

LAND OF GIANT



CAMPO DE CRIPTANA



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LAND of GIANTS...

«There they discovered thirty or forty windmills that can be found in that field...»

For many specialists in Cervantes and historians, the great writer was inspired by that spot, the Sierra de los Molinos in Campo de Criptana, when he wrote the famous adventure that begins chapter VIII of the first volume of Don Quixote. In the "Relaciones" of Felipe II, in 1575, it was said that in Campo de Criptana «there were many windmills» and in the property register commissioned by the Marquis de la Ensenada in the middle of the eighteenth century, it is found that at that time, there were no less than 34 windmills in Campo de Criptana.

Campo de Criptana is the Land of Giants

Home to giants in the world of music such as Don Manuel Angulo, Don Ángel Arteaga or the well known composer Don Luis Cobos.

Home to other giants in the world of the performing arts such as Don Enrique Alarcón or the universal Sara Montiel of the silver screen, Don Domingo Miras, national theatre prize-winner or the founder of the Tirso de Molina Company, Manuel Manzaneque. Home to literary giants such as Valentín Arteaga, José González Lara, Raimundo Escribano, Ignacio Escribano and Francisco López-Casero Olmedo.

Home to great painters such as Pepe Díaz, Valbuena, Antéquera and Morales.



of FIESTAS...

The local fiestas dedicated to the Stma. Virgen de Criptana and the Stmo. Cristo de Villajos should be highlighted.

The former is celebrated on Easter Monday with its pilgrimage to the hill where the hermitage stands and the second is at the end of August with a full agenda of cultural, sporting, ludic and religious activities in honour of the Patron, the Holy Christ of Villajos.

On the other hand, the Carnival, celebrated during the three days before Ash Wednesday is also worth a mention with its parades of floats and local groups

Easter in Campo de Criptana is deeply rooted in popular culture. It is one of the most spectacular of the surrounding area due to great local participation and the expressive content of its processional images.

The May festivities, (Los Mayos) break the silence of the nights of May with the sound of guitars and other string instruments and the thrill of the serenade which still keeps local girls awake as it did in the past.



of FLAVOURS...

Good food and wine are to be found in Campo de Criptana. Traditional Manchegan cuisine predominates: gachas con tropezones (a savoury dish with a porridge-like consistency with lumps of pork and chorizo), migas de pastor (small pieces of fried bread with pork, chorizo and peppers), ajo tomate (garlic and tomato stew), cordero a la caldereta (lamb stew), pisto manchego (pepper and tomato stew), sopas de ajo (garlic soup), pipirrana (cold tomato and fish stew). In addition to local gastronomy, in Campo de Criptana other products such as Manchego cheese, hand made cakes and confectionary and wine can be tasted and acquired.

Wine is the fruit of this land, the source of wealth and the motor of development, the tradition being passed down from father to son and adapted to modern technology. Its colours, bouquet and flavour make it our best ambassador to the rest of the world.



of KNOWLEDGE...

Being in Campo de Criptana allows us to relive our past and, despite the changes, learn about the work of the skilled craftsmen who, with their effort and dedication have created authentic objects linked to the traditional lifestyles of the village such as farming tools, wrought iron, rope stools, baskets, lace, crochet, antiques etc.

Museo de Artesanos (Craftsmen's Museum, also Wire Museum and Popular Craft Museum)
C/Rocinante, 39
T 926 563 931

Museo Municipal "El Pósito"
(Municipal Museum)
Plaza del Pósito, s/n
T 926 562 231

LAND of RICH HERITAGE...

- 1 Wind mills** Ten restored windmills and three in ruins are still standing. Sardinero, Infante and Burleta are the oldest, having been constructed in the sixteenth century. They have been declared as Property of Cultural Interest and conserve their original structures and mechanisms.
 - 2 Hill where the Hermitage of the Virgen de la Paz (Virgin of Peace) stands** Next to the Windmills, it dates back to the sixteenth century and exhibits inside the elements characteristic of the dwellings that surround it.
 - 3 Albaicin Criptano (Moorish Quarter)** A network of charming streets that made up the ancient centre of the village. Its name comes from its peculiar topography and from the moorish families that settled there at the end of the sixteenth century having moved from Granada. These are streets to be wandered along in no hurry with your imagination free to conjure up scenes of Cervantes.
 - 4 El Pósito Real** Sixteenth century building with additions from the eighteenth century. It was the headquarters of an agricultural bank controlled by the local council that lent grain to farmers in times of shortage as an advance on the following year. At the moment it houses the municipal museum where exhibitions and other activities are held.
 - 5 Parish Church** Inaugurated in 1958, it was built on the ruins of an eclectic church from the sixteenth century that was destroyed during the Civil War.
 - 6 Convent of Carmen** Baroque style convent based on the Jesuistic model of church (three naves and a flat headpiece)
 - 7 Veracruz Hermitage** Dating back to the sixteenth century, it is the headquarters of one of the most traditional guilds of the village. The only remaining original elements are the interior roofing with wooden beams, the arched facade and the typically renaissance decoration.
 - 8 St Ana's Hermitage** It was built during the second half of the sixteenth century and was rebuilt at the end of the eighteenth century. The Latin cross floor of the nave is worth noting.
 - 9 Hermitage of the Mother of God** Baroque style. A single nave with a shafted dome and cupola.
 - 10 St Christopher's Hermitage** Built at the beginning of the eighteenth century, it is of a baroque style with the dome shaped like a sea shell.
 - 11 St Isidore's Hermitage** A kilometre from the Sierra de los Molinos, it was built after the Civil War.
 - 12 Hermitage of the Christ of Villajos** A few kilometres along the road to Miguel Esteban, this XVIII century baroque style church can be found. Inside, an image of the Patron Christ is kept and a carving of the Virgen, whose origin dates back to the XIII century, appeared. This figure is presently exhibited in the Church of the Assumption of Our Lady.
 - 13 Hermitage of the Virgin of Criptana** It can be found at the top of a hill situated about 2 km to the East of the village on the N-420 road. It is the home of the image of the Virgin of Criptana, patron saint of the village and dates back to the sixteenth century.
- Springs** *Fuente de Caño*: water spring located near the Cerro de los Molinos. *Fuente del Moco*: located near the Escalerillas del Cerro de la Paz.
- Caves** They were used as a store and refuge by the miller. Cueva de la Virgen de la Paz (museum-dwelling), la Casa de Los Tres Cielos (rural hotel), la Cueva de La Martina (restaurant).

Visitor information

ACCOMMODATION

Casa Rural Casa del Bachiller

Bachiller Sansón Carrasco, 26 / www.casadelbachiller.com
casadelbachiller@wanadoo.es / T 926 550 104

Casa Rural "Casa del Caño"

Alonso Quijano, 50. T 926 563 773 / 649 986 795

Hospedería Municipal Casa La Torrecilla

Cardenal Monescillo, 15. T 926 589 130 / F 926 563 993

Hostal Ego's

García León, 51. T 926 564 304 / 600 531 922

Hostal Sancho

Plaza Mayor, 5. T 926 560 012

Hotel Rural La Casa de los Tres Cielos

Libertad, 11
www.casadelos3cielos.com / T 926 563 790 / 699 989 828

RESTAURANTS

Asador La Alforja de Sancho

Avda. Recinto Ferial, 2. T 926 562 049 / 926 564 105

Casa La Torrecilla

Cardenal Monescillo, 15. T 926 589 130 / F 926 563 993

Cueva La Martina

Rocinante, 15
T 926 561 476 / 666 590 729

De María

Tercia, 11. T 926 563 865

Ego's

García León, 51. T 926 564 304

Julián

Ctra. N-420 km. 295. T 926 563 366

Mirasol

Concepción, 109. T 926 561 661

Piccolo

Serna, 19. T 926 562 048

Rincón de Pepe

Santa Ana, 35. T 926 563 437 / 699 989 828

WINERIES

Bodegas Alejandro Fernández "El Vínculo"

Avda. Juan Carlos I, s/n. T 926 563 709

Bodegas Hnos. Alberca Martínez, S.L.

Concepción, 21. T 926 562 330 / F 926 563 070

Bodegas Símbolo

S.C. de Castilla-La Mancha Ntra. Sra. de Criptana

Concepción, 105. T 926 589 036 / F 926 589 041

Bodega Vidal del Saz

Maestro Manzanares. T 926 560 553 / F 926 562 625

Bodegas y Viñedos Castiblanque, s.l.

Isaac Peral, 19. T 926 589 147 / F 926 589 148

www.bodegascastiblanque.com

Cooperativa del Campo Vinícola del Carmen

Camino del Puente, 2. T 926 561 257 / F 926 561 257

Finca La Blanca Bodegas

Mompo, 2. T 926 589 650 / F 926 562 216

TYPICAL PRODUCTS AND CRAFT

Cueva de Mambrino

Barbero, s/n.
T 926 561 757 / 699 822 239

Cueva La Despensa

Gl. Virgen de la Paz, s/n
T 926 560 340 / 696 531 932

Cueva La Martina

Rocinante, 15. T 926 561 476

El Portón de Criptana

Castillo, 63. T 926 560 247

Taller Eloy Teno Díaz

Blasco Ibáñez, 2. T 926 561757

CHEESE FACTORIES

Isidro Manjavacas Muñoz

Socuéllamos, 4. T 926 561 292

Quesos Muñoz

Álvarez de Castro, 9. T 926 560 340

Quesos Valdivieso

Concepción 19. T 926 561 234

OIL-MILL

Coop. Agrícola Stmo. Cristo de Villajos

Pol. Ind. Pozo-Hondo. Avda. Comunidad de Murcia, 4

T 926 563 111

TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

Molino Payatas. T 926 562 231 / 926 563 931

turismo@campodecriptana.es



Excmo. Ayuntamiento de
Campo de Criptana