

# **THE INTERPRETATION CENTRE OF COAL MINING**

## **LOCALIZATION**

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The Interpretation Centre of Coal Mining is located in the heart of the municipal region of Santullan, about 150 metres from the Plaza de España. It offers you an ample parking and a souvenir shop.

The Mine that you can visit is located 1 Km from the centre, at the outskirts of the village, in a place known as “Alto Tomillo” and it also has a spacious parking.

The Interpretation Centre of Coal Mining includes a mineral museum and a mine image. It means an excellent way to know a world not always known, the coal mining, which for more than a century has been the main activity around which life has revolved in Barruelo.

## **THE MUSEUM**

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Located in the building that houses its National School, it has more than 600 m<sup>2</sup> of exhibition, spread over three floors and nine rooms. The Museum is not confined to the world of mine, but it also tells us the history of coal from its source until the time of its use by man, as well as, the processes that affect their localization and disposition in the earth's crust. With an enjoyable and close way to explain it, through touch screen computers, videos, scale models...that make the museum an interactive exhibition.

On the upper floor you can discover how the interior of mine is, the mine offices, different types of coal, tools and machines used in the mine or the amazing work of engineering channel underground of Orbo, (ship channel). It is all supported by an interesting scale model that plays two levels of “Calero Shaft” mine, videos and panels.

In addition, a stunning viewpoint can show us some of the old mining buildings in Barruelo de Santullan.

## **THE MINE IMAGE**

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Mine provides an overview of both the structure and the work done inside the holding of bituminous coal mines. The visit is done and accompanied by a tourist guide, who will clarify any doubts that might arise along the way.

Thick mineral vats, ganges and wagons are a symbol of the intense mining activity which took place. This was one of the most productive coal extraction facilities in Spain for many years, also offering the finest quality end materials.

The galleries, upper and lower, rates the different kinds of “bonding”, steel-timbering, reinforced timbering, pit shoring and lofting; and more frequent in the coal field of Barruelo.

The two workyards allow us to know the hard work and the conditions that miners are forced to adjust for drawing out the mineral, the techniques used, the safety measures, the transport systems...etc.

Stope face “buttock” equipped with the traditional system of depth of round through plugger drill, wet drifter, and explosives. Level road and stem of vertical shaft (pulley shaft).

A workyard is assembled on a horizontal coal-bed, equipped with a face conveyor, mechanical haulage ironclad “pancer” and metal stake.

The feeling that comes upon entering a coal mine and the atmosphere that accompanies the entire visit, an unforgettable experience makes it of this, an essential complement to the museum visit, offering a credible idea of working inside the mining.

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## **TIMETABLE**

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This interpretative visit to the Barruelo mining complex is open every day except Mondays.

**MUSEUM** : 10:00 to 13:30 h  
16:00 to 19:30 h

### **MINE** :

MORNINGS: 10:30 - 11:15 - 12:00 - 12:45 h

AFTERNOONS : 16:30 - 17:15 - 18:00 - 18:45 h.

**VISITS TO THE MINE:** All visits are accompanied by a guide, each tour lasts approximately 45 minutes.

The Centre is closed on the following days:

July 16 th (Ntra.Sra del Carmen),  
December 4 th (Sta. Barbara),  
December 24 th, 25 th (Christmas)  
December 31<sup>st</sup>  
January 1<sup>st</sup>(New Year) and  
January 5 th , 6 th (Epiphany).

### **CONTACT PHONE : 979607294**

It is necessary to phone before when you want to arrange visits for large groups and providing the sufficient advance.

***IF YOU WANT TO ASK FOR INFORMATION, YOU CAN TALK WITH:***

**OLGA FERNANDEZ MARTIN**

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## **BARRUELO and its mine**

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The museum, a former Primary school, is 600 m<sup>2</sup>. It has three floors and nine rooms. The museum is not only about the mining world but also about the history of coal from its birth to the moment the man uses it. People can interact by using computers. Eight out of the nine rooms are about coal mining but one of them, which is on the ground floor, offers information about the mountains in the north of Palencia, where we are.

### **ROOM 1 - *The Mountains in the north of Palencia.***

We will know information about the animals, plants and the landscape we can find in this area. It offers us a view of the Romanesque art, sports and activities we can enjoy here.

### **ROOM 2 - *Myth, Religion and Mining.***

There are characters who belong to different cultures, pagans, romans and Christians such as Saint Barbara and Virgin "Carmen", who are related to mining.

### **ROOM 3 - *Litosphere.***

It is the superficial part of the Earth where there are different changes which alter it. By using a computer and diverse interactive elements, we can understand the way the continents were formed and the properties of some minerals.

### **ROOM 4 - *Geological periods.***

The Geology studies the minerals we find on Earth, the elements which minerals contain and how they are formed. In this room and with the help of a virtual geologist, we will see how the coal found in Barruelo was formed and some fossils related to it.

### **ROOM 5 - *The minerals and the man.***

Throughout history men have used the minerals for different purposes. Here, we'll learn the use of minerals and some mines developed by different cultures and peoples in Spain.

### **ROOM 6 - *Mining in Barruelo.***

When coal was discovered in the last century, Barruelo changed since it was an agricultural village and became an industrial little town with nearly 8000 people. However, when the coal mines closed, many people moved to other places and Barruelo became a warm and quiet village. We'll learn

about the most significant periods in the history of Barruelo and some issues related to the mine.

**ROOM 7 - *The mine itself.***

This room offers the tourists fantastic views of the mining areas. The buildings used to elaborate the coal, which are considered very important from the archaeological and industrial point of view. Moreover, the places of some mines in Spain and the coal layers. Vocabulary related to mining and environmental aspects of this kind of industry.

**ROOM 8 - *The Industry.***

Here, we can discover what a mine looks like. Different jobs at mining, types of coal, the tools and items people used. The historical event which represents an extraordinary engineering work such as the sailing channel of Orbó. You will see an interesting model where you can see two different levels of the mine "Calero", videos and charts.