



Andalucia Itinerary 2011

■ May 1 - 13 • Group size limited to 16

- Old **Granada**, with its magnificent **Alhambra** castle and gardens
- Imperial **Córdoba**, with its cathedral-mosque – unique in the world
- Exciting **Sevilla**, whose cathedral is the world's largest gothic church
- Spectacular **Ronda**, clinging to a cliff • Whitewashed **Moorish** towns
- Moorish-tinged **Guadix**, with its enormous complex of cave dwellings
- Tapas in **Sevilla**, where these bite-sized snacks originated
- Seaside **Marbella**, both a jet-set destination and a traditional town
- Soaring cathedrals, with gold ornamentation from the New World
- Comfortable, atmospheric hotels • Excellent dining and fine wines

Tour cost – \$3,895* per person sharing for land arrangements (airfare not included) • Singles add \$450

TOUR SUMMARY	FLY FROM U.S. – Leave April 29, arrive April 30 (overnight, Campanile Málaga Airport Hotel)
Tour begins & ends in Málaga	TOUR BEGINS – 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 1, in the lobby, Campanile Hotel TOUR ENDS – May 13, in the morning, in Málaga (you will fly home today) 12 NIGHTS • TOUR MEALS – Breakfast daily + eight other meals (lunches & dinners)

■ Day 1 (Sunday, May 1)

From our meeting point, the lobby of the **Campanile Málaga Airport Hotel**, we begin our Andalusia adventure. In our *Intimate France* van we climb into the **Sierra Nevada** mountains. By noon we have arrived in pretty **Alhama de Granada**, a village of whitewashed houses and narrow streets above a deep gorge. After sightseeing and lunch, we move on to glorious **Granada**, one of the main towns of Andalusia. Following free time, we take a get-acquainted walk around the old city, followed by a **WELCOME DRINK** at a pretty cafe and **DINNER** in the **Albaicín** district, with views out over the **Alhambra** palace. **OVERNIGHT – GRANADA**

■ Day 2 (Monday, May 2)

Granada enjoys a glorious setting at the foot of the majestic **Sierra Nevada** range. Watching over the modern city is the breathtaking **Alhambra** palace, one of the most magnificent monuments in Europe and, for many, the highlight of a trip to Andalusia. Today we discover the palaces, gardens, fortresses and viewpoints of the **Alhambra** during a thorough visit. **LUNCH** in the shadow of the **Alhambra**. After a break, come with us to **Granada Cathedral**, which combines gothic and renaissance features with glorious, golden elements, including a dazzling gilded screen. **OVERNIGHT – GRANADA**

■ Day 3 (Tuesday, May 3)

This morning, come along on an optional day trip into the countryside. One hour from Granada lies **Guadix**, an important town under the Romans, Visigoths and Moors. Today it is known for one of the largest complexes of cave dwellings in Spain. If you like, visit one of these troglodyte homes, now a museum. Back in Granada in the afternoon, enjoy free time or join us as we visit the **Monastery of San Jerónimo**, with its peaceful cloister, richly decorated renaissance interior and opulent altarpiece. **OVERNIGHT – GRANADA**

■ Day 4 (Wednesday, May 4)

Leaving **Granada**, we arrive in late morning in pretty **Priego de Córdoba**, featuring a Moorish quarter with narrow, winding streets and flower-decked homes. After free time and lunch, we move on to nearby **Zuheros**, a characteristic white village of Andalusia. Late in the day we arrive in **Córdoba**. After settling into our comfortable hotel in the heart of the old town, we have a delicious **DINNER** at the beautiful restaurant **Almudaina**. **OVERNIGHT – CORDOBA**

■ Day 5 (Thursday, May 5)

Today we get to know **Córdoba**, its old streets lined with whitewashed houses that bear witness to the Moorish era (719-1236). The most striking monument is the *mezquita-catedral*,

which began its life as a Moorish mosque in 780. You'll be amazed at its sumptuous interior and how in the 1500s the victorious Christians cut away a portion of the roof in the center of the mosque to build the loftier vaulting of a small cathedral. After **LUNCH**, come with us to visit the **Alcázar**, a mighty fort built by Spain's Catholic kings in the 1300s. **OVERNIGHT – CORDOBA**

■ Day 6 (Friday, May 6)

Just outside Córdoba is **Medina Azahara**, the ruins of a sumptuous Moorish city from the 900s. We make an optional day trip here, returning to town around mid-day for lunch and free time. In the afternoon, explore the whitewashed streets and flower-filled plazas of the old *juderia* (the former Jewish quarter), or (optionally) enjoy a unique experience – a bath in an authentic Moorish bathhouse, dating from the middle ages. **OVERNIGHT – CORDOBA**

■ Day 7 (Saturday, May 7)

Leaving Córdoba, we arrive in mid-morning at **Antequera**, a pretty town with an old center and cobbled alleys of whitewashed houses leading to a monumental, gothic-renaissance church, the **Colegiata de Santa Maria**. By lunchtime we have arrived in **Ronda**, high in the hills of Andalucía. After lunch we check into our hotel, the **Don Miguel**, perched on the edge of a dramatic gorge, then stroll the streets of the old town. **DINNER** is at our hotel's restaurant, with a view over the canyon. **OVERNIGHT – RONDA**

■ Day 8 (Sunday, May 8)

We explore old Ronda today, touring its bullring-museum (not during a bullfight), one of Spain's oldest and most beautiful. Modern Spanish bullfighting was born here. After **LUNCH** there are more sightseeing opportunities, including a Moorish bath dating from the 1200s. **OVERNIGHT – RONDA**

■ Day 9 (Monday, May 9)

Leaving Ronda, we first stop in the quiet and lovely whitewashed village of **Grazalema** before arriving around lunchtime in spectacular **Sevilla**. Late in the day, join us in visiting the city's immense cathedral, the third largest in Europe, whose most striking feature is an immense **Flemish** altarpiece profusely carved with Biblical scenes and gleaming with gold leaf. **OVERNIGHT – SEVILLA**

■ Day 10 (Tuesday, May 10)

Sevilla has many delightful neighborhoods such as the **barrio of Santa Cruz**, where our hotel is located. Today we visit the **Alcázar** (cas-

tle), with its extensive gardens and intricate Moorish palace, built by **Pedro the Cruel** (1350). After lunch we visit the splendid **Fine Arts Museum**, featuring works by the well-known Spanish painters **Murillo** and **Zurbarán**. **DINNER** at an outdoor restaurant. **OVERNIGHT – SEVILLA**

■ Day 11 (Wednesday, May 11)

Two outstanding palaces are on our schedule today. First, we visit **Palacio Lebrija**, a noble home from the 1500s featuring glorious décor, Roman mosaics, intricately decorated ceilings and a marvelous stairway. After **LUNCH** in the old town, we tour **Pilate's House**, from the 1400s, with fine stucco work, magnificent ceilings and gleaming tileworks – the best of the distinctive *mudejar* style (a combination of Moorish and Christian). Tonight, come along on an optional tapas crawl (tapas are said to have originated in Sevilla) in the atmospheric district of **Triana**. **OVERNIGHT – SEVILLA**

■ Day 12 (Thursday, May 12)

We return to the coast today, first stopping in pretty **Marbella**, with its whitewashed buildings and enchanting **Plaza de los Naranjos**, for sightseeing and lunch. Later we move to our airport-area hotel in **Málaga**. At day's end join us for a final glass of wine – a toast to amazing Andalucía. **OVERNIGHT – MALAGA**

■ Getaway day (Friday, May 13)

It's time to say goodbye to Spain as you fly home from **Málaga**.

Notes

MEALS – Tour includes breakfast every day, as well as eight other meals (lunches and dinners), as indicated in **BOLD CAPS** on the itinerary.

OUR HOTELS

Hotel Inglaterra, Granada
Posada de Vallina, Córdoba
Hotel Don Miguel, Ronda
Hotel Amadeus, Sevilla
Campanile Malaga Airport Hotel

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS – Subject to change according to availability.

ITINERARY – Details of this preliminary itinerary could change.

* **TOUR PRICE** – Price of \$3,895 is an estimate only as fluctuations in foreign currency rates may make an adjustment necessary. Call us for details – (800) 676-1247. Price quoted is for land arrangements only – airfare not included.