

The Coracha



This is the protected path that communicated the palace-fortress of the Alcazaba with the Castle, via a single access. The Castle's only door, which was monumental in nature, opened on to the Coracha, which on reaching the Castle opened to surround it with a barbican. This zigzag construction avoided the need to build Albarrana Towers, and it was made up of two parallel walls crowned by a wall-walk that climbed the mountain.

The Castle contained the troops' barracks and was the city's last defensive stronghold. It was built in the times of Yusuf I, in 1340, and due to its imposing appearance it was mentioned as a highlight by all travellers and by the Chronicles of

the Conquest. Only one other Coracha is still preserved in Spain, located in Badajoz. In the 19th century, the humble houses that began occupying the lower part of the hill, which are now no longer in existences, became known as the Barrio de la Coracha (Coracha District).