

### A CENTRE FRAMED INSIDE A 16th CENTURY CHURCH BY DIEGO DE SILOÉ

The church of La Encarnación, or church of La Villa, was built in Montefrío after the conquest of the Catholic Monarchs, which also erected the temple on the area of the former Arab fortress. The architect in charge of the works was Diego de Siloé, the author of the cathedral of Granada. The church is an example of Gothic and Renaissance art, built between 1549 and 1570.

It was abandoned in 1767 after the hit of a lightning bolt during a mass. Miraculously, nobody was hurt, just a dog that passed by. The legend tells it lost its tail that day. A party and a commemorative procession are held every year the last Sunday of May. Afterwards, the church is completely abandoned and the new church of la Encarnación was built between 1786 and 1802. It was also known as the round church.

THANKS FOR YOUR VISIT.

The visit to the Interpretation Centre is a perfect complement to make the visitors take part actively in the conflict lived by this land for almost 200 years. It confronted two cultures with different aspects of aesthetics, religion, literature and life. This idea encourages a reflection in a time when ethnic and border problems are in the spotlight.

You will be able to understand all the aspects of a culture who left its mark on this territory through the chapels on the church, with interactive panels and the audiovisual presentation.

The history of the vigilantes of the frontier, those who founded villages and cities from the watchtowers, those who lived in the border of two cultures, during a transition time, in a map where Castille and Granada had a deep rivalry.

However, this frontier is not supposed to be a separating wall, but a contact zone between two cultures.

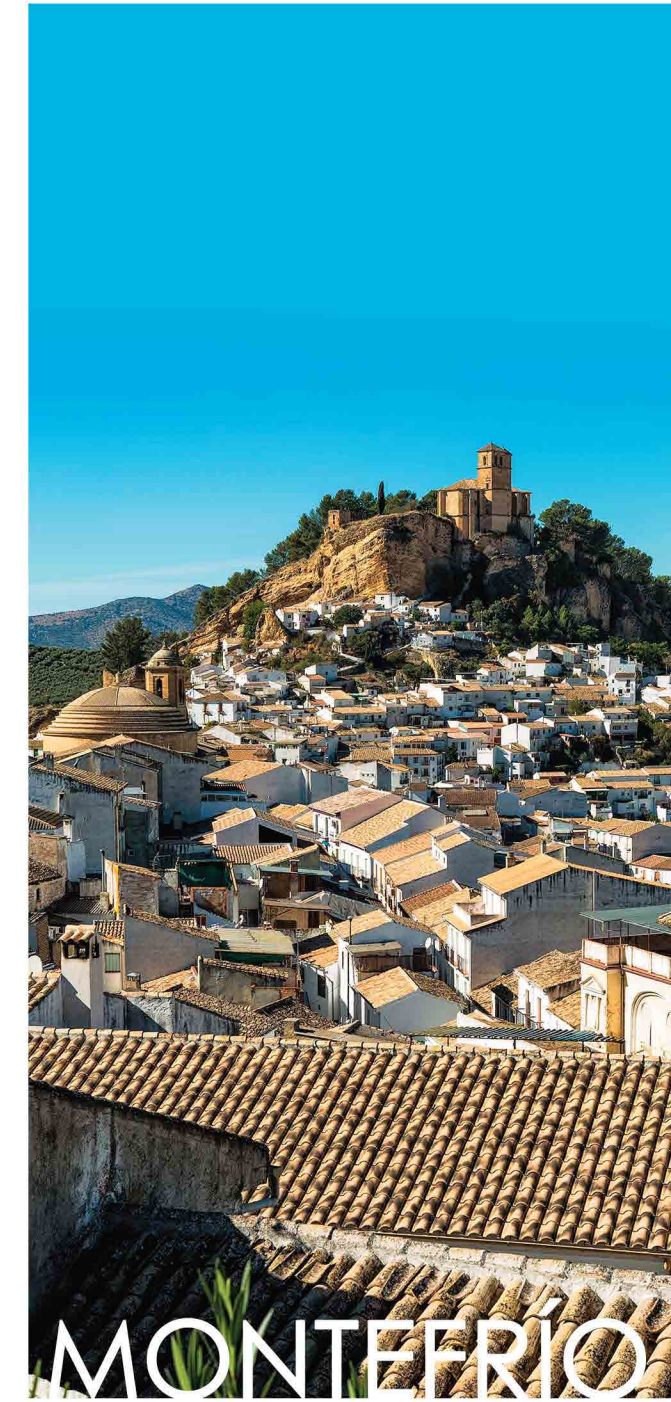


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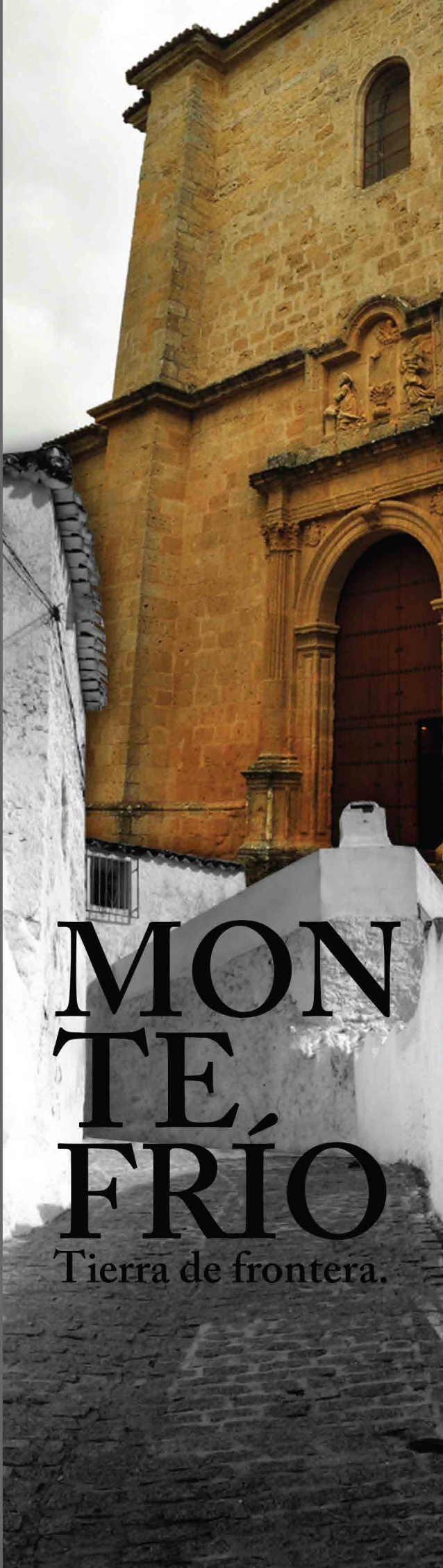
PONIENTE  
granada

Montefrío  
En todos tus sentidos



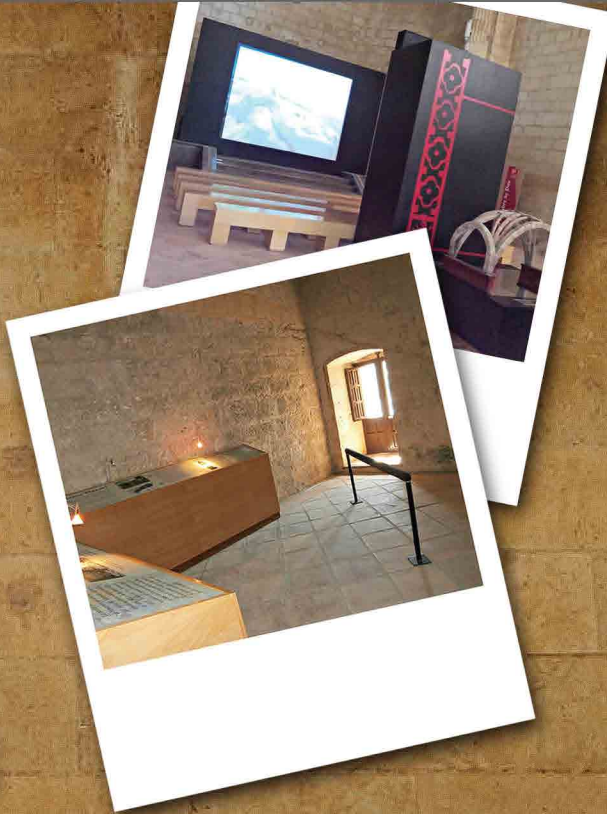
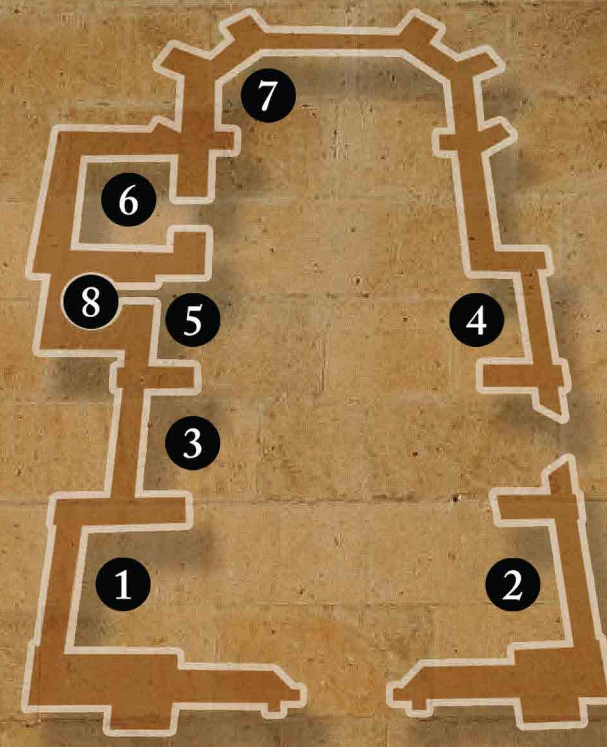
Iglesia de la Villa  
Centro de Interpretación  
de la última frontera de Al-Ándalus





# MONTEFRÍO

Tierra de frontera.



**1. The meaning of the chapels**  
They show the remains of those strongholds that defied Castille and how they witnessed, with time, the mark of Isabella "the Catholic": the proliferation of big churches within them.

**2. Who was who**  
The border was not a wall dividing two worlds. There were commercial exchanges, religious converts and great kings who left their stamp in history with their internal strive...

**3. Game of Strategies**  
It was almost a 200-year war were evolution was present with new weapons, new strategies of combat... It was the beginning of the modern army.

**4. In the name of God**  
It was a religious war. But, in that moment, religion was also an instrument of division, excuse or expulsion in the name of God.

**5. The waterwheel and the ear of corn**  
The Catholic Monarchs attached great importance to water, but they had to meet the basic need: bread.

**6. The Chronicle of Al-Andalus**  
1st floor of the chapel: The Conquest of Montefrío. The defensive system and fall of the Nasrid Kingdom. The watchtowers of Montefrío.

**7. The evolution of the building**  
2nd floor of the chapel: Evolution of the castle of Montefrío after the conquest. The construction of the church of La Villa, its abandon and the works of the new church of La Encarnación.

**8. The Tower**  
A spiral staircase of 111 steps leads to the highest point of the village, where a spectacular view is awaiting. The panels indicate the 4 cardinal points and what you may see in each direction.

