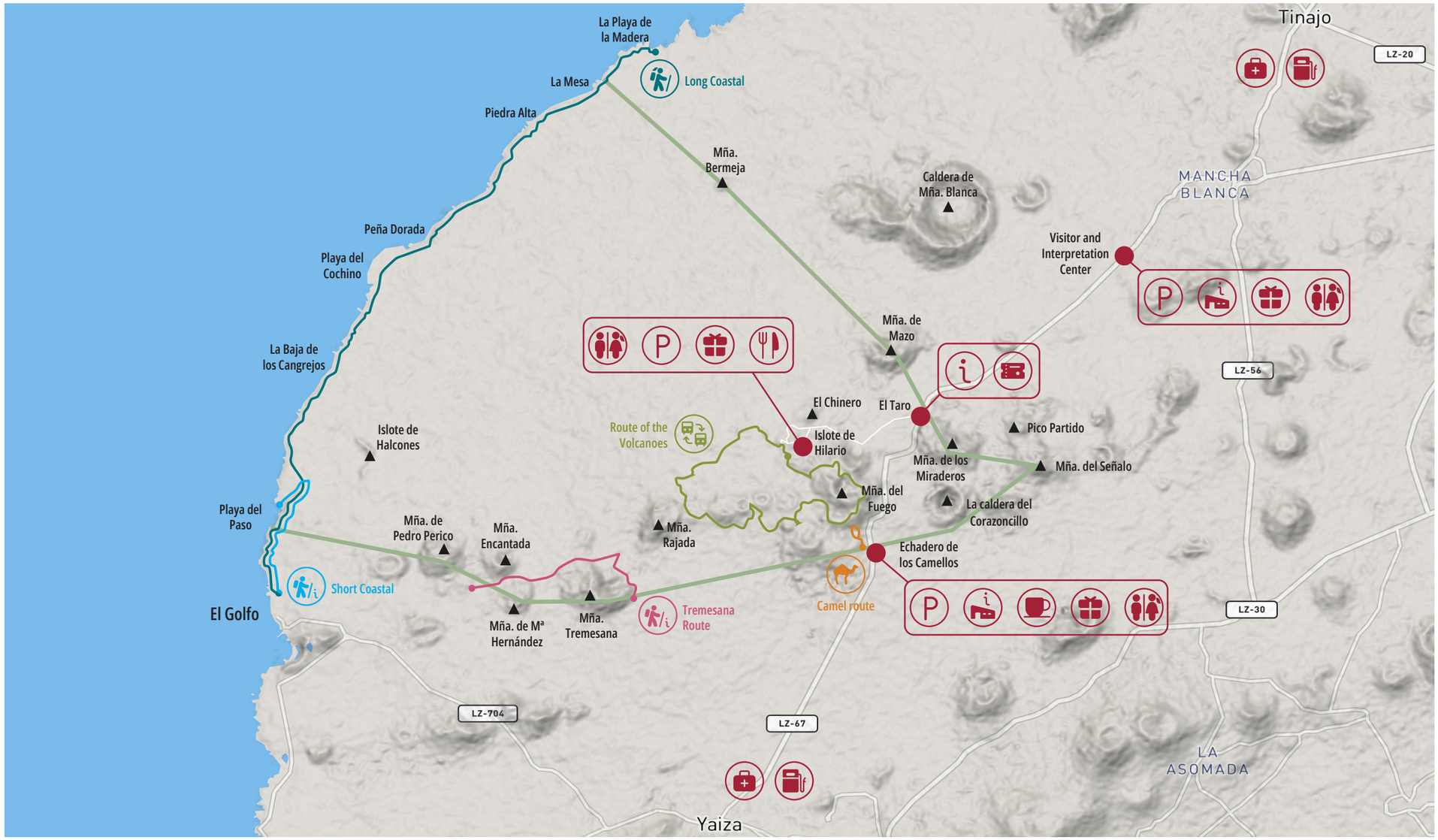
Timanfaya National Park

Park Map



Map Legend

Facilities · Information · Parking · Restaurant · Cafeteria

Toilets · Medical center · Gas station · Museums · Ticket sales

Free route · Guided route · Bus route · Camel route · Shop

Limit and roads

- National Park Boundary
- Secondary roads
- Elevations

*** For guided routes, reserve at:**
www.reservasparquesnacionales.es

Route contacts:
Mancha Blanca Visitor and Interpretation Center. Highway LZ-67, km.9,5. 35560 Tinajo
Phone. 928 118 040/42/45
usopublico.timanfaya@gobiernodecanarias.org

Routes (see precautions for routes)

- **Route of the Volcanoes:** access through the Taro entrance (Highway LZ-67, km 12.2). The entrance includes parking, observation of geothermal demonstrations and a bus tour along the Route of the Volcanoes.
- **Camel route:** at the Echadero de los Camellos (highway LZ-67, km 14.2), service provided by the Yaiza City Council, hired on site, from 9:30 to 15:30 every day.
- * **Tremesana:** walking route only with national park guides in small groups. Reservation is required. Distance: 3.5 km. Duration: 3 hours.
- * **Short Coastal:** guided tours available upon prior reservation. Path parallel to the coast. Distance: 2.5 km. Duration: 2.5 hours.
- **Long Coastal:** free route only on the path parallel to the coast. Wear suitable footwear and access via Playa de la Madera. Linear route. Distance: 10 km. Duration: 5 hours.

Enjoy the visit

Do not miss:

- The most iconic volcanic cones in the park are: the Timanfaya Massif (Montaña del fuego), Montaña Rajada, Caldera del Corazoncillo, Nuevo de Fuego volcano or Chinero volcano, and the Calderas Quemadas.
- Lichens are the stars, colonizing the lava, facing the trade winds; they act as bioindicators, pointing out areas of geothermal anomalies and air purity.
- The tourist facilities designed by César Manrique (the "El Diablo" restaurant) are a delight for the eyes.
- Hornitos: secondary eruptive mouths through which lava and gas expulsions occurred.

Points of interest

Mancha Blanca Visitor and Interpretation Center

Before starting the visit, it is recommended to visit the Mancha Blanca Visitor and Interpretation Center, which provides a complete view of the Timanfaya National Park through a free exhibition and an audiovisual program in various languages. It is adapted for people with reduced mobility or visual impairment and has a shop.

Hours: open every day from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except on January 1st and 6th, September 15th, and December 25th.

Address: LZ-67 La Santa-Yaiza road, km 9.6; Mancha Blanca.

Information phone: 928 118 045

E-mail: usopublico.timanfaya@gobiernodecanarias.org

Montañas del Fuego Tourist Center and Route of the Volcanoes

Access through the Taro entrance (LZ-6 highway, km 12.5), where the entrance fee is paid, which includes parking, geothermal demonstrations, bus tour on the Route of the Volcanoes, and a visit to the "El Diablo" Restaurant designed by César Manrique. Managed by the CACT of the Lanzarote Island Council.

Hours: from 9:30 to 15:45 h, closes at 17:00 h (check: cactlanzarote.com).

Address: at km 13.8 of the LZ-67 La Santa-Yaiza road.

Information phone: 928 840 057

Echadero de los Camellos

It is the place where the camel routes managed by the Yaiza City Council take place. Duration: approximately 20 minutes.

Hours: every day from 9:30 to 15:30 h.

Address: LZ-67 highway km. 14.2.

Information phone: 928 836 220

Web: yaiza.es/contacto

The Museum-Information Point of the Echadero de los Camellos managed by the Timanfaya National Park, offers an exhibition about the national park, the traditional use of camels, and their gear. It is accessible for people with reduced mobility. From Monday to Saturday from 8:30 to 15:30 h.

Timanfaya National Park

TIMANFAYA PARQUE NACIONAL

Gobierno de Canarias

The National Park

It represents recent volcanism in the Canary Islands. Here, you can find a large number of geological manifestations and phenomena of outstanding scientific and aesthetic value, such as seas of lava, islets, volcanic cones and tubes, *jameos* (lava tunnels), hornitos, and geothermal anomalies. All these elements create a primeval landscape that takes us back to the beginning of life, a result of creation and destruction processes during historical eruptions. Timanfaya has remained almost untouched up to this day, thanks to its slow natural evolution and minimal human intervention. To ensure its preservation, it has been granted the highest level of protection as a national park, with more than 90% of its area designated as a reserve zone. Additionally, scientific research and environmental education are promoted within the park, for which it provides facilities like the Mancha Blanca Visitor and Interpretation Center and a geodynamic laboratory. Guided tours also complement the visitors' interaction with the environment.

300 years of history and 50 years as a national park

On August 9, 1974, through the promulgation of Decree 2615/1974 by the Spanish Parliament, Timanfaya was declared a National Park. On March 25, 1981, it was reclassified under Law 6/1981, with a total area of 5,107 hectares. It is part of the State Network of National Parks, and its management falls under the responsibility of the Government of the Canary Islands. The park is managed according to the Master Plan of Use and Management, approved by Royal Decree 1621/1990.

The park is situated in the central-western sector of the island of Lanzarote, between the municipalities of Yaiza and Tinajo. It covers an area of 51 km^2, with a perimeter of about 30 km and a maximum height of 540 m.

Timanfaya is the result of eruptions that occurred in the 18th and 19th centuries. The longest episode began on September 1, 1730, and remained active until 1736, affecting a total of 195.2 km^2. The volcanic cones associated with tectonic fractures have an ENE-WSW orientation. In 1824, the last eruptive episode took place in Lanzarote, lasting approximately three months. Three new volcanic cones emerged: Tao, Tinguatón, and Chinero or Volcán Nuevo del Fuego, the latter being the only representative of that period within the geographical boundaries of the park.

Protect the Park

Visiting the Timanfaya National Park implies respecting its tranquility and preserving this sanctuary for lifea:

- Remember that everything in the park is there because previous visitors left it for you to see. Embrace silence and absorb the sensations.
- Help us keep Timanfaya clean: litter disturbs everyone, so avoid leaving waste outside designated bins.
- Altering this pristine ecosystem changes its natural evolution. THANK YOU for not lighting fires, building walls or canals, or moving stones in the park.
- Animals and plants take precedence: their daily silence is easily disturbed. THANK YOU for keeping the environment free from noise, kites, drones, paragliders, etc.
- REMEMBER that lichens take decades to establish, and stepping on them causes harm. A human footprint can take years to disappear. THANK YOU for staying on marked paths and roads and only alighting at the designated parking areas.
- Commercial audiovisual activities are allowed with prior authorization from the park offices in Tinajo, processed at least 20 days in advance.

Sights and Learning Opportunities

Geothermal anomalies

The past is still remembered through high-temperature manifestations on the surface.

Geothermal anomalies are caused by heat ascending from the main conduit, where magmatic residue from the historical eruption of 1730-36 is still present, relatively close to the surface, at depths of 3-5 km and still cooling down. This results in temperatures of 610ºC at just 13 m depth, 400ºC at 10 m, 250ºC at 2 m, and between 80-120ºC at the surface.

Lava Flows

When magma, a mass of molten rock inside the Earth's mantle and crust, ascends to the surface and cools down, it becomes lava. The type of material emitted during volcanic activity is called lava flow. Two different types of lava flows are distinguished:

"Pahoehoe" basaltic lava (Hawaiian for "smooth, unbroken lava") is very fluid and has a smooth, undulating surface. Often, the top of the flow cools and solidifies, while the interior continues to move, forming volcanic tubes during the cooling process.

"Aa" basaltic lava, due to its high viscosity, moves slowly and, upon cooling, presents a more fragmented, rough, and impassable surface, known in the Canary Islands as "malpaís" (badlands).

Cinder Cones (Volcanic Cones)

These volcanic structures are entirely covered by deposits of small volcanic material resulting from explosive phases of the volcano (strombolian phases).

The arrangement of pyroclastic materials around the eruptive vent creates a slope.

Flora

Flora in the park is very limited due to harsh climatic conditions. The colonization of new terrain occurs in two ways:

Lichens, oriented towards the N-NE and exposed to the influence of the moist trade winds. A total of 116 species have been identified, with notable examples being *Stereocaulon vesuvianum* and *Ramalina bourgeana*.

Vascular plants are introduced more rapidly from islets or older areas of the island. A total of 298 taxa have been cataloged. Noteworthy species include tabaibal del Mojón *(Euphorbia balsamifera)*, representative of the climatophilous community, as well as corazoncillo *(Lotus lancerottensis)*, verol o berode *(Aeonium lancerottense)*, saladillo blanco de Timanfaya *(Polycarpaea robusta)*, and tojia *(Asteriscus intermedius)*.

Fauna

Climatic conditions limit the number of terrestrial vertebrate species, with only three mammals present: the Algerian hedgehog, the Canarian shrew, and the rabbit; two reptiles: the Haría lizard and the wall lizard. There are 23 nesting bird species, such as the Barbary partridge, the turtle dove, the barn owl, the common kestrel, the Berber falcon, and the Cory's shearwater, among others. Consequently, the park was declared a Special Protection Area for Birds (SPA) in 1994. However, the most represented fauna consists of invertebrates, which are the first colonizers. A total of 119 species have been recorded (88 insects, 19 arachnids, 5 crustaceans, 4 gastropod mollusks, and 3 myriapods).

Coast

Timanfaya is the only Canarian national park with coastal ecosystems. It exemplifies the persistence of two opposing processes: on one hand, the creation of new coastline from land gained from the sea during eruptions and on the other, the intense erosion it undergoes due to wave action. Its coast is formed by medium-height cliffs with a very irregular shoreline, difficult to access, and only 2 beaches. Coastal colonization has been much faster than on land. 103 marine plant species, 191 invertebrate species, and 65 fish species have been cataloged.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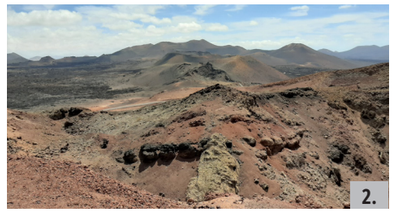
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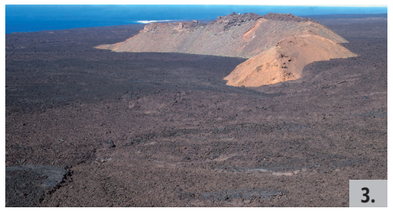
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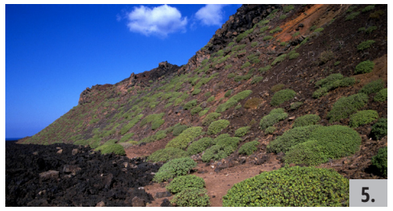
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10.

1. Geothermal Anomalies. Hilario Islet. J. Guisado.
2. View of the eruptive cone alignment. C. Bernar.
3. *AA* flows (malpaís) with Halcones Islet. Gesplan.
4. *Pahoehoe* flows at sunset. DYPSA Notebooks.
5. Sweet Tabaiba (*Euphorbia balsamifera*). Dypsa Notebook.
6.Lichen: *Ramalina bourgeana*. Dypsa Notebook.
7. Lanzarote Lizard (*Gallotia atlantica*) B. González.
8. Tagarote Falcon (*Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides*) J. Espinel.
9. Basalt arch on the coast. Gesplan.
10. View of fig tree cultivation. CFW Sep 22.

Human Presence in the Park

The landscape of Lanzarote stands out for the examples of the population's adaptation to the challenging environmental conditions.

After the eruptions, the inhabitants saw their crops covered by the volcano's ash, but they knew how to make use of it by digging holes or *gerias* to find the vegetal soil to cultivate beneath the lapilli or *rofe* (Coarse volcanic sand), making the most of its high hygroscopic capacity or water retention. Also, to protect their crops from the constant winds that blow on the island, they built walls or socos using volcanic materials.

On the Tremesana route, you can see examples of these crops, some of which have magnificent protective walls with buttresses.

Human labor in preparing these agricultural lands has been closely linked to the use of the camel. As an animal adapted to desert-like areas, it's ideal for these tough tasks. There is a large number of unique tools and agricultural implements, which the park administration, in collaboration with camel handlers, has collected to display in the Camels' Resting Place Museum.

General Information

Access:
The LZ-67 road, connecting the towns of Tinajo and Yaiza, provides access to the various facilities and infrastructures of the national park.

Office Contact:
Administrative Offices Timanfaya National Park
C/ La Mareta, 9- 35560 Tinajo (Lanzarote)
Phone: 928 118 049 - 928 211 771
Email: administracion.timanfaya@gobiernodecanarias.org

Technical Sheet:

Name: Timanfaya
Protection status: national park
Autonomous Community: Canary Islands
Province: Las Palmas
Area: 5107 ha
Longitude: 13° 46' 57" W | **Latitude:** 28° 02' 06" N
Creation Date: August 9, 1974
Reclassification Date: March 25, 1981

Route precautions:

Bring suitable equipment:
Water, cap, sun protection, suitable footwear, and windbreaker.

In case of an accident, call 112

Not Allowed: