



Extremadura



Extremadura is a remote region, bordering Portugal, with areas of mountains, forests, steppes, lakes and nature reserves. The landscape is one of rolling hills and vast plains of cereals, enormous areas of cork oaks, holm oaks and olive trees. This wild region is also home to the black pig which, for the final

three months of its life (Oct-Dec), is allowed to roam free and eat the holm oak acorns. The resultant 'Jamón Iberico Puro Bellota' is a unique and much sought after ham.

Many famous conquistadors originated from Extremadura and went in search of the New World including Hernan Cortes and Andres Tapia, both from Medellin, and Francisco Pizarro who was born in Trujillo.



Iberian Black Footed Pig

In our opinion the wafer thin slices of ham from the black Iberian pig are the tastiest in the world. In the Extremadura this is a major industry though very much a cottage industry.



Cáceres and Trujillo

These are two of the most fascinating medieval towns in Spain, featuring the most beautifully preserved historical settlements. Many medieval inhabitants would hardly see a change in their surroundings.



Jarandilla de la Vera

The Vera and Jerte valleys and the Monfragüe National Park are perfect locations for hiking, cycling, horse riding, canoeing and swimming in natural pools.



Birdlife

The Monfragüe National Park and the Cornalvo Natural Park are now prime environments for migratory birds with an enormous diversity of birds and one of the prime regions in Europe for birdwatchers.

The Province of Cáceres

Delight in the plazas, cobbled streets and noble houses of the 16th century medieval town of Cáceres, and explore the green meadows, ancient cave dwellings and Roman bridges of Jarandilla de la Vera.

Palacio de Oquendo Hotel, Cáceres

A very elegant hotel, ideally located in San Juan II square, 200 metres from the main Square (Plaza Major), the ancient wall that surrounds the old town and the shopping and business areas of Cáceres. The building dates from the 16th century, with much granite and ancient stone in evidence. Meticulously restored but with state of the art amenities, the Palacio still keeps the magic and atmosphere of the original stately home of the Marquises of Oquendo. Though a hotel of 86 bedrooms, the Palacio does not feel like a large hotel. It has an intimate feel.

Accommodation: 86 air-conditioned rooms including single superior rooms, superior rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 264km Seville / 313km Madrid Barajas
- 4-star NH Collection hotel
- Bed & Breakfast
- Historic centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£866 per person***



Parador de Cáceres, Cáceres

Located in the heart of the old city, this is an elegant and chic Parador in what was once a renaissance palace. Many of the original features of the building have been kept, with vaulted ceilings, granite pillars and colonnades very much in evidence. Room facilities here are very modern but very much in keeping with the traditional style of the palace. The Parador has a small shaded garden to one side. The restaurant features traditional local cuisine with Iberian lamb shank and Iberian pork loin being specialities.

Accommodation: 39 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms and superior rooms.

- Airports: 266km Seville / 314km Madrid Barajas
- Historic Parador (Monument)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Historic centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant

Guide price from **£993 per person***

Parador de Jarandilla, Jarandilla de la Vera

The pretty village of Jarandilla de la Vera, located in the province of Cáceres, is surrounded by attractive countryside and historic sites of interest. The Romans, Visigoths and Moors have all left their mark and can be seen in the cave paintings, settlements, ceramics and bridges throughout the region. Originally the castle of the Counts of Oropesa, dating from the mid 15th century, the Parador today offers a place to rest and from which to explore. Monumental and historic, its predominant features include a parade ground, turrets, an attractive patio and a spacious Gothic gallery.

Accommodation: 52 air-conditioned rooms including single rooms, standard rooms, standard plus rooms and superior rooms.

- Airport: 235km Madrid Barajas
- 4-star Parador (Castle)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Rural village location
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£733 per person***



* Guide prices based on 2-sharing a leading room type for 7 nights, flights from London to Madrid (Jarandilla de la Vera) or Seville (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.

Trujillo, Mérida & Zafra

Trujillo has to be one of the most beautiful and perfect villages in Spain with an enchanting main square. Mérida retains an extensive collection of Roman ruins and has a fabulous museum and bridge. Zafra is a charming white town known as little Seville. Nearby Guadalupe is a must.

Izan Trujillo Hotel, Trujillo

The Izan Trujillo hotel is a friendly and very well located hotel, being about a 6 minute walk from the hotel to the main square 'Plaza Mayor'. Located in the 16th century former Convent of San Antonio, it is a classical baroque style building. Like all palaces, monasteries and convents, the hotel has an atrium/colonnaded courtyard where the bar and ample seating is provided. Being just outside the historic centre with its narrow streets, the hotel is in a quiet location and parking is available in the square outside the hotel.

Accommodation: 77 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, junior suites and a suite.

- Airport: 267km Madrid / 285km Seville
- 4-star hotel
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£782 per person***



Parador de Mérida, Mérida

Located in the heart of the city, the parador was originally an 18th century convent built above a Roman temple dedicated to the goddess Concordia and the Augustan religion. The building has also been used as a hospital, an asylum and even a prison. There are still items of interest featured in the interior cloister, dating from Mudejar, Roman and Visigothic times. This is a rambling, building with large bedrooms, minimalist in its furnishings and with most definitely a rather mystical, monastic feel.

Accommodation: 82 air-conditioned rooms including standard rooms, superior rooms and junior suites.

- Airports: 199km Seville / 361km Madrid Barajas
- 4-star Parador (Convent)
- Bed & Breakfast
- City centre location
- Complimentary WiFi
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£827 per person***

Parador de Zafra, Zafra

This grand 15th century castle, once the residence of the Dukes of Feria, is located in the Medieval quarter of Zafra. Today, it serves as a 4-star hotel with beautiful ceilings, antique furniture, intricate ironwork and large, elegant guestrooms. The exterior is equally impressive with a spectacular façade, nine Moorish towers, well maintained gardens and an outdoor swimming pool. Zafra is a captivating town located in southern Extremadura half way between Seville and Caceres and which is known locally as 'Little Seville' (La Sevilla Chica). Its main feature is the castle that now serves as the Parador.

Accommodation: 51 air-conditioned rooms including classic rooms, superior rooms, a junior suite and a suite.

- Airport: 143km Seville
- 4-star Parador (Monument)
- Bed & Breakfast
- Complimentary WiFi
- Historic centre location
- Restaurant
- Swimming pool

Guide price from **£818 per person***



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Zafra



Mérida

* Guide price based on 2-sharing includes:

- Flights from London to Seville, returning from Madrid (other airports on request)
- 8-days car hire
- 2-nights Parador de Zafra, Zafra BB
- 2-nights Parador de Cáceres, Cáceres BB
- 2-nights Parador de Guadalupe, Guadalupe BB
- 2-nights Parador de Plasencia, Plasencia BB

Departures
Daily

Duration
8 nights

Guide price from
£893 per person*

Exciting Extremadura

Zafra – Cáceres – Guadalupe – Plasencia

Itinerary: 9 days / 8 nights

One of the least known yet most fascinating regions of Spain, Extremadura is a remote region, bordering Portugal, with areas of mountains, forests, steppes, lakes and nature reserves.

Day One – Zafra: On arrival at Seville airport collect your hire car and self drive (142km /c.1 hour 30 minutes) to the Parador in Zafra.

Day Two: Day at leisure. Zafra is a captivating town to explore - known locally as 'Little Seville' (La Sevilla Chica). Its main feature is the castle, formerly a Moorish fortress that now serves as the Parador.

Day Three – Cáceres: After breakfast, drive to Cáceres (137km /c.1 hour 20 minutes) via Mérida. Founded by the Romans in the 1st century B.C, Mérida is rich in Roman architecture from the still-used Romano Theatre and Roman Bridge spanning 792m across the Guadiana River to the chariot racing Circus Maximus and the largest Roman Art Museum in Europe outside Rome.

Day Four: Day at leisure. Explore the impressive UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cáceres. The city has been shaped over the centuries by Roman, Arab, Jewish and Christian rule which have all left their mark. Walk through the labyrinth of streets and squares with its many ancient arches and towers, Arabic walls and medieval fortified houses. The town is particularly atmospheric at night.

Day Five – Guadalupe: Today, depart for the Parador de Guadalupe (128km /c.1 hour 50 minutes) with a stop en route at Trujillo - one of the most fascinating medieval towns in Spain. On top of a hill overlooking the centre of Trujillo is a fortress which affords fabulous views over the town and surrounding area. There is a small, fascinating museum - the Casa Museo de Pizarro (his former home), which highlights the life and times of the conquistador Francisco Pizarro, who conquered the Inca Empire.

Day Six: Day at leisure. Take a walk through this historic village with its cobbled streets, traditional houses and most famous monument - the Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe which has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day Seven – Plasencia: After breakfast, drive to your final destination, Plasencia. The Parador offers the perfect location from which to explore the ancient city and its beautiful surrounding landscapes. The city centre, declared a Cultural Heritage Site, has a wealth of historic buildings, palaces, cathedrals, an aqueduct, medieval walls and fortified towers and gates.

Day Eight: Day at leisure. Visit the Sierra de Gata Mountains and Jerte River Valley. Here you will see gushing waterfalls, nature trails, pretty historic towns and taste the local delicacies such as the delicious Ibérico ham and exquisite Torta del Casar cheese. If you visit the Jerte valley in spring you will also see the cherry trees in blossom. The valley is ablaze with white petals which only happens for a couple of weeks towards the end of March and the beginning of April - subject to weather conditions.

Day Nine: After breakfast, drive to Madrid airport (265km / c.2 hours 35 minutes) for your flight home.