

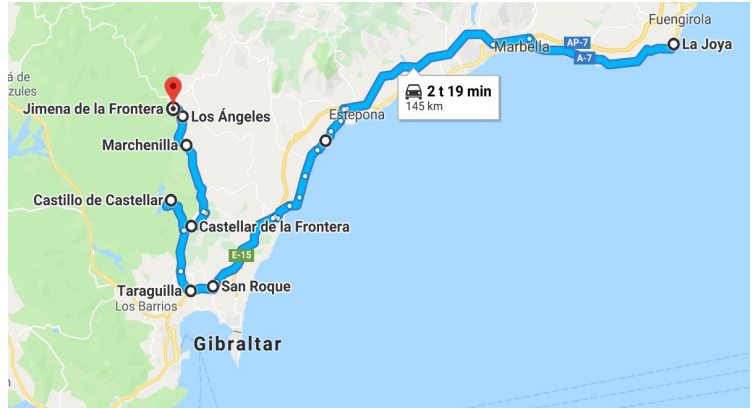
FUENGIROLA – LA JOYA – THE WINTER 2018 – 2019 ROUND-TRIP

On the 20th to the 23rd of March, we rented a car to drive a round to different small towns inland from Fuengirola. We rented the car from Budget in Fuengirola. We got a white Mercedes CLA 180 this time.

On this trip we were not planning to do any thorough sight-seeing, just driving through the cities and taking some pictures.



The car looked like this. It was very good to drive.



The driving route on the first day looked like this.



A large apartment hotel by the road when driving along the coast. [The Spanske bull](#) is lurking over the ceiling.



The first stop was in [San Roque](#). We stopped at a place called Avenida de Gibraltar and took a picture of this monument.



The monument seen from the other side.



A monument by the bullfighter Cristobal Cuenca Ruiz with artist name Tobalo Vargas, born in 1948.



Tobalo Vargas has got a pigeon on his head.



Here is the bull. We can see a bit of the bull-fighting arena to the right.



This stone was also here.



The next stop was in Taraguilla. There we found nothing interesting to take pictures of, just three trash bins.



Here we are approaching [Castillo de Castellar](#).



Right below the castle.

The old town is within the walls. Here are hotels and restaurants and some residents. Most people who lived here moved to the new city (Pueblo Nuevo) down in the valley in 1971. In 2008, a total of 3019 inhabitants lived in Castillo-Fortaleza, Pueblo Nuevo and Barriada La Almoraima. There was great cork production earlier in Almoraima. Many have moved to Pueblo Nuevo, but there are still 200 living here.



This is on the car-park.



The information office.



Small palms are growing straight out of the stone.



Below the fortress is a dammed lake, Embalse del Guadarranque.



Then a few pictures from Castellar de la Frontera (Pueblo Nuevo).



Castellar (Nuevo Pueblo) is a new town with wide streets and large green areas. It was built at the end of the 1960s, and most of the people living here moved from the buildings in the old city in 1971 to get a better standard of living.



The church



City Hall / Police Station.

Open-air theater.



This is a monument to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the new city.
[Link to the history](#)



The next stop was in [Los Angeles](#). This is [Santuario de Nuestra Señora Reina de los Ángeles](#).

The church was built in the late 15th century. After 1700, it was expanded to be used as a monastery for the Franciscan monks.

Los Angeles was established in connection with the construction of the railway between Algeciras and Jimena. The railway was opened in 1890. The next stretch up to Ronda was opened in 1892. [The history of the railway](#).

The train station was formerly called Jimena de la Frontera railway station, or just Jimena Station. It has now been named after the church



Further away, on the outskirts of Los Angeles, there are some cows looking at us.



The next town was [Jimena de la Frontera](#). This is an old town where Phoenicians, Iberians, Carthaginians, Romans and Arabs have lived. Today, there are about 10,000 people living here. Many are English pensioners.



The Moors built a fortress at the top of the hill in 750.



We had booked at a hotel called [Casa Henrietta](#). [Home page](#).



We did not find adequate parking in the street outside the hotel, so we took a round in the one-way streets to find some better parking. Steep streets everywhere.



The room looked approximately like this.



After we checked in, I had a 'travel beer' at the bar.



Various pictures from there. Here a hen on the piano.



Comfortable sofa to sit and study brochures.



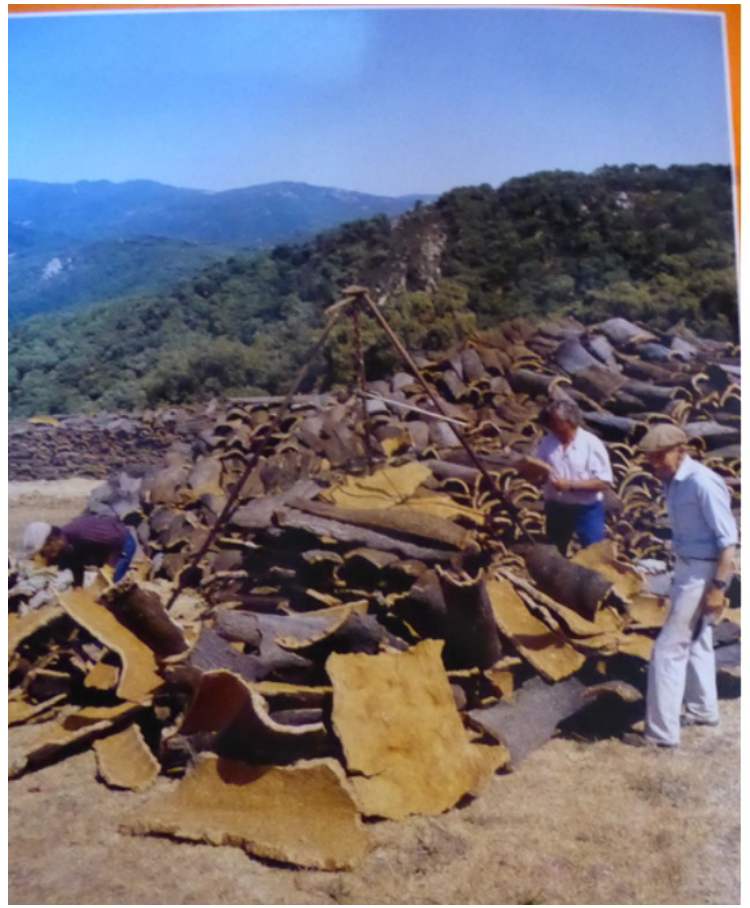
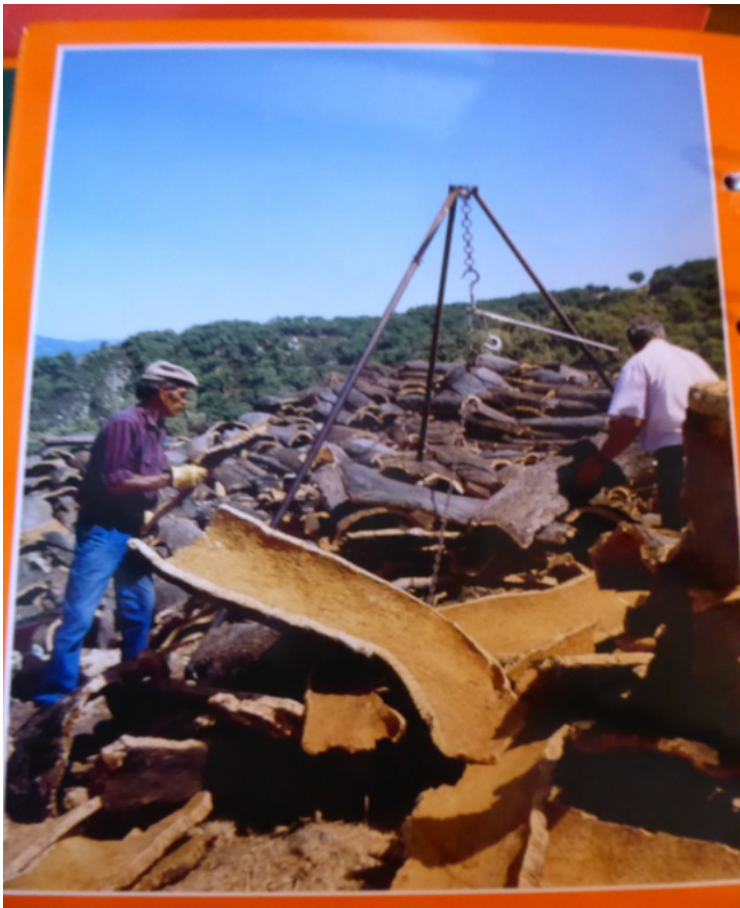
Seven-arm candlestick, menorah.



The bar counter with chairs.



Picture



Pictures from the cork production in the area.



This picture was on many plates.



The view from the room.



The view from the room.



A flower on the roof below.



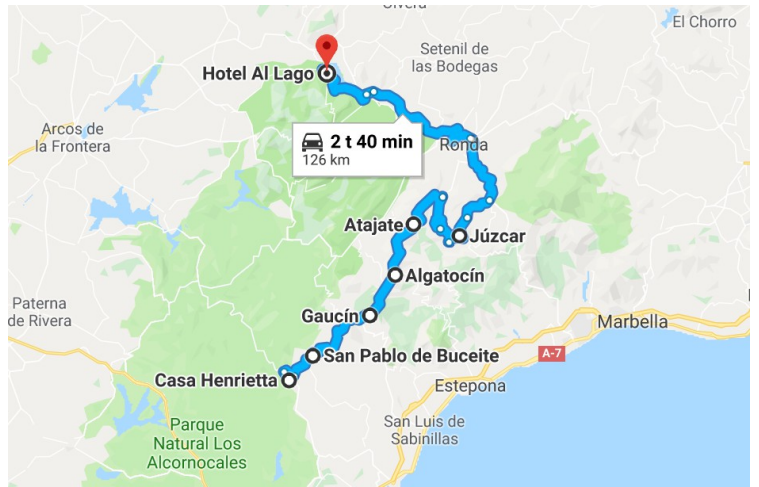
A bathtub in the reception. It was made into a fountain with running water.



An elephant in the reception.



The next day we drove on. Large areas of olive trees.



This is the driving route



Here it seems that the bushes are protected with plastic.



Here we arrive in [Gaucin](#).
Description in [Andalucia.com](#) – [Vistascostadelso](#) - [Rusticblue](#)

Gaucin had existed long before the Romans came here. The Romans built the fortress and the Visigoths and the Arabs extended it to a fort. The city was recaptured in 1457 by the troops of Henry IV.



In the area there were many shrubs with yellow flowers.



The entrance to the town.



Some pictures we took when we drove through town.





This is right before we come to the main road again. The main road goes on this viaduct.



Rock formation between Gaucin and Algotocin, Seen from [Mirador del Genal](#).



Some of the views from the Mirador del Genal. We see Jubrique on the left and Genalguacil on the right.



[Jubrique](#) has approximately 750 inhabitants today. [Andalucia.com](#)



[Genalguacil](#) has approximately 500 inhabitants. [Visitcostadelsol.com](#)

Both Jubrique and Genalguacil are white Moorish villages. There are gold, silver, iron and lead in the mountains here, and they were first exploited by the Romans. It is believed that the Moors first started farming in the area. Today there are some tourism and agriculture. Some wine is produced. Many also commute to the coast for work.



From Mirador del Genal we also look to the next town we are going to. It's called Algotocin.



Here we have zoomed in on the church.



The viewpoint was well organized with pictures and maps of the area and there were trails, stairs and fences. There were many such viewpoints up here in the mountains.



Many nice flowers.



Here is a part of the path with railings.



Here we drive downhill in Algotocin. There are narrow streets and the GPS guided us in to the city center.



Still narrower streets.



Algotocin has almost 1000 inhabitants and they live mostly on farming. In the direction of the Genal Valley, much cork oak, olive, almond, fig and chestnut are cultivated. Towards the Guadiaro Valley there is good access to water and more vegetables are grown.

Andalucia.com visitcostadelsol.com wikipedia



When we got to a street that was too narrow for the car, this lady came out and helped us back to the main road.



Here she directs us past the house corners. It went with just mm clearance.



The next city we have pictures of is Atajate, located between Guadiaro and Genal, and has approx. 150 inhabitants.

[Wikipedia](https://www.wikipedia.com) andalucia.com visitcostadelsol.com



Zoomed in on St. Josef – cathedral.



We also stopped at [Mirador del Fraile](#).



Some of the views from there.



This is Alpendeire. In the hill behind the city is the road where we came driving down the mountainside. There are about 330 inhabitants here today.
[Wikipedia](#) [Andalucia.com](#) [casadellanete](#)



Where we stopped we saw this plaque about [Fray Leopoldo de Alpendeire](#), who was born here. He was a Capuchin monk who was canonized in 2010. A statue was also erected in the city in 2009.



Here we drove past Farajan, which is yet another Moorish town.
[Wikipedia](#) [andalucia.com](#)



This is Júzcar.



Júzcar has become known because that all the houses have been painted smurf-blue in connection with the celebration of the premiere of the smurf film in 2011. Before that, they had 9000 tourists a year, while later they had 95,000 tourists annually.

[Wikipedia](#) [andalucia.com](#) [spainattractions](#) [lonelyplanet](#)





Some of the houses in the town.



Further on we see Cartajima at a distance.
[Wikipedia](https://www.wikipedia.org) [andalucia.com](https://www.andalucia.com)



About the highest point of the road we drove past this farm.



It turned out to be a sheep farm.





View of the sheep's herd.



We had planned to stay over-night at [Hotel al Lago](#).



After checking in we had a glass of wine on the terrace.



This is the rented car.
The lake we see in the background is a dammed lake,
[El Gastor](#).



View from the room.



The hotel with the mountain behind.



[Mirador de Zahara de la Sierra](#) is a lookout point below the town.



Flowering trees.

The hotel is located on the outskirts of the small town of Zahara de la Sierra. It is one of the white cities that are furthest inland. It is located on a mountain cliff where there are remains of a Moorish fort and a lookout tower. The oldest documentation for the city dates from 1282. Today, there are about 1500 inhabitants here.

[Wikipedia.com](#) [Andalucia.com](#) [Spain-Holiday.com](#)



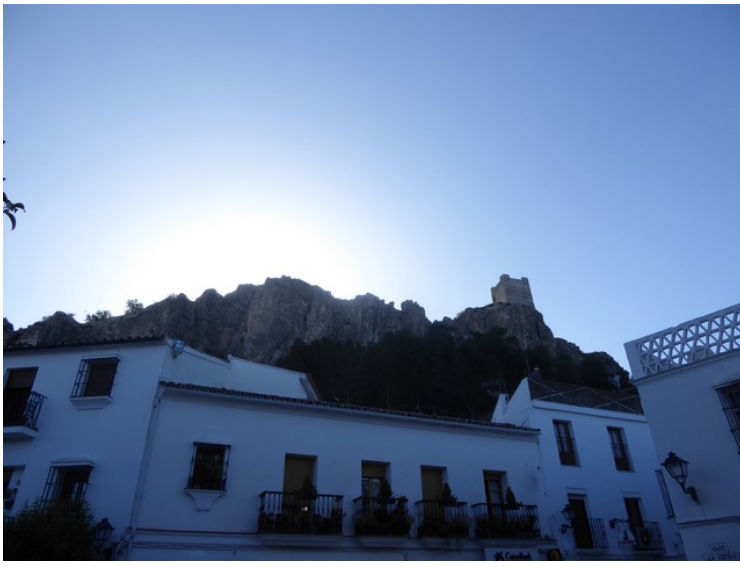
The next day we drove up in the city. Here we come to a bell tower, [Torre del Reloj](#).



Torre del Reloj lies right behind this church.



From the streets up in the town.



At the top of the mountain lies the remains of the fortress.



The lookout tower, [Torre del Homenaje](#), is perhaps the best preserved part.



A fountain.



Oranges.



This is a church, [Iglesia de Santa María de la Mesa](#).

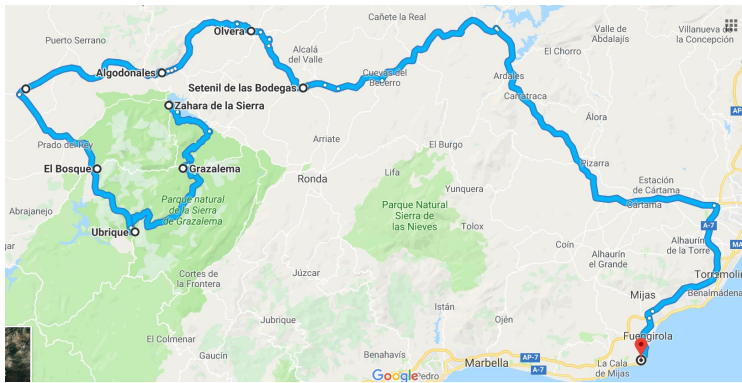




This is the town hall. To get out of town, we have to drive down the narrow street to the left.



Herr there is narrow and steep.



This is the driving route for the last day. We had booked the hotel for two nights, but the car was to be returned a little early on Saturday, so we changed our mind and checked out after just one night. We had planned Setenil as the last city on the round and it would take 45 minutes extra to drive to La Joya instead of Zahara.



The next town we come to is Grazalema. The starting point for the village is a Roman villa, Lacidulia. The Moors built the village near it. It lives approx. 2200 people here.

Wikipedia.com Andalucia.org Andalucia.com



Then we drive past Villaluenga, another Moorish town.
Cadiz-Tourism



Just beyond, we had to wait a while for a flock of sheep to cross the road.



This is Benaocaz. Here people have lived since the Stone Age due to good access to water. It grows a lot of vegetables. There are still remains of a Roman road and ruins of Moorish houses.

Andalucia.com Wikipedia.org



The next city is Ubrique.



Ubrique is known for the production of leather goods with deliveries to eg. Loewe, Louis Vuitton and Gucci. From here comes a matador, [Jesulín de Ubrique](#), who is famous in Spain.

Andalucia.com Wikipedia.org



We drove for a small round in the town.



On the way out of Ubrique.



This is El Bosque, which we drove past. As a curiosity, they have Europe's southernmost trout farming here.

Andalucia.com Wikipedia.org



We also drove past Algodonales. People have lived here since the Stone Age. There are caves here where people have lived. There are also cisterns used by the Romans and Roman city walls still exist. Today, the city is known for a hang-gliding school and for guitar production.

Andalucia.com Wikipedia.org



The next town is Olvera. Here the church and the fortress is best visible. It is not agreed what time the city was founded. Some believe the Celts founded it.

The church, [Nuestra Señora de la Encarnación](#), was finished in 1843. The fortress was finished about 1300.

Andalucia.org Wikipedia.org



The fortress in the top of the mountain.



The next town is Setenil de las Bodegas.



People have lived here since the Stone Age. Today there lives approx. 3000 here. The unusual about this town is that it has emerged in the gorge where the river Trejo runs, unlike most others in the area that are laid in mountain slopes and mountain peaks. Many houses are built into the cliffs with cliffs as a roof. The name comes from the many bodegas that once existed here.

Andalucia.com Andalucia.org Wikipedia.org





There had been a market this day, but they were closing and packing when we arrived.



One of the bridges across Rio Trejo.



Here are more people who is finishing the market.



Those who live here do not seem to be afraid to get the rock on their heads.



We had a coffee here before driving on.

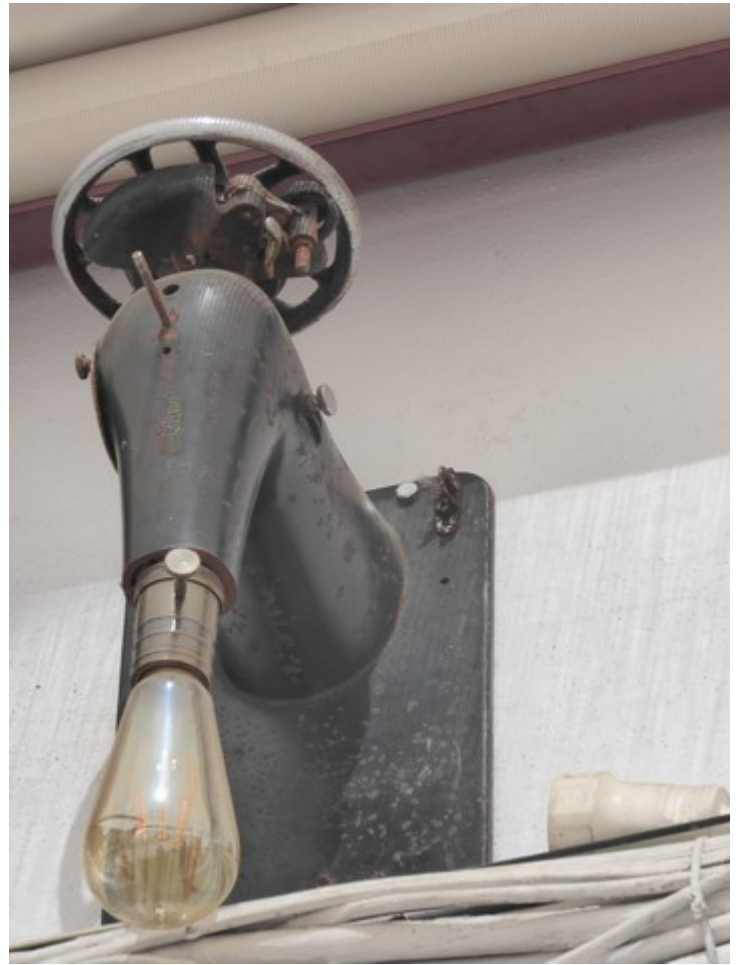


This is the name of the cafe.

In the toilet, the sink was placed on top of an old sewing machine table. The rest of the sewing machine is located both in front of and behind the name Lucia.



This ant was also placed up on the wall.



This part has become a lamp.