



History The first sign of settlement dates back to the Copper Age in the 111 millennium B.C. From the Bronze Age (11 millennium B.C) there are interesting remains such as the Necropolis of Becerreros in the South of the municipality, in "Cerro del Moro", in Gil Márquez and in "Las Tapazuelas". In the first millennium B.C, silver was extracted in the mining region of Monte Romero. During the Roman period an important military enclave was located up on the mountain.

The mosque was erected over an old Christian building in the 10th century, reusing part of its architectural elements. The present name of the village comes from the Arabic name Al-munastyr, which is a literal transcription from the previous latin name "monasterium". In 1230 the Portuguese Military Order integrated this region into the Portuguese Kingdom, becoming part of Castilian-Leonese Kingdom some years later.

In 1285, the village became property of the Archbishop. This situation continued until 1574. In this year, King Felipe II incorporated it into the Crown. After six years the village fell into the hands of Nicolao Grimaldo, prince of Salerno, who tried to sell the jurisdiction to the Marquis of La Algaba. However, the villagers paid the public debt, keeping Almonaster under the rule of the Crown and adopted La Real as a by-name. Around the mid-eighteenth century the village lost its jurisdiction once again and became a manor town belonging to Don Gregario del Valle Clavijo. Almonaster regained its status at the end of the century.

The administration framework for the province was created in 1822 and Almonaster was integrated into Huelva. During the 19th century the locality enjoyed a period of economic and social growth, primarily from the mining resources, although this activity declined at the end of the 20th century. Nowadays, The Aguas Teñidas and Magdalena Mine are the only two companies that continue to extract minerals. The rural exodus of the 60s and 70s greatly affected the municipality, which experienced a significant demographic crisis. The economic situation of the area was later improved by the establishment of the Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Natural Park.

The mosque The Mosque is situated on the highest point of the hill on the site of the castle and is one of the few surviving Spanish rural mosques. In addition to vestiges of Roman occupation (capitals, columns and ashlar), the monument exhibits some religious remains from the Visigoth period: the lintel over the main door, a part of the iconostasis gate, an altar and a cimacio. After the Christian Conquest (13th c.) the apse was added, changing the orientation of the building, and was re-named "Nuestra Señora de la Concepción". In later centuries, the horseshoe arches were transformed into semicircular arches, the mihrab and the qibla wall were reinforced by buttresses and the entrance portico was erected. The sacristy and the back porch were built, some ceramic tiles were added to the entrance step to the presbytery and the alminar was transformed into a bell tower. At the present time, the mosque is a cultural center where the Islamic Culture Festival is held in October. It was declared a National Monument in 1931.

Bullring Built on the former parade ground and made of masonry, the bullring is one of three in Almonaster. This centenarian bullring was unveiled in 1891 and the first event featured the famous bullfighter Fernando el Gallo. The conservation and restoration work carried out recently has integrated it into the monumental site of the Mosque. It has a seating capacity for 1000 spectators.

San Martin's Church The Church is architecturally highly complex. It is considered to be a unique monument of the Archdiocese of Sevilla due to the pointed barrel vaults used in its three naves and its singular facade "El Perdón" doorway. The construction of this church began in the 14th c., starting with the front, the transept and the first aisle. The Epístola and Evangelio side entrance doorways were added during the following century. The choir, the tower and the Manuelina facade were built in the 16th c. The coat of arms of Alonso Manrique de Lara (the cardinal of Sevilla from 1524 to 1538) can be seen above the 'El Perdón' doorway. The Sacramental Chapel was probably built in the 18th c. After the Lisbon earthquake in 1755, the architect Pedro de Silva designed the neoclassical cornice surrounding the building (previously encircled with bricks). Inside the building there is a Gothic chalice and a Manueline ciborium, both from the first third of the 16th c. The later part of that century saw the addition of the holy water stoup, the baptismal font and some wooden carvings of St. John the Evangelist and St. Peter the Martyr.

Chapel of Trinidad This Chapel, with irregular floor and a single nave, is a small baroque building from the late 18th c. It is located in the village centre. The Sacristy is covered with a groin vault and the presbytery is sealed with vault with lunettes. There is a small high pulpit and a choir round the chapel. Outside, we find the front, the cornice, the steeple and the parapet that crowns the whole building.

The Miguel Tenorio Mansion The Miguel Tenorio Mansion is a remarkable building in the village centre from the 19th c. This was the birthplace of Miguel Tenorio, a distinguished character with an very influential role in the government of Queen Elizabeth II. He was also rumored to be her lover and the father of Paz, Eulalia and Pilar, Elizabeth's daughters.



The Fountain of the Council The fountain consists of an open-air trough and public washing facilities. Above the taps, there is a white marble emblem of the royal household from 1749. Below, an inscription reads 1701, the year the fountain was built at the expense of its neighbours.

Tannery and medieval bridge On the old road to Sevilla we find a medieval bridge with a modern layout. The Roman road which linked Urum (Riotinto) with Turóbriga was very near this site. Across the bridge you reach the old leather tannery, an interesting preindustrial complex from 1806.

The Hermitage of Christ His little Hermitage from the 17th c. is located at the outskirts of the village on the old road to Aroche and Cortegana. It has front with a semicircular arch and a simple belfry above the access door. The shrine houses the image of Our Lord of Humility and Patience.

Zahúrda The Zahurda is a stonemasonry pigsty with a semicircular floor and a paddock at the front. It is a singular element of the ethnographic heritage in the area where the Iberian pig has played a vital role in rural and economic development.

Popular Architecture Almonaster boasts a rich and broad variety of buildings both modest and manorial, from different periods and styles, making it a town of great architectural interest. Strolling along its steep, narrow cobbled streets is a delightful experience that will lead you to discover hidden corners with fascinating views. Almonaster la Real has been designated a Historic-Artistic Ensemble since 1982.

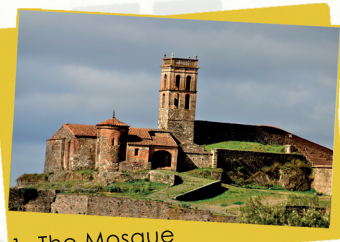
Hamlets The large municipality of Almonaster la Real is made up of several populated villages, other unpopulated villages and scattered hamlets, all with a unique charm and well worth a visit. Among those currently considered pedanías are the mountain villages of Las Veredas, Los Acebuches, El Arroyo, La Estación, La Canaleja, Aguafria, Los Molares, Calabazares, La Escalada, Gil Márquez, Monte Blanco and El Patrás; and the mining villages of Mina Concepción and Cueva de la Mora. Former hamlets, now considered to have scattered settlements, include La Juliana, Los Serpos and El Cincho, as well as the former mines of San Platón, San Miguel and Soloviejo, which are now completely uninhabited.

Ethnological patrimony The May Crosses of Almonaster la Real have been declared of Ethnological Interest in Andalusia. They have been celebrated on the first weekend in May since at least the first quarter of the 17th century. There are two crosses (La de la Fuente and La del Llano) which preserve a traditional "pique" about the age of the brotherhood. On Sundays they celebrate their respective pilgrimages, where the women, dressed as serranas, sing coplas and fandangos and play tambourines to the beat of the flute and tambourine. The villages of Aguafria, Las Veredas and Calabazares also celebrate the Cross. The Pilgrimage of Santa Eulalia takes place on the third weekend in May. On Saturday there is a pilgrimage from the village to the hermitage, located some 20 km away. Singing, dancing and religious events are the main features of this festival of medieval origins. The beautiful setting is dominated by the hermitage with a rectangular apse, built on the site of a turiform mausoleum from Roman times. In the 15th century, the brick ribbed vault was built and the interior was decorated with mural paintings. The porch, porticoes and belfry were built at the end of the 18th century. It preserves one of the oldest bullrings in Spain, dating from the second half of the 17th century. Coinciding with the Puente del Pilar (Pilar Bridge), the Jornadas Islámicas (Islamic Days) are held, a cultural and tourist attraction that has been consolidated and is well worth visiting.

La Aceña Emblematic Place in Almonaster. This small dam served as a natural swimming pool in the past and supplied water to the mills and the irrigation channels which abundantly brought water to the orchards in the valley.

Era de la Cuesta Former threshing floor where cereal was threshed, which was an important basis of the rural economy at the time. It is now an exceptional viewpoint that also serves as a space where various cultural activities take place.

Hermitage ruins of St. Sebastian It is probably a medieval hermitage, renovated in the 16th century. Only the apse and remains of the old walls are preserved. It served as a cemetery chapel during the 19th century.



1- The Mosque and Castle



2-Medieval recreation and museum



3- Bullring



4- St. Martin's Church



5-"Constitución" Square



6- Era de la Cuesta



7- Water mill



8-Fountain of the Council

ACCOMMODATION

- 1 Aptos. Tur. Las Palmeras
Carretera nº 12. Tlf.647 885 451
- 2 Posada El Camino
Ctra. A-470 km 6.
Tlf.659 259 296 - 959 503 240
- 3 Hotel Luz Almonaster**
Calle Iglesia nº 3. Tlf.638 870 129
- 4 Alojamiento El Monasterio
Calle Aparicio nº 3. Tlf.610 343 813
- 5 Casa Rural Marqués del Robledal
Urbn. La Real. nº19. Tlf.623 707 686
- 6 VTAR. La Torre
Calle de la Torre. Tlf.663 04 72 72
- 7 VTAR. Casa Picapedrero
Calle Trinidad nº 14. Tlf.607 817 544
- 8 VFT. Casa Llana
Calle Llana nº 5. Tlf.650 981 251
- 9 Hotel Casa García
Av. San Martín Nº2, Almonaster la Real
Tlf. 622950038

Casas Rurales Arroyo la Jara
Ctra. La Escalada Km. 4,5 Tlf.661 341 658

VTAR. Sierra de Cortegana.
Finca el Berrueco.
Ctra. N-433, Km 112. Tlf.666 284 870

VTAR. Cortijo las Mogeas
Casa las Moreras
Término de Almonaster - Los Romero.
Tlf.619 283 582

VFT. Casa Enriqueta
Aldea La Canaleja nº35. Tlf.600 868 306

VTAR. Acebuches
Aldea Los Acebuches nº54. Tlf.665 088 318

VTAR. Casa Farfarnicola
C/ Las Huertas nº58. Tlf.699 536 757

VTAR. La Casona de Aguafría
(Casa Tita - Marclano)
Aldea Aguafría, Paseo Del Romero nº71.
Tlf.647 760 847

VFT. De La Cruz
Aldea Aguafría, Plaza de la Cruz, nº41.
Tlf.682 022 987

VTAR. Casa de la Fuente / Escultor
Aldea La Canaleja nº31.
Tlf.630 255 655

VTAR. Finca Coto Concepción
Casa la Matanza/ Guarda /Huerta
Aldea Mina Concepción s/n.
Tlf.620 842 255

Aloj. La Casa El Pintor
C/ La Cuesta, 19 - Aldea el Arroyo
Tlf. 622251750

VTAR. Casa Rural Alicia
(Finca la Matanza)
Aldea La Canaleja
Tlf. 670708637 / 607362022

VTAR. Finca el Carrascal
Aldea La Canaleja
Tlf.636 205 995

VTAR. La Trastienda / La Trastienda II
/ La Buhardilla
Aldea Canaleja, 2
Tlf. 607 226 691

VTAR. Vallelozano
Aldea Calabazares nº65
Tlf. 635 846 111 / 959 093 215

Casa Rural "Con Encanto"
C/ Naranjal, 154 Aldea El Patrás
Tlf. 690 820 567

Casa Enriqueta
C/ La Cuesta, El Arroyo
Tlf.600 868 306

Casa Rural Arroyito Dúo: Cuesta Alta/Baja
C/ La Cuesta, 18
Tlf.635 667 528

VTAR. Casa del Romero
Calle Paso del Romero, 82. Aldea Aguafría
Tlf.689 404 984

SHOPS AND THE LOCAL PRODUCTS

- 1 Store "La serrana"
Tlf.661 367126
- 2 Supermarket
"Autoservicio Tovar"
Tlf.699 969 269
- 3 Butcher "Ramón Llanes"
Tlf.959 143 139
- 4 Bakery "Santa Eulalia"
Tlf.959 143 097
- 5 "Al Áncora" Espacio Creativo
Tlf. 656 197 685
- 6 Store "Iberian Pork Products"
Tlf. 607 900 900
- 7 Store "Espartos Cecilia"
Tlf. 619 020 256

Winery and Vineyards "Cerro de San Cristóbal"
Tlf.600 238 184

Factory "Tomás Sánchez Hams Sausages"
Tlf.959 503 048 . Aldea de el Patrás

Aniseed Products Factory "La Hormiga"
Tlf.670 826 133. Aldea de la Estación

Argüjuela Honey
Aldea el Patrás Tlf. 608 605 804

Flowers Honey
Tlf.608 711 148. Almonaster La Real
Almonasterense - Pine nut producer
Tlf.662 484 988. Almonaster La Real

SERVICES

- F Public Fountains
- C Post Office
- D ATM's
- E "El Comcejl" Conference Hall
- F Public Library
- G Manuel Vázquez Vargas Exhibition Room and Information Tourist

H Chemist
Tlf.959 143 160

I Tobacconist
Tlf.679 480 199

Buses "Montelolivo"
Tlf.654 069 678
Taxi
Tlf.676 699 538

Almonaster La Real

Excmo. Ayuntamiento de Almonaster la Real
Diputación de Huelva
www.turismoalmonasterlareal.com



RESTAURANTS

- 1 Miguel Tenorio
C/ Almendro nº2
Tlf.662 662 947
- 2 El Camino
Ctra. A-470 km 6
Tlf.659 259 296 / 959 503 240
- 3 El Rincón de Curro
Ctra. A-470 km 1
Tlf.959 143 149
- 4 Isabel II
Calle Pino nº 8
Tlf.959 143 215
- 9 Las Palmeras
Ctra. A-470
Tlf. 645 642 604

Venta el Patrás
Aldea de El Patrás
Tlf.959 503 001
La Abuela
Aldea de Aguafría
Tlf.959 503 184

BARS

- 5 Casino - Sociedad Almonaster
Almonaster la Real Tlf.637 929 281
- 6 Bar Almonaster
C/ Jacinto Navas Tlf.699 610 021
- 7 La Tetería
Plza. Cruces de Mayo Tlf.655 152 226
- 8 Abacería Ibergandullo
Plza. Cruces de Mayo Tlf.659 258 940
- 10 Pub Nómada
C/ Llana, 6

USEFULS TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- A Guardia Civil
Tlf.959 143 028
- B Health center
Tlf.959 104 221
- Emergency Center
Tlf.959 149 544
- Town Hall
Tlf.959 143 003
- Local Police
Tlf.687 406 098



9-"El Llano" Square



10-Andalusian Centre



11- Medieval Bridge and Tannery



12- M. Vázquez Vargas Exhibition Room



13- The Hermitage of Christ



14- "Zahúrda"



15. Hermitage ruins of St. Sebastian