## **Banco de Boquerones**

Fuengirola Town Hall wanted to pay tribute to the seafaring origins of the city with a sculpture that simulates a shoal of anchovies on the Promenade. Work is currently underway for the definitive installation of this work, which is located in the square where the old El Bote restaurant used to be. The project created by Tomás Castillo is made up of hundreds of this type of fish. The Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Culture, Rodrigo Romero, together with the councillor responsible for the Torreblanca neighbourhood, María Hernández, travelled to this part of the city to check the advanced state of the work. This is a new action included in the Municipal Beautification Plan promoted by the government team.

"We have a new immersive artistic work that has been placed in the Promenade, in the same place where the old El Bote beach bar was before, in Torreblanca, which comes to improve the surroundings not only of this promenade but of this area of our city. I think it is a real beauty and is the work of Tomás Castillo, an artist from Tarifa, whose work has always been closely related to nature and the sea", explained Romero, emphasise that "the work forms a shoal of anchovies, specifically, one thousand and one, consists of a modular structure in the form of a spiral made of steel; and in it the passer-by can interact with it by going inside".

As they explained, this sculpture is made up of nine interlinked modules, each one consisting of two pillars, a base and a cover. The stainless steel fish, about 40 centimetres wide, are anchored to the structure irregularly and at different heights.

Before concluding, Romero highlighted that "what we intend with this project is to take culture and art out into the street, as in addition to beautifying the spaces where they are installed, it promotes new social interactions in these chosen environments. With this initiative, the City Council is paying tribute to something that is so much our own, to our seafaring roots. Moreover, it is an immersive work in which you can get inside and see what life is like inside a shoal of fish. This is one more artistic element that not only beautifies our city, but also attracts people eager to take pictures that they will upload to their social networks. We hope that it generates a lot of interaction and that the people of Fuengirola and visitors like it, as it is also very much related to our roots".

