

FUERTEVENTURA ISLAND

Landscapes

The most important aspect of the landscape is its geomorphology, with the presence of formations that are significant due to their unique appearance and scientific, cultural and educational interest. The most important formations are to be found in the areas that have had the most recent volcanic activity, those that present the eroded shapes of ancient volcanic structures, areas covered by pumice sand ("jable"), and the sedimentary formations of the basal complex, which contain fossils that enable geological dating.

These areas are specifically: Corralejo Dunes Natural Park and Lobos Isle, with incredible and evocative landscapes of golden sand and beautiful beaches with transparent waters of amazing blues and turquoises; Tindaya Mountain, the Bayuyo lava stream, a true geological extension of the island, and in particular, the line of cinder cones, visible from the tracks made for this purpose; the Las Arenas lava stream, the Los Arrabales lava stream and the area of the Jacomar cauldron, the coastal area of Puerto de la Peña, and the raised beaches.

Within this rigorous landscape of the island and the silence and tranquillity of all its corners, the following picturesque landscapes are of particular interest:

JANDIA

The dunes and solitude dominate this enormous area in the south of the island, with its practically virgin beaches that are an invitation to discover its hidden places and lose oneself between the sand and the sun. Morro Jable, a fishing village and tourist centre in the south of the island is a paradise for fishing and water sports and a favourite tourist destination to enjoy good cuisine, mainly fish-based.

CORRALEJO

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LA VEGA DE TETIR.

With beautiful natural landscapes such as the Sotavento valleys and ridges, this area was the crop farming centre of the island. Through its local architecture it still conserves the undeniable aroma of rural Fuerteventura.

Geographic Situation

The island of Fuerteventura, with an extension of 1,658 square kilometres, is the second largest in the Canary Islands archipelago. It forms part of an alignment of over 200 km that begins in the isle of Alegranza, to the north of Lanzarote and extends to within almost 20 km south of Jandia Point, making up the largest continental platform in the Canary Islands.

An island of extensive plains, practically unique in the archipelago, its central axis is formed by a longitudinal plateau, contrary to that which occurs in the rest of the islands, in which the central axes are generally the highest altitudes. Fuerteventura's relief is one of advanced maturity and, although the island has suffered numerous volcanic eruptions throughout its geologic history, these have been insufficient to compensate erosion and significantly rejuvenate the terrain.

The island is made up of six municipalities: **La Oliva**, **Puerto del Rosario**, **Betancuria**, **Antigua**, **Tuineje** and **Pajara**. Its capital is Puerto del Rosario (formerly Puerto de Cabras). Lobos Isle, with an area of 5 sq. km, belongs to La Oliva.

Gastronomy

In the arid landscape of Fuerteventura, where rain is a gift that the heavens hand out only from time to time, cultivating anything is a miracle. In essence, Fuerteventura flavours are those of salt and pastures, fish and goats, of the produce of the sea and the fruits of animal farming.

Fuerteventura's gastronomy comes from the inventiveness of generations of islanders, those that originally inhabited the island and those that came after them, who managed to get the best out of the limited possibilities of the land. It was in these circumstances that the extremely simple but flavoursome fare took form. A cuisine with two main sources: goats and fish.

From the mar are the sea bass, dried or otherwise, the eels, groupers, samas, and red mullet. It is the origin of the grey mullet and molluscs such as mussels, topshells or limpets that fill our dishes.

However, there is one product that is so exquisite that it has crossed our borders to attain international recognition, that is, cheese, which since 1996 bears a Designation of Origin that guarantees its quality.