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Puntallana

From the sea to the summit



ILLUSTRATED MAP



Ayuntamiento
PUNTALLANA

More information:



Puntallana
Town Hall



Casa Lujan Museum



Trails of La Palma



Public transport



La Palma
Biosphere Reserve



Ayuntamiento
PUNTALLANA



Diseño y desarrollo: Ángel Morales 2024

Puntallana

The town of nine mountains

Located in the northeast of La Palma, Puntallana is a municipality with a marked agricultural character surrounded by the majesty of nine mountains that make up its unique landscape, with emblematic names such as Tenagua, Estalero, Zamagallo, Siete Cejos, Oropesa, Lance, Loral, Rehoyas and La Galga.

Historically, Puntallana was considered the breadbasket of La Palma. Today, cereal crops have given way to banana plantations, which colour the coastline green. But what has remained unchanged throughout its centuries of history is the attachment of its people to traditions, which can be found in every corner of this land.

The municipality, throughout its different population centres, offers visitors an impressive natural environment, where the lush laurel forests embrace the landscapes of a rugged coastline in an incomparable setting.



The skilled hands of the local people

Puntallana showcases the productivity of its land and the skill of its artisans every Saturday and Sunday at the Municipal Market. Fruit, vegetables, cheese, pastries and handicrafts are on offer between 9am and 2pm, providing residents and visitors with a wide variety of local products and promoting zero-kilometre consumption.



Protecting Nature in Puntallana

The municipality has two Protected Natural Areas, both of which are part of the Canary Islands Network of Protected Natural Areas.

On the one hand, there is Las Nieves Natural Park, 15% of which is located in Puntallana. It stretches from the summit at Piedrallana, at 2,321 metres, down to the sea, encompassing ravines such as Nogales and La Galga, and ending at Nogales beach. This park protects valuable geology, archaeology, landscapes, flora and fauna, especially laurel forest, as it contains one of the best examples in the Canary Islands of this 'fossil forest'.

The other natural area, the Barranco del Agua site of scientific interest, is home to a well-preserved enclave of cardonal-tabaibal, a formation typical of drier coastal environments, but with fabulous biodiversity, featuring many exotict plants adapted to conserve water.

The Natura 2000 Network also includes several special conservation areas, among which the juniper groves of La Galga and Puntallana stand out.

The network of footpaths to get to know Puntallana

Puntallana's trails are perfect for those who want to lose themselves in green, mountainous landscapes, surrounded by the lush laurel forest that defines the landscape of this area of the island. The paths that crisscross the different neighbourhoods allow visitors to connect with La Palma's nature in its purest form among breathtaking views along the way. The trail network is designed to meet different needs, both for those seeking a longer, more challenging hike and for those seeking a simple walk of a few kilometers. Any option is a good way to enjoy Puntallana.



Must-see attractions that you cannot miss

It is essential to visit and lose yourself in the municipality, enjoying its landscapes, forests, coastal areas and midlands. From the gentle coastal plain of Martín Luis in the southeast to Cubo de La Galga in the north, Puntallana offers visitors many possibilities.

We recommend exploring the exceptional Canarian domestic architecture in the old town, sheltered between the emblematic Casa Luján, now an ethnographic museum, the 16th-century parish church of San Juan Bautista, one of the oldest on the island, and the Fuente de San Juan fountain, around which the village of Puntallana was founded, not to mention the solitary beauty of the Santa Lucía chapel.

You cannot leave Puntallana without visiting the rugged Nogales beach or losing yourself in the Cubo de La Galga forest, a memorable walk through the Tertiary period. And if you like stars, be sure to visit the Salto del Enamorado astronomical viewpoint, where you will also learn about a tragic love story.



LONG DISTANCE TRAIL

GR 130 Barranco Seco-Barranco de La Galga
Distance: 12 km Difficulty: Media/Alta

SHORT DISTANCE TRAILS

PR-LP 4 Carretera Roque Los Muchachos-Puntallana
Distance: 15,8 km Difficulty: Media

PR-LP 4.1 Cruce de Tenagua-PR LP 4
Distance: 8,1 km Difficulty: Baja

PR-LP 5 Fuente Vizcaína-La Galga
Distance: 13,2 km Difficulty: Muy alta

PR LP 5.1 Cubo La Galga
Distance: 12,4 km Difficulty: Baja

LOCAL TRAILS

SL-LP 21 Camino de Benamas
Distance: 4,6 km Difficulty: Media

SL-LP 22 Puntallana-Montaña Avisero
Distance: 3 km Difficulty: Baja

SL-LP 23 Zamagallo-Playa Nogales
Distance: 5,4 km Difficulty: Media

SL-LP 24 Puntallana-Fuente del Corcho
Distance: 3,4 km Difficulty: Baja

OTHER TRAILS

A Barranco del Agua-Los Lavaderos

B Barranco del Agua -Conexión GR-130

Puntallana

From the sea to the summit

The municipality of Puntallana lies on the eastern side of the island of La Palma, and extends from the coast to the peaks on the rim of the Caldera de Taburiente. Flanked to the south by the Barranco Seco and to the north by the Barranco de La Galga, this municipality of 35 km² slides down a vertiginous slope from Piedrallana, at 2321 m., to the dramatic, cliff-lined coast, battered by the waves of the Atlantic. Only the coastal shelf of Martín Luis, a plain generated by the lava from old volcanic eruptions, seems to give some relief to this slope.

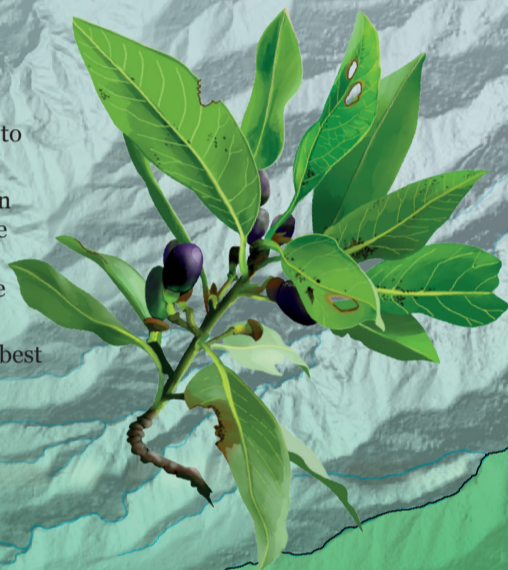
This topography has shaped this land like a building with many floors, each one marked by its own scenery. Over time, both nature and the people of Puntallana have shaped the landscapes of the municipality and, in each one of them, they have kept a natural and cultural heritage that reaches our days as an important legacy.

Canarian laurel

The laurel forest is a relic of forests dating back to the Tertiary Era.

At that time, it covered a large area in the Northern Hemisphere. This forest found its last refuge in the Macaronesian archipelagos. The laurel (*Laurus novocanariensis*) is one of the most representative trees of this type of forest ecology.

The Las Nieves natural park is home to one of the best laurel forests in the Canary Islands.



La Palma finch

One of the most striking and easy-to-observe birds in the laurel forest is the Palma finch (*Fringilla canariensis palmae*), an endemic subspecies exclusive to the island of La Palma.

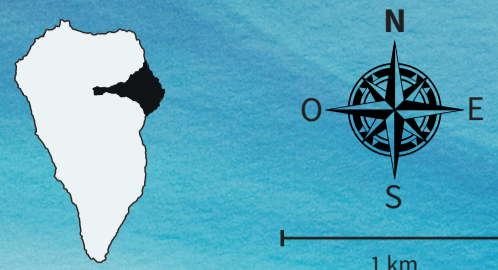


Church of St John the Baptist

This house of worship was one of the first to be built on the island after the Conquest. It was built in the 16th century in the boroaque style with a Latin cross floor plan, and its interior features the main altarpiece and the statue of St James the Apóstol on horseback, one of the oldest preserved in the archipelago. This church has been declared a Site of Cultural Interest.

Goat cheese

Recognized as one of the best cheeses in the Canary Islands, Palmeran cheese, in its different varieties (smoked, fresh, cured cheese...) is made with fresh milk from the island's native goats.



Canarian banana

Banana plantations cover the coastal strip with a green carpet, forming an integral part of the Puntallana landscape. The Canarian bananas are grown here, considered one of the best in the world for its quality.

Puntallana Old Town

The town's original heart, where the first settlers made their home around the spring of St John, and beautiful examples of traditional Canarian architecture have been preserved to this day.



Cardón

The coastal strip is home to one of the ecosystems with the greatest biodiversity: the cardonal-tabaibal. This is a scrubland adapted to the scarcity of water and strong sunlight, capable of resisting the effects of the salt due to its proximity to the sea. The cardón (*Euphorbia canariensis*) is one of the structural species of this ecosystem. The best cardonal-tabaibal is located in the Site of Scientific Interest of Barranco del Agua.



Chickpeas

One of the best ways to enjoy your chosen holiday destination is by enjoying the local cuisine. Sweet, savoury, cheeses... and soups and stews to savour and replenish your energy. You can't leave Puntallana without trying some chickpeas, you're sure to take one of the best memories with you.

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| — Main road | 🏛️ Church | 📍 Viewpoint | 🍽️ Restaurant |
| — Local road | 🏠 Hermitage | 🏥 Health centre | 🏖️ Beach |
| — Long distance trail | 📖 Interpretation centre | 🏠 Pharmacy | 🛒 Grocery store |
| — Short distance trail | 🏠 Farmer's market | 🏠 Accommodation | 🛍️ Shop |
| — Local trail | 🏠 Casa Lujan Museum | 🛢️ Petrol station | 🏕️ Picnic area |
| 🌿 Protected natural area | 🚗 Public transport | 🏦 Bank | 🏠 Refuge hut |
| 🏛️ Puntallana Town Hall | 🅑 Parking | 🍽️ Cafeteria | |