



Hiking and Cycling tours in Andalusia 2020

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We are glad to present our new catalogue. Once more, we have been working hard to design and develop the most interesting tours, aimed at travellers looking for a different kind of holiday.

We offer a wide variety of routes and itineraries off the beaten track, ranging from gentle family tours to challenging hiking and biking experiences, from picturesque mountains to breath-taking coastlines, always selecting charming hotels and country lodges.

Our years of experience in organizing and guiding routes and our in-depth knowledge of Andalusia's most undiscovered areas means that we have just the type of route you are looking for. Culture and history are also essential elements in all our routes. We want people to experience the very best of cultural and rural Andalusia, while we take care of the logistics. We also specialize in self-guided tours, as we believe travelling individually provides more opportunities to appreciate and share local traditions, while allowing us to offer smaller, charming, unusual accommodation. Start relishing Andalusia as you leaf through our catalogue and visit our website www.otroscaminos.com

Welcome to Andalusia and see you soon on Different Routes!

Ithaca

*When you set out on your journey to Ithaca,
pray that the road is long,
full of adventure, full of knowledge...
...That the summer mornings are many, when,
with such pleasure, with such joy
you will enter ports seen for the first time...
...Always keep Ithaca in your mind.
To arrive there is your ultimate goal.
But do not hurry the voyage at all.
It is better to let it last for many years;
and to anchor at the island when you are old,
rich with all you have gained on the way,
not expecting that Ithaca will offer you riches.
Ithaca has given you the beautiful voyage.
Without her you would have never set out on the road.
She has nothing more to give you.
And if you find her poor, Ithaca has not deceived you.
Wise as you have become, with so much experience,
you must already have understood what Ithacas mean.*

C. P. Cavafis



A different kind of Journey... on different routes

The idea of the journey as an experience in itself is one of the things that most differentiates human beings from animals. Just like Kafavis, the poet from Alexandria with deep classical roots, this passion drives us. To walk, discover villages and mighty cities, to cross forests, explore coastlines and learn from local people, sharing their customs... we love to travel, but on different routes. These different routes are the inspiration behind our name "Otros Caminos" and we mean to reach out to all those who feel the freedom of travel. The journey, its emotions, feelings, those little details, without rushing to keep up with a timetable... these are the important things for us, and the journey is a beautiful excuse, our very own Ithaca. Our goal is to understand the complexity, unity and moving simplicity of mankind and nature, of history and culture, through shared experience and coexistence with others.

On the following pages Otros Caminos presents you with a different kind of journey, on different routes through Andalusia, discovering its heritage on foot or by bike, with a guide or under

your own steam. Ancient thoroughfares and the illustrious travellers who once trod them inspire our itineraries. They are inspired in the nature, history and culture of a region as diverse as Andalusia. We invite the traveller to come off the beaten track, get on his bike or sling his rucksack to share a unique and revitalizing experience.

The journeys you will find in this catalogue use tracks, trails, cattle paths, old Roman roads, forest trails and old country roads in disuse... and they will carry you all over Andalusia, on foot or by bike, from one village to the next, exploring a host of regions and landscapes.

These journeys are just an example. A traveller's limit is his/her imagination, because we have documented more than 5,000 kilometres of interconnecting tracks and trails so that you are free to design your own perfect journey (according to places, stages, difficulty, by bike or on foot...).

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We hope you'll find the tour you would like to do in 2020!
You can of course always ask us for more information,
or to make some changes in your itinerary.



Why Andalusia?

Its rich and varied geography, packed with areas of enormous ecological interest (it has 2 National Parks, 40 Nature Parks and Reserves and 31 areas of outstanding natural beauty), is sweetened by the mildest, driest climate on the Iberian Peninsula. Andalusia has nine months of good weather every year. Combine this with the warm welcome of its people and you have one of the best places in which to travel in the open air.

Andalusia's position between Europe and Africa, a bridge between East and West, has made it home to a rich and varied mix of cultures. Our region always managed to conquer the hearts of those who conquered her, and they stayed. History is our collective memory and our identity. Averroes, Maimónides, Ibn al Jatib, Ibn Zamrak, Juan Ramón, Falla, García Lorca, Picasso, Machado... the people of Andalusia have a history of openness and forward thinking, keen to embrace the world. Andalusia is much more than typical stereotypes.

Here is the art of living that can be felt in all areas of life: her music, arts, cuisine and history. This is why Andalusia is the perfect place to travel off the road and away from conventional circuits, to get to the heart of her heritage, on different routes.

Al-Andalus ("shared-out lands") came from the Arabic interpretation of the Visigoth name for the Iberian Peninsula, and it came to be used to identify the region governed by Muslim monarchs and Emirs between the 8th and 15th Centuries. The fusion between resident population and the newcomers from North Africa brought about a unique, mixed civilization that dazzled the world with its classical knowledge, set in a Europe that was stuck in the

darkest Middle Ages. Al-Andalus was a bridging point between eastern and western cultures. It served as a base for the divulgation of classical culture, it was the source of new scientific concepts and visions of the world and forged the mentality of modern man through a Renaissance that would not arrive in Europe until centuries later.

Al-Andalus heritage gave a huge amount to past western civilization, but it is also relevant in the present day. Its legacy is not only to be found in the beauty of numerous fortresses, palaces, gardens and entire neighbourhoods, nor in the bases of modern science, technology and literature that were laid down at that time. It can also be seen daily in a way of understanding and enjoying life to the full. Al-Andalus added a mystical, sensual ingredient to the collective gene pools of Andalusia, Spain and Europe; the ability to face the trials and tribulations of our existence while participating fully in the magic that is life. This is the spirit that runs through Otros Caminos journeys.



Fundación Pública Andaluza

El legado andalusí

Otros Caminos collaborates with the El legado andalusí foundation designing their long cultural itineraries las Rutas de El legado andalusí for hikers and cyclists, like the Route of the Caliphate (from Córdoba to Granada), the Route of the Almoravids and Almohads (crossing most of Andalusia from Granada to Tarifa) and the Route of the Alpujarras.



Granada, origin and destination

Many of the excursions, hikes, rides and journeys in this catalogue either start or finish in Granada. Since its days as capital of the last (Nasrid) kingdom of al-Andalus, and Boabdil's final surrender to the Catholic Monarchs of Castile, Granada has been a universal symbol of humanism and poetry. For 264 years, the kingdom was an island of culture, art and wisdom, surrounded by political and military upheaval, as the Catholics advanced. This period was responsible for much of the magic to be found in Granada today. Granada was at that time home to a masterful sense of "the art of living", symbolized in the unique palaces of the Alhambra. Add to this its privileged location, between the coast and the snowy peaks of Sierra Nevada (now home to a prestigious ski resort), the stunning landscapes of its surrounding countryside, its ancient neighborhoods and street life, and the vibrant mix

He who wants to feel the bull's breath and the sweet pulse of blood in the lips, should make for the baroque crowds of universal Seville; while he who wants to find himself at a gathering of ghosts, and perhaps stumble upon an unexpected signet ring in the corridors of his heart, should make for the interior, for the hidden Granada.

Federico García Lorca

of young people brought together at one of Spain's oldest universities... In short, you must come to Granada. This city has been Otros Caminos' inspiration from the start - there is so much to do here and even more to feel.

While you are here, besides offering you truly enchanting hotels, some with rooms from which you can almost touch the Alhambra, we also organize activities such as:

- One-day biking routes in Granada's surrounding countryside.
- Hikes in the following nearby Nature Reserves: Sierra Nevada, Huétor Mountains and Almirante Mountains.
- Guided visits to the Alhambra and the Albaicin neighborhood
- Special programs for Easter Week and summer.
- ...and much, much more.



Why travelling with Otros Caminos?

Know-how

Otros Caminos are Andalusia experts. We have hiked and biked throughout our region on a continuous search for itineraries off the beaten track, to get to those hidden spots without missing Andalusia's most famous, essential assets. Our own joy of discovery and our expertise come together to develop routes where you can enjoy the natural beauty, history and culinary specialties of "our" Andalusia, the one we would like to share with you.

Tourism professionals and artisans in travel

From designing a tour through to bike maintenance, from the moment you make a reservation to the preparation of documentation for your tour, we take care of every detail. We know that quality is the key to a successful holiday. At Otros Caminos we take the experience of each staff member and combine it with the spirit of a competent and professional team. We believe travelling is an art, and we organize and prepare your holiday with time, dedication and attention to detail.

Local company & sustainable tourism

Making tracks as we walk and ride, we aim to show that it is possible to achieve economic progress and quality of life in our towns and villages, without damaging their traditions, identity and natural surroundings. Our commitment to this philosophy means we design our tours as a contribution to the **sustainable development of Andalusia**: we always work with local people in each area (accommodation, meals, activities); we promote contact between clients and their local hosts; we get them involved in defence of the local culture and the environment, fighting for the recovery, conservation and protection of rural tracks and trails, and, above all, offering advice to the villages and institutions we work with. We also invest a percentage of our profits in development and conservation projects related with countryside, towns and villages in Andalusia.

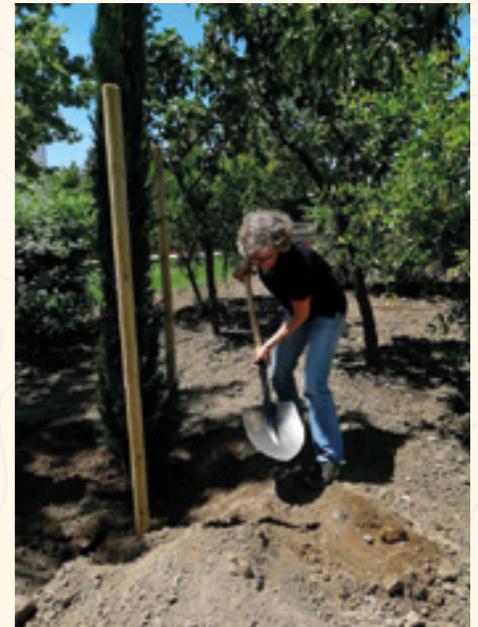
One of these projects is La Huella Verde which is a commitment of the tourism business of Granada to the environment. Apart from reducing our emission of carbon dioxide the tourism business started to compensate by planting trees in Granada!

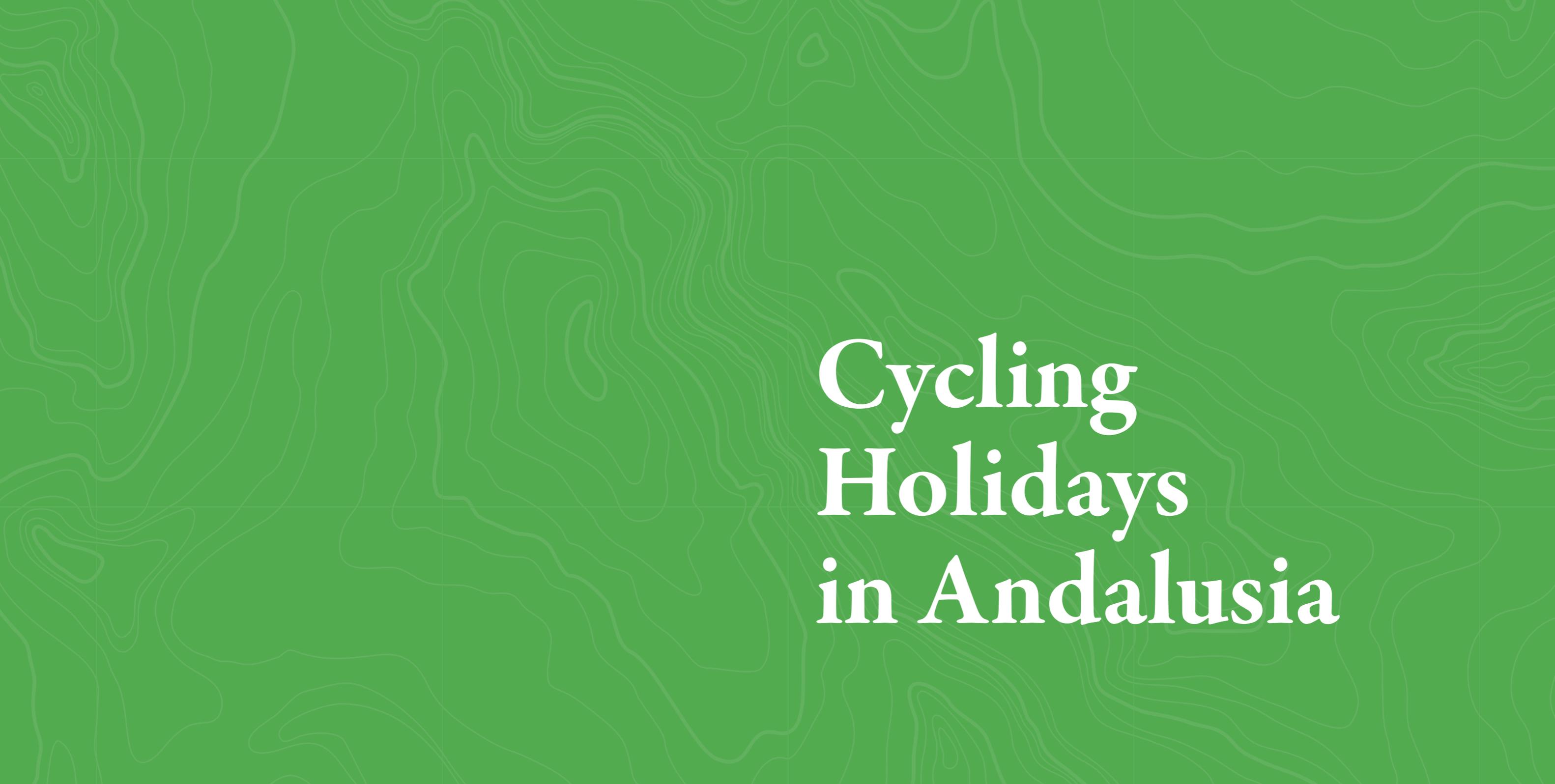
Tailor-made and companies

Haven't found what you are looking for? Please, contact our company if you need a tailor-made journey for your group, your company or just for yourself. We can personalize your holidays and offer other destinies and activities.

The tour around Sierra Nevada, "From the mountain to the sea" is one of our tailor-made routes. You start in the north side of Sierra Nevada, to go cycling to the seaside in Almuñecar. It is a demanding route that makes up for the effort. Due to the great variety of its landscapes and the uniqueness of its natural features, Sierra Nevada is included in several different categories of protection. Apart from being a Nature and National Park, it is also an internationally recognised Biosphere Reserve.

Road biking is also an example of the possibilities in Andalucía. We can organize the route from Granada to Tarifa, climbing the most emblematic roads in the region.



The background of the image is a green topographic map with white contour lines. The map shows various elevation levels and geographical features, typical of a terrain map. The text is centered on the right side of the image.

Cycling Holidays in Andalusia



The Golden Triangle
from Granada via Córdoba to Seville

The Route of the White Villages
from Ronda to El Puerto de Santa María

The Coast of Light (Costa de la Luz)
in the province of Cádiz

The Route of the Almoravids
from Granada to Ronda

Pilgrim route Camino de Santiago
from Granada to Cordova

The Route of the Caliphate
from Cordova to Granada

The Costa Tropical
from Granada to Costa Tropical

Difficulty

 **Easy**

For everyone. Easy cycling itineraries that combine road-riding with some easy off-road over short distances, 20-40 km/day - and not mountainous. Typically, you will spend less than 4 hours/day riding.

 **Moderate**

A little technical (dirt track downhill, or steep climbs with uneven, terrain) and Itineraries with 50% or more, off-road, apt for beginners with a little mountain-biking experience. Typically, 35–55 km/day, some climbs and average of 5 hours riding.

 **Difficult**

For experienced riders who want to feel themselves work on the bike. Typical mountain bike routes on varied terrain, requiring some technique and good physical condition. 40–70 km/day, sometimes in excess of 5 hours riding.

 **Demanding**

For experienced mountain bike riders on varied terrain, requiring good technique and fine physical conditions. 40-80 km/day, exceeding 5-hour riding.

Introducing our bikes and material

CANNONDALE HYBRID BIKES

Our new Cannondale bikes, in a lovely orange colour and in sizes XS, S, M, L, will be delivered with a handlebar bag, a kilometre counter, a water bottle and a repair kit (multi-functional tool, extra innertube, tire levers, a pump).

The bike has the following specifications:

- Wheel Sizes 29" (size S with 27.5), Brakes Shimano M315 Hydro Disc, 180/160mm (29"), 160/160mm (27.5").
- Tires WTB Ranger Comp 27.5/29x2.25" DNA Compound, Pedals Cannondale Platform.
- Rear Cogs SunRace 11-42, 10-speed.
- Rear Derailleur Shimano Deore M6000 10-speed Shadow Plus
- Shifters Shimano Deore M6000 1x10-speed.
- Brake Levers Shimano M315 hydro disc.
- Saddle Cannondale Stage 3.



E-BIKES

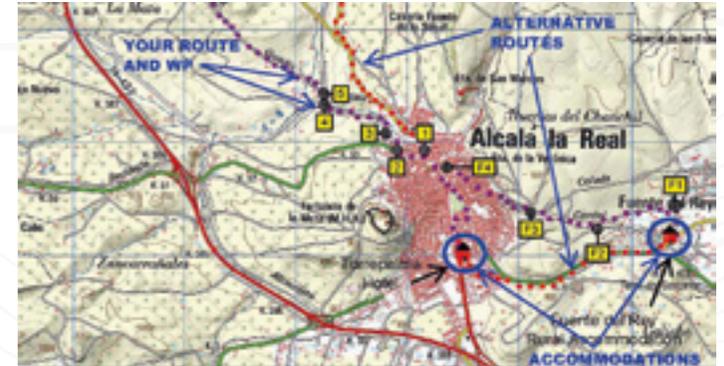
Depending on the route you can rent an electric bike paying a supplement. We use mountain and hybrid electric bikes also available with rack and pannier. Within a normal use the electric bike has enough battery for our routes!

ACCESSORIES

We provide the bikes with a sigma speedometer, a handlebar bag, a repair kit (multi-functional tool, extra innertube, tire levers, a pump), and a water bottle. You can rent waterproof panniers, helmets and GPS. Please ask for details.

ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS AND MAPS

You will receive a roadbook with all necessary documentation as route descriptions, cultural and practical information as recommendations for lunch and dinner, what to visit, tips where to go for good flamenco, etc. You will get detailed descriptions, with waypoints and the distance between them. And you will get several maps scale 1:50000 (based on the IGN maps). The route is marked on the maps, and accommodations and waypoints are reflected on the map as well. GPX tracks are also available.



SERVICE

We will personally handover the bikes to you on almost all our tours and give you a briefing of the route. And while you cycle, we organize the transport of your luggage to the next hotel. And in case of problems we are always just a phone call away, and with our extended network of bike shops and taxi drivers we can help you for sure.

The prices for the cycling trips always include accommodation with breakfast, luggage transfers and bike rental with bike handover at the beginning and collection at the end of the trip. The price is always given per person based on two people sharing. If you are 4 people or more travelling together, we can give you a small discount, ask us!

ACCOMMODATIONS WITH BREAKFAST

We book small, charming and bike-friendly accommodations during your bike route. In the bigger cities we try to book you a good located 2- or 3-star hotel, with friendly people. You always have your own bathroom, and breakfast is included. If we know that breakfast is too basic for a day of riding (just coffee and a toast), we ask for more things like ham and cheese, yogurt, cereals, juice or fruit, paying a supplement. Be aware that it is not normal in Spain to have eggs and bacon at breakfast, although some hotels will offer this.





Coast of Light

Cycling along the Costa de la Luz



From Sevilla to Cádiz & Lebrija

Cycling along the "Coast of Light" (Costa de la Luz)

The Costa de la Luz location at the southernmost point of the Iberian Peninsula and its outstanding climate have made it an object of desire for millennia. In the province of Cádiz you can spend an incredible week full of culture, gastronomy and relaxing cycling along the most beautiful golden sand beaches of Spain! You also cycle along rivers, on Greenways and tracks on higher cliffs or along the coast.

You can start this tour either in Sevilla, the vivid capital of Andalusia or Jerez de la Frontera, famous for its sherry. Then you travel to one of the most beautiful whitewashed villages of Andalusia, Vejer de la Frontera, where you find history in every corner. Here you pick up the bike and start with a circular route to the old fishermen village of Barbate, famous for its fresh tuna

fish! You then continue cycling towards the coast along villages as Conil de la Frontera and Novo Sancti Petri. You will have time to explore the lovely old town of Cádiz, with its 4000 years of history. Then you will cross the Bay of Cádiz by ferry to Rota, where you follow a Greenway. Enjoy the coastal villages of Rota, Chipiona and Sanlúcar and learn about "the New World", the sailing boats leaving for America from here. Sanlúcar is famous for its special wine, called manzanilla. Visit a "bodega" of manzanilla wine or do an excursion to the National Park of Doñana from Sanlúcar. You'll enjoy the sunsets in the Atlantic Ocean, before you continue cycling along the Guadalquivir river to Lebrija in the province of Sevilla. By train you are easily connected again to Jerez or Sevilla.

-  **Difficulty**
-  **8 days**
-  **870 €**



Day 1: Arrival Sevilla (or Jerez)

Sevilla and Jerez have their own airport. If you fly on Málaga, you can take the train to Sevilla or Jerez.

Sevilla is the capital of Andalusia, and a city with a long and interesting history. Visit the Cathedral and the famous Giralda tower, or the beautiful Reales Alcázares Palace. There is so much to see, the Torre de Oro, the Plaza de España square, the picturesque barrio Santa Cruz and the Casa de Pilates.



Day 3: Vejer-Barbate-Vejer, 30 Km

Today you start with a route into the Marshland of the Nature Park to Barbate, a fishing village famous for its tuna fish. The way back to Vejer will lead you into the other part of the Nature Park, the "Breña", a large pine grove. The umbrella pines provide shade for a rich variety of Mediterranean wildflowers. You can visit Worlds' biggest dovecote on the way. Climbing bit by bit through the pine forest, with views over the valley and the Sea, you will cycle back to Vejer.



Day 2: Visit Sevilla (or Jerez), transfer to Vejer

In the morning, you have time to visit Sevilla, before travelling to Vejer de la Frontera. Vejer, a hilltop village (220 meters above sea level) is considered as one of the most beautiful whitewashed villages of Andalusia. Have a stroll through the charming old town and visit an old windmill from the 19th century! Overnight in a charming hotel in the historical centre.



Day 4: Vejer — Novo Sancti Petri, 38 km

Heading to the beach of Vejer called El Palmar (15 km), you'll find lots of people surfing here. From El Palmar we take the track towards the bigger village of Conil de la Frontera, nice place for lunch, or maybe you would like to eat in a "chiringuito" (beach bar). Then we climb a bit, just enough to reach the cliffs which we will follow while we have great views of the Sea, small beaches and the light tower of el Roche. You will find the hotel at 100 meters from one of the most famous beaches, la Barrosa, of fine golden sand.



Day 5: Novo Sancti Petri — Cádiz, 37 km

Today you cycle flat and fast through the bigger town of Chiclana to continue to San Fernando on a track along salt lakes, and further on to the romantic old harbour town of Cádiz. You will have all afternoon free to visit this amazing town. But there is so much to see and do that you might want to ask for an extra night in Cádiz! The Castillo Santa Catalina, the imposing cathedral, the interesting Archaeological museum, but you can also see local life at the chaotic and lively Mercado Central, or at the local beach La Caleta...



Day 6: Cádiz — Rota (ferry) — Sanlúcar, 30 km

You leave Cádiz by ferry to Rota, from where you pick up the old Greenway to Sanlúcar de Barrameda. It is worth to make a little d-tour to Chipiona with the highest light tower of Spain, and the old castle with an interesting exposition of "The New World" about the voyages of Columbus. If the tide is low, you can see the natural monument "Corrales" built in the sea to catch fish. Sanlúcar awaits you with its fine "Manzanilla" wine (you can visit a bodega) and authentic King prawns looking out over the river and the Doñana National Park. The historical center of Sanlúcar is nice and lively, with many good tapas bars.



Day 7: Sanlúcar — Lebrija, 42 km

The bike tour today will lead you first along the Salinas, then through a Pine forest (Algaida) of the Nature Park of Doñana. You continue cycling along the Guadalquivir river. You certainly will see flamingos here! Once you leave the river to go inland you cycle between agriculture lands, with beet, cotton, wheat and various fruits. You now enter the province of Sevilla and cycle to the village of Lebrija.



Day 8: Lebrija, train to Sevilla or Jerez

After breakfast you can take a direct train to the airport of Jerez, only 10 minutes away! You can also go by train to Sevilla in less than 1 hour and enjoy the capital of Andalusia for another day!

€ DATES & PRICE

SEASON A

7 Jan — 19 Mar / 2 Nov — 17 Dec

€ 870 €/per. (minimum 2 people)

SEASON B

20 Mar — 10 Jun / 12 Sep — 1 Nov

€ 975 €/per. (minimum 2 people)

Included

☕ 7 nights accommodation with breakfast

🚲 Bike rental

🧳 Luggage transport

📍 Maps and descriptions

🗨️ Personal briefing

📞 Telephone helpline

DATES

📅 You can start this tour any day, but not from 1–11 April, 1–3 May, 11 June – 11 September 2020.

Optional

🌙 Extra nights

🛏️ Single room supplement

🚲 Electric bike



Route of cultural and natural interest



Caliphate Route

Cycling on the Caliphate route



From Córdoba to Granada

Cycling on the Caliphate route

Traveling on the route of the Caliphate is an experience that brings together two of the most emblematic cities of ancient al-Andalus: Córdoba, home to the ruling Caliphs, philosophers, astronomers, mathematicians and doctors who illuminated the Middle Ages with knowledge, centuries ahead of the European Renaissance. And on the other hand Granada, whose mighty kingdom cultivated the sciences above all and where formal refinement and architectural decoration reached levels unmatched in any society of its time. Travel to see these two cities, on a journey that combines culture, nature and anthropology, delighting the senses at every step.

"The Route of the Caliphate" is designated Major European Cultural Itinerary. The prestigious Foundation Legado Andalusi in

   **2-3 Difficulty**
 **8 days**
 **823 €**

co-operation with Otros Caminos has re-discovered this itinerary and developed it as a historical and cultural experience, connecting the cities of Córdoba and Granada with their world cultural heritages: the stunning "Mezquita" in Córdoba and the marvellous "Alhambra" in Granada. A cycling adventure through Andalusia's past and culture, a journey of discovery that evokes the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the Route of the Caliphate..

Although each season holds its own charm, we advise you to plan this tour in spring (march to june) to take advantage of the explosion of colour in the surrounding countryside, the splendour of the Subbéticas, the smell of the olive mills and the views of the last snowfalls on the Sierra Nevada that will accompany you on the last two stages!



Day 1: Arrival Córdoba

Arrive in good time to visit the famous "Mezquita" (Grand Mosque). Later, a walk through the old Jewish quarter to see its beautiful patios and have tapas in its inns. Finally, we suggest you experience an authentic flamenco show to get you ready for a journey, which has only just begun.



Day 2: Córdoba — Priego, 26 km

From Córdoba you go to Luque station by bus. At this former railway station, now a bar, the bikes are handed over with a personal briefing and then you set out on quiet county roads to Fuente Alhama. Riding through the Sierras Subbéticas Nature Park, you will arrive finally in the charming town of Priego, where you will stay in the charming old quarter "Barrio de la Villa".



Day 3: Priego — Zuheros, 54 Km

From Priego you are making for Carcabuey on an old disused road. Heading along a little country road past the village of Algar, you climb to the Gaena mountain pass. From there you have a long and pronounced descent to the splendid town of Cabra. You take the "Vía Verde" (old reconditioned railway line), in gentle ascent to the romantic village of Zuheros. Just before the village you will spend the night in a charming 4-star hotel, a former olive farm!



Day 4: Zuheros — Alcaudete/Alcalá, 30/60 km

Today you bid farewell to the Subbética mountains, to immerse yourselves in the countryside of Jaén, riding along the comfortable "Vía Verde" (old railway line). After passing the station in Alcaudete, you continue uphill, and the bumpier trails and imposing watchtowers above you remind you that you are entering Nasrid territory. All of a sudden you encounter the majestic "La Mota" fortress defending the town of Alcalá. This stage is hard, with a lot of climbs especially in the second part of the route. We therefore offer the possibility to cycle only until Alcaudete and continue from there with the luggage transfer for free.



Day 5: Alcalá la Real — Tózar, 28 km

After visiting the La Mota fortress, with its thick castle walls, imposing towers and the old cathedral built by the reconquering Christians within its confines, you head out of Alcalá la Real over its fertile plain, (and adjacent villages of Fuente del Rey and Santa Ana), riding between fields of cereal crops which are full of poppies in springtime. Once passed Casillas de Mures, the landscape changes and you head towards Tózar, just before the final bastion of the Nasrid kingdom, Moclín. This village awaits you in the distance beneath the watchful eye of its imposing castle.



Day 6: Tózar — Granada, 55 or 62 km

After climbing to Moclín you will enjoy the great views of the Sierra Nevada during the large descent to Olivares. Soon the beautiful plain comes into sight, its arrival announced by the last watchtower, opposite the "tres Juanes" chapel. Sierra Nevada forms an impressive backdrop. Approaching Granada you have the option to enter the city from the North, taking a longer route with more climbs through the foothills of the Alfacuara Mountains or from the South through the fertile plain and along the Genil river, making this stage shorter and easier.



Day 7: Granada, free day

Today you can explore the city and the amazing Alhambra, a Palace/Fortress and residence of the Nasrid Sultans (tickets not included). But Granada has much more to offer: the enormous cathedral and Royal Chapel is worth a visit, enjoy delightful little corners, palaces and gardens abound in its old neighborhoods, along with a multitude of tapas bars, restaurants and wine houses...



Day 8: Granada, end of the journey

After breakfast in the hotel your trip will be over and by bus or train you can get to Córdoba, Málaga, Sevilla or Madrid. Of course, you can also ask us to book extra nights.



DATES & PRICE

SEASON A

 7 Jan — 2 Apr / 1 Jul — 31 Aug
4 Nov — 20 Dec

 **823 €/per.**

SEASON B

 1—30 Jun / 1 Sep—3 Nov / 5—8 Dec

 **849 €/per.**

SEASON C

 3 Apr — 31 May

 **895 €/per.**

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Bike rental
-  Luggage transport
-  Maps and descriptions
-  Personal briefing
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 You can start this tour any day of the week. But a supplement will be asked for starts on Friday & Saturday.

Optional

-  Single room supplement
-  Electric bike



Mozarab way to Santiago

Cycling from Granada to Córdoba



From Granada to Córdoba

Mozarab Way to Santiago

The Camino de Santiago or St. James Way, is the pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in north-western Spain. Legend has it that the remains of the apostle, Saint James the Great, are buried here. As pilgrims traditionally started their journey from their own home, different Camino ways emerged over the years. Probably one of the most ancient Pilgrim's ways in Spain is this one: The Mozarabic Way to Santiago. The name honors Christians who were living in the Muslim territory of Al-Andalus (called Mozarabs) and knew about the discovery of the remains of the Santiago Apostle in Compostela. They risked their lives to travel to Santiago, on the immense distance from the South to the remains of the Apostle. They not only had to cross on foot **Al-Andalus**; They still had to take the **Via de la Plata** travel through Castilian lands to reach the north of the Peninsula. This tour gives you the opportunity to connect the cities of Granada and Córdoba with their world cultural heritages: the marvelous "Alhambra" in Granada and the stunning "Mezquita" in Córdoba.

Ride through landscapes with tranquil hills of olive groves, holm-oak woods, vegetable gardens and vineyards, rushing streams, imposing watchtowers, proud castles, impeccable farmhouses and humble farmsteads, all giving the backdrop to an unforgettable visit. Enjoy the villages, castles, churches and towns that stretch before you just waiting to be discovered, such as Moclín, Tózar, Alcalá la Real, Alcaudete, Zuheros, Espejo, Baena,... that now give their name to some of the world's finest olive oils. You will find them the perfect place to relax and recover lost energy with the best food and wines this region has to offer. Feel the history on every kilometer, and even at night, when you sleep in a farmhouse or in an old village house, converted in beautiful restored and charming accommodations!

  **Difficulty**

 **7 days**

 **765 €**



Day 1: Arrival Granada

From Málaga or Granada airport, you will take the local comfortable bus to Granada, where you will stay in a comfortable hotel in the historical centre of the town. You can stroll around the cathedral and its old silk market, take some drinks and be invited to the rich tapas. Finally, we suggest you experience an authentic flamenco show to get you ready for a journey, which has only just begun.



Day 2: Granada, private transfer to Tózar

Today you can explore the city and the amazing Alhambra: This Palace/Fortress and residence of the Nasrid Sultans will awake your affection for the city (not included). Delightful little corners, palaces and gardens abound in its old neighborhoods, along with a multitude of tapas bars, restaurants and wine houses... All this will bring you to love a city that is as full of life as it is of history and poetry. Late in the afternoon a private transfer brings you to the small village of Tózar, where you will stay in the friendly hosted Rincón de Marcelo. Make a short stroll to the anthropomorphic tombs dug out of the rock and see the remaining of the Civil War before you enjoy the home-made dinner.



Day 3: Tózar – Fuente del Rey / Alcalá, 24–26 km

After breakfast, you cycle first to the neighbor village of Limones. Then you will leave the asphalt and continue on unpaved roads with ups and downs towards Casillas de Gumiel. The landscape changes and you ride between fields of cereal crops which are full of poppies in springtime! You come to Fuente del Rey (The Kings' fountain), where you can stay in a B&B, or 2km further in Alcalá la Real. Here you can visit the majestic "La Mota" fortress with its thick castle walls, imposing towers and the old cathedral built by the reconquering Christians within its confines defending the town of Alcalá.



Day 4: Fuente del Rey / Alcalá – Zuheros, 60/30 km

Today you leave Alcalá by the quiet old tarmac road to Castillo Locubín. A good downhill brings you to the San Juan river, which you will follow towards Alcaudete.

From Alcaudete you head down to the Greenway “Vía Verde” (an old railway line converted in cycle path), which you follow riding comfortably flat for about 24 km. You will come along a salt lake (maybe you can see flamingos!) and the old station of Luque, where you can have lunch in an old wooden train wagon, before arriving to your charming hotel at the Greenway nearby Zuheros.

A long stage, but you can also go with the luggage transport and skip the first part, making it a 30 km stage.



Day 6: Espejo–Córdoba, 47 km

This last stage you cycle on a beautiful quiet country road with some uphill to come finally to the Roman bridge of Córdoba. Visit the stunning Mosque with a catholic cathedral inside! Enjoy a walk through the old Jewish quarter to see the synagogue, and its beautiful patios and have tapas in its inns. Or join a spectacular flamenco show!



Day 5: Zuheros — Espejo, 47 km

Today you cycle easily via Baena to Castro del Río and then uphill to Espejo. First you head back on the Greenway to the station of Luque. Here you take the Greenway to Baena, the capital of the olive oil. Try the typically toasted bread with tomato and olive oil and visit the Museum of the Olive Culture. Then continue a quiet road towards Castro del Río and from here uphill to the next village Espejo, with the magnificent Castillo de Alcalat, built in the early fourteenth century. You will stay in a recently rehabilitated hundred-years-old village house!



Day 7: End of the journey in Córdoba

After breakfast in the hotel your trip will be over and by bus or train you can get to Granada, Málaga, Sevilla or Madrid.



DATES & PRICE

SEASON A

 Jan, Feb, Mar, Jul, Aug, Nov & Dec
Except 21–31 Dec

 **765 €/per.**

SEASON B

 Apr, Jun, Sep, Oct & 21 — 31 Dec

 **790 €/per.**

SEASON C

 May

 **835 €/per.**

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Bike rental
-  Luggage transport
-  Maps and descriptions
-  Personal briefing
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 You can start this tour any day, but not from 1-11 April.

Optional

-  Single room supplement
-  Electric bike



The Golden Triangle

Cycling from Granada to Córdoba and Sevilla



From Granada to Córdoba and Sevilla

Cycling on the Golden Triangle

Finally, a bike tour which connects the "Golden Triangle" of Andalusia: Granada, Córdoba and Sevilla!

These three stunning and historic cities are very different: Granada is spectacular with the Alhambra and Albayzin, Córdoba much more intimate with its Jewish neighbourhood and the Big Mosque-Cathedral and Sevilla is just majestic.

Cycling between these incredible cities you will find many smaller authentic villages to be discovered, with kind people and lots of impressive churches and castles. Betake a journey through time and across unique landscapes and natural reserves that feature along the way. Cycle through landscapes with olive groves and

imposing watchtowers, small villages in undulating landscapes with sunflowers and impeccable farmhouses. Ride on former railways converted into beautiful Greenways, enjoy the hospitality of the people in places like Zuheros, one of the most beautiful white-washed villages of Andalusia, and the authentic Espejo. On your way you should visit the amazing Fortress of Alcalá la Real.

Recover in the evenings tasting the very good local gastronomy, and of course the olive oil and wine... Do not think it twice, just come to cycle the Golden Triangle of Andalusia!

 **Difficulty**

 **8 days**

 **890 €**



Day 1: Arrival Granada

From Málaga or Granada, you will take the local comfortable bus to Granada, where you will stay in a comfortable hotel in the historical part of town. You can stroll around the cathedral and its old silk market, delightful little corners, palaces and gardens abound in its old neighbourhoods, along with a multitude of tapas bars, restaurants and wine houses... take some drinks and be invited to the rich tapas! All this will bring you to love a city that is as full of life as it is of history and poetry.

You can also book a (night) visit to the magical palaces of the Alhambra (not included).



Day 3: Fuente del Rey / Alcalá — Zuheros 30/60 km

You can choose to start with a transfer to Alcaudete making it an easy 30 km ride, cycling mostly on the Greenway Via Verde del Aceite. Or you cycle the whole stage, first to Castillo Locubín and on to Alcaudete, a perfect place for lunch. From Alcaudete you head down to the Greenway "Vía Verde" which you follow riding comfortably flat for about 24 km. You will come along a salt lake (maybe you can see flamingos!). After passing the station of Luque, you continue the Greenway to your charming hotel nearby the beautiful white-washed village of Zuheros.



Day 2: Granada, private transfer, cycling to Alcalá la Real, 26 km

This morning you can still explore the city of Granada before the transfer to the small village of Tózar, where you will get the bikes and a short briefing of the route. The route is not too long but entertaining with ups and downs.

You cycle to the village of Limones and then you take an unpaved road towards Casillas de Gumiel. Now you ride between fields of cereal crops which are full of poppies in springtime! At the end of this stage you arrive at the rural lodge Fuente del Rey, or 2km further in Alcalá la Real. Here you can visit the majestic "La Mota" fortress with its thick castle walls, imposing towers and the old cathedral built by the reconquering Christians within its confines defending the town of Alcalá.



Day 4: Zuheros — Espejo, 47 km

Today you cycle easily via Baena to Castro del Río and then uphill to Espejo. First you head back on the Greenway to the station of Luque. Here you take the Greenway to Baena, the capital of the olive oil. Try the typically toasted bread with tomato and olive oil and visit the Museum of the Olive Culture. Then continue a quiet road towards Castro del Río and from here uphill to the next village Espejo, with the magnificent Castillo de Alcat, built in the early fourteenth century. You will stay in a recently rehabilitated hundred-years-old village house!



Day 5: Espejo-Córdoba by bike, 47 km

After breakfast, you can either go by taxi to Córdoba or you can cycle on a quiet road to the Roman bridge of Córdoba. Visit the stunning Mosque with a catholic cathedral inside! The Mosque-Cathedral of Córdoba is the most important monument of all the Western Islamic world, and one of the most amazing in the world. Take a gentle stroll through the complex yet pure Al-Andalus geometry of the streets of the old town; visit some of its typical, colourful, sweet-smelling patios and sample local tapas in any of the bars and inns. Finally, we would suggest attending a traditional flamenco show with singing and dancing!



Day 7: Écija — Marchena, 49 km

We continue easy riding on the Green Way to Marchena, surrounded by the undulating fields and passing the villages of Luisiana and Fuentes de Andalucía. You can visit Marchena, a charming village, with the restored gates to the walled enclosure like Puerta de Morón with an Almohad tower from the first half of the 13th century. At night for dinner, enjoy a cocido Marchenero (typical stew with chickpeas), espinacas (spinach), gazpacho, sopa de tomate (tomato soup) and bacalao (cod). All dishes are normally accompanied by homemade bread and local olive oil.



Day 6: Córdoba — Écija, 59 km

You will cycle out of Córdoba today towards Écija. First you ride some kilometres along the Guadalquivir river, then you take the Greenway of the Campiña. This old reconditioned railway line runs through the typical open and humanized landscape with sunflower fields, cereals and olive groves. It brings you into the province of Sevilla. Your destination today, Écija, is a beautiful small town, also called as City of Towers. Écija is declared a historic-artistic site, with courtyards that will leave you amazed, churches, museums and of course **its towers, the most beautiful in Andalusia** and a symbol of this city's skyline.



Day 8: Marchena, fin

After breakfast fin of the journey, take train to Málaga (2 hours). You can also head to Sevilla by train in 45 minutes and enjoy the capital of Andalusia.

€ DATES & PRICE

SEASON A

Start between:

7 Jan — 24 Feb / 24 Jun — 25 Aug
4 Nov — 2 Dec / 9 Dec — 15 Dec

€ 890 €/per. in double room

SEASON B

Start between:

25 Feb — 3 Apr / 1 — 24 Jun
26 Aug — 3 Nov / 16 — 31 Dec

€ 925 €/per. in double room

SEASON C

Start between:

12 Apr — 31 May / 2 — 8 Dec

In Season C you cannot start the tour on Monday or Tuesday

€ 945 €/per. in double room

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Documentation package
-  Private transfer Granada — Tózar
-  Personal briefing
-  Luggage transport day 2 to day 7
-  Bike rental
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 You can start this tour any day, but not from 1 to 11 April 2020.

Optional

-  Single room supplement
-  Electric bike



Route of cultural and natural interest



Fundación Pública Andaluza
El legado andalusí

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



The Almoravids route

Cycling from Granada to Ronda



From Granada to Ronda

Cycling on the Almoravids route

The Route of the Almoravides takes us from Granada to Ronda through a large variety of Andalusian landscapes, following historical paths and roads. This tour is a little more challenging apt for intermediate bikers. On five days, you will have an average daily mileage of 32 – 61 km with a hillier profile and cumulative climbs of 500 – 700 m.

You have always wanted to make an unforgettable journey, experience nature, make a trip through space and time, and to get to know Andalusia off the beaten tracks. Get on a bike and

on a tour that was tailor made for you. Start a journey that has inspired many romantic travelers, be in constant touch with Andalusia's landscapes and culture, with its diversity and spirit... riding in reverse the route once taken by warrior monks of the north African desert... along the frontier of the last surviving kingdom of Moorish al-Andalus: the kingdom of Granada. You will be following a Major Cultural Route of the Council of Europe, the Route of the Almoravides and Almohades, developed and discovered by the prestigious Foundation of the Legado Andalusi and Otros Caminos.

 **Difficulty**
 **7 days**
 **870 €**



Day 1: Arrival Granada

From Málaga or Granada airport, you can take the local comfortable bus to Granada, where you will stay in a comfortable hotel in the historical part of town. You can stroll around the cathedral and its old silk market, delightful little corners, palaces and gardens abound in its old neighbourhoods, along with a multitude of tapas bars, restaurants and wine houses... take some drinks and be invited to the rich tapas! All this will bring you to love a city that is as full of life as it is of history and poetry.



Day 3: Alhama — Periana, 40 km

You leave Alhama and cycle to the "Boquete (gap) de Zafarraya", a strange chasm in the otherwise impenetrable mountains. You are now in the Axarquía region, with views of undulating hills and mountains south towards the Mediterranean. Follow a disused railway line in continuous descent to the town of Periana, and from there you continue climbing through the mountains with beautiful views of the villages to the charming rural lodge where you will stay overnight and where you can have a home-made meal.



Day 2: Granada — Alhama, 60 km

Setting out from Granada, you cycle over smooth hillocks and through small villages to Alhama, once a very important town in the Nasrid Kingdom, now famous for its thermal baths. You can have a bath yourself in "El baño de la Reina".



Day 4: Periana — Antequera, 48 km

A good climb brings you close to the El Torcal Nature Reserve with its limestone mountains. You can do a short walk here to enjoy the incredible formations after years of erosion. Then you head down fast to Antequera, approaching this ancient town by its oldest route of access, enjoying beautiful views of its white-washed houses.



Day 5: Antequera — El Chorro, 35 km

In the morning, you have some time to visit the castle and the 5000-year-old dolmens (megalithic tombs). Afterwards you cycle over smooth hillocks through Holm oaks and olive groves, passing the Abdalajís Valley and its village to El Chorro, a beautiful spot next to a lake, surrounded by mountains.

Once you are getting closer you will have a good view of the dam and gorge area. The dam was officially opened in 1921 by King Alfonso XIII of Spain and on this occasion, he took a walk along the specially constructed catwalk pinned to the face of the gorge some 100 m above the river. We can book tickets for you to walk along the amazing "Caminito del Rey" (The King's Path)!



Day 7: Ronda

You can ask for an extra night in Ronda or continue with some stages of the White Villages Tour!



Day 6: El Chorro — Ronda, 61 km

Today the biking will be a bit more challenging, although all on tarmac road. You start with a beautiful ride through a strange, lunar landscape to the villages of Ardales and El Burgo. Then you have to climb to the Puerto de los Vientos, crossing the beautiful Sierra de las Nieves Nature Reserve. A long descent will bring you finally to the lively town of Ronda, where you will stay in a charming hotel.



€ DATES & PRICE

PRICE

€ From 870 €/per.

Included

-  6 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Documentation
-  Personal briefing
-  Luggage transfer
-  Bike rental
-  Telephone helpline

DATES



Daily arrival possible

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Single room
-  Entrance Caminito del Rey
-  Electric bike



The White Villages

Cycling from Ronda to El Puerto Santa María



From Ronda to El Puerto de Santa María

The White Villages on a bike

Between the provinces of Málaga and Cádiz, set in dreamy landscapes of interwoven peaks and valleys, you will find the "Pueblos Blancos" (White Villages) of the Ronda and Grazalema Mountains. These villages constitute gems of popular Andalusian architecture, lodged between the deep green of their valleys and the rocky grey of their mountains. This journey follows the designated Major European Cultural Itinerary "Route of the Almoravides and Almohades". The prestigious Foundation Legado Andalusi in co-operation with Otros Caminos has re-discovered this itinerary and developed it as a historical and cultural experience leading you to the heart of the region of the white villages, dropping down from the lofty heights of the Ronda Mountains towards the plains of Cádiz to come to rest on the coast, at El Puerto Santa María.

You set out from the ancient city of Ronda (one-time home to writers like Cervantes or the Austrian poet Rainer María Rilke) with its gorge, mountains, and famous bullring (Spain's oldest). From here you will discover many of the "Pueblos Blancos": Arriate, Setenil de las Bodegas, Torre Alhaquime, Olvera. From there you take the old "Vía Verde" to Puerto Serrano. Then through sunflower fields and vineyards to Arcos de la Frontera, a whitewashed farmstead set into an impenetrable peak above the Guadalete River, a splendid viewpoint over the Jerez countryside. Jerez de la Frontera and if you wish to continue El Puerto Santa María, provide the perfect epilogue to a journey packed with pleasures including famous wines and bright sunshine on the beaches of Cádiz bay.

-  **Difficulty**
-  **7 days**
-  **850 €**



Day 1: Arrival Ronda

Ronda is a small and very charming town. Depending on your arrival time you can visit the bullring (Spain's oldest) with its small but very interesting bullfighting museum, take a stroll round Ronda's old quarter, or head down to the river to visit the 13th Century Arab Baths, some of the best conserved in Spain and Europe. At night try the wine of Ronda in one of the many taverns or restaurants.



Day 3: Olvera — Puerto Serrano, 40 km

The unfinished railway has been given a new lease of life as one of the first Vías Verdes, or greenways. You cycle for 36 km along this greenway (no cars), passing the Peñón de Zaframagón (Nature reserve with Andalusia's and one of Europe's largest colonies of vultures). You follow the Guadalete river as far as Puerto Serrano, where the greenway finishes and where you will sleep in a rural lodge.



Day 2: Ronda — Olvera, 35 km

You leave Ronda heading northwards and make for Setenil de las Bodegas, one of Andalusia's most surprising villages. Lose yourself in the village's intimate corners and tapas bars... You then follow the Trejo River and soon see the village of Olvera in the distance, with its typical church and 12th Century castle atop a hill. Overnight in hotel** with swimming pool.



Day 4: Puerto Serrano — Arcos de la frontera

42 km. You leave the hotel and follow a narrow country lane, almost a cycle lane, surrounded by gentle rolling hills covered in sunflowers, cotton and vineyards to the white village of Arcos de la Frontera. This town is situated on cliffs high above a meander in the Guadalete river. The view from the castle and village is staggering. You will stay in a 3-star hotel in the historical centre of Arcos.



Day 5: Arcos — Jerez, 40 km

This day you will leave Arcos de la Frontera pass through beautiful landscapes and see the typical Andalusian agriculture while you ride on your bike.

Jerez is a beautiful town, which is worth a visit, for example the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art And of course, you can visit one of the many sherry bodegas. Your accommodation is in a charming hotel**** right in the historical city centre.



Day 6: Jerez — Puerto de Santa María, 26 km + circular route 25 km

The ride to El Puerto de Santa María is short (around 26 km) but instead of the busy asphalt roads you will go by agricultural paths (which rides a bit less comfortable) to show you where the grapes are growing from which they make the famous brandy and sherry. Afterwards, you can do the ride through the Bay of Cádiz, to visit this delightful city.



Day 7: El Puerto de Santa María

After breakfast, end of services, unless you have asked for an extra night.



DATES & PRICE

MID-SEASON

 28 Feb — 2 Nov

 880 €/per.

Included

 6 nights accommodation with breakfast

 Documentation

 Luggage transport

 Bike rental

DATES

 Daily arrival possible

Optional

 If you have less days for cycling, then you can also do a short version of the route, until Arcos or Jerez in 5 or 6 days.



The Tropical Coast

Cycling from Granada to the Tropical Coast



From Granada to the Tropical Coast

The Tropical Coast on a bike

Less than an hour's drive from the city of Granada you can find the Tropical coastline, the so-called Costa Tropical. Due to the climate with 320 days of sunshine a year and an average temperature of 20°C you can see sugar cane, avocados, custard apples and mangos to name just a few.

An old mountain road connects Granada town with this Tropical Coast. This road is called Carretera de la Cabra (Road of the Goat) and it used to be a Royal Cattle Track. Nowadays, with the fast highway between Granada and the Costa Tropical, this road

is almost in disuse and therefore ideal for cyclists! We will bring you first out of Granada town towards this road, to avoid the traffic and the ugly parts. Once we leave you with the comfortable bike you will cycle into the mountains enjoying the splendid views before heading down through the subtropical area with the avocado and mango trees to the beach of Almuñécar.

Have a swim in the Mediterranean Sea and take some of the famous barbecued sardines on the beach before returning to Granada!

  **Difficulty**

 **1 day**

 **145 €**

DATES & PRICE

PRICE

 1 day. Min. 2 people

 **145 €/per.**

DATES

 Daily arrival possible

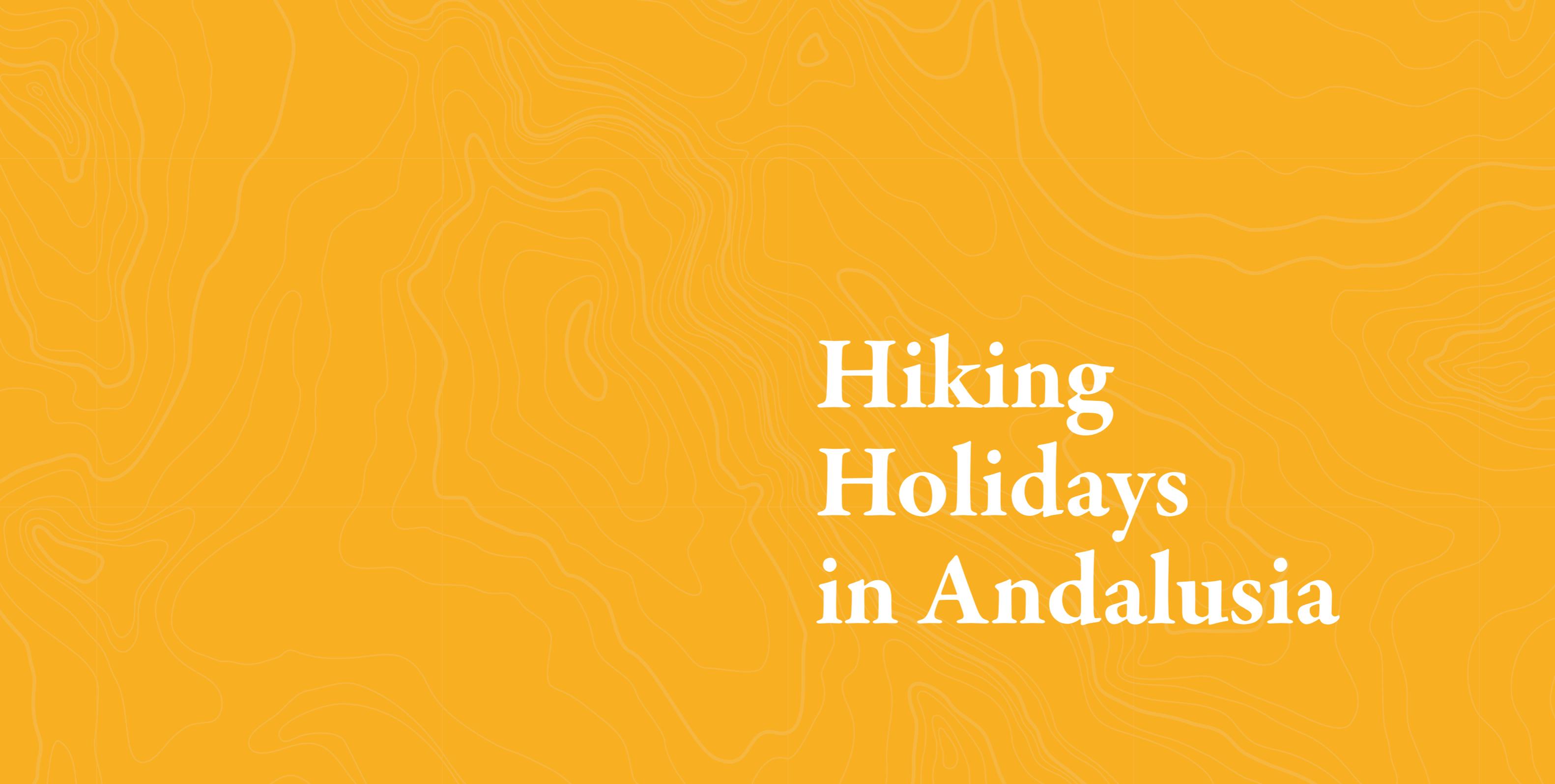
Included

 Transfer from your hotel in Granada to start point in the mountains

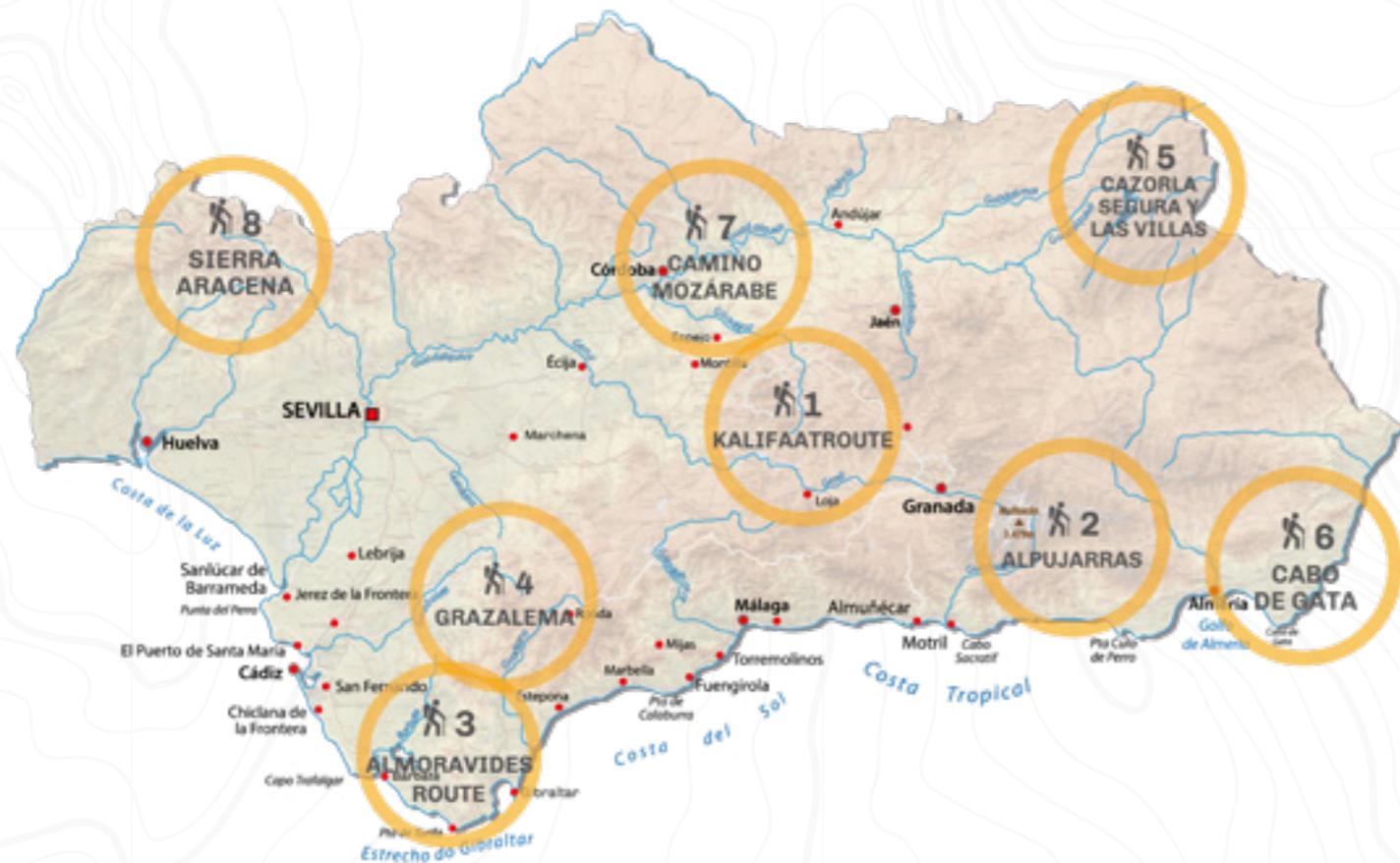
 Bike rental

 GPS rental with track

 Transfer back from Almuñécar to Granada

The background of the image is a solid orange color with a subtle, light-colored topographic map pattern. The map lines are thin and wavy, creating a sense of terrain and elevation. The text is centered on the right side of the image.

Hiking Holidays in Andalusia



What we offer?

Our hiking holidays are going through beautiful Nature Parks with small authentic villages. Start or finish normally in a charming and interesting town like Córdoba, Granada or Ronda. They are perfect to disconnect from the rush and feel the peace of rural life. You will get the chance to feel at home in the small inns in quiet villages but with an important cultural heritage.

Route descriptions, maps and service

You will receive a roadbook with all necessary documentation as route descriptions, recommendations for lunch and dinner, what to visit, tips where to go for good flamenco, etc. You will get detailed descriptions and maps of the routes before starting your trip. The route is marked on the maps with scale 1:25000 (based on the IGN maps), and accommodation and waypoints are reflected on the map. GPX tracks are also available. While you walk, we organize the transport of your luggage to the next hotel. And in case of problems we are always just a phone call away!

Difficulty



Easy

For everyone, with no need for previous experience, although you will always get more out of it if you are used to physical exercise (2-4 hours/day).



Moderate

For beginners in reasonable physical condition, all the better if you have some experience (4-5 hours/day).



Difficult

For people used to hiking, in good physical condition (5-6 hours/day).



Demanding

More technical hikes, requiring experience and very good physical condition



Route of cultural and natural interest



The Alpujarra

Trekking in Sierra Nevada Nature Park



The Alpujarra

Trekking in Sierra Nevada Nature Park

The Alpujarra is a region of mountain villages to the south of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which nestle in sheltered valleys and gorges running down towards the Mediterranean Sea. Its terraced farmlands have a year-round supply of water from melting snow above, giving the area the appearance of a high-altitude oasis.

Its strategic location close to the Mediterranean beside the high mountains, which are declared National Park (at high elevations) and Nature Reserve (villages were settled here) makes this region home to an authentic treasure of flora and fauna; in short, the perfect place for walking and hiking.

Culturally the area is fascinating because its fifty or so villages were the last strongholds of the Spanish Muslims. Those "Moriscos" (Muslim-Christian "converted") who still practiced their original religion and customs in private after the fall of Granada in 1492 took to the hills in the face of increasing pressure from the Catholics, settling in this remote, inaccessible area. These unique villages have held on to their past. You can still see traditional architecture similar to that used by the Berber tribes of North Africa: terraced clusters of square houses with flat clay and slate roofs, like those to be found in the Rif and Atlas Mountains of Morocco.

 **Difficulty**

 **8 days**

 **580 €**



Day 1: Arrival Granada

Your hotel is right in the historical city center. Make a stroll through the UNESCO neighbourhood Albayzin with views over the Alhambra and the snowed peaks of the Sierra Nevada. Delightful little corners, palaces and gardens abound in its old neighbourhoods, along with a multitude of tapas bars, restaurants and wine houses... take some drinks and be invited to the rich tapas! At night, you can perhaps discover some traditional flamenco...



Day 2: Transfer (by public bus) Granada — Mecina

Visit Granada and the famous palaces and gardens of the Alhambra (tickets not included). In the afternoon, take the local bus to Mecina. The journey takes almost 3 hours, but the time will fly watching the landscape change as you leave Granada and climb up into the mountains to penetrate the inaccessible lands that were the last stronghold of Granada's Moorish population. Finally, you arrive at the Taha de Pitres region. This is an area characterized by small white villages, steep sided gorges and abundant flora and fauna.



Day 3: Mecina, circular walk

12 km, ↑ 620 m

Start with a loop walk through the Taha which will provide a real taste of life in this region. Pass villages where time seemingly has stood still and drop down to cross the Trevélez river. Zigzag up the steep hillside above along an old mule track and follow a gently forest track with regarding views over the Sierra Nevada. Cross again the river and climb back to Mecina, where you can relax in the swimming pool! You can also choose to walk to Bubión, Capileira and Pampaneira, three charming villages situated in the spectacular Poqueira valley.



Day 4: Mecina — Trevélez

16 km, ↑ 1075 m, ↓ 580 m

First walk to the authentic village Busquistar. From here you follow one of the most attractive legs of the GR-7 long-distance walking trail towards your next destination Trevélez, passing through an oak forest, accompanied by the alluring scent of thyme, oregano and lavender. In spring the gorse and broom come into bloom, producing a sea of bright yellow flowers. Trevélez lies at the foot of the Mulhacén and is the highest village of Spain (1478 m) and famous for its cured ham (jamón Serrano).



Day 5: Trevélez — Bérchules

16 km, ↑ 860 m, ↓ 975 m

Leave Trevélez taking again the GR-trail through a forest. Look back once in a while for amazing views of Trevélez and the high snowed peaks of the Sierra Nevada. You can reach the altitude of 2000 meters on the high route to Bérchules! In case of snow or heat, you might prefer the lower walk along the village of Juviles. You will sleep in a charming rural lodge with swimming pool, about 2 km out of the village.



Day 3: Yegen-circular walks

5–8 km, ↑↓ 570 m

You can do one of the small circular walks from the village or do them both! The Trail "La Salud" is about 5 km, it climbs to the Fountain of the Health and head back to Yegen through a beautiful gorge bordered by huge chestnut trees. The Brenan Trail (Sendero de Brenan) is a short but demanding walk, that was a favourite afternoon walk of the famous English writer, once resident of Yegen. You walk through olive and almond groves, pass along the ancient fortress Peñon del Fuerte, and enjoy views over a fairy-tale lunar landscape before you return to Yegen.



Day 6: Bérchules — Yegen

14 km, ↑ 605 m, ↓ 930 m

The last leg of the GR7-trail brings you to Mecina, crossing the green "barranco" (gorge) on an ancient path between both villages. Follow the beautiful trail to Montenegro and Yegen. Pass the small village of El Golco and notice the changes in the landscape while you walk on towards Yegen. In this last authentic village, the English writer Brenan lived for several years writing his famous book South from Granada. You will stay in a beautiful restored village house with views over the valley!



Day 8: Yegen — Granada

Enjoy a last breakfast with views over the mountains before you head back to Granada by bus. Make the most of the ride to enjoy scenery unique in Europe as you wind through the mountains.

€ DATES & PRICE

DATES



Daily arrival possible

MID-SEASON



580 €/per.



60 € High season supplement

3 — 12 April 2020

Included



7 nights accommodation with breakfast



Documentation package



Luggage transfers



Telephone helpline

Optional



Extra Nights



Private transfer



Single room



Mozarab Way to Santiago

From Granada to Córdoba



Pilgrim Route from Granada to Cordoba

Mozarab Way to Santiago de Compostela

The Camino de Santiago or Way of St. James is the pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in north-western Spain. Legend has it that the remains of the apostle, Saint James the Great, are buried here. As pilgrims traditionally started their journey from their own home, different Camino ways emerged over the years. Probably one of the most ancient Pilgrim's ways in Spain is this one: The Mozarabic Way to Santiago. The name honours Christians who were living in the Muslim territory of Al-Andalus (called Mozarabs) and knew about the discovery of the remains of the Apostle Santiago in Compostela. They risked their lives to travel to Santiago, on the immense distance from the South to the remains of the Apostle. They not only had to cross on foot Al-Andalus; They still had to take the Via de la Plata travel through Castilian lands to reach the north of the Peninsula.

This tour gives you the opportunity to connect the cities of Granada and Córdoba with their world cultural heritages: the marvellous "Alhambra" in Granada and the stunning "Mezquita" in Córdoba. Enjoy the villages, castles, churches and towns that stretch before you just waiting to be discovered, such as Moclín, Tózar, Alcalá la Real, Alcaudete, Zuheros, Castro del Río, Baena, that now give their name to some of the world's finest olive oils. You will find them the perfect place to relax and recover lost energy with the best food and wines this region has to offer!

You will walk about 120 km of the Saint James Way, and can get the official certificate if you stamp the passport twice a day along the route

 **Difficulty**
 **8 days**
 **585 €**



Day 1: Arrival Granada

From Málaga or Granada airport you will take the local comfortable bus to Granada, where you will stay in a comfortable hotel in the historical centre of the town. You can stroll around the cathedral and its old silk market, take some drinks and be invited to the rich tapas. Finally, we suggest you experience an authentic flamenco show to get you ready for a journey, which has only just begun.



Day 3: Tózar — Alcalá

21 km, ↑ 542 m, ↓ 445 m

Marcelo brings you to the Malalmuerzo fountain, close to Moclín, from where you continue your route to Alcalá la Real. Visit the majestic "La Mota" fortress with its thick castle walls, imposing towers and the old cathedral built by the reconquering Christians within its confines defending the town of Alcalá. At night try a local wine or one of the delicious craft beers made in Alcalá!



Day 2: Granada — Moclín/Tózar

17 km, ↑ 800 m, ↓ 407 m

After breakfast a taxi will bring you to Pinos Puente and continue with your luggage to Moclín while you walk. Once in Moclín you can take a drink while you wait to be picked up by Marcelo of the friendly hostel in the nearby village Tózar. You can make a short stroll through this authentic village with its narrow streets to the anthropomorphic tombs dug out of the before you enjoy the marvellous homemade cooking of Marcelo's wife!



Day 4: Alcalá la Real — Alcaudete

19 km, ↑ 405 m, ↓ 600 m

After breakfast a taxi will bring you to Puertollano, a charming public washing place. From here you walk the 19-km remaining to Alcaudete, a town of pre-Roman origin with a Muslim fortress at the top of the village. In the late afternoon if you walk up towards the castle, you could recover some energy with the typical sweets of the pastry shop Pastelería Mari Trini. You stay in a friendly pension where you also can have dinner.



Day 5: Alcaudete — Baena

16,5 km, ↑ 333 m, ↓ 292 m

A private transfer will avoid a busy asphalt road. Nice walk along the Salobral lake, where you might see flamingos! Your destiny today is Baena, an old town, famous for its olive oil. There is even a Museum of Olive Oil. Your accommodation is the 3-star hotel la Casa Grande, right in the historical center, in a "Casa Señorial" from the beginning of 20th century.



Day 6: Baena — Castro

21 km, ↑ 112 m, ↓ 268 m

Just walk out of your hotel to start your route today to Castro del Río. But it is a good idea to first do some shopping in Baena, as you will not pass anything on this stretch. Castro del Río is famous for its olive oil and the local crafts as furniture made from olive wood, exported as far as Japan. You will stay in a charming village house and have breakfast in a bar nearby.



Day 7: Castro del Río — Córdoba

21 km, ↑ 375 m, ↓ 150 m

After breakfast you will be driven by taxi to skip the asphalt road and make the stage shorter and bearable! Hardly any shade, and almost only olive trees... But at the end of today's stage you will walk right into the town of Córdoba, cross the Guadalquivir river by the old Roman bridge and get to the Big Mosque versus Cathedral to get your last stamp in your Camino passport...before arriving to your hotel.



Day 8: End of the journey in Córdoba and departure

You can visit the Mosque-Cathedral for free at 8:30 in the morning. The historical centre is declared UNESCO World Heritage site, and you really should stroll through the Jewish neighbourhood, before leaving this amazing town.

€ DATES & PRICE

SEASON A

Start between:

7 Jan — 27 Feb / 24 Jun — 24 Aug
4 Nov — 15 Dec / except 6, 7, 8 Dec

€ 585 €/per.

SEASON B

Start between:

28 Feb — 3 Apr / 1 — 24 Jun
25 Aug — 3 Nov / 16 — 31 Dec

€ 630 €/per.

SEASON C

Start between:

13 Apr — 31 May / 5, 6, 7, 8 Dec

€ 650 €/per. in double room

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Documentation package
-  Transfers as mentioned in the description
-  Luggage transport day 2 to day 7
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 You cannot start between 1-11 April

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Single room



Route of cultural and natural interest



Route of the Almoravids

Walking from the Mountains to the Sea



Between Ronda and Tarifa

Walking on the Almoravids Route

This journey takes us along a Major Cultural Route of the European Council: the "Route of the Almoravids and Almohades" that Otros Caminos rediscovered and developed in cooperation with the prestigious Legado Andalusi Foundation.

We set out from the ancient town of Ronda, heading for Grazalema, one of the famous "white villages". You will discover silver and pink mountains with their perennial pastures, and then continue down through the Guadiaro river valley to Algeciras and the Mediterranean, and on to its meeting with the Atlantic Ocean.

We cross the Grazalema Mountains on foot, heading south, passing another beautiful village, Villaluenga del Rosario, the highest in the province of Cádiz. Autochthonous species of sheep and goats ("payoyas") graze on evergreen meadows set between limestone valleys, fairy-tale gall-oak forests and rocky gorges,

 **Difficulty**

 **8 days**

 **595 €**

producing delicious, highly prized cheeses. We continue on foot on the ancient Campo de Gibraltar Cattle Trail, following the course of the Guadiaro river to the authentic white village Jimera de Líbar and from there to the station of Cortes de la Frontera. The train, that we will take again later to get to our final destination in Algeciras, now crosses a dense cork forest, while the river converts the valley into a canyon.

Our last walk runs through the Estrecho Nature Reserve, heading down towards the sea and then on, following the coastline. You will notice the rocky beaches and old military installations to be found in the area, while we awaken the curiosity of the many dark-coloured calves that graze on these coastal hillsides. Seduced by the wild landscape of this coast between two seas, daydreaming as we stare out to Africa, we arrive in Tarifa.



Day 1: Arrival Ronda

Whether you come by bus, train or car, you should try to get to this fabulous town as early as possible. Have a stroll, see the oldest bullfight ring of Spain, visit the ancient Arab baths and the famous "Puente Nuevo" (New Bridge) and take some good wines and tapas.



Day 2: Ronda — Grazalema, circular hike 9,5 km, ↑ 432 m

After breakfast a taxi will collect you to bring you to the beautiful mountain village of Grazalema, where you will stay in a rural lodge. Stroll through the charming village, buy some cheese of the Payoya goats and do a circular hike to the heart of the nearby Sierra del Endrinal. The start is steep but risk-free and stunningly beautiful. The views of the surrounding summits are tremendous.



Day 3: Grazalema — Villaluenga del Rosario 13 km, ↑ 580 m, ↓ 630 m

This route takes you right into to the heart of the Nature Park Grazalema. You will first climb through the Sierra de Endrinal and pass close to the highest peaks Reloj (1545m) and Simancón (1566m). This height gives you terrific views to the Sea and the Rock of Gibraltar! At the end of the route a steep downhill will bring you back to civilization: the beautiful white village of Villaluenga del Rosario, the highest village of the province of Cádiz.



Day 4: Villaluenga del Rosario — Montejaque 18 km, ↑ 593 m, ↓ 761 m

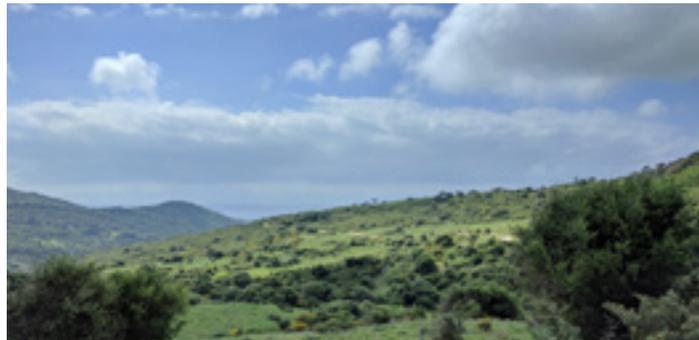
A longer distance today but not difficult. You walk through impressive limestone rock formations, including the Sima del Republicano. In this beautiful landscape of Holm oaks, you may even see the Iberian pig, a race you only find in Spain, looking for acorns under the holm oaks. The ham of these pigs (jamón ibérico) is a real delicatessen! Later you get to the Líbar plains, hiking gently over this deserted landscape to the white village of Montejaque.



Day 5: Montejaque — Jimera de Líbar — — Cañada del Real Tesoro

11 km, ↑ 348 m, ↓ 522 m / 22 km, ↑ 582 m, ↓ 902 m

You first walk to the Station of Benaoján, where you pick up the cattle trail following the “Cañada Real de Campo de Gibraltar” alongside the Guadiaro river and the Bobadilla-Algeciras railway line. Once at the station of Jimera de Líbar you can choose to take the train or hike another 11 km through meadows, woodland and farmlands to the next village of Cañada del Real Tesoro, where Breda and her husband will welcome with a home-made dinner.



Day 7: Algeciras by train — Tarifa

16,2 km, ↑ 52 m, ↓ 331 m

Today you make the last stage of this unforgettable journey by train to Algeciras; a taxi will be waiting here to drive you to the Estrecho Natural Park. From there, you head down towards the sea and then on following the coastline, along rocky beaches and old military installations with Africa in the distance. In the afternoon you can enjoy the ambiance of Tarifa, as your inn is just located in the heart of the historical centre.



Day 6: Cañada del Real Tesoro — El Colmenar

14 km, ↑ 451 m, ↓ 506 m

You will follow the course of the Guadiaro river along the left riverbank. After some meadows roamed by retinta cows and Iberian pigs you head down to the river to get to the narrow Cañón de las Buitreras, a protected area and Natural Monument! This place is simply spectacular: it is both majestic and intimidating. A hard ascent awaits, but it is highly worthwhile. Heading down towards the river again you will arrive at the Charco del Moro: a long pool of cold water, good for a refreshing bath! Then continue to the small village of El Colmenar where you will stay for the night.



Day 8: Tarifa, end

Of course, you can also add an extra night in Tarifa and maybe visit the famous ruins of Bolonia, eat some fresh fish alongside the sea and walk along the beautiful beaches.

If you haven't been to Africa before, this is your opportunity! From Tarifa you can take a fast ferry to the city of Tangier.



DATES & PRICE

PRICE

€ From 595 €/per.

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Luggage transport
-  Taxi train station to start point
-  Transfers as described
-  Descriptions and maps of the routes

DATES

 Daily arrival possible

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Single room



Route of cultural and natural interest



Route of the Caliphate

The best walks between Córdoba and Granada



Between Córdoba and Granada

Route of the Caliphate on foot

This tour explores the human and natural landscapes that mark out the famous Route of the Caliphate (designated Major European Cultural Itinerary), between Córdoba and Granada. Once we get to Córdoba, immersing ourselves in its splendid past and its bustling present, we will then travel to Zuheros in the Subbéticas Mountains. These mountains (now designated Nature Reserve), reach some 1,500 m above sea level and constitute an impressive limestone range. From time immemorial they have been home to some of the most beautiful, romantic towns and villages in Andalusia, such as Priego de Córdoba, Carcabuey, Cabra, Zuheros... Age-old olive groves, holm- and gall-oaks grow on the red-coloured hillsides, hiding magical rock formations

such as the Cueva de los Murciélagos (Bats' Cave). We are not limited to this nature reserve and its stately villages, however. We will also visit the area surrounding a major fortress (Alcalá la Real) and the brief, yet rugged mountains that protect the plain and the Nazrid capital of Granada, heritage of a small, legendary village called Moclín. Once in Granada itself, you can discover the secret of Moorish wells and waterways, search out the origins of famous poems in the walls of the Alhambra, take a stroll through the old Moorish neighbourhood, the Albayzín, packed with sounds and aromas, and try some tapas enjoying views out to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, already thinking of coming back soon!

 **Difficulty**

 **8 days**

 **540 €**



Day 1: Arrival Córdoba

Be sure not to miss a visit to the beautiful, stunning Great Mosque and Cathedral, a treasure of Hispano-Muslim architecture and art; take a gentle stroll through the complex yet pure Al-Andalus geometry of the streets of the old town and the Jewish quarter; visit some of its typical, colourful, sweet-smelling patios and sample local tapas in any of the bars and inns.



Day 2: Córdoba — Zuheros (by bus), circular walk 17,5 km, ↑ 625 m

You take the public bus to Zuheros, a picturesque, romantic white-washed village. Your accommodation is in the centre of the village, next to the ruin of the rock castle. In the afternoon you can walk into the beautiful Bailón river Canyon. You can just walk along the underground river, part of the Karst landscape, with good views over Zuheros and turn around when you feel like it. Or continue to the Bramadero Hill, full of oaks, and enjoy the silence of this part of the Subbética Nature Park. At the end you will meet the Bailón river again to return to Zuheros.



Day 3: Zuheros — Zagrilla 15 km, ↑ 750 m, ↓ 845 m

You now enter in the heart of the Sierras Subbéticas Nature Park, part of the European and World Geoparks Network approved by UNESCO since 2006 due to its geological interest. Fuente del Espino halfway is an excellent spot for a short but well-deserved rest. You then head down through the steep Zagrilla canyon. This stage finishes at the hamlet of Zagrilla Alta.



Day 4: Zagrilla — Priego 9,7 km, ↑ 257 m, ↓ 170 m

From Zagrilla you can get to Priego either on a short route following the Colada del Camino del Hoyo; otherwise, take a longer route, via the village of Carcabuey, through fields with streams flanked by dense quince trees, then crossing the Pollos or Jaula Mountains, where you will find an abundance of holm-oak and olive trees. Finally, you get to Priego, with a wonderful baroque legacy.



Day 5: Priego — Alcalá by bus, circular route
13 km, ↑↓ 820 m)

Transfer to Alcalá la Real by local bus. You head into the mountains with ancient holm-oak forests, towards the castle of "La Mota", which looks majestically out over Alcalá la Real. It is worthwhile to visit this outstanding example of a medieval fortified town, once the last frontier with Al-Andalus. Afterwards you continue to your hotel in Alcalá. or to the rural lodge in Fuente del Rey.



Day 6: Alcalá — Moclín (taxi) — Tózar
6/8 km, ↑ 302/355 m, ↓ 386/442 m

After breakfast a transfer by taxi to medieval village of Moclín. The fortress, that once guarded the pass from Alcalá to Granada, offers unbeatable views of the region. Here today's route gets underway and you can either head straight down through a forest to Tózar, or else make first for Olivares and continue over the natural pass through the mountains to Tózar. You pass some anthropomorphic tombs dug out of the rock and the remains of a defensive system set up during the Spanish Civil War before reaching the quiet village where you can enjoy the sunset at the roof terrace of the hotel...



Day 7: Tózar – Granada by bus

After breakfast a taxi picks you up to bring you to your hotel in Granada. You will spend the last day visiting this charming city with the palaces and gardens of the Alhambra. Later, take a stroll through the old Moorish neighbourhood, the Albayzín, packed with sounds and aromas, and go for some drinks with tapas. Or maybe you'd like to have an Arab bath and massage in the Hammam!



Day 8: Granada

End of services after breakfast.



DATES & PRICE

PRICE

€ From 540 €/per.

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Luggage transport
-  Transfers as described
-  Descriptions and maps of the routes

DATES



Daily arrival possible

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Single room



Cabo de Gata

Volcanoes, gold mines and westerns



Hiking along the Coast of Almería

Volcanoes, Gold mines and westerns in Cabo de Gata

The Cabo de Gata Nature Reserve has besides wild cliffs with spectacular views, natural and paradisiacal beaches like the famous Genoveses or Mónsul, and other small coves only reachable by foot. Wherever we look, within the Nature park, there are traces of volcanic activity, erosion and sedimentation. Volcanism has in Cabo de Gata its most important manifestation in Spain. We will cycle through a landscape of great geological variety, product of this volcanism with castings lava domes or fossil beaches, between agaves and cactus, typical of a semiarid climate unique in Europe. Despite the semi-arid conditions, the soil of Cabo de Gata hosts a rich flora that has adapted to the rain-starved environment. Some of the approximately 1,000 species of vascular plants are endemic to the park and Europe's

only native palm, the dwarf fan palm (*Chamaerops humilis*) thrives here. The climate is perfect for cycling and hiking in wintertime with an average temperature of about 19 °C and an average annual rainfall of 156 mm!

The villages you will hike through are special too! While hiking around Rodalquilar, an old mining town, you will pass some old gold mines! And what about the small typical fishing village of Isleta de Moro? The small boats near the beach, the white houses of modest fishermen and the extraordinary peace in most parts of the year...an excellent place to try fried or grilled fresh fish! Come hiking here, disconnect and enjoy the great views of the cliffs and over the crystal-clear water.

 **Difficulty**

 **7 days**

 **440 €**



Day 1: Arrival San José

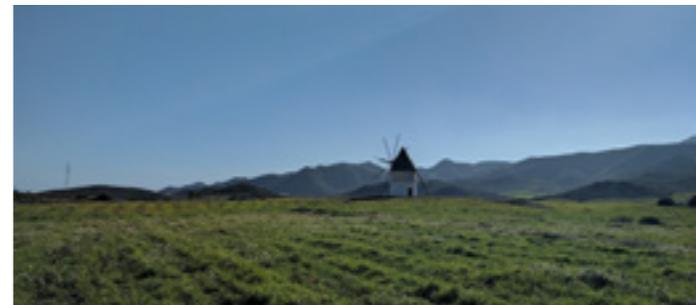
San José can be reached by car, by bus or by taxi from Almería. It is a fishing port, which grows in summer with tourist because of the incredible beaches. Outside summer and weekends, it is a quiet village.



Day 2: San José, circular hike

17,5 km, ↑↓ 124 m

You can do a circular hike from San José), passing some of the most amazing and picturesque beaches in the natural park, such as the beach of Monsul, with the petrified tongue of lava, famous for a scene of the movie Indiana Jones and the last Crusade of Steven Spielberg. Another beautiful beach is "Playa de los Genoveses" and there are many other smaller coves which you can only access by foot!



Day 3: San José — Rodalquilar

19 km, ↑ 450 m, ↓ 330 m

A long but impressive walk along the coast on the cliffs and rocks with stunning views. You will even walk along a fossil dune and an oasis of palm trees! First you have to climb to the Tower of Higuera. From here on it is virtually all downhill until Los Escullos, where you can admire the battery of San Felipe, built in the 18th century with the aim of avoiding pirate attacks. Then continue to the small fishing village of Isleta de Moro, one of the best conserved villages of the coast, and good for a break. From there along an oasis into the valley of Rodalquilar, to the charming village of Rodalquilar.



Day 4: Rodalquilar, circular hike

18 km, ↑↓ 715 m

This once small mining settlement in ancient was **mined alum** of the mountains, and in the nineteenth and twentieth exploitation focused on its gold mines. The **gold mines** are not exploited any more. At the entrance of the village still retains the old houses of the miners, now abandoned. Today you will walk along the old gold mines and through the beautiful Barranco Requena full of dwarf fan palms. Incredible views over the coast and the small fishing villages. Downhill through the Barranco del Negro and back to Rodalquilar.



Day 5: Rodalquilar — Las Negras — Agua Amarga
19,5 km, ↑ 655 m, ↓ 706 m

You leave the hotel towards the fantastic Playazo fine sand beach, where you can find the San Ramón battery from the 18th century and from there you follow the beautiful coastline to the fishing village of Las Negras, a perfect place to take a coffee and buy some things for a picnic. As for the rest of the walk you will not find anything, except of beautiful small coves along the rough coast and a hippy colony living in an oasis. Finally, you arrive to the next village of Agua Amarga, where you will sleep the next two nights.



Day 6: Agua Amarga, circular hike Mesa Roldán
14,5 km, ↑↓ 420 m

Mesa means table in Spanish, appropriate for this flat-topped mountain which lies along the coastline just south of Carboneras. The horizontal peak is home to the 18th century watchtower of Torre Vigía de Mesa Roldán and a lighthouse. The Mesa Roldán signposted walking trail provides access to the top of the plateau from where there are superb views of the cliffs, the fishing village of Agua Amarga, and the coves of Cala de Enmedio and Cala del Plomo. In October 2015 Mesa Roldán was the filming location for a scene in the internationally popular American fantasy drama Game of Thrones!

Day 7: Agua Amarga

After breakfast finishes this hiking tour, you can get a bus or taxi back to San José or to Almería.

€ DATES & PRICE

€ From 440 €/per.

€ 60 € High season supplement
3 — 12 April 2020

Included

-  6 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Luggage transfers
-  Descriptions and maps of the routes
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 Daily start, but you cannot do this tour between 12 June and 20 September

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Private transfer
-  Single room



Cazorla Segura and Las Villas Nature Park



Cazorla, Segura and Las Villas Nature Park

Incredible wildlife

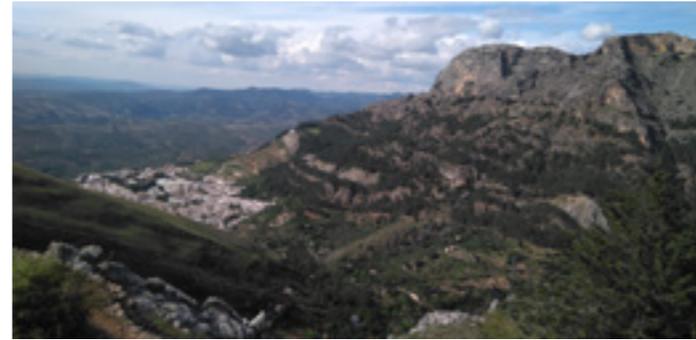
Cazorla lies on the western slope of the Sierra de Cazorla. It is the entry point to the mountainous, lushly wooded "Parque Natural de Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas", a vast protected area of craggy mountain ranges, deep green river valleys, canyons, waterfalls, remote hilltop castles and abundant wildlife. The abrupt geography, with altitudes varying between 460m at the lowest point up to 2107m at the summit of "Empanadas", makes for dramatic changes in the landscape. Established in 1986, with an area of 2.099,2 km², it is the largest protected area in Spain and the second largest in Europe. It was declared a biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 1983 and also a "Special Protection Area for migratory birds" in 1988.

Public transport is scarce inside the park and distances between points are enormous, so to explore it well you'll need a car or be prepared for long hikes. We have designed a tour where you will discover the most emblematic and wild areas within, and you need a car to go to the starting points. You can start this fly&drive program from Madrid, Málaga or Granada airports.

 **Difficulty**

 **8 days**

 **399 €**



Day 1: Arrival La Iruela, Cazorla (Jaén)

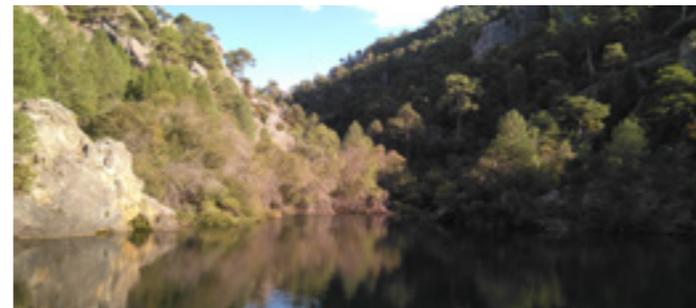
On the way to Cazorla, you can visit the beautiful towns of Ubeda and Baeza. You cross the village of Cazorla and continue towards the neighbourhood of La Iruela.



Day 2: The Gilillo Peak

16 km, ↑ 750 m, ↓ 1005 m

A taxi will drive you to the starting point, the Riogazas Control, about 6 km from the hotel. You will walk to the Gilillo summit and the "Loma de los Castellones", a wonderful scenery for your first walk in Sierra de Cazorla. This magnificent walk makes a traverse of the mountain behind Cazorla. You will have stunning views of the park during your way to the summit. The surroundings are spectacular because of their rough, rocky character. After the hike you continue driving to the next accommodation in Cotorrios, where you can have dinner.



Day 3: Cerrada de Elías

23,12 km, ↑↓ 875 m

The Borosa river flows through a number of ravines, which create a spectacular landscape of continuous waterfalls and pools, and it is also an extremely healthy river: it boasts cold, crystalline water that encourages the presence of dense vegetation and abundant wildlife. The route follows the Borosa river upstream and will lead you through the Cerrada de Elías, a narrow, rocky ravine where the river flows into cold, crystal-clear pools.



Day 4: Peñamusgo

16 km, ↑↓ 550 m

You drive first to Pontones. This hike will lead you to the heart of the Nature Park! Leave Pontones on the old paths that surround this small village, towards the amazing geological formation called Peñamusgo, at an altitude of 1536 m. On this trail you enjoy magnificent views over the Tranco water reservoir. And maybe you will see the "quebrantahuesos" o Gypaetus barbatus (bearded vulture) that has been successfully reintroduced in the park and is beginning to re-establish itself.



Day 5: Cueva del Agua

14 km, ↑↓ 530 m

Nice route along the canyon of the Segura river towards the beautiful "Cave of Water", and the exceptional vegetation in the surroundings. You will walk along the Segura river, then you go up for a while to later descend to the Patas stream and when this one meets the Segura river, you are in the stunning waterfall called Charco del Humo close to the Cave of Water, with the beautiful orchards and huge walnut trees in the surroundings. The old pathways, with the rough rocky character of the landscape, will amaze you in your way back to Pontones.



Day 6: Almorchón

15 km, ↑↓ 490 m

You drive 20 km from your accommodation in Pontones to the starting point. Known as the "King of Sierra de Segura", it is a highlight in the area. You will have stunning views of the park during your walk, a wide view on the entire surroundings: Santiago the la Espada and its countryside, the high summits of Sierra Nevada and la Sagra in Granada, as well as the ones in Sierra de Cazorla, Segura y las Villas. You go around the Almorchón mountain on historical pathways.

After your walk, you drive to Hospedería Venta Zumeta, near las Juntas, on a beautiful narrow mountain road.



Day 7: Puntal de los Canteros — La Pililla

11 km, ↑↓ 620 m

You drive to Miller (about 15 minutes) for another great circular hike on the well preserved and pleasant paths around the "Calar de la Pililla", with the wonderful views of the Segura valley and the Anchuricas reservoir. Night at Venta Zumeta again.



Day 8: Venta Zumeta

After breakfast you can still do another hike or ride back to the airport.



DATES & PRICE

PRICE

€ From 399 €/per.

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Transfers as described
-  Documentation package
-  Telephone helpline

DATES

 Daily start is possible. You cannot start this tour between 1 and 11 April.

Optional

 Extra Nights  Car rental



Grazalema Nature Park

Hiking around Ronda



Hiking around Ronda

Grazalema Nature Park

-  **Difficulty**
-  **8 days**
-  **495 €**

Six days hiking through spectacular scenery between the provinces of Málaga and Cádiz, covering rugged mountains and forests unique in Europe, while the sun shines down like God's fingers through magical broken cloud...

Not in vain might Grazalema mean "farmstead of peace". On this journey we will discover a hidden corner of our world, home to silence and serenity. We will see the famous "Pinsapo" (Spanish Fir tree) forests, covering the hills or clinging to mountainsides – a species unique to this area, descendent of the central European pines that arrived here in the glacial era. Walking on varied trails we will get to know the names of the mountains that make up the Grazalema range (like Zafalgar, El Pinar, Endrinal, Líbar), visiting peaks and caves, home to underground rivers that are the life-blood of these limestone formations.

From our very first steps we will envy the inhabitants of villages like Benamahoma, Montejaque or Villaluenga del Rosario with their long history and welcoming Moorish architecture. As the vultures circle above, we will discover their secret, which is no more than the knowledge of how to live a different kind of existence. During this journey you will see the Reserve's special flora and fauna and its impressive geology (like Republicano peak and Pileta cave, home to important prehistoric finds). You will also visit beautiful villages with their Moorish architecture and, of course, the charming city of Ronda.



Day 1: Arrival Grazalema

From Málaga airport you can take a bus to Grazalema, or head to Ronda and then continue by taxi to the beautiful mountain village of Grazalema. If you arrive early enough, you can have a stroll through this charming village. It is interesting to see its typical streets, the viewpoints, the Roman fountain, the square and the little shops.



Day 3: Grazalema — Benamahoma (Pinsapar)

14 km, ↑ 327 m, ↓ 905 m

The Borosa river flows through a number of ravines, which create a spectacular landscape of continuous waterfalls and pools, and it is also an extremely healthy river: it boasts cold, crystalline water that encourages the presence of dense vegetation and abundant wildlife. The route follows the Borosa river upstream and will lead you through the Cerrada de Elías, a narrow, rocky ravine where the river flows into cold, crystal-clear pools.



Day 2: Grazalema circular

7 km, ↑↓ 420 m

This circular route takes you to the heart of the nearby Sierra del Endrinal. The remains of shepherds' refuges (huts and corrals) tell you about the importance that stockbreeding has had (and still has) in this region, an activity that stands out in the cheese made of the milk obtained from the local payoya goat breed. You will slowly climb to the Puerto de las Presillas and continue to the Boyar viewpoint for stunning views of the mountains and the ionic Salto del Cabrero.



Day 4: Grazalema — Villaluenga del Rosario

13 km, ↑ 581 m, ↓ 630 m

This route takes you right into to the heart of the Nature Park of Grazalema. You will first climb through the Sierra de Endrinal to reach the highest peaks Reloj (1545m) and Simancón (1566m). You also may see some big birds with wide wings and a short, square tail circulating high. Without any doubt it is a griffon vulture that takes advantage of the cornice and the cracks that the cliffs of these mountains offer for nesting. At the end of the route a steep downhill brings you back to civilization: the beautiful white village of Villaluenga del Rosario, the highest village of the province of Cádiz.



Day 5: Villaluenga del Rosario — Montejaque
19 km, ↑ 593 m, ↓ 761 m

Today is a long walking day but not difficult. We continue walking through impressive limestone rock formations, including the Sima del Republicano. In this beautiful landscape of Holm oaks, you may even see the Iberian pig, a race you only find in Spain, looking for acorns under the holm oaks where they slowly fatten to further on time make the best Spanish Ham (Jamón Ibérico). Later you get to the Líbar plains, hiking gently over this deserted landscape to the white village of Montejaque.

Day 7: Montejaque — Ronda
11 km, ↑ 483 m, ↓ 431 m

Today is a gentle hike along the ancient Ronda trail that connects the two villages. The landscape here is a mixture of wild and tame, with big, old trees (such as Carobs and Cork), arable land, wildflowers... to finally come out at the bottom of Ronda's gorge and climb from here to the town's new bridge. In the afternoon you can visit the many highlights of Ronda. This is probably the town that best conserves the romantic heritage described in the journals and drawings of so many 18th Century travellers. Not to be missed are the Moorish and classical architecture, palaces and monuments, her bridges, bullring, her tapas bars, Moorish baths, etc

Day 8: Ronda, end of the journey

If you have not booked an extra night, your journey will have come to an end and from here you return by bus (2 hours) to Málaga airport.



Day 6: Montejaque — Jimera de Líbar
13 km, ↑ 337 m, ↓ 509 m

Today you make a route in the surroundings of Montejaque. You first head down to the station of Benaoján from where you take the beautiful Royal Cattle Track "Campo del Gibraltar" along the Guadiaro river to Jimera de Líbar. Here you can have lunch in a good restaurant beside the train station before returning by train (in only 8 minutes) to the station of Benaoján. From the station of Benaoján you can reach the impressive Cueva del Gato walking (half an hour) before walking back to Montejaque.



€ DATES & PRICE

PRICE

€ From 495 €/per.

Included

-  7 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Luggage transport
-  Documentation of the route
-  Permit for The Pinsapar (not in summer)

DATES

 Daily arrival possible

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Private transfers



Brenan trail

Walking South from Granada



Walking South from Granada

Brenan trail

The English writer Gerald Brenan was perhaps Andalusia's last romantic traveller, and 'South from Granada' is one of his best-known works. It deals with the landscapes and way of life in and around the Alpujarra village that was his home: Yegen. In the spirit of the writer, and with the unmistakable backdrop of one of the region's most emblematic villages, you will make a thoroughly active visit to this part of the Alpujarra. Located on the south-eastern foothills of Sierra Nevada, below the San Juan peak (2,786m) and flanked by the Mecina and Valor rivers, Yegen is a high, peaceful village (at 1,000m) with mild weather. It lies between the provinces of Granada and Almería, enjoying spectacular views and allowing us to imagine the sea that lies hidden behind the Contraviesa mountains to the south. Here you will experience two or three days of true communion with the landscapes, peoples and trails of the Alpujarra.

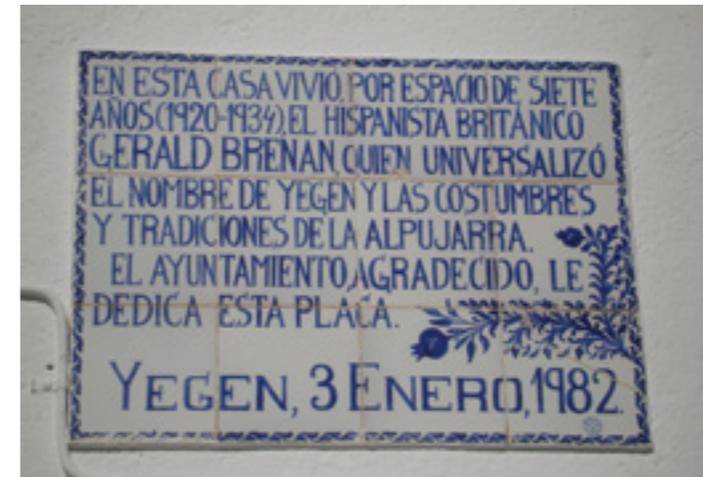
Come with your family or friends to do two hikes on this tour: One is long, with wonderful views of the high Sierra, and the other is shorter, but packed with delightful spots amidst cultivated land and untouched landscapes that will let you get to know this village from every angle. Furthermore, your accommodation there will make you feel truly at home. There is also the chance to visit a ham curer in Mecina Bombarón and visit the inn where Brenan slept when he first came to Yegen, converted into a small museum where you can peruse the photographs of 'El Dinamarca', a devoted lover of this village for the last 50 years.

-  **Difficulty**
-  **3 days**
-  **99 €**



Day 1: Arrival Yegen

Stroll through its winding streets and alleys, admiring the traditional architecture of the Alpujarra. You can also head out of the village on one of the footpaths, visit the church or simply sit down in any corner that catches the late afternoon sun and read Brenan's "South from Granada".



Day 3: Yegen circular Paseos de Brenan 3 km, ↑↓ 200 m

Today you can take an agreeable stroll that was a favourite of the famous English writer, once resident of Yegen. Walking through olive and almond groves and visiting the ancient fortress at "Peñon del Fuerte", enjoy the stunning views over a fairy-tale lunar landscape. Return to Yegen climbing along an old trail which ends at an interesting old fountain and wash-stone.



Day 2: Yegen, Circular hike Encinas

14 km, ↑↓ 750 m

On this hike you climb into the mountains reaching an altitude of 1,600m with magnificent views over the mountains and the valley until the Mediterranean. Follow gorges bordered by huge chestnut trees, surrounded by vegetable gardens and mountain pasture, to then descend through the beautiful holm-oak forest that gives its name to the trail, arriving finally at Mecina. There you take the GR-7 trail to return to Yegen, passing through the village of Golco.

 **DATES & PRICES:**
Daily arrival possible
From 99 €/per.

Included

-  2 nights accommodation with breakfast
-  Information of the route
-  Telephone helpline

Optional

-  Extra Nights
-  Single room

Around Granada

One day walking around Granada

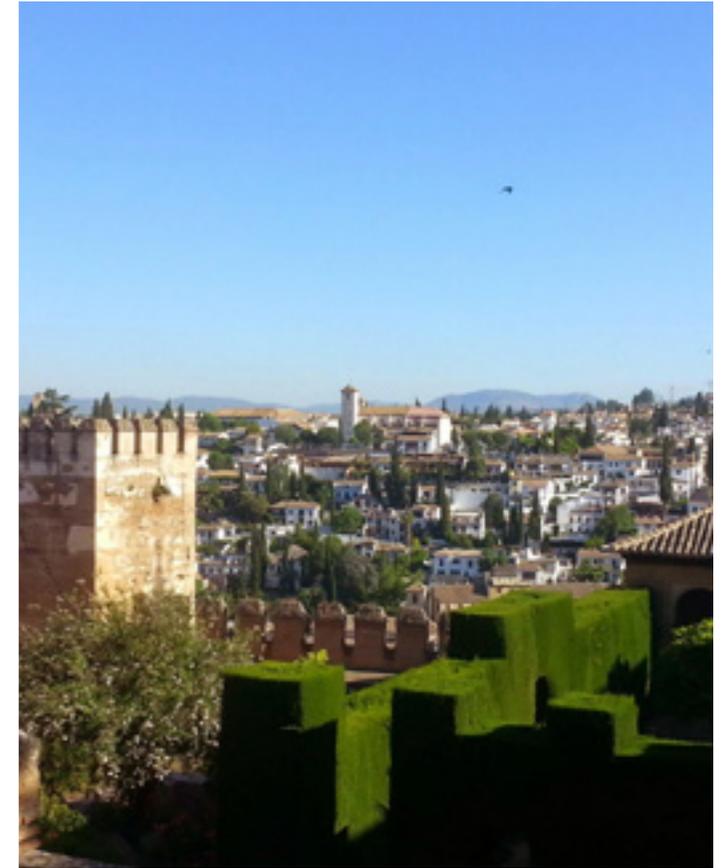
If you are on holiday in Andalusia and feel you would like to get out of the towns and be active in nature, then we have some proposals for you, also if you are travelling in family!



Los Cahorros del río Monachil

A short drive southeast of Granada, not far from the village of Monachil, the area known as Los Cahorros is good for short walks, with trails running through the dramatic gorges that guard the Río Monachil. The route, heading upstream – passes over a suspension bridge and alongside waterfalls.

This route, exceptionally beautiful, is suitable for families. Unbeatable views, waterfalls, plenty of rock pools for swimming, narrow caves and tunnels that you have to crawl through or hang off the rock face, walking alongside acequias that date back to Moorish times and, of course, the famous hanging bridges!



City walks, Albaicín–Sacromonte

The Albaicín became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1994 and is one of the top places to visit when you are in Granada. In this guided walk you will get to know the secrets of the Albayzin and the Gipsy neighbourhood Sacromonte, full of true flavour and flamenco sounds. Your guide leads you through the alleyways twisting and turning up to the Albayzin, the essence of the Islamic town's original population, and bring you to the most emblematic corners and viewpoints before continuing to the Sacromonte. You will just love its cave-homes and its curious landscape and the stunning view of the Alhambra and the Sierra Nevada. After crossing the Darro river we will walk up to the "Silla del Moro" with a breath-taking view over the old part of town. Then we head down along the Alhambra to finally return to your hotel.



Information and conditions

Booking information

On these pages we think you will find all the necessary information to choose and book your tour. Nevertheless, don't hesitate to get in touch with us by telephone (+34 958 291 893) or e-mail (info@otroscaminos.com) with any queries you might have regarding the itinerary, services, accommodation, activities, or anything else. We can always give you more information before you take the decision to book. In any case, once you book your tour, we will send you a complete dossier with a wealth of practical information about the itinerary (stage distances, journey times, etc.), transport and transfers, necessary equipment, accommodation and recommended reading. When you are travelling, we are only a phone call away to continue giving you all the necessary support.



TOUR INFORMATION: PROCEDURE

To obtain the necessary information for the tours in our catalogue we recommend the following:



Check tour conditions: itinerary, services and prices

For each tour the catalogue provides you with the route for each day (departure and arrival points, distance (cycling) or estimated time (hiking)). Our prices of the self-guided tours are always calculated for a minimum of two people travelling on the same tour/date and sharing one double room. For details of optional services available on each tour, such as extra nights, single room, electric bike, consult our website, send an e-mail or call us by phone. Check what is included in services, by reading the "Terms and conditions of services" section provided on the website for each tour. If you have any further queries, please contact us.



WHEN TO BOOK?

For the "self-guided" tours, we recommend you book these well in advance, especially if they coincide with holiday seasons. Apart from these dates, 30 days' notice is sufficient, in low season even just a few days is enough.



TOUR RESERVATION AND BOOKING PROCEDURE

- 1. Send your booking** and await immediate confirmation from us. You can call us to +34 958 29 18 93 or send us an email at info@otroscaminos.com. You can send us your inscription and booking form on-line through our website, by e-mail, or you can fill it out with us by telephone. For self-guided tours you will receive a confirmation in a maximum of three working days. In any case, we will then get back to you with our acceptance of your booking, a breakdown of prices of the services you have requested, as well as the total to pay and the amount to pay as a deposit for your booking.
- 2. Make payment of the deposit** Self-guided tours can be booked at any time (subject to availability), paying the full tour cost. You can also make an advance booking (30 days or more in advance) by paying a deposit of 20% of total tour cost. The inscription and reservation form, along with these conditions, form the contract between the traveller/client and Otros Caminos travel agency.
- 3. How to pay?** You can make an advance payment, either by authorising a payment by credit card* (Visa, Master card, 6000, 4B, Diners, etc.) or by a bank transfer. Check our website, call us or send us an e-mail if you have any queries.
- 4. Pay the remaining part** by the agreed date. The total tour cost must be paid 30 days before the departure date, or at time of booking, if this is less than 30 days before. We will send you a bill before the established date of payment and a payment link if you wish to pay by credit card. If you choose to make a bank transfer, this must be made by the set date.



DISCOUNTS AND SPECIAL OFFERS

If you make a reservation for 4 or more people, we can give you a discount on tour cost or optional services. Check our website for further special offers.



TRANSFER

We can always arrange a private transfer for our clients between the departure and arrival points of the tour and airports, train stations, etc. Please consult us for prices.

General conditions

The booking of a tour (subject to payment of established deposit) means the acceptance by the client/traveller and by Otros Caminos S.L. Travel Agency (C.I.A.N.18727-2) of the general conditions applicable to all tours, and especially of those relative to each individual service purchased in said tour. On our Website www.otroscaminos.com you can consult these general conditions (such as conditions for changes and cancellation, insurance, use of information, equipment hire, privacy policy, etc) and specific details related with each individual service.



OUR CANCELLATION POLICY

- More than 30 days before departure date: 20 % of total amount
- From 29 to 21 days before departure date: 30 % of total amount
- From 20 to 15 days before departure date: 50 % of total amount
- From 14 to 5 days before departure date: 70 % of total amount
- 5 days or less before departure date: 90 % of total amount
- On day of departure, or no show: 100% of total amount



CHANGES IN PRICES AND TOUR CONDITIONS

The information contained herein is given in good faith by Otros Caminos, and the utmost care has been taken to provide precise details of prices and conditions. Nevertheless, Otros Caminos reserves the right to modify prices and/or conditions if changes unforeseeable by the company occur: through printing errors, changes in costs to the company, changes to itineraries etc. Any changes in prices and conditions will be applicable to the client and to the details given within this document (to be paid either in full or through the deposit established).



PRICES AND GENERAL TOUR CONDITIONS

Prices quoted are always per person and based on two people travelling together. For self-guided tours, all services (except GPS hire), both included and optional, are calculated based on a minimum of two people travelling together: For example, bike hire with delivery and collection, luggage transfer, or transfers to and from departure/arrival points of the tour. For this type of tour, if the group is of four people or more, discounts can also be obtained.



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