

Festivals

SANTA LUCÍA FESTIVAL

13th December

Festival held in honour of the Patron Saint, Santa Lucía, and declared an event of Tourist Interest. On this day the figure of Santa Lucía is paraded through the streets of the village, and the welcoming of “La Lucía” done together with her Swedish namesake. The following Sunday the “Pilgrimage of the Labradores” is celebrated in honour of the Virgin Rosario. This is the day when most visitors come together, in which thousands of pilgrims are dressed up in typical clothing and the floats go around sharing out home-grown food from all over the area: wine, rum, goats cheese, greaves, mantecados lard cakes, gofio chunks and other concoctions.

FIESTA OF SAN RAFAEL

24th October

The 24th October sees the celebration of the fiesta in honour of San Rafael in Vecindario. It has been declared a local fiesta in the municipality and boasts a superb cattle fair among other attractions.



Ofrenda a la Virgen de Santa Lucía.



Tourist Information Office

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SANTA LUCÍA



Gran Canaria

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MUNICIPALITIES OF GRAN CANARIA



Cuisine



TYPICAL PRODUCTS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY

Olives from Santa Lucía
Olive Oil from Santa Lucía
Mantecados lard cakes

Typical Recipe

traditional Mantecados lard cakes



INGREDIENTES

1 kg. of pork lard
2 kg. of flour
1 kg. of sugar
4 eggs
1 sachet of yeast
Grated lemon peel
1 glass of orange juice

PREPARATION

The flour is mixed in with the eggs and yeast, then the sugar and orange juice is added and it is kneaded together with the lard and the grated lemon peel. Once it is properly mixed in, the dough is cut up into slices to make long sticks about one centimeter thick. They are then rolled up like a snail's shell.

They are placed on a tray with oven paper and are baked in the oven for about 40 minutes until they go a golden colour. At this point they are ready to be served.



Situated to the southeast of the island some 680 metres above sea level. 51 kilometres away from the island's capital.



The Salinas at Tenefé.

Did you know?

The Salinas de Tenefé are one of the few saline water ponds that are left on the island and are still working. Visitors can see the ongoing work at the pits and the extraction of salt, and can also purchase this highly valued product.

Our visit to Santa Lucía begins on the lower part of the municipality. We set off on our route around Pozo Izquierdo to visit the **Etnographic Complex of Las Salinas de Tenefé**, located on the Punta de Tenefé – Playa de Pozo Izquierdo.

Here we can visit the Salinas and the Visitors Information Centre for Salinas de Tenefé, which date back to the 18th century. This complex was declared an Area of Cultural Interest in the category of Ethnological Site on 26th April 2005.

We then move on up to Vecindario to visit another museum, the **Zafra (Harvest) Museum** in which we take a look back in time to the introduction of tomato cultivation into the Canary Islands at the end of the 19th century through to the present day. Here on display is a former packaging warehouse, a recreation of a tomato plantation, and water culture.

In the lower part of town we also come to the largest and best open air **Shopping Centre** in the Canary Islands, with a pedestrianized area, welcoming in visitors to come and enjoy shopping in the open air.

Our route takes us up to the high area of Santa Santa Lucía, to the town

centre, to visit **La Fortaleza de Ansite**, an archaeological settlement located in Tirajana Ravine which preserves a string of natural burial and dwelling caves. According to chronicles, this site was one of the last territories to be occupied by pre-Hispanic dwellers.

Nearby is La Fortaleza Visitor Centre, a centre featuring modern technological facilities, including a hyper-realistic scenography which aims to display all that La Fortaleza offers in one single place, in a different explanatory light to other visitor centres on the island, and a 65" multi-touch screen to provide visitors with a deeper insight into the archaeological settlement.

In the same ravine, just a few metres from the fortress, we come to the **Tirajana Reservoir**, with its great unique terrain, and delve into the beautiful extension of palm groves.

As we leave the reservoir once again back to the village of Santa Lucía we come to the **Castle Museum of La Fortaleza** with its high historical and cultural interest for visitors. It is basically an archaeological site as there is a fine display of remains that were found in the settlements in the surrounding areas.



Reservoir la Sorrueda.



Church of Santa Lucía.



The fortress of Ansite.



Windsurfing in Pozo Izquierdo.

To round off our trip we must stop off at the **Church of Santa Lucía**, situated on a hillside of the village and built back in 1905. The structure of its façade is outstanding, beautifully worked in stone and carved out with different historical and religious motifs; and the whiteness and morphology of its dome, which make it visible from miles around.

The municipality of Santa Lucía extends down to the sea. On its coast is a beach considered one of the best windsurfing beaches around. It is the **Playa de Pozo Izquierdo**, characterized by the stong winds that frequently whip up around that area, and a site which has been chosen as one of the main venues for the world windsurfing championship.



Pozo Izquierdo.

How to get there

BY BUS FROM LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

Service 01 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria - Mogán. **Service 08** Las Palmas de Gran Canaria - Castillo del Romeral - Vecindario. **Service 34** Doctoral - San Bartolomé de Tirajana - Santa Lucía.