

FROM A DRONE'S VIEW



TOP OF PEÑA DE MARTOS AND ITS HIGH FORTRESS



DEPARTURE & ARRIVAL: Constitución Square, Martos
DIFFICULTY: High
MAX. AND MIN. ACCUMULATED: Going up / Down: 278 m.
ALTIMETRIC PROFILE: Maximum altitude 1,003 m. / Minimum 740 m.
DISTANCE: 6,290 m.
ROUTE STYLE: Circular
DURATION: 3 h.



Walk that combines urban sections through the town of Martos and peri-urban sections, which through paths and a short but beautiful path take us to the top of La Peña de Martos, where a spectacular viewpoint awaits us together with the mythical Calatrava fortress, contemplating the millennial city of Tucci.



LOS CHARCONES RECREATIONAL AREA - HIGH FORTRESS



The route starts from Paraje de los Charcones, a place where vehicles can be parked and equipped with facilities to spend a pleasant day outdoors. Through a path on the slope of La Peña, we will ascend until we reach the imposing peak of La Peña where the Alta Fortress is located.

DEPARTURE: Recreational area of Paraje de los Charcones
ARRIVAL: Top of La Peña
DIFFICULTY: Moderate
MAX. AND MIN. ACCUMULATED: Going up 157 m. / Down 31 m.
ALTIMETRIC PROFILE: Maximum altitude 1,003 m. / Minimum 865 m.
DISTANCE: 1,630 m.
ROUTE STYLE: Linear
DURATION: 1 h.



CALATRAVA'S CROSS OF HIGH FORTRESS



This route will take us from the impressive High Fortress (Fortaleza Alta) located at the top of La Peña, to the Cruz de Calatrava (Calatrava's cross) located a few meters away. During the tour, the privileged height position of La Peña's castle, gives us unbeatable panoramic views of Martos and its surroundings.

DEPARTURE & ARRIVAL: Top of La Peña de Martos
DIFFICULTY: High
MAX. AND MIN. ACCUMULATED: Going up / Down: 209 m.
ALTIMETRIC PROFILE: Maximum altitude 1,003 m. / Minimum 900 m.
DISTANCE: 51 m.
ROUTE STYLE: Circular
DURATION: 11 minutes

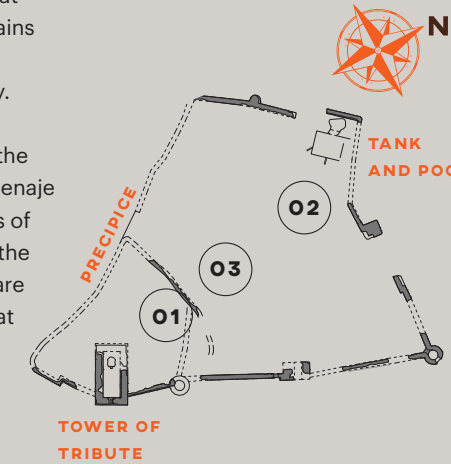


THE HIGH FORTRESS

The High Fortress (Fortaleza Alta) sits on the plateau at the top, built on the remains of an old Muslim building. The Order of Calatrava built the fortress around the 14th century, whose archaeological remains have been preserved until today. After the conquest of Granada, the city lost its defensive character and when peace reigned, the fortress was abandoned.

IT HAS AN IRREGULAR FLOOR PLAN AS IT ADAPTS TO THE WIDE PLATEAU AND IS DIVIDED INTO TWO INDEPENDENT ENCLOSURES, THE ALCÁZAR (01), ON THE HIGHEST GROUND, AND THE LOWER PATIO DE ARMAS (02), SEPARATED BY AN ARTIFICIAL MOAT (03)

The whole complex is surrounded by a wall of which many areas have been preserved. Only the part that overlooks the *Bad Neighbor* remains unwall, since due to its strong slope it seems to be unnecessary.



Located in the extreme south in the highest part is the Torre del Homenaje (Tower of tribute), which consists of three floors. In the ground floor, the remains of an important cistern are preserved, a construction of great interest due to the enclosing arches, which represent an architectural innovation.



TOWER OF TRIBUTE. SOUTH ELEVATION

CHRONOLOGY:

S.V AC

THE IBERIANS, around the 5th Century BC, chose the skirt of our Peña to build their *oppida*.

S.I AC

THE ROMANS would choose this natural refuge to establish the Colonia Augusta Gemela.

S. VII

With the **ISLAMIC INVASION**, and the city of Tús or Tuss converted into a border square, two castles were built, one of them located in La Peña.

S. XV

After **THE CHRISTIAN CONQUEST** and the city handed over by Fernando III to the Order of Calatrava in 1228, both castles were reinforced, modernized and expanded, and this configuration of the Fortaleza Alta (high fortress) is what has survived to this day.

WALLED AREA



ROUTE 01
 ROUTE 01 / 02
 ROUTE 03
 MEDIEVAL LAYOUT