

Antequera

Andalusia · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Antequera is a historic town in the north of the province of Málaga, in Andalusia, often called the "heart of Andalusia" for its central position. It is known for its prehistoric dolmens, which are a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and for its Renaissance and Baroque churches, a Moorish fortress and the limestone landscape of El Torcal.

It is a good base for the nearby Caminito del Rey walkway. It works as a one- or two-day stop between Málaga, Granada, Córdoba and Seville.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are the best seasons, with mild weather for the dolmens and for walking at El Torcal. Summer is hot and dry. Winters are cool, and fog can sit over El Torcal.

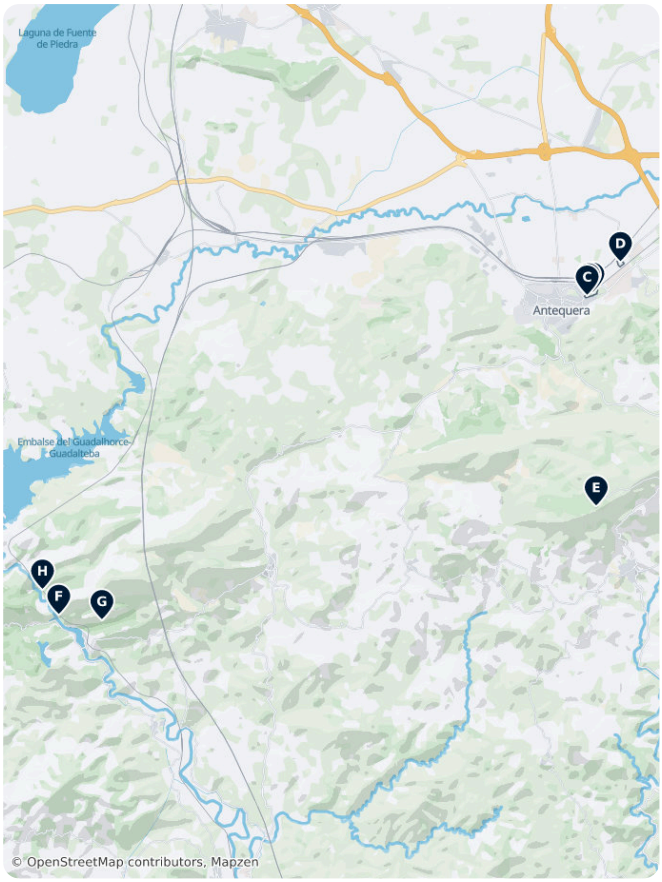
The Caminito del Rey is open most of the year, but tickets sell out in spring and autumn, so book ahead.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Good Good for hiking	14° / 18° Feels like 10°	5° / 0°	Dry air
February	Great Great for hiking	15° / 20° Feels like 11°	5° / 0°	Dry air
March	Great Great for hiking	17° / 23° Feels like 14°	7° / 2°	Dry air
April	Great Great for hiking	20° / 26°	9° / 4°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 30°	12° / 7°	21 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Great Great for sightseeing	30° / 35°	16° / 12°	25 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
July	Good Good for sightseeing	33° / 38°	19° / 15°	29 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high) · Up to 8 days above 35°
August	Good Good for sightseeing	33° / 37°	20° / 16°	28 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high) · Up to 7 days above 35°
September	Great Great for sightseeing	28° / 33°	17° / 13°	22 sunny days · Calm winds
October	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 29°	13° / 9°	Dry air · Calm winds
November	Great Great for hiking	17° / 22°	8° / 3°	Dry air
December	Good Good for hiking	14° / 19° Feels like 11°	6° / 1°	Dry air

Best months: April, May, June, September, October

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Antequera Dolmens Site is the UNESCO-listed group of megalithic monuments, with the dolmens of Menga and Viera, and the Tholos of El Romeral.
- B Dolmen de Menga is one of the largest megalithic burial chambers in Europe, built more than 5,000 years ago.
- C Dolmen de Viera is a long corridor tomb aligned with the sunrise.
- D Tholos de El Romeral is a Bronze Age tomb with a false dome, about 4 km from the center.
- The Alcazaba de Antequera is a Moorish fortress above the old town, with towers and views over the plain.
- E Centro de Visitantes del Torcal de Antequera is the visitor center of El Torcal, a nature reserve of eroded limestone rock formations.
- F Caminito del Rey is a walkway on the cliffs of a gorge, about 35 km west of town.
- G El Chorro Gorge and H Desfiladero de Los Gaitanes are the gorge and narrow canyon beside the walkway.
- The old town has many churches and Baroque houses, such as the Real Colegiata de Santa María la Mayor, next to the fortress.

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What to experience

- Enter the Menga dolmen and see the Viera chamber.
- Walk a trail in El Torcal among the rock formations.
- Spend half a day on the Caminito del Rey.
- Try the local dishes in a tavern in the old town.

Day trips

- **El Torcal de Antequera** (about 15 km): a nature reserve with marked trails through limestone formations.
- **Caminito del Rey** (about 35 km, 40 minutes by car): a walkway above the Gaitanes gorge. Book tickets in advance.
- **Fuente de Piedra lagoon** (about 25 km): a lake with flamingos in winter and spring.
- A Ronda (about 90 km): a town on a gorge.
- B Carmona (about 130 km): a Roman and medieval hill town near Seville.



Where to explore

Other places nearby:

- **Andalusia**: Ronda, Carmona, Marbella and Baeza.

Getting there

- **By train**: Antequera-Santa Ana station has high-speed trains to Málaga, Córdoba and Seville, and trains to Granada. Book on Renfe.
- **By bus**: Buses link the town with Málaga, Granada and Seville.
- **By air**: Málaga airport is about 60 km away. A rental car or train connection is the easiest way.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is on a hill, and the streets are steep. The dolmens are about 2 km from the center, and the train station is about 3 km out.
- **Taxi and bus**: Useful for the dolmens and the station.
- **Car**: The best way to reach El Torcal and the Caminito del Rey.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The old town is on a hill with steep streets, and the dolmens are about 2 km from the center.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

The hills make cycling tiring, and traffic on the roads to the sights is heavy.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Yes, for El Torcal, the Caminito del Rey and the lagoon. The town itself is small.
- **Parking**: Free and paid parking is available below the old town. The old town has narrow, steep streets.
- **Roads**: The A-92 and A-45 pass by. The road up to El Torcal is winding.

Food & drink

Antequera has its own dishes. Try *porra antequerana*, a thick cold tomato soup like salmorejo, served with ham and egg, and *mollete*, a soft bread, for breakfast. *Bienmesabe* is a fried marinated fish, and *angelorum* is a local sweet cake, based on the convent pastry tradition.

Local olive oil and cured meats are also well known.

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

Antequera is a safe town. In summer the heat is strong, so bring water and sun protection to the dolmens and El Torcal. At El Torcal, the weather can change quickly, and fog and cold are possible in winter. On the Caminito del Rey, follow the rules and wear the helmet provided.

History

Antequera has been inhabited since prehistory. The dolmens of Menga and Viera date from the Neolithic period, about 5,000 years ago, and El Romeral from the Bronze Age. The Romans built a town here called Anticaria.

The Moors held the town until 1410, when it was taken by the Christian forces. The Renaissance and Baroque churches date from the later period of prosperity. The dolmens site, together with the Peña de los Enamorados and El Torcal, was listed by UNESCO in 2016.

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

Antequera Essentials

Antequera's landscape is defined by the UNESCO-listed Antequera Dolmens Site, featuring the prehistoric Menga, Viera, and El Romeral megalithic tombs. The city's history spans from these Bronze Age structures to the 14th-century Moorish Alcazaba, a fortress built atop Roman ruins. South of the city, El Torcal de Antequera showcases surreal limestone karst formations and hiking trails. The nearby Caminito del Rey provides a narrow walkway pinned to the walls of the Gaitanes Gorge, while the Puerta de Estepa serves as a grand brick gateway to the historic center.





A Caminito del Rey

El Caminito del Rey is a walkway pinned along the steep walls of a narrow gorge in El Chorro, near Ardales in the province of Málaga, Spain.

29550, Spain (36.91736, -4.77413)

caminitodelrey.info/en/



B Antequera Dolmens Site

The Antequera Dolmens Site is a cultural heritage ensemble comprising three cultural monuments and 2 natural mountain features in and near...

29200, Spain (37.02441, -4.54649)



C Dolmen of Menga

The Dolmen of Menga is a megalithic burial mound called a tumulus, a long barrow form of dolmen, dating from 3750–3650 BCE approximately.

29200, Spain (37.02419, -4.54825)

D Alcazaba of Antequera

The Alcazaba of Antequera is a Moorish fortress in Antequera, Spain. It was erected over Roman ruins in the 14th century to counter the...

(Unnamed Road), Antequera 29200, Spain (37.01448, -4.55744)

youtube.com/watch



E El Torcal Vistor Centre

El Torcal de Antequera is a nature reserve in the Sierra del Torcal mountain range located south of the city of Antequera, in the province...

Carretera A-7075 S/N, 29200 Antequera, Spain (36.95261, -4.54506)

torcaldeantequera.com, +34 952 24 33 24



F The Viera Dolmen

The Dolmen de Viera or Dolmen de los Hermanos Viera is a dolmen—a type of single-chamber megalithic tomb—located in Antequera, province of...

Autovía de Málaga, Antequera 29200, Spain (37.02345, -4.54887)

+34 952 71 22 06



G Tholos de El Romeral

Tholos de El Romeral, situated 2.5 kilometres north east of the town of Antequera, is one of the most important examples of early Bronze...

(Unnamed Road), Antequera 29200, Spain
(37.03470, -4.53484)

Tu–Sa 09:00–03:00

+34 952 71 22 06

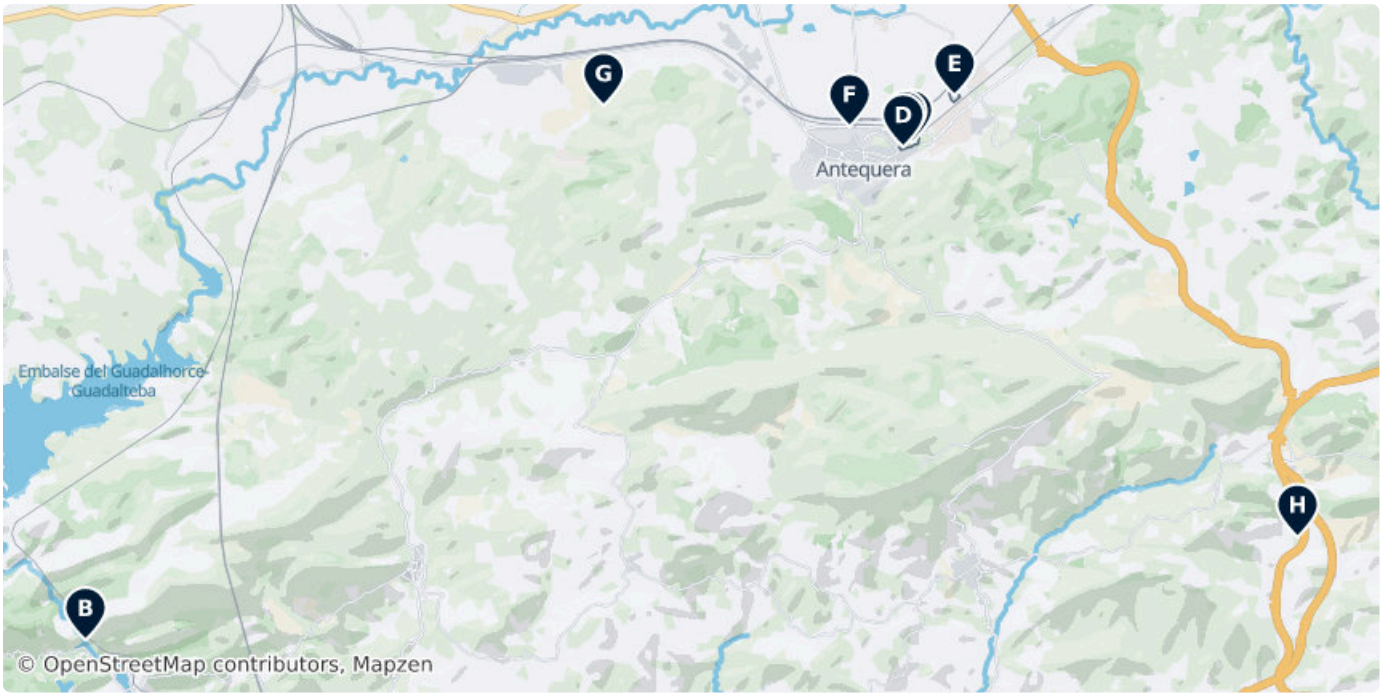
H Puerta de Estepa

A reconstructed 18th-century triumphal arch built with red brick and limestone. Originally erected in 1748 and rebuilt in 1998, the gate features three arches and a central niche housing a terracotta sculpture of the Virgen del Rosario.

Plaza de la Constitución, 29200 Antequera, Spain
(37.02184, -4.56569)

Editor's Choice

Antequera serves as a crossroads of Andalusian history, home to one of Europe's most significant megalithic ensembles. The UNESCO-listed Dolmens of Menga, Viera, and El Romeral showcase Neolithic and Bronze Age engineering, uniquely oriented toward natural landmarks like the Peña de los Enamorados. Beyond these prehistoric sites, the region preserves Roman urban ruins at Singilia Barba and the Villa de la Estación. Nearby, the Caminito del Rey offers a dramatic aerial path pinned to the limestone walls of the Gaitanes Gorge.





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B King's Walkway

El Caminito del Rey is a walkway pinned along the steep walls of a narrow gorge in El Chorro, near Ardales in the province of Málaga, Spain.

29200, Spain (36.91589, -4.77218)

caminitodelrey.info/en/



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(Unnamed Road), Antequera 29200, Spain (37.03470, -4.53484)

Tu–Sa 09:00–03:00

+34 952 71 22 06

F Villa romana de la Estación

A 1st-century Roman peristyle villa discovered during railway construction. The archaeological site preserves mosaic floors and the architectural layout of a traditional Roman residence centered around a courtyard.

(Unnamed Road), 29200, Spain (37.02791, -4.56351)

rutasconhistoria.es/loc/villa-romana-de-la-estacion-anteq...

G Singilia Barba

Remains of an ancient Roman city featuring a theater, forum, and necropolis. Located on the El Castillón hill, it was once a prominent municipality within the Roman province of Baetica.

(Unnamed Road), 29200, Spain (37.03247, -4.63068)

H Aratispi

A strategic Iberian and Roman settlement located in the Puerto de Las Pedrizas. The site features ruins of defensive structures and dwellings overlooking the historic mountain pass.

29200, Spain (36.93842, -4.44118)

Outdoor Adventures in El Chorro

El Chorro is a premier destination for rock climbing and hiking in Andalusia, centered around the sheer limestone walls of the Gaitanes Gorge. The area is home to the Caminito del Rey, a historical walkway pinned 100 meters above the Guadalhorce River. Beyond the gorge, the landscape features technical climbing sectors like Los Albercones and Castrojo, and high-altitude peaks including Sierra de Abdalajís and Camorro Alto, which offer views across the karst formations of the Málaga province.





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caminitodelrey.info/en/



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29200, Spain (36.91598, -4.77238)

caminitodelrey.info/en/

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29550, Spain (36.91688, -4.77337)

caminitodelrey.info/en/

D Los Albercones

A prominent limestone climbing sector located near the El Chorro train station, featuring technical multi-pitch routes and vertical walls.

(36.91289, -4.76151)

E Bella Rocca

Limestone cliff face used for rock climbing, situated within the mountainous terrain overlooking the Guadalhorce reservoirs.

(36.91336, -4.73450)

F Vías de Escalada

Designated rock climbing routes offering various levels of difficulty on the limestone crags surrounding the Gaitanes Gorge.

(36.93185, -4.68501)

G Sierra de Abdalajis

A limestone mountain range reaching an elevation of 1,195 meters, known for its hiking trails and paragliding launch sites.

(36.94361, -4.71194)

H Castrojo

A technical climbing sector in the El Chorro area characterized by its steep limestone face and proximity to the central gorge.

29500, Spain (36.91274, -4.76410)

cleverclimb.es/pl/topo

I Camorro Alto

The highest peak in the Sierra de Chimenea at 1,378 meters, featuring a distinct karst landscape and views of the Torcal de Antequera.

(36.97194, -4.58556)

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