

Gate of the Quarters of Granada

Also known as Puerta del Tinel or Puerta de los Arcos (Gate of the Arches), since ancient times. This great tower was almost completely demolished in 1854, due to the ruin of the entire upper area, leaving just the large ashlar blocks that make up the lower areas and the bases of the arches. However, it was possible to rebuild it following an 1839 engraving published by Francisco Guillén Robles in *Málaga musulmana*. This is a double gate with direct access, meaning it has a first passage, then a small courtyard, and then a second passage, with a wall that cuts it off, forcing you to turn a sharp corner, this one under the open sky. This defensive system is very effective, because in the event that the first door in the first passage was breached, it allowed the defenders to defend the access by throwing different materials from the upper area, turning the small courtyard into a veritable mousetrap.

Here again, on the sides of the courtyard, we see how it was built directly on the slope of the hill, and at the exit, in the walls on the left, you can see the interior of the wall with ashlar blocks arranged in a stretcher and header bond, characteristic of the Taifa work, and made out of fossiliferous stone that is highly degraded. The restoration of the Tower, completed in 1938, was the work of the architect Fernando Guerrero-Strachan, and involved the creation in its interior of spaces that were originally used as rooms for showing restored ceramic pieces. This powerful tower protects the western end of the upper precinct, forming the highest area of the hill, and perfectly adapted to its elongated shape.

