



Fuencaliente de La Palma

El Charco Neighborhood

English edition

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On the north-western slope of the municipality of Fuencaliente, on the boundary with El Paso and Los Llanos de Aridane, lies this small, steeply sloping hamlet, dominated by the pine forest that covers all the land around it. It is the least populated district of the municipality, with a few dozen residents.

The lava flows that cover the boundary area are curious: they come from the eruption of 1712, known as the El Charco eruption because the lava first emerged at the Hacienda del Charco, the estate of Doña Ana Teresa Massieu. It lasted 56 days, from 9 October to 3 December, had as many as twelve vents open at once along a 2.5 km fissure, and destroyed crops and two houses with their barns, without causing any deaths. It was the only eruption on La Palma between 1677 and 1949, and its lava flows and lava platform are listed as a Site of Geological Interest.

In the district stands the chapel of Santa Cecilia, the only one on the island dedicated to the saint, a curious circular building from 1948 erected by the landowner José Miguel de Sotomayor in tribute to his wife; every 22 November the day of the patron saint of music is celebrated there with the Municipal Band. The Mirador de El Charco viewpoint, on the LP-2, looks out over the Tamasca Protected Landscape, and at the Casa de Camineros the municipal Route 1 ends and the line 210 bus stops.

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