

## Festivals

### FIESTAS DE SAN VICENTE FERRER

Fiestas are always a good reason to come and visit Valleseco. The Fiestas de San Vicente Ferrer take place 50 days after Easter Monday, commemorating the day when the figure of the saint was brought here from the Church of Teror. The festivities begin in May with night street parties, live folkloric and musical shows catering for all audiences, plus theatre plays, taifas dancing, etc.

### APPLE FIESTAS

The first Sunday in October signals the start of another great celebration in our municipality, namely the Apple Fiestas. On the eve of the big day, local residents from all the local neighbourhoods go on a pilgrimage draped in typical clothing to offer their farming produce to the Virgin of La Encarnación. These fiestas have been awarded Fiestas of Regional Tourist Interest status.



Valleseco en Fiestas.



#### Tourist Information Office

MECIV (Valleseco Ethnographic Museum and Visitor Centre)

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# VALLESECO



## Gran Canaria

Gran Canaria Tourist Board

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MUNICIPALITIES OF GRAN CANARIA



## Cuisine



### TYPICAL PRODUCTS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY

Still and fizzy cider, cider vinegar,  
Pastries (Apple tarts, spongecakes, buns), cheese, marmalade,  
milflores honey

### Typical Recipe

#### *Papas arrugas* potatoes with Canary *mojo* sauce

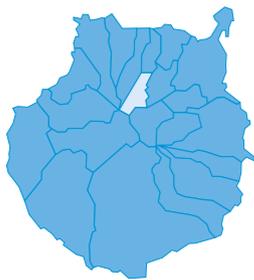


#### INGREDIENTS

small potatoes  
salt  
garlic  
olive oil  
vinegar  
paprika  
cumin  
pepper  
water

#### PREPARATION

Place the unpeeled potatoes in a pot with a little water at the bottom. Pour a handful of salt over the top, and a few slices of lemon. When the potatoes are cooked, strain the water and shake well so the skins on the potatoes wrinkle up. For the *mojo* sauce, mash together all the chopped up garlic, cumin, paprika, pepper, vinegar, oil and water.



The municipality of Valleseco is situated in the interior and to the north of the island of Gran Canaria. This little village, whose land surface area barely covers 22 square kilometres, is just 7 kms. from the neighbouring town of Villa de Teror.



Gasco de Valleseco.

## Did you know?

Cider is made with local pippin apples in Valleseco. It has a characteristic sweet and sour taste and can only be made in places of a certain altitude and humidity. This cider also has several degrees more of alcohol than ciders made in Ireland, Asturias and Germany. Why is that? It has a lot to do with the location of the Canary Islands and its highly sought after sunshine. At these latitudes we enjoy more sunshine hours meaning the apples contain higher levels of sugar, which when fermented turns into alcohol.

It lies at the heart of steep and rolling countryside, formed by two main deep ravines, namely Barranco de Madrelagua and Barranco de La Virgen, and in a drier central valley from which the paradoxical name of the municipality (literally meaning Dry Valley) is derived.

Despite its name, Valleseco is a humid area which used to be part of a huge laurel tree forest that once covered the whole of the interior of the island. The municipality is characterized by its overflowing vegetation. Indeed, 80% of its territory has Protected Natural Area status. Its importance as a natural location is down to the huge amount of greenery spread all around the region, while it boasts a great variety of hiking paths and footpaths for visitors to walk around and enjoy the fascinating remains of laurel tree woodland of high botanical value, at **Barranco de La Virgen**, which features some old style Canarian houses nestling in landscapes of outstanding beauty.

Within this Rural Park is the natural enclave known as **La Laguna Recreational Area** which is home to an extensive display of Canary flora. It is equipped with barbecues, fresh running water and tables under the



Recreation Area of La Laguna.



Washing sinks in Valleseco.

shade of chestnut trees, and is ideal for an unforgettable day out in the country. To have a barbecue there it is necessary to call the Town Hall of Valleseco (tel. 928 618 022) and request a permit. No permit is required for just visiting the area. Close by is **Pico de Osorio** (968m.) a wonderful natural viewpoint where you can make out neighbouring villages and the capital city when you reach the top. **Calderetas** is another beautiful ancient volcanic basin in which the ochre tones of chestnut trees blend in with poplars, walnut trees and bushes, etc. and is set along one of the municipality's main hiking paths. If we carry on towards Cueva Corcho and Crespo, we come to an extensive pine

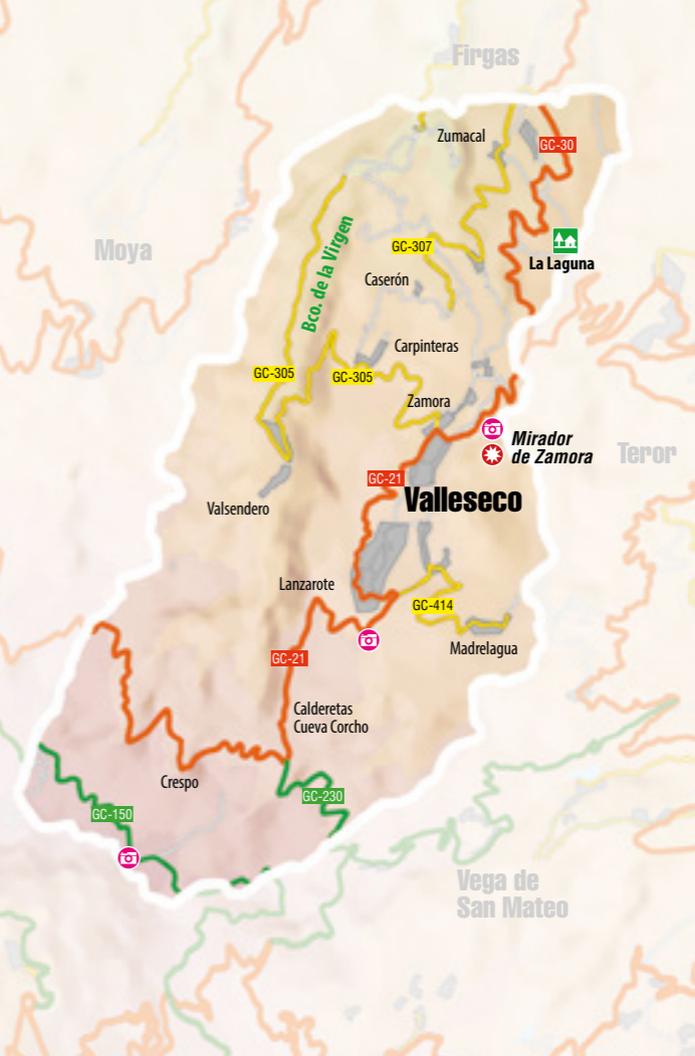
wood included in the Summit Protected Landscape, where panoramic views enable us to see as far as the sea on clear days.

Also worth pointing out is that throughout the length and breadth of the region there are stunning examples of traditional architecture, which melt into the rural surroundings. Likewise, with water being one of its main natural features, numerous **water irrigation channels, springs, fountains and public wash basins** were constructed from early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, allowing locals to consume it and transport it around local farmland and down to the vast meadows by the

coast. The public wash basins with their tile covering are characteristic of **Balcón de Zamora** and **Tierras Blancas**, where even today women come to wash their laundry. This is all part of the Water Route, one of the walks organized every year by the Town Hall of Valleseco which enables people to get up close to every corner of Valleseco, the information for which can be found at the Valleseco Tourist Information Office. Hikers can also go on unaccompanied walking routes going to the Valleseco website at [www.vallesecograncanaria.com](http://www.vallesecograncanaria.com) where they can obtain pamphlets and download the “Valleseco Hiking Trails” mobile app, which are signposted in situ.



Calderetas.



La Laguna de Valleseco.



Views of Valleseco.



Church of San Vicente Ferrer.



## How to Get There

### BY BUS

**Service 30** and **1** from Maspalomas to Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

**Service 216** to Teror and/or **service 220**

Situated right in the town centre, the **Church of San Vicente Ferrer** is the most remarkable building in Valleseco. It is of simple construction and is eclectic in style, and was built in line with plans drafted by Laureano Arroyo Velasco. Inside the church is a jewel from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a highly valuable and historic organ of German origin. If you wish to learn more about a Canary product par excellence, you can go along to the **Valleseco Ethnographic Museum and Visitor Centre (MECIV)**, which also contains the Tourist Information Office.

To leave with a nice taste in your mouth don't forget to sample the premier Cider from the Canaries made from pippin apples grown in the municipality itself, and also try other products made from the same fruit, such as vinegar and pastries. Just on this side of this museum, on Friday afternoons and over the weekend, you can buy some locally grown produce, freshly baked bread and crafts, all at the **Valleseco Ecological Market**. Besides this, you can try out a variety of dishes made from fine Canary cuisine at a string of local restaurants all around the municipality.