

# FRIGILIANA

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## UNIQUE PROVINCIAL TOURIST FEAST

### **Festival of the Three Cultures**

End of August

During the last weekend in August, Frigiliana organizes a forum that celebrates the meeting and co-existence of the Jewish, Arab and Christian cultures, which is open to local inhabitants and visitors alike.

There are cultural activities such as conferences on themes related to the three cultures, concerts, craft exhibitions, food days and a show of the local gastronomy with the successful Tapas Route.

The activities in the street include parading bands, juggling, fakir, belly dancing as well as activities for children with traditional games, story-telling, youth theatre, etc. All this in a market of the three cultures in which visitors are offered original products.



## OTHER FEASTS OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS

### **Pilgrimage of Saint Sebastian**

20 January

As a result of the weather, these festivities have been reduced to a mass in honor of the patron saint and the procession which takes place at the end of it, with fireworks all along the route.

### **Carnival**

February, first Saturday of Lent

The Carnival Feast starts with a parade by associations and groups followed by an open air dance until the early hours of the morning.

### **Holy Week**

End of March or beginning of April

Holy Week in Frigiliana starts on the Friday before. On this Friday the brotherhood of María Santísima de los Dolores goes out in procession on this day.



The Palm Sunday celebrations start with the blessing of the olive branches and palm leaves in the shrine of Saint Sebastian, from where people move onto the parish church.

On Holy Wednesday, the statue of Cristo de la Caña is taken from its shrine to the church where there is a floral offering to the statues which will go out in procession on Maundy Thursday.

Maundy Thursday sees the procession of Jesus of Nazareth, Cristo de la Caña, and the Virgin of Dolores.

On Good Friday there is a passion play in the church; following this, well into the night, there is the procession of the statue of Jesus in the Holy Sepulcher. It is followed by the procession of the Solitude amidst absolute darkness as the only light is that of the candles carried by hundreds of women dressed in mourning.

On Easter Sunday, the Brotherhood of the Resurrected Christ ends the Holy Week celebrations with the procession of Christ Resurrected and of María Santísima de la Aurora.

### International Festival of Oriental Dance

**Mir-April**

There are workshops of Oriental, African, Bollywood or Biodance dancing, fashion shows and live performances as part of the performances included in this cultural meeting; it attracts top artists from different countries.

The next day there is an International gala, in the covered pavilion, which includes musical performances.

### Day of the Horse

**1 May**

During this feast, visitors are offered good food and local wine. It usually starts at midday in Cañada del Ingenio, where the town meets up with the horse riders.

In the afternoon, in the same place, there is a display of the breaking-in of horses by expert horseman, an event organized by the Frigiliana Horse Club (Peña Caballista de Frigiliana).

### Crosses of May

3 May

This feast shows off the town at its best in its annual tribute to the season of the flowers. While some women mount the flowers onto the wooden crosses, others spend the morning preparing excellent dishes and the typical honey cakes which will be offered to all those who turn up to spend the day with them.

In the afternoon, the Municipal Band with a folk group and the local Choir and Dance Association, go round the village visiting each and every one of the crosses to thank people for their effort. At the end of this, the open air dance begins around the Cross in the Church Square; this continues until the early hours of the morning.

### Festival of Flamenco Singing

August

This festival has evolved from the old flamenco singing competition which used to be held during the months prior to the Fair of Saint Anthony. Today, it takes place over two consecutive weekends in the Plaza de las Tres Culturas. The festival brings together performances by well-known flamenco singers and dancers from the province of Malaga and the rest of Andalusia, together with local artists.

### Fair of Saint Anthony

13 June

The day before the festivity of Saint Anthony, at 8 a.m. there is the running of young cows through the Calle San Sebastián, and at midday the fair starts with the traditional tapas in the fairground, all this with performances by musical groups. The open air dance starts at about 11 p.m.



The traditional pilgrimage takes place on the 13 June, the main day for the feast and festivities of Saint Anthony; the statue of the patron saint is taken in procession on an ox-drawn cart from the church up to the area next to the river Higuierón, a place known as El Pozo Viejo.

This traditional pilgrimage, which commemorates the defeat of the Moors by the Christians in the Battle of Peñón, serves to bring together visitors and local inhabitants to share a tasty lunch in the shade of the pine forest on the banks of the river.

### **Traditional Dance Contest**

#### **Mid-August**

For many years, the Frigiliana dance and choir Group has been organizing the Frigiliana Traditional dance contest. It attracts great and important regional dance groups of international renown such as those from South America, Africa or Eastern Europe and Russia

This festival is an International encounter of culture and traditions expressed through traditional dances.

### **Meeting of Bands**

#### **July or august**

This has been taking place since 1989. There is no fixed date for it, but it tends to be held over a Saturday in July or august. This meeting, which has recently been held in Plaza de las Tres Culturas, brings together various bands, generally from the province of Malaga. ■

# FEASTS & FESTIVALS

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UNIQUE PROVINCIAL  
TOURIST FEAST

FEASTS OF INTEREST  
TO TOURISTS



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