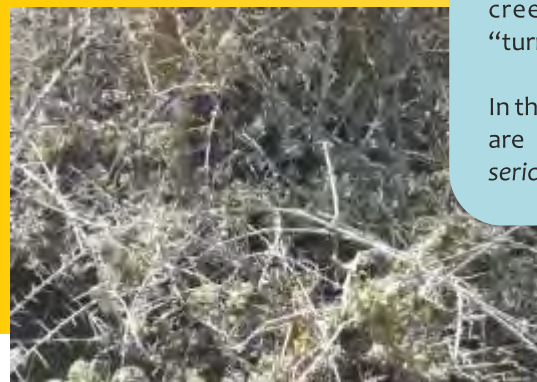




Balsam spurge
(*Euphorbia balsamifera*)



Wild tobacco
(*Nicotiana glauca*)



European teatree (*Lycium intricatum*)

FLORA

The arid conditions, scarce humidity, human activities, grazing, field ploughing and other elements have reduced and altered the presence of plants that originally grew in this part of the island. What's more, they have favoured the settlement of xeric shrubs (adapted to dry climates), in most of the protected landscape, giving it its characteristic appearance.

There are gorse (*Launaea arborescens*) Mediterranean saltworts (*Salsola vermiculata*) and other characteristic species such as European teatrees (*Lycium intricatum*).

You will also find bushwood where the most representative species are wild spurges (*Euphorbia regis-jubae*) and verodes (*Kleinia neriifolia*).

You will also come across other plants in this area such as bushy thorny plants with yellow flowers called "tasaigos" (*Rubia fruticosa*), 'white thorn' (*Asparagus pastorianus*), and creeping plants, known in Spanish as "turmero" (*Heliamthemun canariense*).

In the highlands of Montaña de la Muda, there are also Canary Island daisies (*Asteriscus sericeus*), which are oligo-specific shrubs.

PERMITTED USES:

- Hiking in authorised areas.
- Taking photos of animals and plants from the tracks without altering their wellbeing.

FORBIDDEN USES:

- Introduction of species that are not part of the protected natural area.
- Creation of new paths and tracks.
- Use of any motorised vehicle outside the authorised tracks.
- Any action which could cause degradation or loss of the heritage.
- Lighting fires.
- Leaving litter on site.
- Gathering plant or animal specimens.

USES REQUIRING AUTHORISATION

- Activities related to scientific purposes which entail an intervention on the environment whether for its conservation or for research.
- Study and research in archaeological and ethnographic sites.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE VISIT

Do not leave litter on site.
Wear comfortable and adequate shoes for walking.
Do not forget to bring sunscreen, food and water with you.
Respect the regulations and signs of the Protected Landscape.



protected landscape
VALLEBRÓN



ISLAND
COUNCIL
Fuerteventura



CORE
ZONE



FUERTEVENTURA



VALLEBRÓN

GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION

The Protected Landscape of Vallebrón is located in the central northern part of the island. It extends over 1679.6 ha, and is part of the municipalities of Puerto del Rosario and La Oliva. It adjoins with Tindaya in the north-east and Guisgüey in the south-east.

PROTECTION REGULATIONS

The hills of Vallebrón were declared Site of National Natural Interest by Spanish law no. 12/1987, of 19th June on Natural Areas in the Canaries, and reclassified to its current category as Protected Landscape of Vallebrón by the law no. 12/1994, of 19th December, on Natural Areas of the Canaries. This classification is described in the Spanish Legislative Decree no. 1/2000, which led to the approval of the revised legal text on Town and Country Planning in the Canaries and Natural Areas. It is considered an ecologically-sensitive area, for the purposes of the law no. 11/1990, on Environmental Impact Prevention.

This protected landscape figures among the areas of Vallebrón, Fimapaire and Fenimoy which are protected by the Directive 2009/147/EC on conservation of wild birds. The management of this area is regimented by the Special Plan included in the Canarian Official Gazette no. 037, of 24th February 2003.

In May 2009, UNESCO declared this area part of the Biosphere Reserve of Fuerteventura.



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BIOSPHERE RESERVE

HERITAGE VALUE

The archaeological complex of Montaña de La Muda (Church of Los Majos) is simply exceptional. It provides information on aboriginal funerals, types of burials and the use of natural caves as housings.

Highlights:

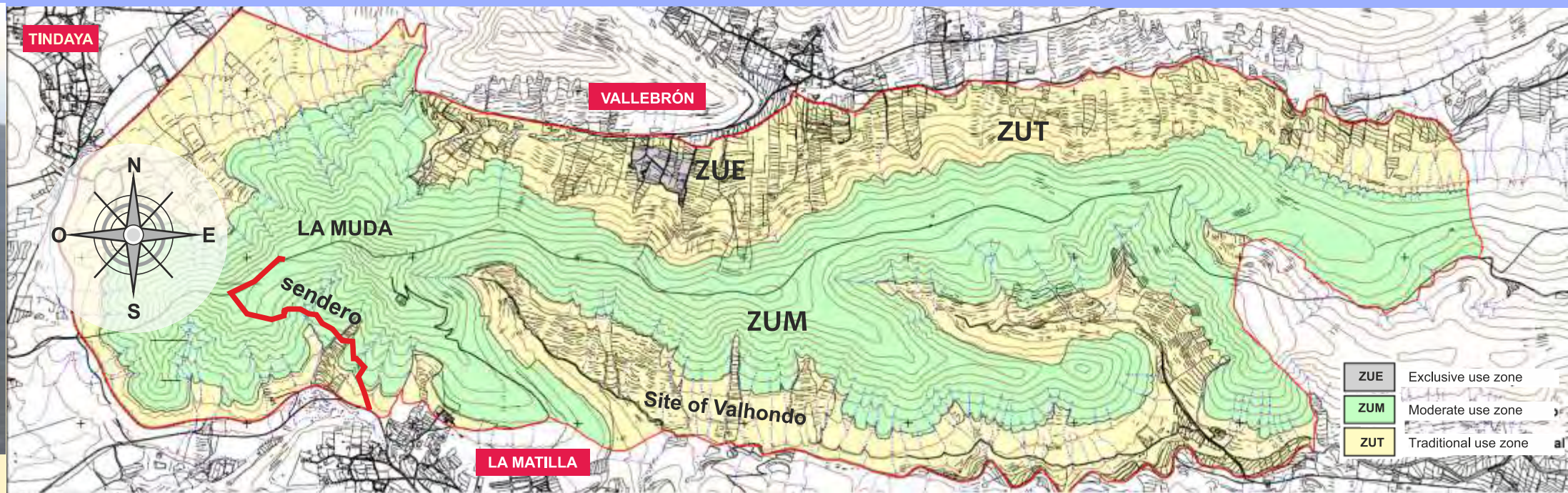
- Two complexes of traditional architecture: the complex of Valhondo and the group of houses of Vallegrande.
- Cultivation chains and “gavias” (traditional irrigation systems), typical elements of the landscape of Vallebrón.
- The presence of farmyards and “zocos” (circular stone walls built to protect from strong winds).
- The limekiln situated in the area of Casas de Valhondo.
- The natural springs of Montaña de La Muda, such as the springs of Chupadero, Valhondo and La Palma.



View from la Muda

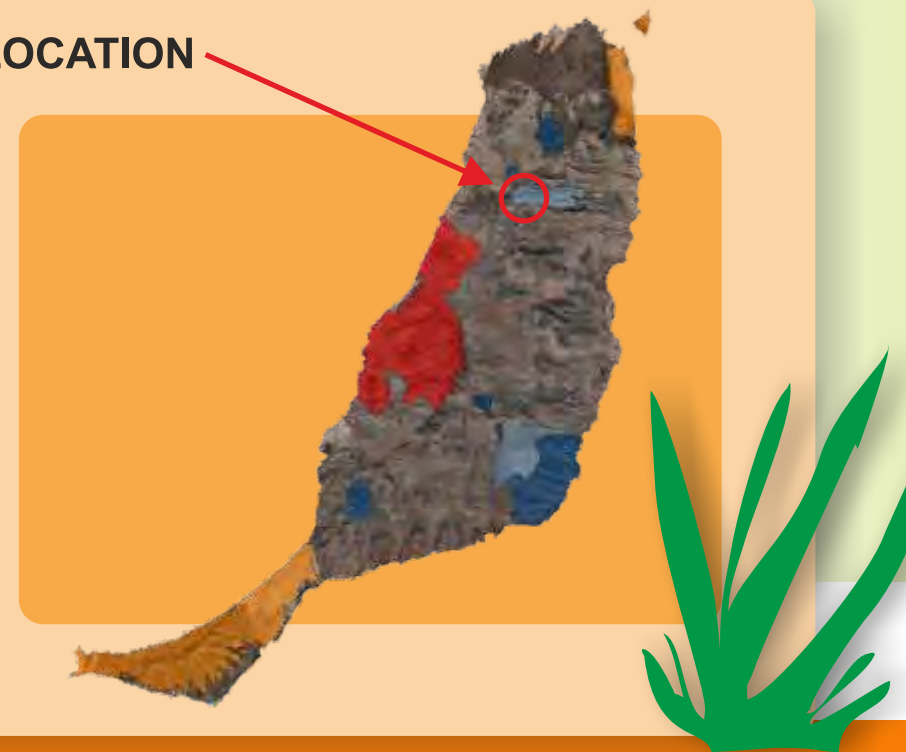


Vallebrón



Montaña de la Muda

LOCATION



FAUNA

The most widely found **birds** are: lesser short-toed larks (*Calandrella rufescens rufescens*), Berthelot's pipits (*Anthus berthelotii*), stone curlews (*Burhinus oedicephalus*), black-bellied sandgrouse (*Pterocles orientalis*), cream-coloured coursers (*Cursorius cursor*), Barbary partridges (*Alectoris barbara*), Canary houbaras (*Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae*), hoopoes (*Upupa epops*), Fuerteventura blue tits (*Parus caeruleus degener*).

In areas of greater slope and on small cliffs there are nesting birds such as common kestrels (*Falco tinnunculus*), Canary Egyptian vultures (*Neophron percnopterus majorensis*), ravens (*Corvus corax*) and barn owls (*Tyto alba*).

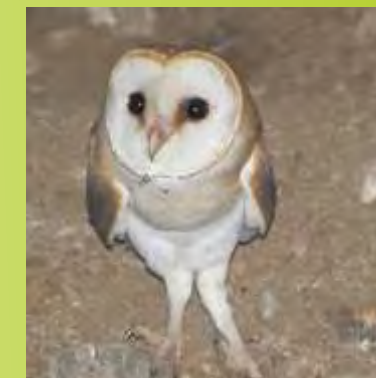
There are also species that exploit the area but do not nest there: Barbary falcons (*Falco pelegrinoides*), common buzzards (*Buteo buteo*), plain swifts (*Apus unicolor*), and pallid swifts (*Apus pallidus*).

The most important mammal of this protected landscape is the Canary shrew (*Crocidura canariensis*), which is an endemic species of the eastern islands of the Canary archipelago.

The **reptiles** found in this natural area are Atlantic lizards (*Gallotia atlantica*) and East Canary geckoes (*Tarentola angustimentalis*).



Stone curlew (*Burhinus oedicephalus*)



Barn owl (*Tyto alba*)



Berthelot's pipit (*Anthus berthelotii*)



Fuerteventura blue tit (*Parus caeruleus*)



Raven (*Corvus corax*)