

## ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLOR

Nature, agriculture and history

### ITINERARY

#### ARONA AND VILAFLOR

##### From exit 27 of the TF-1 motorway to the Historical centre of Arona

**Distance:** 8 km. **Approximate driving time:** 10 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 30 minutes.

Leave the TF-1 motorway at exit 27 towards Arona and join the TF-28. Continue climbing along this road for 3.9 km, drive through the suburb of Chayofa to reach La Camella. As you enter the village you will see a sign indicating that you have reached La Camella and a short distance further on you will come to a roundabout. Take the second exit towards Arona-Vilaflor, joining the La Camella-Vilaflor road, the TF-51. 4 km along this road will take you to Arona. Entering the built-up area, the main road (TF-51 towards Vilaflor) bears slightly left. The street you need to enter the town centre continues straight ahead so to speak, but as it is technically a turn-off, take care with oncoming traffic. This is Duque de la Torre Street. Along the way you will see a number of signs indicating the direction to the town centre. Continue along the above-mentioned Duque de la Torre Street that will lead you to the old town centre. After a few minutes, on the left-hand side you will find the Plaza del Cristo de la Salud (square) and the church of San Antonio Abad. The Arona Town Hall stands on one side of the square. Park near the square, for example in El Calvario Street.

##### From the Historical centre of Arona to Ifonche

**Distance:** 10 km. **Approximate driving time:** 12 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 30 minutes

To leave the old town of Arona, return to the TF-51, towards Vilaflor. Drive into El Calvario Street, in the upper part, on the right-hand side of the square. Follow El Calvario Street to the junction with La Bodega Street. Once there, turn right into this street. Drive down this street which later changes its name to Túnez Street. Continue straight ahead; after a short distance bear slightly right, and without leaving this street, continue a few more metres to reach the junction with Domínguez Afonso Street. Turn left and continue down to the junction with the Avenida de la Constitución. Continue driving down this avenue which 200 m further on becomes La Mejora Street. After some 250 m you arrive at a junction. Turn left here and join the TF-51; a 400 m drive uphill will take you to the junction towards Vilaflor-El Teide which previously we had passed on the left-hand side. When you reach the said turn-off, turn left and continue along the TF-51 towards Vilaflor. Now your trip continues as far as the Ifonche junction. Keep on up along the TF-51 for 6 km until you come across a sign indicating the turn-off to Ifonche on the left-hand side. Turn off left and join the La Escalona-Ifonche road, the TF-567. Drive straight ahead for 3 km and you are in Ifonche. You will see a restaurant called "El Dornajo". You can either park the car nearby or turn right and drive a short distance and park there before continuing your visit on foot. Now it is time to stretch your legs in the village.



#### INFORMATION

**Estimated completion time**

2 hours, 32 minutes

**Estimated driving time**

47 minutes

**Total distance**

36.96 km

**Stopping points:**

Historical centre of Arona  
Ifonche  
Hamlet of Las Casas Altas  
Vilaflor  
Viewpoint of San Roque

**Other points of interest:**

Hamlet of La Fuente  
Roque del Conde (rock formation)  
Natural Site of Pino Gordo

**Restaurants:**

Restaurant La Brasa  
Restaurant El Sombrerito  
Restaurant Casa Pana

**Accommodations:**

Hotel Spa Villalba  
Casa Rural Tamaide (country cotage)  
Other establishments to spend the night

## **ITINERARY**

### **From Ifonche to the Hamlet of Las Casas Altas**

**Distance:** 7 km. **Approximate driving time:** 8 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 15 minutes

To leave the old town of Arona, return to the TF-51, towards Vilaflor. Drive into El Calvario Street, in the upper part, on the right-hand side of the square. Follow El Calvario Street to the junction with La Bodega Street. Once there, turn right into this street. Drive down this street which later changes its name to Túnez Street. Continue straight ahead; after a short distance bear slightly right, and without leaving this street, continue a few more metres to reach the junction with Domínguez Afonso Street. Turn left and continue down to the junction with the Avenida de la Constitución. Continue driving down this avenue which 200 m further on becomes La Mejora Street. After some 250 m you arrive at a junction. Turn left here and join the TF-51; a 400 m drive uphill will take you to the junction towards Vilaflor-El Teide which previously we had passed on the left-hand side. When you reach the said turn-off, turn left and continue along the TF-51 towards Vilaflor. Now your trip continues as far as the Ifonche junction. Keep on up along the TF-51 for 6 km until you come across a sign indicating the turn-off to Ifonche on the left-hand side. Turn off left and join the La Escalona-Ifonche road, the TF-567. Drive straight ahead for 3 km and you are in Ifonche. You will see a restaurant called "El Dornajo". You can either park the car nearby or turn right and drive a short distance and park there before continuing your visit on foot. Now it is time to stretch your legs in the village.

## **ITINERARY**

### **From the Hamlet of Las Casas Altas to the town centre of Vilaflor**

**Distance:** 10.8 km **Approximate driving time:** 14 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 20 minutes

To reach the village of Las Casas Altas, you will have to go back to the TF-51. Return to the junction with this road, turn left, (give way to oncoming traffic) and join the main road. You pass through part of the suburb of La Escalona and 750 m after the Ifonche junction, you come across a new junction, this time on the right-hand side, leading towards Jama-San Miguel. Turn right and join the road from El Roque-La Escalona (via Jama), the TF-565. Descend this road for some 2.7 km. After passing the 4 km marker on the TF-565, on the right-hand side you will see a turn-off. Pay special attention at this point because this turn-off is not signposted. Turn right and park your vehicle just in the entry to a dirt road. You have to walk downhill approximately 650 m to reach your destination. Take care as you walk downhill as the path leading to the village is beaten earth and very steep.

### **From Vilaflor town centre to the Viewpoint of San Roque**

**Distance:** 1.16 km **Approximate driving time:** 3 minutes. **Estimated time of visit:** 10 minutes

To get to the Vilaflor town centre you will have to get back on the TF-51. Take the road back to the junction with the TF-565. Turn where you parked the car, turn left and drive back along the road, this time uphill. It is 2.7 km to the junction. Turning right you are back on the TF-51. Follow this road for 6.5 km. This distance will take you to the outskirts of Vilaflor. First of all you arrive at a junction with the TF-21. Turn left, join the main road and travel a short distance. At the first junction that you come to you will have to turn right, namely into Santa Catalina Street. Continue straight along this street which after a short distance changes its name to Avenida Hermano Pedro. After another 100 m, this avenue changes name again to Dolores Street. Carry on straight ahead to the junction with Castaños Street where you branch left. Keep on along this street as far as the rear of the square and parish church of San Pedro. You can park somewhere round the church. Your visit continues on foot.

## ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLOR

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### STARTING POINT

#### ARONA AND VILAFLOR

The suggested route crosses part of the municipalities of Arona and Vilaflor de Chasna and offers the opportunity of getting to see some beautiful spots in the middle slopes area and the peaks of the southern part of Tenerife.

Arona and Vilaflor are two towns that share geographical areas of great beauty, filled with contrasting landscapes where farmsteads, villages and "caminos reales" ("Royal highways", an old network of bridle-paths financed by the Crown), together with ancient rocks, mountains and ravines. Here, the green of the pine forest mingles with almond trees, vines and other fruit trees.

The old farmsteads, the threshing yards, the ovens, the terraced plots on the mountainsides, etc., demonstrate once again the significance and influence that farming has had in the area and reflect the traditional peasant way of life.

On the visit you will also become familiar with urban areas steeped in tradition and history. You will stroll through their streets, enjoy the peacefulness of their squares and admire their most notable buildings, both civil and religious.

This route brings you closer to the past and present of two towns characterised by farming, whose development owes everything to this activity and which continues to play an essential role even today. On the route you will discover natural open spaces of great beauty that coexist side by side with plots and cultivated areas that have permitted the creation of a unique countryside where you will be able to learn something of the traditions and customs of this delightful spot in southern Tenerife.

#### Arona

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.099647, -16.680917

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 5'58.73"N, 16°40'51.30"W

#### Vilaflor de Chasna

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.159894, -16.63695

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'35.62"N, 16°38'13.02"W

**Further information:**

[www.arona.org](http://www.arona.org)

[www.vilaflordechasna.es](http://www.vilaflordechasna.es)

## STOPPING POINTS

### HISTORICAL CENTRE OF ARONA

The first stop on the route takes you to discover the lovely old town of Arona. You will have the opportunity of strolling through its streets, enjoying the tranquillity of its gardens and squares and admiring its buildings, faithful examples of the traditional Canarian architecture of the southern middle slopes of Tenerife.

The heart of the historical centre has been declared a Site of Cultural Interest and is bounded by Duque de la Torre and Domínguez Afonso Streets. Worthy of note are the Plaza del Cristo de La Salud, whose environs contain the most distinctive buildings such as the chapel of San Antonio, from the XVIIIth century (reconstructed in the XIXth ) and the Arona Town Hall, situated along one side. Close to the town centre you will find part of the "Royal highways" such as the one that connected Arona and Vilaflor, which still retain stone-paved sections, and remains of former country buildings such as farmsteads, terraces, ovens and so on, a reflection of the traditional rural way of life in the area. Equally there still exist exceptional examples of traditional Canarian dwellings of different types from the most humble to large country mansions such as that of the Tavío family. Outside of the town centre, located in the upper area you will find one of the oldest suburbs of Arona, the village of Altavista. From there, in addition to viewing ancient traditional houses, you can enjoy panoramic vistas of the municipality and of the San Lorenzo Valley.



**Location:**

Main road La Camella-Vilaflor, TF-51, km 4

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.099647, -16.680917

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 5'58.73"N, 16°40'51.30"W

**Further information:**

[www.arona.org/portal/RecursosWeb/DOCUMENTOS/1/3\\_8442\\_1.pdf](http://www.arona.org/portal/RecursosWeb/DOCUMENTOS/1/3_8442_1.pdf)

### IFONCHE

Ifonche is a Protected Natural Area of unusual beauty, situated between the municipalities of Adeje and Vilaflor de Chasna. In it you will discover a rural countryside of farmsteads and crops grown on terraces, set in a green landscape and bounded by ravines, pine-covered hills and imposing rock formations such as Imoque, Los Brezos, etc.

On this visit you will get to know some aspects of the traditional farming life of the area. In this area old farmsteads, threshing yards and terraces long abandoned coexist with fields still in use, where the most common crops are potatoes and vines.



**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

## STOPPING POINTS

### HAMLET OF LAS CASAS ALTAS

The hamlet of Las Casas Altas, situated in Jama, between the municipalities of Arona and Vilaflor, is an excellent example of the typical Canarian architecture peculiar to the middle slopes of the south of Tenerife. Declared a Site of Cultural Interest, it allows you to experience a beautiful spot where the main feature is the numerous buildings which formed part of the peasant way of life.

It is situated on a ridge at 700 m above sea-level, giving the impression of being suspended in mid-air between ravines. It is made up of eight buildings that were once old farm dwellings. In the farmstead you will discover traditional country buildings such as barns, tool sheds, ovens for baking bread and drying figs, etc., that give you the chance of learning how the small farmers and their families who inhabited it once lived. The buildings are made of blocks of red tuff with masonry walls constructed of blocks of basalt and volcanic tuff. The roofs are tiled with 1, 2 and 4 pitches. In the farmstead what attracts attention is a complex system of drains made of hewn stone that leads the water to two cisterns. Another point of interest is that an old "Royal highway" passes through it which in former times joined Vilaflor and the north area of the Island with the south.

The place itself allows you to take in astounding views and discover a beautiful spot, where time seems to have stood still.

Access to the hamlet is on foot along a steeply-sloping dirt track so that comfortable, sturdy footwear and clothing are recommended.



**Location:**

Main road La Escalona-Ifonche, TF-567, km 3

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.119753, -16.672364

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 7'11.11"N, 16°40'20.51"W

## STOPPING POINTS

### VILAFLOR

Vilaflor de Chasna is the municipality in Spain which is located at the greatest height above sea-level and is surrounded by green forest, among mountains and ravines. Its streets and squares preserve the charm of bygone times. During the visit you will discover lovely natural areas and spectacular views, such as that offered by the almond trees in blossom in the winter months of January and February, see valuable examples of civil and religious architecture, many of them from the XVIth and XVIIth centuries and enjoy the peacefulness of the pure air of the Tenerife mountain tops.

In pre-Hispanic times Vilaflor belonged to the Menceyato (aboriginal kingdom) of Abona and after the conquest of the Island remained under the influence of the Soler family. This link is reflected in the Soler family house, also known as the House of the Marquis, situated behind the parish church of San Pedro Apóstol. Right next to the church is the Convento del Hermano Pedro (convent), constructed on the site of the birth house of Pedro de San José de Betancourt. Many of the buildings still standing in its historical centre reflect an important artistic and architectural heritage, the reflection of an important economic past that is combined with country areas, dominated by small peasant dwellings, terraces and plots, some of them still cultivated to this day. Apart from this, from the XVIth century onwards, Vilaflor was notable as a destination for numerous travellers who came to this area in search of its tranquillity and climate; among these illustrious travellers, the most notable were the botanist Philip Barker Webb and the French naturalist, Sabine Berthelot.

Furthermore, another of Vilaflor's outstanding features is its wealth of water resources which facilitated the development of the village and of its main economic activity, namely farming. Water was, in addition, the cause of dispute between the great noble families such as the Solers, at loggerheads with the residents over the use and administration of the land.

Vilaflor is also one of the principal entry points to the Teide National Park, so that it is particularly interesting to visit the interpretation centre sited near the town centre where the most important features of the Teide National Park are explained with emphasis on its wealth of wildlife.



#### Historical town centre of Vilaflor:

**Location:**

Main road La Camella-Vilaflor, TF-51,  
km 17

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.159894, - 16.63695

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'35.62"N, 16°38'13.02"W

#### Interpretation Centre:

**Location:**

Camino de San Roque, 7

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.159894, -16.639283

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'33.91"N, 16°38'21.42"W

**Further information:**

[www.vilaflordechasna.es](http://www.vilaflordechasna.es)

## **ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLO**

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### **STOPPING POINTS**

#### **THE SAN ROQUE VIEWPOINT**

The San Roque Viewpoint is located on a hill close to the town centre of Vilaflor. From it you see panoramic vistas of the historical centre and of all the valley where the town lies.

At the viewpoint you will find the small chapel of San Roque, built at the beginning of the XVIIth century and which gives its name to the viewpoint. The construction features floors made of Chasna stone slabs, a ceiling in Mudéjar style under a two-pitched roof, masonry walls and a door in a semi-circular archway.



**Location:**

Camino San Roque

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.158708, -16.638731

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'31.35"N, 16°38'19.43"W

## **OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST**

### **HAMLET OF LA FUENTE**

Situated in San Lorenzo Valley, in the municipality of Arona, the hamlet of La Fuente offers the chance to discover how small farmers lived in this area of the south of the Island. Its streets and houses preserve the charm of country life and allow one to discover the most significant features of traditional architecture of this area in the middle slopes.

**Location:**

Carretera General del Sur (Main road to the South), TF-28. Camino de La Fuente. Valle San Lorenzo.

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.093339, -16.648872

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 5'36.02" N, 16°38'55.94"W

### **ROQUE DEL CONDE (ROCK FORMATION)**

The Roque del Conde belongs to the municipality of Adeje and is an important geological structure, well-known as a prominent beauty spot and dating from the earliest geological formation of the Island. Its highest point is in fact a platform, used in former times for growing cereals.

To visit it, we recommend a path which sets off from the historical centre of Arona, crossing the Barrio de Vento (suburb) and crossing the ravines of Las Casas, El Ancón and El Rey, the last of these being the boundary between the municipalities of Arona and Adeje. The path to the Roque del Conde is in fact only a short distance but of medium difficulty as there is a steeply sloping section in the final climb to the top. Part of the path is formed by an ancient farm track used to reach the fields cultivated on the slopes and level areas of the rock and which today still preserves, in some sections, the original stone paving. Both on the slopes and at the base of the rock there remain examples of this farming activity, where terraces, threshing yards and a farmstead can be seen.

**Location:**

(Starting point of the path) Plaza del Cristo de La Salud, Arona.

**UTM Coordinates:**

26.108533, - 16.695169

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 6'30.72"N, 16°41'42.61"W

**Further information:**

[www.todotenerife.es/imagenes\\_noticias/mapaSenderos\\_ESP.pdf](http://www.todotenerife.es/imagenes_noticias/mapaSenderos_ESP.pdf)

**Information on the path to the Roque del Conde:**

Distance: 7 km

Walking time: 6 hours

Difficulty: Medium

## **ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLORES**

Nature, agriculture and history

### **OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST**

#### **NATURAL SITE OF PINO GORDO**

The Pino Gordo Nature Site is located in the area above the municipality of Vilaflor, namely on the route up to the Teide National Park, at around 1,500 m. above sea-level.

It is right in the Corona Forestal Natural Park in a green setting, surrounded by pine forest. The so-called "Pino Gordo" ("big pine") is a specimen of considerable dimensions, with a circumference of some 8 m and 60 m in height, and is believed to be most ancient pine tree on the Island.

**Location:**

Carretera Comarcal (regional road)  
C-821, km 67

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.165044, -16.636033

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'54.16"N, 16°38'9.72"W

## **ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLOR**

Nature, agriculture and history

### **RESTAURANTS**

#### **RESTAURANT LA BRASA**

Canarian cuisine, specialising in grilled meat dishes. This establishment, situated in the municipality of Arona, emphasises tradition and the wealth and variety of local produce.

- Establishment chosen by the Tenerife Tourist Board
- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments

**Location:**

Carretera General de Guaza, 371,  
Buzanada, Arona.

**Tel.:** 922 720 622

**Opening times:**

- Every day from 13:00 to 16:00 & 19:30 to 23:00
- Closed Sundays

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.062194, - 16.666061

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 3'43.90"N, 16°39'57.82"W

#### **RESTAURANT EL SOMBRERITO**

This restaurant is in the municipality of Vilaflor, near the boundary with San Miguel, Abona. The best of Canarian dishes made with local produce. Next door is a small family museum housing a collection of old utensils.

- Establishment chosen by the Tenerife Tourist Board
- We recommend confirming the opening times of establishments

**Location:**

Calle Santa Catalina, 15, Vilaflor.

**Tel.:** 922 709 052

**Opening times:**

- Every day from 12:00 to 21:00
- Closed Thursdays

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.154842, - 16.637967

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'17.43"N, 16°38'16.68"W

**ROUTE ARONA AND VILAFLO**  
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**RESTAURANTS**

**RESTAURANT CASA PANA**

This establishment allows one to enjoy traditional Canarian cuisine. Its wide variety of typical dishes from the islands includes an excellent goat stew, a broth of "gofio" (roasted, ground grains), potatoes boiled in brine, etc. In addition, it has an excellent wine list with wines from the Vilaflor region in pride of place.

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**ACCOMODATIONS**

**HOTEL SPA VILLALBA**

Architecture and decoration inspired by Canarian traditions, at an altitude of 1,500 m, located in Spain's highest municipality and very close to the Teide National Park, this is the perfect place for a restful holiday.

- Member of the Club Tenerife Rural

**Location:**

Camino de San Roque, Vilaflor.

**Tel.:** 922 709 930

**E-mail:**

hotelvillalba@hotelesreveren.com

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.160253, - 16.642403

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 9'36.91"N,16°38'32.65"W

**Further information:**

www.hotelesreveren.com

**CASA RURAL TAMAIDE**

The Tamaide country cottage is located in a small, quiet rural community in the municipality of San Miguel de Abona, in the south of Tenerife. The cottage's location makes for fast road connection with the main tourist areas in the south (15 minutes), with the Island capital (50 minutes) and with Tenerife South airport (12 minutes). It is a former family house, over 300 years old, listed as being of historical-artistic interest.

- Establishment chosen by the Tenerife Tourist Board

**Location:**

Calle Concepción García Suárez, 1,  
San Miguel de Abona

**Tel.:** 922 700 108

**UTM Coordinates:**

28.085308, - 16.626767

**Geographic Coordinates:**

28° 5'37.11"N,16°37'36.36"W

**OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS TO SPEND THE NIGHT**

See the following links:

[www.arona.travel/portal/turismo/lloc\\_d10\\_v6.jsp?  
codMenu=1106&codMenuPN=1088&codMenuSN=1098](http://www.arona.travel/portal/turismo/lloc_d10_v6.jsp?codMenu=1106&codMenuPN=1088&codMenuSN=1098)

[www.vilaflordechasna.es/index.php/mod.pags/mem.detalle/idpag.108/  
idmenu.131/chk.e79d7a12e388500a0b03ed0c610f9088.html](http://www.vilaflordechasna.es/index.php/mod.pags/mem.detalle/idpag.108/idmenu.131/chk.e79d7a12e388500a0b03ed0c610f9088.html)