



El "must" de Canarias

# LORO PARQUE



## LORO PARQUE – the tourist attraction of the Canary Islands

With its mild climate all year round and impressive landscape which includes Spain's highest mountain, Teide the volcano, Tenerife draws millions of visitors every year. An added attraction, quite unique to the island, is a man-made paradise of nature complete with **parrots, orcas, sea-lions, dolphins, penguins, gorillas, chimpanzees, jaguars, tigers, alligators, sharks** and many more animals, as well as a varied selection of lush vegetation, that will make your visit an unforgettable experience.

Situated in Puerto de la Cruz, LORO PARQUE houses the largest collection of parrots in the world, an aquarium with a shark tunnel, Planet Penguin, the largest penguinarium in the world with nearly 250 Antarctic and Subtropical Penguins, orca, dolphin, parrot and sea-lion shows all held in beautiful surroundings, making Loro Parque the most visited attraction in the Canaries after Teide National Park and the Timanfaya National Park in Lanzarote. Since opening in 1972, more than 34 million visitors have passed through its gates, open all year round, and from an original 13.000 m<sup>2</sup>, the park now occupies an impressive 135.000 m<sup>2</sup> - ten times bigger than its original size.

The founder and owner of LORO PARQUE, Mr. Wolfgang Kiessling is now an international figure with the **unique and world's largest collection of over 4.000 parrots** which include 350 species and sub-species. About 700 are in the park, and the rest are housed in "La Vera", a separate breeding centre, close to the park.

In 1994 the whole collection was donated to the **LORO PARQUE FUNDACIÓN** whose aim it is to preserve endangered species of parrots and their habitats, raise funds for field studies, research and conservation projects and to organize the breeding programmes aimed at reintroducing these rare parrots back into the wild. The Foundation takes part in 24 captive breeding programmes and is directly involved in coordinating the Recovery Project for the Spix's Macaw, the Blue-throated Macaw and the Red-browed Amazon.

The variety of attractions on offer at the park is quite spectacular, and will keep both young and old alike entertained all day long. On arriving at the main gate, a fascinating scene, straight out of Thailand, greets the visitor. This beautiful **Thai village** is set on a lake filled with shoals of Japanese Koi carp. This whole village was constructed by master craftsmen in Thailand and then shipped by container to Tenerife to be erected here in the park.

Continuing walking upwards, one reaches the **Gorilla terrace**, an expanse of jungle-like vegetation covering 3.500 m<sup>2</sup>. The seven male Gorillas are an experimental group on loan from various European Zoos and form part of the European Breeding Programme for Endangered Species. Its principle objective is to ensure a greater genetic variety within the European gorilla population, thus contributing to the conservation of this highly endangered species. As with all the animals in the park, the





Gorillas are fed only the best fruit and vegetables and their living quarters are quite luxurious with constant ventilation and under floor heating.

The **chimpanzees** also feel “at home” in LORO PARQUE. In the early 1980s these lovable chimps were rescued from street photographers who had abandoned them, after the animals had grown out of their souvenir job. Now they live in a wonderful area of 1.500 m<sup>2</sup> containing plenty of vegetation, waterfalls, streams. The imitation rock-faces were hand made in these bizarre shapes from the south of Tenerife.

Since the beginning of 2006, LORO PARQUE has another superlative attraction – “**OrcaOcean**” Tekoa, Keto, Skyla, Kohana, four third generation orcas, which came from SeaWorld, USA, do not only fascinate their public by spectacular jumps but also due to the intensive bounds that the animals have with their trainers.


With a capacity of 22 million litres of continually filtered and chilled seawater which will be taken from a depth of 65 m from the Atlantic Ocean, the habitat “OrcaOcean” is among the largest marine mammal display and research facilities ever constructed and guarantees ideal living conditions. An unbelievable capacity of six million liters of water is cleaned per hour. The water temperature is constantly kept at 13 °Celsius. The installations, which have a depth of between 8 and 12,5 metres and a length of 120 metres, are some of the most modern in the world. The construction, with its extraordinary sunshade of 4,000m<sup>2</sup>, has the advantage of not only protecting our guests from the sun and rain, but also sheltering the animals from the sun’s harmful rays and minimizing the consumption of energy to keep the water temperature at a constant level. The presentation area of the facility includes as many as 3,000 guest seats.


The “**Aula del Mar**”, the education centre, ensures that young and old alike will leave “OrcaOcean” knowing a lot more about the oceans and their ambassador, the orca.

Another impressive work of art is the futuristic design of the roof of the **Californian sea-lion enclosure**, home to these delightful creatures. Through transparent panels, the show can also be observed under water which is pumped through filters into the 1.200.000 litre pool. Our Sea Lions are so content in their habitat that they have produced offspring on a regular basis.

A further treat is a visit to the **dolphinarium**. Here, dolphins from the Gulf of Mexico will astound and delight you with their intelligence and love of fun and games. These dolphin pools are the biggest in Europe, containing a total of 7.000.000 litres of seawater, between the show pool, holding pool and the quarantine pools. All are interconnected and continuously supplied daily with fresh purified sea water and the dolphins move freely from one pool to another. As the absolute stars of the show, you will be able to enjoy many unforgettable moments while watching them in the dolphinarium which is able to seat up to 1.800 people.

One further attraction, which opened in December of 1999, is the world’s biggest **Penguinarium**. Imagine standing in shorts at a temperature of 22°C and being transported into an authentic Antarctic eco-system. By means of huge glass panels





enclosing the biggest fridge in the world, four different species of penguin, including King, Gentoo, Rockhopper and Chinstrap penguins, can be observed. These penguins inhabit a replica of an Antarctic island at a temperature of  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and swim in seas at  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Monitors describe the life and natural habitat of these graceful and elegant marine birds.

It is on the coastline which extends from Punta Foca, Peru to the south of Chile in Patagonia that one of the most threatened species of subtropical penguins lives, the Humboldt Penguins. These penguins, who owe their name to the Humboldt Current that flows along the coasts of South America, are the privileged inhabitants of “**El Pacífico**” enjoying the exceptional facilities of this new exhibit, in which huge sums of money have been invested to reproduce as closely as possible the natural habitat of these animals from the Pacific Ocean coast.


On  $500\text{ m}^2$ , in which a great rocky coastline has been reproduced with more than 80 little caves, hidden amongst the vegetation, so that the 57 Humboldt Penguins can build their nests. This offers the animals the privacy they need for good reproduction. Pelicans and burrowing parrots keep them company. The cliff is by an enormous 4-meter deep lagoon containing 600.000 litres of sea water, where no chemical products have been used to ensure the purity and transparency of the water. The exhibit also has one of the most sophisticated systems for water and air filtration so that our animals will not suffer from any biological alteration.


In the world’s most modern **aquarium**, containing over 20.000 aquatic animals and plants, the visitor is transported through a silent, mysterious but breath-taking submarine world. One can appreciate the rich variety of life that inhabits the Amazon region, shudder at the sight of piranhas and be enchanted by thousands of brightly lit cardinal fish gliding about in an acrylic cylinder. The walk through the 18m shark tunnel where sharks from four different species glide above your head, close enough to touch, is for many, the highlight of their visit.

Flora and Fauna come together in a harmonious picture, the array of plants on show will also tempt every plant lover. In the cacti garden, you will be amazed at types and forms never seen before, as well as many species of dragon trees, orchids and oleanders. The extended green areas will surprise you as well as the number of plants along the pathways. There are over 7.000 examples of palm trees, including the Canary date palm, the Fish-tail palm, and the King’s Palm. The Orchid House has some of the loveliest orchids from all parts of the world on show, and at any time of the year they will be blooming.

In “**KINDERLANDIA**” the eyes of the smallest visitors of Loro Parque shine, because here they can enjoy the best attraction. It does not matter whether the little explorers go through the jungle, if they balance themselves on the suspension bridges, climb over the trees and slide down the snake attraction, “KINDERLANDIA” fairy will always lend them a hand.

And while they play and have lots of fun, mom and dad enjoy drinking a coffee in the “Bamboo Bar”, from where they can observe their children’s expedition through the jungle. The “ride” in the whale - a trip on the first roller coaster of the Canary Islands for the whole family - is the climax of your adventure to “KINDERLANDIA”. What do you want to bet that this exciting ride will also attract the adults?





“**NATURAVISIÓN**” is a very special movie experience, in which LORO PARQUE’s visitors are able to watch the world’s most breathtaking landscapes in a domed structure, especially constructed for this purpose.

And if the park’s visitors wish to relax and eat something, apart from the lovely laid out picnic areas, the following **restaurants** are at their disposal: Cafetería “Vista Teide”, the self-service restaurant “Choza de los Duques”, the grill and bar “Patio del Loro”, a pizzeria and the restaurant “Casa Pepe”.

Welcome to paradise! Go on a journey around the world of animals and enjoy an unforgettable day at LORO PARQUE.





El "must" de **Canarias**

# LORO PARQUE



Situated on the green northern coast of Tenerife, in Puerto de la Cruz, **LORO PARQUE** is unique in the world. Explore a beautiful botanic garden of 135,000 m<sup>2</sup>, where amazing attractions wait for you:


- "**OrcaOcean**", the biggest and most modern orca installation with four animals from SeaWorld, USA, inaugurated in February 2006
- The world's most diversified parrot collection
- The incredible **dolphin show** in Europe's largest dolphinarium
- "**Planet Penguin**", the world's largest penguinarium with more than 200 antarctic and subtropical penguins, amongst them the grand king penguins and the Humboldt penguins, being housed in "**El Pacífico**"
- The **Loro show** in the Arabian palace, where parrots will captivate you with their funny performances and a colourful free-flight presentation
- The charming **sea lion** show
- The **gorilla's jungle** including seven impressive animals in an outdoor exhibition of 3,500 m<sup>2</sup>
- The crater with the jaguars
- The "**Chimland**" of the chimpanzees
- The beach of the American alligators
- The **aquarium** with a shark tunnel of 18 m
- The tiger island
- "**NATURAVISIÓN**", the breathtaking nature film
- The orchid house
- The porcelain parrot museum as well as
- "**KINDERLANDIA**" where especially the smallest park visitors have sparkling eyes when they ride the Orca roller coaster.

Experience exotic cultures from different continents – from Canary architecture via the African market to the Thai village with hundreds of Japanese Koi carps.

Within subtropical flora and fauna, you will find a special atmosphere to enjoy **LORO PARQUE**'s various offers: restaurants, a pizzeria, picnic areas, souvenir shops as well as the option to let a special souvenir photo being taken in "**Fantasy Foto**", where you will be surrounded by wild creatures, dolphins, penguins or orcas by means of digital technology. And on the discovery tour (for a fee), you can have a glance behind the scenes.

The yellow **LORO PARQUE** train brings you for free from the centre of Puerto de la Cruz to the LORO PARQUE and back.

Opening times: daily from 8:30 a.m. – 6:45 p.m. during the whole year, last entry: 4:00 p.m.





## **“OrcaOcean”, the latest and greatest attraction at LORO PARQUE, Tenerife**

Tenerife has one sensation more, which you won't find anywhere else: “OrcaOcean”, worldwide the most modern installation for impressive Orcas and at the same time one of the most emotional and spectacular attractions, a zoo can ever offer.

Keto (11 years old), Tekoa (5), Kohana (4) and Skyla (2) are four Whales and the stars and absolutely darlings for the visitors of LORO PARQUE. They enthuse not just by their power, speed and intelligence but especially by their playfulness, which seems to be quite human, and their love for affection, what is a good sign that they feel really good in their home of superlatives.

The visitors hold their breath when the trainers rush through the water and are catapulted into the air, laughter breaks out when the Orcas trifle with them.

The four Whales and their keepers have a very strong relationship, and it is very visible for everyone to see, as they win the hearts of the crowd everyday and, thus, as ambassadors, they definitely contribute to the conservation of their species.

The animals are the third generation to be born in “SeaWorld”/ USA. During the two years before their move to Tenerife, eight keepers of LORO PARQUE received an intensive training in America to get to know their new protégés and to be educated in their new function.

Finally, the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2006 the long expected day arrived. On a cargo flight with specially constructed pools the Orcas, accompanied by the General Director of LORO PARQUE, Wolfgang Kiessling, and the trainers, went on this unique journey over the Atlantic. Also the transfer from the Airport North to their new home was an event for the whole island to watch, given that special vehicles had to be used for the transportation.

Since their lucky arrival thousands of guests experience daily these great animals, which awake unexpected emotions and leave them dumbfounded.

Some technical facts of interest of “OrcaOcean”:

- Four connecting pools with a total capacity of 22 millions of liters of water, which is taken from a depth of 65 m from the Atlantic Ocean
- A depth of between 8 and 12,5 metres and a length of 120 metres
- Water temperature kept constantly at 13 °Celsius
- Filtering machines clean an unbelievable capacity of six million liters of water are per hour
- A stadium, which seats up to 3,000 guest
- An extraordinary sunshade roof of 4,000m<sup>2</sup> which not only protects the guests from the sun and rain, but also shelters the animals from the sun's harmful rays