



Andalucía



Andalucía, Spain's southernmost territory, is a land of flamenco, sherry wine, the pure bred Andalusian horse and charming castles and monasteries. This is an area that has, over time, come under the influence of Iberians, Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Greeks, Romans, Vandals, Visigoths, Byzantines, Moors and of course the catholic kings who finally expelled the Moors, who had occupied the region for 500 years, in 1492.



Granada

Visit the Sacramonte district of Granada where you will find flamenco performances in whitewashed caves, typical restaurants, gypsies selling their goods and great views over the city and royal palaces.



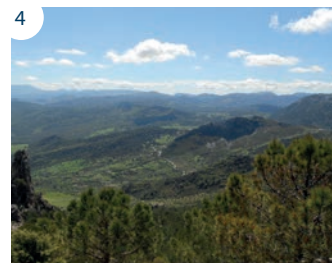
UNESCO World Heritage

Andalucía has 7 World Heritage Sites - six cultural and one natural. Most of the cultural sites are located in cities or towns including Granada, Seville, Córdoba, Úbeda and Baeza.



Costa de la Luz

The Coast of Light is an area of unspoiled, fine, golden sand beaches with turquoise waters on the southern Andalusian coastline west of Tarifa.



Viewpoint

Above Grazalema, en route to Zahara de la Sierra, is a winding mountain road leading to an excellent viewpoint. A stop here is a must to admire the extensive panorama below.

Seville – the capital of Andalucía

With mild winters and plenty of sunshine, Seville is as an ideal, year-round destination. With narrow lanes, beautiful buildings and courtyards full of flowers, those who enjoy sightseeing and seek history and art will not be disappointed.

Las Casas de la Juderia Hotel, Seville

On the edge of the Jewish quarter, which most faithfully conserves the appearance of the city as it was and is now known as the quarter of Santa Cruz, the Duke of Segorbe has converted a former mansion into a hotel. But he did not stop there. Over 30 years he added to the project by converting adjacent Jewish dwellings, 47 in total, to create the most amazing complex of houses, each sensitively renovated to preserve their character into a unique hotel of 175 rooms. This is a friendly hotel, full of character, charm and adventure.

Accommodation: 175 air-conditioned rooms including single rooms, economical rooms, standard rooms, superior rooms and junior suites.

- Airport: 12km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Historic centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Spa

Guide price from **£624 per person***



Vinci La Rabida Hotel, Seville

Located on the quiet Calle de Castelar in the old town and a 5 minute walk to the Cathedral, the hotel was originally an 18th century palace. The entrance opens onto a traditional, gracious and spacious inner courtyard atrium with ample, comfortable seating in a very relaxed atmosphere. The conversion of the property into a hotel has been sensitively managed with many of the original features of the palace having been preserved, especially in the grand dining room which opens onto a second patio where breakfast can also be taken.

Accommodation: 81 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms and suites.

- Airport: 12km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£636 per person***

Casa Romana Boutique Hotel, Seville

The Casa Romana, a family owned hotel, is centrally located in the city's old town and within easy walking distance of the Cathedral, the Jewish quarter, the Royal Alcazar and the city's many shopping streets. In common with many of Seville's mansion houses, the entrance opens into a cool, tiled lobby area which continues to the traditional patio onto which the rooms open at several floor levels. Furnishings are light and contemporary and overall the hotel has a homely and familiar feel.

Accommodation: 26 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms, deluxe rooms and a junior suite.

- Airport: 11km Seville
- 4-star boutique hotel
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi

Guide price from **£725 per person***



* Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 3 nights, flights from London to Seville (other airports on request) and transfers. Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

Andalucía

It is the culture and physical beauty of Andalucía which attracts the more discerning traveller. Here was the birthplace of Flamenco, the pure bred Andalusian horse, the source of Sherry wines and, some say, tapas. There are also 260 kilometres of fine sand beaches along, the mostly undeveloped, Costa de la Luz.

Inglaterra Hotel, Seville

Conveniently located on the Plaza Nueva and 250 metres from Seville Cathedral, the Inglaterra is set in the heart of the city's historical quarter and opposite the town hall. The hotel company which owns the property is one of the oldest in Seville and was established in 1857, with the current building, in use as a hotel, since 1968. The decor is classic, with marble corridors and large rooms. The panoramic bar on the rooftop has beautiful views towards the Cathedral.

Accommodation: 86 air-conditioned rooms including classic rooms, deluxe rooms, junior suites and suites.

- Airport: 12km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£636 per person***



Finca Buenvino, Los Marines

Sam and Jeannie Chesterton arrived in these picturesque and unknown southern hills of Spain in 1983 and decided to build a home. The house is unique, as subsequently the area was designated a nature park and no further development was allowed. This is one of the longest established B&Bs in Andalucía. Buenvino is part house, part B&B, part farm and part cookery venue. You take the family as they are; 'shabby chic' as Sam describes it. This is a wonderful place to stay for those wishing to understand the region, the seasons,

and to admire wonderful landscapes.

Accommodation: 5 air-conditioned (ceiling or desk fans) rooms in the main house and two independent 2-bedroom cottages.

- Airport: 104km Seville
- Country house (pension)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Rural location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£998 per person***

La Breña Hotel, Los Caños de Meca

This small, personally run hotel is located across the road from two sandy, small cove beaches - in fact the whole area is sandy beach, sand dunes and umbrella pines. The views from the hotel are to the natural park, which begins 50 metres from the hotel, to the sea and to the lighthouse around which the naval battle of Trafalgar was fought. The hotel is notable for its excellent seafood restaurant. You are unlikely to want to eat elsewhere. A very popular small hotel with many repeat clients.

Accommodation: 7 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 86km Jerez / 98km Gibraltar / 177km Seville
- 2-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Coastal location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£892 per person***



* Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 3 nights (Inglaterra Hotel) or 7 nights, flights from London to Seville (other airports on request) and transfers (Seville) or car hire (Finca Buenvino and La Breña Hotel). Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

Parque Natural Los Alcornocales

Head off the beaten track to an area rich in archaeological, historical and natural interest. This parkland is filled with cork-oak trees, rugged and sometimes rolling hills and is great for nature walks and other outdoor pursuits.

Catalonia Reina Victoria Hotel, Ronda

This property was originally opened in 1908 in Victorian style and was totally renovated in 2012. With fabulous views over the superb Tajo Gorge and set in mature gardens of 3,000 sqm, this centrally located property is within easy walking distance (c.500 metres) of the many restaurants, cafés, bars and shops of Ronda. Guests can use the hotel as a base from which to explore the town and dramatic surrounding landscape or simply sit back and relax by the pool.

Accommodation: 95 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, terrace rooms, superior terrace rooms, junior suites and a suite.

- Airports: 115km Malaga / 118km Jerez / 142km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic centre location
- Restaurant
- Spa

Guide price from **£886 per person***



Fuerte Grazalema Hotel, Grazalema

The hotel nestles within the spectacular, mountainous Sierra de Grazalema Natural Park and is 5km away from the village. It is also only 20km from Ronda. Ideally located for walking, hiking, cycling, kayaking and horse riding this is a very friendly, family orientated hotel with activities for children, large rooms with extra beds and interconnecting rooms. Views from the hotel and the pool area over the Guadalete river valley and towards the village of Grazalema are breathtaking. The restaurant specialises in local gastronomy and game dishes.

Accommodation: 77 spacious rooms including classic rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 88km Jerez / 120km Málaga
- 4-star rural hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Rural location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£695 per person***

Los Tadeos Hotel, Zahara de la Sierra

The Tadeos is located about 500 metres from the village of Zahara and its castle. It is an excellent base for all activities in the Grazalema Natural Park which caters for walkers, hikers and horseback riders. The lake also facilitates water sports. The views from the hotel to the Lijar Mountains are panoramic, especially from the infinity swimming pool. The Tadeos is owner managed and decorated in typical Andalusian style. A very homely hotel, well located and a good centre for visiting the surrounding region as Ronda, Grazalema and other White Villages are within an easy drive.

Accommodation: 17 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and superior rooms.

- Airports: 90km Jerez / 108km Seville / 139km Málaga
- Rural hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Rural location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£656 per person***



* Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 7 nights, flights from London to Málaga (other airports on request) and car hire. Note: We cannot guarantee that any of our featured properties are suitable for all levels of disability so please ask if you have specific issues. Please visit our website for further information on these and other featured properties.

The Province of Cádiz

This diverse area contains many places of interest from Jerez, famous for its sherry production and flamenco music, to the white village of Arcos with its magnificent hilltop views, and the ancient port town of Cádiz, with more than 100 watchtowers.

Casa Shelly Hospedería, Vejer de la Frontera

Nestling in one of Vejer's narrow streets, within the ancient walls, is this absolutely charming, tastefully renovated, owner-managed guesthouse. Casa Shelly feels more like a home where the attention to detail is clearly evident throughout. Moorish influence is everywhere, from the atrium to the gentle trickling water fountain in the courtyard. With under floor heating and tastefully decorated comfortable bedrooms you could not wish for a better base in this picturesque town. Just beyond your doorstep is a good selection of restaurants and bars for breakfast (not included).

Accommodation: 7 rooms including a single room, courtyard room, blue room, green room, small double room with terrace, superior room with terrace and junior suite.

- Airports: 75km Jerez / 90km Gibraltar / 156km Seville
- Boutique Guesthouse
- Accommodation only
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic town centre location

Guide price from **£840 per person***



Palacio Garvey Hotel, Jerez de la Frontera

This perfectly situated, stylishly decorated, independent hotel was built in 1850 as the grand residence of the Garvey family; a sherry dynasty. The property was restored in 2005 and the colonial, neoclassical architectural style carefully preserved. The hotel is located inside the Moorish wall of the old town which it overlooks. Shops, delightful squares, restaurants and cafes are all around. A hotel with exceptional character.

Accommodation: 16 air-conditioned, individually decorated, rooms including standard rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 13km Jerez / 100km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic city centre location
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£1,232 per person***

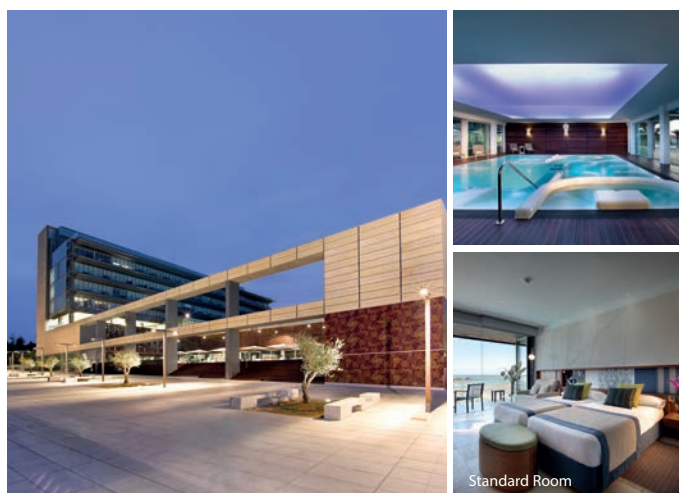
Parador de Cádiz, Cádiz

Right on the sea front and a 10 minute walk from the historic centre of the city; the Parador de Cádiz is one of the ultra modern breeds of Parador. The building is all glass, wood, marble, clean cut lines and spectacular views to the ocean, especially from the pool area which almost blends in with the ocean. The common areas are bright and spacious. The rooms are full of natural light with contemporary furnishings and large balconies or terraces. The modern spa is a delight with its indoor pool and wide range of spa treatments.

Accommodation: 124 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 46km Jerez / 134km Seville
- 4-star Parador (Modern)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pools
- Spa
- Water front location

Guide price from **£998 per person***



Standard Room

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Granada, Córdoba & Málaga

The region of Andalucía has much to offer including the UNESCO World Heritage cities of Granada (the Alhambra, Generalife and Albayzin) and Córdoba (the Great Mosque-Cathedral) and the escalating art scene growing in Málaga (Picasso Museum).

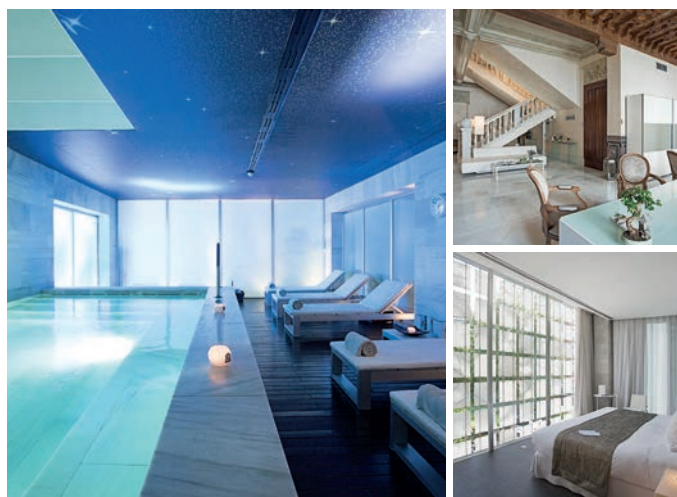
Hospes Palácio de los Patos, Granada

The elegant 5-star Palácio with alabaster white interiors is centrally located in the historical and financial heart of Granada with shops and restaurants in the immediate vicinity. The Alhambra Palace which is on the edge of the city is a 25 minute walk. The hotel is composed of two buildings, the 19th century Patos Palace, a majestic, historical and cultural building which has been sensitively restored and an elegant new building opposite, set behind alabaster latticework. This is a true grand hotel, with elegant gardens and a sophisticated spa.

Accommodation: 42 air-conditioned rooms including dreamer rooms, deluxe rooms, junior suites and suites.

- Airports: 19km Granada / 135km Malaga
- 5-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historical centre location
- Indoor pool
- Restaurant
- Spa

Guide price from **£1,093 per person***



Las Casas de la Juderia, Córdoba

Perfectly located in the old town of the city, the 4 star, Las Casas de la Juderia is a fusion of 5 historic, noble, houses, created with maximum respect to the buildings' architecture and history. What has been created is a perfect, charming hotel with guest rooms spread across winding and labyrinthine corridors and courtyards which lead to Roman ruins, intimate alcoves and tinkling fountains. Once you have crossed the threshold, you are surrounded by the city's past and great beauty, where peace and calm can be enjoyed.

Accommodation: 64 air-conditioned rooms including classic rooms, deluxe rooms, junior suites and penthouse rooms.

- Airports: 132km Seville / 167km Malaga
- 4-star boutique hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic centre location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£855 per person***

Parador de Málaga Gibralfaro, Málaga

The Parador enjoys a fabulous view, over the city of Málaga and its bay, from its position high up on the hill from which it takes its name, Mount Gibralfaro. Built next to the Gibralfaro Castle, the Parador offers a location where you are within easy reach of the city and from where you can admire the beauty of the Mediterranean. Modern in style and built out of stone, the property provides comfortable rooms and common areas, a rooftop swimming pool and a restaurant offering a cuisine from the Axarquía region of the province of Málaga.

Accommodation: 38 air-conditioned rooms including standard and superior rooms.

- Airport: 12km Málaga
- 4-star Parador
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- City location
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£818 per person***



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The Province of Jaén

Gentle landscapes of imposing natural beauty - two thirds of which are carpeted with olive groves - plus craggy mountain ranges, natural parks, lakes and reservoirs and a wealth of cathedrals, palaces and castles in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque style await visitors to this province.

Puerta de la Luna Hotel, Baeza

This 16th century palace within Baeza's old town and around 50 metres from the cathedral has been converted into a charming hotel with 44 rooms. The honey stone walls, columns and heavy wooden doors speak volumes about the history of this beautiful building and the magical town within which it is set. The courtyard where the pool is set is of perfect dimensions. The rooms are modern and spacious and the service courteous and efficient. An excellent base from which to explore this delightful UNESCO World Heritage city.

Accommodation: 44 air-conditioned rooms including confort rooms, boutique rooms, family rooms and suites.

- Airports: 133km Granada / 250km Malaga / 265km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£680 per person***



Parador de Úbeda, Úbeda

On one of the most impressive and monumental squares to be found in Andalucía, the Plaza de Vazquez Molina stands the palace of Dom Fernando Ortego Salido, the 16th century Dean of Málaga. The exterior facade hides a beautiful inner courtyard, typical of Andalusian palaces, with a double gallery, the upper section of which is glazed and from which the bedrooms are accessed. The upper section of the gallery is reached by a very grand staircase from the reception area.

Accommodation: 36 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms and a junior suite.

- Airports: 138km Granada / 250km Málaga
- 4-star Parador (Monument)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic centre location
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£897 per person***

Parador de Cazorla, Cazorla

In a prime location for nature lovers, in the heart of the Sierra de Cazorla, Segura and Las Villas National Park, is where you will find the Parador de Cazorla, surrounded with pine tree covered mountain slopes, dense vegetation and fauna, beautiful views and serenity. Providing humble accommodation, the property is perfectly placed for hiking in the mountains and other outdoor activities. The Parador restaurant, at 1400m above sea level, is the highest restaurant in the Nature Reserve and its menu includes seasonal game dishes and house specialities.

Accommodation: 34 rooms with a ceiling fan including standard rooms, superior rooms and two junior suites.

- Airports: 211km Granada / 290km Málaga
- 3-star Parador (Modern)
- Half Board
- Restaurant
- Rural location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£722 per person***



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Fortified Spain – The Frontera Towns

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

The province of Cadiz has numerous 'Frontier' towns, many of whose roots date from Islamic times. Filled with narrow, cobbled streets, historic buildings and whitewashed houses, these old towns were established by Christians many centuries ago to recapture Spain from the Moors.

Day One: On arrival at Seville airport collect your hire car and self drive (c.1 hour 30 minutes) to the Parador in Arcos de la Frontera. The Parador enjoys an enviable position, at the top of the historic hilltop town of Arcos, with spectacular views over the plains and Guadalete River below.

Day Two: Day at leisure. Spend the day exploring Arcos de la Frontera starting at Plaza Cabildo, the heart of the old town, with its panoramic viewpoint and impressive church of Santa María de la Asuncion. Alternatively, head further afield to Jimena de la Frontera (c.2 hours). The drive takes you via country roads, through the Natural Park of Alcornocales. Jimena de la Frontera itself boasts a Moorish castle where, on a clear day, the views from its vantage point above the town are breathtaking.

Day Three: After breakfast, drive to Casa Shelly Hospedería in Vejer de la Frontera (c.1 hour 15

minutes), located in the historic pedestrianised centre (free parking is available on the outskirts of town). Vejer has a Moorish feel and retains much of its 15th century walls. Narrow cobbled streets, a castle with its small museum, two surviving original gateways, the 'Divino Salvador' church, a Jewish quarter and the Plaza de España – Vejer's pretty main square, are some of the many gems to be seen here.

Day Four: Day at leisure. Vejer is in the Costa de la Luz (Coast of Light) area of Spain, an area renowned for its spectacular unspoilt beaches which are within easy reach. Conil de la Frontera, on the Costa de la Luz, is a beach town south of Cadiz and is popular with tourists due to its atmospheric evenings. Although not best known for its monuments, there are a few which can still be seen in the old town. Slightly more inland, on a hill, you will find Chiclana de la Frontera, a historic town dating from 1303. Famous for its dolls, it is home to what is believed to be the oldest doll factory in the country – La Fábrica Museo de Muñecos Marín.

Day Five: Today, depart Vejer de la Frontera and drive to the city of Jerez de la Frontera (c.1 hour), to the Villa Jerez Hotel. Once a private residence to a sherry dynasty, the hotel is located within easy reach of the old walled town of Jerez (c.15 minute

walk) and offers free parking. The famous Spanish riding school, one of the highlights of the city, is nearby and performances take place twice weekly (Tuesdays and Thursdays).

Day Six: Day at leisure. Jerez de la Frontera is famous for its sherry and flamenco. Throughout the city you will find 'bodegas' open to the public, where it is possible to view how this fortified wine is made as well as partake in some sherry tasting. Flamenco can be seen, and most importantly felt, in some of the 'Tabancos' in Jerez, with regular events taking place. Wander around the city, there is so much to see – the valuable Alcázar de Jerez, the cathedral, the 15th century Church of Santiago and picturesque squares filled with cafés, serving delicious tapas, to name but a few.

Day Seven: Day at leisure. Spend your last day re-visiting your favourite site or head to Calle Larga for a spot of shopping. This popular and long semi-pedestrian historic street has some of the best shops in the city. Or for a spot of pampering, seek out the Hammam (Arab Baths).

Day Eight: After breakfast, drive to Seville airport (c.1 hour 15 minutes) for your return flight to the UK.

* Guide price based on 2-sharing includes:

- Flights from London to Seville (other airports on request)
- 7-days car hire
- 2-nights Parador de Arcos, Arcos de la Frontera BB - See website
- 2-nights Casa Shelly Hospedería, Vejer de la Frontera BB - Page 90
- 3-nights Villa Jerez Hotel, Jerez de la Frontera BB - See website

Departures

Daily (all year)

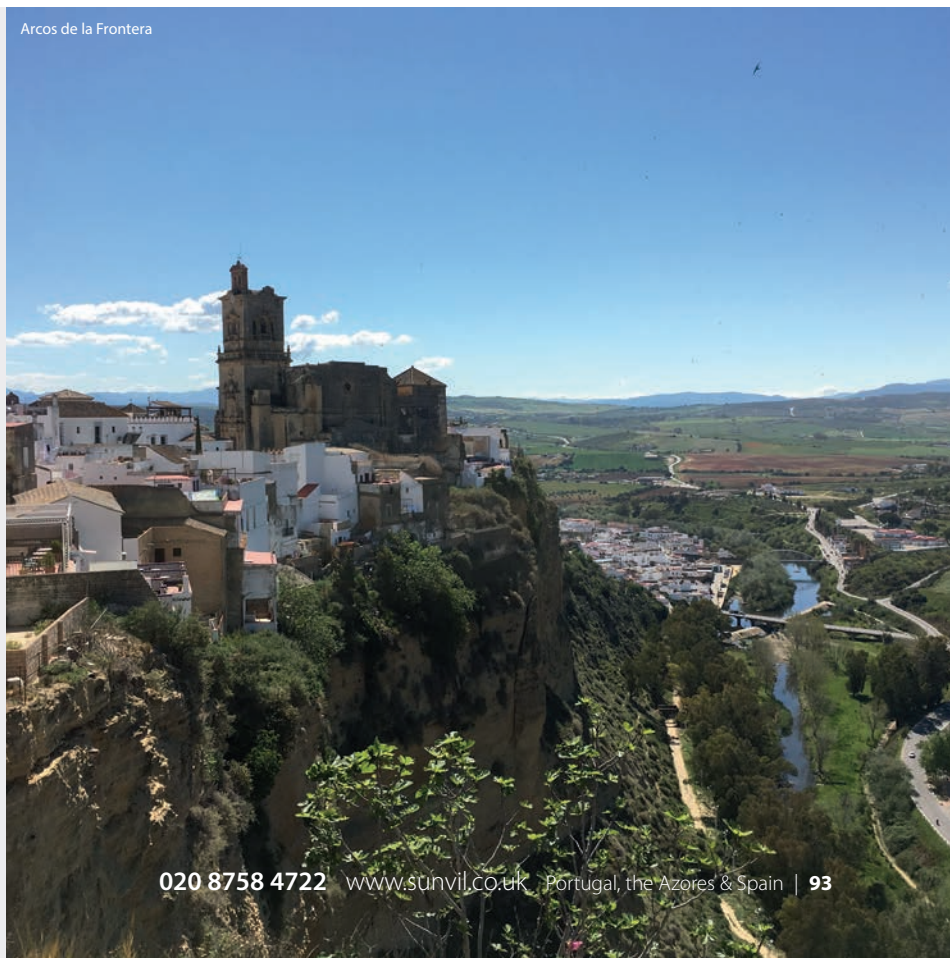
Duration

7 nights

Guide price from

£970 per person*

Arcos de la Frontera





Seville Cathedral



Cádiz

*Guide price based on 2-sharing includes:

- Flight from London Gatwick to Seville (other airports on request)
- Private transfer on arrival (Day 1)
- 3-nights Las Casas de la Juderia Hotel, Seville BB - Page 87
- 2-nights Palacio Garvey Hotel, Jerez de la Frontera BB - Page 90
- 2-nights Parador de Cádiz, Cádiz BB - Page 90
- Train ticket from Seville to Jerez de la Frontera (Day 4)
- Train ticket from Jerez de la Frontera to Cádiz (Day 6)
- Train ticket from Cádiz to Seville (Day 8)
- Note: Transfers to/from train stations are not included

Departures

Daily (all year)

Duration

7 nights

Guide price from

£984 per person*

Seville, Jerez de la Frontera and Cádiz

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

Our 7-night itinerary takes you to three exciting cities in Andalucía that are connected by train. Train travel is a wonderful way of exploring at leisure the many treasures the region has to offer. Feel free to design your own holiday as the itineraries can be as busy or as relaxed as you want them to be.

Day One – Seville: On arrival at Seville airport you will be transferred to Las Casas de la Juderia Hotel. The hotel is centrally located on the edge of the Jewish quarter, which most faithfully conserves the appearance of the city as it was in the 15th century and is now known as the quarter of Santa Cruz.

Day Two: Day at leisure. Discover the delights of this charming city with its narrow lanes, beautiful old buildings and courtyards full of flowers. The city has a strong Moorish influence and special points of interest include the UNESCO World Heritage sites of the 13th century Cathedral – the world's largest gothic church and home to the tomb of Christopher Columbus; and the incredibly ornate Royal Alcázar – a mini version of the Alhambra Palace in Granada and also one of the settings for the kingdoms

of Dorne and Meereen in episodes of 'Game of Thrones'.

Day Three: Day at leisure. The open top hop-on hop-off buses are a great way to get around the city. One of the first stops, not to be missed, is the magnificent square 'Plaza de España' in the Parque de María Luisa, built in 1928 for the Ibero-American Exposition of 1929.

Day Four – Jerez de la Frontera: After breakfast, self-transfer to Seville train station for your train to Jerez de la Frontera (c.75 minutes). On arrival, self-transfer to the Palacio Garvey Hotel. The hotel is located inside the remains of the Moorish wall of the old town which it overlooks with shops, delightful squares, restaurants and cafés all around. In the afternoon get a feel for the city and head towards the Calle Larga, a long shopping street in the heart of the town. This is where the best shops can be found and where there are many pavement cafés to people watch and enjoy a drink with some delicious tapas.

Day Five: Day at leisure. Jerez is synonymous with sherry, equestrian tradition and flamenco. There are numerous Flamenco recitals in Peña Flamenca clubs dotted around the city. The traditional Bulería

Festival is in September and the International Flamenco Festival in February-March each year.

Day Six – Cádiz: After breakfast, self-transfer to Jerez train station for your train to Cádiz (c.35 minutes). On arrival, self-transfer to the Parador de Cádiz. This modern parador is located on the waterfront, a 10 minute walk from the historic centre of the city and a 5 minute walk from Caletta beach. In the afternoon there is time to explore the vibrant city of Cádiz. This once fortified ancient centre and port has an old-world charm with an 18th century Cathedral, more than 100 watchtowers including the Torre Tavira which boasts some of the best views over the city, a maze of streets and narrow alleyways, wonderful beaches and excellent seafood.

Day Seven: Day at leisure. Why not spend the day relaxing at the beach. There are some fine sand beaches on the Costa de la Luz as well as city beaches like La Victoria.

Day Eight: After breakfast, self-transfer to the train station for your train to Seville (c.1 hour 40 minutes). On arrival, self-transfer to Seville airport for your flight to the UK.

Pueblos Blancos

Ronda – Grazalema – Zahara de la Sierra – Arcos de la Frontera

Itinerary: 8 days / 7 nights

Drive through the provinces of Málaga and Cadiz and you will encounter, scattered around the countryside, many 'Pueblos Blancos' – white villages and towns. Although they vary in size and topography they all share many features: whitewashed houses - some decorated with brightly coloured flower pots - red and brown tiled rooftops; historic buildings; cobble streets; narrow alleyways and, in most cases, a scenic countryside view.

Day One: On arrival at Málaga airport, collect your hire car and self drive to the Catalonia Reina Victoria Hotel in Ronda (90 minutes). Originally built in 1906, the hotel is located within walking distance of the historic centre and offers views over the Tajo Gorge.

Day Two: Day at leisure. Drive to nearby Benaolan, 25 minutes by car, a village of Moorish origin and, approximately 2km from here, you will find La Cueva del Gato (Cat's Cave). The Cave of La Pileta, famous for its prehistoric rock paintings, is on the road which takes you to Cortes de la Frontera.

Day Three: After breakfast, drive to the Fuerte Grazalema Hotel which is located 5km from the village of Grazalema. Grazalema is a traditional and attractive village with a main square, the Plaza de

España, which is filled with restaurants and bars. The Sierra de Grazalema has its own microclimate and, due to being the first high area that sea winds hit when coming in from the Atlantic, it is known to be the wettest place in Spain.

Day Four: Day at leisure. The nearby white villages of Benaocaz (20 minutes drive) with its Nazari neighbourhood – the oldest part of the village; picturesque Ubrique (30 minutes drive) with its rich history and famous leather industry; and Villaluenga del Rosario, the highest village in the province of Cadiz (15 minutes drive) with its caves dating back to the Neolithic period are all worthy of a visit.

Day Five: After breakfast, drive to Los Tadeos Hotel in Zahara de la Sierra. Perched on the edge of the village, the hotel is an excellent base from which to explore the Grazalema Natural Park. An old mountain road connects Grazalema with Zahara de la Sierra which, although scenic, taking you past the Puerto de las Palomas viewpoint, is a winding road with steep slopes and is not recommended at night.

Day Six: Day at leisure. Small in size, the white hilltop village of Zahara de la Sierra can be explored on foot from Los Tadeos Hotel. The heart of the village is the Plaza Mayor, Zahara's main square, where you will find the Church of Santa Maria de la Meza. Its Moorish castle, with its lookout tower

– the 'Torre del Homenaje', sit above the village and a picturesque view over the surrounding countryside can be enjoyed from here.

Day Seven: After breakfast, drive to La Casa Grande in Arcos de la Frontera (1 hour) – the gateway to the Pueblos Blancos. La Casa Grande, built in 1729, hugs the cliff edge of the old town and has a Moorish charm. The main square of the old town, Cabildo Square with its Peña Nueva viewpoint, are within walking distance of the hotel.

Day Eight: After breakfast, drive to Seville airport (75 minutes) for your return flight to the UK.



* Guide price based on 2-sharing includes:

- Flights from London Gatwick to Malaga and out of Seville (other airports on request)
- 7-days car hire
- 2-nights Catalonia Reina Victoria Hotel, Ronda BB - Page 89
- 2-nights Fuerte Grazalema Hotel, Grazalema BB - Page 89
- 2-nights Los Tadeos Hotel, Zahara de la Sierra BB - Page 89
- 1-night La Casa Grande, Arcos de la Frontera BB - See website

Note: Visits to the caves must be guided.

Departures
Daily

Duration
7 nights

Guide price from
£849 per person*

Zahara de la Sierra

