

# An Andalusian Affair Tour

- an adventure from our backyard -

**10 days & 9 nights: Find out what the South of Spain has to offer!**



The typical image people have of Spain - the vibrant flamenco dancer in a bright-colored dress, singing in a whitewashed patio of a tiny village surrounded by a sea of olive fields under a crystal blue sky - no doubt comes from Andalucía.

However, there is much, much more to this part of Spain. In addition, we'll explore serene garden palaces at the foot of snow-capped mountains, cool dense shaded pine forests, quiet trout river paths and magical buzzing cities...and yes, all under a crystal blue sky!

## Day 1: Córdoba and its Mezquita

We meet in Córdoba and welcome you to your Fresco Tours Vacation. After a short orientation meeting, we take to the streets to see the one-time cultural capital of the Western World, Córdoba. Here our local guide will lead us through the fascinating Mezquita, started in the 8th century. Its mesmerizing forest of pillars capped with horseshoe arches and its uniquely integrated 16th century Cathedral creates an unforgettable contrast.

**Accommodations: Córdoba (D)**

\*We are happy to provide assistance in arranging your transportation to Córdoba..

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch & D=Dinner



## Day 2: La Subbética, the Heart of Andalucía

Today, we enter into the hills of the Subbética Natural Park south of Córdoba. Our day begins as we lace up our boots and walk through vast olive tree groves and into the picturesque village of Zuheros de la Sierra. Next, we stop at one of the finest olive oil manufacturers in Spain to learn about the process of extracting this liquid gold. Afterwards, we finish the day by shuttling to Granada, where Ferdinand and Isabella celebrated the completion of the Reconquista in 1492.

**Accommodations: Granada (B,L,D) / Walking: 12 km or 7 mi**

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## Day 3: Magical Granada and the Alhambra

After a delicious breakfast, we begin to explore Granada by investigating the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Alhambra. Our local historian recounts the splendors of this palace city that was built in the 13th and 14th century. Once inside the Patio of Lions, one can understand why this is the second most visited monument in Europe as our imagination takes us to another era. We finish the night with a fine meal in the hilly and winding streets of the Albayzin with unmatched views of the Alhambra!

Accommodations: Granada (B,L,D)



## Day 4: Strolling the Sierra Nevada

After a day of city walking, we have two options:

- A) You can take it easy, stay in town and continue exploring Granada's treasures; perhaps even indulge at one of the local *hammam* (Turkish baths).
- B) Or you can accompany your guides on a nearby hike and get some fresh air. Granada is surrounded by amazing hiking trails as the Sierra Nevada, continental Spain's highest mountain range, is not too far away.

Accommodations: Granada (B. L) / Walking: 8 km m or 5 mi

## Day 5: Antequera and Ronda

Leaving Granada for Ronda, we stop en route to explore the Antequera Dolmens World Heritage Site, located about halfway to our destination. We will first explore the unique karst landscape at Torcal, where we'll go for a short hike. After lunch we'll have time to visit the 5500-year-old dolmen site in Antequera. In the afternoon, after checking into our hotel in Ronda, we'll have time for a short walk before dinner for some views of the renown *Puente Nuevo* (New Bridge) and the gorge below.

Accommodations: Ronda (B. L, D) / Walking: 1.5 km or 1 mi



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## Day 6: Grazalema and the Pueblos Blancos

Today we visit the picture perfect village of Grazalema and the surrounding Grazalema Natural Park. Our hike will take us through pine and fir tree forests, providing a very different picture of southern Spain. Look out for the pinsapos, a unique fir tree that has survived since the last Ice Age. This rare evergreen is only found in remote areas of southern Spain and northern Morocco. After a delicious picnic lunch, we will return to Ronda for some well-deserved rest time.

Accommodations: Ronda (B, L, D) / Walking: 8 km or 5 mi

## Day 7: Costa de la Luz

Hopping in the van, we head to the spectacular Costa de la Luz, lesser known than the Costa del Sol, this area is less commercial and still has the charm of tiny fishing villages. We start the day with a coastal walk that takes us through protected pine forests. Here we may catch the glimpse of a little fishing boat heading out for sardines or anchovies, just as they have been doing for centuries! In the evening, we rest our tired legs with a glass of light white wine!

Accommodations: : Jerez (B, L, D) / Walking: 10 km or 6 mi



## Day 8: Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art

An exciting morning, we first visit the Museum of Equestrian Arts to learn about the important role of the Jerez-bred Carthusian horses. Next, we are treated to a spectacular exhibition where we witness these horses dancing. Afterwards, we sample some of Jerez's other famed prize - sherry wine in the old quarter of town!

Accommodations: Jerez (B, D)



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## Day 9: Seville, Soul of the South

After breakfast, we say goodbye to Jerez and transfer to Andalucía's soul - Seville! Here the electricity and passion of the South come together and make this city alive with an unmistakable energy. We will have a walk around town, but remember to take a siesta, because after our farewell dinner, the evening continues as we are treated to a powerful, exciting, Gitano-inspired Flamenco show!

Accommodations: Sevilla (B, L, D)



## Day 10: Seville / Itinerary ends

This morning begins with a guided tour by our local expert, who provides us with the insights to Seville's Cathedral, one of the largest in the world, the splendid Alcázar (Moorish fortress) and the charming Old Center. The tour finishes at noon, when we say our hasta pronto (till your next Fresco Tour) and muchas gracias!

(B)

Please note: this itinerary is subject to slight modifications due to hotel availability, weather, festivals & other occurrences.



Scan or click on the QR for more information.



# An Andalucian Affair Tour

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

### **2 Guides:**

Our greatest resource! We know Spain because it is our home. Both of your guides are experienced professionals that are either Spanish or live in Spain year-round – no hired out summer help!

In Córdoba, Granada, and Seville, we will be joined by local art historians, who will bring the monuments and cities to life!

\* Groups of 3 - 6 pax are accompanied by only 1 guide.



### **Meals:**

Food speaks volumes about a culture and we love to eat! During our walk days, when possible, we prepare gourmet picnics using the freshest of local ingredients and selecting the tastiest recipes of the region. All breakfast, lunches and dinners (except for one lunch and one dinner) are included. We are proud to cater to vegetarians and those with food allergies – milk, egg, wheat, etc... as well!

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch & D=Dinner

### **Accommodation:**

Fresco Tours selects a combination of 3 & 4-star hotels, restored country manors and B&B's that offer the best in hospitality, comfort and location.

All rooms have their own bathrooms. Tour prices are based on double occupancy.



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## WHAT'S INCLUDED?



### **Limited Group Sizes:**

Fresco Tours are in small groups to ensure that you receive the individual attention that you deserve. We want to be able to treat each of our clients with a personal touch and we limit the groups to a maximum of 16 participants. We also recognize that each person has different hiking abilities and, therefore, we will offer options for our hiking days. These can be opting out and spending some time exploring the local towns, or walking shorter or more manageable sections.

### **Support Vehicles:**

Your walks will be accompanied by 2 support vehicles (minimum 6 pax) that are there to provide assistance when needed and look out for your safety. You will have access to the bus during the hikes, so you won't need to carry a heavy daypack. In addition, the possibility of shorter routes and pick-up options will be offered and explained on a daily basis.



### **Ground transportation:**

All ground transportation between our meeting point in in the city of Córdoba and Seville is provided on your Fresco Tour.

### **Luggage transfers:**

Your luggage will be transported between hotels. You do the walking, we'll do the lifting!

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## Pre-Tour Assistance:

We will help with your travel arrangements prior to and after the tour start and finish of your Fresco Tour, including assistance with hotel reservations and train tickets.

## What to expect?

Expect to have a wonderful time! We've designed each trip to enjoy the stunning beauty of the Spanish landscape, while giving you a true sense of the soul and magic of these exciting people and their culture. We love to share this magnificent country and want you to feel a part of it.

