### THE ALAGÓN

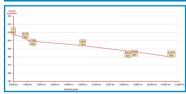
The Alagón has a sinuous course, beautiful and ever-changing. It springs up as a mountain river, of short flow, next to Frades de la Sierra (Salamanca), at an altitude of 1.056 meters. After beginning its descent, it is opened in the great pit that separates the Sierra de Béiar and the Sierra de Francia. Immediately, it leaves the Macizo Central towards the perillanura of Extremadura. Between its source and the reservoir of Gabriel v Galán it descends more than 650 meters and it receives the contribution of numerous streams and rivers, as the Francia and the Cuerpo de Hombre.

Its course opens way between impressive meanders, as the own Melero, whose image has gone ground the world. After being dammed in the reservoir of Gabriel y Galán and Valdeobispo, it flows towards the Tajo, near Alcántara, after 206 km. Many sections of the Alagón are protected because its biodiversity.

#### ABOUT THE RIVER DESCENT IN CANOE

Descender en piragua el Alagón se ha convertido en un clásico y se efetúa en varios tramos de su curso. El que proponemos comienza cerca de la población salmantina de Sotoserrano y acaba en el Melero, el meandro del Alagón, a pocos kilómetros de Riomalo de Abajo.

In the proposed area, the course is perfect for amateurs, because of its direct currents, steps, zones of calm or impetuous waters, even waves and small cross-currents. Meanwhile, the course crosses the southern part of the Natural Park of Las Batuecas, Arca and Buitrera, and it makes the border between Salamanca and Cáceres. The Melero marks the end of the beautiful descent, whose main feature is the stunning nature.





NOTE: The route proposed by CTR Riomalo are ready for expert canoeists. Riomalo CTR is not responsible for the lack of experience of amateur canoeists or if the climatic conditions complicate their difficulty, even if the abundance or lack of water difficult the boat trip. Please contact the CTR before starting the descent to know the conditions of the Alagón, as well as to extreme the prudence and, of course, to respect the heritage of the region, natural and historical.



Riomalo Rural Tourism Centre Bungalows of slate and wood, camping, hostel and restaurant



**Activities:** Hiking, Bike, excursions, boat trips on the Alagón, canoe and natural swimming pool (in season)

Riomalo de Abaio

Web disean and contents:: Esther de Aragón, Images of fauna: David Santiago

Route: Descent of the Alagón

Canoe boarding point: Camping Vega de Francia (Sotoserrano)

Disembarkation:

Melero (Riomalo de Abajo)

Distance: 11.37 km.

Time: Between 2 and 3 hours

Difficulty: Medium

Recommended season: All year

(the descent is dependent on the level of water)

# CANOE: DESCENT OF THE ALAGÓN

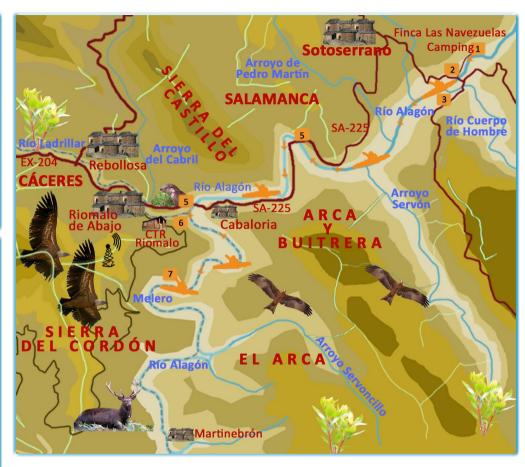
## REMARKABLE PLACES

- Course and meanders of the Alagón, including the Melero.
- Mouths of the rivers Cuerpo de Hombre and Ladrillar on the Alagón.
- Panoramic views over Arca y Buitrera and the lands and mountains of the Natural Park of Batuecas.
- Cabaloria. Collection of traditional buildings.

## **NATURE**

The course of Alagón passes through the southern lands of the natural park and its biodiversity allows you can spot birds like eagles, vultures, black and griffon, kites, hawks and black storks. The park has also important species of amphibians and reptiles, some endemic to these mountains. It is worthy of mention the presence of some mammals, like the wild goat, the otter and the Iberian muskrat, besides deer and wild boar. As for the fish, the most common are: catfish, boga, trout. carp, blas, chub and the endemic Colmilleja del Alagón.

The vegetation, beyond the riparian forest, is composed of alder, ash, willow and wicker, arbutus, junipers, durum, lavender, heather, white and rockrose, ferns and a lot of flowers in spring. Oaks, cork trees and pines cover the slopes of the mountains that close the course.





Coord. UTM: 29 T 748030 4475226 Alt.: 380 m Km: 11,37

We have come to the Melero, the meander of the Alagón. Our descent has finished. On the right, you can see the disembarkation point and the path to go out.

Coord. UTM: 29 T 748228 4476578 Alt.: 387 m Km: 8,44

The Ladrillar joints the Alagón on the right. From here we will go between Cáceres and Salamanca. We have left Cabaloria on the left hand side.

Coord. UTM: 29 T
753704 4479735
Boarding point:
Beach of the Alagón, next
to the camping Vega de
Francia. Road from Sotoserrano to Béjar, spot of
Vega de Francia. Sotoserrano (Salamanca)



Alt.: 407 m Km: 0.00



Coord. UTM: 29 T 753239 4479311
Alt.: 404 m Km: 0,73
We pass under the bridge of the road of Sotose-rrano.

Coord. UTM: 29 T
752924 4479115
Alt.: 400 m Km: 1,10
We see the mouth of the
Cuerpo de Hombre river
on the left side.





Coord. UTM: 29 T 750297 4478020 Alt.: 394 m Km: 4,89 We pass under the bridge of the road between Sotoserrano and Las Hurdes.

Coord. UTM: 29 T 748252 4476702 Alt.: 387 m Km: 8,32 We pass under the bridge of the road. We are in the province limit.

