

Almería

Andalusia · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Almería is a port city on the Mediterranean coast of southeast Spain. It is one of the sunniest and driest cities in Europe, with a huge Moorish fortress above the old town.

The city is quiet and lived-in rather than touristy, and it has free tapas in many bars. It suits one day of sights, and it is the gateway to the desert landscapes and the beaches of the Cabo de Gata.

When to visit

Winter, spring and autumn are the best seasons, with mild, sunny weather. July and August are hot and humid, though the sea is warm for swimming from June to October.

Holy Week and the August fair are the main festivals.

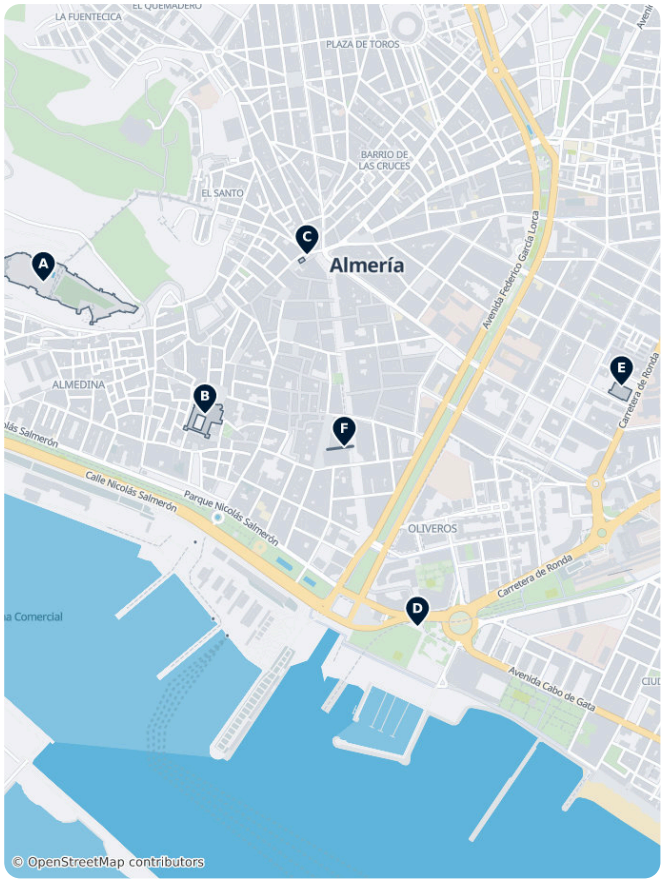
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for sightseeing	17° / 21°	8° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds
February	Great Great for sightseeing	18° / 22°	9° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds
March	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	11° / 7°	Dry air · Calm winds
April	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 27°	13° / 9°	Dry air · Calm winds
May	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 31°	16° / 12°	23 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for the beach	30° / 34°	21° / 17°	25 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
July	Great Great for the beach	33° / 37°	23° / 20°	26 sunny days · Humid air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for the beach	33° / 36°	24° / 21°	24 sunny days · Humid air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
September	Great Great for the beach	29° / 33°	21° / 17°	Humid air · Calm winds
October	Great Great for sightseeing	25° / 30°	17° / 13°	Calm winds
November	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	12° / 8°	Dry air · Calm winds
December	Great Great for sightseeing	17° / 22°	9° / 5°	Dry air · Calm winds

Best months: January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November, December

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Conjunto Monumental la Alcazaba de Almería is a large Moorish fortress from the 10th century, with gardens, walls and views of the city and the sea. It is free for EU citizens, and it is a short walk from the center.
- B Catedral de la Encarnación is a 16th-century fortress-like cathedral, built to defend against pirate raids.
- C Refugios de la Guerra Civil Española de Almería are underground shelters from the Civil War, built for the city's people in 1937. Guided visits are offered.
- D Cable Inglés is a metal loading pier from 1904, built for iron ore trains. It stands over the waterfront.
- E Museo de Almería shows prehistoric finds from the region, including the Bronze Age Argar culture.
- F Paseo de la Fama de Almería is a walk with plaques for films shot in the region.
- The Paseo Marítimo is a long seafront promenade with beaches.



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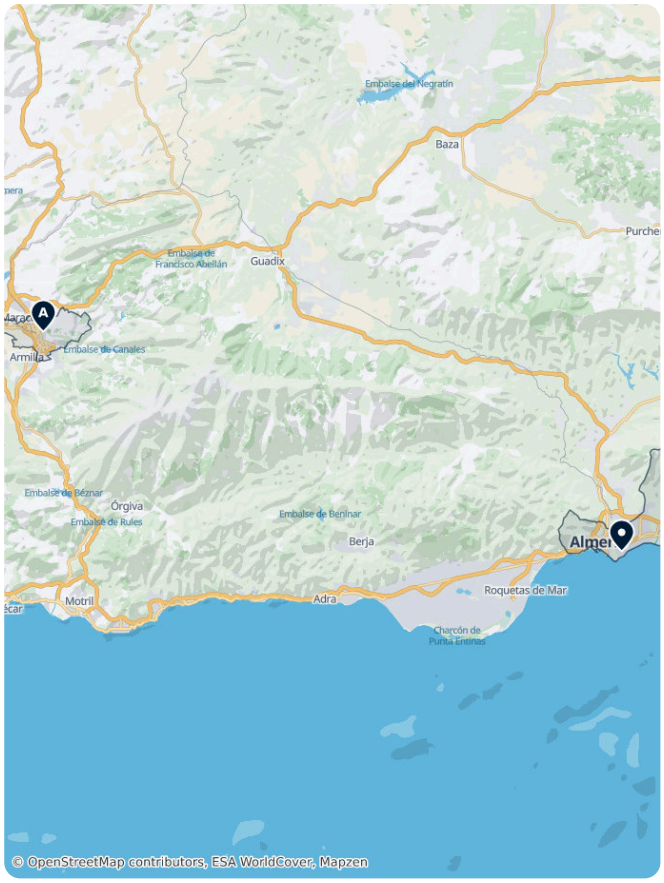
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What to experience

- Order drinks in a bar in the center and receive a free tapa with each one. This is a local tradition.
- Walk up to the Alcazaba at sunset for views over the bay.

Day trips

- **Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park** (about 30 km, 40 minutes by car): a coast of volcanic cliffs, coves and beaches.
- **Tabernas Desert** (about 30 km, 30 minutes by car): Europe's only desert, with film sets used for Westerns.
- A Granada (about 170 km, 2 hours by car): the Alhambra and the Albaicín.
- **Mojácar** (about 90 km, 1 hour by car): a white hill village above the sea.



Where to explore

Other places in Andalusia:

- **City**: Granada is the main inland destination.
- **Murcia**: Murcia is the nearest large city to the northeast.

Getting there

- **By air**: Almería airport (LEI) is about 10 km east of the center and has flights from Madrid, Barcelona and some European cities. Buses link it with the city.
- **By train**: Trains run to Granada, Seville and Madrid, but journeys are slow. Book on Renfe.
- **By bus**: Coaches run to Granada, Murcia, Málaga and the coast.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The center is compact and flat, but the Alcazaba is uphill.
- **Cycling**: The seafront has a cycle path, and the city is flat.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The center is compact and flat, but the Alcazaba is uphill.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The seafront has a cycle path, and the city is flat.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the city. A car is the best way to see Cabo de Gata and the desert.
- **Parking**: Use an underground car park in the center.
- **Restrictions**: The old town has streets with limited access.

Food & drink

Almería is known for free tapas with a drink, a local custom in many bars. Try fresh fish and shellfish from the bay, *gurullos* (a stew with small pasta shapes), *migas* (fried breadcrumbs) and the very sweet tomatoes and vegetables grown in the greenhouses of the province.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Churros · Churros con Chocolate
Fried dough sticks served with a thick, dark hot chocolate for dipping — a classic Spanish breakfast or late-night snack.

LUNCH

Paella Valenciana
A saffron-scented rice dish cooked in a wide, shallow pan. The traditional Valencian version uses chicken, rabbit, and green beans — best eaten at midday.

Gazpacho
A cold, blended soup of raw tomatoes, cucumber, pepper, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, originally from Andalusia. Served as a drink or a starter, especially in summer.

DINNER

Pulpo a la Gallega
Boiled octopus sliced onto a wooden board and dressed with olive oil, coarse salt, and smoked paprika — a signature dish of Galicia.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Jamón Ibérico
Dry-cured ham from acorn-fed Iberian pigs, sliced paper-thin and eaten on its own or with bread. The finest grade, jamón ibérico de bellota, is one of Spain's most prized products.

Tortilla Española
A thick potato and egg omelette, served warm or at room temperature, found in virtually every bar in Spain. Often eaten as a tapa or a quick meal.

Patatas Bravas
Fried potato chunks served with a spicy tomato sauce or aioli — one of the most common tapas across the country.

Pintxos
Small snacks anchored to slices of bread with a toothpick, the Basque Country's answer to tapas. Found in bar counters across San Sebastián and Bilbao, often with elaborate toppings.

Croquetas
Crispy breaded cylinders with a creamy béchamel filling, typically made with jamón, bacalà (salt cod), or mushrooms.

DRINKS

Rioja Wine · Vino de Rioja

Spain's best-known wine region produces full-bodied reds from Tempranillo grapes, aged in oak. The crianza, reserva, and gran reserva labels indicate increasing age and complexity.

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Safety & health

Almería is a safe city. Sun is strong most of the year, so use sun protection and carry water, especially at the Alcazaba and in the desert.

History

Almería was founded in the 10th century by Abd al-Rahman III of Córdoba as a naval base, and it became a rich trade port. The Alcazaba dates from that time.

Christian forces took the city in 1489. In the 20th century it suffered bombing in the Civil War, and later it grew with the intensive greenhouse farming of the surrounding plain.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Spain at a glance:

CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Spanish

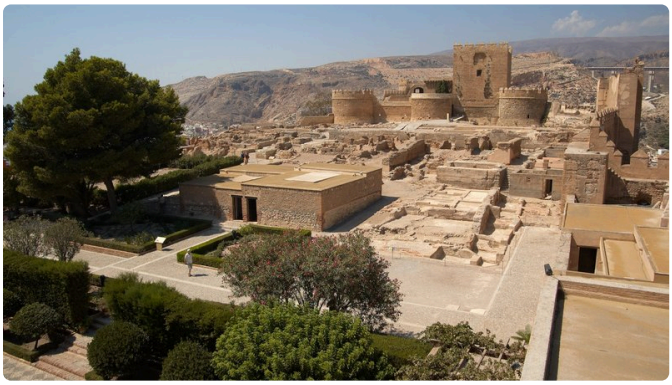
TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Almería's Absolute Essentials

Almería's landscape is defined by the Alcazaba, a massive 10th-century Moorish fortress, and the fortified Cathedral of the Incarnation, built to withstand pirate raids. The city preserves its modern history through a network of underground Civil War air raid shelters and the Cable Inglés, a monumental iron ore pier from 1904. Beyond the center, the Cabo de Gata region features the 18th-century Torreón de San Miguel watchtower and the iconic Salinas church, reflecting the area's strategic coastal and industrial past.





A Alcazaba of Almería

The Alcazaba of Almería is a fortified complex in Almería, southern Spain.

04002, Spain (36.84106, -2.47197)

museosdeandalucia.es/web/conjuntomonumentallaalcaz...



B Almería Cathedral

The Cathedral of Almería, in full the Cathedral of the Incarnation of Almería, is a Roman Catholic cathedral in the city of Almería,...

8 Calle de Velázquez, Almería 04002, Spain (36.83806, -2.46740)

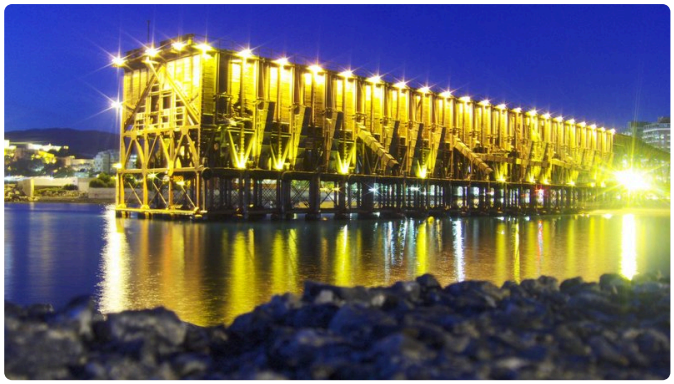


C Almería air raid shelters

The Spanish city of Almería suffered up to 52 bombings from air and sea, with a total of 754 bombs dropped during the Spanish Civil War.

Plaza Manuel Pérez García, 04001 Almería (36.84156, -2.46466)

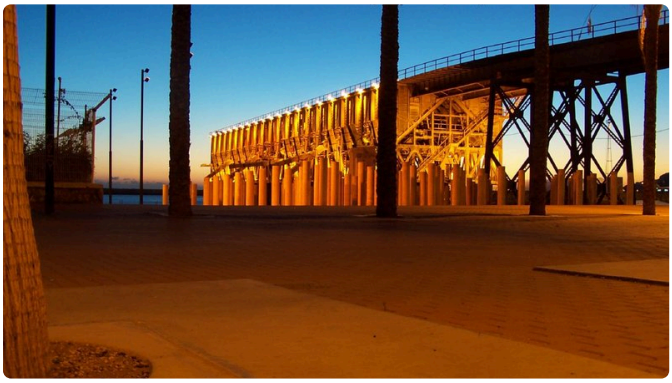
turismodealmeria.org/motivo-tematico/los-refugios-de-la...



D English Cable

A loading pier built in 1904 by a mine company in the port of Almeria. Impressive industrial heritage.

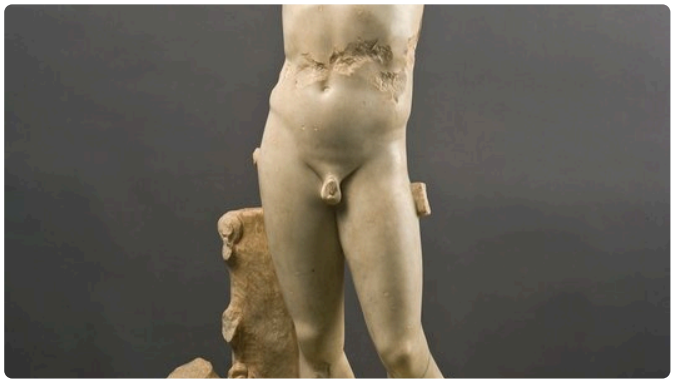
04006, Spain (36.83193, -2.46367)



E English Cable

An iron ore loading pier built in 1904 by the Alquife Mines and Railway Company. This monumental example of British industrial architecture connected the railway directly to the port's cargo ships.

12 Carretera de Ronda, Almería 04006, Spain (36.83324, -2.46138)



F Museum of Almería

The Museum of Almería is an archaeological museum in the Province of Almería.

21 Calle Azorín, Almería 04005, Spain (36.83869, -2.45561)

Mo–Su 09:24

museosdeandalucia.es/culturaydeporte/museos/MAL/



G Mercado Central

A historic iron and glass market hall designed in the late 19th century. It serves as the city's primary hub for fresh local produce, seafood, and regional Almerian delicacies.

Calle Circunvalación Ulpiano Díaz 14, 04001
(36.84036, -2.46251)

Mo–Fr	09:00–21:30
Sa	08:00–15:00

+34950258453



H Parroquia Virgen del Mar

An 18th-century sanctuary housing the image of the Virgin of the Sea, the patron saint of Almería. The temple features a Baroque high altar and serves as a significant religious site.

4 Plaza de la Virgen del Mar, Almería 04001, Spain
(36.83730, -2.46471)



I Iglesia de las Salinas de Cabo de Gata

An early 20th-century church located near the Cabo de Gata salt flats. Its isolated, slender silhouette against the coastal landscape has made it a landmark for the local salt-mining community.

Avenida del Cabo de Gata, 04120, Spain
(36.75181, -2.21908)

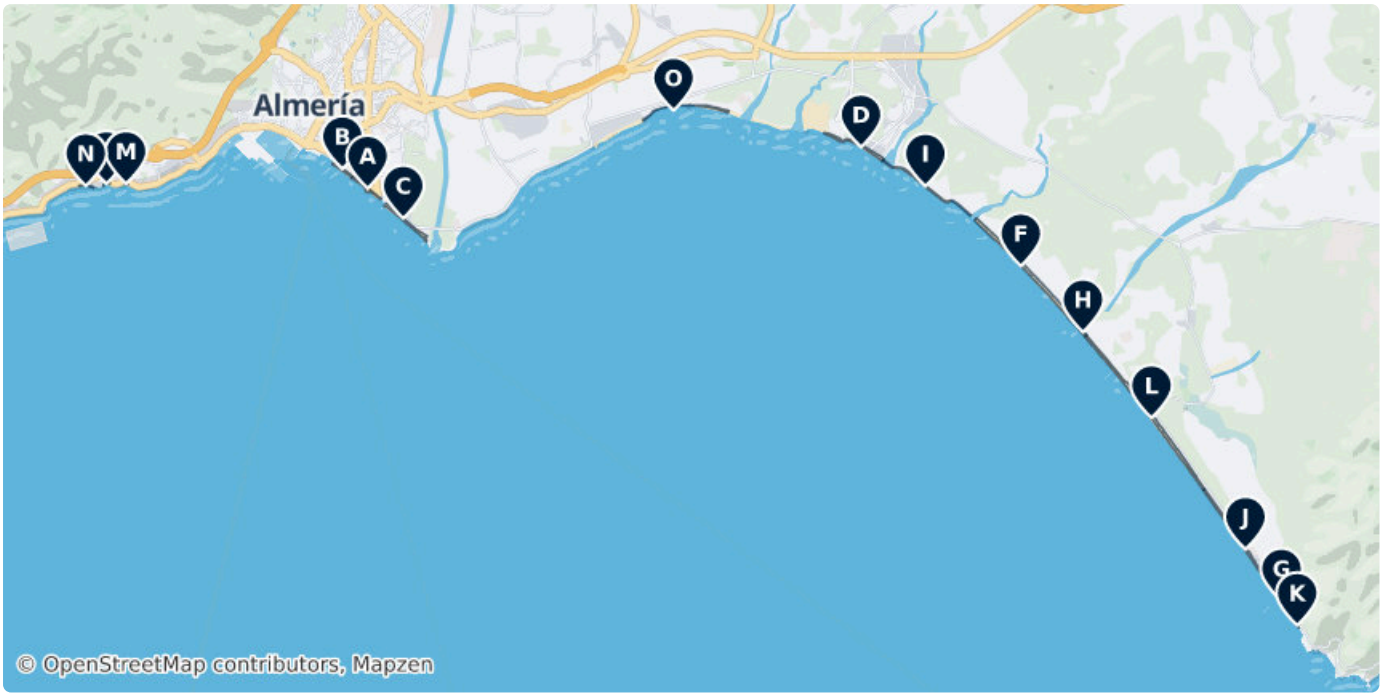
J Torreón de San Miguel

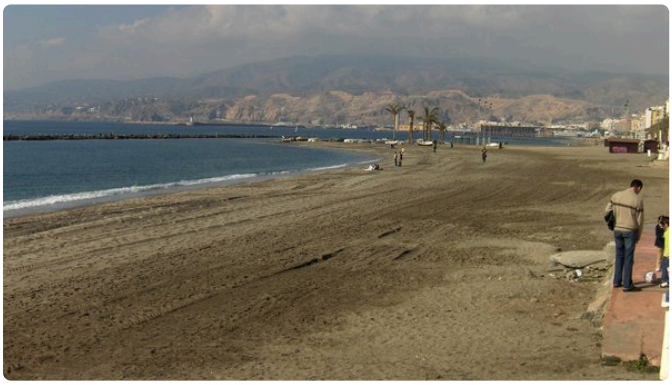
An 18th-century military watchtower built during the reign of Ferdinand VI to protect the Cabo de Gata coast from pirate incursions. It stands as a key example of historical maritime defense architecture.

(Unnamed Road), 04120, Spain (36.77709, -2.24170)

Best Sandy Beaches

Almería's coastline spans from developed urban promenades to the volcanic landscapes of the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park. The city beaches, such as El Zapillo and Nueva Almería, offer wide sandy shores and full accessibility. Moving east, the terrain shifts into protected ecological reserves featuring fossilized dunes at Las Amoladeras and the Las Salinas salt pans. This selection includes historical sites like Cala del Búnker's Civil War defenses and the traditional fishing village atmosphere of San Miguel de Cabo de Gata.





A Playa de El Zapillo

The primary urban beach of Almería city, featuring a wide sandy shore and a long seaside promenade with full accessibility and services.

(Unnamed Road), Almería 04007, Spain (36.82437, -2.44749)

B Playa de San Miguel

Centrally located urban beach adjacent to the city's main promenade, offering calm waters and dark sand.

37 Paseo Marítimo Carmen de Burgos, Almería 04007, Spain (36.82847, -2.45411)

C Playa de Nueva Almería

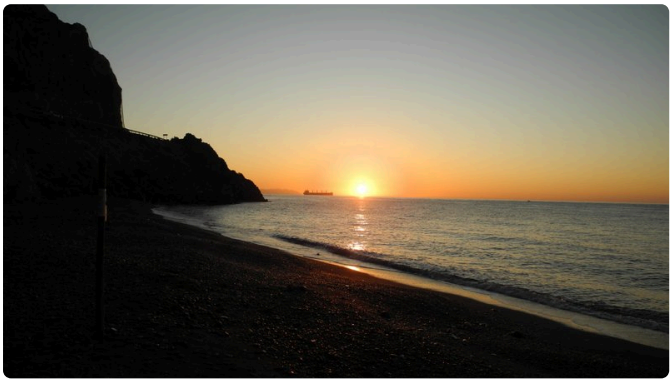
A modern extension of the city's urban beaches, located at the eastern end of the promenade with a quieter atmosphere than the city center.

Avenida del Cabo de Gata, Almería 04007, Spain (36.81811, -2.43812)

D Playa de Retamar

Located near the Retamar urbanization, this beach serves as the western gateway to the protected landscapes of the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park.

Spain (36.83304, -2.31787)



E Cala de La Garrofa

A small cove of pebbles and sand situated at the foot of a cliff, housing a long-established campsite and diving center.

(Unnamed Road), 04002, Spain (36.82534, -2.51612)



F Playa de las Amoladeras

A protected beach within the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park, characterized by its fossilized dunes and significant ecological value.

04120, Spain (36.80806, -2.27590)



G Playa de la Fabriquilla

Located near the village of the same name, this beach is known for its clear, calm waters and proximity to the San Miguel lighthouse.

21 Calle ángel Alcaraz, La Fabriquilla 04100, Spain (36.73757, -2.20742)

H Playa del Charco

A quiet, natural stretch of coastline situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Albufera de Cabo de Gata lagoon.

(36.79419, -2.25954)

I Playa de Torregarcía

Site of the Ermita de Torregarcía, this beach includes a designated nudist section and is located near the remains of a Roman salted fish factory.

(36.82482, -2.30094)

J Playa de la Almadraba

Named after the traditional tuna fishing technique, this beach sits adjacent to the Las Salinas salt pans and the San Miguel church.

(36.74846, -2.21686)

K Cala del Búnker

A small, secluded cove featuring a preserved military bunker dating back to the Spanish Civil War.

AL-3115, 04100, Spain (36.73246, -2.20327)

L Playa de San Miguel de Cabo de Gata

A long sandy beach stretching alongside the fishing village of Cabo de Gata, often dotted with traditional wooden fishing boats.

(36.77614, -2.24153)

M Cala de los Ahogados

A small, narrow cove located west of Almería city, accessible via a steep path from the coastal road.

Carretera de Málaga, 04002, Spain (36.82534, -2.51093)

N Playa de la Cueva del Cura

A rocky cove located in a semi-urban area, frequently used for snorkeling due to its clear water and seabed biodiversity.

(Unnamed Road), 04002, Spain (36.82491, -2.52154)

O Playa del Perdigal

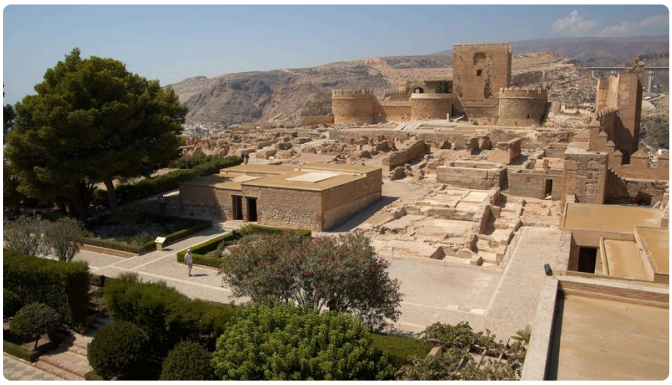
A wide beach located near Almería Airport, known for its proximity to the Roman archaeological remains of Ribera de la Algaida.

Spain (36.84077, -2.36710)

Ancient Ruins and Historical Sites

This collection highlights Almería's diverse archaeological heritage, spanning from the Bronze Age to the industrial era. Key sites include the 10th-century Alcazaba fortress and the Necrópolis del Barranquete, which features ancient tholos tombs. The list also documents the region's rural and industrial past through 16th-century coastal watchtowers, Roman fish-salting remains, and numerous abandoned cortijos—traditional Andalusian farmhouses that characterize the arid landscape of southeastern Spain.





A Alcazaba of Almería

The Alcazaba of Almería is a fortified complex in Almería, southern Spain.

04002, Spain (36.84106, -2.47197)

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B Necrópolis del Barranquete

Bronze Age burial ground featuring eleven well-preserved tholos tombs associated with the Los Millares culture.

(36.84660, -2.20736)

C Torre de El Perdigal

A 16th-century coastal defense tower, also known as the Atalaya del Perdigal, built to monitor the shoreline for pirate activity.

A-3113, 04130, Spain (36.84209, -2.36996)

D Antigua Iglesia de la Cañada

The structural remains of the original parish church that served the La Cañada district.

(36.83922, -2.40405)

E Estación Terrones

A former loading station for the historic aerial cable car system once used in Almería's mining industry.

(36.91400, -2.29025)

F Fábrica de salazones romana

Archaeological site containing stone basins used by Romans for salting fish and producing garum.

04120, Spain (36.82211, -2.29383)

G Cortijo Nuevo

Ruined remains of a traditional Andalusian rural estate.

(36.90900, -2.31574)

H Cortijo del Fidiero

Abandoned traditional farmhouse typical of the Almerian countryside.

04120, Spain (36.87002, -2.26693)

I Cortijo de la Romana del Medio

Ruined farm complex reflecting the traditional agricultural architecture of the region.

04120, Spain (36.92526, -2.31797)

J Cotrijo Redondo

Historical ruins of a rural dwelling located in the arid plains near Almería.

04120, Spain (36.94524, -2.31459)

K Cortijo Rabanillo

Structural remains of a traditional rural estate.

04120, Spain (36.92391, -2.32414)

L Cortijo del Carrizalejo

Abandoned agricultural building characteristic of 19th-century rural Almería.

(36.92185, -2.31363)

M Cortijo de las Viñicas de Abajo

Ruined farmhouse located in the lower valley area.

04120, Spain (36.94680, -2.28887)

N Cortijo de Frasco

Historical remains of a small rural residence.

04120, Spain (36.94556, -2.28727)

O Cortijo del Cancú de Abajo

Abandoned farm complex built in the traditional local style.

04120, Spain (36.94522, -2.35027)

P Cortijo de los Sauces

Ruined rural estate showcasing local stone construction techniques.

04120, Spain (36.93112, -2.34511)

Q Cortijo de la Fuentecilla

Structural remains of a farmhouse situated near a natural spring.

04120, Spain (36.91444, -2.25891)

R Cortijo de Iniesta

Ruins of a traditional rural residence.

(36.98923, -2.31877)

S Cortijo de la Hoya de Castro

Abandoned farmhouse located in the Hoya de Castro area.

(36.98414, -2.32000)

T Cortijo de la Fuente del Peñon

Historical ruins of a rural complex situated near the Peñon spring.

(36.96607, -2.34143)

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