

What are Vías Verdes / Greenways?

"Vías Verdes" are old railway lines in disuse recovered as non-motorized routes for hikers and cyclists. Of over 7,600 km of disused railway lines that existed in Spain in 1993, nearly 2,500 km have been converted into 120 Greenways running across

Spain, a number that is growing every day. They make an attractive and sustainable resource for the public to enjoy our natural environment and rich railway heritage. Greenways make it easy to practice active and healthy leisure pursuits and encourage a change of mentality in favour of sustainable mobility. The Greenways network is designed to make use of the railway lines on which they run, offering maximum ease and comfort in their routes to ensure universal accessibility, including those people with disabilities. The ban on motorized traffic makes them very safe.

"VÍA VERDE"® is a quality brand, restricted in Spain to the use of routes running over old railway lines. All the Spanish Greenways are easily identified by their distinctive logo and signposting. But the "Greenway" concept goes much further. The package also takes in the restoration of old stations which are being rehabilitated for the installation of related services and equipment. Nearly 100 old railway stations have been restored as restaurants, cafés, accommodation, bicycle hire, information centres, small museums, etc.

There are a host of possibilities: from routes barely stretching for a few kilometres, to urban trails and country tracks, right up to itineraries of up to 200 kilometres. All in all, an original, varied alternative for those who want to discover Spain's rich landscapes and cultural sites in an easy, environmentally friendly way.



The development of Greenways extends beyond the Spanish frontiers. In 1998 the European Greenways Association (EGWA) was created in Belgium and since 2009 the Secretariat and Executive Offices have been located in Madrid, at the Spanish Railways Foundation (FFE). Currently more than 50 member organizations from 16 countries support the EGWA. www.aevv-egwa.org



Among the main promoters of the Greenways Programme are the Ministry for the Environment, the principal investor in the development of infrastructures, the Spanish Railway Foundation (FFE), responsible for the national coordination and promotion of the project, and the Railway Infrastructure Manager-Adif. The active involvement of Regions and Town Councils, as well as the enthusiastic contribution of cycling associations, ecological and cultural organizations, have made it possible to set the programme in motion and give life to 2,500 km of Greenways.



Visit Spain, enjoy Vías Verdes!

Itineraries

Greenways Search Engine

Choose a greenway by Community, Province or key word.

Select a: **Autonomous Community**

Select a: **Province**

Write a: **Key word** **Search**



Before going on a Greenway it is advisable to be well documented about the route in order to fully enjoy it: detailed maps, elevation maps, surface types, natural and historic attractions, drinking fountains, accommodation and restaurant services... This information is available in English on the FFE website at www.viasverdes.com/en/

And don't forget to visit our "Travel Guides" and watch our videos on YouTube.

Further information:

- "Guía de Vías Verdes": Spanish Greenways Guide, 3 vols. published in Spanish by FFE with Anaya Touring
- Official road map of Spain: published by the Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport
- Official map viewer (IGN, National Geographic Institute) www.ign.es/CartoNaturaleza/
- Social networks: Facebook, Twitter



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