

Albox

Albox is a municipality in the Spanish province of Almería in the region of Andalusia. The name Albox comes from the Arabic word for forest and sounds similar to the Spanish expression for the forest - El Bosque. Albox is a typical Spanish municipality with narrow streets and small squares. The municipality is only a 45 minutes' drive away from the popular seaside resort Mojácar and only half an hour from the beaches of Vera and Garrucha. Located between the better known cities of Baza and Jfuercal Overa, the small town of Albox is flanked by the Sierra de las Enstacias and the Sierra de los Filabres. These are mountain ranges which are surrounded by a beautiful landscape of olive groves, orchards of citrus trees and hills and valleys covered mainly by almond trees. The origin of Albox is medieval and the remains of an old fort can be found on a nearby hill. In 1503 Albox was destroyed by an earthquake and many of its historic buildings were lost. It has been completely reconstructed. Albox has all the facilities and services that can be expected of a small, modern city: supermarkets, stores, banks, post office, restaurants, bars, schools, and a medical center which is open 24 hours a day. The nearest large hospital is located in Jfuercal Overa, about 21 kilometers away. There is also a sports center and a tennis club, which also has an own swimming pool.

Jfuercal Overa



There are some lovely restaurants in the market square eat late and soak up the atmosphere of a beautiful little town.

Hueval Overa is a market town that sits along the side of the Almanzora River in the province of Almeria, in Andalusia. The town is a merge of two medieval settlements - Huerca and Overa.

The town and surrounding area has a thriving agriculture industry, mainly for the lead mining in the region. The town has a population of just under 14,000 inhabitants.

Much of the surrounding countryside is desert-like; many visitors remark that the area is more like Arizona or Australia, than the Mediterranean coast. However, a few years ago a pine plantation was planted close to Huerca Overa - the first in the area for some 500 years. The forest is part of a long-term project to transform much of the area into lush greenery. The trees include almonds, oak and eucalyptus, as well as the ubiquitous palm.

Market day is Monday and much of the town is taken over by the market on Monday morning. Huerca Overa benefits from good facilities with hotels, restaurants, hospital and municipal swimming pool and leisure centre.

The town's religious architecture is very impressive and visitors should take some time to visit the Nuestra Señora de la Asunción church, founded in 1505, La Asunción de la Virgen built in 1748 and the Chapel of Jesús Nazareno founded in 1749 which houses a beautiful statue of Jesús of Nazareno.

Other interesting monuments and buildings are a bell tower, dating back to the Middle Ages, the old granary (Pósito) and the Via Crucis, which takes you to the Hermitage del Calvario.

During Easter Week a procession heads through the town of Huerca Overa, which celebrates the Passion of Christ. Statues are carried on floats by figures in white, brown or black robes; a religious spectacle which has been designated a National Tourist Attraction.

Lorca

Lorca is also called the "City of the sun". It is a place where time stood still. The city is dominated by its imposing castle. The castle marks the boundary of the Christian Empire and the Moorish Empire through the centuries. Nowadays it is a vibrant attraction with recreation opportunities, exhibitions, multimedia presentations, animations, and persons dressed up like medieval inhabitants and thereby taking you back to the 13th century. Start your visit in the visitor center of Lorca where you can find everything you may need to

discover the city, its history, its culture, and its traditions. There is a fascinating exhibition and an audiovisual "Time travel" that give you a good start. Unfortunately, the city was hit by an earthquake on May 11, 2010. Many historical buildings were damaged by the earthquake and have not yet been restored. Do you want to go shopping instead of a day of culture? Then Lorca will also be worth a visit.

Almeria

At just over an hour from Albox is the city Almeria. The name 'Almeria' is derived from the Arabic word Al-Mariya ('Mirror of the Sea'). It is the capital of the eponymous province Almeria. In 2008, the city had 187,521 inhabitants. The coast of Almeria is called the Costa de Almeria, is 219 kilometers long, and has sunny beaches. The region on average has the most hours of sunshine per year in Europe. West-northwest of the city lies the Sierra Nevada. On the other side of the Sierra Nevada lies the city Granada. Almeria has an airport, a circuit, and a train station. Sights in and near Almeria are: a 16th century cathedral, Alcazaba (Arabic fort), Muralla de Jairan, Sala de Prehistoria (museum of Prehistoric times), Sala de Historia Antigua (museum of Antiquity), Torre de los Espejos.

Granada

Granada is located at a 2-hour drive away from Casa Maydell. Few cities have such a rich cultural past as Granada. Proof of this are the many monuments and the everyday atmosphere in the city. You should really visit the Alhambra and the Generalife, with its beautiful gardens. You can book your tickets [here](#). From the Torre de la Vela to the Silla del Moro covers an immense area from which you have a beautiful view on the city and its surroundings: the Patio de los Leones, the Jardines de Lindaraja, the Salón de Embajadores, the Patio de Arrayanes, the Palacio de Carlos V, la Puerta de la Justicia. The city centre shows a renaissance and baroque past, as well as many Arabic influences. There is the Renaissance Cathedral with its gothic Capilla Real, where you can find the graves of Catholic monarchs as well as a large art gallery. Not far from Cathedral de Granada one can find traces of an Arab past: the Madraza (the old Arab university), the Alcaiceria (the small market), and the Corral del Carbón (the old market). From the Cathedral to the Monasterio de San Jerónimo (another large monument from the Renaissance) you will find baroque churches, such as San Juan de Dios, San Justo y Pastor, and a few palaces. The Cartuja (the apotheosis of the baroque period) is also worth

a visit. Other attractions include the well-preserved fragments of the old city wall and the well-maintained cármenes (villas with beautiful gardens).

One of the most beautiful streets of Andalusia is without a doubt the Carrera del Darro. Along one side of the street runs the river and along the other side of the street are palaces and churches such as San Pedro. The palaces house the Casa del Castril (archeological museum) and Arab baths. The Carrera del Darro leads to the Plaza Nueva with the Chancilleria and the elegant Moorish tower of Santa Ana. The Elvira street, with antique stores, and the Plaza de Bib-Rambla, with many kiosks, are also worth a stroll. Furthermore, there are monasteries like Santa Paula and Santa Isabel la Real, and museums like the Casa Museo de Manuel de Falla.

Further north is the Sierra Nevada mountain range, where you can do winter sports from December until May. In this mountain range one can find the Mulhacen, which is the highest mountain of the Iberian peninsula.