

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

ITINERARY

The start point is the exit 17 from either side of the TF-5 North Motorway to the Heritage Information Centre of the Agua García Forest.

Distance: 4.5 km **Estimated driving time:** 9 minutes. **Approximate Time of Visit:** 1 hour, 15 minutes.

To reach the Centro de Información in Agua García, you need to take the road up to Agua García, the TF-228; first of all follow the signs for Las Casas Altas and then continue uphill. After 1.5 km you arrive at a junction with Chupadero Street; turn right and take this street. Take care here: the first junction with Chupadero Street that you come to (on the left) is a No Entry, so continue along the TF-228 for another 350 m to the next junction with Chupadero Street. Here, branch off right into Chupadero Street and continue uphill. After approximately half a kilometre you come to a roundabout on the main road (Camino Real). Take the third exit (ie: turn left) and continue towards Agua García. After only 30 metres you come to a crossroads. Turn right and drive up a steepish hill - you pass the church on the left-hand side. You are in Candelaria Monte Street. Keep straight ahead and after 100 metres join the main La Esperanza road. After another 100 metres, on the next bend, leave the main road and branch off right into the continuation of Candelaria Monte Street. After 150 m, turn right into Fuentillas Street. After another 150 m you come to a fork, keep to the left along Madre del Agua Street. Continue along this street, uphill, and at the end you will see the Information Centre of Agua García Heritage Forest. The Centre is situated on the right-hand side just where the forest starts.



INFORMACIÓN GENERAL

Estimated completion time:

4 hours, 12 minutes

Estimated driving time:

42 minutes

Total distance:

17.65 km

Stopping points::

Heritage Information Centre of the Agua García Forest
Agricultural Landscape of Los Nateros
Monje Winery
Casa del Vino La Baranda
Casa de la Miel Visitor Centre

Other points of interest:

Farmer's Market in Tacoronte
Hamilton Park and Church del Cristo in Tacoronte
San Pedro Apóstol Church and Los Lavaderos Park in El Sauzal
Farmer's Market in La Matanza de Acentejo

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

ITINERARY

From the Heritage Information Centre of the Agua García Forest to the mid-altitude regions of the La Matanza de Acentejo municipality known as Los Nateros.

Distance: 8 km. **Estimated driving time:** 15 minutes. **Approximate time of visit:** 15 minutes

Drive along Madre del Agua Street until you come to Fuentilla Street. Then drive on to the junction with the Candelaria Monte Street, turn left into this street. Drive down Candelaria Monte Street, returning the way you came. After 100 m branch left to drive down to the junction with the main road at the church. At the church, turn left onto the main road. At the roundabout, take the second exit (ie: straight ahead) and continue along the Camino Real towards Ravelo (El Sauzal). Without leaving the main road and having travelled some 400 m, the road changes name to become Real Orotava Street. Keep straight ahead along this street for approximately another 700 m, then you will find a junction with San Cristóbal Street. This is a No Entry, so disregard it for the moment. Continue straight ahead, downhill, along Real Orotava Street as far as the next junction. At this junction, turn left and enter Lomo las Piedras Street. Drive up this street as far as the junction with San Cristóbal Street which you now take by turning right. Your trip towards Los Nateros continues now without leaving San Cristóbal Street for approximately 7 minutes, in which time you cover 3.5 kms. After this distance you arrive at a small roundabout which is the junction with Real Orotava Street. Take the first exit (to the right), join Real Orotava Street and you have arrived at your destination. A few metres further on at the roadside you will see a small children's playground and a circuit for jogging, the ideal spot for your next stop.

From the mid-altitude region of Los Nateros to the Monje Winery

Distance: 3.5 km. **Estimated driving time:** 8 minutes. **Approximate Time of visit:** 45 minutes

Your trip on this section of the route starts on Real Orotava Street. The starting point is the place where you parked to visit Los Nateros. Here you will find two roads - take the one to the right that leads to El Sauzal. To reach Bodegas Monje, drive along this road for some 8 minutes which takes you 3.1 km. After this distance you come to a junction with La Montañeta Street, situated immediately after passing a small chapel. Follow this street and travel some 300 m to arrive at the junction with Cruz de Leandro Street. At this junction you will see a sign pointing the way to Bodegas Monje. Turn right here into Cruz de Leandro Street. Some 650 m further on you will find Bodegas Monje on the left-hand side.

ITINERARY

From the Monje Winery to to Casa del Vino La Baranda.

Distance: 1.6 km **Estimated driving time:** 5 minutes. **Approximate time of visit:** 45 minutes

In order to head from Bodegas Monje to the Casa del Vino you have to continue along Cruz of Leandro Street, but this time turning left. After a distance of some 270 m you come to the junction with Lomo las Piedras Street. Turn left into this road and continue ahead. After 1 km you come to a roundabout situated next to the motorway. Take the third exit signposted Autopista Norte (TF-5), towards El Sauzal. Drive through the motorway underpass and immediately you come to another roundabout. Take the third exit (which leads to the motorway) but keep over on the right-hand side and branch off into San Simón Street. A short distance ahead on the right is the entrance to the Casa Museo Insular de La Vid y El Vino.

From the Casa del Vino La Baranda.to the Casa de la Miel Vistor Centre

Distance: 50 m **Estimated driving time:** 5 minutes. **Approximate time of visit:** 30 minutes

The House of House of Honey Visitor Centre is found directly on the other side of the Wine Museum from the central courtyard of Casa del Vino La Baranda.

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION
Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

STARTING POINT

THE TACORONTE –ACENTEJO REGION

On the proposed route you will be visiting the region of Tacoronte-Acentejo, where you will observe uniquely beautiful natural spaces, rural landscapes graced by vineyards and other images of traditional agricultural life.

You will stroll through one of the few remaining laurel woodlands on the island, the exceptionally beautiful Agua García forest. Nature is ever-present throughout the route and agricultural landscapes predominate. In addition to the prevalent vineyards, you will also see chestnut trees, potatoes, and corn along with a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. By visiting the Monje winery, you will discover the important wine-producing heritage of the region. In addition, during the route you will encounter emblematic buildings, faithful reflections of the history and agricultural traditions of northern Tenerife.

UTM coordinates:

28.481083, -16.411989

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'51.90"N, 16°24'43.16"W

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

STOPPING POINTS

HERITAGE INFORMATION CENTRE OF THE AGUA GARCIA FOREST

The Information Centre is located within a privileged setting in the municipality of Tacoronte. Its purpose is to convey the most relevant cultural and natural aspects of the Agua García forest.

The modern building is well-integrated into the surroundings and has two defined areas. One is for customer service, and the other is for exhibit purposes with explanatory panels in addition to objects. The information given is based on four concepts: the forest and human action; resources within the forest: occupations within the forest and distinguished travelers.

The forest contains one of the last remaining refuges of laurisilva, or laurel forests, in the Canary Islands. It is a natural woodland found currently only in the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands. It is regarded as an ecosystem with an enormous amount of endemic biodiversity, given the considerable variety of habitats and ecological niches found within its boundaries.



Address:

Calle Madre del Agua s/n. Agua García. Tacoronte.

Tel.: 922 584 560

E-mail:

of-turismotacoronte@hotmail.com

Opening hours:

Monday through Friday from 09:00 to 13:00

Public entrance is free of charge

Guided group visits can be organised at the centre by calling the following number: 922 584 560.

UTM coordinates:

28.461064, -16.403947

Geographical coordinates :

28°27'39.83"N, 16°24'14.21"W

AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF THE MID-ALTITUDE REGION OF LOS NATEROS

In the higher regions of the San Antonio District in the municipality of La Matanza de Acentejo, you can enjoy a magnificent example of typical agricultural landscape of this northern Tenerife region.

These tricking cultivated landscapes are organized into smaller vegetable gardens for personal use and larger ones from which the produce is destined for the Farmer's Markets and the grapes for the well-known wines from the region. This area is noteworthy for its natural wealth; the tones of the volcanic sand landscape of the San Antonio Mountains provide a perfect backdrop to naturally blend with the agricultural hues in the foreground and with those of the chestnut and pine trees in the background.



Address:

Calle Real Orotava, La Matanza de Acentejo

UTM coordinates:

28.443464, -16.444039

Geographical coordinates:

28°26'36.47"N, 16°26'38.54"W

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

STOPPING POINTS

MONJE WINERY

This winemaking businesses located in the La Hoyera district of the municipality of El Sauzal and bears the Tacoronte-Acentejo Certificate of Origin on its label.

There are more than 600 vines per acre, and although the native grape varieties of Listán Negro, Listán Blanco and Negramoll are predominant, there are also some experimental hybrids.

During your visit, you will discover the production process of their wines and vinegars firsthand. This includes the selection of the different grape varieties and the explanation of their method, which is a perfect combination of modern technology with an artisanal production process dating back five generations. The visit also invites for the contemplation of the vineyards and the magnificent landscape beyond.

- Member of the Rural Tenerife Foundation Quality Network

- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments



Address:

Camino Cruz Leandro, 36.
La Hoyera. El Sauzal.

Tel.: 922 585 027

E-mail: monje@bodegasmonje.com

Business hours:

Monday through Friday from 10:00 to 19:00

Saturdays from 10:00 to 14:00.

Advance reservations are required.

UTM coordinates:

28.467675,- 16.426172

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'3.63"N, 16°25'34.22"W

Further information:

www.bodegasmonje.com

CASA DEL VINO LA BARANDA

The Casa del Vino, or House of Wine, La Baranda is found on a 17th century Canarian estate and is dedicated to the promotion of quality wines of the island

The emblematic building itself is as interesting as its history and current contents. The tour begins in the chapel behind reception which is now used as a library and meeting room. The remarkable ceiling is often referred to as the jewel of the house; it is of Mudejar decoration, which typically dates from the 12th to 16th centuries and is strongly influenced by Moorish taste and workmanship. The tour continues into the audiovisual hall with a documentary of the history of wine in the Canary Islands. Next is the temporary exhibition room, followed by the restaurant with its large terrace from where you can admire impressive views of the Teide and the northern coast of the island.

You can then enter the central courtyard which clearly demonstrates a typical layout of 17th century manor homes of the island; it features an original wine press made of Canarian pine. The visit continues in the wine tasting room, store and *vinoteca*, or wine collection room. As you leave the store you can turn right and enter the Wine Museum. Here, you will discover the history of wines and their importance to the islands as well as how the sector is faring in today's world. Next, head behind the building to see the Agricultural Diversity exhibition before exploring the House of Honey Visitor Centre, also referred to as the Honey Museum.

- Member of the Rural Tenerife Foundation Quality Network

- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments



Address:

Calle San Simón, 49. Access from the TF-5 North Motorway km 21
Exit El Sauzal - La Baranda. El Sauzal

Tel.: 922 572 535 / 922 572 542

E-mail:

casa-vino@tenerife.es

Business hours:

Thursday and Sunday: from 10:30 to 18:00 hours

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday: from 10.00 to 21: 00 hours

Monday closed

UTM coordinates:

28.470367, -16.434131

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'13.32"N, 16°26'2.87"W

Further information:

www.tenerife.es/casa-vino

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION
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STOPPING POINTS

CASA DE LA MIEL, HOUSE OF HONEY, VISITOR CENTRE

Access to the Casa de la Miel, or House of Honey, Visitor Centre is directly behind the Wine Museum itself and next to the Agricultural Diversity exhibition.

It was founded in response to the demand for information about the different honeys of Tenerife. Its purpose is to inform visitors of this product through knowledge of its origins, its elaboration process and the means by which its quality is guaranteed.

On 10 February 1996, the Cabildo, or Island Government, of Tenerife opened the Honey Museum to also help ensure the survival of this deeply rooted rural activity. It forms part of the ethnographic heritage of Tenerife and plays an important social role as conservator of the wealth of flora, as well as the agricultural and landscape values of the island.

The exhibition combines interactive audiovisual aids with conventional methods to explain Tenerife's beekeeping activity. You will discover the island's unique honeys, the important role bees play in the flora as well as learn about the beekeepers themselves, who collect and sell the honey.

- Member of the Rural Tenerife Foundation Quality Network
- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments



Address:

Calle San Simón, 51. Access from the
TF-5 North Motorway km 21
Exit El Sauzal - La Baranda. El Sauzal
Tel: 922 572 535

Business hours:

Thursday and Sunday: from 10:30 to
18:00 hours
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and
Saturday: from 10.00 to 21: 00 hours
Monday closed

E-mail: casamiel@cabtfe.es

UTM coordinates:

28.469814,-16.434225

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'11.33"N, 16°26'3.21"W

Further information:

www.casadelamiel.com

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

FARMER'S MARKET INTACORONTE

The Farmer's Market was founded in 1981 in answer to commercialization problems encountered by local farmers from the Tacoronte-Acentejo region. At that time the area's agriculture was based primarily on the cultivation of potatoes and wine grapes.

Two objectives were fulfilled with the Market's opening. Firstly, the possibility for farmers to sell their own produce opened up, and they could thus remove any intermediaries. This was not only much more advantageous for them, but for the consumer as well. Secondly, they could once again cultivate a much wider variety of produce that had previously been abandoned or cut back due to a low profit margin.

There are a total of 125 stalls where natural products from the area are sold; these include fruits, vegetables, fish, flowers, cheese, honey and traditional *mojo* sauces in addition to the renowned wines from the municipality produced at small family owned wineries. The marketplace also serves as an ideal outlet for local artisans to sell their merchandise.

The market has a cafeteria and available parking.

- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments

HAMILTON PARK AND THE CHURCH DEL CRISTO IN TACORONTE

The walking tour begins in the parking lot at the entrance to Hamilton Park. It is located in front of the religious structure of El Calvario which was built on an island in the middle of the street, on the other side is the historic building of La Alhóndiga.

Thus, you will begin at a place of great historic value, for the structure of El Calvario, which means the station of the cross, was the last to be built in this municipality between the 17th and 18th centuries. La Alhóndiga, or Grain Exchange, was the main building in Tacoronte between 1685 and the 19th century. Its purpose was to store and administer the public wealth, which consisted of bags of cereal.

Across the street is Hamilton Park. Within its walls visitors can discover the wine-producing heritage of the Canary Islands through an informative display of different growing methods used throughout the islands. A wide representation of the endemic plants and bushes are able to be enjoyed as well; you may recognize many of the species from the *laurisilva*, or laurel forest, situated in the Agua García forest.

Along the walking paths are many benches to rest and enjoy the natural surroundings. There is also a playground well-integrated into the environment. The stone-paved alleyway José Izquierdo is situated alongside the park and has three separate access ways. This thoroughfare leads up to the Plaza del Cristo, where the Church del Cristo and the San Agustín Convent are located.

Address:

Carretera Tacoronte-Tejina (TF-16),
km 3,5

San Juan District, Tacoronte

Tels.: 922 563 805 / 667 762 612

Business hours:

Every Saturday and Sunday year-
round from 8:00 to 14:00

E-mail:

info@mercadillodelagricultor.com

UTM coordinates:

28.499828, - 28.499828

Geographical coordinates:

28°29'59.38"N, 16°24'23.83"W

Further information:

www.mercadillodelagricultor.com

Address:

Calle Plaza del Cristo
Tacoronte

Park Hours:

from 10:00 to 20:00

UTM coordinates:

28.481083, -16.411989

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'51.90"N, 16°24'43.16"W

ROUTE THROUGH THE TACORONTE-ACENTEJO REGION Nature, Agriculture and the Rural Lifestyle

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

SAN PEDRO APÓSTOL CHURCH AND LOS LAVADEROS PARK IN EL SAUZAL

This proposed walking tour begins on the corner at the large waterfall and terraced gardens in front of the main entrance to El Sauzal's Town Hall, *Ayuntamiento*, and across the street from the San Pedro Apóstol Church.

You will walk along side the Church of San Pedro Apóstol, or Apostle Saint Peter, towards the main entrance and square on the other side. From the vantage point at the far end of the square you can admire fantastic views of Mount Teide and the northern coastline of the island. Construction of this church began in 1515, although most of the building took place from the 17th to 19th centuries. The layout of the Church follows a Latin cross plan. In one of the naves, the hipped roof is of mudejar architecture, that is to say, it has a Moorish influence. There is also a stylish white dome and bell tower. The church holds many treasures's baroque style silver tabernacle, a 16th century Saint Sebastian from Flanders, an image of Our Lady of Sorrows from Seville, a large collection of Andalusian paintings of the Virgin and the Saints, a series of large canvases depicting scenes from the Old Testament, a neoclassical Italian marble baptismal Font and a collection of statues sculpted in the Canary Islands. After the church visit you will return to the starting point. Cross to the street opposite the church and Town Hall and descend. Turn down the first street on the right which is calle Los Lavaderos. The street will veer to the left and there at the very bottom you will find a gate with a steep stairway leading down to the Los Lavaderos Park.

This is a refreshing history-laden site where the visitor can enjoy the sound of crystal clear water emanating from many sources and admire the splendid gardens. The park was a former public washing place and clothes could be washed in the small ponds.

In 1987 the Town Hall decided to convert this space into a recreation area with gardens, natural and artificial waterfalls, lookouts, walking paths and a café which is open from Wednesday to Sunday.

FARMER'S MARKET IN LA MATANZA DE ACENTEJO

The Farmer's Market in La Matanza de Acentejo was inaugurated on 2 October 1999, with the intention of promoting local products and strengthening the recuperation of the agricultural sector.

This Market, strategically located along the TF-217 Main North Road, provides a venue for local farmers to sell their products. The freshness, variety and quality of their products are guaranteed along with kind treatment. In addition to potatoes, vegetables, fruit, flowers, traditional *mojo* sauces, wines and typical Canarian sweets, the visitor can also find a wide selection of local meat products and handicrafts.

There is a parking lot, a cafeteria and child care facilities .

- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments

San Pedro Apóstol Church

Address:

Calle de la Iglesia, El Sauzal

UTM coordinates:

28.478678, -16.437436

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'43.24"N, 16°26'14.77"W

Los Lavaderos Park

Address:

Carretera (Main Road) Los Ángeles, El Sauzal

Opening hours:

Winter from 08:00 to 19:00 daily

Summer from 08:00 to 22:00 daily

UTM coordinates:

28.478353, -16.438883

Geographical coordinates:

28°28'42.07"N, 16°26'19.98"W

Address:

TF-217 Main North Road

La Matanza de Acentejo

Tel.: 922 578 758 (weekends only)

E-mail:

sociedaddedesarrollo@matanceros.com

Business hours:

Every Saturday and Sunday of the year from 8:00 to 15:00

UTM coordinates:

28.448667, -16.457581

Geographical coordinates:

28°26'55.20"N, 16°27'27.29"W

Further information:

www.mercadillodelamatanza.com