Ancient Discoveries at Huelva by Nancy Gallen

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One of the more popular spots in Spain for ancient monuments has to be Huelva. This city holds many interesting old structures which are past treasures of the regionâ€™s history and culture although it is a booming modern port and industrial city. A lot of these historical treasures stem from the travels of Christopher Columbus.

Ancient attractions

There are many old monuments in Huelva which would delight history buffs and budding archaeologists. Many ancient attractions in Huelva are still functioning today like the 15th century San Pedro Church. This is the regionâ€™s oldest church that was built in Moorish architectural style with 16th century Baroque style renovations. Its location over an old Arab mosque showcases the change of cultural influence in the land.

Huelva also features a 15th century Gothic-Mudejar church which is frequented by Columbus on his returns from America. It is located on a majestic mountain that offers a most panoramic view of the city.

Another fascinating church at Huelva is the Iglesia de la Concepcion; it is an exquisite 16th century architecture located at Plaza de la ConcepciÃ³n which is a lively town square where a lot of locals congregate.

Town offerings

At the town center is Plaza de las Monjas or â€œSquare of the Nunsâ€•. Here, one can view not only the town hall where a hive of activities happens everyday from commercial to political; there is a small ancient Mudejar convent located at the town center.

The Barrio Reina Victoria district is also easily accessible in the town although it was a British effort during the 19th century. The British mining company called Rio Tinto Mine Company came to Spain and set up its business dealings in their typical Anglo-Saxon style buildings which served as employeesâ€™ residence.

Surrounding monuments

Then there is 37m Monumento a la Fe Descubridora cubist sculpture that can be found outside the town. It lies at the mouth of two local rivers: Rio Tinto River and Odiel River. This ancient sculpture is the image of a Franciscan monk from La Rabida Monastery set up as a dedication to the sailors who sailed with Columbus on their new territory discoveries.

The 20th century built Institute La Rabida has now been converted to be the local Ibero-American University.

Huelva offers many beautiful and well structured squares, cathedrals, churches and convents from past epochs which have been well preserved for public display today. The city is rich in history and culture although it embraces modern day technology and facilitations.

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