

Seville, Cordoba, Granada & Ronda - the Best of Andalucia

8 days **from £799** March, May, June, September & October 2020, March 2021



Granada's Alhambra, Cordoba's magnificent cathedral, spectacular Ronda, Picasso's city of Malaga, and magical Seville - on this superb, carefully planned holiday, you'll see all of Andalucia's most impressive sights. Four nights are spent in the pleasant town of Antequera – an ideal base for visiting the region. Two nights are spent in Seville and another in Malaga.

**• 4 nights hb in Antequera • 2 nights bb in Seville • 1 night bb in Malaga
• Included excursions to Granada and El Torcal • Entrances to the Alhambra complex and to the Cordoba Mezquita • Walking tour of Seville • Visits to Ronda & Cordoba • Local guides in Seville, Cordoba, and Granada**

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE: Flight to Malaga. On arrival transfer to your hotel in Antequera (approx. 50 minutes) for four nights' half-board accommodation.

DAYS TWO TO FOUR: At the crossroads between Malaga and Cordoba, and Seville and Granada, Antequera is ideally situated for visiting Andalucia's main sights. But it's also an interesting town in its own right. Throughout the city centre its Spanish, Roman, and Moorish influences are ever-present. The stunning collegiate church of Santa Maria la Mayor rises just below the Moorish fortress. There are over thirty churches, including the impressive Spanish-Baroque Iglesia del Carmen, and a network of picturesque alleys, shady squares, and tapas bars to enjoy. There are two included excursions during your stay in Antequera.

The first excursion is a short half-day excursion, to allow you to get your bearings in Antequera and to visit El Torcal, a natural area of amazing limestone rock formations. Just 23 miles total.

The second excursion is to Granada. Just sixty easy motorway miles away, there is surely no more spectacular setting than Granada whose extraordinary Alhambra

complex is dominated by the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada. A local guide will ensure you make the most of your visit to the Alhambra and the Generalife Gardens. (Please note that, due to restrictions on group visits, the Nasrid Palaces part of the complex may not be included in the visit.) As well as visiting the complex, you will also have plenty of time to see some of the city's other attractions such as the cathedral and the old Moorish quarter of Albaicin, now – like with the Alhambra and the Generalife - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 120 miles round trip.

DAY FIVE: Today you travel towards Seville, but first visit Cordoba, one of the not-to-be-missed sights of Andalucia, where, 1000 years ago, Jews, Arabs and Christians lived side by side in harmony. You will see a statue of Maimonides, the famous Jewish philosopher and the author of Mishneh Torah. You will also visit the world-famous Mezquita, accompanied by a local guide. The church/mosque was founded in 785 by Abd ar-Rahman I, and then adapted and adopted by the Christian Kings of Spain – who built a cathedral inside it! You will also have free time for lunch and sightseeing before continuing to

Seville for two nights' bed and breakfast accommodation. 154 miles today.

DAY SIX: Morning walking tour of Seville with local guide. In a splendid location on the Guadalquivir River, Seville is a lively city and the capital of Flamenco. Wandering through the narrow streets you will soon understand how Seville inspired Bizet's Carmen and Mozart's Marriage of Figaro. The afternoon is free. You may want to visit the Cathedral, the Giralda or the Alcazar, and, in the evening, take in a Flamenco show.

DAY SEVEN: Today you leave Seville and drive through the scenic Sierra landscape to Ronda whose spectacular 600ft deep Tagus Gorge is spanned by the spectacular Puente Nuevo (new bridge). The city's bullring in the "new" town is 230 years old, about the same age as the new bridge! You will have free time for sightseeing in this interesting, atmospheric and dramatic city. You then continue to Malaga, arriving in time for a short tour of Picasso's hometown where you spend the last night of your holiday on a bed and breakfast basis. 135 miles today.

DAY EIGHT: Transfer to the airport (25 minutes) for your return flight.

YOUR HOTELS

HOTEL ANTEQUERA ★★★★★,
Antequera (four nights)

In a quiet residential area, the hotel offers wide halls, piano bar, and modern covered heated swimming pool, jacuzzi, sauna, steam bath, Turkish bath, etc. All of the 182 rooms are fully air-conditioned and are equipped with full bathroom, hairdryer, satellite tv, direct dial phone and minibar. A charge applies to some of the leisure facilities. Meals in the hotel are buffet style, with an impressive range of Spanish and international cuisine. Free wifi. The town centre is 800m walk away. (www.hotelantequera.com)

HOTEL SEVILLA MACARENA ★★★★★,
Seville (two nights)

The hotel is next to the old city walls opposite the Parliament and close to the river and the historic centre. Bedrooms have bath/shower and wc, hairdryer, tv with satellite channels, free wifi, and safety deposit box. There is a restaurant and a sports-themed bar offering snacks. (www.hotelsevillamacarena.com)

HOTEL MALAGA CENTRO ★★★★★,
Malaga (one night)

The hotel is situated close to the historic centre and business district. It has a formal restaurant and a cafe/bar. There is a rooftop pool (seasonal) and a fitness centre. Bedrooms are modern with free minibar (no alcohol), bath/shower and free wifi. (www.salleshotels.com)