



MORE INFO



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| <p>1 BITTER ORANGE • النارج
<i>Citrus aurantium</i> L.</p> <p>2 YEW • الطقسوس
<i>Taxus baccata</i> L.</p> <p>3 OLIVE • الزيتون
<i>Olea europaea</i> L.</p> <p>4 ROSE • الورد
<i>Rosa x damascena</i> Mill.</p> <p>5 MYRTLE • الأدر / الريحان
<i>Myrtus communis</i> L.
subsp. <i>baetica</i> (L.) Casares & Tito</p> <p>6 WOOD VIOLET, COMMON VIOLET • البنفسج
<i>Viola odorata</i> L.</p> <p>7 CYPRESS • الشرو
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> L.</p> | <p>8 ROSEMARY • إكليل الجبل
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> L.</p> <p>9 LAVENDER • الخزامى / اللانودة
<i>Lavandula</i> spp.</p> <p>10 ROSE LAUREL, OLEANDER • الدفلى
<i>Nerium oleander</i> L.</p> <p>11 BEARDED IRIS • إيريسا / السوسن
<i>Iris germanica</i> L.</p> <p>12 BOXWOOD • اليقس
<i>Buxus balearica</i> L.</p> <p>13 SICILIAN SUMAC • السماق
<i>Rhus coriaria</i> L.</p> <p>14 PEACH TREE • الخوخ
<i>Prunus persica</i> (L.) Batsch subsp. <i>nucipersica</i></p> |
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ANDALUSI BOTANICAL TRAIL

ITINERARIO DE BOTÁNICA ANDALUSÍ
مسار عالم النباتات الأندلسية
مسلول بوطنیקה اندلوسیت



Calle de Miguel de Cervantes, 3. 45001 TOLEDO
925 22 14 02 | museodesantacruz@jccm.es

Monday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



ISLAMIC CULTURE FOUNDATION
Calle de Guzmán el Bueno, 3. 28015 Madrid
91 543 46 73 | info@funci.org
www.funci.org | www.medomed.org | www.toledoislamico.org





THE ANDALUSI BOTANICAL TRAIL FOUND IN THE SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM

features, thanks to an Islamic Culture Foundation (FUNCI) initiative, together with the Santa Cruz Museum (Regional Government of Castile-La Mancha), the Association Museo de Santa Cruz, ¡Vivo!, the Torretes Biological Station (University of Alicante), and the Botanical Garden of Castile-La Mancha, a set of carefully selected species to better understand the development and experimentation of agricultural disciplines which existed under Islamic rule in the Iberian Peninsula. The objective is to establish a link between the knowledge gained from the past and the landscapes and plant products which we still use in the present day, thanks to their historical roots. This is made possible thanks to archaeological research and the existence of important contemporary technical literature in Arabic, most notably the work of the Toledan agronomists Ibn Wafid and Ibn Bassal.

In addition, the gardens evoke the space of the al-Andalus palace complexes of Toledo, since the former Hospital of Santa Cruz, home to the current museum, was partially built on land occupied by this medieval complex. This centre of Islamic power created policies which incentivised an intellectual interest in the land, the plant kingdom and their benefits for society.

ONE TRAIL, TWO MUSEUMS: THE SEPHARDIC MUSEUM AND THE SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM

Cultivating the land, though far removed from modern city life, has never been an isolated undertaking; rather it underpins our well-being and constitutes the foundation of human cultures. Disparate phenomena such as human health and remedies for certain illnesses trace their origin to agriculture, as do the pigments used in textiles and the manufacture of writing utensils.

The importance of maintaining this holistic approach was recognised on numerous occasions in the past, thus highlighting the interdependence between human communities and their land. This was especially significant in the case of al-Andalus, given that during this period the Iberian Peninsula saw the flourishing, through the routes of intellectual exchange established throughout the Mediterranean, of a renewed interest in the land, via the application of both ancestral practices and others which were the result of curiosity and investigation.

This botanical trail is an example of the knowledge that the people of al-Andalus of all religious backgrounds and traditions were able to put into practice, and that has been (and continues to be) uncovered through the data that textual sources and archaeology offer us. Our interaction with the land is an interaction with the past and, simultaneously, with the future.

