



Fuencaliente de La Palma

Interpretation Center of the Marine Reserve

English edition

Updated on 10 September 2026

The La Palma Marine Reserve Interpretation Centre occupies the old Fuencaliente lighthouse, the stone building of 1903 that survived the Teneguía lavas. It opened on 29 June 2006 and was the first centre of its kind created by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which manages the reserve.

Its aim is to promote knowledge of and respect for the marine environment and fishing. The exhibition shows the problems that measures for sustainable fishing, such as marine reserves, are trying to solve, with film screenings, a replica of an underwater cliff, the sculpture of a dusky grouper and panels on the species of the area.

The La Palma Island Marine Reserve of Fishing Interest was created by Ministerial Order of 18 July 2001. It covers some 3,455 hectares of the south-western coast, between Caleta de los Pájaros and Punta Gruesa, down to the 1,000 m isobath, with a central integral reserve and two buffer zones. Its rugged seabed, full of crevices, caves and tunnels, shelters parrotfish, salema, amberjack and dusky grouper, the Canary Islands lobster, the bottlenose dolphin and the loggerhead turtle. Diving requires a permit and recreational fishing is not allowed in the integral zone.

The centre opens from Tuesday to Saturday for most of the year and from Wednesday to Sunday in summer, with a low admission charge; the current opening hours are on the Centres and museums page. It is reached along the coast road (LP-207) to the lighthouse.

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