

HOW TO VISIT THE PARKS AND GARDENS OF BADAJOZ

The locations of the different parks and gardens in the city allow you to perform a tour which joins them together in a long but comfortable walk. The layout of many of these gardens within the moats of the city's fortifications will allow you, in turn, to learn more about this rich historical heritage of Badajoz. Before starting the tour of our parks and gardens we advise you to visit either of the **Tourist Information Offices**.



TOURIST OFFICE OF THE MUDEJAR HOUSES

Plaza San José, 18. 06001 BADAJOZ
Telephone: (+34) 924 201 369
Mail: casasmudejares@aytobadajoz.es

MUNICIPAL TOURIST OFFICE

Calle San Juan Bautista, s/n, Pasaje de San Juan Bautista.
06002 BADAJOZ
Telephone: (+34) 924 224 981
Mail: turismo@aytobadajoz.es



<https://turismo.aytobadajoz.es/>



ROUTE OF THE PARKS AND GARDENS of Badajoz



Ayuntamiento de Badajoz
CONCEJALÍA DE TURISMO



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The parks and gardens of Badajoz are a faithful reflection of the time at which they were created. In the 19th century the first works were performed to landscape some public areas of the city, like the San Francisco or San Juan "walking salons". In the middle of the last century other areas were set aside for the creation of new parks: the moats of the old bastioned fortifications and the area of the old Citadel. The old parks from that period (the Children's and Legion Parks) are now being adapted in order to reconcile their enjoyment with the conservation of the fortified enclosure.

The new century has turned its attention to other areas of the city for the creation of new parks, on the banks of the Rivillas stream and the Guadiana, the latter park being one of the favourites for walking and playing sports among the people of Badajoz.



The gardens of Badajoz cannot be understood without knowing more about the history of the city, as the remnants of the past share the limelight with the trees and plants within them. We can thus find in our parks the remains of the walls, former chapels and sculptures by illustrious artists, elements of a highly valuable cultural heritage, as are many unique plant species growing in them.



1

CITADEL GARDENS

The Park of La Alcazaba lies within the walls of the old Moorish Citadel of Badajoz. It was created upon the basis of the project of the architect and archaeologist Leopoldo Torres Balbás in 1938 and completed in 1946 in keeping with a project by Pedro Benito Watteler, the moments which gave it the great palm and pine trees which characterize it.

Its present-day appearance is the result of the renovation carried out in 2007 which kept the original layout but supplemented it with lawns, slopes with aromatic plants and irrigation and lighting facilities.



2

LA GALERA GARDENS

The La Galera Gardens occupy the space adjoining the wall of the Arab citadel situated between the Espantaperros Tower and the San Antonio half-bastion, the latter belonging to the bastion wall built in the 17th century. Its name comes from the building of La Galera, constructed in the 16th century and attached to the citadel, which has had several functions since then.

The first landscape projects were conducted by the architect Francisco Vaca Morales with the collaboration of the archaeologist Jesus Canovas Pesini. We should highlight the walk with lemon and orange trees and the specimen of silk floss tree (Chorisia speciosa) next to the entrance to La Galera.



3

TRINITY GARDENS

The project for the gardens located within the moats of the bastioned fortification in the vicinity of the bastions of La Trinidad and San Pedro was drawn up in 1946 by Pedro Benito Watteler, the municipal architect. The old outer elements of the fortification were used to make walks, avenues and squares with fountains.

The inside of the Trinity bastion was emptied in 1956 to create a new garden. The recovery of the bastion and the remains of the mediaeval wall has resulted in the removal of this part of the garden, preserving the sculptures of the Evangelists of Juan de Ávalos.



4

PARK OF LOS SITIOS

The gardens occupying the moat of the wall in the vicinity of the Bastion of Santa Maria extend the Park of La Trinidad to the west. This sector was recently renovated, removing some of the vegetation hiding the wall, making its enjoyment compatible with the conservation of the historical remains.

In 2012, an obelisk commemorating the bicentennial of the four sieges suffered by the city during the War of Independence in 1811 and 1812 was erected, and tribute is paid to all those who died in them.



5

CASTELAR PARK

Occupies the garden of the former Monastery of Santo Domingo. Its creation was approved in 1902 by the City Council. The great palm trees and the general layout date back to this period. In the restoration of 1941 the larger trees were preserved and some elements with the characteristic imprint of Antonio Juez were added: benches and kerbs covered with river pebbles, the pond with the sculpture of Carolina Coronado and that of José Sánchez Silva, built in 1953...



6

CHILDREN'S PARK

The Parque Infantil is located in the fortification moat, between the San Vicente and San José bastions. It owes its name to the fact that, from its creation, its purpose was to give "children a suitable place to play safely". Inside stands the Monument to the Lady of La Soledad adjoining the wall.

In the park you can find the Ricardo Carapeto Burgos Auditorium, which reuses the Saint Vincent ravelin of the bastioned fortification. Since it was opened in 1960 it has borne witness to cultural events in the summer.



7

GUADIANA PARK

Was created in 2015 on the right bank of the river as it passes through the city. Due to its location and size it is the park most used by the people of Badajoz of all ages, who enjoy its unique landscape assets, its ornithological wealth and its modern sports and leisure facilities. The park stretches between the four bridges spanning the Guadiana.

The creation of the park has allowed the recovery of the hornworks at the head of the Palmas Bridge, one of the oldest and most prominent elements of the bastioned fortification of the city.



i MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROUTE

