Wiki Takes
[insert your desired rural area]

Once upon a time - 2015, if we are fair - there was a committed brave Spanish group of wikimedians who had a vision: What if we transform the *Wikipedia takes your city* initiative into something that helps us make visible rural areas within the Wikimedia projects?

The idea of conquering remote-without-pictures-in-Commons-or-Wikipedia-articles territories in the name of free knowledge was a recurrent thought for them. And the first Spanish rural *Wiki Takes* took place in the month of September on that same year.

From then on, Wikimedia España has organized seven rural *Wiki Takes*, helping map, document and make knowledge about rural areas available to more and more people. And more wiki-invasions are coming in the upcoming months.

After driving for thousands of kilometers, after uploading thousands of remote places pictures, we thought it was time to share some of the key learnings we have got from organizing these *Wiki Takes* activities. We hope you find them useful.

Why would you wiki-take a remote place?

◇ To take images from underrepresented areas and natural spaces, upload them to Commons and make documentation concerning this places available to everyone, everywhere.
◇ Because it helps spread the Wikimedia Movement values in rural areas.
◇ It's a great activity to involve volunteers, local or regional administrations, etc.
◇ Gives wikimedians a chance to meet each other and share a couple of days together.

Top 5 tips on rural-wiki-invasions:

1. **Researching:** Field research goes first and it takes time.
2. **Planning:** Plan routes and give documentation to participants.
3. **Teambuilding:** Make teams of 3-4 wiki-takers. Each team needs a car.
4. **Sharing:** Schedule lunch and touch-base meetings where everyone gets together.
5. **Caring:** Make sure each route has available places where participants can stop buy water, use a toilet, etc. Take care of your wiki-takers.
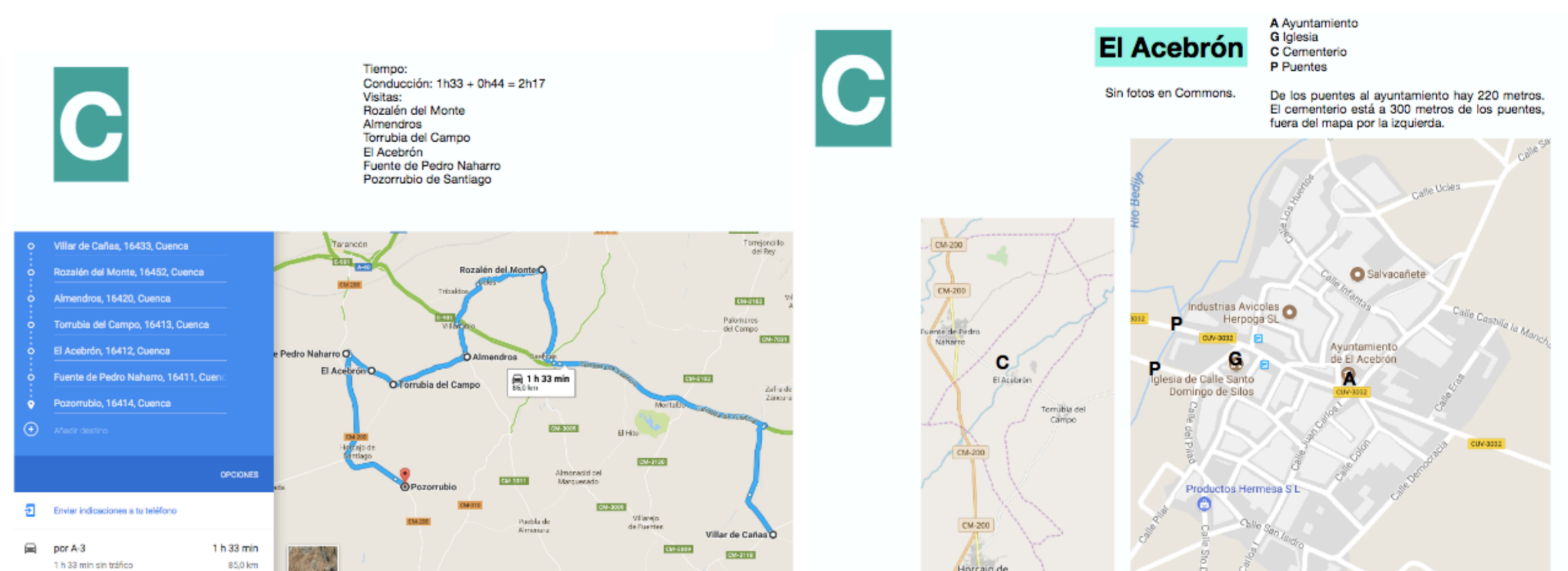
The rural wiki-taker toolkit:

Things organizers should consider:

How does it work?

◇ Volunteers map the area to take and list important places, infrastructures or monuments.
◇ Area is divided into different routes (A, B, C, etc.).
◇ Registration opens for participants around two months before the event.
◇ Hotel and meal arrangements are made.
◇ Participants get together in meeting point. They split into groups and are assigned a certain route.
◇ They normally have a weekend to cover the wiki-taken area.
◇ Once back home, each participant uploads their pictures and other multimedia content to Commons, writes articles about the area in Wikipedia, etc.

WMES *Wiki Takes* in numbers:

7 Rural *Wiki Takes* in 3 years

+5000 Pictures uploaded to Wikimedia Commons

+10 Wikimedians actively involved in the events

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