



# Malaga

## Cultural Guide

Go beyond



# Malaga

## A vibrant and cosmopolitan city

Located on the southern coast of Spain and with a rich history dating back more than 2,800 years, Malaga is a vibrant fusion of **culture, tradition and modernity**. Its Mediterranean sun-drenched beaches, delicious gastronomy, fascinating architectural heritage and lively nightlife make Malaga a unique place to explore.

The legacy of **Pablo Picasso** can be found at the **Picasso Museum** which houses an extensive collection of his works. But Malaga also has a wealth of impressive architecture, from the imposing **Alcazaba, an 11th century Moorish fortress**, to the majestic **Malaga Cathedral**, affectionately known as **“La Manquita” because of its incomplete tower**. Strolling through the narrow, cobbled streets of the old town, known as **the La Malagueta neighbourhood** is to immerse yourself in the very essence of the city, and absorb the energy of local life.

Malaga is also an ideal starting point for exploring the surrounding area, with charming **white villages in the mountains, breathtaking natural landscapes and a rich variety of wines**. Whether you are looking for history, art, gastronomy or to simply enjoy the Mediterranean lifestyle, Malaga captivates its visitors with its unrivalled charm.





# Discover **Malaga's** neighbourhoods

Malaga has different neighbourhoods, each of them with its **own personality**. Each of them offer a variety of unique experiences not to be missed.





## La Malagueta Neighbourhood

It is one of the best-known neighbourhoods in Malaga, very close to the historic centre. It is a **lively area** with many restaurants, bars and shops, popular with both residents and tourists. Its promenade offers **breathtaking views of the Mediterranean** and is a great place to spend some time and relax.

## Huelin / La Misericordia Neighbourhood

Known for its proximity to **Misericordia Beach**, Huelin is noted for its **industrial history and Huelin Park**, while **La Misericordia is popular** for its recreational spaces and the promenade. Both neighbourhoods are appreciated for their authenticity and local character and are well worth a visit.







## El Palo / Pedralejo Neighbourhood

El Palo and Pedregalejo are two coastal neighbourhoods, known for their **traditional fishermen's houses** and quiet atmosphere. Their beaches, beach bars and restaurants offering the typical “**pescadito frito**” (fried fish).

Pedregalejo is popular for its **promenade and nightlife**. Both neighbourhoods are places you will enjoy for their charm and authenticity.

## Teatinos Neighbourhood

It is one of the most modern areas of Malaga, characterised by its **youthful atmosphere**, with many entertainment venues, restaurants and services, which makes it an attractive place for **young students**. It stands out for its dynamism and varied entertainment options.





# Regional festivals

Regional festivals are celebrations rooted in the culture of the city, reflecting the **customs, histories and significant events of the community**. Regional festivals provide an opportunity to come together and share their heritage.

Here are some of Malaga's most noteworthy festivities so that you too can partake in its traditions and customs.





# Festival of San Juan

The festival of **San Juan** takes place at the end of June with the beginning of the summer solstice in honour of **Saint John the Baptist** and is one of the most special nights for the people of Malaga.

One of the most emblematic traditions is bonfires on the beach. It is believed that jumping over bonfires brings good luck and purifies the spirit. One of the most popular beaches is **La Malagueta**, where you can also enjoy its concerts.

Another tradition is to have a **midnight swim**, immersing oneself in the sea to bring good luck and purify oneself. This swim is said to have magical and healing properties.

We are sure you will have a great time.



# Malaga Fair

The **Malaga Fair** is one of the most important events in the city, held annually in the month of **August**.

**Day Fair:** It is held in the historic centre of Malaga. The streets are filled with colour, music and dance with **traditional Andalusian costumes** such as the **flamenco dress**.

**Night Fair:** It takes place in the **Real de la Feria**, a fairground located in the Cortijo de Torres. Here you will find the typical stalls filling the night with lights and a festive atmosphere that lasts until the early hours of the morning. You can't miss this event full of culture and fun.





# Places of interest

There are other areas of Malaga that offer a **wealth of architectural and cultural attractions**. From the most typical places in Malaga such as **Calle Larios**, to its most emblematic monuments such as **the Alcazaba and Gibralfaro Castle**.





## Larios Street

It is one of the **busiest** points of the city and one of the most emblematic shopping areas in Malaga. Famous for its symmetrical neoclassical buildings and wide pedestrian avenue.

It is the setting for various cultural and festive events throughout the year, such as **Easter Week, the Fair and the Christmas lights**. It is also an important meeting point due to its central location and lively atmosphere. It's one of your must-visits.

## Plaza de la Constitución

Also known as the **Plaza Mayor**, it is considered to be the historic centre of Malaga. You must visit its typical cafés and the famous **Café de Chinitas** located on one of its sides, to which **Federico García Lorca** refers to in one of his poems.







## Plaza del Obispo

Situated opposite **Malaga Cathedral**, it is a baroque urban site and one of the most important squares in the city. This square is one of the best options for getting lost in and is a good area with a **large number of terraces** where you can enjoy the best **tapas in the city** as well as **nightlife**.

## Atarazanas Market

If you like gastronomy you must visit, especially at **midday**, the **Atarazanas market**, **declared a Place of Cultural Interest**. A **14<sup>th</sup> century Moorish building**, it is a meeting point for locals, and you can taste some of its star dishes in its tapas bars with a colourful atmosphere. Don't be too late as it has become one of the **busiest** places.







## Roman Theatre

The **Roman Theatre of Malaga** is one of the most important and oldest historical monuments in the city. Its construction dates to the **1<sup>st</sup> century AD**. In addition to its historical and archaeological value, it has become a **cultural symbol for the city**. Nowadays, it is used as a space for cultural events and theatrical performances, keeping alive the tradition of shows in an environment that reflects the rich **Roman heritage of Malaga** connecting the past with the present.

## Alcazaba

The **Alcazaba** is one of the most emblematic monuments in Malaga, declared a **Place of Cultural Interest**. It stands out for its historical and architectural value whose construction began in the **11<sup>th</sup> century**. Situated on the top of a hill, you can enjoy breathtaking panoramic views **of the harbour and the Roman Theatre**. The Alcazaba is an important tourist and cultural attraction that offers visitors a unique experience, allowing them to walk through its maze-like corridors. It is certainly one of the recommended places.







## Gibralfaro Castle

Its history, which dates back to the **Phoenician period** and has played a crucial role in the defence of the city over the centuries. Classed as a **Place of Cultural Interest, built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century**, it is surrounded by robust walls and has several towers and battlements where you will find an exceptional viewpoint from which you can appreciate the beauty of the city and its surroundings.

**Gibralfaro Castle** is an enduring testimony to Malaga's rich history, combining elements of different cultures and eras in one place.

## Muelle Uno

Muelle Uno is home to a **variety of shops**, restaurants and bars. From international fashion brands to local boutiques, there is something for everyone. **Gastronomy** is one of the strong points, with a wide range of restaurants offering everything from **traditional Andalusian cuisine to international dishes**. It is a multifaceted space that combines **leisure, culture and commerce** in a privileged setting. You can't miss it.





# Malaga Museums

Malaga has a rich collection of museums covering all subject areas. The **Museo Carmen Thyssen Málaga** with paintings from Romanticism to the beginnings of modernity, **the Museo Picasso** with his most innovative works, and the **Centre Pompidou**, home of the Georges Pompidou National Centre of Art and Culture of France.

All three are a must for art and culture lovers.





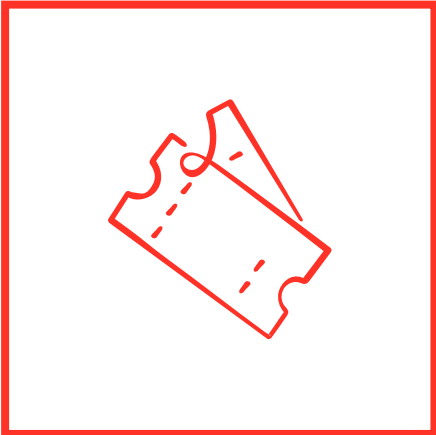
## Museo Carmen Thyssen Málaga



You will be able to visit some of the most famous works of Francisco de Zurbarán and Joaquín Sorolla among others.



**Tuesday to Sunday:**  
From 10:00 h to 20:00 h



[Tickets](#)

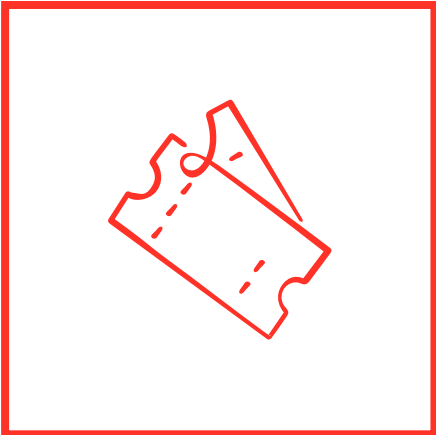
## Museo Picasso Málaga



You can visit the selection of works by **Pablo Picasso**.



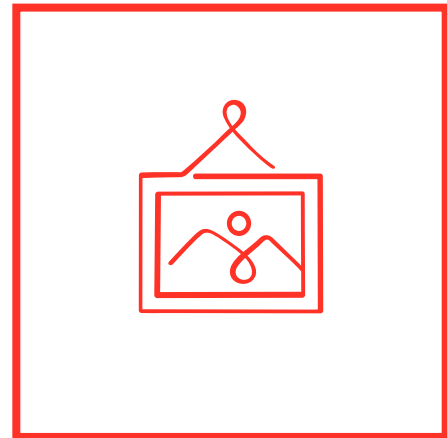
**Tuesday to Sunday:**  
From 10:00 h to 19:00 h



[Tickets](#)



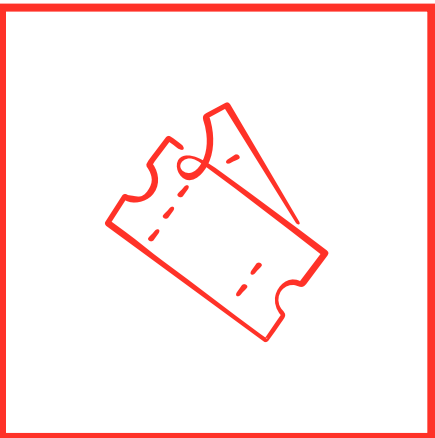
## Museo Casa Natal Pablo Picasso



Offers an insight into the early years of life, family and artistic environment.

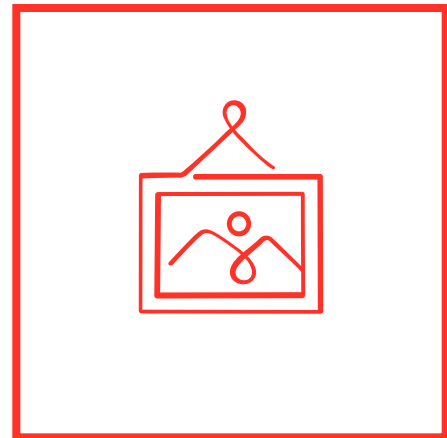


**Monday to Sunday:**  
From 9:30 h to 20:00 h



[Tickets](#)

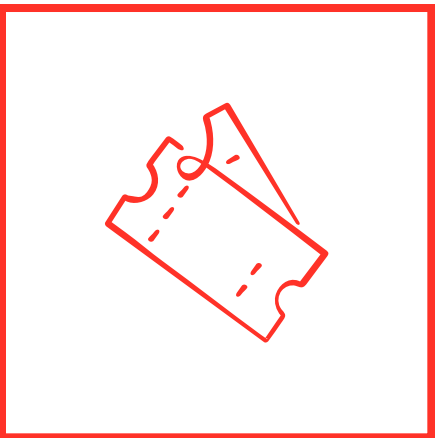
## Centre Pompidou Málaga



Offers a journey through 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century art.



**Monday to Sunday:**  
(Closed Tuesday)  
From 9:30 h to 20:00 h



[Tickets](#)







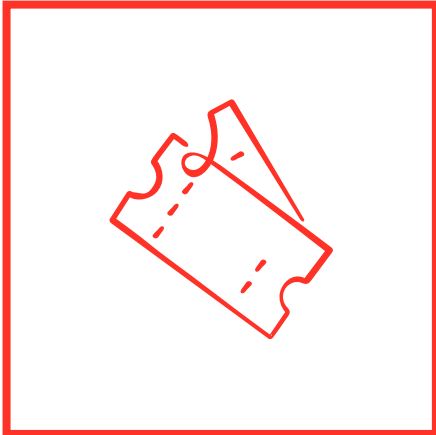
# Museo de Málaga



With archeology and fine arts themes.



**Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday:**  
From 9:00 h to 21:00 h  
**Thursday, Friday and Sunday:**  
From 9:00 h to 15:00 h



**Tickets**

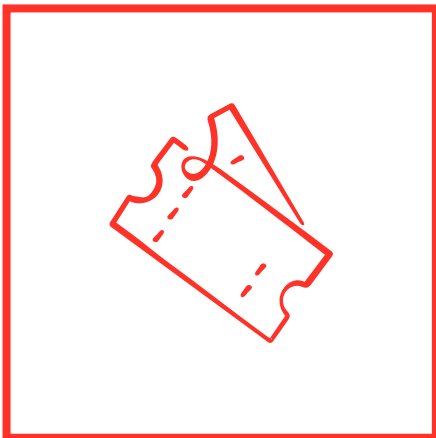
# Centre for Contemporary Art of Malaga (CAC Málaga)



Artistic trends from the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present day.



**Tuesday to Sunday:**  
From 9:00 h to 18:00 h



**Free entrance**

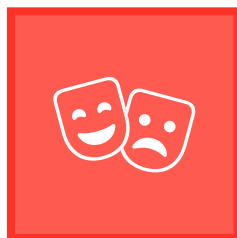


# Theatres

Malaga is home to a number of different kinds of theatres for all tastes. The **Cervantes Theatre** is one of the most historic theatres in the capital, which hosts the **city's film festival**. The **Soho Theatre** is one of Antonio Banderas' **most recent** personal projects. The **Echegaray Theatre** is another of the city's historic theatres that has become a multidisciplinary space. With such a vast array of options, you're bound to find a show that suits your taste.



# Theatres



## Cervantes Theatre

Music and dance shows and performances by the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra.



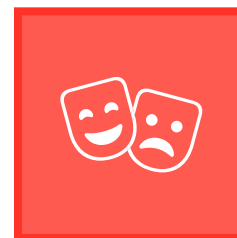
## Echegaray Theatre

A multidisciplinary space that includes monologues and comedies as well as the **most classical and contemporary** theatre.



## La Caja Blanca

A space for **young creators** with concerts, exhibitions and debates.



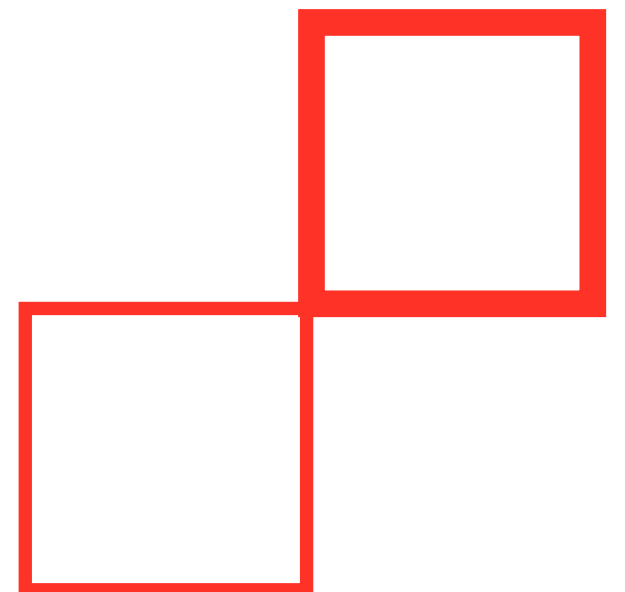
## Soho Theatre

Focusing on **theatre, music and dance** blocks.



## Canovas Theatre

With the **Sala Gades** focusing on the **dance genre** in its multiple genres.





# Outdoor spaces

Malaga also offers several options for nature lovers with numerous outdoor spaces offering a **variety of recreational activities** and opportunities to enjoy nature and **the Mediterranean climate**.

Keep reading to find out about some of the most notable spots to visit.





## La Concepción Historical-Botanical Gardens

It is one of the **oldest and most important** botanical gardens in Europe, founded in **1855**. In addition to its botanical wealth, the garden contains important historical and architectural elements, such as the colonial-style Palace House and **the Loringian Museum** with its collection of antiquities. Divided into several themed areas, including the **Palm Tree Garden, the Scenic Stop Path, the Bamboo Garden and Around the World in 80 Trees**.

## Gibralfaro Forest Park

The Gibralfaro Forest Park is not just a **green lung** in the heart of Malaga. **Its numerous trails** allow visitors to explore the park and enjoy nature. From **its viewpoints** you can enjoy breathtaking views of Malaga and its surroundings. Its combination of natural beauty, historical value and recreational opportunities makes it an **essential destination** for those who want to enjoy nature and history in one place.





## Montes de Malaga Natural Park

Just **5 km north of the city**, it offers numerous hiking opportunities, with several signposted routes allowing visitors to explore its scenery and enjoy panoramic views. Among the most popular are **the Torrijos, Contadoras and Mirador del Cochino** routes. It is also home to a number of archaeological and ethnographic remains and is a natural treasure that combines beauty, biodiversity and recreational opportunities. If you love nature, this is an unmissable destination.



## Puerta Oscura Gardens

The **Puerta Oscura (Dark Gate)** Gardens owe their name to one of the historic entrances to the city of Malaga. Although the gate itself no longer exists, its legacy lives on in these gardens that were designed in the **20<sup>th</sup> century**. Located in the heart of Malaga, on the southern slopes of Gibralfaro hill, they offer a mix of greenery and architectural elements that reflect the rich cultural heritage of the region. In addition, its proximity to other points of interest such as **the Alcazaba and the Roman Theatre** make it an obligatory stop.



# Malaga's Surrounding Areas

Here are some of the best places that you can visit **less than two hours away** and where you can find fine **architectural, gastronomic and natural gems**.

Find out more about the region's culture and enjoy yourself on one of our proposed tourist routes.





## Ronda

**Ronda** is one of the most spectacular villages in Malaga, situated on a **deep gorge** that separates the new town. You must walk around the **old town** and admire its impressive **viewpoints**.



**A-357 and A-367**  
1 hour and 30  
min drive



**Bus Station L-304**  
2 hours



## Caminito del Rey

The **Caminito del Rey** is a route that crosses impressive gorges such as the **Desfiladero de los Gaitanes**, with vertical walls that reach a **height of 300 metres**. It is a recommended experience for nature and adventure lovers.



**A-357**  
1 hour drive



**Line C-2 Cercanías**  
**suburban train**  
1 hour journey



## Torcal de Antequera

Listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and known for its impressive karst formations **formed millions of years ago**, they create unique landscapes of towers, passages and chasms. It is one of the most unique places to visit.



**AP-46**  
1 hour drive



**Maria Zambrano Station**  
47 min journey





## Frigiliana

Situated on the slopes of the **Sierra de Almijara**, it is another of the most charming places in Malaga. Frigiliana is characterised by its old town centre and its narrow, steep white streets full of flowers.



**A-7**  
54 min drive



**Port of Malaga -**  
**Alsa Buses**  
1 hour drive

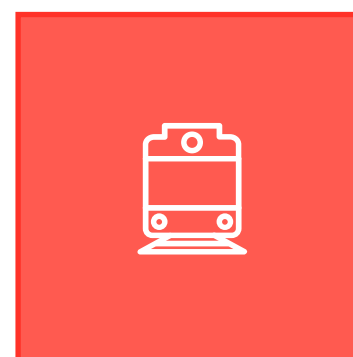


## Nerja

Highlights include the **impressive Nerja Caves** and **the Balcón de Europa**, a viewpoint with panoramic views of the Mediterranean. It offers a mix of history, culture and beauty with its picturesque old town where you can enjoy its gastronomy and atmosphere.



**A-7**  
54 min drive

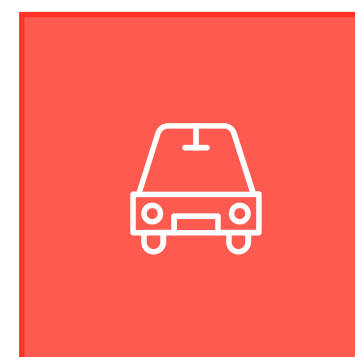


**Port of Malaga -**  
**Alsa Buses**  
1 hour drive



## Acantilados de Maro

This protected area offers spectacular views, **pristine beaches and crystal clear waters**, ideal for diving and snorkelling. The area is home to a rich **marine biodiversity** ideal for scuba diving.



**A-7**  
1 hour drive



**Port of Malaga -**  
**Alsa Buses**  
1 hour drive



