

San Roque

Where emotions come from

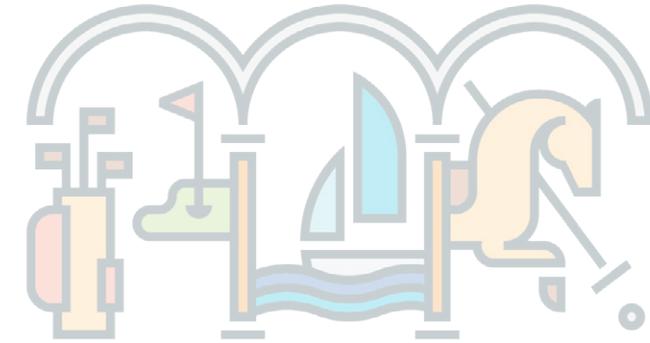


More information:
San Roque Borough Tourist Office
Palacio de los Gobernadores
Calle Rubín de Celis, s/n
11360 San Roque - Cadiz

+34 956 694 005
turismo@sanroque.es
www.turismosanroque.es
@turismosanroque

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**A special big thank you to all the tourist
businesses in the municipality.**



San Roque



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San Roque, a place you want to be

A different kind of destination, within the province of Cadiz, in the Gibraltar Area. Between two seas and two continents, a stone's throw away from Africa and the Costa del Sol, overlooking the Strait of Gibraltar. A place where you can experience history and heritage by walking around the streets of the historic centre. A perfect location to enjoy the most exclusive luxury or enjoy the peace and quiet in one of the most spectacular natural parks in Spain.

You won't just want to visit San Roque, you'll want to stay!

In San Roque we don't just have some of the best beaches in the area, local gastronomy that combines the best seafood and game, or some of the most important golf courses in the world. We've got all of this and much more, but what's really important is that in San Roque we're part of living history, due to the fact we're the City of San Roque where Gibraltar lives on.

We're tradition and happiness. We're culture and heritage. We're sunshine and sand. We're sport and wellness. We're nature and tranquillity. We're leisure and gastronomy.

We're a unique destination.

Come and visit us!

**The Very Noble and Most Loyal City of San Roque
Where Gibraltar lives on**



Where History lives on

San Roque is located in an exceptional enclave watching over the Rock of Gibraltar. It was founded in an epic battle, closely linked to the Capture of Gibraltar by Anglo Dutch troops in 1704. The city, which had been Spanish until then, upon the arrival of the military had to decide whether to stay on the Rock and live under another flag or go into exile.

Over five thousand Gibraltarians decided to leave their homes, awaiting an improvement in the situation. Meanwhile, they took refuge at the **Saint Roque Shrine**, from which they could see their former hometown. This is the origin of the city as we know it today which fostered the creation of the county of the Gibraltar Area. A city in which to experience history in every corner, with a historical centre declared a **Conservation Area** in 1975.

Due to its geostrategic importance, the municipality has been occupied since ancient times, with prehistoric settlements such as **Horadada Cave**, featuring cave paintings; or the City of **Carteia**, which can boast being the first Latin colonia outside the present day Italy. Founded as a Phoenician port, it enjoyed its maximum splendour during the Roman Empire.

Since its foundation, the City of San Roque has been an important part of the history of Spain, be it as the headquarters of the Military Command during the sieges of Gibraltar in the 18th century or later on during the Second World War with the construction of almost eight hundred different types of bunkers. Since then and until this day the city has been the real historical centre of the Gibraltar Area.

Undoubtedly, San Roque is oozing history



Where the City lives on

There are few places like San Roque where you can experience history so intensely as in its streets. The old quarter conceals thousands of picturesque spots to enjoy the charm of an authentic Andalusian whitewashed town. Come with us on a tour of the lower part of the city.

The **Bullring**, which was inaugurated in 1853, is one of the oldest in Andalusia and the second oldest in Cadiz. It has a special feature of not having a “callejón” (an alleyway and barrier behind which the matador takes refuge), due to a mistake in the calculations during its construction. This was a local maths

teacher’s fault and gives it a special appearance. The arena houses the **Bullfighting Museum** where you will find a large collection of bullfighting memorabilia.

The **Saint Roque Shrine** was built in 1801 and houses the statue of the patron saint, which is taken out in a pilgrimage every April. It is located very close to the **Old Diego Salinas Army Barracks**, which are council buildings these days and where the new **City Hall** is situated. Neoclassical in style, they were used as military barracks until 1995.

Nearby is where the **Alameda Alfonso XI Square** can be found, a traditional meeting point for local inhabitants of all ages. This is also where **Juan Luis Galiardo Theatre** is located, which is named after the popular San Roque-born actor and contains a permanent exhibition dedicated to him, with scripts, attrezzo and costumes from his films, as well as the Goya award he won for the movie Goodbye from the heart and which were given to the city.

The **Plaza de Andalucía Square**, where stagecoaches used to halt, is one of the most historical places in the city and gives way to the steep **San Felipe Street**. This is one of the most emblematic streets with balconies brimming with flowers and typical Andalusian patios where we come across the **birthplace of Juan Luis Galiardo**. In the very same road is where the **San Roque Municipal Museum** is situated, which is where a collection dedicated to the Roman city of Carteia and history of San Roque is kept. This is also where the Standard of Gibraltar (made in 1502) is displayed.





In the upper part of town, we come across the **Church Square**, dominated by **Saint Mary the Crowned Parish Church**, which was built from 1735 onwards and features some Baroque elements with purely Neoclassical architecture. In the interior the Main Altar stands out, as well as some of the most beloved statues among local inhabitants such as Christ of a Happy Death, the work of San Roque-born religious sculptor **Luis Ortega Brú**. Christ of the True Cross and Saint Mary the Crowned, among others, which were brought from Gibraltar prior to the invasion. This is also where notable poet José Cadalso who was killed during the Great Siege is buried.

A few steps away is the **Governor's Palace**, built in the early 18th century and which was the old Military Command HQ. It features a quaint traditional Andalusian patio and houses council offices nowadays. This is also where different artwork by **Luis Ortega Brú** is exhibited. He is considered to be the best religious sculptor from the 20th century. His works are an essential part of the traditions of Holy Week in Seville, Malaga, Jerez and many other cities. A little hint, if you climb up to the tower of the building, you can admire one of the best views of the Strait of Gibraltar.

Let's stop a second to highlight the figure of Luis Ortega Brú, one of the most distinguished figures in the history of the city. Born in 1916, he always felt attracted to art and wood carving. The story of his family was tragic due to the Spanish Civil War and this left a mark on his life and vocation. He had his own singular artistic vision. He dedicated himself to making religious statues and soon became well-known all over the world. What is more, his innate curiosity compelled him to delve into other concepts of avant-garde art, which can also be seen in the collection at the San Roque Municipal Museum.

On the other side of the parish church is the **Plaza de Armas Square**. In the olden days this was a place bullfights were held and where modern bullfighting (the Red Cape and Sword technique) was invented in 1720 by Manuel Ballón "El Africano." The square is dominated by the **old City Hall**, built in the 18th century, featuring Neoclassical architecture. Inside the building you can see an evocative stained-glass window from the 1950s depicting the loss of Gibraltar.

Just a short distance away we encounter the Old Public Granary (Mayor Fernando Palma Building), which currently houses exhibitions and other cultural activities. A bit further along the road is Poeta Domingo de Mena Viewpoint, with outstanding views of Gibraltar and the Bay, and from where we can see Ceuta and Africa, just a few kilometres in the distance.

The streets of San Roque are unique and it is easy to get carried away by the charm of the typically Andalusian old quarter and stroll around some of them like **San Nicolás**, **Historiador Montero** or **General Lacy**, or discover some of the hidden squares which provides visitors with unforgettable memories.

In addition, just a few kilometres away from the town centre is **Carteia Archaeological Site**, where a tour should not be missed. Founded in the 7th century BC by the Phoenicians, it enjoyed its period of maximum splendour during the Roman period, becoming the first Latin colonia outside present-day Italy and which takes us back to ancient Rome without leaving San Roque.





Where the Sun shines

San Roque features an impressive coastline and belongs to the Costa del Sol. These are unique surroundings where the Mediterranean and Atlantic meet. Local beaches entice you to relax in the sun and enjoy the beauty of the sea.

With a total of eight different beaches and over 15 kilometres of coastline, clean sands and well-kept infrastructure makes it one of those really idyllic locations to be discovered. Some of them have been awarded with the prestigious **Blue Flag**.

Cala Sardina

This is an unspoilt beach with dark brown sand and tranquil waters. It is ideal to spend a peaceful day out. Curiously enough, it has been used as a filming location for movies and TV advertisements.

Torreguadiaro

This beach is located in the village of the same name and dominated by the two 16th century watchtowers. It is close to Sotogrande Marina and “La Laguna” Promenade. The village features lots of different restaurants.

Puerto Sotogrande

This beach is situated within the actual marina. It is considered to be an urban beach. A wide variety of bars and restaurants are within easy reach. It features a moderate swell and its tranquillity has made it very popular.

Sotogrande (Guadalquitón and Borondo)

With over five kilometres of dark brown sands and near the Guadalquitón and Borondo nature area, this beach is where Roman archaeological remains have been discovered, as well as Second World War bunkers.



El Faro-Alcaidesa

This beach of outstanding beauty is virtually unspoilt. It features the typical dark brown sand typical in the area. Impressive views of Gibraltar and the Strait can be admired from this spot. Its symbol of identity is the lighthouse.

Campamento

This beach is situated in the village of the same name. Access is easy and a wide range of services and infrastructures are available.

Puente Mayorga

This is an urban beach located in this old fishing village. It features tranquil waters and is very popular among local people.

Guadarranque

Right next to Carteia Archaeological Site is a semi-urban beach with dunes of golden sands. It is one of the favourite beaches among local inhabitants due to its tranquillity.



Where The Beach is

If you have already visited our beaches and you are looking for something different The Beach is what you are after. Located at La Reserva Club Sotogrande, its installations tempt us to get carried away by relaxation and fun. Not only does it feature the first private beach in Spain but it is also one of most exclusive places, ready to satisfy those who are looking for more originality and spectacularity.

Everything at The Beach has been devised for 100% family fun. In this sense, it offers an artificial lagoon with crystal clear waters and white sands at the bottom, and transports us to dream locations.

Surrounded by sunbeds to relax with an ice cool drink and restaurants which offers the best cuisine in the area, different activities are available to enjoy an unforgettable day. There is a kids club for little ones to safely have fun whilst their parents relax.

In addition, the amenities feature another 17,000 square metre man-made lagoon, to put our sporting side to the test. Windsurfing, kayaking or SUP are just some of the leisure activities at our disposal in a location with no motor boats whatsoever.

The Beach is a dream come true... and it is within reach.



Where Puerto Sotogrande is

San Roque stands for exclusivity and luxury. This became reality when the name Puerto Sotogrande comes to mind. It is the largest marina in Andalusia, inaugurated in 1987. Since the beginning it has been the perfect place, thanks to its privileged location, to enjoy not only nautical sports but also as a peaceful and calm oasis in unique surroundings.

Puerto Sotogrande is one of a reference marina on a European level and offers the opportunity to take sailing lessons for beginners at the Sotogrande Royal Yacht Club and other nautical firms, enjoy a day out at sea and go fishing on one of the numerous leisure boats or have fun going on a kayaking excursion along the coast. All of this without mentioning multiple times you can enjoy dinghy regattas and other nautical sports that put our marina at the top when talking about the beauty of the sea and making the most of it.

Worth highlighting is the Adapted Sailing School, an initiative which pursues the inclusion of disabled people, encouraging their enjoyment of the sea and team integration, all of these concepts with sailing. Beginner and more advanced courses are offered with the aim of getting participants involved in different competitions.

Unlimited days of sunshine, colourful squares and canals in the so-called Mini Venice make Puerto Sotogrande an idyllic location to walk around, in privileged surroundings and away from the hustle and bustle. Elegant cafés and exclusive restaurants offers an ideal setting to see and be seen, with a wide range of culinary options that will satisfy even the most discerning diners. Without a doubt, Puerto Sotogrande is a singular place you should not miss.



Where there is Sport

For those who are looking for something more than sunshine and sand, and physical activity is part of their lives San Roque is an ideal location. After all it is one of those places where sport of the highest standards is more accessible than ever, with world-famous golf courses, a long standing tradition of polo and a real mecca as far as nautical sports are concerned. There are also many other activities to enjoy during your stay. If active tourism is your thing, you have come to the right place.

Golf

San Roque is considered to be the **European Golf Capital**, featuring seven clubs and nine courses all together in a radius of eight kilometres. Among these Real Club Valderrama stands out, the current venue for the PGA European Tour's Estrella Damm N.A. Andalucia Masters Tournament and the former venue for the Ryder Cup '97. It is considered to be one of the best courses in the world by professional golfers and specialised magazines.

The amenities for golfers are unbeatable. Golf players can enjoy prestigious courses in which different professional tournaments are played or you can simply spend a sunny day playing at magnificent facilities just for the sake of it.

It is also important to highlight that adapted golf can be enjoyed, making this sport accessible to disabled people. **La Cañada** is pioneering this field and offers an Adapted Golf School, in which pupils, particularly children, can benefit from all the advantages of participating in outdoor sports. In addition, **The San Roque Club** also offers facilities for this kind of inclusive golf.

What is more, the **Sotogrande Golf Challenge** has been held since 2021, a two-player tournament with six different dates with the final being played at Real Club Valderrama. This is a unique opportunity to play all the courses in the municipality, combined with the incentives of prizes and has made this tournament a great success in terms of quality and participation.



La Hacienda Alcaidesa Links Golf Course

This is the only links golf course in southern Europe. It is a Par 72 which allows different type of game formats to be played. Spectacular views of the Rock of Gibraltar and mountains in Africa make the difference.

La Hacienda Alcaidesa Heathland Golf Course

This course, located between the Mediterranean and Los Alcornocales Natural Park, was designed by Dave Thomas. It stands out due to rolling hills and different water hazards such as streams and ponds.

The San Roque Club Old Course

Inaugurated in 1990 and recently renovated, this is one of the best courses in Europe. Playing course is a challenge, which makes it very popular, built on

rolling hills, narrow and sloped fairways. In addition, the mansion was the former home of the Domecq family.

The San Roque Club New Course

A spectacular course designed by Severiano Ballesteros and Perry Dye, and is the perfect complement to the Old Course. It is a real challenge for golfers with all kinds of handicaps, and it hosted the Spanish Open in 2006.

La Reserva Club Sotogrande

The strength of this course is definitely its design in which different natural hazards are integrated. It is set between two valleys which harmonises the natural habitat and a large number of species of animals.

Real Club Valderrama

Founded in 1985, this is the number one golf course on the ranking of the best continental European courses. It was the venue for the Ryder Cup '97 and the Andalucia Masters at present. This spectacular course features different wild life sanctuaries.

Almenara Golf Club

This 27-hole course, which was designed by Dave Thomas, is located just five minutes away from the beach and is surrounded by the typically stunning natural landscape in the area. Three different circuits featuring ponds, pine trees and cork oak trees, which are suitable for all kinds of players.

La Cañada Municipal Golf Club

This is an 18-hole course featuring the municipal golf school, one of the pioneering ones in Spain, in which several leading players have emerged such as Álvaro Quirós on an international level and María Parra or Juan Quirós on a national level.

Real Sotogrande Golf Club

It was inaugurated in 1964 and located on the Golden Mile of Golf between Puerto Sotogrande and the River Guadiaro. The wind, which is frequent in the area, makes playing this course a challenge for players.





Polo

If there is a place in Spain with a special link to polo, that is San Roque. Due to the British influence due to the proximity of Gibraltar, this sport has been specially tied to the area. Back in the 19th century the **Gibraltar Garrison Polo Club** played at a polo ground located in Campamento and which was used until 1934. Last but not least, in 1965 the beach polo ground was inaugurated in Sotogrande.

Nowadays, San Roque features two polo clubs, **Santa Maria Polo Club** (seven polo grounds) and **Ayala Polo Club** (two polo grounds) with nine polo grounds all together. Different national, international and private tournaments are staged, the second club even has its own team, **Ayala Polo Team**. The main date on the calendar is the **International Polo Tournament** with the **Gold, Silver and Bronze Cups**, declared an Event of Andalusian Tourist Interest.

Sailing

Once again San Roque's singular location makes it an ideal setting to take advantage of all sorts of nautical sports. With a large number of sunny days a year and weather conditions with the wind as the main factor, turns San Roque into the perfect tourist destination for those who want to enjoy different nautical sports.

Puerto Sotogrande is the largest marina in Andalusia featuring 1,382 moorings. There are great opportunities to give sailing a go at the **Real Sotogrande Yacht Club's Sailing School**.

Charters in all kinds of leisure vessels (yachts, catamarans and motor boats) are available to enjoy the sea and fishing. Why not go on a kayaking route along the coast? You can also do a diving course or simply go on an unforgettable boat trip around our coastline.





Tennis & Padel

It is no secret that tennis and padel are extremely popular. Both sports are fun and open to everyone. There is always space in our schedule, even if it is tight, to hit the ball with a racquet. Visitors arriving in San Roque will not be disappointed in this sense as the borough features **three clubs** in the Sotogrande area:

Sotogrande Racquet Centre

El Octógono

La Reserva Club Sotogrande

In addition, a large number of courts belong to the **Council Sport Department's** facilities, making it simple to enjoy these sports and making them more accessible than ever.

Equestrian activities

San Roque is part of the Equine District, alongside the neighbouring municipalities of San Martín del Tesorillo, Jimena de la Frontera and Castellar. There are **six equestrian clubs** all in all that you can approach to get to know this passionate world for the first time, with dressage and showjumping lessons. Enjoy the amenities, as well as different social events in which horses and riders are the protagonists.

Santa Maria Equestrian Club has put the icing on the cake with an ambitious project at **Santa Maria Polo Club's** world-class installations at Puente de Hierro, with showjumping and dressage competitions.

In addition, **Pinar del Rey** is an ideal place to go on a hack for people who have started riding for the first time and they will not be disappointed.





Where there is nature

For those who want to get away from it all and explore nature, San Roque is everything you can imagine and more. It is a huge area where there is room for everything, the sea and the mountains, forests and geological formations. You can wander along nature trails which are waiting for visitors to discover them. Enjoy active tourism or reconnect with the environment, you choose how you want to make the most of our ecological marvels.

The **Pinar del Rey Woods** are set in unique surroundings and are part of **Los Alcornocales Natural Park**. With a total of 338 hectares, these woods are truly San Roque's lungs and offer a wide range of options to enjoy every inch of this nature spot the whole year round. They feature a recreational area where local inhabitants spend their days off and include different facilities to enjoy quiet days in the countryside, just a short distance away from the hustle and bustle of city life. For more adventurous types, the forest includes four

nature trails, comprising of the **Alhaja Stream, Big, Ugly Bird Gorge, Eagle's Hill and Pinar del Rey routes**. In addition, there are other options to enjoy this emerald paradise such as horse riding routes, mountain bike routes, mycological events... Nature has never been so close at hand.

Within the park there is an information point, a nature centre, in which environmental education events are organised throughout the year and has been distinguished as a Blue Centre which always makes the Pinar del Rey a place to explore a little bit more.



The **River Guadiaro Estuary** is one of those key places for birdwatching in San Roque. Once again, the extraordinary location of the municipality gives us a unique opportunity to witness the movement of thousands of migratory birds and has made this a place of pilgrimage for numerous enthusiasts.

Finca La Alcaldesa is another magical spot where tradition is combined with the magic of nature. With a surface area of approximately 1500 hectares and bordering the north east area of Pinar del Rey. It features an 18th century country house on the estate and is mainly covered in woods comprising of pine trees, cork oak trees and wild olive trees. A wide variety of animal species can be found here such as deer, wild goats and boar, as well as a wide variety of birds, reptiles and amphibians.

In addition, **Sierra Carbonera**, located between San Roque and the neighbouring city of La Linea is where you come across a high concentration of singular

WWII bunkers, which belong to the so-called Jevenois Line. **Sierra del Arca** is a geological formation which contained prehistoric settlements and where cave rock art can be found at Horadada Cave.

For those of you who want to combine enjoying nature with adventure tourism, you should not forget the different **cycleways** available in San Roque. They are a great way to get to know the borough like the back of your hand, Sotogrande or the coast, Pinar del Rey or towards other nearby towns. These cycleways allow you enjoy nature whilst you get to know the surroundings better. Worth highlighting is the cycleway connecting the village of Estación with Guadarranque, where you can enjoy the special charm of the riverbanks. This cycleway has been included in **EuroVelo**, the European network of long-distance cycling routes which span the continent.



Where Traditions live on

In our city tradition and fun are combined as far as festivities are concerned. From the most traditional ones like Holy Week or Christmas, or the most popular ones like the Fair or the Carnival, we are always thinking about joining the party in San Roque.

San Roque's Holy Week is undoubtedly one of the most relevant and historical ones in the Gibraltar Area, it will not come as a surprise that it was declared an **Event of National Andalusian Tourist Interest**. With a long-standing brotherhood tradition and age-old statues, some brought from Gibraltar and that date back to before the foundation of the city in 1704. The Holy Week is one of the most special moments on the calendar and an unmissable date for all those people who want to enjoy authentic tradition. With nine Holy Week Brotherhoods and Guilds, San Roque boasts historical statues such as Our Lady of Mercy, Christ of the True Cross at Calvary, the Nazarene and Our Lady of Solitude. Christ of a Happy Death has special importance for the people of San Roque

as it was sculpted by San Roque-born Luis Ortega Brú, using a local cypress tree and several local people were used as models. It could not be more "Sanroquenian."

The actual charm of **San Roque's typical streets** is combined with religious and cultural fervour, making it a very special moment for anyone who is fortunate enough to experience it. Throughout the week different statues leave the city's churches and are paraded, then stored at Saint Mary the Crowned Parish Church. Every Good Friday the **Magna Procession of the Holy Burial** takes place in which **fourteen different floats** are paraded in the same way as in the province of Malaga, preceded by an impressive squadron of Roman soldiers on horseback. The sentiment and passion of this time of the year thrills both local people and visitors, who are deeply impressed by the spectacle.



Christmas has always been a special time of the year but we could say that in San Roque it is celebrated with special excitement. **The Nativity Scene**, located in the Plaza de Armas Square, is a painstaking reenactment of the birth of Christ and is one of the most emblematic events in the county. It attracts large numbers of visitors who get carried away by the festive atmosphere while they stroll around the handicraft, food and beverage stalls to keep themselves going. On the other hand, the traditional **Three Kings parade** is a delight for children and those who are young at heart on a magical night.

In addition, different pilgrimages are celebrated in different places in the municipality. The one dedicated to **Saint Rock**, which is the saint the city is named after. It is held the last weekend in April and

attracts a large number of pilgrims who accompany the statue of the saint from the shrine to Pinar del Rey. It is a day of celebration, devotion and festivity. A horse riding competition, a traditional “rociero” mass, music and dancing make this weekend one of the best opportunities to get to know Andalusian culture.

No less devotion is awoken by **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**, which is paraded around the fishing villages of Torreguadiaro, Puente Mayorga and Guadarranque. The statue is taken on a boat, accompanied by music and good fun. Once again, a picturesque touch is combined with religious fervour making this day a festivity you should not miss.



Where Festivities live on

Having said that, if we are looking for real fun, we should not miss the **Royal Fair**, which is held in August. Dedicated to Saint Mary the Crowned, the city is adorned to celebrate the patron saint's day, in which music, dancing and fun are in abundance. Real festive spirit can be experienced at different traditional marquees and for the little ones there are always rides for them to enjoy, making it one of the summer events in the Gibraltar Area that should not be missed. The festivity ends with the **"Toro del Aguardiente" bull run** along the streets of the town as far as the Bullring. In addition, all the villages have their own fair during the summer, making it easy to find a moment to have fun at any of them.

Saint John's Eve also has its place in San Roque, especially in the seaside villages of Torreguadiaro, Puente Mayorga, Guadarranque and Taraguilla, where popular bonfires are lit to bring good luck to all those who attend.

In addition, it is traditional in San Enrique and the Valley of Guadiaro area to celebrate the festivity of

Our Lady of Fátima with a pilgrimage in which the statue is taken in procession from the parish church to a place near the river and the festivities last for hours.

Like a good, old town in the province of Cadiz, you must not forget about the Carnival. It is a very popular event, so it is easy to come across different activities in different parts of the borough during these days. Costumes, music and above all, lots of fun, make these days the perfect occasion to experience the festivities intensely around the city streets. The big parade stands out, full of colour and brightness, as well as the choir competition in which the wit and humour of participants stand out.

The singularity of San Roque and the different local villages mean that at any time of the year there is some kind of celebration. Therefore it does not matter when you come to visit us, festivities are guaranteed.



Where there is Exclusivity

San Roque is an ideal holiday destination and offers a wide range of truly exclusive amenities for your stay. There is an extensive collection of activities to make the most of your day, due to the fact you will encounter golf courses, polo grounds, magnificent beaches and many other activities to have an unforgettable time. There is always something to do, strolling along our streets reliving history, sailing the waves of the local coastline or enjoying an unforgettable sport experience.

Among all the options, visiting Sotogrande is one of the most tempting ones and a byword for the most sophisticated and discreet luxury. This gated community is a model on an international level, in which some of the influential families in the world have a permanent and holiday home here. Impressive villas, out of the way of indiscreet eyes, have accommodated different movie stars, politicians and even royal families.

The idea of its founder, Joseph McMicking was to build a luxury residential area in Spain, so he sent Fredy Melián to go along the whole coastline of Spain (on a motorbike!) and in the end this area was chosen. Building commenced on the gated community in 1962 and the aim was to give residents all kinds of leisure facilities, shortly afterwards it was followed by Real Club de Golf Sotogrande, The Beach polo ground and at a later date, its famous marina. By the end of the sixties it was declared a **“Centre of Tourist Interest”** and has been become more and more well-known internationally ever since.

Luxury yachts and art galleries, magnificent homes surrounded by exuberant gardens and exclusive golf courses, exquisite restaurants and avenues lined with palm trees... Going into Sotogrande is entering into a world of glamour and luxury in which perfection is combined with elegance and discretion.

You can spend a pleasant morning shopping at Ribera del Marlin, within Puerto Sotogrande, where different boutiques and home decor stores are at your disposal; or the shopping centres located in the Sotogrande area.



Sotogrande

In its own right Sotogrande has become a location featuring high quality landscape and architecture. Despite its relatively short history it already features different listed buildings, such as the main building of the Hotel Encinar de Sotogrande, the Real Club de Golf Sotogrande's clubhouse and other private properties.

Sotogrande stands for the most sophisticated and discreet luxury and **SO/ Sotogrande** is its leading exponent. This five-star hotel, located in a unique enclave, is just a short distance from the Costa del Sol and combines elegance with exclusivity to offer guests an unequalled experience.

Its luxurious rooms and suites provide the highest comfort in the midst of the tranquil Andalusian

countryside. Tastefully equipped with avant garde features that make every day you stay heaven on earth. With six bars and restaurants, swimming pools, gardens and a wide selection of beauty and wellness treatments at the spa, SO/Sotogrande pledges more than one good reason to stay.

At the **Hotel Encinar de Sotogrande** exquisiteness is combined with the most exclusive tradition. This four-star hotel offers the opportunity to enjoy its magnificent facilities and at the same time it is located just a few minutes away from golf courses, beaches and other attractions along our coastline.



Nearby is The San Roque Club, an exceptional gated community which combines the most select privacy with the typical charm of southern Spain. Founded around the centrepiece of the old summer residence of the Domecq family, this has been turned into **The San Roque Club's** impressive clubhouse.

Alcaidesa is one of the best gated community and features one of the most spectacular beaches in the area. It offers magnificent views of Gibraltar and Morocco. Its lighthouse is one of most iconic images in the county and is a typical walk to enjoy the views.

The five-star **La Hacienda Alcaidesa Hotel Resort** is currently under construction and will give guests the opportunity to enjoy sea views or, for those who want more comfort and privacy, some of its deluxe villas. It will feature three swimming pools, various

restaurants, direct access to the beach and its luxurious Beach Club. If you also want to stay in good shape during your stay the Sport Centre will have a pool with natural sand, an Olympic pool, padel courts and the opportunity to relax at the spa.

You must not forget to mention **Admiral Casino & Lodge**, located next to the casino facilities and which offers comfortable, modern accommodation. Closer to the San Roque's Historic Centre, this is the right place to relax after trying your luck at the roulette or playing poker, whether it is at the pool or on one of its comfy terraces.



Where there is Flavour

In San Roque we take having a good time really seriously and know for sure that there are few better things than going out for a good meal, and after-dinner conversation in turn! If you like sampling the best cuisine, you have definitely come to the right place as there are few places where you can enjoy such a wide variety of gastronomy.

Our special location makes this just the right place to savour marvellous dishes created with the sea's raw materials, a unique selection of fish and seafood. Game meat from the local mountains will be a delight for the most discerning foodies. With a long-standing gastronomic tradition, the old quarter offers different tapas bars to sample some of the most typical dishes from Southern Spain.

Once again, thanks to San Roque's own singularity, the location of the villages in the borough allow you

go on a real gastronomic trip around the world, with restaurants that offers dishes from every corner of the globe. From Argentinean barbecues, traditionally linked to the world of polo, to exquisite sushi, without forgetting stylish Italian restaurants or more exotic Indian or Thai recipes.

After an excellent meal, it is time to relax and there is no better place than at any of our numerous local cafés or pubs, where you can sample some of the typical local cakes or sophisticated cocktails.

The wide variety of restaurants and bars is combined with beach bars to spend the whole day and night during the summer! Meanwhile in the cooler months you can enjoy local nightlife, with live music and pleasant terraces. In San Roque you will literally find something to suit all kinds of tastes.



Where culture lives on

We know how to enjoy ourselves in San Roque and how to make our visitors feel welcome and join the party. It should not come as a surprise that San Roque is the **Gibraltar Area's Cultural Capital**, with a cultural calendar hard to compete with.

Throughout the year locals and visitors cannot only enjoy the typical festivities in each season but also these dates are complemented with a wide variety of activities to be enjoyed outdoors.

Juan Luis Galiardo Theatre offers a continuous programme of concerts, plays and different types of shows to suit all kinds of tastes and age groups, so you will always be able to find something to do. This venue hosts, among other events, the **San Roque International Short Film Festival (FICSAN)**, the **San Rotin Puppet Festival (SAN ROTÍN)**, the **Music Festival (SAN ROQUE SUENA)**, the **Dance Festival**, the **Jazz Festival** and, of course, the **“Canela de San Roque” Biennial Flamenco Art**.

This art form is part of the cultural identity of our city. Also, children can enjoy playgrounds devised specially for them or go on a city tour using the Marco Topo online game and a kid's guidebook, with tailor-made fun for little ones.

During the summer months San Roque is the historic home to the **University of Cadiz's Summer Courses**, hosting courses and conferences on different themes, from archaeology to contemporary history, also featuring topics such as literature, sociology, politics and historical memory. They attract a large number of students of all ages, who have a unique opportunity to extend their knowledge while they enjoy visiting the city and its surroundings. Also, the Council organises different workshops as part of the Popular University, in which people have the chance to learn different skills adapted to all ages and requirements, with the most qualified teaching staff.

Having fun in San Roque is easier than you imagine.



Where our people live

The peculiarity of San Roque, apart from the actual historic centre, is that its villages are located at a certain distance from the town centre, giving each one a special charm. They were founded at different times and you will find that each one has memorable features.

Estación de San Roque, precisely takes its name from the railway station. Although the first stretch of the line, as far as Jimena, was inaugurated in 1890, the village was not founded until 1909. Nowadays it is well-known due to the wide variety of restaurants located here.

The **Taraguilla** country estate was the origin of the present-day village, which included the famous Fontetar meadow and which was close to the

Phoenician settlement of Cerro del Prado. The modern development of the village has a lot to do with the floods that occurred in Estación and led to many families settling here in the 1960s.

Although the current housing estate of **Miraflores** was built in the 1980s, the names of different country estates were known prior to the 18th century. In 1916 the Miraflores Roadside Inn was founded, it was a haunt for Italian and German spies during WWII.

Guadarranque is named after the rivermouth where it is situated. With the Roman settlement of Carteia nearby, this village has been inhabited more or less since ancient times. Its beach is extremely popular, due to its historic surroundings and tranquillity.

The village of **Puente Mayorga** has one of the best beaches in the Bay and is a village with a great maritime tradition. There were inhabitants in the area back in the 16th century and Turkish incursions were quite frequent. Worth highlighting is that in the 1930s had its own harbour and customs house. The stone bridge, built in the 18th century, is an essential part of the landscape.

Campamento was founded as a direct consequence of the sieges on Gibraltar, numerous civilians settled here to supply goods to the troops. The proximity of the British colony made customs such as fox hunting, golf and above all, polo popular as it was a residential area for wealthy Gibraltarian.

Guadiaro is located near the river of the same name. The iron bridge, which crosses it was open to traffic in 1929, and is its symbol of identity giving

the surrounding an incomparable silhouette. The Roman city of Barbesula is situated in this village, although it is not open to the public.

There was already an important country estate in **San Enrique** in the 17th century. The current village was founded by the Larios family, who created the Guadiaro Industrial and Agricultural Company in 1887. Nowadays one of the most representative local activities is polo.

Torreguadiaro was founded as a fishing village, although these days it is one of the most important areas for restaurants and other leisure facilities in the municipality. The imposing watch tower, built in the late 15th century, is one of the icons of the coast of San Roque and its beaches are among the most popular ones.





San Roque

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