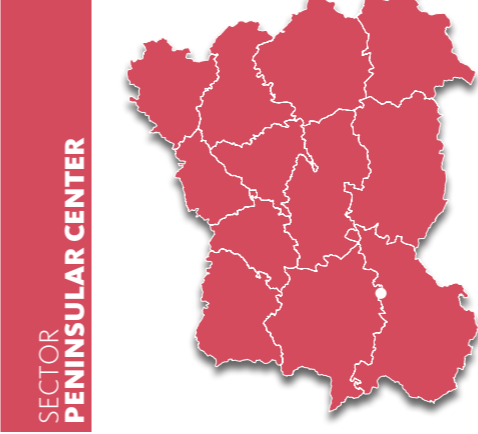
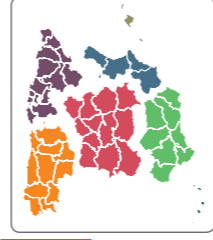




NATURE TRAIL VEGAS DEL GUADIANA GREENWAY



Guide to the
**Nature
Trails**
of Spain



SECTOR
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SECTOR PENINSULAR CENTER NATURE TRAIL VEGAS DEL GUADIANA GREENWAY

The entire route of the Nature Trail is conveniently signposted and its compact surface allows for it also to be travelled by bicycle or on horseback. Due to the length of the trail, it is recommended that the traveller complete it over two days.

DAY 1

1a. The trail begins at a rest area in Villanueva de la Serena, close to the corner of Paseo del Castelar and Calle de San Benito, beside the railway line. It passes under Ronda de la Hispanidad and continues on, crossing the EX-A2-R2 road and a nearby canal.

1b. Between private estates it runs as far as the River Guadiana, crossing over a viaduct at the start of which there is an information panel on the most notable features of this section.

1c. The route continues parallel to an asphalt road that leads to the siphon of the Orellana Canal, where it diverts and crosses the N-430 over a pedestrian bridge, arriving at Santa Rena station.

1d. The trail then crosses a bridge over the River Gargálgas and, at El Torviscal, it passes under a three-arch bridge. This section of the route cuts across farm fields until, after crossing a canal and another three-arch bridge under the EX-351 and passing Campo Lugar station, it becomes a thick oak meadow, through which the trail advances parallel to the Rucas River, until it crosses the Orellana Canal.

1e. The route continues along a bridge over the Rucas



The church of La Asunción in Villanueva de la Serena

Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment. These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country. We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of Vegas del Guadiana Greenway Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- Logrosán Town Council:

0034 924 00 70 09

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NPO

THROUGH THE PASTURELANDS OF CRANES



This trail, which was inaugurated in 2007, joins Villanueva de la Serena (Badajoz) and Logrosán (Cáceres), following an old railway line which had been planned to connect this area with Talavera de la Reina. Work was abandoned definitively with the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War. At 53.2km long, in addition to the beauty of the landscape, it offers the traveller the opportunity to discover the large wintering area for cranes from Northern Europe; they arrive punctually every year for their stay on some of the peninsula's finest pastureland.

THE PASTURES OF CAMPOLUGAR AND MADRIGALEJO

Every autumn, the pastures of Campolugar and Madrigalejo are transformed into the largest wintering area for cranes on the continent, with the population reaching up to 50,000.

These birds from Northern Europe arrive every autumn in family groups in V formations to take advantage of the area's plentiful seeds and fruit for the cold winter months, returning to their faraway breeding grounds before the start of spring.

THE TREASURE OF BERZOCANA

The county of Las Villuercas is dotted with an infinite number of archaeological remains, including some from the first settlements of Cañameros and Logrosán, dating back to the Bronze Age, some 3,000 years ago. The most important find, however, was probably the Treasure of Berzocana.

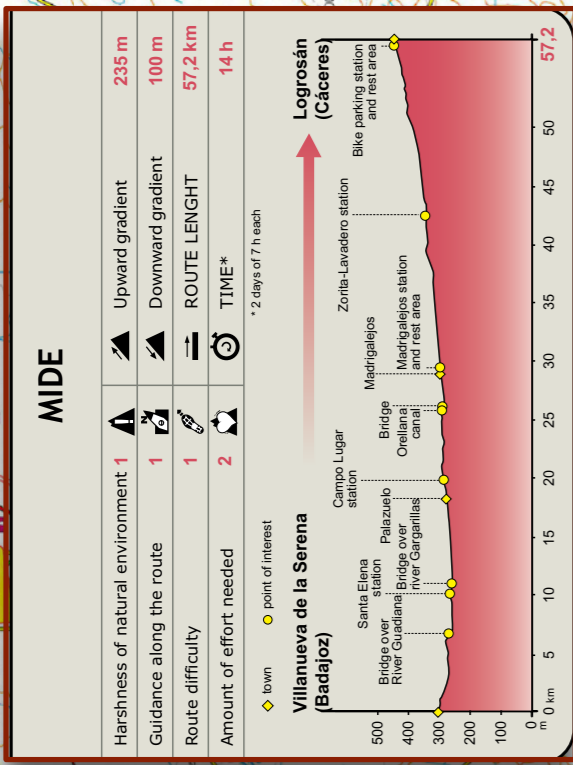
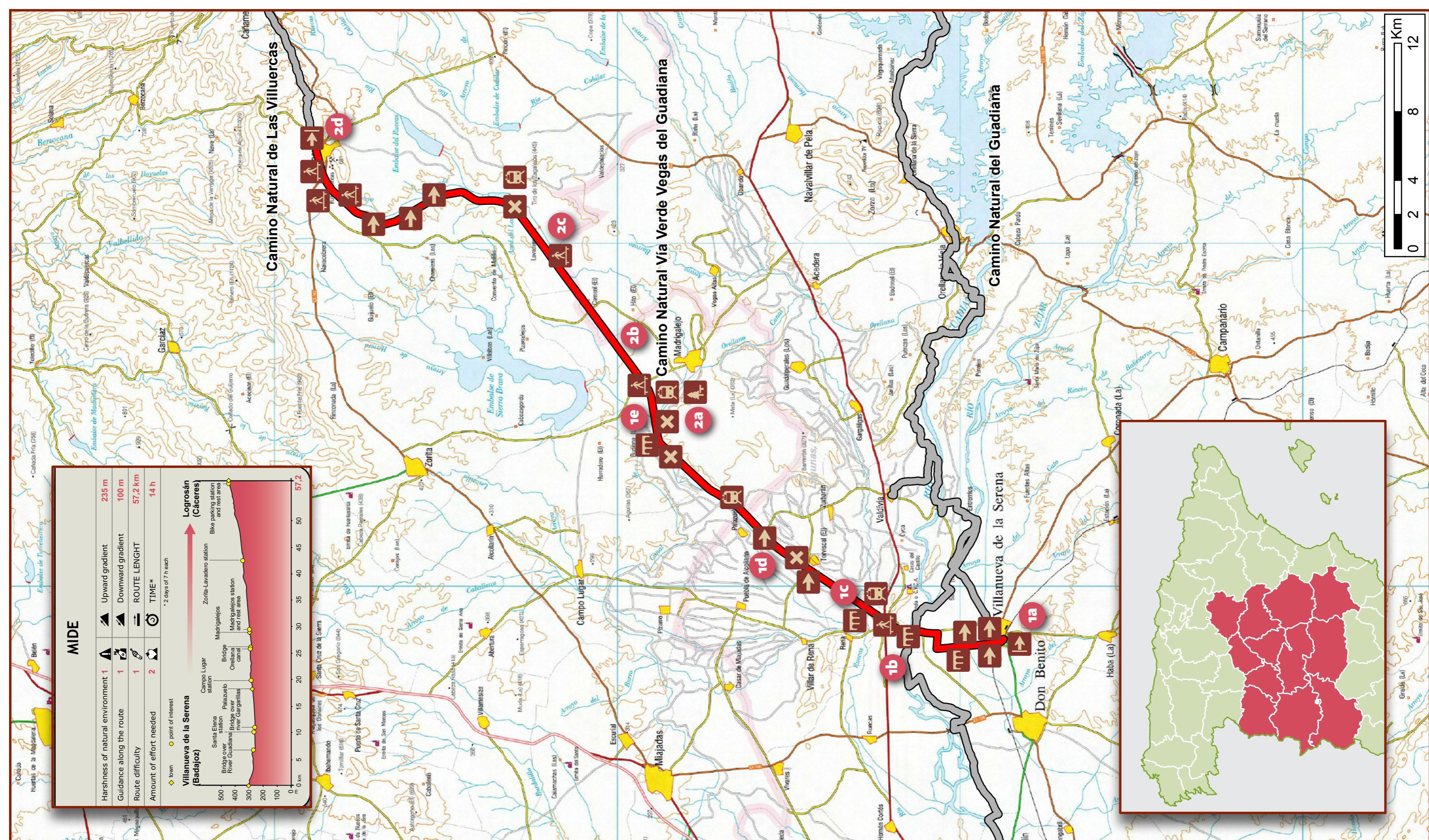
Currently on display at National Archaeology Museum in Madrid, it consists of two large, gold Celtic torcs with elaborate decorations. They appear in a bronze vase which a shepherd casually came across in Berzocana, in the province of Cáceres.



Livestock at pasture



Riparian vegetation near River Rucas



MIDE	
Harshness of natural environment	1
Guidance along the route	1
Route difficulty	1
Amount of effort needed	2
Upward gradient	100 m
Downward gradient	57.2 km
ROUTE LENGTH	57.2 km
TIME*	14 h

* 2 days of 7 h each

- Villanueva de la Serena (Badajoz)**
- point of interest
 - Santa Elena station
 - Palazuelo
 - River Guadianal
 - Bridge over river Garganillas
 - Onillas canal
 - Campos Lugar station
 - Madrigalejos
 - Madrigalejos station and rest area
 - Zorita-Lavadero station
 - Bike parking station and rest area
- Logrosán (Cáceres)**

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Rest area
- Train station
- Junction
- Underpass
- Walkway
- Bridge
- Other sights of interest