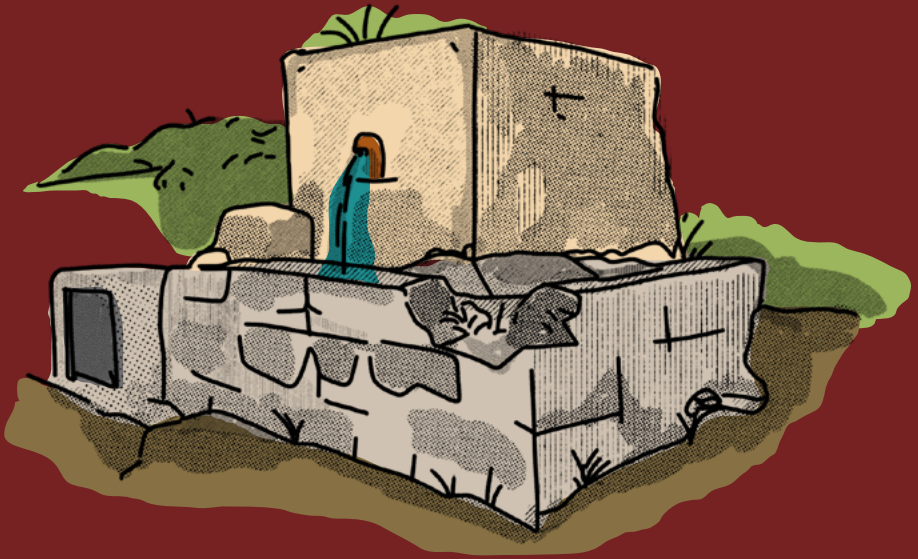


La Orotava *SlowTours*

LA PERDOMA



LA OROTAVA *cittaslow*
Ciudad Internacional por la Calidad de Vida



INTRODUCTION

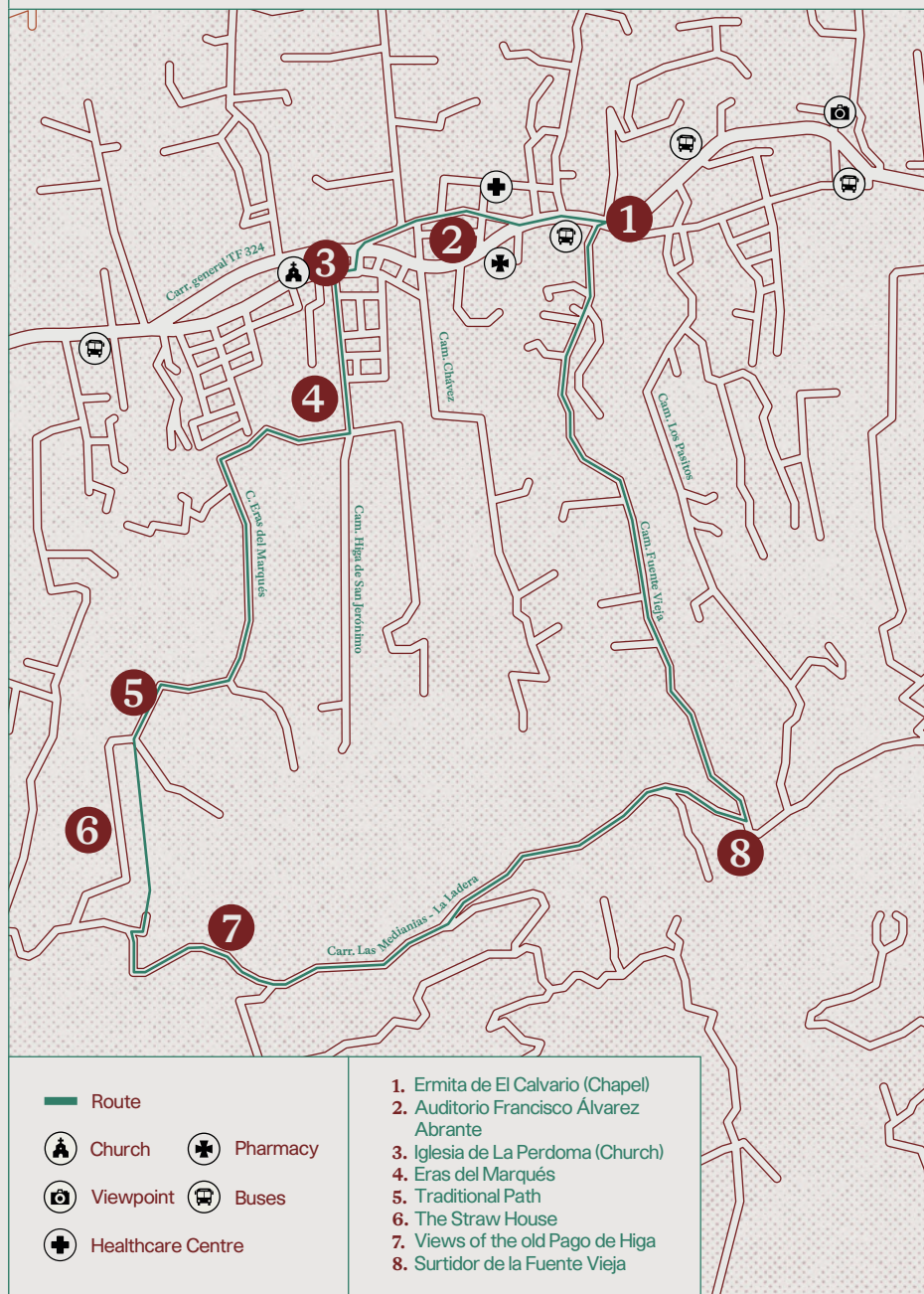
La Orotava is committed to the community development of rural areas in a more sustainable and respectful way. This city strategy involves the carrying out of several initiatives in the most isolated and unknown spots, such as the many groups of farmhouses located in the high- and mid-mountain areas (also known as medianías).

This series of self-guided itineraries —*La Orotava SlowTours*— is among the initiatives framed within the aforementioned strategy of economic, social and cultural development of rural areas. Their purpose is to serve as a useful tool to disseminate the rich natural and cultural heritage that we have in our land, in an educational and practical manner.

Each itinerary created invites us to explore seldom-visited spots in La Orotava, each with its own unique character. In these areas there are still many cultural expressions and elements of heritage value which stem, precisely, from the historic isolation they have endured. We hope that the dissemination of this information contributes to raising awareness as to the importance of rural areas in the progress of society in general.



LA PERDOMA



TECHNICAL DETAILS: LA PERDOMA TRAIL

START:

Ermita de El Calvario

FINISH:

Ermita de El Calvario

TYPE OF ROUTE:

Circular

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:

Intermediate



DISTANCE:

4.80 km

DURATION (ON FOOT):

2 hours

HIGHEST ALTITUDE:

691 m

LOWEST ALTITUDE:

426 m

POSITIVE SLOPE:

261 m

NEGATIVE SLOPE:

261 m

POSITIVE AVERAGE SLOPE:

11.0 %

NEGATIVE AVERAGE SLOPE:

-13.6 %

MODALITY:

On foot. By car in all sections.

HOW TO GET THERE:

From the main road, Carretera General La Perdoma (TF-324).

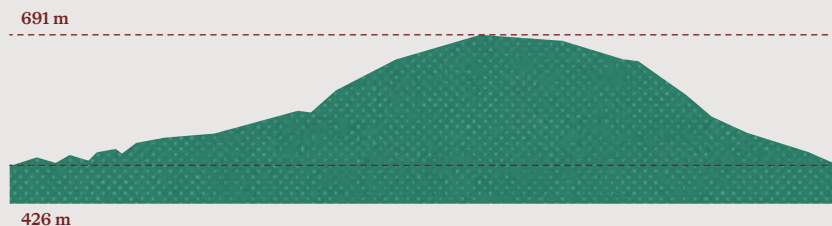
APPROVAL STATUS:

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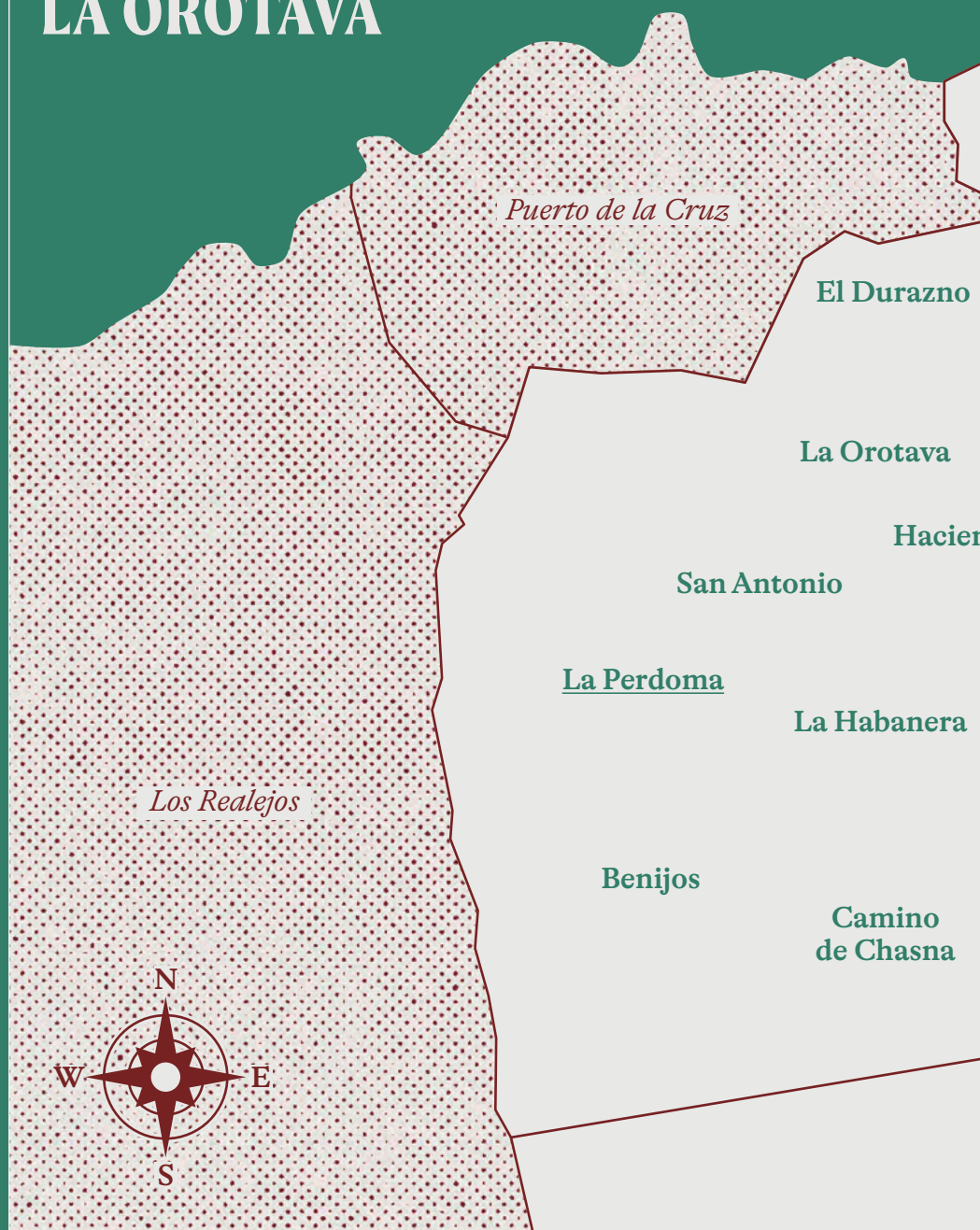
NEARBY PUBLIC CAR PARK:

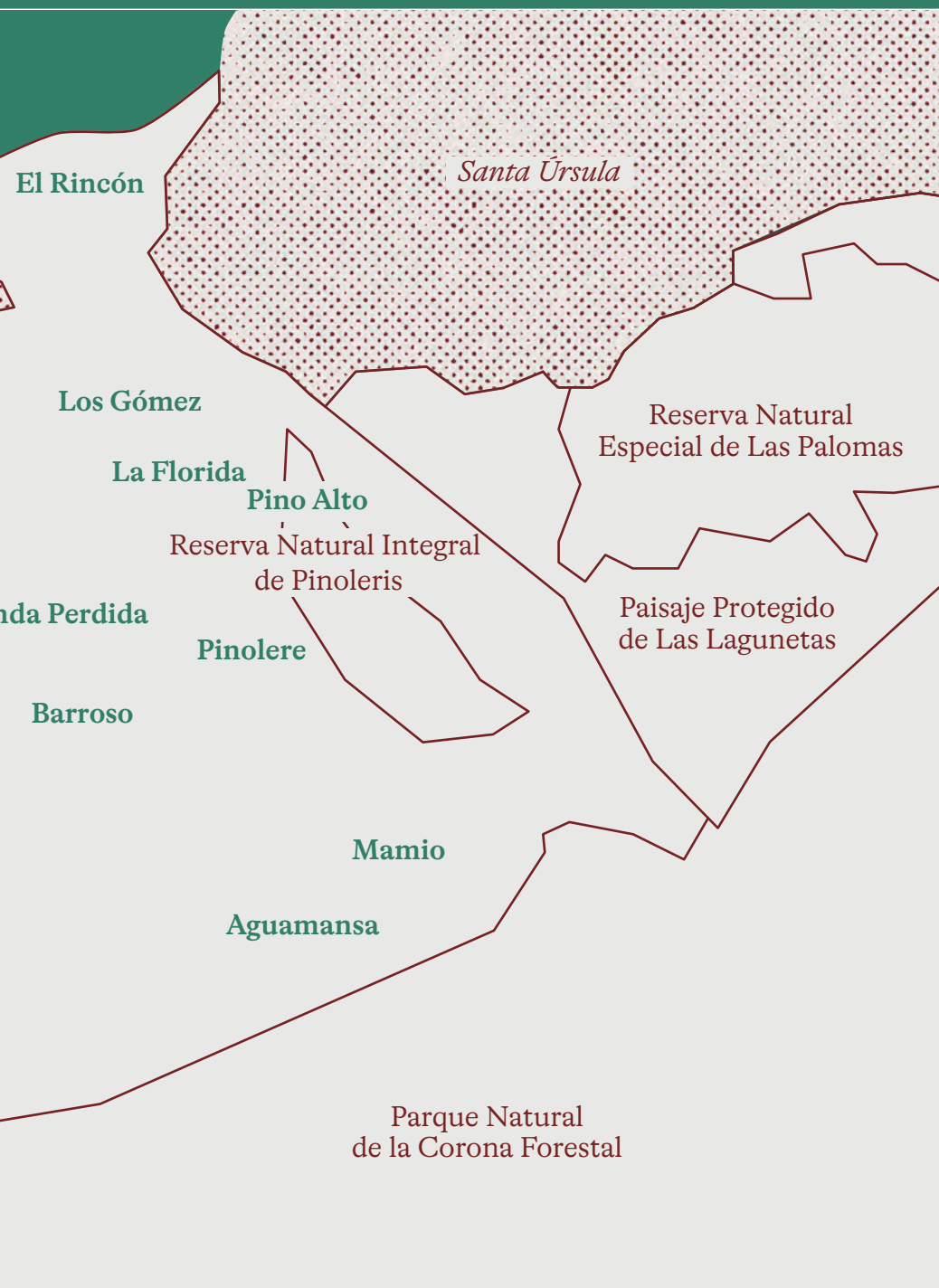
On Carretera General La Perdoma (TF-324).

TRAIL PROFILE:



CITY OF LA OROTAVA





WELCOME TO LA PERDOMA

In the heart of the Orotava Valley lies one of the most famous areas of the old Pago de Higa: La Perdoma. In this place, highly prized since the dawn of the Spanish conquest and colonisation for its climate and soil quality, a rural landscape of great beauty has been created that is now home to numerous traditions.

This circular route will take you through the more urban areas of one of the most dynamic neighbourhoods in La Orotava, where you can admire the vineyard landscapes and discover various elements of heritage value such as chapels, traditional houses, crosses, straw houses, and ancient paths. Water, one of the most valuable treasures in local history, is another of the highlights of this route.

Along the route, you will walk through one of the most extraordinary agricultural systems in the area, where people have managed to create a unique landscape thanks to their effort and tenacity. The Cordón Trenzado (braided or plaited cord) training system, family wineries, and the popular eateries known as guachinches are typical of the current landscape, where agriculture still contributes faithfully to the economic, social, and cultural development of the area.

Discover La Orotava at its most rural, its people and its culture, through this trail that features the most representative heritage landmarks. Immerse yourself in this land, in a respectful and conscious way, to get to know the history and reality of a place influenced by its climate and terrain.



TIPS

During your self-guided visit to this rural setting, you will walk along very steep asphalted roads. If you enjoy this trail, we would like you to show a responsible attitude with a commitment to our environment. You will find some tips here:

1. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the type of activity that we are offering you.

2. Do not alter the environment that you are visiting, do not disturb the species or their habitats—leave no trace.

3. Do not damage the heritage elements that you are visiting.
Help preserve the cultural legacy of this place.



4. Do not leave rubbish along the route, take your waste with you and place it at the designated points.



5. Support rural development by consuming in local businesses and buying local crafts.

6. Respect the animals and crops you find along the way.
For your own safety, do not enter into restricted areas.

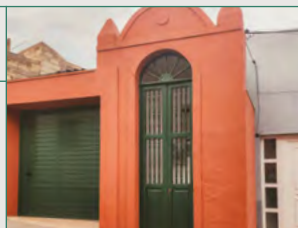
For an outstanding experience, do some research and learn about the place and its people beforehand. Immerse yourself in the history, culture and tradition of one of the most unknown areas of La Orotava.



ERMITA DE EL CALVARIO (CHAPEL)

At this stop, you will find the chapel called Ermita de El Calvario, one of the highlights of the historic neighbourhood of La Perdoma. This neighbourhood, which originated around this small religious site, probably owes its name to a woman from the Perdomo family, who were the former owners of most of the land in this area.

Specific publications mention that the original chapel, located nearby, housed the original holy wooden cross dating back to at least the early 18th century. The small building was demolished and replaced by the chapel that now houses the new cross, the sacred landmark that leads the way to the church.



The Cross of El Calvario and other crosses, such as the one on the street known as Calle José de Ponte or the one in the ravine known as Barranco del Cerrudo, are decorated every year on special festivities, such as the Exaltación de la Santa Cruz and during Holy Week.



Calle José de Ponte connects with the old Camino de La Arbeja which, according to local literature, owes its name to the Arbexa family, who lived in the area in the 17th century.

AUDITORIO FRANCISCO ÁLVAREZ ABRANTE

Across Calle José de Ponte, you can access one of the neighbourhood's most iconic buildings: the Auditorium. In 1965, the building opened its doors to become the cinema known as Cine Perdoma, a cinema promoted by the father and uncle of Francisco Álvarez Abrante, the local architect who drafted the renovation project.

From then until 1990, when it closed, this space welcomed locals and visitors from all over the island, allowing them to enjoy various film genres, theatre plays, concerts, festivals and talks. In 1998, the building was acquired by the City Council of La Orotava to renovate it for the use of the citizens.



IGLESIA DE LA PERDOMA (CHURCH)

Via Calle José de Ponte, whose cobblestone pavement is covered with carpets of flowers during the Feast of Corpus Christi, you will arrive at the Parish Church of Nuestra Señora del Rosario y San Jerónimo. The church is located next to the main road, which follows the route of the old Camino Real of Higa. Its origins date back to 1696, when the original chapel, the Ermita de San Jerónimo, was built on this same site.

Between 1946 and 1947, the church underwent major renovations, including the raising of the walls and roof, the creation of a new side entrance from the square, and the construction of the tower. The work was promoted by José de Ponte y Méndez, the parish priest who dedicated his life to the spiritual and material well-being of the neighbourhood and other nearby areas.



Inside the church, the images of San Jerónimo and Nuestra Señora del Rosario coexist with El Nazareno, one of the first works by the renowned sculptor Ezequiel de León y Domínguez, who was born in La Orotava.



The *Cordones Trenzados* are formed by intertwining vine shoots to create a long braid that adapts to the terrain.

LAS ERAS DEL MARQUÉS

The route continues through one of the most exceptional agricultural landscapes in La Orotava: Las Eras del Marqués. The place name refers to the threshing floors that once existed here and the importance of cereal cultivation in this area of the Pago de Higa. Written records place the appearance of San Jerónimo in this spot in 1694. A local resident kept the image in his home until the first chapel was built.

In this setting, which was the scene of the old pilgrimage that took place during the local festivities, there are still some family wineries, a few *guachinches* (traditional eateries) and several vegetable gardens covered with *Cordones Trenzados* (braided or plaited cord), the traditional vineyard training system considered unique in the world, which coexists with plots of citrus fruits, potatoes and some vegetables.



TRADITIONAL PATH

The route continues uphill through Las Eras del Marqués, leaving the ravine known as Barranco del Cerrudo and the group of houses of El Aserradero on the right. This group of houses probably owes its name to the place where wood was historically cut and processed. This stop marks the beginning of one of the best-preserved traditional paths in this area.

This path, which still has its original cobblestone pavement, connected the centre of the old Pago de Higa with the villages located at higher altitudes. Until the mid-20th century, people travelled this road on foot or on the back of animals to exchange or acquire food and essential items for daily life.



To the right of the cobblestone path, you can see several *terrera* (ground-floor) houses and the ruins of a traditional straw house.



THE STRAW HOUSE



This old path connects with the main road, Carretera General de Las Medianías, one of the best-known rural roads that crosses La Orotava from east to west.

To the right of the old cobblestone path, at its end, you can see a traditional straw house. The building, which shares its location with other agricultural buildings, is one of the best-preserved examples in La Perdoma. It has a rectangular floor plan with two-sided stone walls. The thatched hip roof, with four slopes, peeks out from under the metal sheets that protect it.

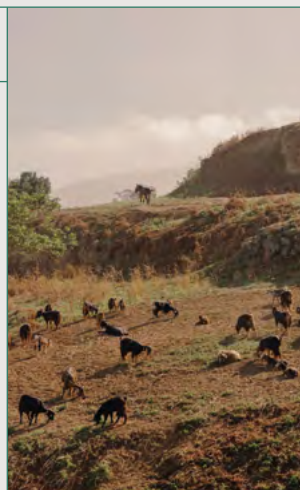
This type of dwelling, which arrived in the Canary Islands after the conquest and colonisation process at the end of the 15th century, existed in scattered form in the old Pago de Higa. Local publications mention up to eight straw houses in the area known as El Cerrudo and eleven in the original centre of La Perdoma, among other locations.



VIEWS OF THE ANCIENT PAGO DE HIGA

The route follows the road under the name of Carretera de Las Medianías-La Ladera, offering panoramic views of the Orotava Valley and the land that belonged to the Pago de Higa. Although its exact size has been difficult to determine, it covered a geographical area larger than the current surface area of La Perdoma. According to local theories, the place name originates from a Guanche word which, over the centuries, has been written in other forms such as Higan, Hygan, Igan and Ygan.

From this spot, you can contemplate the agricultural landscape made up of vineyards, citrus orchards and other crops, creating an exceptional agricultural system where agriculture is still part of the local idiosyncrasy. The reservoir known as Embalse de Benijos and some reservoirs belonging to the Comunidad de Aguas de La Perdoma stand out in the landscape.



In this area, A few herds of goats graze in this area, an ancestral activity that has its origins in the aboriginal communities of the Canary Islands.



EL SURTIDOR DE LA FUENTE VIEJA



Opposite the Surtidor de la Fuente Vieja stands a majestic barbusano tree, classified as a monumental tree due to its age and size.

This old fountain is located on the right bank of the ravine that was known as the Barranco de Perdomo, named after the surname of the owners of this land. Upstream, there was a natural spring that supplied the neighbourhood with water centuries ago. Despite conflicts over the use of the water, in the mid-19th century work began on the construction of a gallery in the vicinity of the spring.

Since then, free use of the water has been preserved through a stream accessible to the neighbourhood, despite the historical exploitation of this precious resource. The old spring has given its name to the area, the ravine itself and the road known as Camino de Fuente Vieja, a historic road with a considerable slope that leads to the current Ermita de El Calvario.

USEFUL INFORMATION

PHARMACY:

Farmacia La Perdoma

Carretera general La Perdoma
(TF-324), 63, 38315
La Orotava
+34 922 308 906

HEALTHCARE CENTRES:

Centro de Salud Las Dehesas

Calle Labradores de San Isidro, 2,
38300
Las Dehesas
La Orotava
+34 922 478 425

Centros de Salud La Perdoma

Calle Manuel Vega Santos 7,
38315
La Perdoma
La Orotava
+34 822 171 593

TAXI STANDS:

Taxi stand

Calle Inocencio García, 15, 38300
La Orotava
+34 922 323 737

Taxi stand

Calle San Juan Bosco, 1, 38300
La Orotava
+34 922 323 737

EMERGENCY:

112

LA OROTAVA LOCAL POLICE OFFICE:

Calle Cologan, 2, 38300 La Orotava
+34 922 330 114

TITSA (BUS STATION):

Av. Ob. Benítez de Lugo, s/n, 38300
La Orotava
+34 922 332 702

TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE:

Calle Carrera del Escultor Estévez,
5, A, 38300 La Orotava
+34 922 323 041

**Check the city's tourist information
on its official website:**

[https://www.laorotava.es/es/
turismo](https://www.laorotava.es/es/turismo)



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