## SPAIN - NERJA 4. JANUARY - 4. APRIL 2016





It is flowering all winter here. This is right where we live.



A day in **Torrox Costa**. This is the boardwalk



Above the beach is of a little town park with nice landscaping.



The entire wall is covered with climbing flowering plants.



This is in the same park.



<u>The light house in Torrox</u>. It was completed in 1864 and was built of materials from an old fortress that was destroyed by Napoleon's troops.



This is a <u>balcony and viewpoint</u>. Under the roof are <u>ruins</u> from a graveyard.

<u>About Torrox</u>.



Looking towards the balcony from the lighthouse. Just besides the lighthouse are ruins from a <u>Roman villa</u>.



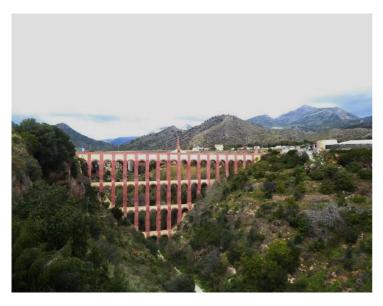
Below the lighthouse are some people trying their fishing luck.



From the eastern part of the lighthouse we can see towards the riverbed of a river called Rio de Torrox.



This is a view from Google Maps of the area.



East of Nerja there is an aqueduct called <u>Acueducto del</u> <u>Águila</u> (Eagle aqueduct). It was built about 1880 to provide water for a sugar refinery. The refinery was closed long ago but the aqueduct has been continuously in use, now delivering water for the farmland.



Not much is needed to nourish flowering plants in a stone wall. This one was growing where we took the picture of the aqueduct.



We got sand from Sahara some days. This is a picture of the sun one of these days.



Picture of the moon.



Evening picture in direction of Nerja.



We also had a rainbow one day.





Flowers from where we stayed.





Picture from the garden towards south.



Picture of the garden.



A tray made ready for baking in the oven. Fish.



A moon picture from the terrace.

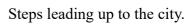


This is from Maro, in a parking lot below town. The ruins are of an old sugar factory.





A peep into the ruins.











Flowers.

The city square.







The church. It is called <u>Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de las Maravillas</u>.



Steps further up in the city.



View west.



View east. The white houses are greenhouses with plastic roofs. There are enormous numbers of these in this area.



Map of Nerja and Maro.



One day we went west.

<u>Driving into Alora.</u>

This is the square in <u>Álora</u>, north west of Malaga.

<u>Link.</u>



A fountain on the square.

Videos from the city: <u>Video 1 Video 2 Video 3 Video 4</u>



Looking towards the <u>castle</u>, which is located on a hill over the town. <u>Driving up to the castle</u>.



After we have driven a bit further we look back to the city.



The castle on the hill top.



Here we can see the part of the town lying on the other side of the hill.



Next stop is at a dammed lake in <u>Rio de Guadalhorce</u>. It has one of the greatest volumes of flow of any river in this region. It reaches the sea in Malaga.



We are looking across to El Chorro (Link) at the other side of the lake.



There is also a railway there. We see a railway bridge on the other side.



The river passes through a narrow gorge at the west end of the lake. On the other side are several dams.



We see a bridge that spans the gorge. There was built a trail (1901 - 1905) along the gorge before the dams were built. The bridge is part of the trail.



After the dams were finished, it was not used anymore, so it decayed gradually. There were still many who walked there. There were 4 people who fell down and died, so the trail was eventually closed.

<u>A video of the trail before it was closed.</u>



Now it is repaired and it opened again in 2015. Today the trail is a tourist attraction. There were many who walked the trail when we were there.

Link to El Caminito del Rey.

Link to Wikipedia



Some of the pictures we took.





A picture of the bridge across the gorge.



Next stop was at Bobastro. The ruins are about 15 minutes walking time from the road. There is a trail from the road.



Bobastro was a village in the 800's. It was from here General Umar Ibn Hafsun lead a revolt against the government in the Cordoba caliphate.



This is a church ruin. The church was cut out directly in the rock.



View from the trail leading to the Bobastro ruins.





We made a stop at one of the lakes that were dammed after Camio del Rey was made.



This is our driving route.



This is in <u>Guadix</u>, which lies right east of Granada. Special rock formations here. It is a tradition to dig the houses directly into the rock.



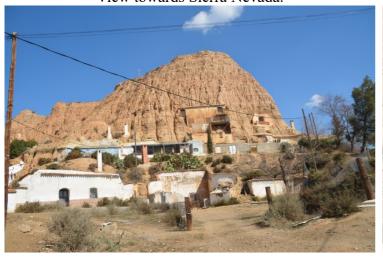
An example of house designs.



View towards Sierra Nevada.



More cave houses.





















A dog is standing behind the fence wondering what we are up to.





We drove a bit further on a gravel road before we returned.









This is <u>Hotel Cuevas Pedro Antonio de Alarcon</u>.

## Link to Guadix.

The residents of Guadix are proud of being cavemen. Most cave apartments are equipped with all modern facilities and several have swimming pools. They are warm in winter and cool in summer. Indoor temperature is constant 18 to 20 degrees. The thick walls make them quiet. The first cave dwellers were possibly Moors who fled from Granada and found a natural shelter here after sixty kilometers from their homes. Many of today's homes have been in use for 500 years! It is said that there are over 2,000 cave dwellings that are in use here. Most of the caves are located south of the city, but we did not go there.



Another picture of the cave hotel.





CAVES FOR RENT 300.Mt

We noticed this sign and decided to have a look.





Here we are at <u>Cuevas de Rolando</u>.







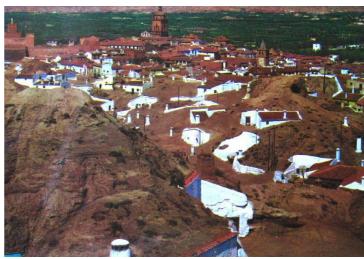
Overlooking the plains around Guadix.



Views of Guadix with Sierra Nevada in the background.



The cathedral in Guadix.



Here the cave dwellings lies fairly close to each other.



This is our driving path that day. We also went to the neighboring town <u>Alcudia de Guadix</u> before returning back to Nerja.



One of the last days we were in Nerja, we drove up into the mountainside. First we drove past <u>Frigiliana</u>.



Frigiliana at a slightly greater distance.



Then we came to <u>Competa</u>. <u>Link Link</u>



At a lookout point over the city.





Our driving route on the last trip.