

Cultural, Wine and Gastronomy Tour: Discover Andalusia, A gem in Southern Spain!

May 24th - 31st, 2025



Experience Andalusía's rich cultural heritage and stunning landscapes on a luxury journey through centuries of civilization. From the awe-inspiring Moorish architecture to the vibrant Renaissance art, Andalusía is a truly cultural treasure. Explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites and historic parks, savoring exquisite delicacies like bluefin tuna, jamón ibérico, extra virgin olive oils, and, of course, extraordinary wines. Don't miss your chance to uncover the hidden treasures of southern Spain and find out why Andalusía is truly a gem waiting to be explored.

> Contact us with questions: E-mail: *winenotboutique@gmail.com* Phone: (603) 204-5569

Day 1: Saturday Arrival in Málaga, Ronda's Timeless Magic and Wine Delights (D)



- Arrive at Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport, where your English-speaking tour director will be waiting to greet you and accompany you to your hotel via a **private transfer**.
- During your visit to Ronda, you will stay at the <u>Catalonia Reina Victoria</u>, a historic 4-star boutique hotel perched on a cliffside, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the Tajo Gorge and the surrounding Serranía de Ronda mountains. This iconic hotel, built in 1906, is steeped in history and was once the residence of the famous German poet Rainer Maria Rilke. The hotel features elegant rooms, a terrace restaurant with panoramic views, and a serene spa, making it a unique blend of history, luxury, and natural beauty.
- **Enjoy free time to discover Ronda,** a magical city perched on the edge of a deep canyon, separating its old town from the new. With cobblestone streets, ancient buildings, and the stunning Puente Nuevo bridge, Ronda's rich history and captivating charm are evident. Known as the birthplace of modern bullfighting and influenced by Roman, Moorish, and Spanish cultures, it offers an enchanting experience for every visitor.
- In the evening, delight in a **4-course wine dinner** that immerses you in the vibrant culinary heritage of the region. Picture yourself at a stunning location perched above a dramatic gorge, where the beauty of the Andalusian landscape complements the exquisite dishes before you. This renowned restaurant, with its deep historical roots, offers a masterful combination of traditional and contemporary Spanish flavors. Surrounded by breathtaking views and the warmth of Andalusian hospitality, your meal becomes an unforgettable journey through the region's rich history and flavors.



Day 2: Sunday Ancient Echoes and Ronda's Hidden Gems (B, L)



- Start your day with a delicious breakfast at the hotel. Our journey begins at the **remarkable Cueva de la Pileta, a National Historical Monument** since 1924, renowned for its awe-inspiring rock art paintings. Marvel at the ancient artistry that offers a glimpse into the lives of early inhabitants, with your experienced tour guide providing insights into this magnificent historical site.
- Next, we'll **visit a local winery**, where you'll explore the vineyards and learn about the region's unique terroir and winemaking process. Enjoy a tasting of three wines with appetizers, followed by **a relaxing picnic under the shade of a century-old oak tree**. Surrounded by vines and nature, savor a complete picnic menu paired with regional wines. This natural setting creates a truly unforgettable experience, blending the beauty of the outdoors with the flavors of the land.
- In the afternoon, embark on a private **walking tour of Ronda's monumental city center**, where you'll explore its rich heritage and iconic landmarks like the Puente Nuevo, which spans the dramatic El Tajo gorge. We will **visit the bullring**. It is the second oldest bullring in the world and the birthplace of modern bullfighting. The tour includes a visit to **Mondragón Palace**, a 14th-century gem that showcases a blend of Moorish and Renaissance architecture. Once the residence of Moorish rulers and later Catholic monarchs, the palace features intricate courtyards, serene gardens, and houses the Municipal Museum, offering insights into Ronda's fascinating history.



DAY 3: Monday Flavors of Jerez: Tuna, Vines, and Sherry Elegance (B, L)



After breakfast, depart from Ronda and head towards Jerez, with a stop along the way. Upon arrival, dive into the extraordinary Red Tuna Experience, a May-season highlight of Andalusian culture. We'll visit the fishermen's village of Barbate to explore the rich history and global significance of bluefin tuna. Our journey continues at the "Almadraba en Tierra" museum, dedicated to the ancient tuna fishing traditions of the region. The museum features historical artifacts, exhibits on the Almadraba technique, and displays highlighting the cultural significance of bluefin tuna in Andalusia. The museum features a cutting-edge kitchen and a spacious "U" bar, where you'll engage with a talented local chef who will bring the culinary magic of bluefin tuna to life through interactive show cooking. You may also have the unique opportunity to meet local fishermen, adding an authentic touch to your journey.



• Following this unique experience, indulge in **a special red tuna lunch** with wine, where every dish highlights the exquisite flavors of this prized fish, freshly caught at the peak of the season.

• Next, we will **visit and enjoy a tasting at a renowned winery near Jerez**, celebrated for its modern approach to crafting high-quality red and white wines. Explore varietals like Petit Verdot, Syrah, Merlot,

and the unique Tintilla de Rota, each known for their elegance, complexity, and deep connection to the rich Andalusian landscape.

- Check in at the unique <u>Hotel Bodega Tío Pepe</u>, a 4-star hotel located within the historic González Byass winery. Enjoy elegant rooms with vineyard and cathedral views, a rooftop pool, and exclusive access to the winery's historic cellars, where you can explore the traditional sherrymaking process.
- Finish the day with free time to discover Jerez in the evening or enjoy dinner at our hotel restaurant—a culinary journey celebrating Andalusian cuisine paired with the finest wines.

Day 4: Tuesday Exploring Jerez, Doñana National Park Visit, and Dinner in Doñana (B, D)



- Start your day with a **captivating morning walking tour of Jerez.** Known as the birthplace of sherry wine, Jerez's winemaking tradition dates back to Roman times. The city is also celebrated for its flamenco heritage, with numerous peñas where this passionate art form is performed. The influence of the Moors is evident in the **Alcazar of Jerez, a fortress that showcases Islamic architecture and gardens.** This ancient fortress, dating back to the 11th century, was originally built by the Moors and served as the residence for the Islamic rulers of the region. As you walk through its streets, you will witness the seamless blend of history and modernity, making Jerez a unique and enchanting destination.
- Later, **transfer to Sanlúcar de Barrameda for a visit to the spectacular Doñana National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The park is one of Europe's most important wetlands, teeming with wildlife and offering stunning natural landscapes. This comfortable and relaxing tour includes **crossing the mouth of the Guadalquivir River by boat** and **exploring the park in all-terrain transport**. A guide will share fascinating insights about this remarkable ecosystem of flora and fauna, including dunes, beaches, natural reserves, and diverse wildlife, such as birds and lynxes.
- Upon returning from our wildlife adventure, we will dine at a charming restaurant in the beautiful area near the mouth of the Guadalquivir River. **Enjoy a 4-course dinner** featuring fresh, locally sourced Andalusian cuisine, with dishes that highlight the best of the region's flavors. This meal will offer a true taste of the local culinary traditions, making for a delightful and memorable dining experience.
- After dinner, we will **return to Jerez**, completing our day of historical and natural exploration.



Day 5: Wednesday Royal Equestrian School Visit, Sherry Winery Tour, and Flamenco Show (B, D)



- Start your day with a delicious breakfast at the hotel before immersing yourself in the rich heritage of Andalusian horsemanship at the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art. Here, you'll embark on **a private guided tour of the historic facilities, museum, and stables**. As you explore, you'll witness the legendary Andalusian horses in training, a breed celebrated for centuries for their elegance, power, and versatility. This behind-the-scenes experience offers a rare and intimate glimpse into the world of equestrian artistry, where you can fully appreciate the skill, dedication, and tradition that go into training these magnificent animals.
- Take some free time to enjoy lunch at your leisure.
- In the afternoon, we will **visit Bodegas Tradición**, a winery renowned for its rich history and commitment to traditional winemaking methods. You'll be captivated by the **detailed explanations and the expertly guided sherry wine tasting.** A special highlight of our visit is **the art gallery within one of the wine cellars.** Inaugurated in 2005, it houses one of the world's finest private collections of Spanish paintings, showcasing masterpieces by Goya, Picasso, Zurbarán, Velázquez, Murillo, Sorolla, and El Greco, spanning from the 14th to the 19th century.
- Our adventure concludes at a traditional sherry bar, one of the oldest of its kind in the city, exuding a timeless charm and offering a truly authentic experience. Here, you'll enjoy a private live Flamenco show, where the passionate rhythms and melodies immerse you in the heart of Andalusian culture. Indulge in exquisite traditional tapas and dishes, perfectly paired with the finest sherry, creating a memorable finale to your journey.



Day 6: Thursday Timeless Treasures of Cádiz (B, D)





- After breakfast, **transfer from Jerez to Cádiz.** Cádiz, often hailed as the oldest continuously inhabited city in Western Europe, is a captivating coastal gem, rich in history, culture, and natural beauty. Founded over 3,000 years ago by the Phoenicians, Cádiz has been shaped by Romans, Moors, and Spaniards, each leaving a distinct mark on the city's architecture, culture, and traditions. With its picturesque old town, vibrant plazas, and stunning beaches, Cádiz offers a unique blend of historical charm and modern vibrancy.
- Embark on a Cultural Walking Tour of Cádiz, exploring the charming old barrios, including La Viña and El Pópulo, known for their lively local life and traditional Andalusian architecture. Visit the impressive Cádiz Cathedral with its golden dome and panoramic views, and delve into history at the Roman Theatre, one of Spain's oldest, offering a glimpse into the city's ancient past. This tour provides a rich blend of Cádiz's historical highlights and vibrant culture.
- Your accommodation will be at the 4-star boutique <u>hotel Casa de las Cuatro Torres</u> in Cádiz. Situated in an 18th-century baroque building, the hotel is named for its four iconic towers, offering stunning panoramic views of the city and bay. Each room is beautifully restored, preserving original features like wooden beams and antique tiles, while adding contemporary comforts. This hotel stands out for its perfect blend of history and elegance, allowing guests to relax in rooms that reflect the building's rich heritage or unwind on the rooftop terrace, enjoying sweeping views of Cádiz.
- In the evening, we'll savor **a gourmet dinner at a historic restaurant** where time seems to stand still, nestled along the stunning coast of Cádiz. This iconic establishment, dating back to the early 19th century, has long been a favorite of notable figures, including King Alfonso XIII, who frequently visited during his coastal journeys, drawn by the rustic charm and tantalizing aromas from the kitchen. The restaurant is renowned for its traditional Andalusian cuisine, crafted with the freshest local ingredients.





Day 7: Friday Savor and Explore: Cádiz's Flavors and Final Farewell (B, D)



On your final full day, you'll have **free time in Cádiz to explore the city at your own pace** and discover its many hidden gems. Here are some activities you can enjoy on your own:

- **Stroll Along La Caleta Beach:** Take a leisurely walk along Cádiz's most picturesque beach, framed by historic castles with stunning views of the old town.
- **Visit Torre Tavira:** Climb Cádiz's highest watchtower for panoramic city views and experience the unique camera obscura.
- **Explore Plaza de las Flores:** Wander through this charming square, vibrant with flower stalls and lively cafes—perfect for a coffee break.
- **Discover the Museum of Cádiz:** Uncover the city's rich history and art, from Phoenician treasures to Roman artifacts.
- **Shop for Souvenirs:** Explore boutique shops for unique Cádiz souvenirs like handcrafted ceramics and textiles.
- After a day of exploration, get ready **for a culinary adventure at Gastrológico Cooking School in Cádiz!** Dive into hands-on cooking classes led by passionate experts in a lively, fun atmosphere. From traditional Andalusian dishes to global flavors, you'll learn to craft mouthwatering meals using the freshest local ingredients. Whether you're a newbie or a seasoned cook, this is your chance to ignite your culinary creativity and savor every moment!
- The class will culminate in a **farewell dinner**, allowing you to savor the fruits of your labor and celebrate your time in Cádiz.





Day 8: Saturday Farewell Breakfast & Airport Transfer

- Breakfast at the hotel and check-out.
- Meet the guide at the hotel and transfer to Malaga Airport.



Price for the Tour:

\$4,995 (per person, double occupancy) when paid by cash or check.

\$5,495 (per person, single occupancy) when paid by cash or check.

*3% extra costs will apply to credit card payments

Included in the Price:

- Comprehensive organization of the program as specified.
- Accommodation in designated hotels for 7 nights, including breakfast.
- Deluxe mini-bus transportation for the group.
- Services of an official English-speaking guide.
- All meals throughout the program, including wines.
- Visits and tastings at all scheduled wineries.
- National Park boat ride and terrain exploration.
- Guided visits to city sights.
- Mineral water on the bus.
- Tour leader and coverage of all tour-related costs.
- Private group transfer to and from the airport, including hotel transfers.
- Public liability insurance and travel agency insurance provided by our local ground operator.
- Tipping is not obligatory but appreciated for tour guides and the bus driver.
- City tax.

Not Included in the Price:

- Airfare.
- Travel insurance.
- Free meals.
- Porterage service at hotels.