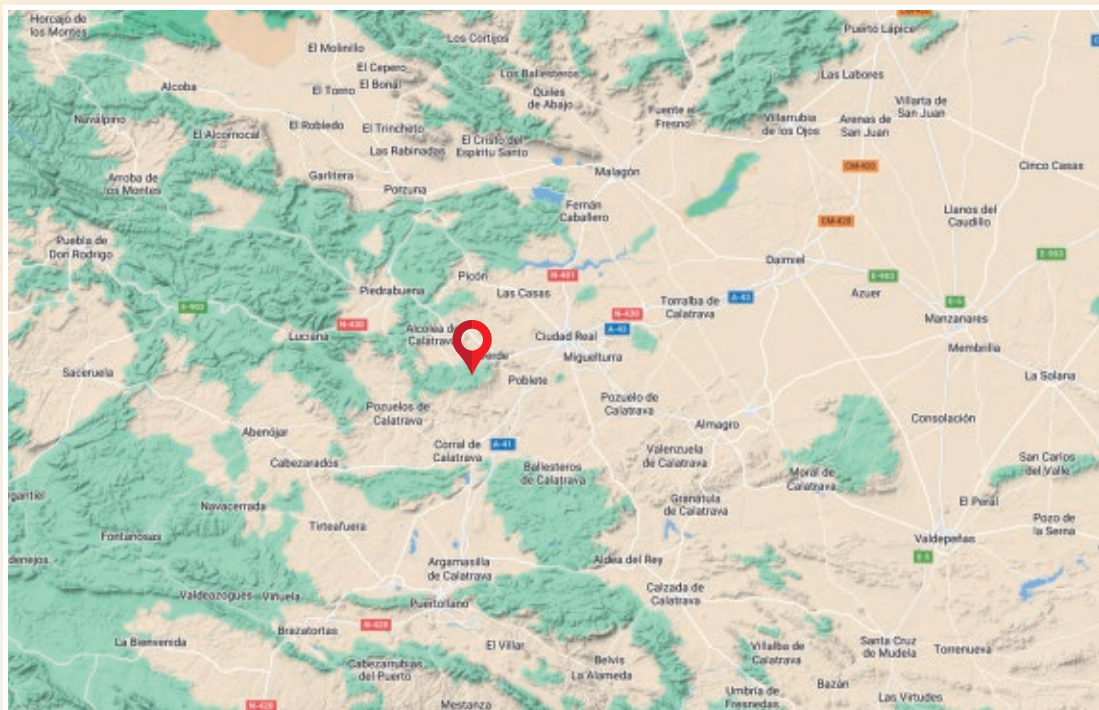




GOOGLE MAPS 38.943052, -4.051641



www.proyectogeoparquevolcanesdecalatrava.es



Ciudad Real
AYUNTAMIENTO



Castilla-La Mancha



PROJECT CALATRAVA VOLCANES GEOPARK. CIUDAD REAL

NATURAL MONUMENT OF LA POSADILLA VOLCANO AND LAGOON



- Magma
- Mercury
- Coal

This geosite is one of the natural emblems of the territory of Calatrava Volcanoes, Ciudad Real. The volcanic formation of La Posadilla has a complex geological history susceptible to diverse interpretations. It is the result of two different types of eruptions.

The first type, a hydrovolcanic eruption (Fig. 1), produced the opening of a maar, La Posadilla, in which water and magma interacted, giving rise to a large explosion crater with a pyroclastic flow, a mixture of hot volcanic gases, hot solid materials and trapped air, which filled a palaeovalley flowing towards the Guadiana. This is a very long deposit of more than 5 km long, with a maximum width of about 1200 m and a visible thickness of about 2 m. It is dark brown in colour and is made up of quartzite fragments and lava. It reaches the town of Valverde and ends near the Guadiana river (Fig. 2).

The second type is an effusive eruption, which opens the crater of El Portillo, from which a lava flow spills to the south, towards the area of Casa de Fuentillejo (Fig. 3). Another small lava flow, Peñas Negras, is emitted to the north and descends a few tens of metres down the southeast wall of the Fuentillejo crater.

La Posadilla is one of the best studied maars in Campo de Calatrava, and is the model for defining the two types of maars existing in this volcanic region. The Fuentillejo eruption originated a maar-type crater with a hard substrate that has a funnel shape and contains a lagoon. A lacustrine sedimentary record 142.4 metres thick at its bottom reveals an estimated age of 850,000 years. It is, therefore, the best available sedimentary record of lacustrine facies of the maar-type volcanic crater lakes in the Central Volcanic Region of Campo de Calatrava.

Water is scarce in the lagoon, as it depends fundamentally on the year balance between precipitation and evaporation, as there is no evidence of groundwater supply.

It has been declared a Natural Monument; included in the Natura 2000 Network as an area of special conservation of the volcanic lagoons of Campo de Calatrava, it is listed in the IGME list of geological sites of international relevance, Global Geosite -VU010- and LIG -TM 136- "Maar and lacustrine sedimentary record of La Posadilla or Fuentillejo".

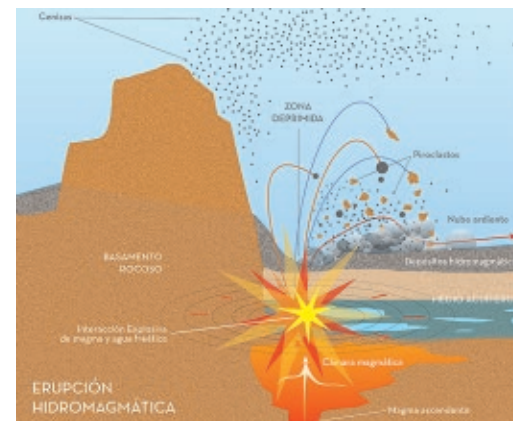


Fig. 1

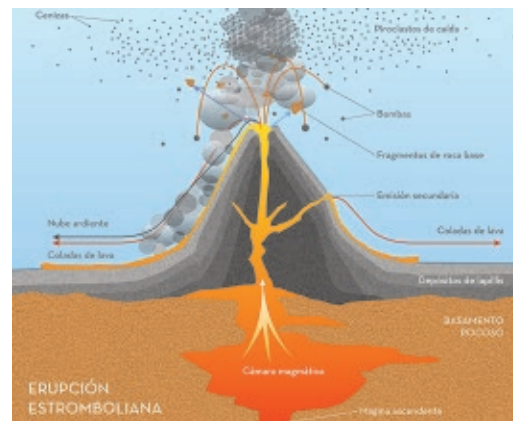
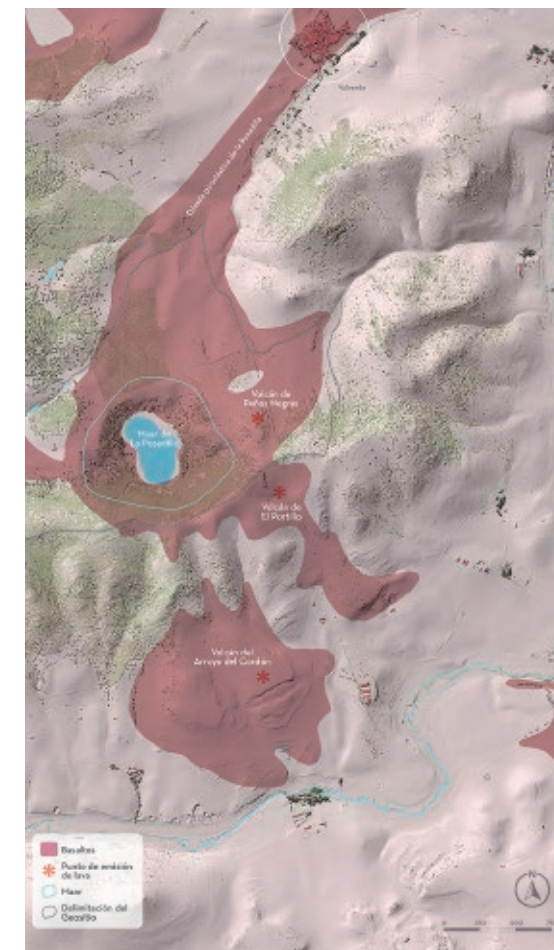


Fig. 3



Work derived from Mapa-LiDAR 2019 CC-BY 4.0 scne.es - Fig. 2