



ENGLISH

Picture: Sagapito Sano Fidalgo Fort

# International Music and Dance Festival

On 12th June 1960, Nerja Cave was opened to the public. A celebration was chosen for its official opening that consisted of Music and Dance Festival, where we assisted to the performance of ballet group *La Tour de Paris* and the *Sinfonic Orchesta of Malaga*.



Since then, every year in the second two weeks of July, the *International Music and Dance Festival of Nerja* takes place, inside the Cave. It is an event of unequalled beauty and exceptional acoustics, containing the magical performances of the principal figures of lyrics, flamenco, dance and classical music.



**FUNDACIÓN**  
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## OPENING HOURS

**OPEN ALL YEAR**  
except 1st January and  
15th May

**SUMMER OPENING HOURS**  
(July and August)  
from 10:00 to 19:30 h.

**WINTER OPENING HOURS**  
from 10:00 to 14:00 h.  
from 16:00 to 18:30 h.

**OPENING HOURS**  
(WEEK OF FESTIVAL)  
from 10:00 to 18:00 h.



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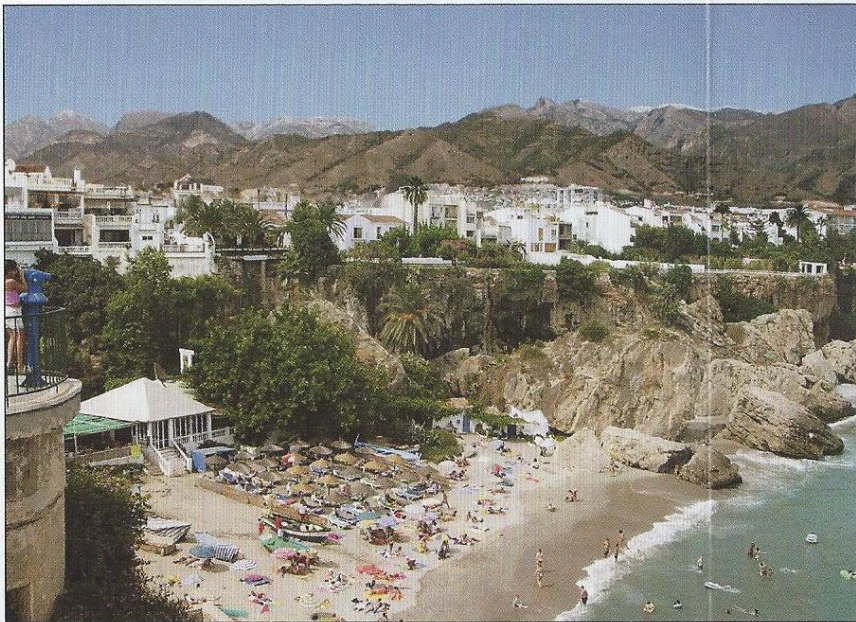
Maya Plisetskaya in her performance on 1991.



The soprano Montserrat Caballé opened the 40<sup>th</sup> Festival on 1999.



The guitarist Paco de Lucía in his performance on 2004.



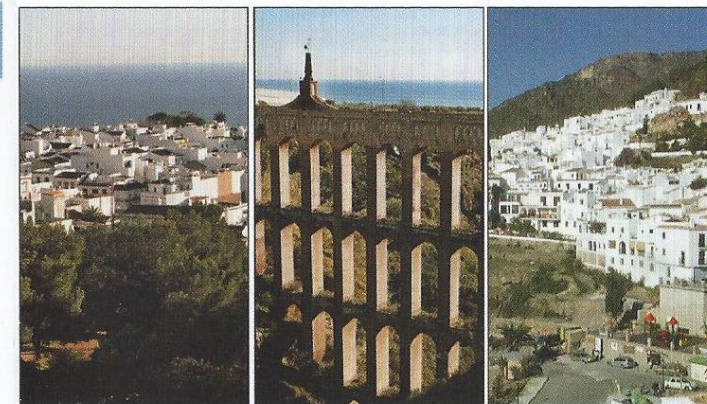
Calahonda Beach - one of the most representative places of Nerja.

## Nerja: a tourist emblem

The population of Nerja was dedicated to agriculture and fishing until the 60s, but has now been revolutionised by the tourist appeal of the Cave.

More and more tourists from all over the world are attracted by the deep beauty of the cave formations. In the Eighties, Nerja was designated the tourist capital of Costa del Sol Oriental (Eastern Costa del Sol).

A traditional maritime village has become a vibrant cosmopolitan centre, with the massive arrival of foreigner residents, who are attracted to the climate and the kindness of its people.



Maro - a small town where the discoverers of Cueva de Nerja (Nerja Cave) were born.

Acueducto del Águila (Eagle Acueduct) - the historic jewel of Spanish industrial archaeology, dated from the 19th Century. Other monuments of cultural interest brighten up the vicinity of Nerja Cave.

Frigiliana - Pueblo Blanco (white village) of deep Moorish flavour, sheltered from Sierra de Almijara.

## Description of the Cave

### Tourist Galleries

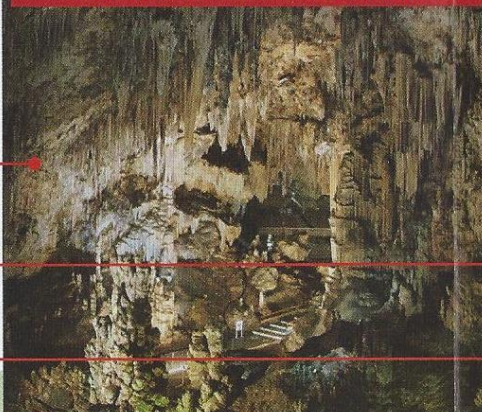
Only a third of the total volume of the cave are opened to the public, during the whole year, except 1st January and 15th May.

Arrangements of stalagmites, whose shadows draw spectral forms over the walls, welcome you to this hall.

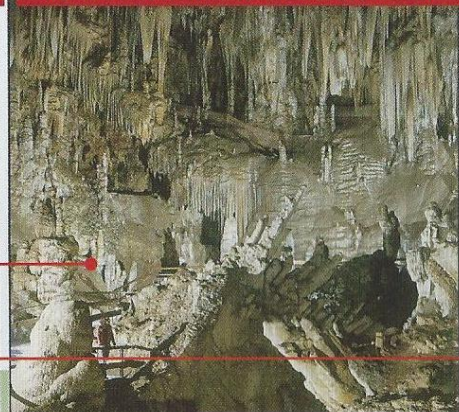
There is an overall chaos of fallen stalagmites and blocks, originated from a colossal earthquake that took place in the region 800.000 years ago.

There is a collection of speleothemes called *gours*. It resembles a dry stone cascade, from whence this chamber gets its name.

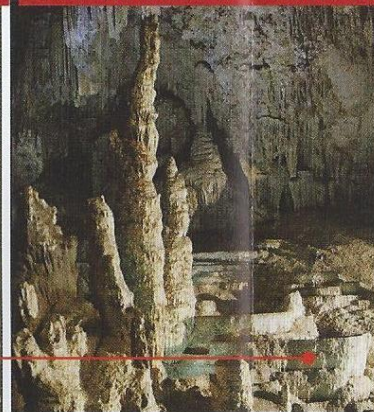
### Hall of Phantoms (Sala de los Fantasmas)



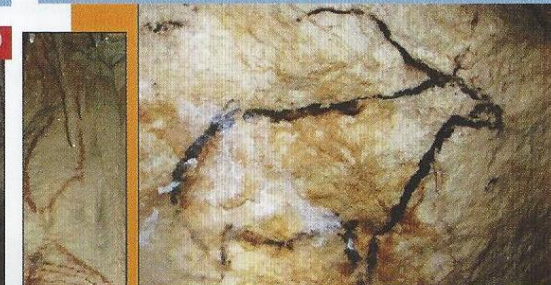
### Hall of Cataclysm (Sala del Cataclismo)



### Hall of the Cascade (Sala de la Cascada)



## The Archaeological Heritage of the Cave



Goat form in the Hall of Hercules Columns (Sala de las Columnas de Hércules).

The cavity maintains archaeological stratum which correspond to a chronology dated from 25.000 to 3.600 B.C, that shows that groups of human beings have passed by - hunters, harvesters and fishermen. Nerja Cave was used as a habitat, burial tomb and a place of cultural expression.

The cave art in Nerja Cave is depicted in paintings, with a collection of pigments that goes from red to black. The animals represented are horses, deers, goats, seal and birds.