



CASTILLA
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARKS



IN CASTILE-LA MANCHA STONES SEAK. In every corner of the region you will find stunning heritage sites to meet the legendary past of this land. Its strategic location, in the centre of the Iberian Peninsula, made their territories coveted by the different civilisations that have settled there since ancient times. If you would like to hear these stories, join the Archaeological Park of **Segóbriga, Carranque, Alarcos-Calatrava and Recópolis.**



Recópolis (Zorita de los Canes).

SEGÓBRIGA

In the heart of Mancha in Cuenca, the Roman city awaits you. Near the town of Saelices and built on a hill protected by Cigüela river, it was an enclave distinguished in the causeways that were joining Carthage Nova with Complutum and Toletum. Its theatre will amaze you with its complete and magnificent stands as well as the rest of its Amphitheatre, Circus, Forum or Baths and Gymnasium, which all together make one of the best preserved Roman set preserved in Hispania. Segóbriga controlled the mine exploitation of lapis specuaris, plasterboards used in Roman constructuins to glaze windows.

ALARCOS-CALATRAVA LA VIEJA

In the upper basin of the Guadiana, about eight kilometers from Ciudad Real, on a high where the Ford of the River was guarded, you will find the Archaeological Park of Alarcos-Calatrava la Vieja. Its excavations have been giving away remains ranging from the Bronze age to Medieval times, highlighting its Iberian settlement. In the vicinity of its frotress was developed one of the most important battles in our history, which pitted Almohades and Christians in 1195. Echoes of those times of Reconquest resonate even among the ramparts and towers flanking the nearby Islamic town of Calatrava la Vieja, founded during the Umayyad period with the name of Qa-l'at Rabah, which became the most important Muslim core against the Christian Toledo. Once renewed, the first military order of Spain was founded in it.

RECÓPOLIS

In honor of his son Recaredo, the king Leovigildo raised Recopolis city near Zorita de los Canes, Guadalajara. Surrounded by a great wall, its interior is a treasure of the Visigoth culture, particularly its palatial ensemble, basilica, plaza and crafts workshop.

In its vicinity you will travel the Moorish Castle of Zorita de los Canes, fortress built on a rocky area on the banks of the Tajo river, where the medieval builders left ample samples of their expertise to design complex defensive structures.

CARRANQUE

Unexpectedly, the Roman town of Carranque, was discovered in 1983 in the Toledo province. Located next to a beautiful setting of the Guadarrama River, it is still in period of excavation and research. In the House of Materno, takes up to a thousand meters square, are preserved twenty rooms paved with gorgeous mosaics. One of the most beautiful is the one that represents the Ocean God surrounded by fish. You will gaze remains of powerful architecture, highlighting the amazing marble columns from Anatolia in Turkey.

Do not delay your visit to the archaeological parks of Castilla - La Mancha. In their interpretation centres you will learn much from the past that these unique places of our geography amass and for a moment you will feel Iberian, Roman, Visigoth, Almohad or a Christian knight.

Calatrava la Vieja / Visitor Centre of Recópolis / Segóbriga Amphitheatre / Mosaic in Carranque.



Calatrava la Vieja (Carrión de Calatrava).



FROM THE AGE OF BRONZE TO THE ISLAMIC WORLD

From the Bronze age to the Islamic period, with Iberian and Roman remains, Tolmo de Minateda, in a spectacular location near Hellín, shows defensive constructions of the people who lived there: walls, towers, and among its treasures, a Visigoth basilica. In Cañaveruelas a must see visit is to Ercavica: a perfect example of a Hispanic –Roman city. Amongst excavations, the typical elements of the civil structures of the Empire as hot springs, cisterns and part of a basilica immerse us in that Rome which belongs to us.

An elevation of the land between the rivers Gritos and Zahorra, in the conquense plateau, was the place the Romans chose to build Valeria, which appears as a jewel of the Hispanic – Roman urban structure. A must see and delightful visit for the traveller. Ramparts, medina, houses and slums transport us to a time in which the Arabs left their mark in the Peninsula. We are in Ciudad de Vascos (the toledan village of Navalmoralejo) spectacular site in a wild and beautiful landscape. The traveller can complete the visit with the archaeological sites of Castilla-La Mancha approaching Libisosa, Calatrava la Nueva, Motilla del Azuer, Malamoneda, Santa María de Melque, Los Casares, the Castro de Ceremeño or Cerro de las Cabezas. 🇪🇸

Ercávica (Cañaveruelas) / Tolmo de Minateda (Hellín) /
Santa María de Melque (San Martín de Montalbán) / Valeria (Las Valeras).





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