



# La Janda

NATURE



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On Producciones y emeuve producciones audiovisuales



*BRIMMING WITH NATURE*







*If the province of Cádiz treasures a third of its territory as protected green space, 240,000 ha, making it the province that contributes the largest proportion to Andalusia based on its total area, La Janda is certainly the jewel in the crown. 77,000 Ha of areas with natural protection out of a total of 153,700 Ha. An absolute blessing!*

*Extensive protected natural areas that will captivate you. Biological, geological and landscape diversity. Green lungs in an array of colors; aquamarine green, dark green, deep green, green paradise ... In the hills, the lowlands and on the coastline.*

*Natural Parks covering, in whole or in part, our Territory: Los Alcornocales Natural Park and La Breña y Marismas de Barbate Natural Park. We also boast the Parque Natural del estrecho that, without belonging to La Janda, runs along our eastern border.*

*Other natural spaces with different protection statuses, again fully or partially framed in our region and many integrated into the Natura 2000 network, are: Acebuchales de la Campiña Sur de Cádiz in Alcalá de los Gazules and Medina Sidonia, the Trafalgar tombolo in Barbate, Pinar de Roche in Conil de la Frontera, Salado river in Conil de la Frontera and Medina Sidonia and Cueva de las Mesas de Algar, Iro river and Chiclana Endorheic Complex in Medina Sidonia.*



*Alcornocales  
National Park*

The prehistoric fores

Home to the largest cork oak forest in Spain and one of the largest in the world. In a magnificent state of conservation, while maintaining the human use of cork, its variety of landscapes, fauna and Mediterranean-type vegetation and riverside are exceptionally beautiful. You'll find roe deer roaming freely among more than 500 mycological varieties. And do not miss out,

Some types of ferns from the Tertiary Age grow here!





## WILD MUSHROOMS

*Those who love mycology, the study of mushrooms, will find amazing mushroom hunting routes in our forests. This includes a wide range of species, including the famed Amanita mushroom, which can range from gastronomic delicacy to extremely dangerous varieties. La Janda is home to a great enthusiasm for wild mushroom hunting that can guide you in your endeavours close to our towns. You'll find a range of associations that organise meetups, routes and mushroom hunting events where you'll have the chance to taste delicacies! Did you know that La Janda is Andalucía's top region for mushrooms!*



Parque Natural de La Breña & Marismas de Barbate  
A sea of green pines







*Located on a coastal strip of cliffs and shoreline, it is a crucial point of support for the migratory routes of birds in the Barbate marshes. In this park we can enjoy up to five different ecosystems: marine, cliff, pine forest, marshes and dune systems. No towns can be found inside the territory. The impressive Barbate gorge stands out, which at 100 metres high constitutes the most impressive cliff in the Andalusian Atlantic.*


### THE LANDSCAPE

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Landscape contrast and diversity are the soul of La Janda. Situated between two seas and two continents, together with the use of the territory by the different cultures, a mosaic of landscapes has come together that are grouped into two large areas, inland and the coast, which also share strong links, establishing mixed landscapes which provide a transition between the two.


Purely natural landscapes: the acebuchales, the cork oak forests, the cliffs or the beaches with dunes. Landscapes transformed by human hands into agricultural landscapes, fields for livestock rearing, orchards or cereal. And let's not forget the landscapes outlined with picturesque buildings.





Go up to the Alcomocales viewpoint and enjoy the Sierra del Aljibe, on the left the Sierra de las Cabras and in the centre, the town of Alcalá de los Gazules on the Sierra de Grazalema. It crosses the serrezuelas until it comes out to the plain of the Álamo river, on the left the rice tables and on the right, in the background, the Barbate reservoir. Landscapes that with the backdrop of the mountains allow us to appreciate the contrast of agricultural activity with a forestry and livestock culture that represents the region.

It goes down towards the south, textures and colors are transforming towards the wide coastline, 39 km of coastline. As we head south, we can discover new habitats; patches of olive grove pastures, pastures, rainfed crops, pine forests, cliffs, beaches and marshes.



**“ Ladies and gentlemen,  
La Janda is natural! ”**

## THE ANIMALS

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*So much natural wealth is of course home to splendid animal life. If you go into Los Alcornocales Natural Park for a walk, you may not see them but you know they will be there; in the wetlands the water blackbird, kingfisher, warblers, finches, booted eagles, goshawks, hawks and tawny owls. In the heights the mountain goat, griffon vulture, eagle owl and peregrine falcon. In the lowlands, the Moorish roe deer, fallow deer and deer and carnivores such as genets, badgers and mongoose.*





### *La Janda's stunning birds*

We want to give a special mention to the owners of the sky. If you look at the barbed wire fences

you will see the wild bunting, the white wheatear or the shrike. Look up now a little

towards the pastures and you will see the birds that move more on foot than flying; the red partridge, the pheasant or the cattle egret.

Look in the irrigation channels how they hunt, the long-legged, the gray heron, the purple heron and the little egret. And in the lagoons and flooded crops, the stilt, the moritos, the mallards or the spoonbill.

Of the birds of prey, controllers of the wind, the marsh harrier, the kestrel, the griffon vulture and the red kite. And from that

fan of birds that populate the sky; goldfinches, mosquiteros, greenfinches, lavanderas ...

Our strategic enclave on the shores of the Strait, between two seas and two continents, is a hot spot in a beautiful phenomenon of nature, the migration of birds. Here they cross the sky, to gain strength or rest.



*Watch out, bugs and flowers!*

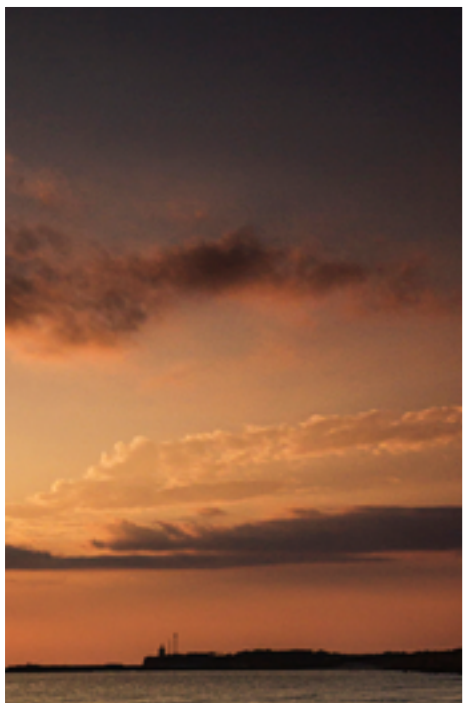
Chameleon,  
the cool guy

*I live on the coast between bushes, sometimes low to the ground, they call me a common chameleon and I don't know why, because I am a very peculiar guy; I turn my eyes 180°, I scoop with my tongue And glow in the dark I'm lonely and if you run into me, if you want, we look at each other for a while, but don't move me from where I am or pick me up.*



Maritime lily

*Beach lily, sea lily or hyacinth, Maritime Pancratia ... I am known by many names and I came to be born in the sand dunes without ever growing too far from the sea. If you run into me, I know that I don't want to live in a vase, so please don't pick me.*





### Common hedgehog

*Although I am protected and not only by my 5,000 spikes, I'm a busy nocturnal worker but I love sleeping during the day.. If you run into me, remember that I am not a pet, so please don't move me.*

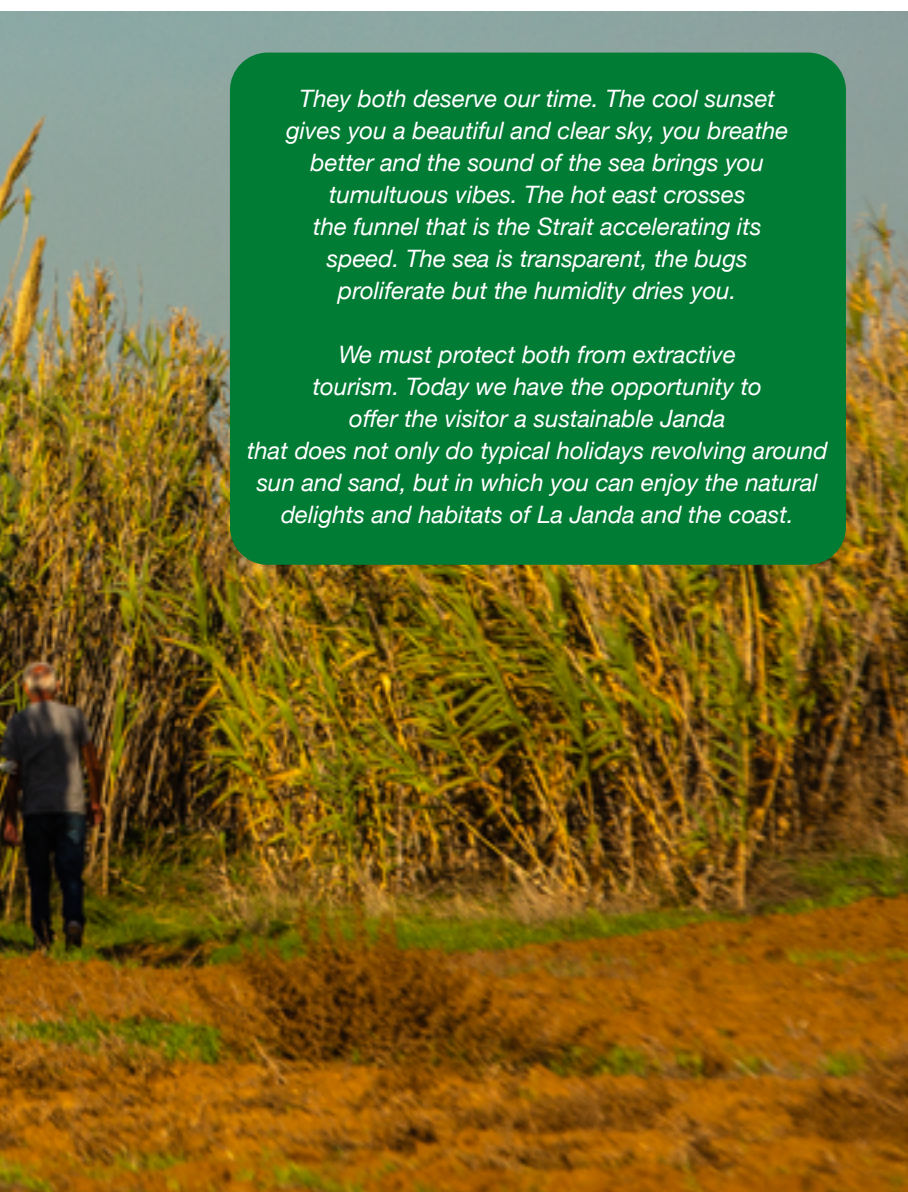
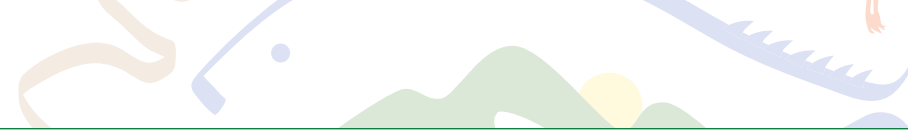


THE WIND ROSE

*Easterly or  
westerly breeze,  
What do you fancy?*

*In La Janda winds  
come from all cardinal  
points, but the two  
predominant ones  
are the east, hot and  
dry and blowing from  
the southwest from  
Africa, and the west  
that comes in from  
the west loaded with  
Atlantic humidity.*





*They both deserve our time. The cool sunset gives you a beautiful and clear sky, you breathe better and the sound of the sea brings you tumultuous vibes. The hot east crosses the funnel that is the Strait accelerating its speed. The sea is transparent, the bugs proliferate but the humidity dries you.*

*We must protect both from extractive tourism. Today we have the opportunity to offer the visitor a sustainable Janda that does not only do typical holidays revolving around sun and sand, but in which you can enjoy the natural delights and habitats of La Janda and the coast.*

### WATER: LA JANDA'S LIFEBLOOD

*Fresh and salt water, the lifeblood of our Janda, is a fundamental element of everything that exists in our region. Its influence is enormous in natural vegetation, in the transformation of land for the sowing of rice or irrigated crops, orchards, in the maintenance of the pasture and hence its livestock use and in the morphology of the meadows. It is essential in the resources it generates for fishing and tourism.*

*And paraphrasing the poet ...  
Our rain is the rivers  
that flow into the sea.*





*Water is the hidden key to our landscape. Springs, gorges and streams, irrigated crops, the blessed rain, lagoons, marshes, humidity, ditches, fog, reservoirs, rivers, the sea...*

### LA JANDA'S ANCIENT LAGOON

Or how to learn from our mistakes

Our land takes its name from this unique enclave. The La Janda lagoon was the largest in the Iberian Peninsula with more than 7,000 ha if we add on the surrounding lagoon areas. The river Barbate, Celemín and Almodóvar contributed to its greatness. It was one of the most ecologically important wetlands in Europe for birds.

Its extraordinary biodiversity was due to its strategic location, close to the African continent, a must for millions of birds that migrate through the Strait of Gibraltar. Private interests with old-fashioned environmental awareness began its drying at the end of the XIX century, concluding this in the 1960s, with their own business interest coming before everything else.

Even today in this paradise, in the rainiest years, and where nature claims its place, the population of threatened species of birds, both resident and migratory, is relevant; Every year about 2,000 cranes hibernate, the Iberian imperial eagle nests, hundreds of black storks and thousands of white and raptor storks rest on their migrations. In its agricultural canals the reproduction of thousands of ducks, herons and other aquatic birds takes place.

The La Janda lagoon shows that other times are coming, it shows us that its recovery is possible, and people can and must reverse the environmental disaster if they want to continue inhabiting this land and watching the birds fly.







## *The beaches*

*39 km of coastline. 39 km of shoreline for all tastes. Urban or wild beaches, small and hidden coves, long and rocky beaches. If you like adventure or fancy a family holiday. If you are looking for atmosphere or a historical place. In La Janda we have beaches of all colours and a wealth of beaches to enjoy, here the sun sets magestically over the sea.*

