

GUÍA TURÍSTICA **NERJA** *TOURIST GUIDE*



Disfruta de la Axarquía Malagueña / Enjoy the Axarquía (Málaga)



AXARQUÍA
COSTA DEL SOL



Visit us!

TOURIST INFORMATION

Nerja, a town that preserves the roots of its Moorish past, is extremely seductive, surrounded by coves and rugged mountains. It has thirteen kilometres of beaches with the best services, excellent weather, and a lively atmosphere to be enjoyed throughout the year. Nature lovers can admire the breath-taking scenery and practice sports such as fishing, diving, water skiing, canoeing, hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Not forgetting the virtues and flavour of a cuisine that blends tradition and modernity all together. As for festivals, Nerja very much keeps alive traditions such as Carnival, Easter, the festival of San Isidro, San Juan, or the day of Carmen among others. Great highlight is the International Festival of Music and Dance at the Cave of Nerja, the third most visited monument in the country, recreated in a magical world of stalactites and stalagmites.

How to get here?



If you visit us by car

To reach Nerja take the Mediterranean motorway (A-7) or the Coast Highway (N-340) towards Motril-Almería. Both options lead directly to the town.



If you visit us by bus

Locations to/from Nerja by bus:

Torre del Mar, Vélez-Málaga, Málaga, Almuñécar, Granada, Motril, Marbella, Algeciras, Almería, Córdoba, Jaén, Sevilla, Madrid.

Compay: Alsa, www.alsa.es. T. 902 42 22 42.

Nerja – Frigiliana Line

Company: Coaches/Autocares Nerja,

T. 952 52 0984. autocaresnerja@gmail.com.

Bus Station : Avda. Pescia

See timeline: www.nerja.es/turismo



A WALK THROUGH HISTORY

Recent archaeological discoveries in the Nerja Cave reveal deposits ranging from Paleolithic to Bronze ages, and through the Mesolithic, and Neolithic ages.

Nothing is known of other civilizations that have passed through these lands until the Roman domination. During that time a small farming village called Detunda, in Maro, was established. The famous cliffs and the cave itself can be found in the town.

The first documented fact about the history of Nerja appears in a letter from the X century by Ibn Said Al-Mugrabi, referring to the town as a farmstead the size of a city, where silk was finely worked. The then Narija expanded next to a fortress. This was a period of stability and growth where the main irrigation network in Nerja evolved. The first watchtowers were built in the last stage of the Arab domination, linked with the setting up of a series of watchtowers in the XIII century designed for coastal defense by Muhamamad II, Moorish king of Granada, in the face of threats from the Christians and North African pirates.



The arrival of the Christian armies in Narixa is a direct consequence of the fall of Vélez-Málaga, which occurred in 1487. After the Granada wars, a phase of repopulation and Christianisation began led by the Catholic Monarchs. In the sixteenth century, a new fortress was built where the tower of the Balcony of Europe stood. People who had decided to leave their original location moved to live near the fortress.



A long period of stability starts as of the seventeenth century. It is the Baroque era whose impact is reflected in the building of the church of El Salvador.



During the Napoleonic invasion Nerja was sacked by French troops and the British destroyed some of their coastal defences. In the late nineteenth century a decline came about owing to the Spain crisis of that century. Economic stagnation in Nerja coupled with the 1884 earthquake and social tensions forced many Nerja citizens to emigrate to Latin America. The sixties brought a change in the life of the town, especially after the discovery of the Nerja Cave and the gradual influx of European tourism. Tourist development has put Nerja in a privileged economic situation.

*For the
inquisitive*

Discovery of the Cueva de Nerja

Five young men from Maro penetrated the Nerja Cave for the first time in 1959, following a flock of bats. Through a crack in the wall of a cavity they reached a narrow passage, since then called the Discovery Hall. Inside the cavity, the men were fascinated by the incredible find. Just a year and a half later, the cave was ready for tourist use and the Festival of Music and Dance in the Nerja Cave was inaugurated.



WHAT AND WHERE TO EAT?

The cuisine of Nerja is marked by its coastal location. Fish is the base of most of the dishes prepared in the town.

Among the traditional dishes of Nerja cuisine are egg or almond soup, a fish dish with peppers, onion, garlic and potato, noodle casserole with dried beans or cabbage, fried breadcrumbs, tomato soup with clams and sardines and fried pumpkin.

One of the best ways of enjoying the flavors of Nerja is to wander around its streets and visit the tapas bars specialized in anchovies, squid tips, sweet potatoes with honey, red mullets...



*For
foodies*

Sweet Potato in Honey

Ingredients (4 people): 4 sweet potatoes, ¼ kg of molasses, 1 cinnamon stick, anise (to taste) and cloves.

Preparation: Make a spice bag (roll spices in a piece of cloth to avoid the loosening of cinnamon, cloves and aniseed). Peel and split sweet potatoes into one or two pieces, placing them in a saucepan with a little water (not much so as to leave the sweet potatoes uncovered), along with the honey and spice bag.

Cover the pan and put on a medium heat until it starts to boil, then lower the heat to slowly finish cooking the sweet potatoes. If you don't use molasses, you can make it with about half a kilo of sugar per kilo of sweet potatoes and covering them with water until the syrup is made, serve cold away with a dash of honey **on top**.



BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Nerja has a variety of places where you can enjoy their food: tapas bars specialized in fried fish, restaurants serving the finest seafood, meats and dishes of national and international cuisine, and bars on the beach with the best views.

You can find a list of bars and restaurants at: www.nerja.es/turismo and www.MalagaIn.com



CRAFTS

Handicrafts are easily found along the Nerja streets. Nerja is famous for objects of wicker and rush, which are abundant in the area, typically making espadrilles, rope and baskets. Leather and fur creations are another specialty of Nerja artists used in their design of handbags, briefcases or frames. You can also find interesting ship models.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU VISIT US?

Places of interest

Church of El Salvador

This church was built in the sixteenth century and renovated later. The temple consists of three naves, one with Mudejar mountings. An orthogonal bell tower marks its facade. Inside are the eighteenth century frescoes from the Granada school and a mural of the Annunciation by Francisco Hernández.

Ingenio San Antonio Abad

The remains of the sugar factory are of special interest because of the decorative carvings found on one of its walls including water and naval motifs. The remains of the mill, known as Tablones, still stand next to it.

Shrine Nuestra Señora de las Angustias

This baroque temple houses the image of the patron saint of Nerja. It has a single nave topped with a barrel vault. Eighteenth century paintings from the Granada school can be seen in the dome.

Balcony of Europe

This viewing balcony is located at the end of a palm tree-lined avenue. Its ancient fortress dating to the ninth century, from where the coast was guarded against possible attacks from North Africa or pirates, has several guns that evoke the past of this military enclave. Now a viewing point overlooking the sea with breathtaking panoramic views of the coast.



Chanquete's Boat "La Dorada"

Located in the Parque Verano Azul, it's one of the symbols of the town and of the legendary television series. During the filming the boat was home to the salty old sea dog, Chanquete.

Cantarero Fountain

This beautiful example of urban architecture dating back to early last century is one of the first examples of a drinking water fountain in Nerja.

The Old Bridge

Built in 1860, this bridge has three levels lined with red brick, a cobblestone road, steel railing and street lighting.

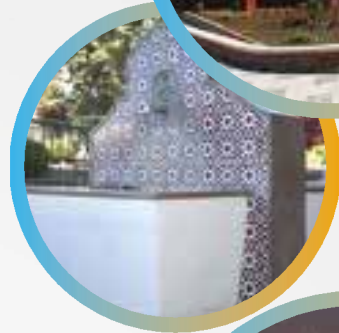
Nerja History Museum

Timetable: 9-16:00h. July and August: y 9-18:30h.

The museum is located in the Plaza de España. Among the wonders of this museum is the founding collection of archaeological pieces and a replica of the chapel of the Pisciformes, inside which a set of exceptional paintings are drawn. Interactive screens, 360 degree projections and a host of surprises await visitors.

Watchtowers

Nerja retains a set of five watchtowers used by both the Nazari and the Castilian conquerors to defend the coast. Dating from the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries they have undergone several reconstructions depending on the military needs of the time.



Águila Aqueduct

This aqueduct was built between 1879 and 1880 on the Maro River to supply water to the San Joaquín sugar factory in the Mercedes settlement.

Maro

It's a beautiful white village, situated on the cliffs of the Bay of Nerja between La Caleta and Barranco de Maro. The fertile plains and the Marquesa watchtower can be seen from the church square.

Parish Church of Nuestra Señora de las Maravillas (Maro)

This church was completed in the seventeenth century; a wooden frame covers its sole nave. Outside stands the tower, topped by a pyramidal spire and a belfry.

Ingenio de Maro o de Armengol

This sugar mill was built in 1585 to boost the sugarcane industry. A fire in the sixties of the nineteenth century brought its activity to a halt, but much of the original work remains.



Not to be missed...

Don't miss out on visiting the **Nerja Caves**, declared to be of Cultural and Natural Interest and one of the most visited natural monuments in the province of Málaga.

Located at the foot of the Sierra de Almijara, it has 4823 metre route and you can visit a third of the galleries. In addition to the impressive karst formations, its interior houses paintings and archaeological remains of up to 30,000 years old. The highlight is the thickest column in the world created by the joining of stalagmites and stalactites. There is also the possibility of an "exclusive" guided tour and to experience caving with specialized guides.

The Nerja Cave is also the scene of an acclaimed international music and dance festival that is held in July.

More information: T. 952 52 95 20.
www.cuevadenerja.es



For nature lovers

Outstanding natural spaces

Natural Park of the Almijara, Tejeda and Alhama mountain ranges

It is one of the most important natural mountain enclaves in South Eastern Andalusia, with 1,148 plant species, 25% of which are endemic, and of particular note animals such as the ibex. It provides infinite possibilities for adventure and nature lovers: hiking and Mountain Biking, caving, canyoning, bird watching, etc.

The Cliffs of Maro

This Natural Park is a spectacle of nature. It offers a rugged landscape where small coves and cliffs alternate with cultivated terraced areas. The huge wealth of its fauna and flora is plain to see, an area ideal to enjoy diving. On clear days, you can see the coast of Africa and enjoy the breath taking views offered up by one of its viewing points.



BEACHES

Nerja has 13 kilometres of coastline divided into 16 beaches. Burriana, Playazo, Torrecilla, and Calahonda are the best known and equipped beaches with all amenities. But the town also has several coves of great beauty.

El Chucho Beach

Length: 200 m. Width: 30 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach. Promenade.

El Playazo Beach

Length: 1700 m. Width: 30 m. Occupation: Media. Semi-urban Beach.

La Torrecilla Beach



Length: 300 m. Width: 40 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach. Promenade.

El Salón Beach

Length: 200 m. Width: 20 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

La Caletilla Beach

Length: 50 m. Width: 15 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

El Chorrillo Beach

Length: 60 m. Width: 20 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

Carabeo Beach

Length: 120 m. Width: 15 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

Carabeillo Beach

Length: 70 m. Width: 10 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

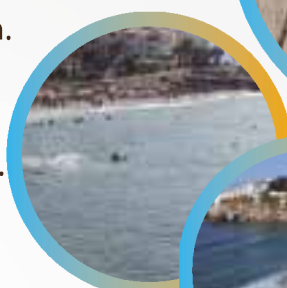
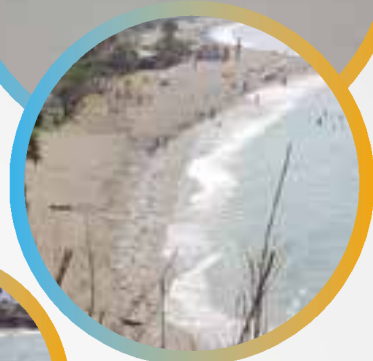
Calahonda Beach

Length: 120 m. Width: 20 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach.

Burriana Beach



Length: 800 m. Width: 40 m. Occupation: High. Urban Beach. Promenade.



Natural Park - Maro - Cerro Gordo Cliffs

La Caleta Beach

Length: 400 m. Width: 15 m. Occupation: Low. Secluded Beach.

Molino de Papel Beach

Length: 400 m. Width: 15 m.
Occupation: Low. Secluded Beach.

Las Alberquillas Beach

Length: 400 m. Width: 20 m.
Occupation: Low. Secluded Beach.

Calas del Pino Beach

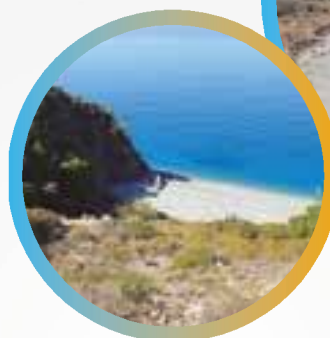
Length: 350 m. Width: 10 m.
Occupation: Low. Secluded Beach.

Cala El Cañuelo Beach

Length: 350 m. Width: 10 m.
Occupation: Low. Secluded Beach.

Maro Beach

Length: 500 m. Width: 20 m.
Occupation: Media. Secluded Beach.



Nerja boasts beautiful places for hiking and outdoor sports like bike routes, diving, snorkelling, kayaking and boating.

Hiking

Nerja – Maro Trail

Distance: 4 km (linear). Difficulty: low.

Cueva de Nerja - Fuente del Esparto Trail

6km distance (linear). Difficulty: low.

Fuente del Esparto – Navachica Trail (1.808m)

Distance: 18 km (linear). Difficulty: medium-high.

Fuente del Esparto - The Almendrón Trail (1.504m)

Distance: 12,4 km (loop). Difficulty: medium / high.

Camping Nerja - Cuesta del Cielo Trail (1.505m)

Difficulty: medium / high.

Peñon de Los Castillejos Trail

Mountain bike routes

Nerja - Los Castillejos Trail

Distance: 38 Km (loop). Difficulty: moderate. Duration: 3h30. Positive Slope: 950 m.

Nerja - El Apretadero Trail

Distance: 25 km (loop). Difficulty: moderate. Duration: 2h20. Positive Slope: 600 m.

Information courtesy of Narixa Cycling Club: www.clubciclistanarixa.



*For the
more
daring*

Companies that offer activities in the area

Buceo Costa Nerja: T. 952 52 86 10. www.nerjadiving.com.
Diving courses for all levels, equipment rentals, snorkelling tours and boat trips.

Red Tread Spain: info@redtreadspain.com. www.redtread.com
Hiking and bike rides.

Cortijo Hidalgo: M 630 28 62 39, heidiramseier@yahoo.es. Hiking and horseback riding along the beach and in the mountains.

Life Adventure: T. 952 52 59 20. www.lifeadventure.eu. Jeep tours, hiking trails, bike rental and activities for groups and companies.

Mountains Activities Nerja: T. 952 52 34 26, www.mountainactivities.nl. mHiking trails, 4x4 routes, mountain biking and sightseeing excursions.

Trekking Nerja Almijara: M 605 62 92 43, trekkingalmijara@gmail.com. Hiking trails for all levels.

Andalucian Walks: M 693 56 57 18. www.AndalucianWalks.com.
Hiking and themed guided tours.

Educare Aventura: T. 600 62 00 54, www.educare-aventura.com.
Kayaking routes from Burriana Beach.

Salamandra Multiaventura: T.952 55 34 93, www.malaga-aventura.es.
Kayaking routes from Maro Beach.

Other activities

Nerja themed Visits-Verano Azul: M. 680 20 71 35, www.migueljovent.com.

Cave Train: T. 952 52 95 20, www.cuevadenerja.es. It includes ticket for the tourist train + Nerja Cave and the Nerja Museum.

Spa Paraíso del Agua: T. 952 52 84 80, www.spaparaaisodelagua.com.



GUÍAS TURÍSTICAS DE LA COMARCA DE LA AXARQUÍA

1. Alcaucín
2. Alfarnate
3. Alfarnatejo
4. Algarrobo
5. Almáchar
6. Árchez
7. Arenas
8. Benamargosa
9. Benamocarra
10. Canillas de Aceituno
11. Canillas de Albaida
12. Colmenar
13. Comares
14. Cómpeta
15. Cútar
16. El Borge
17. Frigiliana
18. Iznate
19. La Viñuela
20. Macharaviaya
21. Moclinejo
22. Nerja
23. Periana
24. Rincón de La Victoria
25. Riogordo
26. Salares
27. Sayalonga
28. Sedella
29. Torrox
30. Totalán
31. Vélez-Málaga

Más información / More information

www.nerja.es/turismo

www.visitanerja.com

www.axarquiacostadelsol.es

www.costadelsol-axarquia.com

www.malagaIn.com

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