

junctions with the Genoa Cornigliano Motorway, the new road system in the Polcevera Valley, and the new District Park.

The waterfront of Las Palmas

The area of Vegueta is the historic center of Las Palmas and the site of the earliest European settlement. It is located at the mouth of the Barranco de Guinguada. Cobble streets and two-story colonial architecture define the area. The cathedral, the Museum of Columbus, Casa de Colón, the Fine Arts Museum, the Museo Canario, the Sacred Heart Museum of the Diocese and the Courts of Justice are located in this area. The Mercado de Vegueta, the municipal market, is the oldest of four markets in the city and is located at the mouth of the Barranco de Guinguada. The historic trade and administration area, located around the Calle Mayor de Triana, houses the Teatro Pérez Galdós, the Island Cultural Center, the Central Library, and the Presidency of the Autonomous Government. This area is now a pedestrian zone.

Most of the public authorities are located in the area around the Multiple Service Building. The Autonomous Government departments are located here. A number of institutional and administrative bodies are located in the area of Juan XXIII, such as the headquarters of the presidency of the Autonomous Government of the Canary Archipelago, the Department of Economy and Commerce, the Island Water Council, and the Comisaría de Policía (Police Headquarters). In the area around Mesa y López, in particular in the area between the Naval Base and the Plaza de España, is the main shopping area. The area has two large department stores constructed in the 1970s. The Parque Santa Catalina is one of the major tourist and recreation areas in the city, with restaurants and gift stores. This area has also been converted to a pedestrian zone. The beach at Las Canteras is a hub of leisure and tourism in the city, being a sandy beach some three kilometers long. The beach has hotels, apartments,

7.9 View across Puerto de la Luz, Las Palmas.

