

The Wood Culture Interpretation Centre travels back to the forest past of Jaén

LOCATION: Vadillo-Castril (Jaén)

DURATION: 1'45"

SUMMARY: The most important sawmill in Spain was located in Vadillo-Castril (Jaén). It produced a third of the railway sleepers used in the whole country. This space has been recovered and turned into a Wood Culture Interpretation Centre, a place where visitors can travel back in time and look at the forest with a different eye.

VTR:

Rufino is one of the kids from Vadillo-Castril who appear in this picture. He walked around these streets when the activity of this town was frenetic. The sawmill produced a third of the railway sleepers used in Spain. Now it has turned into an interpretation centre that reminds its glorious past.

Rufino Nieto Neighbour

"In the 50's and 60's around a thousand people worked in the wood industry. Around a hundred did it here at the sawmill."

CICUM, the Wood Culture Interpretation Centre, is a place that offers visitors an alternative vision of the Cazorla, Segura and Las Villas Natural Park.

Emilio Molero Tourism technician

"To look at nature from the point of view of the forest, knowing those places where singular groves are, the places where forest cableways were installed."

Alma Gaia is the company in charge of the management of this centre, with the mission of showing visitors the historical importance of this place.

Francisco Javier Jareño Guide of the centre

"It would be like a visit to the sawmill. There's a reproduction of how the sawmill used to work."

Rufino Nieto Neighbour

"How natural, sustainable and rational utilization is compatible with the natural values of the sierra."

A video reminds how was that manual extraction process and wood transportation, which was made through the river in that time.

"It is impressive watching how, with very few resources, they were able to get so much wood from this sierra."

Visitors

"We know it as it was thanks to that old people who appear on the videos, and how they used to work."

Rufino Nieto Neighbour

"The most amazing thing for me was the big transformation of resources. They went from the horse to the tractor; and from the sawing machine and the axe to the chain saw."

A travel back in time that makes visitors look at the forest with a different eye.

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