



GOOGLE MAPS 39.057787, -3.848541



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Ayuntamiento de
Carrión de Calatrava

PROJECT CALATRAVA VOLCANOES GEOPARK. CIUDAD REAL

BAÑOS DEL HERVIDERO



- Magma
- Mercury
- Coal



Castilla-La Mancha



GEOPARQUE
VOLCANES
DE CALATRAVA
CIUDAD REAL



DIPUTACIÓN DE
CIUDAD REAL

Baños del Hervidero is unique not only because it is one of the best known and most important "hervideros" in the volcanic region of Calatrava, but also because of its proximity, a couple of kilometres to the southwest of Calatrava la Vieja, a major historical enclave of the Campo de Calatrava: fortress and medina, an Islamic jewel between Córdoba and Toledo (Fig. 1).

These springs are locally known as "hervideros" because the water that gushes out of the ground appears to be boiling; this is due to the high content of carbon dioxide that is released in the form of gushes. This "hervidero" has recently been restored, it is fully accessible as a bathing area and is of great educational interest. The water chemistry is sulphurous bicarbonate-magnesium-calcium bicarbonate with a temperature of 15-17°C.

The gas coming from inside the earth, mainly carbonic anhydride, uses the fractures in the

ground to rise to the surface and can drag water and dissolve some of the minerals in its path (Fig. 2).

These fracture lines were formed by the movements and thrusts of the terrain over a long geological history; they are situated in the form of two series of parallel bands almost perpendicular to each other. The main rivers and streams, such as Guadiana and Pellejero, are channelled through them. The Calatrava volcanoes also follow these alignments (Fig. 3).

These forces caused on one side the terrain to rise, bringing out the oldest rocks such as the Palaeozoic quartzite and slate of the Malvecinos bridge, and on the other side, in another nearby area called Los Prados, the terrain to sink slightly, which is why gypsum and other salts have been accumulating here since Miocene times.



Fig. 1

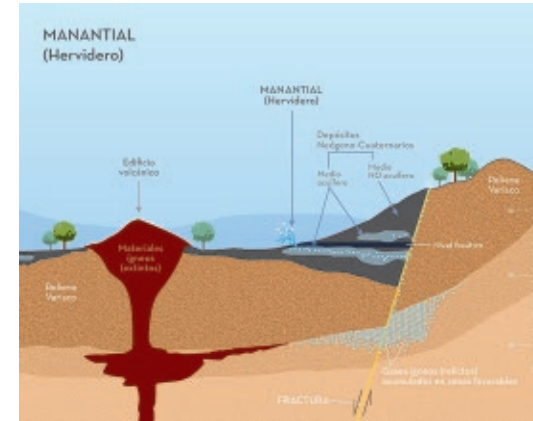


Fig. 2



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