

ROUTE THROUGH PARQUE RURAL DE ANAGA II

Nature, history and traditions

ITINERARY

PARQUE RURAL DE ANAGA II

From Santa Cruz de Tenerife to San Andrés and to the Amogoje Viewpoint

Distance: 11.4 km. **Approximate driving time:** 15 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 10 minutes.

The route starts in the suburb of San Andrés, a fishing village belonging to the municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. You reach San Andrés along the Dique del Este road (Eastern Dock) to San Andrés, the TF-11. Just at the entrance to the village you come to a roundabout. Take the second exit towards Parque Rural de Anaga, Taganana-Benijo. Join the TF-12 and carry on uphill until you reach the junction with the TF-134, signposted Taganana-Benijo. From San Andrés to this junction it takes about 20 minutes for 9.5 km. Once at the junction, branch right onto the TF-134. Your route continues along this road. After a few minutes you come upon a tunnel which takes you to the north-facing slope. Now, the road descends to the Amogoje Viewpoint, located on the right-hand side of the road. It is signposted a short distance beforehand.

From the Amogoje Viewpoint to the Village of Taganana

Distance: 2.8 km. **Approximate driving time:** 5 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 25 minutes

The route now continues towards the village of Taganana. To get there, keep on the TF-134 and drive down to Taganana; it takes about 5 minutes to cover the distance of 2.8 km. When you reach Taganana, you will find a car park situated on the right-hand side. Opposite the car park there is a sign that points to the entrance to the centre of Taganana on the left. You can park the car here to visit the village on foot. Just opposite the car park, on the left-hand side of the road, take Los Artesanos Street which will lead you to the rear of the church of Nuestra Señora de Las Nieves. Your visit continues along Cruz de Linares or Camino de Portugal Street.



INFORMATION

Estimated completion time

2 hours, 45 minutes

Estimated driving time

1 hour, 20 minutes

Total distance

55.4 km

Stopping points

Amogoje Viewpoint
Village of Taganana
El Bailadero Viewpoint
Village of Chamorga
Hamlet of Afur

Other points of interest

Almáciga and Benijo
Pico del Inglés Viewpoint
La Cruz del Carmen
Village of El Batán

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From the village of Taganana to El Bailadero Viewpoint

Distance: 8.2 km **Approximate driving time:** 15 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 10 minutes

Your trip continues along the same road on which you arrived. Turn in the car park and take the TF-134, but now climbing back uphill. Retrace your route. After roughly 6 minutes, you will pass the Amogoje Viewpoint on the left-hand side. A few minutes more will take you back to the tunnel. Having driven through the tunnel, return to the junction with the TF-12 and turn right onto this main road. After about 2 km you come to another junction, this time with the TF-123, and here you have to branch off to the right. The road climbs on up towards "El Bailadero-Chamorga". Your next stop, the Bailadero Viewpoint, is only a short distance ahead on the left-hand side of the road. Park nearby and you will be able to enjoy some magnificent views of the village of Taganana, of the Atlantic Ocean and of the Anaga mountains.

From El Bailadero Viewpoint to the Village of Chamorga

Distance: 10 km **Approximate driving time :** 20 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 20 minutes

Your next stop is the village of Chamorga. To head there, continue along the TF-123, in the same direction, in other words towards "El Bailadero-Chamorga", for 10 km. You pass the Montes de Anaga Hostel on the right, and cross an area called El Pijaral. You arrive at a turn-off marked "Las Bodegas". Disregard this and keep on the main road. After 20 minutes you will come across a sign for Chamorga. A short distance ahead you will see this attractive hamlet, surrounded by leafy vegetation. Park the car near the church and you are ready to walk around.

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From the Village of Chamorga to the Hamlet of Afur

Distance: 23 km. **Approximate driving time:** 25 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 20 minutes

To head from Chamorga to Afur you will have to return to the TF-12. In Chamorga head back the way you came. Around the church is the ideal place to manoeuvre. Leave Chamorga and take the TF-123 once again. You pass the junction to "Las Bodegas" and El Pijaral. After approximately 18 minutes you will see, now on the left-hand side, the Montes de Anaga Hostel. A few minutes later and having passed the Bailadero Viewpoint, you are back at the junction with the TF-12. Turn right and keep on the TF-12 towards Las Mercedes-La Laguna. Continue forward along this road until you come across a new junction, this time with the TF-136, towards Roque Negro-Afur. The junction is well signposted. Turn right and continue your trip through the mountains of Anaga. The TF-136 winds down to Afur. At the 2.5 km mark you come across the village of Roque Negro and without stopping, continue driving down for another 4.5 km. The road ends at Afur. Along the sides of the road you will see numerous parking spaces. Your visit continues on foot through the streets of the village.

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STARTING POINT

ANAGA

On this route you will discover the northernmost part of the Parque Rural de Anaga. In it you will have the opportunity of discovering old hamlets, admiring spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and venturing into the forests, ravines and valleys of the Anaga massif, and experience at first hand the history and traditions of this beautiful little corner of Tenerife.

The Parque Rural de Anaga is a natural beauty spot located in the Anaga massif. The tremendous diversity of scenery which it displays, the result of its geographic relief and the variability of its climate, make Anaga a quite unique area.

The geological formations make the massif one of the Island's most ancient, clearly reflected in its ravines, valleys and rock.

Its peculiar climate and relief have permitted the emergence of a rich and varied flora, among which the evergreen forests, the juniper woods such as that of Afur, the areas invaded by spurge, etc. are worthy of note.

This route leads you to the heart of Anaga, where in addition, you will be able to discover small farmsteads and villages which still retain the charm of times past. Thanks to these small settlements you will be able to get an insight into the traditional rural way of life of its inhabitants, get a notion of its customs and admire a landscape marked by small fields and humble country houses

UTM Coordinates:

28.518164, -16.263614

Geographic Coordinates:

28°51'81.64"N, 16°26'36.14"W

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STOPPING POINTS

AMOGOJE VIEWPOINT

From the Amogoje Viewpoint you can contemplate the exceptional views of the Atlantic coast, of the valley of Taganana and of the rocky islets of Anaga.

The islets form part of the Roques de Anaga Nature Reserve. This nature site is formed by two rocks, the Roque de Tierra (landward rock), the larger of the two nearest to the coast, and the Roque de Fuera (outer rock). Their original shapes and their location, emerging as they do from the Atlantic, have made them a symbol of the Island.

This corner of Anaga, besides, is characterised by the singular lie of the land, formed by mountains with impossible contours, plunging valleys and craggy cliffs that paint a unique scenery of a beauty difficult to describe



Location:

Main road to El Bailadero-Benijo (by way of Taganana), TF-134

UTM Coordinates:

28.558353, - 16.205714

Geographic Coordinates:

28°33'30.07"N, 16°12'20.57"W

VILLEGE OF TAGANANA

The village of Taganana can be found in the bed of the valley of the same name. Its surroundings are a luxuriant green, with leafy vegetation, notably of the evergreen forests and its numerous terraces. The traditional crops in this area have been vines, potatoes, yams, etc. At the same time it preserves ancient buildings, exceptional specimens of the Island's rural architecture.

The origins of the village of Taganana go back to the years soon after the Conquest of the Island, to the early XVIth century, the area around Portugal Street being considered the oldest. Among its buildings the church of Nuestra Señora de Las Nieves, from the XVIth century is worthy of note; it is the sanctuary of one of the Island's most renowned artistic jewels, the triptych representing the Adoration of the Magi, a work of the Antwerp school.



Location:

Main road from El Bailadero to Benijo (by way of Taganana), TF-134. Taganana.

UTM Coordinates:

28.560489, - 16.217022

Geographic Coordinates:

28°33'37.76"N, 16°13'1.28"W

EL BAILADERO VIEWPOINT

Situated right on the roadside at El Bailadero, this viewpoint presents spectacular views of the valley of Taganana and of the village itself. It nestles between steeply-sloping mountains and is surrounded by the leafy vegetation of the Anaga forests and is a spot to enjoy the silence and the tranquillity of the mountains while admiring endless views out over the Atlantic Ocean.

El Bailadero itself is a hamlet situated next to the viewpoint which owes its name to the legend according to which this was the place where witches' covens met to celebrate their rites and dance around a bonfire.



Location:

Main road from El Bailadero to Chamorga, TF-123. El Bailadero

UTM Coordinates:

28.549178, - 16.20685

Geographic Coordinates:

28°32'57.04"N, 16°12'24.66"W

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STOPPING POINTS

VILLEGE OF CHAMORGA

Hidden away, sheltered by the mountains, this village preserves the traditional way of life of smallholdings typical of Anaga. Access to it along the road from El Bailadero tempts you with views across beautiful countryside of leafy vegetation, with surprising specimens of dragon trees, and carved by deep valleys and ravines.

This ancient settlement retains the charm of the area's rural habitat. There are a limited number of buildings and a chapel. This is a spot to relish the tranquillity and silence of a unique environment. It dates from the XVIIIth century and is characterised by the great scenic beauty of its surroundings.



Location:

Main road from El Bailadero to Chamorga, TF-123. Chamorga

UTM Coordinates:

28.568769, -16.159386

Geographic Coordinates:

28°34'7.57"N, 16° 9'33.79"W

HAMLET OF AFUR

Afur is a mere hamlet with barely a score of houses, situated in the ravine from which it takes its name. Its quiet streets, its friendly residents and the area round about it lure visitors to stroll around and explore.

Afur is the starting point for footpaths that lead into the heart of this area of the Parque Rural de Anaga. From here there is a winding path that wanders between crops, stands of bamboo and small waterfalls to finally reach a rocky beach called Tamadite. Furthermore, in Afur, you will be able to become acquainted with different examples of Canarian flora such as the beautiful juniper wood located here.



Location:

Main road from Casas de La Cumbre - Afur, TF-136. Km marker 7. Afur

UTM Coordinates:

28.571994, -16.247978

Geographic Coordinates:

28°33'19.18"N, 16°14'52.72"W

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

ALMÁCIGA AND BENIJO

Almáciga and Benijo are two coastal areas of Anaga next to each other. Easily accessible along the road from El Bailadero to Benijo, they are situated only a few minutes by car from the village of Taganana. These unspoilt spots still retain some plots of traditional crops at the foot of the mountains and offer incomparable views of the Atlantic coast. The black sand beaches here, situated at the foot of high cliffs and the Roques de Anaga standing out at sea, present a quite unique, incomparable panorama.

Almáciga:

Location:

Main road from El Bailadero to Benijo (by way of Taganana), TF-134. Almáciga

UTM Coordinates:

28.569653, - 16.204097

Geographic Coordinates:

28°34'10.75"N, 16°12'14.75"W

Benijo:

Location:

Main road from El Bailadero to Benijo (by way of Taganana), TF-134. Benijo.

UTM Coordinates:

28.574578, - 16.188658

Geographic Coordinates:

28°34'28.48"N, 16°11'19.17"W

PICO DEL INGLÉS VIEWPOINT

The Pico del Inglés Viewpoint, set in green surroundings, offers a spectacular vista of the heart of the Anaga massif. From here you can contemplate the Roques de Anaga, the mountain ridges striding across the Park, the towns of Santa Cruz de Tenerife and La Laguna and even, on clear days, the neighbouring Island of Gran Canaria.

At times, a thick layer of cloud known as the "sea of clouds" shrouds this viewpoint. This natural phenomenon is caused by the effect of the Trade Winds as they encounter the Island. These winds blow from a north-north-easterly direction pushing the clouds against the mountain tops which causes the humidity to condense in the middle slopes of the north and north-east of the Island. The warm, dry winds are located in the layers at a higher altitude and form a barrier preventing the Trade Winds from rising, thus creating the sea of clouds. Thanks to this phenomenon, leafy, green vegetation has been able to develop, the most outstanding being the evergreen forest, known to botanists as laurisilva.

Location:

Main road to the Pico del Inglés Viewpoint, TF-114.

UTM Coordinates:

28.556921, -16.264781

Geographic Coordinates:

28°31'58.55"N, 16°15'50.42"W

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

LA CRUZ DEL CARMEN

At La Cruz del Carmen you are able to visit the Visitor Centre which houses an exhibition explaining the most significant features of the Parque Rural de Anaga, and emphasising its natural wealth and ethnographic aspects; there is a viewpoint from which to take in the panoramic views of the La Laguna lowlands and as a backdrop on clear days, Mt. Teide; here, too starts the footpath Sendero de los Sentidos which departs from La Cruz del Carmen and takes you to the Llano de Loros Viewpoint. This path allows you to see Anaga in a very different, special manner. The path is only short, is graded of low difficulty, except for a few step sections, and offers three differing itineraries.

- We recommend confirming the opening times of the centres

Location:

Main road to the forest of Las Mercedes, km marker 6, San Cristóbal de La Laguna.

Tel. Visitor Centre: 922 633 576

Visitor Centre opening times:

From October to June:

From Monday to Sunday from 9:30 to 16:00

From July to September: from Monday to Sunday from 9:30 to 15:00

UTM Coordinates:

28.531328, -16.27995

Geographic Coordinates:

28°31'52.78"N, 16°16'47.82"W

Further information on the

Sendero de los Sentidos:

www.webtenerife.com/Actividades/En-la-naturaleza/Senderos/sendero-de-los-sentidos.htm

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OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

VILLEGE OF EL BATÁN

At this stop you get to know the Village of Los Batanes, made up of two hamlets known as Batán de Arriba (Upper) and Batán de Abajo (Lower). Your trip takes you to Batán de Abajo.

Both are situated in a beautiful setting, surrounded by steep mountains. The crops and the fruit trees typify a green, rural landscape, a reflection of the traditional farming way of life of the village.

In this area the cultivation of flax was developed for producing linen. The machines that were used to weave the fabrics were called "batanes" from which the name of the village is derived.

Location:

Main road from Cruz del Carmen to El Batán, TF-143. Km marker 5, El Batán

UTM Coordinates:

28.548064, - 16.295931

Geographic Coordinates:

28°32'53.03"N, 16°17'45.35"W