Cuisine

BAIFO (OR GOATMEAT), FRIED OR MARINATED

MARZIPANS AND MANTECADOS

lard cakes

OLIVES WITH RED SPICY MOJO SAUCE

Typical Products from the Municipality

Typical Recipe

INGREDIENTS

1 kg. of salty fish (sea bass or corvine)
1 onion
2 large potatoes
6 cloves of garlic
½ red pepper
1 kilo of ripe tomatoes
½ kilo of tender beans
Oil

PREPARATION

The chopped garlic, onion, pepper and tomatoes are all fried together in a frying pan with a little oil until lightly browned. The fish is de-salted in water overnight, and is panboiled separately, as are the potatoes and the beans. When everything is all cooked through it is mixed together with the fried ingredients in a larger pot. The potatoes are then peeled and cut into small chunks, then everything is left to let the flavours sink in, at which point it is ready to be eaten.

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The GC-60 road takes us along the first and most significant route around the municipality of the Villa de San Bartolomé de Tirajana. It crosses the area from south to north and splits the municipal territory in half as it does so. The road is submerged sharply in the arid southern terrain in which carob and tabaiba plants dominate. The natural and ethno-historical features this ravine holds, and which we are going to pass through, has afforded it the distinction of Protected Landscape of Fataga and its inclusion in the Canary network of Protected Natural Regions. The second leg runs along the inside of the Caldera de Tirajana, an enormous crater with a circumference of over 40 km, carved out by erosion over millions of years. It opens out into a ravine with the same name to the southeast. Its monumental size and archeological importance makes it one of the greatest natural and historic sanctuaries in Gran Canaria.

We enter into the Fataga Protected Natural Landscape Area (4.2 km) before passing by the Mundo Aborigen recreational complex (6.3 km) and arriving at the Viewpoint of La Degollada de las Yeguas (7.5 km). From here we are treated to one of the most wonderful panoramic views of this great ravine, from the sea right up to the summit, thanks to its panoramic angle of more than 190º facing westwards. A visit to the theme park at Mundo Aborigen and the pre-hispanic necropolis at Arteara is highly recommended, and affords us an interesting insight into lifestyle and death of the ancient Canarians. The Arteara Necropolis is one of the most important archaeological settlements on the island, an aboriginal cemetery dating back to the 5th century BC, in which over 1,000 burial mounds have been identified.

We might be surprised to come across camels and camel owners on our route, they are now used more as tourist attractions rather than the traditional farming labour that their forefathers used them for. With aerial views of the necropolis and the palm groves of Arteara, we continue along the hamlet of Fataga. Farming land, fruit trees and traditional buildings surround this picturesque village which is well worth a visit (with a hermitage, rural architecture, shops, restaurants, petrol station...). Just past the ancient windmill (an important ethnographic remain) and a beautiful palm cemetery dating back to the 4th century BC, we continue along the hamlet of Fataga, an archaeological village which is well worth a visit (with a hermitage, rural architecture, shops, restaurants, petrol station…). From here we can see the impressive panorama of this great ravine, the natural surroundings of the GC-60 road takes us along the road to the rock cirques of Ayacata at the foot of high walls, with tourist restaurants by the roadside. The natural surroundings of this rapid canyons of Ayacata offers perfect conditions for a break and to round off our excursion around the municipality of San Bartolomé de Tirajana, returning to Maspalomas along the GC-60 via San Bartolomé de Tirajana and Fataga (34.4 km).

If you would like to carry on along the route, we recommend you go up the GC-600, which from the crossroads is right next to the church of Ayacata, and you take you up to the Pico de las Nieves and on towards Cruz de Tejeda (4.7 km). Here you enter the Rural Park of Roque Nublo, the most extensive of all the protected areas on the island, in which priceless jewels of endemic flora and fauna are carefully preserved (at which point the path up to the Roque Nublo is located, a highly recommended 1 hour walk to stretch your legs). From here on, there are several choices of routes to the northern face of the island.