

Anaga



Historical background

After Tinerfe, the last great "mencey" (king), died, Beneharo, his youngest son inherited the kingdom of Anaga. During this time, Anaga was extremely rich in water and pasture, and the Guanches had enough to live on.

When the conquest ended by 1495, the process of pacification and colonization started, and Anaga was divided among the Spanish conquerors, the Adelantado (governor of new territories appointed by the Crown) Don Alonso Fernández de Lugo gave the lands in the traditional "repartimientos de tierra" (land divisions). The first settlement of this area, Taganana, was founded in 1501. Taganana would become later the centre of jurisdiction. The driving force behind Taganana's colonization process and its economic development was sugar.

One of the most urgent necessities was to open new roads and to break the isolation of the area. The network of paths and roads used by the indigenous people proved to be absolutely insufficient, hence other and better roads had to be built, e.g. the Camino Real de las Vueltas (Royal Road of the Bends).

Administrative protections

Inside the rural Park of Anaga.

Natural features

Flora: Canary Islands Ebony (*Persea Indica*), Canarian Laurel (*Laurus Azorica*).

Fauna: two kinds of wild pigeons, called "turqué" (Bolle pigeon) and "rabiche" (Pigeon of the Laurel Forests).

Cultural-historic heritage

Hermitage of Nuestra Señora del Carmen (19th century).

Information Centre Cruz del Carmen.

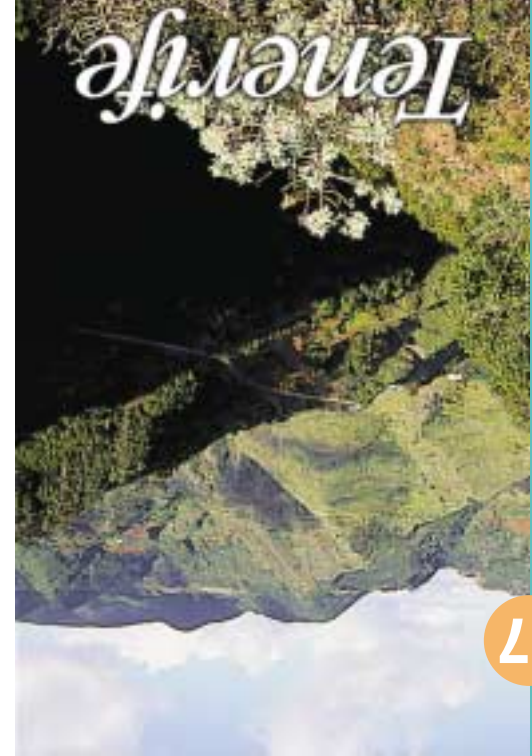


The track of Las Hiedras starts at the recreation area of La Cruz del Carmen, **1** where there is a restaurant, a view point and a visitor's centre. The hermitage of Nuestra Señora del Carmen (19th c.) is also here. The track starts at the right side of the restaurant, goes down some stone steps, and then along an unpaved path amid wax-myrtles, tree-heath and other species from the laurel forest area. From this point you should always keep to the left until you find a diversion, where you take the path on the right which will take you downwards to the track of Las Hiedras. Once on the track, you keep going without leaving it. The track is at a height of 800m until it connects



with el Batán road, TF-1143. The vegetation is that of the so called "monte verde", i.e. a forest consisting mainly of "laurisilva" (laurel forests), tree heaths and wax-myrtle. The track is bordered on the right by a bushy section of ferns, and examples of Canary Islands Buttercup (*Ranunculus cortusifolius*) and Canary Islands cranesbill (*Geranium Canariense*). The left-hand slope is covered by a thick rock vegetation (growing out of the crack of the soil, between the rocks...), aeoniums, moss and lichen, as well as examples of ornamental flowers such as hortaensia.

A few minutes from the start, you will find a spring on the left side, recently transformed into a fountain, made of local stone. You shouldn't take the track which goes up next to the fountain. Pista de Las Hiedras is a real meeting point of different tracks; hence 400 m. from the fountain and on the left, you may change direction and go to El Batán. If you decide to go on the same direction you have to go straight on. Some 200 m. farther, you have another track, this goes down from the forest house to Las Hiedras track. The track goes on through areas where local stone mines are seen as well as stone dumping sites. On the same side you find a shelter cave carved into the rock. **2** The excursion finishes at the end of the track just when it joins the road to El Batán.



Tenerife

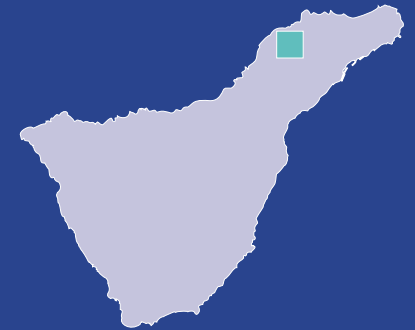
Footpaths

17



Las Hiedras

Remember, you walk under your own responsibility.



Useful telephone numbers

Rural Park Información Centre	922 633 576
La Laguna Local Police	922 601 175
Red Cross	922 259 626
	922 281 800
City/Highway Police	922 259 416
TITSA (Bus company)	922 531 300

servicio de comunicación



Tenerife
A WORLD TO DISCOVER.

Las Hiedras

Location: Borough of La Laguna
Starting point: Cruz del Carmen ①
Arrival point: Carretera del Batán (TF-1143) ②
Distance: 7,5 Km.
Time: 2 h.
Difficulty: Low
Slope: From 1000 to 500 m. above sea level
Access: TITSA bus routes



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|--|--------------------------|--|----------------|
| | CAVE | | TOWNHALL |
| | VIEW POINT | | HEALTH CENTRE |
| | BEACH | | BUS STOP |
| | RECREATION AREA | | PETROL STATION |
| | SHELTER | | INFORMATION |
| | LIGHTHOUSE | | WATER |
| | CRAFTWORK | | RESTAURANT |
| | TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE | | TAXIS |
| | CHURCH | | TELEPHONE |
| | HISTORIC CENTRE | | |

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|--|---------------|
| | PATH |
| | MOTORWAY |
| | MAIN ROAD |
| | ROAD |
| | TRACK - PATH |
| | PONDS / POOLS |
| | HOUSE |

