

## # El Burgo



The River Turón springs to life and sends its crystal clear water onto the plains here. There are thickly forested mountains all around where fine examples of Spanish Firs, olive trees and fields of cereal crops can be found in abundance. The delicious and varied gastronomic choice on offer as well as the selection of local crafts and wonderful festivities all come together to tempt outsiders to visit and enjoy this village.

El Burgo, which is built high up on a hilltop, has always looked history square in the face. Since its beginnings, many different civilisations have come and gone from the area, and many have longed to devour and possess this strategically placed town. First it was the home to the small family clans in the Copper Age, then it was taken by the Cartesians. It was on the trade routes during the Roman occupation and, therefore, much travelled by traders and the like and finally it was turned into an important frontier defence castle in the Arab period.

Nowadays, the only thing a visitor has to do is stroll through its half Arab half Christian streets and the privileged natural surroundings as well as the many tourism services that the village has to offer. El Burgo is, above all, a place for visitors to enjoy real peace and quiet.



## # WALKS

CASTLE ROUTE  
LOS BANDOLEROS  
ROMAN BRIDGE ROUTE  
MILL ROUTE

## PLACES OF INTEREST

Roman Bridge  
The Encarnacion Church  
The San Agustin Church  
The Arab Castle  
The San Sebastián Hermitage  
Mill route  
The Pasos Largos Monument  
Visitors Reception Centre  
of el Burgo  
Monument in Honour of the  
Forest Keepers (off the walk routes)

## WHERE TO EAT

Casa Grande del Burgo  
C/ Mesones, 1  
Tel. 952 16 02 32

Hostal Sierra de las Nieves  
C/ Real, 16  
Tel. 952 16 01 17

El Porra  
Ctra. de Serrato, 2  
Tel. 952 16 02 75

La Posada del Canónigo  
C/ Mesones, 24  
Tel. 952 16 01 85

Restaurante El Postre  
C/ del Mir, 7  
Tel. 952 16 02 41

Venta El Yoni  
Cerro las Culebras  
Tel. 952 16 02 75

## WHERE TO SLEEP

H \*\*\* La Casa Grande  
C/ Mesones, 1  
Tel. 952 16 02 32  
[www.hotel-lacasagrande.com](http://www.hotel-lacasagrande.com)

H\* Posada del Canónigo  
C/ Mesones, 24  
Tel. 952 16 01 85  
[www.laposadadelcanonigo.com](http://www.laposadadelcanonigo.com)

P \* Hostal Sierra de las Nieves  
C/ Real, 26  
Tel. 952 16 01 17

CR Torres de la Villa  
C/ Casas Largas s/n  
952 16 04 02  
600 048 573  
[www.sinature.es](http://www.sinature.es)





## CASTLE ROUTE

This walk meanders through some of the most emblematic streets in the village, which offer the visitor some marvellous hidden spots where the typical white-washed houses and the remains of the long-gone Arab architecture, the wall and the tower, mix together as if they had been always been meant to do so.

One of the highlights of this walk is when it arrives at the village square and the visitor is invited to drink from the crystal-clear waters from the fountain that sits in the centre. A quick look skywards will reveal the Church of the Incarnation, which is half Gothic half Mudejar, the Mirador (viewpoint), which looks out over the Sierra Quebrilla and the surrounding countryside of El Burgo and the River Turon.

Another place that should not be missed is the park that goes by the name Parque de la Espartera. This was where the locals used to beat and work the esparto grass that they used to bring down off the mountain slopes. The last stop on this walk is at the San Agustín church, where the locals worship the Virgen de las Nieves (The Virgin of the Snow). Her image is often taken out of its sanctuary and paraded out through the streets for her to intercede in times of drought and bad crops.



1



2

### OBSERVATIONS

100% of this walk is within the urban limits.  
 There is drinking water on route.  
 Can be done all year round.  
 Can be done during daytime or at night.  
 Excellent photographic route.  
 Links in with the Acequia de Molino route.

### DIFFICULTY :

Easy on foot. Medium by bike (it is a little difficult at the outset).

**SURROUNDINGS :** Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park and Natural Biosphere Reserve.



- 1 San Agustín Church
- 2 Church of the Incarnation
- 3 Hermitage of San Sebastian
- 4 Irrigation ditch of the mill
- 5 Bridge Romano
- 6 New Bridge
- 7 Old Bridge
- 8 Castle
- Beginning of the walk



CIRCULAR

25 MIN.





## LOS BANDOLEROS

This route takes the visitor to the newly constructed part of the village, which is part of the [Cola \(the windy road\)](#) that linked Malaga and Ronda. This spot was a favourite of the infamous bandit named, [Juan José Mingolla Gallardo "Pasos Largos"](#), who was the last of his kind in these mountains. Born on 4 May 1873 in [la Venta del Puerto de Los Empedrados](#) on the old [El Burgo/Ronda](#) road. His parents had set up the restaurant to provide rooms and meals for the many travellers and tradesmen that used this very busy commercial route.

The three most outstanding parts of this route are the beautiful views of the [Puerto de la Mujer](#), the meanderings of the [River Turon](#) and the [Cerro de la Víbora \(Hills of Víbora\)](#).

On arrival at the area near the road, the visitor will be able to see how the modern urban art, the more traditional kind and the natural beauty mix together quite well here. There is a statue in honour of the bandit [Pasos Largos](#) with some graffiti art on it next to two different parks. In the parks there are some hand-carved stone drinking places and some fine examples of some of the local plant life like the famous [Spanish Fir](#).



#### OBSERVATIONS

100% of this walk is within the urban limits.  
 Can be done all year round.  
 Can be done during daytime or at night.

#### DIFFICULTY : Easy

**SURROUNDINGS :** Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park and Natural Biosphere Reserve.





## ROMAN BRIDGE ROUTE

**El Burgo** is a village that has been influenced by many different generations and civilisations, but has remained true to its original simple design and layout.

Even a quick visit to the village will take the visitor back in time to a way of life and culture which has a lot to be thankful for to the **River Turon**. Life was and in many ways still is based on the land's demands; there is a time to water, a time to rise early, to harvest and collect things in, a time to plough and prepare for other seasons. All this is done with the sweat of the local inhabitants who still take great care of their most prized treasure; their land.

This walk follows what has always been known as **Cola (the tail)** which refers to the track/road that has always existed between the village, which lies in the foothills of Ronda and the **Basin of Malaga**, and which has been used since time immemorial to take crops from the fields (lentils, chick peas, wheat and olives) to sell in the larger towns near Malaga. The whole area is like a pastel painting of cereal crops in fields where the land is still worked by animal-drawn machines and irrigated by the omnipresent crystal clear waters of the **River Turon**. The land has been highly influential in creating an honest, hard-working mindset in these parts, and this has carried on through Roman and Muslim periods. The area has a long history full of bandits and legends of all kinds and this "spirit" still seems to pervade the village today.

The walk combines stretches of road with open countryside. It crosses over the **Roman Bridge** and the smell of open fires can be smelt along most of the route almost all year round.



## OBSERVATIONS

80% of this walk is within the urban limits and the other 20% is along the road that goes round the village. There is drinking water on route. Can be done all year round. Best done during daytime. Excellent photographic route. Links in with the Acequia de Molino route.

**DIFFICULTY** : Easy on foot or by bike.

**SURROUNDINGS** : Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park and Natural Biosphere Reserve.



CIRCULAR







## MILL ROUTE

This walk is along a medieval irrigation channel (now a road) that used to be the main supply of water for the wheat mill that today stands in ruins at the end of this walk. The visitor should have his or her ears well open to be able to enjoy the harmonious sounds of the moving leaves of the trees as they mix with the constant sounds that the barbells and freshwater tortoises make in the **River Turon**. The river's banks and bed are themselves a delight to the eye as they are full of rich vegetation and rocky parts where the water almost seems to play imaginary games to delight the walkers and passers-by. There are lots of chumberas (a kind of prickly pear) that provide a colourful decoration to the whole scene as the waters gush through the fertile land all around as it has done for centuries.

All along the walk as it takes the visitor through the village the incredible views of the **Sierra Quebrilla** and the many hills that surround the area will treat visitors to a magical experiences that will delight their five senses to the full.



## OBSERVATIONS

100% of this walk is within the urban limits.  
 Can be done all year round.  
 Can be done during the daytime or at night.  
 Excellent photographic route.  
 Links in with the Castle Walk route.

**DIFFICULTY** : Easy on foot or by bike.

**SURROUNDINGS** : Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park and Natural Biosphere Reserve.

