



Las Médulas

In the region of El Bierzo, to the northeast of the Montes Aquilanos and near the valley of the river Sil, we find Las Médulas, a fantastic landscape resulting from the gold exploitation by the Romans, and it has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

The reddish sunset colour of these slopes has converted the area into a magically mysterious piece of landscape. Who would have thought that such sharp peaks have Roman gold buried within.

After centuries of mining inactivity, las Médulas have become an attraction among tourists due to their beautiful landscape and museum consisting of an archaeological room where you are given a fully detailed description of the period when the largest open cast gold mine in the Roman Empire operated.

Las Médulas not only provide visitors with the chance to experience an amazingly picturesque area but also to learn about an odd and complicated mining system that Plino, the roman geographer and naturalist referred to as *ruina montium* (literally: mountain destruction)..

Declared

Category: Natural Monument

Area: 5,178 ha.

Municipalities in the province of León: Borrenes, Carucedo, Las Médulas Puente de Domingo Flórez

Visitor Centre

Park House of the Medulas

Here, visitors can obtain an overview of the natural monument and details of places of interest and routes. There are audiovisual resources, as well as 360º panoramic images of several of the sites in this natural space and materials to help visitors plan their day.

Information is also available about the park's Visitor Centre and the Castilla y León Natural Spaces Network (REN).

Address:

Calle de Abajo, s/n. 24442

Telephone: 987 420 622

Email: cp.lasmedulas@patrimonionatural.org

Website: http://www.patrimonionatural.org/casas.php?id_casa=169

Environmental Areas

Fauna: Wolf, wild boar, partridge and rabbit.

Relief: Spectacular scenery, as result of gold mining from Roman times with a strong color contrast between the tones of the leveled grounds and the environment.

Vegetation: Chestnut, heather, common broom and carqueixa.

Route

Accessible Pathway Lake Carucedo

Journey: Circular

Length: 0.6 km.

Las Medulas

Difficulty of the route: High

Birds of Carucedo - Lake Carucedo

Journey: Circular

Length: 6.5 km.

Birds of Carucedo - Las Medulas

Journey: Circular

Length: 9.95 km.

Cycling route

Journey: Circular

Length: 18.8 km.

Difficulty of the route: Medium

L1 - Senda Perimetral (L1)

Trayecto: Circular

Longitud: 10,5 km.

Dificultad de la ruta: Media

L2 - Senda de los Zufreiros del Frade (L2)

Trayecto: Lineal

Longitud: 5,5 km.

Dificultad de la ruta: Baja

Pathway of Reirigo

Journey: Lineal

Length: 5.4 km.

Difficulty of the route: Medium-High

Pathway of the Chaos de Maseiros

Journey: Lineal

Length: 3.3 km.

Difficulty of the route: Low

Pathway of the Convents (Senda 6)

Journey: Lineal

Length: 4.3 km.

Difficulty of the route: Medium

Pathway of the Valiñas (Senda 1)

Journey: Circular

Length: 0.45 km.

Difficulty of the route: Low

Pathway of the Zufreiros del Frade

Journey: Lineal

Las Medulas

Length: 8 km.

Difficulty of the route: Low

Perimeter Route (Senda 5)

Journey: Circular

Length: 14.5 km.

Difficulty of the route: High

Route of Los Poblados (Senda 9)

Journey: Lineal

Length: 17.25 km.

Difficulty of the route: Medium

Senda del Lago Somido

Trayecto: Lineal

Longitud: 1,9 km.

Dificultad de la ruta: Baja

Archaeological Hall

Archaeological Hall of Las Medulas

It has a didactic space with interactive panels on life in the pre-Roman Iron-age settlements, the Roman settlements and the Roman mines.

Carretera de las Médulas, s/n. Las Médulas (Carucedo). León.

Telephone: 987 422 848 (Aula) / 987 401 954 (I.E.Berc)

Find out more

Other sites

<https://patrimonionatural.org/casas-del-parque/casas-del-parque/casa-del-parque-de-las-medulas>

<https://www.turismodelbierzo.es/Medulas/>

Good of Cultural Interest

4,564

Patrimonio Mundial de la Humanidad

true