

SEGOVIA

Fuentidueña





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Prodestur Segovia

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Fuentidueña, literally "Lady of the Springs" (fontis donna), is very rich in water; with numerous springs and two rivers, the Duratón and las Fuentes, the latter following into the former after only a very short distance. Various peoples, such as the Vaccaei, Celts, Arevaci, Romans, Visigoths, Jews and Arabs settled in this noble townlet in ancient times. Since Almanzor's counter-attack (Xth C.) and his defeat at the Battle of Calatañazor in 1002, this town and district have been governed by kings and nobles close to royalty. King Alfonso VIII should be distinguished for organizing a major repopulation policy and initiating Fuentidueña's flowering. Other kings of particular relevance were Alfonso X the Wise and Sancho IV, who also visited. Following the political upheavals of the time we arrive at the XIVth C, when it becomes a seignior, then with continued political instability, falls first into the hands of the nobility with Ruiz Gonzalez de Castaneda, then returns again to the crown. In 1391, King Enrique III recognizes the privileges Fuentidueña had in Parliament. In the XVth C., after many changes of fortune, the Luna family is consolidated as owners of this town, and in 1446, the first gentleman of the town, D. Pedro de Luna Manuel, son of D. Alvaro de Luna, Constable of Castile, takes over Fuentidueña. In the XVIth C. it changes from seignior to marquisate, when D. Antonio de Luna Enriquez is made 1st Marquis of Fuentidueña by King Felipe III, concurring this title with that of the Counts of Montijo, in the person of D. Cristóbal Portocarrero de Guzmán Luna y Enriquez. When the Court is established permanently in Madrid, the nobles who rule the town transfer their residence to the capital to be closer to the crown.

Among illustrious Fuentidueña lords were D. Eugenio Portocarrero Palafox, who intervened in the War of Independence against Napoleon; his brother D. Cipriano, who intervened in that war as a Frenchified person and inherited the villa. Through the marriage of his daughter, D^a Maria Francisca, with D. Jacobo Luis Fitz-James Stuart, the House of Alba came to take possession of Fuentidueña. At present, the marquisate of Fuentidueña is held by the Duchess Cayetana, better known as the "Duchess of Alba". Another illustrious descendant of Fuentidueña was Juan Martin "the Determined", who though born in the nearby town of Castrillo de Duero, had a father who was a native of this town, in whose palace he served as a soldier.

Fuentidueña history is so extensive that it has already been printed in several books, but we invite those who are interested in visiting this town to do so and we, from the tourist office, will be happy to show them around.

What to see?



Town Hall

Located on the town square, this was a palace during the reign of D^a. Urraca and Alfonso the Battler; later occupied by the aristocratic Lara family, from where access to the town by the Roman bridge was monitored through viewpoints in the wall opposite the palace. It was later occupied by the Town Council.



Municipal House

Stately building, also located in the town square, this was the former prison of the district of Fuentidueña. Attached to the city wall, it currently brings together representatives of the 21 villages that make up the municipality. In order to obtain the approximate date when the Municipality was formed, we must go back to a document from 20th June, 1147, during the reign of Alfonso VII; the Municipality had its own governing bodies and their meetings were held in the atrium of the church of San Miguel, to resolve common interests.

The Palace

Situated on the Palace Square and built in the middle of the XVth C, this was the residence of D. Pedro de Luna Manuel and his family, son of D. Alvaro de Luna, Constable of Castile, favourite of King Juan II, among other dignitaries of this noble lineage at the end of the XIVth C. and in turn nephew of Pope Luna (Benedict XIII). In the same square, you can see what was subsequently erected in Renaissance style by the Count of Montijo and we can see the front door with its large vaulted Renaissance arch.

Chapel of the Pilar or the Counts of Montijo

Erected next to the palace, declared *Heritage of Cultural Interest* by Resolution of the General Directorate of Fine Arts on April 20, 1982, the chapel was erected at the request of D. Cristóbal Portocarrero (Count of Montijo), through his devotion to the Holy Rosary and named Capilla del Pilar (Chapel of the Pilar) because of the devotion of the Count's wife, D^a. María Fernandez de Cordoba Portocarrero. The building was begun in 1717 and completed in 1720; neoclassical in style, with a symmetrical facade of classic simplicity, all in ashlar limestone. Its facade is emblazoned with a coat of arms featuring both Montijo and Fuentidueña lineages, personified in D. Cristóbal Gregorio Portocarrero Funes de Villalpando Guzmán Luna y Enriquez.



Church of San Miguel

Declared *Heritage of Cultural Interest* on March 21, 1995, XIIth C Romanesque church. On the outside you can see its portico with seven Byzantine arches on twin columns, with capitals decorated with plants, built at a later date to the building of the temple. The temple has three doors, the one at the gate, the access to the temple and that situated in the western part, called the "Door of Pardons" and at the top a semicircular apse; inside there is a single nave with a barrel vault and two chapels on either side of the apse, ordered to be built by D. Pedro de Luna in the XVth C. The nave is crowned by beautiful capitals where we can distinguish the psychostasis and martyrdom of St. Stephen as the main themes, among others of equal beauty and importance. Presiding over the temple is the statue of Saint Michael the



Archangel, an image that belonged to an altarpiece made in 1583 by Pedro Bolduque. Other altarpieces we can see in this church are: San Antonio Abad, dating from 1617, and the altarpiece of Our Lady of the Angels, the first being located in the chapel on the left, and the second in that on the right, as well as the altarpiece of the Virgin of Solitude, the altarpiece of the Virgin of the Rosary, the Crucified Christ or Christ of Grace and San Blas.

Magdalena Hospital

Declared *Heritage of Cultural Interest* by resolution of the General Directorate of Fine Arts, March 25, 1982, it was built around 1540 at the bequest of D^a. Mencia de Mendoza, wife of D. Álvaro de Luna Manrique and niece of Cardinal de Burgos Iñigo de Mendoza. Dedicated by the express wish of Ms. Mencia de Mendoza to house the poor and sick of Fuentidueña and district, those dying in this hospital to be buried



in the atrium of the church of San Miguel. Currently it is in ruins, pending restoration.

Ruins of St. Martin

Declared a *Historic Artistic Monument* by Decree of June 3, 1931, this was a Romanesque church, built in two stages, the tower and sole nave in the Xth C. and the apse in the middle of the XIIth C. This apse can now be seen in the Cloisters Museum of the City of New York. The sale took place in 1957, by agreement of the governments of the United States and Spain, receiving the paintings of San Baudelio de Berlanga by way of payment, together with an amount of money that was used to restore the church of San Miguel Archangel, which was also in very poor condition. King Alfonso VIII celebrated the feast of St. Martin in this temple. In the mid-XIIIth C., the church entered a state of progressive deterioration and was in ruins by 1612.



The Necropolis

It consists of a succession of tombs situated around and circling the ruins of the church of St. Martin. There are two hundred graves carved in rock – anthropomorphic - burials dating from the Xth to the XVIIth C. Later, the cemetery changed location to inside the nave of the church of St. Martin, already in ruins. In this necropolis we find tombs of different lengths, most were occupied by adults, a few children and some the size of a baby.



The Castle

Protected, together with the city walls, by a Decree from 22 April 1949 on the protection of castles, they were both declared *Heritage of Cultural Interest* by Decree 54/1996, of March 7. There is no absolute historical clarity about the origin of Fuentidueña Castle; it seems that its construction should be placed between the XIIth and XIIIth C. It was of great importance to the reign of Alfonso VIII, who held court here, where peace was concluded with

Navarra, and a will set up on 08/12/1204. Alfonso X, the Wise, also visited this castle around 1250. In October 1308, Sancho IV granted privileges to Christians who wanted to live there, after seeing that the population was heavily Jewish. In the 70s, XXth C., the Treasury auctioned the castle with a starting price of 25,000 pesetas, thus passing into private hands.

Church of Santa Maria Maggiore or of the Outskirts

Located near the Roman Bridge, on the left bank of the Duratón, it is thought to have been built on the remains of a primitive chapel to which a rough masonry apse with a semi-domical vault and other chapels were added in the XIth C. It is considered the oldest church in the village, because prior to the Romanesque church, there was another building of Visigothic origin, as some recent works have uncovered three carved stone sarcophagi next to the apse. Its large floor plan was comprised of three naves, constructed of materials such as mortar and ashlar blocks in the doors, arches and corners. In the XVIth C it was in ruins, then rebuilt in 1576, the date when the porch was added. But the most important work took place in 1682, eliminating most of the floor plan and reducing the dimensions of the temple. The north and main naves remained uncovered, becoming a cemetery, leaving the temple limited to just the south nave. Attached to the church, a chapel was built in the XVIIth C, under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. The church was suppressed for worship on May 30,

1842, by a decree of the Queen Regent. Recently restoration work has been done, enabling a return to worship. On the inside one should draw attention to the altarpiece of the Virgin of the Assumption, dominated by the image of the Immaculate One and another altarpiece located in the chapel with a Baroque image of the Immaculate One in prayer.



San Lazarus Hospital

The foundation of this hospital dates back to the XIIth C. Its original function was to care for lepers, then to offering a night's accommodation to help

the poor, unless they were sick and needed more days, and providing there was proof that the people were not "low-life". A friar from the Convent of the villa preached in this hospital on St. Lazarus Day. After the confiscation of Mendizabal, it was in utter ruin, becoming private housing in the early XXth C. Convent of the villa preached in this hospital on St. Lazarus Day.

Franciscan Convent of St. John of Penance

First built in the VIth C, the first monks who lived there were the solitary of St John the Baptist or Penance, in imitation of the Baptist in the wilderness. This convent was abandoned for more than 200 years, rebuilt in 1162, occupied by Friars of Mercy in 1299 and by Franciscan friars in 1496. Several nobles of the House of Luna were buried in the chancel and convent. Note the painting that was in the main altar, the "The Eleven Thousand Virgins". After the confiscation of Mendizabal in the XIXth C, it passed into private hands.





Next to the Duratón riverside, near the Roman Bridge, there is the San Lazaro Leisure Park, equipped with barbecues, tables and a playground. For routes and leisure activities in natural areas in the municipality of Fuentidueña there are companies which organize activities such as canoeing, caving and cycling, among others.

Folclore

During the first days of August there is the "Cultural Week". Currently, the traditional customs of the village are kept alive around the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, **September 29** (next weekend) and the **Immaculate Conception**, December 8. In the latter, perhaps the most striking event is the great bonfire in the churchyard the day before the feast, with flames over 20m high at times. Both feasts are accompanied by processions with dancing to the sound of flute and drum. **San Mateo**, on September 21, is the patron saint of the Municipality and is also celebrated in the town.



Gastronomy

The most famous dish is roast lamb, available from any of the magnificent wood ovens in the village, but there are other highly recommended dishes such as roast duck, Iberian cheek, braised and pickled small game, wild mushrooms, marinated Fuentidueña trout, oxtail, paella, lamb stew, free range chicken and poultry, homemade desserts and curd tart. Don't forget to accompany any of these dishes with any of the fine "Fuentiduenya Castle", wines produced and bottled by F. Pertierra.



How to get there?

From Madrid,
N 1, to Cerezo de Abajo, CL-112, until Cantalejo, CL- 603 up to 2 km, after Navalilla, and SG-V-2425, up to Fuentidueña (152 km).

From Segovia,
CL-603 up to 2 km, after Navalilla, and SGV-2425, up to Fuentidueña (70 km).

From Burgos,
N 1, to Aranda de Duero, CL 603 up to 300 m after San Miguel de Bernuy and thence the GS-V-2425, up to Fuentidueña (122 km).

From Valladolid,
Soria road to Penafiel, Sacramenia road and thence by the SGV-2425, up to Fuentidueña (82 km).

Other information of interest

Segovia Capital distance: 79 km.

Area: 50,50 km².

Altitude: 865 m.

Population: 185 inhabitants.

Tourist

Establishments

For more information at:
www.segoviaturismo.es



Where do I find information?

City Council of Fuentidueña
Plaza de la Villa, 1
40357 Fuentidueña
Tel. y Fax. 921 533 464
info@fuentiduen.es

Comunidad de Villa y Tierra de Fuentidueña
Plaza de la Villa, 3
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

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- Cuéllar 
- El Espinar 
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- Navafria 
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Tourist Office
Plaza Mayor, 10 40001 Segovia
Tel. 921 460 334 / Fax. 921 460 330
www.turismocastillayleon.com
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Visitor Reception Center
Azoguejo, 1 40001 Segovia
Tel. 921 466 720 / 21 / 22
Fax. 921 466 724
www.turismodesegovia.com
info@turismodesegovia.com

Other tourist information points

Tourist Information Point in the City Walls
Plaza del Socorro, 2 y 3 40001 Segovia
Tel. 921 461 297
www.redjulderias.org

Bus station

Po. Ezequiel González, s/n 40002 Segovia
Tel. 921 436 569
informacion.estacion@turismodesegovia.com

AVE (high-speed rail) station

Estación Segovia-Guiomar
Ctra. de Juarillos, s/n 40195 Hontoria (Segovia)
Tel. 921 447 262
informacion.ave@turismodesegovia.com

Association of Official Tour Guides of Segovia

Tel. 691 117 197
www.guiasdeturismodesegovia.es
guiasdeturismodesegovia@yahoo.es

Central Reservations Office of Rural Tourism in Castille and León

Tel. 979 178 137
www.castillayleonesvida.com

Association of Rural Taxis in Segovia

Tel. 645 836 373
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www.segotaxirural.com

PROVINCIA

Ayllón
Palacio de Vellosillo, 1 40520 Ayllón
Tel. 921 553 916
www.ayllon.es
turismo@ayllon.es

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Plaza del Castillo 40200 Cuéllar
Tel. 921 142 203 / 140 014 / Fax. 921 142 076
www.cuellar.es
turismo@aytocuellar.es

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turismo@aytoelespinar.com

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Tel. 921 508 666 / Fax. 921 509 944
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40100 La Granja de San Ildefonso
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info@turismorealsitiosdesanildefonso.com

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Avda. de Madrid, 2 40500 Riaza
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www.riaza.es
oficinaturismo@riaza.es

Sepúlveda
Plaza del Trigo, 6
40300 Sepúlveda
Tel. 921 540 425
www.turismosepulveda.es
turismo@sepulveda.es

Villacastín
Plaza Mayor, 1 40150 Villacastín (junto Ayto.)
Tel. 921 198 547
www.villacastin.es
turismovillacastin@gmail.com



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