

# ALGARROBO

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## UNIQUE PROVINCIAL TOURIST FEAST

### **Feast of Saint Sebastian**

20 January

This feast has a very local flavor. On the Saturday before the feast day, the statue of Saint Sebastian is taken from its shrine, situated at the top of the town, to the parish church of Saint Anne. During the journey, people light up cartwheels of fireworks.

On the 20th there is an open air dance during which the Town Hall invites local inhabitants and visitors to typical dishes accompanied by local wine.

In the evening, after the dance, the statue of the patron saint is taken in procession back to its shrine, accompanied by fireworks.

The festivities end with the arrival of the statue at the shrine. This is a very busy day in the town as the beauty of the procession attracts many visitors from

neighboring towns.

## OTHER FEASTS OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS

### **Carnival**

End of February, beginning of March

As part of the carnival, there is a contest for bands of street musicians held in the Youth Centre, with cash prizes.

The feast starts at 6 p.m., with street music and fancy dress competitions, with cash prizes. Cultural events and performances by the winning bands start once the street music ends.

### **Holy Week**

End of March or beginning of April

Festivities start on the Friday before Holy Week, the day when the 18th Century statue of the Virgin of Dolores is taken in procession through the town; there is a lot of devotion to this in the town.

On Palm Sunday, the statue of Jesus entering Jerusalem in triumph, known as 'la pollinica', is taken through the streets of the town with people following it carrying the traditional palms and olive branches.

There are processions on Holy Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday; the latter is a special procession due to its uniqueness.

### **Pilgrimage of Saint Isidro**

Second weekend in May

The pilgrimage starts at 10 a.m. with an open air mass in the shrine of Saint Sebastian. Following this, the statue of the saint is taken in pilgrimage from the shrine to Parque de la Vega. There is music at the festivity until the statue of the saint is taken back to the shrine at the end of the day.

### **Local Art Festival Algarrob@creativa**

From the 19 to the 27 June

This is a cultural event that aims to encourage local



inhabitants and visitors to be creative, independently of the medium they chose. Among the different entries there are short films and painting exhibitions.

### **Midsummer Night's Eve (Noche de San Juan)**

23 June

The beaches of Algarrobo Costa welcome the arrival of summer with the Midsummer Night's Eve celebrations and a big party at sunset, where local inhabitants and visitors are offered free barbecued sardines. As well as this there are bands playing all night along the town's promenades. It is traditional for people to wash their face at midnight as, according to popular belief, this makes them more attractive and younger.

### **Algarrobo Fair**

First two weeks in August

This fair usually lasts three days with the last day being a Sunday. There are sports competitions and festivities for the children.

The Central Pavilion, which is free for all, is the venue for popular dances and singing and dancing performances by groups from Algarrobo and other towns which have been invited to participate in the events.

### **Mezquitilla Fair**

Last two weeks in August

The festivities in Mezquitilla, a district of the town, take place the week after the Algarrobo fair ends; a grand popular beach party is held on the beach.

### **Folklore Festival**

The end of August

This festival is an annual event in Algarrobo and does not have a fixed date. The festival aims to promote dancing in all its variety and splendor. It is a show for dancing from around the world and recent editions have seen participation from other Andalusian provinces and countries like Martinique, Mexico, Venezuela and the Ivory Coast.

### **Feast of the Flamenco Night**

First weekend in September

Algarrobo's Flamenco Night coincides with the Candlemas festivities. There are different flamenco shows which aim to promote this artistic expression among the general public.

### **Beer Festival - Oktoberfest**

11 October

The promenade is the venue for the 'Oktoberfest' or Beer and Sausage Festival, a festival which is typical of Munich and is held on an annual basis. The festival is held in honor of the many foreign residents, especially Germans, who live in the town.

Some local restaurants and bars set up bars and offer visitors typical German food and beer at very good prices. During the festival visitors can enjoy German music and folk songs. ■

# FEASTS & FESTIVALS

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FEASTS OF INTEREST  
TO TOURISTS

