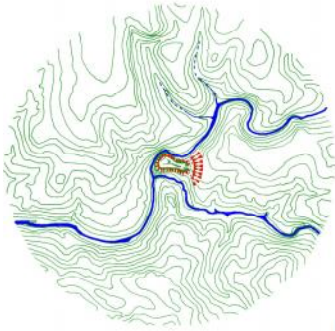




# Circuit of visit

Tonw Hall of Higuera la Real

## Situation Plan



It is located on a large hill and its boundaries are formed by the fork of the mouth of the Alamo brook as it goes into the Sillo, giving it a specific physiognomy known as the Ribero hill-fort "castro de Ribero"



### ETHNOGRAPHIC CIRCUIT

- Panel 1. "Chozos" (Typical Extremenian huts) "Zahúrda" (stables) and "cochiqueras" (pigsties).
- Panel 2. Water mill
- Panel 3. Natural landscape.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL CIRCUIT.

- Panel 1. The wall. Old and modern town (400-95 b. C).
- Panel 2. Defence tower. Modern town (150-95 b. C).
- Panel 3. Main entrance and defence Modern town (150-95 b. C).
- Panel 4. Entrance Square and workshop. Modern town (150-95 b. C).
- Panel 5. Central Street. Old town (400-150 b. C).
- Panel 6. Pre-roman Sanctuary. Old town (400-150 b. C).
- Panel 7. Dwelling. Modern town (150-95 b. C).
- Panel 8. Dwelling. Old town (400-150 b. C).

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL CIRCUIT

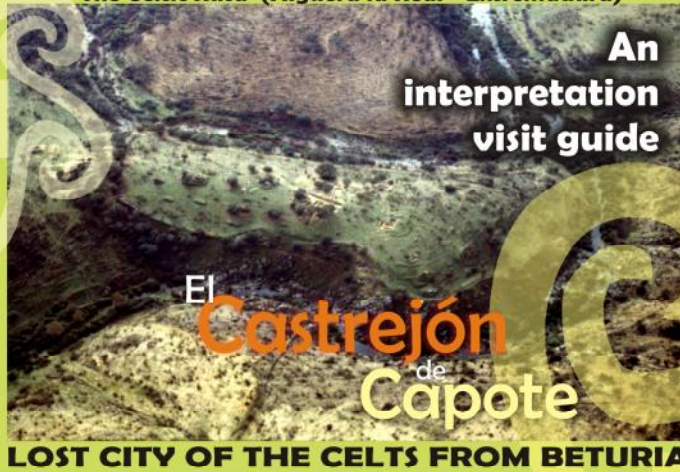
On an extended platform of three hectares which was only easily accessible at the end opposite the fork of the rivers, Capote was conceived for the control of concrete resources of its immediate surroundings and possibly subordinated to greater establishments.



**Bastión y antemuro junto puerta principal**

Its walls were constructed in the centuries that preceded and came after the wars of the Roman conquest. These walls and other defensive constructions (pits, pre walls, sunken stones...) make up a set of more spectacular remains of the town, as is observed around the main door of the hill-fort (Castro), an alley in the shape of a funnel 5 metres maximum width and 20 in length protected by towers and bastions that still reach 9 metres in height. From this, all along its length come lines of walls that cross the peninsula on the edge of the river with towers located at the weakest points. Only at the opposite end do the walls open allowing a track in the shape of an "S" with sufficient width for carts, that leads as far as the riverbed.

### The Celtic Ruta (Higuera la Real - Extremadura)



### ETHNOGRAPHIC CIRCUIT



The historical wealth of Capote revalued not only the archaeological ruins but others related to traditional activities of the area: the raising of the Iberian pig and hydraulic mill activity. For this reason a typical hut with its plasty made of stone and with a straw roof has been restored to be visited.



Chozo, zahúrda y cochiquera



For the same reason a water mill of the "rodeznó" type was cleaned up. It was number 23 in the so called "water mill way", which goes around the Alamo brook from Higuera la Real. It was already in use from at least the XV century.



Molino

### "CAPOTE, the mystery of a walled town on a flattened hill"

#### Pre-Roman sanctuary

The sanctuary is located in the very centre of the town. It was destroyed and deliberately buried in II century B. C. shortly after celebrating one



of its ritual ceremonies: a great communitarian banquet, perhaps for three hundred people judging from the sets of buried earthen bowls and glasses. Around this runs a stone bench that leans on the three walls of the dwelling. Ashes, bones and earthen bowls have made the reconstruction of the ritual possible with sufficient exactitude.

Its destruction about 150 BC, could be the consequence of the Roman conquest and it had to be buried because its value was emblematic of "independence" and political "freedom" of these villagers.

#### Dwelling

Around the central street, alleys and leaned constructions of two dwellings are organized. In the first, the fire or kitchen is located in the centre next to a long stone bench that ends in the main dividing wall. Usually there is a central support for the ceiling and a revolving mill. In the



outhouses, on a paved floor, great earthen bowls for storing goods and tools for the fields were accumulated.



All the knowledge of this hill-fort (Castro) comes from the findings in 1984 of an interesting slab with "tartaric" writing by a Professor from Higuera la Real, Mr. Aurelio Salguero Marin. The study of its place of origin was put forward when it was deposited in the Archaeological Museum of Badajoz. The unexpected finding of an unknown town with materials dating at least from the end of II century B.C offered sufficient interest to start a programme of excavations from 1988. The results continued to be surprising, not only because of the exceptional state of their vestiges but also because of their importance; a sanctuary, a deposit of sacred Roman images and an exceptional Iberian sword from II century B.C.

### "One of the more outstanding archaeological-cultural findings of Celtic Beturia"



### "CAPOTE, ENTRANCE AND IMAGE OF THE HISTORICAL, NATURAL AND ECONOMICAL WEALTH OF THE SOUTH WEST MOUNTAIN RANGE"

#### Natural Surroundings

Doubtless natural attractiveness, rich in water, animal life, exuberant water flora, forests of hawthorns and ash trees.



Nothing indicates why the end of the town occurred at a time of splendour. It seems that the abandonment took place suddenly because they left all their property there (at the beginning of the I century B.C.) Capote did not become an inhabited town again and its walls were deliberately dismantled and buried.

One hundred years later the ruins were taken advantage of by people of Roman culture. Proof of this occupation is the finding of little figures of Roman Gods, lanterns and sets of luxury dishes from Italy and Galia. Investigations show that they were destroyed deliberately.