



 **Ciudades  
Patrimonio  
de la Humanidad**  
ESPAÑA | UNESCO

# WORLD HERITAGE

## CITIES OF SPAIN



[www.spain.info](http://www.spain.info)

[www.ciudadespatrimonio.org](http://www.ciudadespatrimonio.org)

[www.spainheritagecities.com](http://www.spainheritagecities.com)



Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura



Patrimonio Mundial  
en España



<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	1
<b>WORLD HERITAGE CITIES OF SPAIN</b>	3
Alcalá de Henares	4
Ávila	6
Baeza	8
Cáceres	10
Córdoba	12
Cuenca	14
Ibiza/Eivissa	16
Mérida	18
Salamanca	20
San Cristóbal de La Laguna	22
Santiago de Compostela	24
Segovia	26
Tarragona	28
Toledo	30
Úbeda	32
<b>THEMED ROUTES</b>	34
Conferences	36
World Heritage Cities and the Spanish Language	40
Modern and Contemporary Architecture	42
Natural areas	44
Sephardic Heritage	46
Roman Hispania	50
Islamic Legacy	52
Religious Tourism	54
Renaissance Cities	58
Olive Oil Tourism	60
Nautical Tourism	62
Active Tourism	64
Golf	66
<b>USEFUL INFORMATION</b>	68

# CITIES IN SPAIN DECLARED AS WORLD HERITAGE SITES BY UNESCO



## REINVENTED CITIES

Spain has the privilege of being among the countries with the largest number of registrations in UNESCO's World Heritage list. The World Heritage Cities of Spain Group began joining the forces of the cities involved in 1993, to create a not-for-profit association with the purpose of acting together to protect the historical and cultural heritage of those cities: **Alcalá de Henares, Ávila, Baeza, Cáceres, Córdoba, Cuenca, Ibiza, Mérida, Salamanca, San Cristóbal de la Laguna, Santiago de Compostela, Segovia, Tarragona, Toledo and Úbeda.**

These fifteen cities offer an extraordinary legacy, as well as modern spaces with renewed infrastructures to enhance their monumental character and make them closer to their citizens. They are reinvented cities, especially designed to live the adventure of history. Punic, Celts, Romans, Visigoths, Jewish, Arabs, Christians... all those different civilisations and cultures that have dominated the peninsula and its islands over the centuries, have left their traces in these cities with their architecture and history. This legacy can be followed around the country in those traces, via the themed routes designed by the World Heritage Cities of Spain Group.

At the same time, the touristic, sports and social resources of each city give the visitor the possibility of combining the visit to their historical centres with many other entertainment and sports activities, with visits to lush natural areas. Furthermore, one can attend congresses and conventions, enjoy some of their most modern architectural feats or taste some of their many, diverse gastronomic features.

Published by:

Grupo Ciudades  
Patrimonio de la  
Humanidad

© Turespaña

Ministerio de Industria,  
Energía y Turismo

2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2014

Text:

Silvia Castillo

Translation:

David Pugh

Photographs:

Provided by Grupo Ciudades  
Patrimonio de la Humanidad  
de España

Layout:

Kokoro lab

NIPO:

072-13-009-4

D.L.: M-10910-2013

Printed in Spain by: A&M Gráficas

Free copy

We prepare and revise our texts with great interest in order to be able to provide reliable and up-to-date information. Even so, taking into account the time passed between the date of completion of the text and its publication, there may have been changes or errors. If you find any errors, please write to us at [infosmile@tourspain.es](mailto:infosmile@tourspain.es). Thank you for your collaboration.





# CITIES

ALCALÁ DE HENARES, ÁVILA, BAEZA,  
CÁCERES, CÓRDOBA, CUENCA,  
IBIZA / EIVISSA, MÉRIDA,  
SALAMANCA, SAN CRISTÓBAL  
DE LA LAGUNA, SANTIAGO DE  
COMPOSTELA, SEGOVIA,  
TARRAGONA, TOLEDO AND ÚBEDA.





# ALCALÁ DE HENARES

A RENAISSANCE-STYLE CITY BUILT TO LODGE THE WISE MEN OF THE UNIVERSITY AND INSPIRE THEIR DREAMS.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|   | 3 |
|   | 4 |
|   | 5 |
1. CALLE MAYOR
  2. UNIVERSITY
  3. COFFERED CEILING OF THE UNIVERSITY'S PARANINFO
  4. COMEDY THEATRE
  5. MAIN CATHEDRAL



Alcalá de Henares was the first city to be built as a university site and was considered as an adapted version of the "City of God". The city became a model for other education centres in Europe and America, as its boundaries provided shelter for the wise man, feeding their creativity and protecting them so that Spanish literature could be defined and enriched. In 1547 Alcalá gave birth to the most celebrated narrator in Spanish literature, Miguel de Cervantes, who was born less than half a century after the cardinal Cisneros founded the university.

The city transformed from the ancient Roman town of Complutum, to the Muslim Alcalá and later to a mixed enclave in the Middle Ages. This is an example of Muslim, Jewish and Christian cohabitation which experienced an artistic and cultural explosion in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. This strong trace of heritage can be seen in every corner of the city, as the spirit of the university not only shaped people's conscience, but completely defined the city's development.

The limestone facade of the university, which is a landmark from the **Renaissance** of Spain, the courtyards of Santo Tomás de Villanueva, Filósofos and **Trilingüe**, San Ildefonso chapel, which houses the tomb of Cisneros, and the **Paraninfo** (lecture hall), which has a Mudéjar coffered ceiling, all compose an unforgettable setting. By walking through the city's streets and parks and entering its churches and buildings you can follow the same steps taken by the great thinkers in search of inspiration like Juan de la Cruz, Fray Luis de León, Lope de Vega, Calderón de la Barca, Francisco de Quevedo and Cervantes.

The city treasures its abundant and valuable heritage; with medieval echoes around the **Plaza de los Santos Niños**, the main cathedral and the fourteenth-century walls. The city's history runs deep in the Plaza de Cervantes, the epicentre of the city; in the arcades of the Calle Mayor, in the Casa de los Lizana, in the **Colegio de Mínimos**, the present Faculty of Economics and in the Palacio de los Arzobispos (Archbishops Palace) in Toledo. It is here where Christopher Columbus first told the Catholic Monarchs his plan to reach the Indies by sailing in a straight line, six years prior to disembarking in the New World. This is one of many dreams that were conceived in Alcalá.

## DON'T MISS:

- University
- Casa de Cervantes Museum
- Comedy theatre
- Complutum / Casa de Hyppolitus
- Los Universos de Cervantes Interpretation Centre
- Semana Cervantina (Cervantes Week) and Quijote Market (month of October)
- Easter Week in Alcalá
- Don Juan in Alcalá (1<sup>st</sup> November)
- Cervantes Award Ceremony, Abril de Cervantes (23<sup>rd</sup> April)
- Festival de Clásicos (month of June)





# ÁVILA



1. LAS JORNADAS MEDIEVALES DE ÁVILA
2. CALLE DE LA CRUZ VIEJA
3. PANORAMIC VIEW
4. SANTA TERESA CONVENT
5. DRAMATISED VISITS ON THE WALL

THE WALL AND ITS TOWERS CREATE AN UNUSUAL LANDSCAPE, PROTECTING THIS MYSTIC AND WARLIKE CITY.



Due to its exceptional condition, the medieval wall of Ávila is an extraordinary monument, which is unique in Europe. The stone wall encloses a historic city which has expanded within its boundaries, scattered with churches, convents and palaces. Losing yourself in the streets allows you to get a taste of medieval life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Ávila was reborn after the *reconquista*, when it was rebuilt by the knights, who considered it as an impregnable fort. The twelve-century wall dominates the landscape and from a distance it makes those who see it for the first time shudder with fear, due to its 88 crenelated towers, and its solid structure of 2500 metres in perimeter, 12 metres in height and 3 in thickness.

Within the walls of the city you will find a labyrinth of small streets, quiet plazas, churches, palaces and stony passages, which reveal its **interesting past**. The **fighting spirit** which rebuilt Ávila is well represented in the cathedral, which was started in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and stands with the solidarity of a fortress. Other beautiful religious buildings are nearby, such as the Santo Tomás monastery, and the Romanesque churches of San Vicente, San Pedro and San Andrés.

However, Ávila also has a mystic past. **Saint Teresa** occupies the most important pages in the city's history books, and even today, several convents of nuns follow her teaching. The sixteenth-century La Encarnación monastery, San José monastery, which has a version of the cell where Teresa had her revelations, the Santa

Teresa convent and the Museo Teresiano (Santa Teresa Museum) form part of the heritage.

The legacy of the soldiers is also an essential part of Ávila's heritage. The **palace of Los Dávila** stands out as a symbol of nobility and power, and is found against the city's wall. The palace is accompanied by other noble buildings, such as the **Torreón de los Guzmanes** (Los Guzmanes tower), and the palaces of **de Los Marqueses Velada**, **Los Verdugo**, **Los Deanes** and **Los Águila**.

## DON'T MISS:

- The Wall
- Cathedral
- Santo Tomás Monastery and the Oriental Museum
- Legendary guided tours, every Saturday from June to October
- Santa Teresa Convent
- La Encarnación Monastery
- Easter Week in Ávila. Declared a National Tourist Attraction
- Theatre on the wall. Dramatised night visits in July and August
- Las Jornadas Medievales de Ávila (Medieval re-enactments). First Friday of September
- Ávila en Tapas Contest. Last weekend of June





# BAEZA



1. CELEBRATING THE DECLARATION OF BAEZA AS WORLD HERITAGE CITY
2. INTERIOR OF BAEZA CATHEDRAL
3. LATE ROMANESQUE RUINS OF THE SAN JUAN BAPTISTA CHURCH
4. BAROQUE STAIRCASE IN THE JABALQUINTO PALACE
5. MAIN CHAPEL OF SAN FRANCISCO

ITS STREETS, ITS CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS ARE A TRUE CATALOGUE OF SPANISH RENAISSANCE. A BEAUTIFUL, EDUCATED AND WELCOMING CITY.

Baeza, declared **WORLD HERITAGE CITY** since 2003, is located in the centre of the province of Jaén, not far from the Sierras de Cazorla, Segura and Las Villas Natural Park. A settlement since forgotten times, the proof of which is in the archaeological sites found in the Cerro de Alcázar, that show its evolution from prehistory through Iberian, Roman and Muslim times.

Baeza, however, did not reach its maximum architectural and cultural apogee until the 16<sup>th</sup> century, during the **Renaissance**, a legacy that is still palpable nowadays. That was when its **University** was created and, around it, many new religious institutions appeared, as well as a great urge to erect civil buildings. There was also the presence of all kinds of crucial personalities, noblemen, clergy, wisemen and saints; architects, masons, painters and sculptors; physicians, musicians and poets who would turn it into one of the main cities in the south of Spain, and it was going to keep this position for a few centuries thereafter.

The city spreads its monumental splendour before the visitor's eyes. A walk through Baeza streets is a spectacular architectural masterclass. From

## DON'T MISS:

- **Easter Week**, declared of National Tourist Interest.
- **The Corpus Christi festival** (June), which is very popular in Baeza.
- **Feria de Agosto festival**, held to honour Baeza's Patron Saint, Our Lady of Alcázar.
- **Cruces de Mayo festival** (first week end in May), set in the old town. The festival maintains the old tradition of erecting shrines and crosses.
- **The Semana Machadiana festival** (17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of February), organised to honour the memory of poet Antonio Machado.
- **Celebration of the Anniversary of the city as World Heritage Site**
- **UNIA Escena Baeza** (Theatre festival, 7<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of July)
- **Summer courses of the Universidad Internacional de Andalucía**,
- **Festival del Cómic Europeo de Úbeda y Baeza** (European Comic Festival of Úbeda and Baeza). (17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of October)
- **Otoño Cultural Flamenco** (Flamenco Cultural Autumn) (October and November)
- **Premio Internacional de Poesía Antonio Machado** (Antonio Machado International Poetry Contest). (February to November 2014)
- **Festival de música Antigua de Úbeda y Baeza** (Úbeda and Baeza Ancient Music Festival). During December.

Isabelline Gothic to Renaissance, many styles are well represented here, with some exceptionally beautiful specimens, such as the *Palacio de Jabalquinto* palace and the *Natividad* cathedral. In addition to this, the city hides jewels such as the church of Santa Cruz, the only Romanesque temple in High Andalusia, and even interesting Iberian artefacts, such as the sculpture that crowns the *Fuente de los Leones* fountain.

Still, to discover the real Baeza, the best thing to do is to walk the streets that poet Antonio Machado walked in his time, and let them bring us back to the past while gazing at the mansions, the stately houses, the streets and their hidden corners.







Declared as the third World Heritage City and the first in Spain, Cáceres symbolises a **noble city** par excellence in the **medieval world**. Here you can enjoy a walk along its streets, where the **colour of the stone** is in contrast with the **blue sky**.

The abundance of palaces and the heraldic shields which identify them, the plazas and churches make up an intriguing landscape which takes you back to historic times. Nowadays, the city's epicentre is the **Plaza Mayor**, which was first built in 1229 and has

been the venue for fairs, knight jousting events, processions, religious ceremonies, children's events, as well as a romantic spot for lovers. The plaza is situated outside the city's walls and is presided by the **Ayuntamiento** (Town hall). It is surrounded by porticoed houses - which have been converted into taverns and restaurants - as well as monuments like **the Bujaco** and **Los Púlpitos** towers and the **Foro de los Balbos**, the **Arco de la Estrella** and the **Ermita de la Paz**.

From here the path begins to the most noble part of Cáceres, starting with the **co-cathedral of Santa María**, which is essentially Gothic, but has Romanesque and Renaissance elements. It is also the lasting resting place for many noblemen, whose importance can be seen by the proximity of their tombs to the high altar. These men were the old proprietors of the palaces surrounding the church, which are a testimony to the variety of designs and architectural elements conceived in this period.

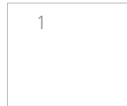
The **church of San Mateo**, whose tower stands over the stately houses, can be found almost at the top of the old quarter. A short distance away from its plateresque facade there is another collection of palaces, which crown an intriguing and captivating city.



#### DON'T MISS:

- Old Town of Cáceres
- Old and New Jewish Quarters of Cáceres
- Virgen de la Montaña Sanctuary
- Open-air Sculpture Exhibition in El Príncipe Park
- Fundación Mercedes Calles
- Fundación Helga de Alvear
- Rodeo Park
- Vostell-Malpartida Museum

# CÁCERES



2

3

4

1. LAS TRES CULTURAS MEDIEVAL MARKET
2. SAN FRANCISCO CULTURAL COMPLEX
3. PLAZA MAYOR
4. PLAZA DE SAN JORGE

THE CITY'S RICH STONE ARCHITECTURE SHAPES ITS PEOPLE'S OPEN AND FRIENDLY CHARACTER.

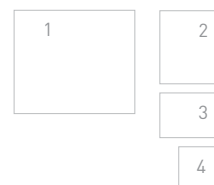


CÁCERES





# CÓRDOBA



1. ANDALUSI ARABIC HOUSE
2. SYNAGOGUE OF CÓRDOBA
3. ALCAZAR OF THE CHRISTIAN KINGS
4. CATHEDRAL-MOSQUE, DOME OF THE MIHRAB

THE CATHEDRAL-MOSQUE OF  
CÓRDOBA, THE JEWISH QUARTER,  
THE ROMAN BRIDGE, THE ALCAZAR  
OF THE CHRISTIAN KINGS, THE  
COURTYARDS AND GRILLES FORM  
A CITY OF MAGICAL ESSENCE.

Córdoba smells of fresh geraniums and orange blossom, with a taste of spices and secret kisses behind the grilles, a sound of church bells, laughter and the murmur of water; a glimpse of the Roman, Jewish, Arabic and Christian traces in its monuments, and with a warm touch of silk, like skin of the women sketched by Julio Romero de Torres.

The city's two-thousand-year history creates a wave of sensations. Crossing the Guadalquivir over the sixteen arches of the **Puente Romano** (roman bridge), passing the **Torre de la Calahorra** and then crossing the **Puerta del Puente** is a great experience to begin the visit.

However, Córdoba's undoubted gem is the monument which justifies a visit to the city, the **Mezquita-Catedral** (Cathedral-Mosque). It is here where the Punics, Carthaginians, Romans and Visigoths all prayed. A modest basilica was first built on its foundations, which was replaced with the Mosque by the Umayyad Caliphate and reconverted into a cathedral after the *reconquista*.

It was an integrating transition, which did not destroy its exceptional architecture of Islamic ornamentation and rows of columns. Even its belfry, at the top of the tower which looks over Córdoba, was erected at the point where the old Islamic minaret finished.

Not far away, you can discover the essence of Córdoba in the Jewish quarter, whose narrow winding streets lead to the **synagogue**, the **Alcazar of the Christian Kings**, the **Hospital of San Sebastián** and the Renaissance **Episcopal palace**.

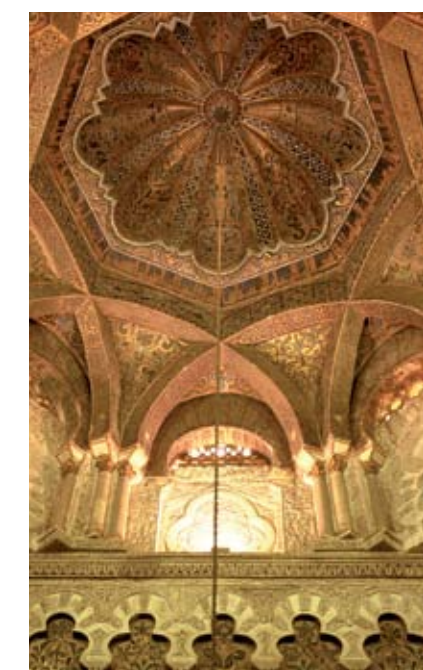
In the outskirts, we find the Medina Azahara, the ruins of the legendary palace that Abderramán III built in the 10<sup>th</sup> century. According to legend, the palace's gardens were planted with almond trees with the idea that when they flowered, his favourite Azahara would resemble the snowy summits of his native Granada.



CÓRDOBA

## DON'T MISS:

- Concurso Popular de Cruces and Festival de los patios Cordobeses, declared Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO in 2012 (May)
- Noche Blanca del Flamenco and Festival Internacional de Música Sefardí (June)
- Festival Internacional de la Guitarra (July)
- The Passion and Spirit of the Horse Equestrian Show (all year round)
- Green Triangle: Botanical Gardens, Zoo and Ciudad de los Niños (all year round)
- Four cultures, four temples: Roman Temple, Synagogue, Mosque and Cathedral (all year round)
- Archaeological Heritage of Madinat Al-Zahra (all year round)
- El Alma de Córdoba - Night visit of the cathedral and old mosque (all year round)
- Córdoba, la Luz de las Culturas - Water, light and sound spectacle in the Alcázar de Córdoba (all year round)
- Mercado Victoria, Centro Cultural Culinario (all year round)







# CUENCA



1. HUÉCAR GORGE
2. JÚCAR GORGE
3. RONDA DE JULIÁN ROMERO
4. CASAS COLGADAS
5. CATHEDRAL

THIS HISTORIC CITY COMPRISES  
AVANT-GARDE ARCHITECTURE,  
NATURE AND STREET-LIFE AND  
REALITY AND LEGEND.

The streets in the historic centre of Cuenca wind around a steep hill in harmony with the landscape, forming an open fortress with two rivers weaving around which isolate and protect it.

This city invites the traveller to walk around its quarters, to search through its streets for viewpoints to admire the beauty of the **Huécar** and **Júcar** gorges, and to cross the narrow **Puente de San Pablo**, which connects it to a desolate convent, which is now the **Parador**. From here you can enjoy the best panoramic view of the city and **Casas Colgadas** (hanging houses), whose architecture defies gravity.

The rich and unexpected contemporary spirit of Cuenca is conferred by **Museum of Spanish Abstract Art**, which houses one of the most important avant-garde collections in the country from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as other symbolic ventures like the Antonio Pérez Foundation.

A short distance away we find; the Gothic cathedral, with plateresque and Renaissance-style domes and *rejería* (made from iron) and modern glass doors, the **Palacio Episcopal** (Episcopal Palace), which encloses the intriguing **Diocesan Museum**, and the **Plaza Mayor**, with its pottery shops.

The wonders of Cuenca don't finish there. There is still the **Torre de Mangana** (Mangana Tower), which has a clock to mark the passing of the seasons, and the remains of the Arab fortress, as well as the Jewish quarter and the **old quarter of Santa María**. The **Plaza de la Merced** must not be missed, with its church, convent and **Seminario de San Julián**, as well as the quarters of El Alcázar, El Retiro, El Salvador and La Trinidad, leading on to Tiradores and the lower part of the city.

Finally, we must go back the same way and return uphill to the **Barrio del Castillo**, to appreciate its stone streets, old houses, churches and convents. The unforgettable views from the viewpoints of Camilo José Cela, on the Ronda del Júcar, Florencio Cañas and Huécar, make you appreciate the perfect union between labour of man and power of nature.

## DON'T MISS:

- Casas Colgadas
- Spanish Abstract Art Museum
- Cathedral
- The Gorges of the Júcar and Huécar Rivers
- Religious Music Week
- San Miguel Church
- San Pablo Convent
- PhotoEspaña
- Antonio Pérez Foundation
- Puente San Pablo



CUENCA





# IBIZA/ EIVISSA



1. DOMES OF SANTO DOMINGO CHURCH IN DALT VILA
2. SEABED
3. DALT VILA
4. DALT VILA, PANORAMIC VIEW

AN EXTRAORDINARY STONE FORTRESS,  
RISING OVER THE MEDITERRANEAN,  
SHAPED BY THE PHOENICIANS, ROMANS,  
ARABS AND CHRISTIANS.

A legendary port for privateers, Ibiza/Eivissa town can be seen from a distance thanks to its colossal sixteenth-century walls enclose a labyrinthian district which is full of life. Bastions, small whitewashed houses, alleyways, churches and viewpoints set the stage for a universal and cosmopolitan environment, which is unique to the world.

The Renaissance fortress of **Dalt Vila**, together with those of Malta and Terceira Island in the Azores, represents one of the best preserved examples of bastion fortification. It was used by Felipe II as a model for the fortresses which would later be built in Cartagena de Indias and Puerto Rico. Its bastions, which are connected by high and solid stretches of wall, form a star-shaped structure with seven arrowheads on the ends. All of them are named after saints and allow you to see spectacular views of the city, the port, some of the beaches and the neighbouring island of Formentera. The **historic enclosure** also holds an open-air exhibition which informs the visitor about the island's long history.

**Aiboshim**, the city of Bes, was founded by the Phoenicians in the 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C. After the destruction of Carthage, the Romans took the city and then the Vandals and the Byzantines. Later it formed parte of the Al-Andalus, until the Catalans reconquered it in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, making it Christian land. The trace of all of these cultures lives on today in Ibiza/Eivissa and in its walls, built on stretches of the often visible defence which was built by previous civilisations.

## DON'T MISS:

- A walk through the paved streets of Dalt Vila
- Sea-life: spectacular sea beds
- Museums: From archaeology to contemporary art
- Medieval Ibiza/Eivissa (second weekend in May)
- International Jazz Festival (July)
- Classical Concerts (Symphony Orchestra, Wind Band and Ciudad de Ibiza/Eivissa Choir)
- Local Holidays (5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> August)
- A walk around the historic quarter of La Marina: Adlib fashion, crafts and local customs
- Gastronomy of Ibiza/Eivissa
- Nature walks



The charming fortified enclosure goes with the small streets around the port in the quarters of **La Marina** and **Sa Penya**, scattered with grocer's shops and bars, along with art galleries, exclusive clothes shops and lively terraces forming this exotic hotchpotch, which is so characteristic of the island.

Almost in the shadow of the walls, we find the **Necrópolis de Puig des Molins**, which has several hypogea and treasure, dating back from the Phoenicians to the Islamists, which is exhibited in the **Archaeological Museum**, next to the **cathedral** in the upper part of Dalt Vila. The walls and the old "city of the dead" form part of the collection of items declared as a **World Heritage Site**, along with the Phoenician **Sa Caleta** in the town of Sant Josep, and the posidonia meadows which are between Ibiza/Eivissa and Formentera in the **Ses Salines** Nature Reserve. These are an important source of oxygen for the Mediterranean, a paradise for divers and the origin of transparent waters and the sandy spots of the beaches.







# MÉRIDA

1	2	3
	4	

1. ROMAN THEATRE. MÉRIDA THEATRE FESTIVAL
2. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ROMAN ART
3. ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE
4. LOS MILAGROS ROMAN AQUEDUCT

ROME BUILT CITIES IN ITS OWN IMAGE.  
MERIDA IS A REFLECTION OF WHAT THIS  
MEANT AND STILL MEANS TODAY FOR THE  
WESTERN WORLD- THE GREATEST EMPIRE  
OF THE ANTIQUITY.



Augusta Emerita was the precursor of the Romanisation of the most western part of Hispania, administratively constituted as the province of Lusitania. It was founded during the first years of the Empire of Augustus, when the Roman civilisation had fully developed, overcoming the limits imposed by the old Republic. The city rose as a driving force of innovations that were previously unknown in these territories, innovations in civil and military engineering. The city has **one of the longest and best conserved Roman bridges**, and it maintains a lot of stretches of the **wall** which enclosed and ennobled it, as well as dams and waters pipes.

In terms of political innovations, Merida has historic areas where the curia and senate were once located, and basilicas and colossal churches, which were used for the official cults of the empire. In terms of **religious innovations**, religions from all over the empire were established, with each one leaving its stamp on the city (such as churches, votive and cult objects, tombs). **Ludic innovations** can be clearly seen in the best preserved

buildings on the peninsula for hosting spectacles, like the hippodrome, the theatre and the amphitheatre. **Town planning innovations** are visible in the comfort of the city, with well-planned streets which are scattered with arcades, as well as the sewer network with the capacity to evacuate the water from the houses, public buildings, especially the thermal baths, and industrial facilities.

However, these innovations are most evident in the houses, not only in the way they were built, but also in their distribution and decoration. To appreciate this, you should visit the **National Museum of Roman Art**, which has one of the best collections of mosaics and parietal painting in Europe.

When we add the innovations brought from new cultures, kingdoms and empires, up to the most recent aspects of Merida, capital of the **Autonomous Region of Extremadura**, the result is this historic city where you can lose yourself in its collection of monuments.

## DON'T MISS:

- Visit the city's archaeological heritage
- Enjoy the variety of collections in the city's museums
- Experience the Festival de Teatro de Mérida (Merida Theatre Festival), held in the Roman theatre
- Feel the passion of Vía Crucis (Stations of the Cross) which takes place in the Roman amphitheatre
- Appreciate the majestic meadows that surround the city
- Experience the evolution of the city on walk through the gardens along the river Guadiana, where you can see historic remains and avant-garde buildings
- Walk around the illuminated area of the Roman remains at dusk
- Enjoy the street musicians and performances in the Carnaval Romano (Roman Carnival)
- Visit the workshops of the city's renowned potters and craftsmen
- Sample the typical dishes of Merida's gastronomy





# SALAMANCA



1. TOWERS OF THE CATHEDRAL. IERONIMUS
2. TOWERS OF THE CLERGY
3. CASA LIS - ART NOUVEAU-ART DECO MUSEUM
4. PLAZA MAYOR

THE CONTRAST OF THE YOUTHFUL SPIRIT OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THE AGE OF THE STONE CAN BE SEEN IN A CITY OF BEAUTY AND KNOWLEDGE.



## DON'T MISS:

- The atmosphere of the Plaza Mayor
- The University
- Ieronimus (Medieval towers of the cathedral)
- Scala Coeli. Climb the towers of the Clergy
- Cueva de Salamanca, the other university
- Art Nouveau and Art Deco Museum (Casa Lis)
- Huerto de Calixto y Melibea (Orchard)
- A sculpture of an astronaut in the cathedral
- The shells of the Casa de las Conchas
- The gastronomy
- Nightlife

Salamanca is a city with **two cathedrals** and **Plaza Mayor** (Main Square) which seems like the centre of the world due to its magnificent history. Strolling through the streets and areas of the monumental city lets you experience the history, religion and wisdom.

The stone remains which adorn the arches of the **Plaza Mayor** pay tribute to the thinkers, conquerors and soldiers, such as **Unamuno**, **Cervantes**, **Pizarro** and **Hernán Cortés**. This reminds the visitor that they are in a city of legends, which was an epicentre for the thinker in the old Europe many years ago. The splendour of this open space, the widest in the historic centre, sustains the perfect balance of a variety of details, making it arguable one of the best plazas in the world.

The magnificence of the city must be credited to the **university**, which is the oldest in Spain and made Salamanca grow like nobody could have ever expected. Its most import period was in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, with the brilliance of its teachers **Fray Luis de León**, **Francisco de Vitoria** and **Unamuno** at the head, is combined with the impact of its architecture. The

**plateresque façade**, which contains a hidden frog, the **patio de las Escuelas Mayores** (Higher Schools courtyard), the **Historical Library of the University of Salamanca** and the **Lesser Schools** comprise the city's most symbolic spaces.

The university also gave rise to a second cathedral in Salamanca. The beautiful Romanesque La Vieja (Old Cathedral), which has a Mozarabic tower named the Torre del Gallo and a unique altarpiece, became too small after the arrival of the new students. The construction of La Nueva (New Cathedral) began in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The design followed that of its predecessor, but was built to be wider and higher, becoming one of the latest Gothic cathedrals in Spain.

However, you must keep moving in Salamanca, as there are so many hidden treasures to be found in every corner. The **Casa de las Conchas** (House of Shells), the cosy **Plaza Anaya**, the **convents of Las Claras and Las Dueñas**, the **Casa de las Muertes** (House of Dead), the **Torre del Clavero** (Clove Tree Tower), **Monterrey Palace** and the **Casa Lis** are all worth seeing.







# SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA



1. CALLE LA CARRERA, CARPETS OF VOLCANIC LAVA AND FLOWERS FOR CORPUS CHRISTI
2. WALL OF THE CONVENT OF SANTA CATALINA
3. CALLE OBISPO REY REDONDO, THE OLD CALLE DE LA CARRERA
4. ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH-CONVENT OF LAS CLARAS

A METROPOLIS OF IMPECCABLE GEOMETRY AND INSPIRATION THAT PLATO WOULD HAVE DESIRED FOR THE COLONIAL CITIES OF THE NEW WORLD.



La Laguna was once the most important city of the Canary Islands, with over five centuries of history and three of them as the capital of Tenerife. It is a non-fortified city, with a **well-structured town plan** which is still intact, that contains over six hundred **Mudéjar-style** buildings, and is the direct precedent of the metropolises founded in the New World.

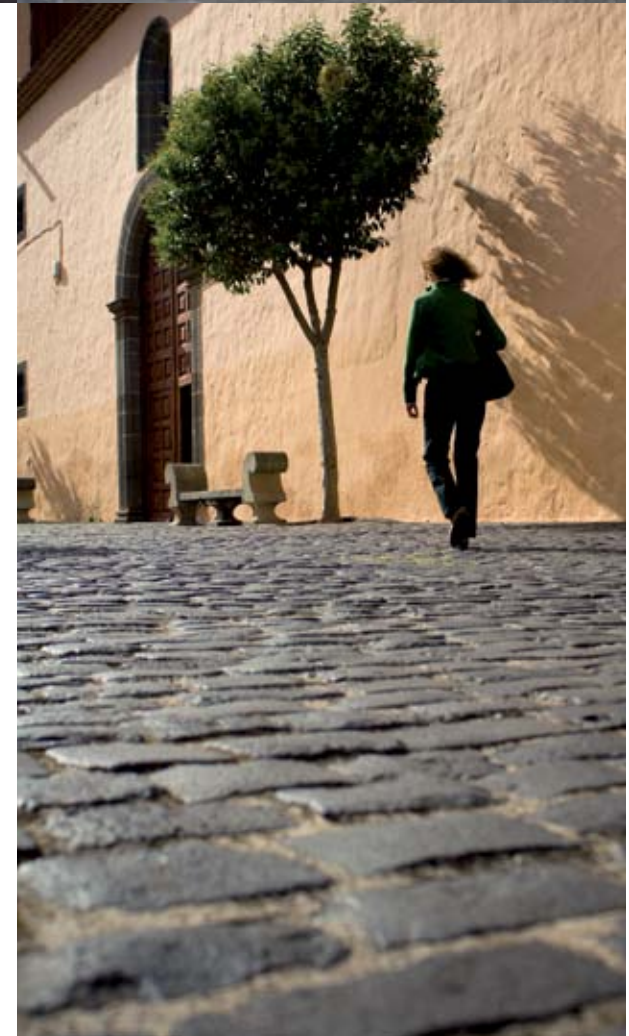
Its origin dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, after the Spaniards defeated the Aborigines. At that precise moment, Fernández de Lugo became governor and took up residence in the Valle de Aguere, in the fertile land situated by a lake at an altitude of six hundred metres. He named the place San Cristóbal.

His first order was the construction of the **church of La Concepción**, which has a stone tower with a square base, next to which the first houses were built. Soon after, he decided to move his residence to a nearby enclave, Villa de Abajo, meaning that the city arose in the place which is today occupied by the **Plaza del Adelantado**.

The distribution of the streets, churches, convents and public buildings was conceived and planned with **geometric precision**, following the philosophic principles of **Plato's laws** and was later marked out in straight lines on the ground. The project would cover 75 hectares and shelter 6000 citizens, establishing a territory for cultivation for each family within its established limits.

The **church of San Agustín** comprises the geometric centre of the city. From this point, the location of the rest of the ecclesiastic buildings was decided, like those of San Benito, San Francisco, Santo Domingo and San Juan.

This charming city, designed for man to live in, entices to experience its history by walking along the streets where you can find **simple coloured** houses in contrast with palaces with quiet courtyards, full of plants. Included among the most beautiful buildings of this colonial collection we find the **Casa Salazar**, the **Palace of Lercaro**, and the **former convent of San Agustino**, the **Casa Montañés**.



SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA

## DON'T MISS:

- A walk around the coloured streets of the city centre
- Dusk on the coast of Bajamar and Punta del Hidalgo
- The *papas arrugadas con mojo* (potato dish) along with local soups
- The spectacle of Holy Thursday
- The cloister of the former convent of San Agustín
- The carpets of flowers that cover the streets on Corpus Christi
- The lively streets for the Romería de San Benito (a religious celebration)
- The Festivity of Christ and the fireworks
- Visit the Anaga area, a natural wonder and gem of the Cenozoic era
- Drink a hot *barraquito* (a very popular coffee drink)





# SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA



1. APOSTLE FIREWORKS
2. SPIRAL STAIRCASE OF THE POBO GALEGO MUSEUM
3. PRAZA DE OBRADOIRO
4. PANORAMIC VIEW FROM ALAMEDA
5. PÓRTICO DE LA GLORIA

A REAL GEM AT EUROPE'S END. THE DESTINATION FOR ALL ROUTES OF CHRISTIANITY'S MOST IMPORTANT PILGRIMAGE SINCE ITS BEGINNING IN THE 10<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY.



The joy of the pilgrims who have concluded their journey pervades the streets of Santiago de Compostela at all hours of the day, every day. Few cities have been conceived and developed with the idea of receiving the traveller. This makes Santiago an open, universal and welcoming city, where its rich history and atmosphere on its streets live in perfect harmony.

The **Praza do Obradoiro** is the epicentre of the city. This is an extraordinary monument which seems as if it was created to stimulate the strongest sensations of spirituality in the traveller. The **cathedral** presides over the plaza. This is an example of a Romanesque church of pilgrimage, which was created in order to shelter hundreds of pilgrims who still head towards the high altar to emotionally embrace Santiago even today. Like the city, it has been transformed over the last 900 years,

comprising a balanced mix of movements and styles. Its **Portico de la Gloria** is a Romanesque masterpiece. The **baroque-style Obradoiro façade** is also spectacular, as well as the sharp-pointed roofs and the **Botafumeiro, the censer**, which spreads its purifying aroma at a height of twenty metres as it swings and is the biggest of its kind in the world.

In the area around the church we can find other monuments of carved granite. The **Hostal dos Reis Católicos**, an old hospital for pilgrims which is currently a Parador; the enormous **San Martiño Pinario Monastery**; the **Praza da Inmaculada**, home of the jet artisans; the **Praza da Quintana** and the **Praza das Praterías** are all located in this zone.

Santiago is not only spiritually important but also academically, as it has a university which is five hundred years old. Its students, who make up a quarter of the population, fill the streets and plazas with their youthful spirit. Its site comprises an unforgettable collection of historical buildings, with its plaza, church, Faculty of Geography and History and the schools of Fonseca and San Werome.

You must take a walk around the city's streets, which are like a **medieval labyrinth** of taverns and arcades and catch a glimpse of the ancestral houses on the **Rúa do Vilar** and **Rúa Nova**. Its counterpoint, the market, is where women from the countryside come to sell their delights, which they have cultivated themselves under the stone arches. After that, you must see the green side of Santiago, whose parks are carefully looked after and have been planted with trees from the confines of the world.

## DON'T MISS:

- Visit the roofs of the cathedral
- Mix with the pilgrims, marvel at the Pórtico de la Gloria and embrace the Apóstol
- Visit clothes shops of Galician designers like Adolfo Domínguez, Purificación García, Roberto Verino, Antonio Pernas, Bimba y Lola and Zara
- Visit the market of the Praza de Abastos
- Be moved by the Botafumeiro whilst you hear the sound of the baroque organ
- Sample the local seafood and pie, and taste the Albariño or Ribeiro wine in one of the typical taverns whilst taking in the night-time atmosphere of the city
- Escape to the nearby estuaries and green Galician forests, where the Camino de Santiago passes through
- Go to the Via Stellae concert in a monumental setting and blend in with the student atmosphere
- Admire the fireworks on the 24<sup>th</sup> July from the Plaza de Obradoiro, declared Fiesta of International Tourist Interest
- Admire the views of the historic city from the leafy parks and gardens





The first historians defined Segovia as a stone ship, stranded in the middle of a plateau, which seems to be waiting for the two surrounding rivers, the Clamores and Eresma, to overflow and make it sail away. Segovia is a jubilant and friendly city, where the visitor experiences a journey through time. The monuments, the history, the labyrinth of streets, the nature of its surroundings, the delicious gastronomy and the warm people who are proud of their land make Segovia an unforgettable place.

Before you walk through the city's historic streets, it is worth observing its enigmatic outline from a distance where the fairy-tale like Alcázar dominates the view. The landscape can be made out from the surrounding fertile region and ravines of the green valleys, whose lines can be followed to the magical monuments, like the fifteenth-century monastery of **San Antonio El Real** and the solid Romanesque-style churches of **San Millán** and **Vera Cruz**.

Passing through the arches of the Roman aqueduct, which stands at an imposing 28 metres, is one of the most spectacular sensations Segovia has to offer. This striking monument fed the entrails of the city through the canal, with the fresh water from the mountains.

After you've seen this Roman symbol, take another leap back in history to the Middle Ages by following the Calle Real to the Plaza Mayor and observing the architecture of the Casa de los Picos and the Plaza de las Sirenas, with the parish church of San Martín and the tower of Lozoya. Once in the Plaza Mayor you will see the dominant cathedral, with its beautiful apse, high tower and illuminated interior, where the sandstone turns a golden colour at dusk.

Once you're walked around the Jewish quarter and seen the large brick houses, you come to the wall. From here we can continue through the noble quarters, to see La Trinidad parish church, Santo Domingo convent and San Esteban church until we reach the Alcázar. This is the city's cloister, which has sharp-pointed turrets, making it seem like something from a chivalric fantasy.

- DON'T MISS:**
- The Aqueduct
  - The light at dusk in Segovia
  - The plazas of the enclosed area: Plaza de San Martín and Plaza Mayor
  - The Jewish Quarter
  - Casa Museo de Antonio Machado (Museum)
  - The Romanesque-style architecture
  - El Balcón de la Mirada: Valle del Eresma - Mirador de Zamarramala
  - The Alcázar
  - Cultural Festivals
  - The gastronomy and night-time in Segovia

# SEGOVIA

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|   | 3 |
|   | 4 |
1. AQUEDUCT OF SEGOVIA
  2. ANORAMIC VIEW OF THE CATHEDRAL AND ALCÁZAR
  3. PANTOCRATOR. SAN JUSTO CHURCH
  4. AREAL VIEW OF THE CATHEDRAL AND ALCÁZAR

AN ASTOUNDING CITY, HOME TO THREE OF THE GREAT TREASURES OF WORLD HERITAGE: THE ALCÁZAR, THE CATHEDRAL AND THE AQUEDUCT.







# TARRAGONA



1. SANTA TECLA FIESTAS
2. ROMAN AQUEDUCT
3. CATHEDRAL
4. CITY OF TARRAGONA
5. ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE

IN ROMAN TIMES THE CITY WAS NAMED TARRACO, WHOSE LEGACY TODAY IS ONE OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.



Traces of the Roman Empire can be found in every corner of Tarragona. The streets, buildings and plazas preserve the splendour of its civilisation and suggest how the city once appeared, along with Corduba, the first Roman capital on the peninsula.

In the year 218 B.C. the Roman legions made Tarraco their most important operations centre and built the **first Roman wall**. Some towers, like the Minerva, and stretches of this wall still remain, defying the passing of time.

The Roman presence is so powerful that it has shaped the urban development of the metropolis over the centuries. The form of the city was marked by the **enclosing walls**, the medieval cathedral housed the **old prayer assembly area**, the bustling **medieval streets** developed in the **old Foro de la Provincia** (Roman forum) and the **vaults of the circus** became shops, plazas and restaurants.

The present-day market is found next to what was once a great Roman shopping centre, the Foro de la Colonia, the headquarters of the local Government in the form of a porticoed plaza which houses public, civil and religious buildings, decorated with statues of noble families.

The region's territories were administered from the Foro de la Provincia, which was built around the year 73 A.D., in Vespasian times. In the urban area we find the temple for worshipping the emperor in the upper part, a huge plaza surrounded by arcades and galleries in the middle part and the circus in the lower part, where chariots competed in dangerous races.

On the outside of the city, we find the amphitheatre, with its section of stands carved into the rocky

slope, from which the fights of the gladiators were applauded. In the surrounding areas, we come to the **Cantera del Mèdol** (El Mèdol Roman Quarry), a source of material for Roman urban construction; the strategic aqueduct of **Les Ferreres**, **Los Escipiones Tower**, the **Berá Triumphal Arch** and the Roman towns of **Els Munts** and **Centcelles**, where you can see statues, frescos and mosaics.

Although Tarragona still has some features of the former Tarraco, and is a unique enclave for an experiencing **Rome**, it preserves other historical influences. The Romanesque-Gothic **cathedral of Santa María** and the **Jewish quarter**, the stately **Casa de Canals** and **Casa Castellarnau** and its **collection of modern architecture** have all played their part in shaping the city.

## DON'T MISS:

- Tarragona Living History - July to September: An exciting journey back through Tarragona's Roman past by means of this historical reconstruction.
- Easter Week (declared Fiesta of International Tourist Interest by the Generalitat of Catalonia)
- Tarraco Viva Festival (second half of May)
- Beaches and coves of crystal-clear water, and fine golden sand
- The district of El Serrallo and the city port
- Fireworks (first week of July)
- Santa Tecla Fiesta (second half of September)
- A balcony view of the Mediterranean, where you can admire the Roman Amphitheatre and the port
- Plaza de la Font
- Rambla Nova







# TOLEDO



1. PANORAMIC VIEW
2. EL ENTIERRO DEL SEÑOR DE ORGAZ  
(THE BURIAL OF THE COUNT OF ORGAZ)
3. SHELTER OF SANTA CLARA
4. SHELTER OF SANTO DOMINGO
5. SAN MARTÍN BRIDGE

SITUATED ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER TAGUS, TOLEDO IS A CITY OF THREE CULTURES, WHERE ART AND KNOWLEDGE COME TOGETHER.



## DON'T MISS:

- Renaissance-style Tavera hospital
- "Rutas Patrimonio Desconocido" (Unknown Heritage Routes) of Toledo
- San Román church. Museum of Councils and Visigothic Culture
- Easter Week in Toledo. Declared Fiesta of National Tourist Interest
- Big Week in Toledo: Solemn Procession of Corpus Christi in Toledo and the visits of the courtyards on the day of the Corpus (nine weeks after Easter Sunday). Declared Fiesta of International Tourist Interest.
- Toledo International Music Festival (May/June)
- Sephardic Week in Toledo: European Day of Jewish Culture (third weekend of September)
- Music of the Three Cultures International Festival (August)
- Jazz Festival (September)
- Tapas Day (November)



The millennium city of Toledo was named **capital city for Culture of Peace** and declared a World Heritage City by UNESCO in 1986. It has a unique and historic heritage thanks to the presence of the **three cultures**, Arab, Jewish and Christian, which lived together in peace for centuries and provided an example of universal tolerance.

In Toledo, the people traded in Hebrew, Arabic and Spanish, and it is here where Alfonso X *El Sabio* (The Wise) created the Escuela de Traductores (School of Translators). This was an extraordinary movement towards cultural coexistence, which allowed the great thinkers of the Old World to be transferred to Spanish.

The city was modelled around the river **Tagus** and is protected by a conjunction of ravines and walls. The great **Puerta de Bisagra** (Bisagra gate), with a double-headed eagle at the top, is the most emblematic threshold of this journey through time. However, the **Roman Alcántara Bridge**, **San Martín Bridge**, the **Renaissance-style Puerta del Cambrón** (gate) and the **Saracen gate of Alfonso VI** mean that it is not the only one.

Toledo's urban skyline has two landmarks that stand out; the **cathedral** and the **Alcázar**. The cathedral was erected on the remains of the great mosque. It is essentially a Gothic-style construction, but has touches

of Renaissance and baroque styles too. Its high tower, the filigree stone gates, the extraordinary choir and vestry with frescos by Giordano and canvases by El Greco, Caravaggio, Rubens, Van Dyck and Goya, stand out among other things. The **Alcázar** (fortress) is located on the highest hill in the city, and is the present site of the National Army Museum. It was a military bastion in Roman times, a Muslim castle and then reconverted into a royal palace by Carlos V, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

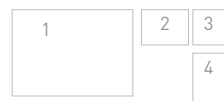
The city's extraordinary heritage is boosted by **Mudéjar churches**, monasteries and surprising monuments like the **church of Santo Tomé**, which is home to the famous painting by El Greco, the Burial of the Count of Orgaz. You can also see temples of other liturgies, such as the **mosques of El Cristo de la Luz, El Salvador and Tornerías**, and the beautiful synagogues of **Santa María la Blanca, El Tránsito** and the **old main synagogue**. El Tránsito was once known as the synagogue of Samuel ha-Levi and is today home to the **Sephardic Museum**. You can also find romantic Renaissance-style palaces, **cigarrales** stately houses, old convents and churches, viewpoints, small squares and quiet corners.

Toledo is an icon of imperial Spain, and discovering traces of its splendour in every part of the city is a moving and unforgettable experience.





# ÚBEDA



1. "HOSPITAL DE SANTIAGO" EXHIBITIONS AND CONVENTIONS CENTRE
2. PLAZA DE ANDALUCÍA
3. OLD TOWN HALL
4. PLAZA VÁZQUEZ DE MOLINA: PALACIO JUAN VÁZQUEZ DE MOLINA PALACE

THE CITY SURROUNDED BY A SEA OF OLIVE TREES, SET OUT ON AN ARABIC PLAN AND THAT BLOSSOMED IN RENAISSANCE TIMES.



A sea of olive trees surrounds the city that has been called "the Moorish queen", "modest" and "astounding". Úbeda, founded by the Arabs on prehistoric and Roman settlements, has astonished the visitor for centuries, but only blossomed in the Renaissance.

A monumental city par excellence, it has 48 outstanding monuments and nine buildings that have been declared National Monument, as well as a further 19 classified as Assets of Cultural Interest, in addition to other architectural treasures.

Although the city has preserved almost in its entirety the original Muslim plan - based on an external perimeter wall, which circumscribed the medieval city and that nowadays is the limit of most of the historical centre - it was during the Renaissance when Úbeda became what it is today, due to its relationship with the empire of Carlos I and to the work of great artists, like architect Andrés de Vandelvira, whose creativity interpreted Humanism in a personal way and with unparalleled artistic quality. Its palaces, churches, convents and squares are proof of it.

Some of the most outstanding Renaissance monuments can be found around the Plaza Vázquez de Molina square: The Sacred Chapel of El Salvador; the Palacio del Deán Ortega palace, currently a Parador de Turismo hotel; the Marqués de Mancera palace; the Church of Santa María de los Reales Alcázares, with its Renaissance façade and Gothic cloister; the Fuente Renacentista fountain and the Palacio Vázquez de Molina palace, currently the City Hall.

Around this square there are many streets and stately squares, around which many more palaces, churches and convents are set: the Gothic church of San Pablo; the San Miguel convent and the Oratorio de San Juan de la Cruz, in which the mystic poet died; the church of Santísima Trinidad, in Baroque style; that of San Nicolás de Bari, with its Gothic plan, among many other Renaissance jewels.

All this heritage led to Úbeda being declared Historical-Artistic Ensemble in 1955, while in 1975 it was appointed as Exemplary City of the Renaissance. Later on, in 2003, it was included, along with Baeza, in UNESCO's World Heritage List.

A perfect destination that will stay with the visitor as a unique experience for those who love art, culture, history, good food and authenticity.



ÚBEDA

## DON'T MISS:

- Sacred Chapel of El Salvador.
- Palacio Juan Vázquez de Molina palace, currently the City Hall.
- Church of Santa María de los Reales Alcázares.
- Hospital de Santiago.
- Plaza 1º de Mayo square.
- Artisanal workshops (San Millán area).
- Easter Week.
- Festival Internacional de Música y Danza "Ciudad de Úbeda" ("City of Úbeda" International Music and Dance Festival, in May and June)
- Muestra de Teatro de Otoño (Autumn Theatre Festival, October to December).
- Festival de Música Antigua de Úbeda y Baeza (Úbeda and Baeza Ancient Music Festival, November and December)
- Jornadas Gastronómicas en el Renacimiento (Gastronomic Renaissance Seminar, January to March).





# THEMED ROUTES

CONVENTIONS, WORLD HERITAGE CITIES  
AND THE SPANISH LANGUAGE, MODERN  
AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE,  
NATURAL AREAS, SEPHARDIC HERITAGE,  
ROMAN HISPANIA, ISLAMIC LEGACY,  
NAUTICAL TOURISM, ACTIVE TOURISM,  
GOLF, RENAISSANCE CITIES, OLIVE OIL  
TOURISM AND RELIGIOUS TOURISM.





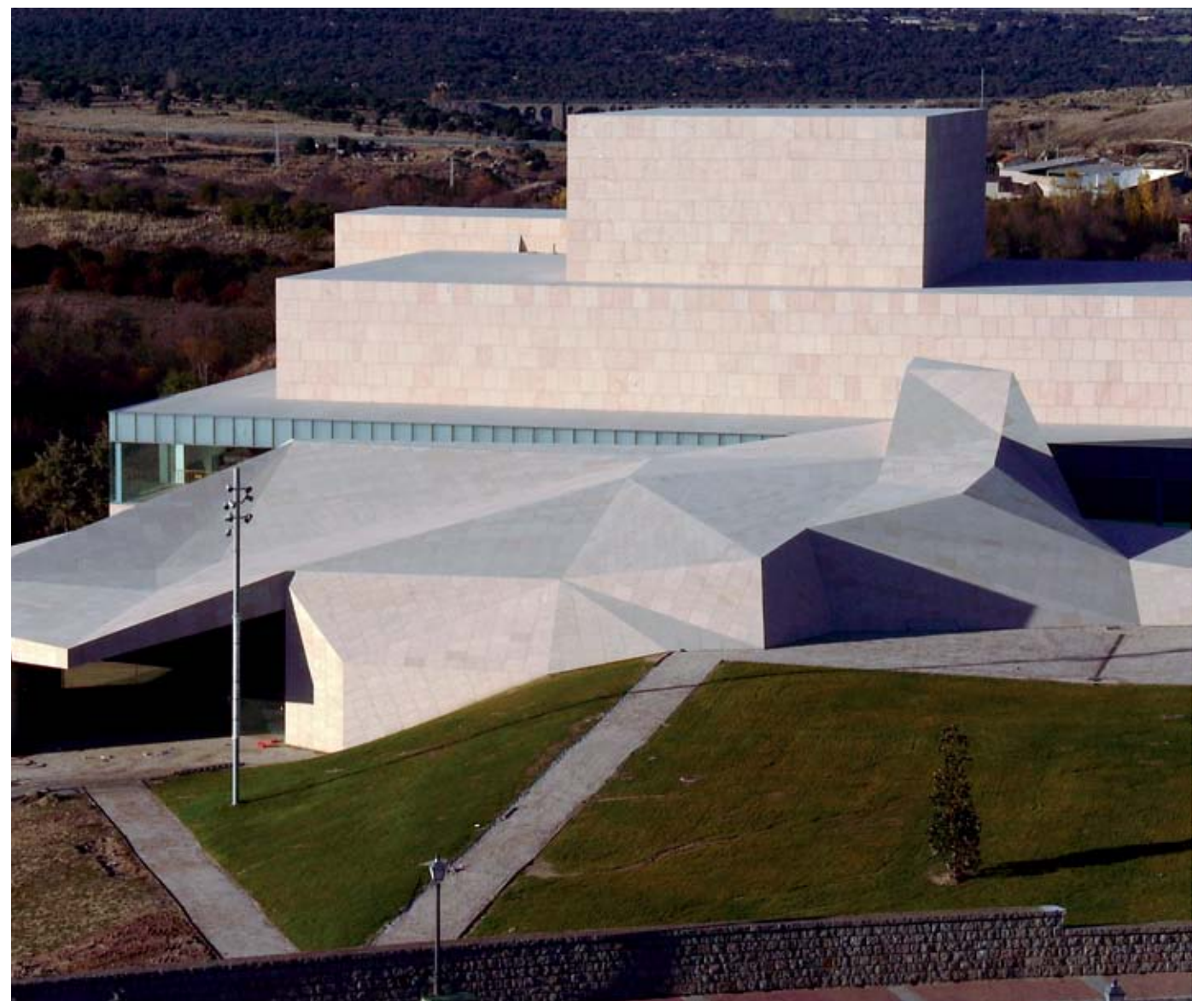
All of these cities are also members of the Spain Convention Bureau, whose objective is the joint promotion of these destinations in the convention market, under the slogan "Chosen by History". These settings have a wide range of facilities and infrastructures for the organisation of events, with the added value of being grouped together with historic buildings.

Although these seven cities have a high degree of specialisation, all thirteen members of the group have a wide variety of possibilities when it comes to organising a convention. The fact that developing professional meetings in any of these settings implies enjoying the possibility of combining work whilst appreciating beautiful monuments must be considered. That is why it is customary for companies and associations to participate in programmes which include visits to the historic centres, as well as to the museums, cathedrals, enclosed areas, archaeological sites and natural areas.

# CONVENTIONS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|   | 3 |
| 4 |   |
1. CÓRDOBA CONFERENCE CENTRE
  2. TARRAGONA CONFERENCE CENTRE
  3. MÉRIDA CONFERENCE CENTRE
  4. LIENZO NORTE CONFERENCE CENTRE. ÁVILA

IN JANUARY OF 2003 THE ALIANZA DE CIUDADES PATRIMONIO DE CONGRESOS DE ESPAÑA WAS CONSTITUTED, WHICH COMPRISES THE CONVENTION BUREAUX OF ALCALÁ DE HENARES, ÁVILA, CÓRDOBA, CUENCA, SALAMANCA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA AND TOLEDO.







1. SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION CENTRE
2. SAN FRANCISCO CULTURAL COMPLEX, CÁCERES
3. CÓRDOBA CONFERENCE CENTRE
4. SALAMANCA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

In recent years, the World Heritage Cities have made improvements to their facilities, with important conference centres being built, exhibition sites, auditoriums and other facilities for the organisation of hundreds and, in some cases, thousands of attendees. From a logistical point of view, these are exceptionally well communicated places with different connection possibilities. The exoticism of these places acts as an attractive incentive to come and attend events.

These cities also specialise in the restoration of old monuments, which now contain rooms of different sizes for hosting events. There are endless possibilities, from assembly halls in historic universities to convents, Episcopal palaces, museums, old hospitals and buildings of regional architecture.

The evolution of these historic centres has attracted the best designers in modern architecture who have conceived modern spaces, providing a touch of avant-garde to the monumental setting of these cities. Many of these spaces have been designed to hold events and conventions.

There is also a very extensive hotel sector of the World Heritage Cities of Spain which adapts to all needs and budgets. There are hotels in the historic centres,



in the quiet outskirts and in rural areas. They are all equipped with multiple meeting rooms and all the necessary technical services in order to guarantee a successful convention.

The cities, through their Convention Bureaux or tourist information offices, propose the best alternatives and

offer detailed descriptions of the available resources for holding events and complementary activities. This helps the companies and groups involved to find the right solutions depending on the requirements.

Hosting any type of event in a World Heritage City is a guarantee of success.







# WORLD HERITAGE CITIES AND THE SPANISH LANGUAGE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
|   | 3 |
1. STATUE OF LAZARILLO DE TORMES AND SANTIAGO CHURCH, SALAMANCA
  2. CELL OF SANTA TERESA. LA ENCARNACIÓN MONASTERY. ÁVILA
  3. BAPTISMAL FONT OF CERVANTES. LOS UNIVERSOS DE CERVANTES INTERPRETATION CENTRE. ALCALÁ DE HENARES

FOLLOWING THE HERITAGE CITIES' WAKE WILL LET THE VISITOR DISCOVER THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE CASTILIAN LANGUAGE AND FIND TRACES OF THE KNOWLEDGE LEFT BEHIND BY THE GREATEST WRITERS OF OUR LITERATURE: CERVANTES, LOPE DE VEGA, SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS, MIGUEL DE UNAMUNO.



## ALCALÁ DE HENARES

The Camino de la Lengua (Route of Spanish Literature) takes you on a journey through the great Spanish landmarks, from when the language was born around about the 10<sup>th</sup> century in San Milán de la Cogolla, passing through different places in Castile and Leon where it developed, to Alcalá de Henares. Here it reached its maturity, brought to life by the literature of the Golden Age and the presence of universal authors like Lope de Vega, Quevedo, Tirso de Molina and Calderón de la Barca.

However, Alcalá is first and foremost the city where Cervantes was born. Every year, the city pays tribute to this legendary figure in Cervantes Week, in October, as it is transformed into a city from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. The city also hosts the cultural programme of El Abril de Cervantes; the extraordinary museum which today includes the house where the author was born, the Ruta por la Ciudad Literaria (City of Literature Route) and the Interpretation Centre. The Universos de Cervantes Interpretation Centre is an example of the city's permanent homage to its honorary citizen. Alcalá is also the world capital of Hispanic Writings, as it is home to the central office of the Instituto Cervantes, where the Premio Cervantes de Literatura (Cervantes Literature Award) is presented every year, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

## ÁVILA

The walls of Ávila, the cathedral, churches, convents and monumental buildings were the scene of the mystic experiences of Saint Teresa of Jesus and Saint John of the Cross. The impact and intensity of their religious and literary work has made them undisputed references of a city where history and quest for knowledge go hand-in-hand.

In Ávila we not only find traces of both authors, but also of other, more contemporary ones from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. Authors like Unamuno, García Lorca, 'Azorín' and

Delibes, who found inspiration in this city, produced some of the most beautiful passages in Spanish literature. Every one of the new gates of the wall of Ávila lets you cross the barrier of the present and the past in search of historic, literary and artistic adventures.

## SALAMANCA

Salamanca witnessed the birth of the first grammar structure of a modern European language. This was the work of the university professor Elio Antonio de Nebrija, who edited "Gramática de la Lengua Castellana" in 1492. It meant the establishment of the foundation of the Spanish language, whilst it spread around the New World.

The University of Salamanca, founded in 1218, has played its part in spreading the Spanish language over the centuries. Today, it is the centre of attraction for thousands of students from all over the world, who want to learn Spanish on international courses. Before these students, came writers like Unamuno and Góngora, and Saint John of the Cross and Fray Luis de León who left their legacy on the university. This historic part of the Camino de la Lengua comprises a mixture of real and fictitious people and characters like Lazarillo de Tormes, Saint Teresa of Jesus, Beatriz Galindo and el Licenciado Vidriera, as well as the Orchard of Calixto and Melibea and the old classrooms of the university.

## ÚBEDA

Úbeda can also be discovered through its writers, following the various streets and squares in which the literary history of the city has been made. The places where the traces of authors such as Saint John of the Cross, who arrived in Úbeda on the 28th of September, 1591, to "cure a slight fever" but ended up dying in the Convent of the Discalced Carmelite Friars of Úbeda. The convent now houses the **Museo San Juan de la Cruz**, the only devoted to honour the saint's memory. This museum exhibits various relics and mementoes and, throughout its twelve rooms, the visitor can learn about the life and ideas of this mystic poet.

There is also a library specialised in the life and work of Saint John and in spirituality, which organises every year, in the second week of November, the "**Semana Sanjuanista**", an event including activities such as seminars with the participation of the most remarkable national and international specialists on Saint John of the Cross.







# MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE

ALTHOUGH WE PLACE HUGE IMPORTANCE ON MAINTAINING THE HISTORIC ASPECTS OF OUR CITIES, THE REAL FOCUS OF THESE IS UNDOUBTEDLY THEIR FUTURE.

Our strong commitment to our historical heritage does not free us of the huge responsibility of enriching our urban centres with defining architectural, artistic and scenic elements that are suitable for our era. Buildings of contemporary design act as a driving force for the historic buildings, as they are adapted to the needs of the local population, creating more tourist resources at the same time.



1. JUAN XXIII BUS STATION, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
2. METROPOL THEATRE, TARRAGONA
3. CASA LIS-ART NOUVEAU AND ART DECO MUSEUM, SALAMANCA

## MÉRIDA

Mérida offers surprising remnants of the new architectural trends from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century up to the present day. The city's railway bridge is an example of iron engineering from the last part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There is also a bridge designed by Carlos Fernández Casado, who was one of the best Spanish engineers, and another one called the Lusitania Bridge, by Santiago Calatrava. The silo of the old Servicio Nacional del Trigo (National Wheat Service) and the Plaza de Toros (bullring) are two important monuments of local architecture. The city is also scattered with buildings designed by famous architects like Juan Navarro Baldeweg, Sáinz de Oíza, Rafael Moneo, Fuensanta Nieto and Enrique Sobejano.

## SALAMANCA

Salamanca has won some important awards in avant-garde architecture. The Conference and Exhibition Centre, designed by Navarro Baldeweg, was the deserved winner of the National Award for Architecture and the Gold Medal for Architecture in 2008, like the Centro de las Artes Escénicas de la Música (Music and Scenic Arts Centre) by Bayón Álvarez; the Liceo Theatre by Fernández del Castillo; and the Cerro de San Vicente (archaeological site) and the Faculty of Pharmacy. The city is also full of curious restorations like the Episcopal palace and the bullring. There is also a significant presence of modern-style architecture, thanks to the Mercado de Abastos (supply market) and the Casa Lis.



## SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Álvaro Siza, Jean Nouvel, Arata Isozaki, Norman Foster, Gallego Jorroto, Giorgio Grassi, John Hejduk, Josef Paul Kleihues, Alberto Noguero, Andrés Perea, Peter Eisenman, César Portela, López Cotel, Albert Viaplana, Helio Piñón and others have enriched the urban landscape of Santiago over the last two decades, with outstanding examples of contemporary architecture, giving you another reason to visit the city. The Parliament of Galicia building, the conference and exhibition centre, the auditorium and Galician Centre of Contemporary Art, along with new faculties, libraries and sports centres are some examples that must be seen. Peter Eisenmann's City of Culture, whose first phase was inaugurated in January 2011, will be the city's greatest work of contemporary architecture. [www.cidadedacultura.org](http://www.cidadedacultura.org)

## TARRAGONA

The modern side of Tarragona offers the visitor an interesting tour, starting with the forts of Sant Jordi and La Reina María Estuardo on the tip of El Milagro beach. Here the stately homes of Canals, Montoliu and Castellarnau date back to this period. From the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to 1920, the city was the object of three extension plans which shaped the appearance of the present-day city. The artists who powerfully introduced the precepts of modern architecture were Josep Maria Jujol, Antoni Gaudí and Lluís Domènech i Montaner. Jujol was the author of the Metropol Theatre, the lady chapel of the convent of Los Padres Carmelitas Descalzos and the Casa Ximenis; Gaudí designed the chapel of the Nuestra Señora del Sagrado Corazón sanctuary and Domènech the creator of the tomb of King Jaume I.

## TOLEDO

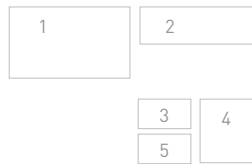
Apart from Toledo's extraordinary heritage, the city also has several new constructions and old buildings which have been restored. These projects have received several awards as they have harmonised the identifying marks of the fortified city with the aesthetics and functionality of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. La Granja Escalator and buildings like the Casa Toledana, the municipal archive and the Centro Tecnológico de la Madera (technology centre) comprise some of the most spectacular examples. Private and public sector companies have also been involved in the restoration of symbolic buildings which are now restaurants, private homes, leisure facilities and home to different organisations.







# NATURAL AREAS



1. SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA, EL BATÁN COUNTRY HOUSE IN ANAGA RURAL PARK
2. SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA, MONTE DE LAS MERCEDES IN ANAGA RURAL PARK
3. GRIFFON VULTURE IN MONFRAGÜE PARK IN CÁCERES
4. STORK'S NEST IN CÁCERES
5. CORNALVO NATURE RESERVE IN MÉRIDA

SOME WORLD HERITAGE CITIES COMBINE MONUMENTAL WEALTH WITH BEAUTIFUL STRETCHES OF LANDSCAPE, WHICH LINK TO SOME OF THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE NATURAL AREAS IN THE COUNTRY.

## CUENCA

The area around Cuenca has a wide range of natural resources which make it a precious place to visit. El Hosquillo Hunting Park and Las Hoces del Cabriel Nature Reserve comprise extraordinarily beautiful landscapes and contain very diverse fauna. The source of the River Cuervo, where the water drops from the high rocks, is truly spectacular. The area is also known for its rocky spots that have eroded over time, such as the magnificent Ciudad Encantada and the Callejones de las Majadas. You must also see the area comprising the caved-in Torcas de los Palancares and the cave paintings of Villar del Humo.

## IBIZA/EIVISSA

Thanks to its monumental and natural heritage and its landscape, which is the result of centuries of symbiosis between man and nature, Ibiza/Eivissa has the only joint proclamation on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The posidonia meadows, mainly concentrated in Ses Salines de Ibiza/Eivissa and Formentera Nature Reserve, are the ecological resources of the Pine Islands archipelago. These underwater forests oxygenate the sea and make the waters clear and pure. In addition to this, they form thousand-year-old reefs that protect the coast, they facilitate the formation and stability of the beaches and sand dunes, and they provide a unique habitat where hundreds of marine species reproduce.

## MÉRIDA

The Romans made Mérida one of their most symbolic cities on the Iberian Peninsula. It was chosen because of its special geographic location, close to natural areas and fertile lands. Its most significant ecological resources are the meadows of the Cornalvo Nature Reserve and Prado de Labara; the mountainous area of San Servant; Grader and Pena's Blanca's, a rocky area of Mediterranean vegetation; the wetlands of the Guadiana, Albumen, Algarrobas, Catchalls and Mitchell rivers and the Lange reservoir. These spots have large areas of extensive cultivation, with a predominance of cereal, olive grove and vineyard, and intensive cultivation on irrigated land between Las Vegas Atlas and Las Vegas Baja's, in the centre of Extremadura.

## SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA

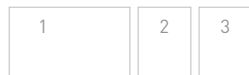
San Cristóbal de La Laguna is immersed in a unique natural environment, which contains Anaga Rural Park. This massif is one of the three vertexes of Tenerife. It has extraordinary landscapes, remote beaches, pools of lava, spectacular cliffs and leafy forests. These forests are scattered with country houses that are adapted to the land and inhabited by a minimal population, which lives from the agriculture. The landscape is exceptional and includes some of the wildest areas of the island. The laurisilva and the fayal-brezal, as well as the middle-elevation juniper woodlands and cardonales-tabaibales are excellent examples of well conserved natural habitats, with numerous protected species and over thirty threatened ones.







# SEPHARDIC HERITAGE



1. CALLE MAYOR, ALCALÁ DE HENARES
2. LA MALAVENTURA GATE, ÁVILA
3. PART OF THE OLD MAIN SYNAGOGUE, SEGOVIA

## DISCOVERING THE SEPHARDIC HERITAGE COMPRISES ONE OF THE MOST SURPRISING ROUTES OFFERED BY THE GRUPO DE CIUDADES PATRIMONIO DE LA HUMANIDAD DE ESPAÑA.

The route which links the Jewish quarters of Ávila, Cáceres, Córdoba, Segovia and Toledo, lets you experience these medieval districts by strolling around the narrow and winding streets and seeing the magnificent synagogues.

### ÁVILA

Like in many in Spanish medieval cities, Jews, Mudéjars and Christians coexisted in Ávila. There is an abundance of documentation on the prominence of the Jewish community that existed here, with the Jewish quarter as the most important enclave of its heritage. The Hebrews were the owners of a good part of the homes between the Grande and Chico markets, meaning that their shops were located on the Calles Don Jerónimo, Alemania and Reyes Católicos.

On the Calle Reyes Católico we find the old Belforad synagogue, which was reconverted into the Christian church of La Virgen de las Nieves. It has an old Rabbi home, which is now occupied by a hotel and a good part of the original areas of the home has been conserved. In the Plaza del Pocillo, the pointed arch of the gate marks the location of the old fifteenth-century synagogue of Don Samuel, which is now a private home. After the expulsion of the Jews in 1492, the area became depopulated, transforming into a marginal area of small houses and orchards. Beyond the Puerta de la Malaventura you can still see the garden of Moses de León, who was the author of the Zohar.

### CÁCERES

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century, when the Christians reconquered Cáceres, the city had a major Jewish quarter and in the 15<sup>th</sup> century 200 families formed part of it. It is situated in the shelter of the city walls, in the lowest and steepest area of the inner precincts. The buildings here are small, with small windows, arched doors

and white-washed facades, as the sloped streets considerably influenced their initial design. The uneven streets contrast with the aristocratic ostentation of the palaces and coats of arms of the old noble Cáceres. The chapel of San Antonio is the central building of the quarter, where the synagogue was a long time ago.

The new Jewish quarter began to take shape in 1478, when all the Jews were ordered to meet in one area, on the outskirts of the city, around the Plaza Mayor. According to tradition, the synagogue was situated on the site which is presently occupied by the Marqués de la Isla palace. Different documents also prove that there were groups of houses and shops that belonged to Jews in the Plaza Mayor, the city's principal commercial centre.

### CÓRDOBA

Between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries, there was a strong resurgence of Sephardic Judaism under Muslim power in Córdoba, the capital of Al-Andalus. When Abd-ar-Raman III declared himself as Caliph of Córdoba in 929, a policy of reconciliation began, which favoured the Jewish community. This gave rise to a significant cultural development, characterised by important people like Hasday Ibn Shaprut, who was the caliph's personal doctor and protocol chief, and Maimonides. When Fernando III recaptured the city, he also established a policy of tolerance. The synagogue of Córdoba is on the Calle Judíos. This is one of the most historic and attractive synagogues in the world and the





1

3

2

4

5

1. CÓRDOBA SYNAGOGUE
2. PART OF THE OLD LOS IBÁÑEZ SYNAGOGUE, SEGOVIA
3. STAINED GLASS WINDOWS OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH, SEGOVIA
4. OLD JEWISH QUARTER, CÁCERES
5. EL TRÁNSITO SYNAGOGUE, TOLEDO

### TOLEDO

The Jewish quarter in Toledo is situated in the southeast of the city, occupying a tenth of the fortified zone. Its medieval appearance has been preserved, with its walkways, small streets, arches and paved slopes.

The existence of the Jews in Toledo can be traced back to the Romans in 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D., although due to the different diasporas, they undoubtedly arrived previously. The Jews first settled in the district of San Martín, between the Puerta del Cambrón and the river Tagus. The Arabs allocated them this place so that they could set up liturgical baths or *Mikveh*, Kasher slaughterhouse, primary school or *Beit Sefer*, bread ovens and markets. In the year 920, they erected a wall for their protection. The quarter comprised a framework of walls and streets closed off with doors, with several linking passages and alleyways. You can still see the house of Ishaq, who loaned money to

Isabella I in order to finance the expedition to the New World, as well as the Arquillo del Judío (arch) and the Puerta del Cambrón, among other enclaves.

Toledo also stands out because of its synagogues, with over ten in the city at one point. The biggest one, presently known as Santa María la Blanca, was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and is now a monument of exceptional value in the history of Spanish-Arabic art. On the other hand, El Tránsito Synagogue, formally known as the Samuel-ha-Levi Synagogue, was a church for centuries and today is home to the Sephardic Museum. The museum's rooms illustrate the evolution of the culture in the old Sepharad. The building was constructed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century by the powerful Samuel Levi, the treasurer of King Pedro I El Cruel (the cruel), which contains a beautiful prayer assembly room, profusely decorated in a Mudéjar-style typical of Toledo.

only one in Andalusia. It was built in 1315 in the typical Mudéjar style of this period, with a courtyard, pointed arch and arabesque design. In 1885 it was declared a National Monument.

The Jewish quarter was created in the time of Arab control and is located very near the mosque-cathedral. It is characterised by its narrow, zigzagging and labyrinthian streets. However, not all the Jews inhabited this district. Some settled in nearby Christian houses and also in the commercial areas, in the districts of San Salvador and San Andrés. They inhabited this area until 1391, when it was stormed. This event caused the community to end its isolation, with a mass conversion to Christianity taking place.

### SEGOVIA

Strolling around the Jewish quarter is one of the most popular activities for visitors to Segovia. This medieval district is located in the south of the enclosed area, in the sector comprised between the Plaza del Corpus Christi and Las Canonjías district. It is enclosed by seven brick arches and its main axis passes through the two Jewish quarters: La Nueva (the New) and La Vieja (the Old). Both are comprised of narrow, uneven and steep streets, which characterises Eastern urban planning. The population resided in small masonry houses, as well as houses made of limestone and of bricks with wooden frameworks with interior courtyards and small gardens. There is a stretch of the wall which has a walkway where you can pass along to see the magnificent views of the district.

The five synagogues in the Jewish quarter are evidence of how important the area became. Despite being destroyed by a big fire in 1899, the old main synagogue on the Calle Real is the best example of a well preserved original structure of its kind. The building,

which was restored in 2004, has a typical courtyard entrance, defined in the interior part by three naves that are separated by horseshoe arches on octagonal pillars. In 1419 it was consecrated to Catholic worship. Today it is a convent for the Sisters of Penitence. The Jewish necropolis in Segovia is also an important place to visit. It is located on the outside of the city, in a spot known as El Pinarillo.

However, to be able to understand the city's Jewish history, you must visit the Centro Didáctico de la Judería (Jewish Quarter Education Centre), in the Casa de Abraham Seneor.







### ALCALÁ DE HENARES

The ancient Complutum is the only Roman city in the *Comunidad de Madrid* (autonomous region of Madrid). It was situated next to a major road which connected Augusta Emérita to Caesaraugusta, making it one of the most important metropolises on the peninsula. The work of archaeologists has revealed some remarkable findings. These findings include the city forum, where you can see the basilica, thermal baths, cryptoporticus, market and monumental facade; the Casa de Hippolytus, the first visitable archaeological site in the Madrid region to be made into a museum, which was an old school for local children; and the Casa de los Grifos, which has an extraordinary collection of wall paintings.

The Regional Archaeological Museum of the *Comunidad de Madrid* houses many of the treasures of this great Roman splendour.

### CÓRDOBA

Córdoba was conquered by the Romans in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century B.C., under the leadership of the General Marcus Claudius. Córdoba, under Augustus, became the capital of the province of Hispania Baetica, until the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The fruit from the countryside and the minerals from the sierra made the city a place of constant economic activity, which led to the construction of important buildings. These included the Roman temple, the public forum, the Casa del Bailío, the Villa de Santa Rosa, the palace of Maximian, the mausoleum and the amphitheatre, whose remains can still be seen.

### MÉRIDA

The Roman legacy of Mérida seems to appear in every corner of the city. It stands out because of its excellent

condition and because all the important operational elements of the city converge. Mérida comprises an unforgettable archaeological collection, which includes forums; defensive structures like the city wall; leisure and competition facilities, like the circus, amphitheatre, theatre and thermal baths; infrastructural constructions like bridges, dams and aqueducts; and the streets, arcades, sewers, fountains and several monuments.

### SEGOVIA

The presence of Rome in the province of Segovia can be traced back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century B.C. The territory was structured around three municipalities, with several smaller settlements being established around the cities. At this time, construction began on the aqueduct of Segovia. This creation brought great prestige to the builders and to the town itself. Around the high part of this there were stately homes and thermal baths, whose remains can still be partially seen. The findings of the excavations of the last decades can be viewed in the Museum of Segovia.

### TARRAGONA

Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio disembarked in Tarragona in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. and set up a garrison which would later become the principal military base of Hispania. The city had been structured in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, with a street network and the city wall. The wall was 3500 metres long and today you can still see a third part of it, as some of the sections and three towers have been well preserved. Other facilities were also built at this time in Tarraco, including the provincial forum, the temple of Augustus, the circus, the amphitheatre, thermal baths, the Centcelles Roman villa and the early-Christian necropolis.

# ROMAN HISPANIA

1

2

3

4

5

1. ROMAN THEATRE, MÉRIDA
2. MOSAICO DE LOS PECES. CASA DE HIPPOLYTUS, ALCALÁ DE HENARES
3. CORDÓBA ROMAN TEMPLE
4. ROMAN CIRCUS, TARRAGONA
5. AQUEDUCT OF SEGOVIA

FOLLOWING THE TRACES OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE AROUND THE IBERIAN PENINSULA IS A TRULY UNIQUE EXPERIENCE.

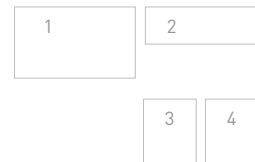
This legacy is especially fascinating in the five cities declared as World Heritage Sites: Alcalá de Henares, Córdoba, Mérida, Segovia and Tarragona.







# ISLAMIC LEGACY



1. CATHEDRAL-MOSQUE OF CÓRDOBA
2. ALJIBE DE CÁCERES (WATER CISTERN)
3. TORRE DE LA YERBA, CÁCERES
4. HAMMAN, ARAB BATHS, CÓRDOBA

THE ERA OF MUSLIM DOMINATION COMPRISES ONE OF THE MOST HIGHLIGHTED PERIODS IN THE COUNTRY'S HISTORY, IN WHICH A BIG PART OF THE SPANISH LAND INTEGRATED INTO A HUGE TERRITORY KNOWN AS **AL-ANDALUS**.

Like the Roman Hispania, the Muslim civilisation left traces of its splendour with a heritage that enriches numerous cities. An essential part of this Arab legacy is concentrated in two of the World Heritage Cities in Spain, Cáceres and Córdoba.

## CÁCERES

After 1142, Cáceres became the main strategic point in Extremadura for the Almohads. Therefore, in the third part of the 12<sup>th</sup> century with the principal aim of defending the city, a rectangular-shaped wall was built, which was crenelated and had a surrounding walkway. The fortification has some crenelated towers, some that are attached to the wall and some detached ones, most of which have been preserved. The Bujaco tower stands out because of the material used for its construction, its stonework and ashlar, whilst the towers of El Horno, La Yerba, La Redonda and the Desmochada are also impressive.

In the Arab period there was a fortress situated in the upper part of the city. Its water cistern has been preserved and was classified as the first one in Spain to be built and the second one in the world, due to its preserved condition. You must pay this monument a visit if you want to learn about the past and present life of the city of Cáceres.

## CÓRDOBA

After the Muslims defeated the Visigoths in the year 711 they gained control of the city of Córdoba, transforming it into the capital of the province of the Islamic world which would be known as Al-Andalus. In 756 the city gained independence from Damascus forming the

Independent Emirate of Córdoba under the control of Abd al Rahman I. In 785 the emir made what would turn out to be an important decision for the historic legacy of the Omeyas, the construction of the Mezquita (mosque). This was built on the foundations of the Visigoth basilica of San Vicente, and was extended at various stages. It has been a World Heritage Site since 1984 and today it is the third largest mosque in the world.

Muslim Córdoba's greatest splendour was completed with the arrival of Abd-ar-Rahman III in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, making Córdoba the most thriving, cultured and populated city in Europe. He was also responsible for the building of the palatine Medina Azahara, which was a government base and place of residence.

The never-ending list of wise men and artists who gathered in Muslim Córdoba includes the poets Ibn Hazam and Ibn Zaydun, the prestigious ophthalmologist Al-Gafequi, the musician Ziryab and the philosophers Averroes and the Jew Maimonides. The caliphate began to fall apart and ceased to exist in 1013. This was due to the civil wars which finished with the central power and led to the formation of the Taifa Kingdoms all over Al-Andalus. It was later reconquered by the Christians in the 13<sup>th</sup> century.







# RELIGIOUS TOURISM

1	2	3
	4	

1. BOTAFUMEIRO, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
2. SIXTEENTH-CENTURY CHOIR GRILLES OF THE CATHEDRAL-MAGISTRAL, ALCALÁ DE HENARES
3. HUÉCAR GORGE AND SAN PABLO CONVENT, CUENCA
4. EASTER WEEK PROCESSION IN THE PLAZA DE AZABACHERÍA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

THE TRACES OF SAINTS, AND THE ARTISTIC GRANDEUR PRODUCED BY THE THREE LARGEST MONOTHEISTIC RELIGIONS, PROVIDE THE BASIS TO GATHER EIGHT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CITIES - ALCALÁ DE HENARES, ÁVILA, BAEZA, CUENCA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SEGOVIA, TOLEDO AND ÚBEDA - IN A ROUTE WHERE SPIRITUALITY AND FAITH ARE THE MAIN ATTRACTIVE.

## ALCALÁ DE HENARES

In the 4<sup>th</sup> century a significant event marked the beginning of the Alcalá's deep religiosity. The citizens of Complutum witnessed how two young boys suffered martyrdom for refusing to abjure their Christina faith. This coincided with the persecutions against the Christians at the command of the Roman Emperor Diocletian. From then on, the city became a centre for pilgrimage and worships the two martyrs, the Saints Justus and Pastor.

The veneration of other saints followed, like those of San Diego de Alcalá and the Virgen del Val. In addition to these, other members of religious orders, like Santo Tomás de Villanueva, San José de Calasanz and San Ignacio de Loyola, who would be raised to the altar, were initially attracted to the city by its university. Their traces can be followed all over the city, as well as those of other saints like San Francisco Caracciolo, San Juan de la Cruz and Santa Teresa, who lived here in these crucial times of devotion. Alcalá also holds an exceptional week of Easter celebrations Fiesta of National Tourist Interest, which can be enjoyed by following the Ruta de las Procesiones (Route of Processions).

## ÁVILA

Ávila is perceived as a spiritual place and is the city of Saint Teresa of Jesus. Teresa was born in 1515 and lived in Ávila throughout her infancy, youth and adult life where she shaped her ideas and nurtured her dreams. She lived during the Ávila Golden Age, which

is reflected in the city's urban renovation, remodelling of the temples and in the new foundations, all of which was a result of the economic and social revival. There is a route of the places in relation to Teresa, such as the convents of Santa Teresa and San José, the monastery of La Encarnación and the Mysticism Interpretation Centre.

In addition to this, some of the most outstanding pages of the mystic Hebrew, Islamic and Christian languages were written in Ávila. Here you can follow the traces of historic people like Teresa de Cepeda Ahumada (Saint Teresa), John of the Cross, Peder de Alcántara, Moses de León, Nissim Ben Abraham and Mancebo de Arévalo.

## BAEZA

The Easter Week ceremonies, declared of National Tourist Interest in the late '70s, is remarkably sober and recollected. One of its highlights are the concerts by the **Coral Baezana** on the Holy Tuesday at the Cathedral, during which the public will enjoy the **Miserere** by Hilarión Eslava, composed specifically for this church. The processions in Baeza have an added interest in the artistic value of the statues, most of which are from Gothic or Renaissance times. The **Corpus Christi** Festival, carried out in June, is also very popular in Baeza. The historical centre is adorned with shrines and flower carpets, the buildings have their façanes decorated and the streets are covered with awnings to prepare the way for the Corpus procession, in which the Monstrance -a work by goldsmith Gaspar Núñez de Castro, from 1714- takes the place of honour.

## CUENCA

Cuenca's extraordinary heritage can be seen best in its religious buildings in the historic centre and the surrounding districts, which are full of churches and convents. Easter Week here is celebrated to the full and dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It has been declared Fiesta of International Tourist Interest. The extraordinary beauty of the procession reaches its summit in the evening, as it passes through the city's streets, immersed in the medieval atmosphere.





1

2

1. SEGOVIA CATHEDRAL

2. CHAPTERHOUSE. PRIMADA DE SANTA MARÍA CATHEDRAL, TOLEDO

The highlight of these is the Camino del Calvario procession, popularly known as “Las Turbas”.

Besides this, Cuenca organises one of its most important annual events the Religious Music Week, which has also has been declared Fiesta of International Tourist Interest. The festival programme is the fourth oldest in Spain. It includes several performances, by orchestras, choirs and singers of international stature who perform compositions of Christian music.

#### TOLEDO

The extraordinary resemblance between Toledo and Jerusalem make the Spanish city a unique setting in Easter Week for remembering the events of over two thousand years ago.

The celebration of Corpus Christi is equally impressive. It dates back to 1342 and was declared Fiesta of National Tourist Interest in 2006 and Fiesta of International Tourist Interest. It begins with the raising of the awnings which comprise the procession canopy for the Custodia de Arfe (monstrance) and concludes with the Solemn Procession and the accompanying colourful brotherhood processions. The streets are transformed into an open-air church, decorated with lights, garlands, sixteenth-century tapestries and banners, whilst a strong aroma of thyme, rosemary, lavender and pervades the atmosphere. The city is also the only place on the peninsular where the Mozarabic

Rite is celebrated. This was introduced by the first Christians on the peninsular and is now performed on a daily basis in the Mozárabe chapel and on Corpus Christi in the cathedral.

#### SEGOVIA

Segovia comprises a unique setting for following the footsteps of several historic saints. The cave where Saint Dominic took shelter, the stage where Saint Vincent Ferrer once preached, the path that Saint John of the Cross took from the monastery, where his remains lay, to the upper part of the city set the stage. The convent where Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote “Las Moradas” and “El Castillo Interior”, and the font where Saint Alfonso Rodríguez was baptised must also be seen.

In Segovia there are several monasteries, convents and churches that are full of works of art, like the monasteries of Santa María del Parral and San Antonio el Real. This sacred art is brought to the streets by the celebrations like that of Easter Week, whose procession on Good Friday marches from the cathedral to the aqueduct.

Here Christianity coexists with significant traces of other religions, which can be seen in several buildings. A good example of this is the Jewish quarter of Segovia, which gives you a good idea of how the city was in Jewish times. There are frequently held cultural and religious activities, including the magnificent Holy Music Week.

#### SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

After Jerusalem and Rome, Santiago de Compostela is considered the third holiest city in Christendom. Legend has it that the remains of the Apostle James lie in this city, which receives thousands of pilgrims from all over the world every year. The city’s history goes back to when the Apostle was executed in Jerusalem in the year 44 and his remains were brought to Galicia due to the fact that this was not permitted in the original place of death. The site of his shrine was transformed into the cathedral, which today looks over the Praza do Obradoiro.

In the Middles Ages, several convents and monasteries were built around the El Apóstol basilica. These were of various religious orders such as the Benedictines, Franciscans, Dominicans, St Clare, Carmelites and Jesuits, and can be seen on several available tours.

These orders were responsible for the safekeeping of the tomb as well as the board and lodging of the pilgrims. This led to them to share their knowledge of pharmacy and medicine with the people of the city, leading to the origin of Santiago’s medical tradition. The foundation of the university can also be put down to the educational contribution of these orders.

#### ÚBEDA

The Easter Week celebrations have a defined, particular profile that in Úbeda have led to an extraordinary magnificence and emotion. The processions in which

the fraternities (cofradías) parade, some of which can be traced back to the 16th and 17th centuries, are unparalleled in their solemnity and brilliance. The statues paraded are the work of the best 20th century religious sculptors (Mariano Benlliure, Francisco Palma Burgos, Jacinto Higuera...), and are accompanied by large crowds of the fraternities members in their penitence stops, by the sound of drums and bugles and the people filling the streets, and also by the decorated balconies and windows, the scent of incense, the colour of flowers and penitential habits... making of the whole city the most beautiful stage for an amazing play.

Among the most moving moments, of the many that the Úbeda Easter Week offers, is the departure of the Nazarene at dawn on Good Friday, famous because the “Miserere” is played while the crowds keep an imposing silence; also, the brisk climb of the Cuesta de la Merced hill carrying the statue of the Virgen de la Soledad (Our Lady of Solitude) and its mass “Despedida” (farewell) by the Cofradía del Santo Entierro (Holy Internment Fraternity) and, last but not least, the Procesión General, an impressive chronological representation of the Passion, where twenty thrones and about 3,000 penitents take part. The Úbeda Easter Week has been declared of Tourist Interest.





# RENAISSANCE CITIES



1. PLAZA VÁZQUEZ DE MOLINA (ÚBEDA)
2. SANTA MARÍA FOUNTAIN (BAEZA)
3. SAN NICOLÁS CHURCH (ÚBEDA)

OUR CITIES HAVE LIVED THROUGH VARIOUS HEYDAYS AND SHOW TODAY THE REMAINS OF THE MANY CIVILIZATIONS, CULTURES AND EMPIRES THAT SHAPED THEM. TWO OF THEM, SISTER CITIES OF ANDALUSIA, ARE A SPLENDID CATALOGUE OF THE BEST OF SPANISH RENAISSANCE. SOUTHERN SPAIN WAS AN EXTRAORDINARY CENTRE OF RENAISSANCE PRODUCTION IN ARTISTIC AND ARCHITECTURAL TERMS. OF WHICH ÚBEDA AND BAEZA ARE THE LIVING PROOF.

## BAEZA

Baeza's alleys and squares conform a monumental architectural ensemble that represents the Spanish Renaissance. Baeza reached its maximum architectural and cultural splendour during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. That was when its University was created, and around it many new religious institutions appeared. The presence of all kinds of crucial personalities, noblemen, clergy, wisemen and saints; architects, masons, painters and sculptors; physicians, musicians and poets would turn it into one of the main cities in the south of Spain, and it was going to maintain this place for a few centuries thereafter.

The Plaza de Santa María is a square around which there is a large number of monuments: the Cathedral, the City Hall (Casas Consistoriales Altas), the Fuente de Santa María fountain, the Seminario de San Felipe - with its picturesque façade covered in ancient graffiti- or, behind the Cathedral, the Casa-Palacio de Rubín de Ceballos palace. Other buildings are also worth visiting, such as the Plateresque façade of the Council - an old, 16<sup>th</sup> century prison-, and the Plaza del Pópulo, also known as the Lion's square, with the ancient *Audiencia* (the Court) and the *Carnicerías Reales* (Royal Butcher) or the San Francisco convent - considered one of the main works by Vandelvira, along with the renovation of the Cathedral -, as well as several palaces, such as the Jabalquinto palace.

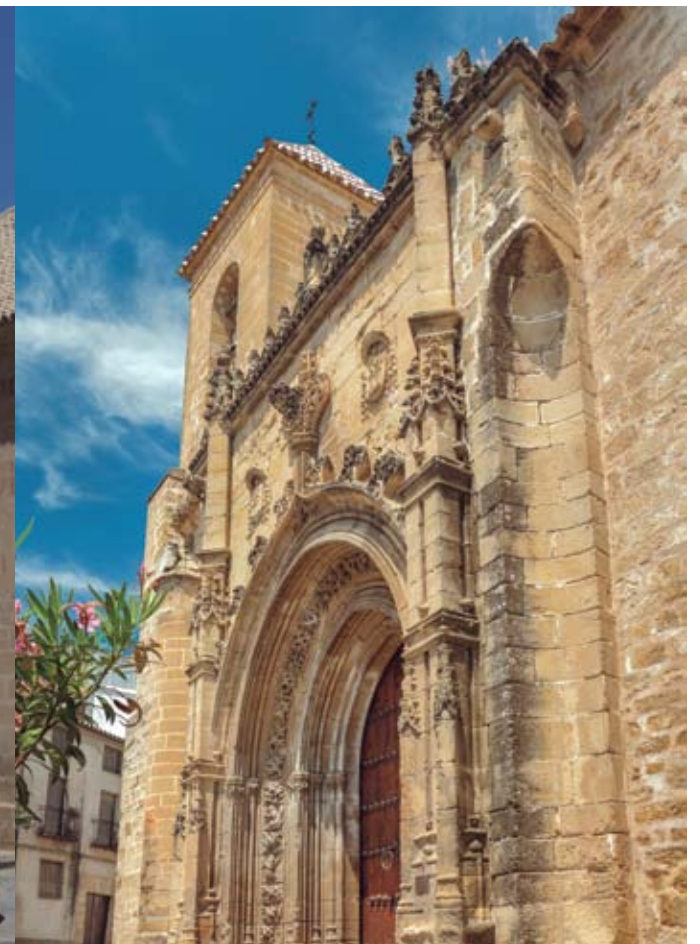
A walk through Baeza leads the visitor to discover its magnificent monumental ensemble at every step, both in its religious and civil buildings, among which it is worth mentioning the Plaza del Paseo de la Constitución square, the city's meeting point, surrounded by porticos and galleries, like the Balcón del Concejo and the Alhóndiga.

## ÚBEDA

The Renaissance emerged in the work of artists - like architect Andrés de Vandelvira - who built in Úbeda palaces, churches, convents and squares, a work that is still there today for us to restore it, enjoy it and look after it. f

At the southernmost end of the city is the Plaza Vázquez de Molina square. Some of the most outstanding Renaissance monuments can be found here: the Sacred Chapel of El Salvador; the Palacio del Deán Ortega palace, currently a Parador de Turismo hotel; the Marqués de Mancera palace; the Church of Santa María de los Reales Alcázares, with its Renaissance façade and Gothic cloister; the Fuente Renacentista fountain and the Palacio Vázquez de Molina palace, currently the City Hall.

Around this square there are many streets and stately squares, around which many more palaces, churches and convents are set: the Gothic church of San Pablo, in the pleasant Plaza del Mercado (or Primero de Mayo square), inside which there is an exquisite exhibition of Renaissance grillwork; the San Miguel convent and the Oratorio de San Juan de la Cruz, in which the mystic poet died; the church of Santísima Trinidad, in Baroque style, with a renaissance cloister boasting a double porticoed gallery; the church of San Nicolás de Bari, built on a Gothic plan but with Renaissance grilles and doorway; the church of San Pedro, also from Gothic times with a Renaissance doorway; the Santa Clara convent, one of the oldest religious institutions in the city; the church of San Lorenzo; the Casa de las Torres, a palace with a Castilian style covered in coats of arms, bas-reliefs and symbolic sculptures; the Palacio del Marqués de la Rambla, etc.







- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|   |   | 4 |

1. OLIVE TREES IN THE GUADALQUIVIR VALLEY. ÚBEDA
2. INTERPRETATION CENTRE ON OLIVE OIL. ÚBEDA
3. OLIVE TREE CULTURE MUSEUM. BAEZA
4. MILL AT WORK. ÚBEDA

# OLIVE OIL TOURISM

ROME RECEIVED ITS OIL SUPPLIES FROM ANDALUSIA, IN PARTICULAR FROM THE GUADALQUIVIR VALLEY. OTHER PARTS OF SPAIN, SUCH AS TARRAGONA, ALSO SHARED THE PASSION ROMANS HAD FOR THE SPAIN LIQUID GOLD. THROUGH CITIES LIKE BAEZA, TARRAGONA AND ÚBEDA, WE CAN REACH THE ESSENCE OF THE OLIVE CULTURE.

Olive oil tourism is a way to get to know the olive oil more in depth, not just regarding its properties for the health and beauty, but also its characteristics, taste and scent, and the ancient methods used for its collection and elaboration compared to those used today.

## BAEZA

Since an increasing number of people are becoming interested in extra virgin olive oil, the Museo de la Cultura del Olivo (Olive Tree Culture Museum) in Hacienda La Laguna has begun to carry out activities aimed at the introduction to the knowledge and sampling of olive oil, with the purpose of disseminating the olive oil culture. This initiative has received the name of *"Oleoturismo en el museo"* (Olive Oil Tourism in the Museum).

The Museo de la Cultura del Olivo offers a guided tour to the museum along with a workshop on olive oil tasting, addressed both at adults and at the little ones. This tourist product is enlarged during the collection period with a *"Desayuno Molinero"* (Miller's breakfast) made up of typical produce of the Jaén province, guided tours to *almazaras* or present-day olive oil factories and even walks through olive tree groves and Jaén farms to see first-hand all the processes involved in the collection and elaboration of the "liquid gold".

## ÚBEDA

In Úbeda, capital city of the main olive oil producing area in the province of Jaén and the world's first olive oil producer, the visitor can find an Interpretation Centre on Olive Oil and Trees, where they can live a unique experience around the Extra Virgin Olive Oil and the olive tree groves. The centre is located in a particularly beautiful 17th century building known as "la Casa de la Tercia", making it the perfect place to get to know this millenary culture in depth. A specialised shop offers the visitor a selection of the best extra virgin olive oils, various types of olives and daily tasting sessions, as well as other typical local products: food, cosmetics and crafts.

On your own or in organised trips, Úbeda offers a great range of possibilities to include olive oil tourism in your plans and make of it a unique experience that you will surely enjoy.





# NAUTICAL TOURISM

1

2  
3

1. BAJAMAR, SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA
2. CALA FONDA, TARRAGONA
3. POSIDONIA MEADOWS, IBIZA/EIVISSA

APART FROM THEIR MONUMENTAL UNIQUENESS, THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES OF IBIZA/EIVISSA, SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA AND TARRAGONA ALSO HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL VARIETY OF NAUTICAL TOURISM, WHICH ALLOWS YOU TO PRACTISE SEA SPORTS AND ENJOY THE LUXURIOUS COASTAL SETTINGS.



## IBIZA/EIVISSA

Ibiza/Eivissa Town and the surrounding coastal zone were declared a World Heritage Site due to the area's extensive posidonia meadows. Here you can enjoy the luxurious beaches, small islands, steep cliffs and practise several sea sports. There are two marinas in the town and a diving centre. The beaches of Talamanca, Ses Figueretes and Platja d'en Bossa are ideal places for learning sailing, canoeing and many other water sports.

The majority of posidonia meadows are concentrated in Ses Salines Nature Reserve. This comprises part of the coastal zone of Ibiza/Eivissa and Formentera, as well as numerous small islands scattered around the areas in between. These posidonia meadows, which were included in the declaration as a World Heritage Site, oxygenate the sea, provide a unique habitat where hundreds of marine species reproduce and facilitate the formation of sand dunes. The spectacular landscapes make the area a dream place for going sailing. Several pristine beaches can be found in this paradise, like Ses Salines and Es Cavallet in Ibiza/Eivissa, and Illetes, in Formentera.

## SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA

Although San Cristóbal de La Laguna is at an altitude of 550 metres, it comprises a stretch of coastline containing two quiet and friendly coastal areas that must be visited when on the island of Tenerife. Bajamar and Punta del Hidalgo are located about fifteen kilometres away from La Laguna in the coastal zone

around the Macizo de Anaga, one of the oldest rock formations in Tenerife. You can experience the pleasure of walking by the cliffs, whilst observing the area's vegetation of Balsam Spurge, Canary Island Spurge and palm groves.

However, Bajamar and Punta del Hidalgo are especially renowned for possessing the intriguing natural phenomenon of natural pools formed by petrified lava as it flowed down to the sea. A swim here in the salty waters will give you a unique experience you are sure to remember for the rest of your life.

## TARRAGONA

Tarragona enjoys a mild climate all year round, making it the perfect place to do all kinds of water sports, including sailing, kayaking, water skiing and scuba diving. Here you can find a variety of companies offering these activities in this magnificent setting, as well as a marina and Puerto Tarraco, a port from which luxury cruise ship depart.

The area extends to over fifteen kilometres of coast, where you can find numerous easily-accessible coves and beaches bathed in crystal-clear water. These include Playa del Miracle, la Arrabassada, Playa Larga, Playa dels Capellans, Cala Romana, Cala Fonda and Cala Jovera. The surrounding protected natural areas such as Punta de la Mora, the mouth of the River Gaia and Tamarit beach comprise a breath-taking landscape.







# ACTIVE TOURISM



1. CHINAMADA IN ANAGA RURAL PARK, SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA
2. RIVER JÚCAR, CUENCA
3. A RANCH FOR FIGHTING BULLS, SALAMANCA
4. PLAZA DO OBRADOIRO, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
5. PARAGLIDING, CUENCA
6. DIVING. IBIZA

SIX OF THE SPANISH CITIES DECLARED AS WORLD HERITAGE SITES ALSO OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES AND FACILITIES SO THAT YOUR **CULTURAL EXPERIENCE** CAN BE COMBINED WITH ALL KINDS OF **LEISURE, ADVENTURE AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.**

The spectacular natural areas surrounding Cáceres, Cuenca, Ibiza/Eivissa, Salamanca, San Cristóbal de La Laguna and Santiago de Compostela comprise a variety of landscapes ranging from high mountains to sheer coastlines, with beaches, islands, rivers, forests, deserts, gorges and ravines.

These destinations have active tourism programmes aimed at holiday makers who want to be in contact with nature. Here there is an abundance of possibilities including horse riding, rambling, bike rides, mountain skiing, water skiing, photographic safaris, scuba diving and river diving, adventure parks, climbing walls, hot-air ballooning, canoe excursions, archery and other fun nautical activities.

However, if you're looking for something more daring you won't have any problems finding extra activities like ultralight aircraft flights, mountaineering, rafting, canyoning, rock climbing, bungee jumping and quad bike riding in any of these monumental city's surroundings.

These can be combined with a wide range of more informative cultural and ecological activities, which teach you about the natural and social surroundings. These could be workshops on ornithology, mycology, astronomy or aromatic and medicinal plants, as well as visits to wineries and ranches or *capeas* (bullfights with young bulls).

More information on these activities and other tourist events can be obtained in the tourist information centres in these cities. The website of the Grupo Ciudades Patrimonio, as well as those of each destination, allows you to consider the different possibilities on offer and get in touch with the specialised companies.



ACTIVE TOURISM





# GOLF

1

2

3

4

5

1. VILLAMAYOR GOLF COURSE, SALAMANCA
2. DON TELLO GOLF COURSE, MÉRIDA
3. VILLAMAYOR GOLF COURSE, SALAMANCA
4. NORBA GOLF CLUB, CÁCERES
5. NATURÁVILA GOLF COURSE

**THE MAGNIFICENT SURROUNDING AREAS OF THE THIRTEEN CITIES DECLARED AS WORLD HERITAGE SITES ARE THE PERFECT PLACE TO BE IMMERSSED IN THE RICH HISTORY AND CULTURE.**

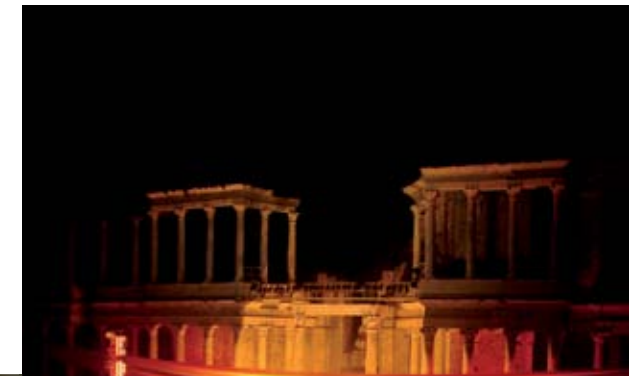
Alcalá de Henares, Ávila, Baeza, Cáceres, Córdoba, Cuenca, Ibiza/Eivissa, Mérida, Salamanca, La Laguna, Santiago, Segovia, Tarragona, Toledo and Úbeda offer you a combination of monumental wealth and a wide range of facilities for all types of leisure activities. One of these is golf, as all of these places have several courses and offer the necessary complementary services.

You can play a round of golf on a variety of courses with a range of levels of difficulty, some of which were designed by the most prestigious experts in the world. Several of these courses have on-site schools run by renowned professionals, aimed at anyone of any age from beginners to players at a more advanced stage. All this is complimented with different training facilities and other services as the Grupo Ciudades Patrimonio de la Humanidad aims to cover all the necessary things that may be required.

Apart from being situated in the adjoining areas of these monumental locations, these golf courses are also surrounded by picturesque landscapes. The fairways and greens run through oak woods, flow through agricultural fields and pass over valleys of dense vegetation divided by beautiful streams, rivers and lakes. You can play golf in the middle of mountainous areas with views of the sea

or trying to avoid the ravines and bridges that get in your way. The favourable climate means you can play in these areas all year round.

A round of golf in these World Heritage Sites is undoubtedly a great way to compliment your cultural experience.







USEFUL INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL DIALING CODE +34

TOURIST INFORMATION

TURESPAÑA  
www.spain.info

GRUPO CIUDADES PATRIMONIO  
DE LA HUMANIDAD DE ESPAÑA  
  
T. 920 35 40 00  
turismo@ciudadespatrimonio.org  
www.SpainHeritageCities.com  
www.ciudadespatrimonio.org

PARADORS  
Central Reservation Office  
T. 902 547 979  
www.paradores.es

INFORMATION

**ALCALÁ DE HENARES**  
**Tourist Office:**  
Callejón de Santa María, 1  
T. 918 892 694  
Plaza de los Santos  
Niños s/n  
T. 918 810 634  
www.turismoalcala.es  
www.ayto-  
alcaladehenares.es  
cturismo@ayto-  
alcaladehenares.es

Alcalá de Henares is located only 30 kilometres from Madrid, a journey which can be comfortably made on the A-2 road. A frequent bus and local train link connects the two cities and the Madrid-Barajas International Airport is only 14 kilometers away..

**ÁVILA**  
**Visitor Reception Centre:**  
Avda. de Madrid, 39  
T. 920 354 000/920 354 045  
turismo@ayuntavila.com  
www.avilaturismo.com  
www.avila.es

Ávila is situated 100 km from Madrid, from which the city can be accessed by car, on the A6 and then the AP51. Barajas Airport is only one hour away from the city. From the capital, you can also arrive by train or by bus.

**BAEZA**  
**Tourist Information Office**  
Plaza del Pópulo s/n  
T. 953 77 99 82  
turismo@baeza.net  
www.baeza.es

This city, located in a crossroads, is a communication hub between Levante and

western Andalusia. Úbeda is very well communicated both by road and by railways. It is only 1h 15 min from Cordoba and its AVE train station, and 1.5 hs from Granada and its international airport. Madrid lies 3hs away by the N-IV highway. The Linares-Baeza train station is the easiest way to get there by train.

**CÁCERES**  
**Municipal Tourist Office:**  
Olmos, 11  
T. 927 247 172  
www.caceres.es

Cáceres is located in the centre of a triangle formed by the main cities of the Iberian Peninsula, Madrid-Lisbon-Seville. It has a modern road system which connects with the first two of these through the A-5 road (Madrid-Lisbon), through Trujillo; and following the route of the old Vía de la Plata, today the A-66, Cáceres is connected to the north via Salamanca and to the south via Seville. In terms of public transport, the city is well connected with the rest of Spain, both by train and by bus.

**CÓRDOBA**  
**Visitor Reception Centre and Tourist Assistance:**  
Puerta del Puente  
T. 902 201 774  
www.turismodecordoba.org

You can arrive by car or bus from Madrid, Málaga, Seville or Granada. You can arrive by AVE from Madrid in two hours, Málaga and Seville in 40

minutes, and other types of trains. The Seville Airport is one hour away and the airports of Málaga and Granada are under two hours away.

**CUENCA**  
**Tourist Office:**  
Plaza Mayor, 1  
T. 969 241 051  
www.turismocuenca.com  
**Fundación de Turismo de Cuenca:**  
Avda. Cruz Roja, 1  
T. 969 241 050

Cuenca is 167 km from Madrid, from where you can arrive by Car by the A-3 road, and then the A-40. The journey can also be made by bus, on the route connecting Madrid with Valencia.

**IBIZA/EIVISSA**  
**Tourist Office:**  
Edificio de la Cúria, Plaça de la Catedral  
T. 971 399 232  
www.ibiza.es  
www.eivissa.es

There are several airlines that Fly to Ibiza/Eivissa from different cities in Spain and Europe. By boat, you can arrive from Mallorca, Denia, Valencia and Barcelona, as well as from several other Mediterranean ports with the companies, Transmediterránea and Baleària.

**MÉRIDA**  
**Municipal Tourist Office:**  
Paseo Álvarez Saénz de Buruaga s/n.  
06800-Mérida  
T. 924 330 722

**Sociedad Mixta de Turismo (Tourism Joint Venture):**  
Ifeme [ Calle Manuel Nuñez s/n.]  
T. 924 372 530  
www.merida.es

Mérida can be easily accessed. From any part of the country due to the cities communication connections. The A-5 road (Madrid-Lisbon), the A-43 (Lisbon-Valencia) and the A-66 (Vía de la Plata) on route from Gijón to Seville, all pass through here. It is also an essential junction for train connections, as trains from Madrid, Lisbon, Seville, Badajoz, Cáceres and Ciudad Real stop here.

**SALAMANCA**  
**Municipal Tourist Office:**  
Plaza Mayor, 32  
T. 923 218 342  
informacion@turismodesalamanca.com  
www.salamanca.es

From Madrid on the A-6 and the N-501. From Valladolid on the AP-62 and the N-620. There are different train lines passing through here and flights from several cities to Matacán Airport, 15 kilometres from Salamanca.

**SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LA LAGUNA**  
**Tourist Information Centre:**  
C/ La Carrera, 7  
T. 922 631 194  
turismolaguna@aytolaguna.es  
www.aytolaguna.com

There are many airlines flying to Tenerife and the

Canary Islands from the mainland, Europe, Africa and the American continent. The port of Santa Cruz unites some of the mainland ports and is also the base for cruise ships.

**SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**  
**Central Tourist Office:**  
Rúa do Vilar, 63  
T. 981 555 129  
www.santiagoturismo.com

Several national and international airlines go to Santiago airport. You can also arrive by train or bus, or by car by any of the roads to the city.

**SEGOVIA**  
**Visitor Reception Centre:**  
Azoguejo, 1. 40001 Segovia  
T. 921 466 720  
info@turismodesegovia.com  
www.turismodesegovia.com

**Reservation Centre:**  
T. 921 466 721  
info@reservasdesegovia.com  
www.reservasdesegovia.com

From Madrid, by car or bus on the A-6 and the AP-61 connection road or on the N-603; by train, by the suburban trains or by the AVE, in lees than 30 minutes.

**TARRAGONA**  
**Municipal Tourist Office:**  
Carrer Major, 39  
T. 977 250 795

www.tarragonaturisme.cat  
The AVE from Madrid to Barcelona stops in Camp de Tarragona station.

**TOLEDO**  
**City Council Tourist Office:**  
Plaza del Consistorio, 1  
T. 925 254 030

**Municipal Tourist Office "Casa del Mapa":**  
Plaza de Zocodover, 6  
www.toledo-turismo.com

From Madrid, along the AP-41 toll road, the A-42 road or by AVE, as well as the daily coach service which connects the two cities.

**ÚBEDA**  
**Tourist Information Office**

Plaza Vázquez de Molina, s/n  
23400 Úbeda (Jaén)  
T. 34 953 750 440 Ext:5  
promocion@ubeda.es  
www.turismodeubeda.com

This city, located in a crossroads, is a communication hub between Levante and western Andalusia. Úbeda is very well communicated both by road and by railways. It is only 1h 15 min from Cordoba and its AVE train station, and 1.5 hs from Granada and its international airport. Madrid lies 3hs away by the N-IV highway. The Linares-Baeza train station is the easiest way to get there by train.

TRANSPORT

**AENA**  
(Spanish Airports and Air Navigation)  
T. 902 404 704  
+34 913 211 000  
www.aena.es

T. 902 432 343  
www.adif.es

**RENFE**  
National Spanish Train Network  
T. +34 902 243 402 (for international information)  
+34 902 240 202 (for national information)  
www.renfe.es

**ADIF**  
Administrator of Rail Infrastructures

**AVANZABUS**  
T. 902 020 052  
informacion@avanzabus.com  
www.avanzabus.com

**BALEÀRIA**  
Boats to the Balearic Islands  
T. 902 160 180  
reservas@balearia.com  
www.balearia.com

**TRASMEDITERRÁNEA**  
Ferries to the Balearic Islands, The Strait of Gibraltar, Canary Islands  
T. 902 454 645  
www.trasmediterranea.es

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergencies

T. 112

Citizen's advice bureau

T. 010

TOURIST OFFICES ABROAD

**ARGENTINA**  
Buenos Aires

**CHINA**  
Beijing (Peking)  
Cantón

Frankfurt  
Munich

**MEXICO**  
Mexico City

**SWEDEN**  
Stockholm

**AUSTRIA**  
Viena

**DENMARK**  
Copenhagen

**INDIA**  
Mumbai

**NORWAY**  
Oslo

**SWITZERLAND**  
Zurich

**BELGIUM**  
Brussels

**FINLAND**  
Helsinki

**IRELAND**  
Dublin

**POLAND**  
Warsaw

**THE NETHERLANDS**  
The Hague

**BRAZIL**  
Sao Paulo

**FRANCE**  
Paris

**IITALY**  
Milan  
Rome

**PORTUGAL**  
Lisbon

**UNITED KINGDOM**  
London

**CANADA**  
Toronto

**GERMANY**  
Berlin  
Dusseldorf

**JAPAN**  
Tokyo

**RUSSIA**  
Moscow

**SINGAPORE**  
Singapore

**UNITED STATES**  
Chicago  
Los Angeles  
Miami  
New York

For any information, kindly address your request to:  
**www.spain.info/contact**







**Ciudades  
Patrimonio  
de la Humanidad**  
ESPAÑA | UNESCO



Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura



Patrimonio Mundial  
en España

FREE COPY



MINISTERIO  
DE INDUSTRIA, ENERGÍA  
Y TURISMO



[www.spain.info](http://www.spain.info)  
[www.ciudadespatrimonio.org](http://www.ciudadespatrimonio.org)  
[www.spainheritagecities.com](http://www.spainheritagecities.com)



EN