



02 Murcia - Alguazas: walk through the "huerta" arable farmland of Murcia

Distance: 26 km

Walking time: 6,5 hours

Cycling time: 2 hours 30 minutes

The Jubilee Year is one of the best times for Catholics to make their peace with God, and the **landscape of the second stage of the Camino de Levante on the way to Caravaca de la Cruz is perfect for reflection and contemplation**, not only for Catholics but for anyone making the journey. The stage begins in Murcia and ends 26 kilometres later in Alguazas, crossing a wide swathe of the "huerta" of Murcia.

The first part of the route follows the **Malecón**, named after a construction which was intended to prevent the River Segura flooding in Murcia. Further out of the city, walkers and cyclists discover more secrets of the Huerta, including a museum devoted exclusively to local products and traditions and the large **water wheel which has been preserved in La Ñora** and which has become the main emblem of the village.

In this area it cannot escape your notice that you are constantly accompanied by perhaps the most treasured element of nature in the Region of Murcia, due to its scarcity: **water**. Did you notice the irrigation ditches in the orchards leading from the river and the farmers working beneath the hot sun?

The route continues to Molina de Segura, where some will choose to stop and pray, or at least to visit the church of Nuestra Señora de la Consolación, where a place of worship has stood close to the river since the 15th century and is still in perfect condition.

Just in case you don't know anything about the next element on the route, you're now entering the "Vía Verde" or green route. The **Vía Verde** is an environmental project "recycling" the old railway line towards Alguazas, following the route taken in the past by the railway line to the north-west of the Region of Murcia. Since it was reconditioned as a walking and cycling route this "Green Way" has been used every day by hundreds of people, and if you get lost they will be happy to lend a hand!