

A Self-Guided Tour of the Salobreña Old Town

The Old Town of Salobreña is a maze of Bougainvillea laden streets and alleys that steadily weave upwards towards the old Moorish castle. It can be quite a climb, but once at the top, you will be rewarded with incredible views...

Imagine the Sierra del Chaparral mountains blanketed in snow, the greens and yellows of the surrounding farmland fanning out to touch the sea, and the small village of La Caleta gently rising out of the sugarcane fields around the neighboring hillside.

It is a sight not to be missed! ... So, let's go!



**Salobreña Old Town

Follow our guide below to the most important sights in the Salobreña Old Town...But before you begin:

- [Print this guide](#) and take it with you.
- [Download the map of Salobreña](#);
- Make your way to the **Paseo de las Flores**, where the tour begins.

1. Paseo de las Flores

This beautiful terrace was once home to Salobreña's earliest settlers. We know this because of the many important artifacts that have been found here dating to 3000 - 2000 BC.

The patio is adorned with beautiful flowers and shrubs, exploding palms, and a small sanctuary where candles are lit each morning.



Take a stroll around the super-sized patio and enjoy the incredible views of the sea and impressive castle towering above.



** View of the houses upon the Salobreña Crag from the Paseo de las Flores

2. Mirador "El Postigo"

From the Paseo de las Flores, go back out to the main road and walk across to the other side. Just in front of you, you will see the "**Mirador El Postigo**" with a plaque denoting its location on the wall to the left.

Where today you will find an observation deck with incredible views of the Sierra del Chaparral Mountains, during the middle ages this would have been a second gate into Salobreña.

At that time, it was called "Postigo del Mar", which means "Door to the Sea". It was given this name because the gate led from the village center to the port and beaches below.



** View from El Mirador Postigo

3. Stop for a Quick Drink

From the Mirador "El Postigo", make your way down the street away from the Paseo de las Flores. As you round the corner there will be a quaint little cafe on your right. This is a great place to stop and have a snack and a cool drink. The area around the cafe is beautiful.



**Salobreña Old Town

4. Salobreña Castle

Once you've cooled off, keep heading down the same street in the same direction. Take your first right just after the cafe and walk up the hill. You will come to a gorgeous little street on the right-hand side, bursting with pink and purple Bougainvillea.

There is an art gallery on the left-hand side with signs pointing towards the Arabic Castle above. Climb to the top of the street / stairway and you will find the entrance to the Salobreña Castle.

The Castle was built by the Moorish people who inhabited this area in the 10th century and later reformed by the Christians. The castle has been used as a prison, a military defense structure, and as a palace for Muslim nobility.

Read the [Salobreña Castle](#) Guide for more information.



** View of the Salobreña castle from the Paseo de las Flores

5. Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Rosario

When you are done visiting the castle, come back down the same stairway that you went up. At the bottom, take a right. You will come across the **Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Rosario** on your left.

This Mudéjar style church was built on what was once the town's only mosque. **Mudéjar** refers to a style of ornamentation and decoration in post-Islamic Christian Spain that was strongly influenced by Moorish taste and workmanship.

The square in front of the church was used as a cemetery until 1789. In 1821, much of the church's roof was destroyed in a fire but was later rebuilt.

Walk around the church and enjoy the beautiful views from the terrace towards the sea. From there, walk along the side of the church and down the steps, take a right and you will find the next site on our tour, "La Boveda".



** Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Rosario in Salobreña

6. La Boveda / The Vault

The tunnel vault or "La Boveda" was built in the 16th century using the existing fortified wall of the town. It is thought that the vault was built to create more space for the church and its atrium above. It was built while the new Rosary Church was being constructed on top of the existing Muslim mosque.

La Boveda was once a passageway that connected the Muslim living area or "**Albaycín**" to the commercial area of town or "**Medina**". The doorway on the left-hand side would have been the only secondary entrance into the fortified town. This is where supplies would have been brought in.

Explore this area and then head back to the beginning of the tunnel, take a right and you will find yourself in the old town square. This is a good place to stop for a bite to eat.



** La Boveda

7. The History Museum in the Plaza del Antiguo Ayuntamiento

Now that you have found the Old Town Hall Plaza, you can do a quick tour of the History Museum located in the building in front of you (the former Town Hall or Ayuntamiento).

The History Museum houses a diverse collection of artifacts that have been found all over Salobreña, dating from Neolithic times. Here you will see the oldest human remains found in the Cueva del Capitan, ceramic urns, ancient coins, and much more.

There are also miniature models of the castle, church, and its tower.

Under the building, you can also tour the old town jail that was built in the 16th century.



** Plaza del Antiguo Ayuntamiento

This is where our tour ends, but there is still much more to see... Continue reading below to learn about other important sites in Salobreña and where to find them.

Other Important Sites to Visit in Salobreña

1. The Mirador "Enrique Morente"

The Mirador "Enrique Morente" can be found just below the Paseo de las Flores. From the top, climb down the steps at the far end of the terrace.

The Mirador is 98 meters above sea level and offers spectacular views of the surrounding area. A monument to one of the 20th centuries most important Spanish musicians "Enrique Morente" is the focal point.



** Mirador "Enrique Morente"

2. The Calle Mas Estrecha or Narrowest Street

Another fun little site to see in the old town is the "narrowest street" in Salobreña. At 60 cm wide, there is just enough room to squeeze your shoulders through this tight little alley.

This narrow street connects the "La Fuente" neighborhood with the rest of the old town.



** La Calle Mas Estrecha

3. La Casa Roja

The Casa Roja was once the exquisite home to the wealthy owner of the sugarcane factory in La Caleta. It was built in 1905 and the interior has been carefully maintained in the original style.

Today the building houses a foundation honoring a famous Spanish playwright and author that was born and lived in the town of Salobreña.

4. Parque "La Fuente"

Just at the bottom of the Salobreña crag, you will find this quaint little park. It lies on both sides of the main road that connects the town with its beaches.

The park has at its center, and derives its name from, a beautiful fountain that resembles the lion head fountain found in the nearby Alhambra Castle in Granada. There is also a small children's park, refreshment stand, and a small pond with interesting wildlife.



** Fountain in Parque La Fuente in Salobreña

5. El Peñon

The giant rock that juts out into the sea and divides the main Salobreña beaches is called El Peñon. At one time in history, this rock was surrounded by water and was known as the "Island of the Rock".

Over the years, it has been used for fishing, as a cemetery, and as a sanctuary to the goddess Tanit.

Today, one of the best chiringuitos is built on top of the Peñon. During the summer you will find many holiday goers jumping from its rocks, feeding the fish within its coves, and enjoying the spectacular views of the castle from the top.