

ROUTE GARACHICO

History, nature and heritage sites

ITINERARY

GARACHICO

From the exit of the El Guincho tunnel (Garachico) as far as the Emigrant's Viewpoint

Distance: 3 km. **Approximate driving time:** 4 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 15 minutes.

Your route starts on the main TF-42, as you exit the tunnel at El Guincho. Continue along the TF-42, and after a short distance you reach the entrance to the Garachico tunnel, well-known locally because of its many round "windows". Just at the entrance you will see a sign informing you of the distance to Garachico (1 km) and to Buenavista (10 km). After leaving the tunnel and travelling approximately 700 m, you will see a sign indicating that you are entering the Port and Town of Garachico. Continuing along the TF-42 which passes right through the centre of Garachico you cover a distance of 1.8 km. On the right-hand side of the road you pass the Garachico Rock, the municipal swimming-pools (set in the lava), the Castillo de San Miguel (fortification), the Garachico harbour, some car parks and a beach of black sand. Some two hundred metres ahead you will find, also on the right, the Emigrant's Viewpoint with a cafeteria and parking spaces.

From the Emigrant's Viewpoint to historical centre of Garachico

Distance: 1.750 km. **Approximate driving time:** 1 minute. **Estimated time of visit:** 1 hour, 30 minutes

Your next stop takes you to Garachico town centre, declared a Site of Cultural Interest, categorised as a collection of historical buildings. In order to head to the historical centre of Garachico, you will have turn right onto the TF-42 and return towards Garachico. About 550 m up ahead you will find the ideal spot on the left-hand verge to do a 180° turn. Turn left and rejoin the TF-42, this time towards Garachico. You pass the Emigrant's Viewpoint on your left and after 1.2 km you come to the fishing harbour, also on the left-hand side. There you will see a esplanade with a spacious car park to leave your vehicle. Your visit continues on foot through the streets of Garachico.



INFORMATION

Estimated completion time:

3 hours, 15 minutes

Estimated driving time:

30 minutes

Total distance :

20.85 km.

Stopping points :

The Emigrant's Viewpoint
Hacienda La Quinta Roja (country estate)
Historical centre of Garachico
San Juan del Reparo and Garachico Viewpoint
Arenas Negras

Other points of interest:

Caleta de Interián
Path PR-TF 43 Chinyero
Ecomuseo de El Tanque

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From the historical centre of Garachico to San Juan del Reparo

Distance: To San Juan del Reparo: 10.3 km—To the Garachico Viewpoint: 11 km

Approximate driving time: 15 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 30 minutes

The next stop offers the opportunity of discovering the middle slopes around Garachico. In order to get to San Juan del Reparo, you should turn left onto the TF-42 towards Icod de los Vinos. You pass through the Garachico tunnel and then that at El Guincho. After approximately 4 km you will come to a fork in the road. The first option is signposted Puerto de la Cruz-Santa Cruz, via the TF-5. The second is signposted Icod de los Vinos, following the TF-82, Guía de Isora, via the TF414, and Playa de San Marcos. Here you want the second option so keep in the right-hand lane. The road branches off to the right, leaving the main road and heading towards Icod de los Vinos. After driving uphill a short distance, you arrive at a roundabout; take the first exit and join the TF-82. This exit is signposted El Tanque-Guía de Isora. Your trip now continues along the TF-82, which you follow until you arrive at the village of San Juan del Reparo, located some 5 km from the above-mentioned roundabout. On the way, before arriving at your destination, you pass through the villages of Las Canales and El Genovés. At the 5 km marker you will find the village of San Juan del Reparo. You will see parking spaces along the sides of the road to park your vehicle. Your next visit is to see the Garachico Viewpoint. In order to head to there, join the TF-82 once again towards El Tanque. After 650 m, you will find the viewpoint on the right side of the road. Turn off right and park. The viewpoint has a restaurant, a shop and car parks.

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From San Juan del Reparo and Garachico Viewpoint to the Arenas Negras Recreational Area

Distance: 5,1 km. **Approximate driving time:** 10 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 30 minutes

Your next stop is to visit the Arenas Negras Recreational Area. In order to get there, leave the Garachico Viewpoint, turning left onto the TF-82. At the second bend that you come to, turn right. Then just a few metres up ahead, turn right again into Nueva Street. At the first junction that you come to after that, turn right along the street called Camino del Reparo and drive up this street. Follow the signs indicating Camino del Monte (Forest Street). On the way up towards Arenas Negras, you drive through beautiful countryside of small fields and crops. 2.7 km up ahead you reach a junction. Turn left here to drive along Las Nieves Street and continue for some 200 metres. Then turn right into Carretera de La Vega a La Montañeta (main road from La Vega to La Montañeta), the TF-373. 1.6 km further on, you will find the entrance to Arenas Negras on the left-hand side. Your route now continues for approximately 2 km along an unpaved track. Drive with care. At this point, you will find a turn-off with a new unpaved road. However, from here on, passenger cars are not permitted - vehicular access is limited to 4 x 4s.

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STARTING POINT

GARACHICO

This route explores the municipality of Garachico from its coastal area to the mountain tops with special emphasis on those places which best represent the value of its heritage and landscapes.

Garachico in a municipality full of contrasts and of stories. From the farming country of the coastal areas to the volcanic landscapes of the peaks, it is a municipality which preserves a rich natural and cultural heritage which its visitors admire and indeed fall in love with. On the coast it retains a considerable part of the buildings that were erected from the time of the Conquest (by the Spanish) onwards and which the eruption of 1706, which obliterated the harbour and a great part of the village, was unable to destroy. The castle of San Miguel rises majestically to confront the onslaught of the ocean and remains impervious to the passage of time. Along the streets of its historical town centre, declared a Site of Cultural Interest in the year 1994, you can discover other buildings dating from the XVIth to the XVIIIth centuries. A visit to the House of the Marquis of La Quinta Roja is an interesting complement to the route as it allows you to get to know what these noblemen houses were like inside and the social development of one of the most important families on the Island.

On the visit you will also be able to enjoy the wonderful views from its viewpoints and which give an excellent idea of the historical development of this little town.

This route also takes you close to the volcanic origins of Tenerife as you enter the area of Arenas Negras inside the Reserva Natural Especial del Chinyero (Chinyero Volcano Special Nature Reserve). Its almost black ground of volcanic

UTM Coordinates:

28.373133, -16.764614

Geographic Coordinates:

28°22'23.28"N, 16°45'52.61"W

Further information:

www.garachico.es

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STOPPING POINTS

THE EMIGRANT'S VIEWPOINT

The Emigrants' Viewpoint and Monument are situated close to the fishing harbour of Garachico. The monument was built in homage to the thousands of Canarians who were forced to leave home for America in search of work and prosperity. It was erected by the Asociación los Chicharros Mensajeros in 1990 and is the work of the sculptor Fernando Garcarramos. It consists of a 2-metre high sculpture in bronze and a stone plaque commemorating the waves of emigration.

From the viewpoint the visitor can contemplate a magnificent view of the small town and harbour of Garachico and appreciate the route the lava flows took in the eruption of 1706.



Location:

Main road from Icod de los Vinos to Buenavista del Norte, TF-42. Garachico

UTM Coordinates:

28.372428, - 16.770108

Geographic Coordinates:

28°22'20.74"N, 16°46'12.39"W

Further information:

www.garachico.es

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STOPPING POINTS

HISTORICAL CENTRE OF GARACHICO

The origins of Garachico go back to the years immediately after the Conquista (arrival of the Spanish) of the Island, the person who founded it at the end of century XVth being the Genovese, Cristóbal de Ponte.

Thanks to the fertility of its land, especially that in the area of La Caleta, Garachico soon managed to reach important levels of production. This circumstance, together with its easy access to the sea, turned Garachico into the main port for exports from the Island during the XVIth and XVIIth centuries. This economic growth brought with it rapid urban development. The population grew and bankers, traders and families from the Island's nobility and bourgeoisie took up residence. However, the eruption of the Arenas Negras volcano in 1706 put an end to Garachico's supremacy. The lava flows swept away entire outlying areas of the town, farmland, houses and destroyed the harbour. This tragic event meant that the town's trading advantage disappeared. The traders had no other option but to use other harbours such as the dock at Puerto de la Cruz and the noble and bourgeois families chose to change their place of residence to other towns.

Nevertheless, despite the loss of its leading role, Garachico has preserved a magnificent cultural heritage that reflects its periods of splendour, as well as of its earlier historical development.

A stroll through its streets invites visitors to delight in the beauty of its buildings and discover something of the customs and history of the north part of Tenerife.

The magnificent state of conservation of its architectural heritage has allowed its town centre to be declared a Site of Cultural Interest, categorised as a collection of historical buildings, since 1994. The oldest area which dates from the XVIth and XVIIIth centuries has its limits bounded by the chapel of San Roque as far as the castle of San Miguel and the Parque de la Puerta de Tierra. This park preserves the ancient stone structure known as the "Landward Gate" which is where the passengers entered and left the former harbour of Garachico. There are numerous buildings and places of interest; among them, monumental buildings such as the Church of Santa Ana, the Convent of San Sebastián, etc, stand out.

The urban landscape of Garachico as it is today keeps alive reminders of earlier times in which Garachico was the Island's economic spearhead and through whose streets the most distinguished members of society of the period strolled at leisure.



Location:

Main road from Icod de los Vinos to Buenavista del Norte, TF-42. Garachico

UTM Coordinates:

28.371928, - 16.767589

Geographic Coordinates:

28°22'18.94"N, 16°46'3.32"W

Further information:

www.garachico.es

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STOPPING POINTS

SAN JUAN DEL REPARO

San Juan del Reparo is a small suburb of the municipal area of Garachico situated in the middle slopes. Its main economic activity continues to be farming, devoted mainly to self-sufficiency, displaying beautiful countryside with smallholdings and traditional buildings. The crops in this area, in contrast to those grown down on the coast and destined for export, were kept to be consumed by the farming families themselves.

Among its most prominent buildings, the XVIIth-century church of San Juan is worthy of mention. Its interior safeguards artistic treasures of some importance, such as an image of San Juan (St. John), the saint after whom the church is named, and a valuable painting of the Madonna of Guadalupe. Another outstanding feature is its beautiful mudejar roof.

According to spoken tradition, during one of the volcanic eruptions which took place in the area, the residents carried the image of San Juan in procession from the church and set off towards the present Garachico Viewpoint, the point from where the lava was falling towards Garachico with the aim of protecting their houses from the awesome effects of the volcano. The lava came to a halt without damaging their properties, thus resulting in what became known as the miracle of the villagers' "reparo" [protest, objection] and consequently the village came to be called San Juan del Reparo.

One of the interesting points about the village is the Garachico Viewpoint, a genuine lookout point facing towards the sea that allows you to watch the splendid vistas offered by the fiery sunsets and survey the unforgettable panoramic views over the old town centre of Garachico and of the Atlantic.

From here a path leads down to Garachico town centre. The path wanders through the streets of the suburb and goes all the way down to the historical centre of the town. Part of the walk runs along a section of stone paving that was originally an ancient bridle path. The descent zig-zags here and there and gives you marvellous views of the town and harbour of Garachico.

The path gives you the opportunity of discovering unusual scenery whose dominant feature is the lava flows formed during the volcanic eruption of Trevejo Mountain in 1706 and interesting because of its varied vegetation consisting of pine forest, evergreen trees and some rock vegetation such as the Aeonium (succulents), thyme, cardoncillos (*Ceropegia dichotoma*), ferns and lichens.

Information on the path:

Distance: 4.5 km

Difficulty: low

Walking time: 1 hour 30 minutes



Location:

Main road from Icod de los Vinos to Armeñime, TF-82. San Juan del Reparo, Garachico.

San Juan del Reparo (Church of St. John the Baptist)

UTM Coordinates:

28.363297, -16.758178

Geographic Coordinates:

28°21'47.87"N, 16°45'29.44"W

Garachico Viewpoint

UTM Coordinates:

28.362178, -16.76335

Geographic Coordinates:

28°21'43.84"N, 16°45'48.06"W

Further information:

www.garachico.es

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STOPPING POINTS

ARENAS NEGRAS

Arenas Negras ("Black Sands") is a natural site situated within the Chinyero Volcano Special Nature Reserve. At this spot you will find a recreational area and footpaths that lead towards Chinyero, or Arenas Negras' own volcano, also known as Trevejo Mountain. This mountain is famous for its role in the volcanic eruption of 1706 that swept away the harbour and a considerable part of the town of Garachico. Here we have a landscape, almost sandy, hence the name, of obvious volcanic origin where a granular black soil predominates, contrasting vividly with the green of the pine forest. Various footpaths run across this zone allowing visitors to walk around and discover the places where the main eruptions in recent times have taken place on Tenerife.



Location:

Road from La Vega to La Montañeta,
TF-373, 1.6 km marker

Entrance to Arenas Negras

UTM Coordinates:

28.332581, -16.758389

Geographic Coordinates:

28°19'57.29"N, 16°45'30.20"W

Arenas Negras Recreational Area

UTM Coordinates:

28.320081 -16.757456

Geographic Coordinates:

28°19'12.29"N, 16°45'26.84"W

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

LA CALETA DE INTERIÁN

La Caleta de Interián is a traditional fishing village where you can take a relaxing stroll along the coast. The area is also well known for its broad sweeps of very productive farmland where in the past sugar cane and vines were grown and where nowadays bananas are the main crop.

The Chinyero Volcano Path lets you discover some of the most beautiful scenery on Tenerife, the Chinyero Volcano Special Nature Reserve. The path runs around the Chinyero volcano whose eruptions, the most recent in 1909, have formed a landscape composed of unique lava flows and geological formations. On your trip you will walk along tracks of black volcanic lapilli, through areas of pine forest and volcanic badlands.

Location:

Interián Street (junction with the road from Icod de los Vinos to Buenavista del Norte, TF-42)

UTM Coordinates:

28.373436 -16.793244

Geographic Coordinates:

28°22'24.37"N, 16°47'35.68"W

PATH PR-TF 43 Chinyero

The Chinyero Volcano Path lets you discover some of the most beautiful scenery on Tenerife, the Chinyero Volcano Special Nature Reserve. The path runs around the Chinyero volcano whose eruptions, the most recent in 1909, have formed a landscape composed of unique lava flows and geological formations. On your trip you will walk along tracks of black volcanic lapilli, through areas of pine forest and volcanic badlands.

Location:

Road from La Vega to La Montañeta, TF-373, 1.6 km marker

Arenas Negras (starting point)

UTM Coordinates:

28.320081, - 16.757456

Geographic Coordinates:

28°19'12.29"N, 16°45'26.84"W

Information on the path:

Distance:

Path leading to the circular path around the Chinyero volcano: 4.1 km

Circular path around the Chinyero volcano: 5.7 km

Total distance, there and back: 14 km

Difficulty: low

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

ECOMUSEO DE EL TANQUE

The El Tanque Eco-museum is home to an exposition of rural culture in the area. It is located in an old farmhouse known as Partidos de Franchy, a place of astounding beauty. It is only a few kilometres from the El Tanque town centre and boasts spectacular views towards El Teide volcano and of the surrounding countryside.

After being restored this old farmhouse has become an eco-museum depicting the traditions and customs found in El Tanque. It is made up of various halls, each one of which is dedicated to different aspects of the old country ways. We will find a kitchen and a number of exhibition halls containing evidence of the lives and the work local inhabitants carried

out. We will also be able to understand the characteristics surrounding the principal activity carried out in the area, which was farming, and this includes the most important crops, the main agricultural tasks, the tools they used, etc.

At the same time we can also play a part in the exposition thanks to the use of modern technology like virtual reality or augmented reality which permit us to experience the hardworking life in those days. In that respect we will discover the most significant ethnographic features of their times by using totally innovative methods which allow us to get a little closer to the past of this small enclave in the north of Tenerife.

Location:

TF-373, El Tanque

Opening Times:

From Tuesdays to Sundays: 10:30-17:30 hours

UTM Coordinates:

28.373436 -16.793244

Geographic Coordinates:

28°22'24.37"N,16°47'35.68"W

Further Information:

info@ecomuseodeltanque.es