



Fundación
Starlight



STARLIGHT STELLAR PARKS AND STARLIGHT STELLARIUM OR STARLIGHT STELLAR GAZER INFORMATION

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- **INTRODUCTION**

The Starlight Foundation has created a System of Certification, supported by the UNESCO, the International Astronomic Union (IAU) and the Knowledge Network of the World Tourism Organization (WTO), for the protection of night skies as part of our natural resources and, additionally, to promote associated scientific, cultural, and landscape values.

The two main modalities are: “Starlight Tourist Destination” and “Starlight Reserves”. But, there are other types of accreditations. One of them is “Stellar Parks” and “Stellariums”.

“Stellar Parks” are a simple, permanent infrastructure installed in areas with a clear, dark sky. They allow leisure activities related to the contemplation of the stars and astronomical observation.

Usually, amateur astronomers can find facilities for observation in a “Stellar Park”. Since they are close to urban areas, it is necessary to protect them from light pollution, taking advantage of the topography of the location. These actions should be reinforced with specific actions by the municipality or private entities to adapt artificial lighting.



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“Stellariums” are defined as rural areas -not necessarily large places- generally belonging to municipalities that protect its night sky enough to allow observational, educational, cultural or recreational activities linked to astronomical events (passing comets, eclipses of the sun and moon, planet alignments, meteor showers, etc.).

They are “viewpoints open to the sky”, promoted by governments, organizations or private entities to encourage interest in the contemplation of the heavens and astronomical knowledge among the public.

“Stellariums” are intended to facilitate the cultural and educational knowledge of the Universe and provide a basic tool to groups and associations of amateur astronomers for their observations.

These facilities can be located in places with good sky quality (Reserves / Destinations) or locations with a lower quality sky but with good conditions to for observation.



- **ACREDITATION PROCEDURE- STARLIGHT STELLAR PARK**

Phases:

➤ **Phase – Pre-registration**

The first step to be performed by the petitioner is filling in the registration form (Application Pack), in which some informative data about the place, the responsible entity... must be gathered. And for which it will be necessary to carry out some sky quality measurements.

Once completed, this form shall be sent to the Foundation, together with the signature of a document that gathers the accession commitment to the values contained in the “Declaration on the Defence of the Night Sky and the Right to Starlight”, Magna Carta of the Foundation, emanated from the I Starlight International Conference and in whose elaboration, in addition to the Canary Islands Astrophysics Institute (IAC) actively intervened representatives of UNESCO, UNWTO, IAU, UNEP-CMS, CE, SCBD, COE, MAB programme and Ramsar Convention, in addition to other institutions. The Foundation would send these documents to them. At the same time that the Application Pack and the accession document are submitted, the payment of the pre-registration¹ is a necessary prerequisite.

Once the documentation has been studied by our experts and, in the event of regarding the candidate as susceptible of accreditation, the next phases will be initiated.

¹The pre-inscription fee is 500 euro to be paid into the account ES41 2100 9040 19 2200182707 (La Caixa).



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➤ **Phase- Audit**

Once accepted the application, the petitioner must proceed with the payment of the audit and of the accreditation². Sometimes, it is necessary the visit of the auditors. In this case, the fees of the auditors and experts who will study the Report will be born by the Starlight Foundation. Travel expenses, travel, accommodation and maintenance, would be born by the petitioner. The established accommodation and maintenance fees are the official ones for employees of the public administration type B in Spain.

➤ **Phase- Accreditation**

After the finally study, the Starlight Foundation shall forward the certificate accrediting the condition of “Starlight Stellar Park”.

The accreditation will be renovated with the annual payment of the Starlight fee.

² The cost of Accreditation is 1.200 euro for year (to be paid into the account ES41 2100 9040 19 2200182707 (La Caixa).



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- **BUDGET**

Concept	Price
Pre-inscription	500 €
Acreditation	1.200 €
Total	1.700 €³

³ Should there be applicable taxes, they would have to be added to this total price.