and Baeza
Early Music Festival

De **Música Humana** ("Human Music") refers to the **Úbeda and Baeza Early Music Festival**, which takes place in November and December. The Andalusian Renaissance becomes a veritable soundtrack to our journey through the cities' streets. A key date in the Spanish calendar since 1997, the festival brings back violas, flutes, sackbuts and shawms to recreate the sounds of yesteryear.

#ABOUT
JAÉN

5 senses

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Calle Roldán y Marín, 1. 23001 Jaén
953 30 35 72
Infoturismo@dipujaen.es
www.jaenparaisointerior.es

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IT IMAGINE EXPERIENCING IT*

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