## THE CANARY ISLANDS VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES

# LOCATION OF THE CANARY ISLANDS



The Canary Islands are located in the Atlantic ocean, between 27° and 29° North latitude and between 13°y 18° West longitude. One hundred kilometers from the African coast in their closest point, and 1200 kilometers from the Spanish mainland.

## THE CANARY ISLANDS



# HISTORICAL ERUPTIONS ON THE CANARY ISLANDS

Year	Island	Name
From 1470 to	La Palma	Tacante o Montaña Quemada
1492		
1492	Tenerife	SW. slope of Pico Viejo?
1585	La Palma	Tahuya (Roques de Jedey)
1646	La Palma	Tagalate or Martín
1677-78	La Palma	San Antonio
1704-05	Tenerife	Siete Fuente, Fasnia y Arafo
1706	Tenerife	Arenas Negras
1712	La Palma	El Charco
1730-36	Lanzarote	Timanfaya
1793	El Hierro	Lomo Negro
1798	Tenerife	Pico Viejo or Chahorra (Narices del Teide)
1824	Lanzarote	Tao, Nuevo del Fuego y Tinguatón
1909	Tenerife	Chinyero
1949	La Palma	Hoyo Negro, Duraznero, Llano del
		Banco
1971	La Palma	Teneguía
2011	El Hierro	Submarine eruption of La Restinga

#### THE MOST RECENT ERUPTIONS ON THE CANARY ISLANDS



Chinyero. Tenerife 1909

Several theories try to explain the origin of the Canary Islands. One of the most accepted is the Hot Spot theory.

Although there are other volcanic areas in Spain, the Canary Islands are the only Spanish region with active volcanoes.



San Juan. La Palma. 1949

#### THE MOST RECENT ERUPTIONS ON THE CANARY ISLANDS

The Canary Islands are not a sismic area. Earthquakes are very unusual and their intensity is low



Teneguía. La Palma 1971



Submarine eruption. El Hierro. 2011-2012

But before eruptions, earthquakes take place and they are felt in most parts of the archipelago.

### OTHER HISTORICAL ERUPTIONS. TIMANFAYA, LANZAROTE









The most important eruption on the Canary Islands, in historical time, took place in Lanzarote from 1730 to 1736. A fourth part of the island was affected. Today is a National Park.

#### OTHER HISTORICAL ERUPTIONS: ARENAS NEGRAS VOLCANO. GARACHICO







In 1706, in the Northern coast of Tenerife, the lava from Arenas Negras volcano flew towards the town of Garachico, which was partially destroyed as well as its harbour.

### EL TEIDE NATIONAL PARK. TENERIFE



Despite of being near the Tropic of Cancer, seasonal changes can be observed in El Teide.

#### El Teide is the highest mountain in Spain with its 3718 meters

above sea level. It's a huge volcano located in Tenerife. In 1954, El Teide and its surrounding area was declared National Park to preserve its geology, flora and fauna.





## EL TEIDE NATIONAL PARK

El Teide rises from a circular caldera located about 2000 meter above sea level.

Crater of El Teide and a view of the Central mountain range, 1400 meters below.



## **VOLCANIC LANDSCAPES OF GRAN CANARIA**



Gran Canaria is one of the oldest islands (about 14.000.000 years old). For that reason, there aren't important volcanic areas.

Erosion is the most important geological actor, for millions of years, water and wind have erased most of the old volcanic structures.



#### **VOLCANIC AREAS OF LA ISLETA AND BANDAMA. GRAN CANARIA**



La Isleta, beside the town of Las Palmas, is one of the few preserved volcanic areas in Gran Canaria. Today is a Special Wildlife Park protected by law.

Caldera of Bandama is another protected volcanic area in Gran Canaria. It's supposed to have been the last volcanic eruption in Gran Canaria, about 2000 years ago.



### **VOLCANIC CAVES. LANZAROTE**



JAMEOS DEL AGUA. LANZAROTE

Lanzarote has got many important volcanic structures, two of them are these two caves.

Both were created by underground currents of lava while the roof of the cave became solid rock due to the contact with air.



CUEVA DE LOS VERDES. LANZAROTE

## TENEGUÍA VOLCANIC AREA. LA PALMA

Teneguía is the last volcano which emerged after its eruption in 1971.





The combined action of lava and other volcanic materials has created the most recent landcapes of the Canary Islands and Spain.