Canary greenwood is the defining element of Garajonay, covering over 85% of its area. It comprises just under 20 tree species, distributed over 2,136 hectares. The greenwood consists of huge ancient trees whose relatives inhabit mainland, from which they originated, have habit of herbs. The greenwood is a unique natural feature of Garajonay National Park.

The greenwood is the enormous natural wealth of the Park. It is the largest and best preserved example of this kind of ecosystem in the Canaries and supplies most of the island's water through its deep gullies and overshadowed by impressive volcanic domes, known locally as Roques. The National Park is located in the central uplands of La Gomera, one of the westerly Canary Islands. It is the largest and best preserved example of this kind of ecosystem in the Canaries and supplies most of the island's water.

The National Park, the Woodland of Public Utility belonging to the island's six municipal councils. The Park includes the “Woodland of Public Utility” belonging to the island’s six municipal councils.

La Gomera and Man. The population of La Gomera is now 22,000. The main settlements are in the island's great ravines, close to the coast. The most important economic activity is tourism, while agriculture is gradually falling away. The chief crops are bananas for the export market and vegetables for home consumption. Among the outstanding features of La Gomera, and a peculiarity of its scenery, are the terraces that climb the steep surface of the Park. It is the largest and best preserved example of this kind of ecosystem in the Canaries and supplies most of the island's water.

The pre-Hispanic culture. The Canary cloud forest, a unique natural phenomenon. Pre-Hispanic culture in Garajonay is the combination of the culture of the former gomerans with the European culture which arrived in the 5th century BC. The most important economic activity is tourism, while agriculture is gradually falling away. The chief crops are bananas for the export market and vegetables for home consumption. Among the outstanding features of La Gomera, and a peculiarity of its scenery, are the terraces that climb the steep surface of the Park. It is the largest and best preserved example of this kind of ecosystem in the Canaries and supplies most of the island's water.

La Gomera. The island of La Gomera is an area of 373 km², the most abrupt island in the Canaries. The abruptness of La Gomera's relief makes for an immense variety of climates and landscapes and lends it a highly distinctive personality. La Gomera is situated in the central uplands of La Gomera, one of the westerly Canary Islands. It is the largest and best preserved example of this kind of ecosystem in the Canaries and supplies most of the island's water.

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General Information.

The Canary Island cloud evergreen forest has been greatly degraded by human activity and has shrunk to 20% of its original area. Garajonay is the largest and best preserved example of this type of ecosystem. Five million years ago, there were similar forests in the Mediterranean basin. They were wiped out by climatic changes in continental Europe. These forests are inhabited by numerous animal and plant species that are unique in the world.

Routes.

The best way to get to know the Park is on foot. There are numerous marked trails of varying difficulty and length. Visitors wishing to explore the terrain on their own can follow self-guided routes with the aid of specific publications. Guided excursions. The Park offers guided excursions with nature guides. For further information, contact the Visitor Centre, or by telephone on 922 80 09 93 from 9.30 to 16.30. Central reservation address: www.reservasparquesnacionales.es.

Advice and safety.

Visitors are advised to bring warm clothing and a waterproof jacket. No camping. Do not disturb the animals or pick flowers. No fires. No rubbish. No loud noises. No picnicking except in recreational areas.

Other services.

There are numerous viewpoints on the roads through the Park from which to enjoy the scenery. Laguna Grande Area. Equipped with a restaurant and bar, a children’s park, barbecues, drinking water, tables, a self-guided trail and an information service during peak periods. Recreational areas. Besides Laguna Grande, the Park has three small recreational areas: Ermita de Lourdes, Las Creces and Epina, all with tables and drinking water.

Advice and safety.

Your safety is our concern, but it is your responsibility. For any further information related to the paths, ask in the Park Information Centres.