

Within a dramatic landscape of mountains, plains and coast, Andalucía has been shaped or enriched by the cultures of Christians, Jews, and Muslims. The Moors invaded Iberia in the 8th century and it took the Spanish almost 800 years to drive them out. Islamic Spain left behind magnificent monuments including Granada's Alhambra and Generalife gardens. Later, with the reconquest of Spain, Christian taste and Moorish style mingled to create something unique: the hybrid Mudéjar style, exemplified in Seville's Alcazár and Casa de Pilatos. Christians built some of Europe's greatest Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque chapels and cathedrals in Seville, Granada, Baeza, Úbeda, Jaén, and Málaga. This outstanding heritage – complemented by synagogues as well as prehistoric sites – is the focus of our 15-day journey through these fascinating lands. Discover this rich and captivating culture with us!

This is an exceptionally rich itinerary. It is also strenuous, involving full days and a good deal of walking, much of it on hilly terrain and uneven surfaces; participants should be in good physical condition. In contrast, most of our evenings will be relaxed.

The tour is limited to 22 participants;
space will be allotted according to the order in which deposits are received.

PRICES

Prices, per person

Basic 15-day tour

\$ 4,950 sharing a double
\$ 6,550 single occupancy

Madrid Extension

\$ 750 sharing a double
\$ 1,200 single occupancy

Note: Extension prices include only hotel accommodations, with breakfast, plus transfer to the airport for departure, discounted by the cost of the included night at the airport hotel that you won't be using.

In most hotels,
singles will occupy a double room



Prices are stated in U.S. Dollars
based on an exchange rate of
\$1.15 to the Euro.

TOUR DESCRIPTION

April 19: Depart for Seville. We will provide a list of flight options.

April 20 – 22: Seville

Seville gained great importance and prosperity when the Almohad dynasty made it the capital of Muslim Spain (*Al Andalus*) and again, in the 16th century, when it was the center for trade and transshipment of gold and tobacco from South America. Seville therefore boasts fine Moorish, Gothic, Mudéjar, and Baroque monuments. During our two full days in Seville, we will visit **Casa de Pilatos** (a 16th-century Sevillian mansion), **the Santa Cruz Quarter** (the medieval ghetto), **the Cathedral** (the largest Gothic structure of its type in Europe), and the 17th-century **Hospital de la Caridad** (whose amazing Baroque chapel contains works by Murillo). The royal **Alcazár** is also on the list: a fine Moorish palace built, not by the Almohad dynasty, but by 14th-century Christian king, Pedro the Cruel. This UNESCO-listed building, originally begun as a Moorish fort, is the finest example of Mudéjar architecture in Spain.

We are in Seville during the annual “feria,” one of Spain’s largest and most colorful festivals. Each day, the celebrations begin with a midday parade of carriages and riders, transporting Seville's leading citizens to the bullring (not far from our hotel) where the bullfighters and breeders meet. On the opposite bank of the river is a vast area of *casetas*, small tents belonging to prominent families, clubs, trade associations, and political parties. From around nine at night until daybreak, at first in the streets and later only within the *casetas*, there are crowds dancing, drinking, and eating tapas. There is also an amusement park.

Package prices include

Accommodation in these carefully chosen four-star hotels

Vincci La Rabida, Seville

Molina Lario, Málaga

NH Amistad, Córdoba

Parador de Úbeda

Vincci Palace, Valencia

Parador de Cuenca

Maydrit Hotel (airport)



Four nights in Madrid optional
Hotel Las Letras Gran Vía



Breakfast each day



13 lunches or dinners
(drinks included)



Wine and olive oil tastings



Airport transfers



Ground transport by
private coach



Tours with expert guides as
described to the right



We have not budgeted for any performances, since it is impossible to know whether they will be allowed, much less their schedules; if/when any opportunities arise, we will let you know, add them to the schedule, and price them appropriately.

April 23: Zahara de la Sierra and Ronda, en route to Málaga

Picturesque scenery is in store for us today, as we wind our way toward Málaga, surrounded by vineyards, olive groves, and undulating hills. We will make a stop at one of the most stunning of the famous white villages of Cadiz, **Zahara de la Sierra**. Here, you have the choice of just relaxing while having refreshments or snacks, with great views over the turquoise Zahara Reservoir and the surrounding Grazalema mountains; or walk up to the town center and stroll around the labyrinthine streets with pretty whitewashed houses and historic monuments.

We then continue to a small, family-run organic winery in a beautiful valley, where the owner will give us a tour before sitting down to taste the wines, accompanied by a light lunch (tapas) homegrown and prepared by his wife.

Ronda is a beautiful town perched on the edge of a dramatic limestone escarpment sliced in two by the El Tajo Gorge (the Guadalevin River flows 393 feet below). Ernest Hemingway wrote of Ronda, "That is where you should go if you ever go to Spain on a honeymoon or if you ever bolt with anyone. The entire town and as far as you can see in any direction is romantic background... If a honeymoon or an elopement is not a success in Ronda, it would be as well to start for Paris and commence making your own friends." (1932 - Death in the Afternoon)

April 24: Granada

Today we take a daytrip to Granada to visit the **Alhambra** and **Generalife Gardens**, the greatest manifestation of Moorish art in Spain. After lunch, we visit the magnificent **Isabelline Gothic funerary chapel** (Tomb of Ferdinand and Isabella) with its great collection of Netherlandish paintings. We finish with a walk through **Albaycín**, the oldest quarter of town, a rich repository of Moorish vernacular architecture. We return to the hotel in the evening.

April 25: Málaga

A morning walk will take us through the historic center and harbor, visiting Phoenician walls, the 1st-century BC **Roman theater**, the 11th-century **Alcazaba** (probably the most important military fortification remaining from the Arabic period), and the unfinished yet very impressive **cathedral**. Your afternoon is free to discover the Picasso Museum, if inclined, shopping, or just wandering on your own.

April 26: Antequera, on our way to Córdoba

Antequera is a classic white Andalusian city, with narrow cobbled streets and a steep hill up to the 11th-century Moorish citadel. The Baroque period was the most prosperous time in Antequera: 32 churches and as many private palaces were built during that time. Much of the center is like an open-air museum, prime for wandering and exploring. The town also boasts immense prehistoric burial chambers, the biggest in Europe; the 5,000-year-old **Antequera Dolmens** are UNESCO World Heritage sites and unique in that virtually all other similar dolmens in Europe face the sunrise at equinox, while these face natural mountain-scapes.

April 27: Córdoba

Our half-day morning sightseeing tour in Córdoba will include the **Mezquita-Catedral** (Mosque-Cathedral): first a pagan temple, then a Visigothic Christian church, later a mosque under the Umayyad Moors, and finally a cathedral after the Reconquista; **the Jewish quarter with its synagogue**; and the famous "**patios of Córdoba**:" some of the loveliest small urban gardens in Spain, located in the courtyards of old houses.

April 28: Jaén and Baeza en route to Úbeda

Jaén is often overlooked by tourists despite its glory years as a strategic post during the Reconquista of Spain. Dominating the skyline is the magnificent **Cathedral**, designed by the renowned architect Andrés de Vandelvira, the epitome of Renaissance architecture. The Renaissance **Palacio de Villardompardo** houses the 11th-century **Baños Árabes**, one of the best-preserved – and largest surviving – Moorish baths in Spain.

According to the World's Best Olive Oils organization, 8 of the best 10 olive oils come from Spain – and all the top 5. Overall, 29 of the best 50 olive oils hail from Spain; Andalusian mills represent the top 4 and 22 of the top 50. The province of Jaén is filled with over 60 million olive trees, earning its moniker, the "World's Capital of Olive Oil." We will visit a mill whose oils rank among the top 25, worldwide; the tasting will be accompanied by a variety of tapas.

Suggested Flights:

There are good connections from Houston to Seville and returning from Madrid available on:

◆
United (in combination with Lufthansa, Brussels Air, and Air Canada)

◆
American (in association with British Air and Iberian)

◆
Delta/Air France

All outbound itineraries involve two connections.

Most returns require only a single change of plane.

You will receive detailed information with confirmation of your reservation on the tour.

Baeza and **Úbeda** are World Heritage towns with many of the best-preserved examples of Italian Renaissance architecture in Spain. The two cities rose to prominence during the Muslim period, and later became Christian bastions against the Nasrid kingdom of Granada. They experienced great prosperity again in the 16th century through agriculture and the production of textiles, and it is from this period that most of their finest palaces and churches derive. In Baeza, we will visit **Palacio de Jabalquinto**, one of the finest examples of the Isabelline Gothic style, and the **Cathedral**, the first one of its kind in Andalusia.

We will overnight at the Parador de Úbeda, a 16th-century palace that has kept its original, classical-style interior decor. The hotel is located on the main square, Plaza Vázquez de Molina, home to Spain's greatest Renaissance architectural ensemble: **The Sacred Chapel of El Salvador, Santa María de los Reales Alcázares Church, and Vázquez de Molina Palace** (today's Town Hall). Tonight, we will all get together for sumptuous dinner at the hotel.

April 29: Úbeda

Nearly all the buildings in Úbeda, and many in Baeza as well, must be credited to one man: Andrés de Vandelvira. Our walking tour takes us through the Old Town, visiting the 14th century **Synagogue of Water**, discovered accidentally during a real estate project to transform the existing hairdresser's into tourist apartments for the

city, and the **Sacred Chapel of El Salvador**, the most important work by Vandelvira in town. Built as a funerary chapel or mausoleum for Francisco de los Cobos, secretary of the Emperor Charles V, the chapel is a masterpiece of Italian Renaissance architecture. The afternoon is set aside for you to explore charming Úbeda on your own.

April 30: Valdepeñas and Valencia

Following in the footsteps of Don Quixote, we travel through the Mancha vineyards to the famous wine-center of **Valdepeñas**, its roads lined with bodegas. The area is known not only for its long history of exporting wine, but also for the ancient tradition of fermentation in huge jars called *tinajas*. In centuries past, winemakers partially buried these large earthenware vessels in the earth, which helped keep the wine cool throughout the fermentation process. Today, the jars have been replaced by modern equipment and production processes; Valdepeñas now sells more wine than any other Spanish DO except Rioja. We will enjoy a bodega tour, followed by a wine-tasting lunch: a variety of tapas (jamón serrano and manchego cheese with bread), and "duelos y quebrantos," a dish

typical of Castilla La Mancha. At the start of the novel *Don Quixote*, a discussion of what the eponymous main character eats on different days, mentions "duelos y quebrantos los sábados." Translated as "griefs and sorrows" to preserve Cervantes's word play (less poetic but more literal: "eggs and bacon"), it is scrambled eggs with chorizo and other cold meats.

May 1-2: Valencia

From elegant palaces and cobbled plazas to museums and cutting-edge architecture, Valencia boasts a wealth of attractions. Our walking tour this morning will include the **Cathedral** (incorporating a number of architectural styles and artistic treasures), the Art Nouveau **Central Market** (a superb feast for the eyes), and the 15th-century **Lonja silk exchange** (one of the best examples of Gothic civil architecture in Europe and a World Heritage site). The afternoon and the full day tomorrow are free to pursue your own interests. Here are a few suggestions:

- City of Arts and Sciences: a combined ticket gains admission to the entire complex, which includes a science museum, IMAX cinema and planetarium, opera house and marine park, all housed in extraordinary sculptural spaces.
- the Ceramics Museum (worth going there just for its opulent alabaster façade)
- the Fine Arts Museum (works by Velázquez, El Greco, Goya, and Valencian artists)
- the Church of San Nicolas aka "the Sistine Chapel of Valencia"

May 3: Cuenca

Built by the Moors in a defensive position in the heart of the Caliphate of Córdoba, Cuenca is an unusually well-preserved medieval fortified city. Conquered by the Castilians in the 12th century, it became a royal town and bishopric endowed with important buildings, such as Spain's first Gothic cathedral, and the famous *casas colgadas* (hanging houses), suspended from sheer cliffs overlooking the Huécar river. The town, a World Heritage Site, is one of the most striking in Spain. After our afternoon walking tour, we will be comfortably ensconced at our luxurious parador, the former Dominican convent of San Pablo, overlooking the gorge and the famous hanging houses.

May 4: Alcalá de Henares on the way to Madrid

Founded by Cardinal Jiménez de Cisneros in the early 16th century, UNESCO-listed Alcalá de Henares was the world's first planned university city, and the original model for the Civitas Dei (City of God), the ideal urban plan that Spanish missionaries exported to the Americas. It also served as a model for universities in Europe and elsewhere. The birthplace of *Don Quixote*'s author Miguel de Cervantes, the town offers numerous sites connected with its most famous son, and you will learn more about Cervantes's life and work during our walking tour. Spain's most renowned literary prize, the Premio Cervantes, is awarded every year by the king in the great hall of the university on 23 April, the date when it is believed Cervantes died. That is also the anniversary of Shakespeare's death and, in honor of both writers, the Day of the Book (Día del Libro) is celebrated all over Spain. Our tour will include the **interiors of the University with the lovely Chapel of San Ildefonso**, which houses the Italian marble tomb of Cardinal Cisneros.

From that point, you have two choices:

- Go directly to Madrid airport where you can relax at a very nice hotel that provides shuttle service to the nearby terminals, making your trip home tomorrow (May 5) as easy as possible.
- Continue to our hotel in the heart of Madrid for four nights/three days; if you'd like to stay longer (or shorter), we'll be happy to make the arrangements for you. We will stay at the very comfortable and well-located Las Letras Gran Via. When we know all the performance options, we'll send you a list of "what's on" and get you tickets for the events of your choice (optional). If several of the group agree on an itinerary, we can set up special tours as well.

Participation is limited to 22; reservations will be honored in the order deposits are received. Payment in full is due by January 15, 2021.

<u>Prices per person</u>	<u>Sharing a double</u>	<u>Single occupancy*</u>
Basic 15-day tour	\$4,950	\$6,550
3-night/2-day Madrid (returning May 7)	\$550	\$850
4-night/3-day Madrid (returning May 8)	\$750	\$1,200
5-night/4-day Madrid (returning May 9)	\$950	\$1,500

For details, visit DeanDaltonTours.com or email DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or call 713-213-6447.

Participants on this tour need to be physically fit and prepared for a good bit of walking on cobbled streets, hills, and stairs.

Complete and mail this form and your check for \$500 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

Dean Dalton Tours
1904 Banks St.
Houston, TX 77098

Name 1 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Name 2 as it appears on passport (LAST/First): _____

Street address: _____ Mobile phone: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip _____ Email: _____

Passport # 1: _____ Issue date _____ Date and place of Birth: _____

Passport # 2 _____ Issue date _____ Date and place of Birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

If reserving for two: prefer one bed prefer two beds

If reserving for one: prefer a single room need help finding a potential roommate

will be sharing twin room with _____

Madrid Extension: returning May 7 returning May 8 returning May 9

Travel Protection: I/we prefer Group Deluxe, 100% trip cost add CFAR Group Deluxe \$0 trip cost

I/we decline any offered travel protection plan

Special needs: _____

I have read the brochure and accompanying "Terms and Conditions" and agree to their contents.

Signature (required): _____ Date: _____

A Trip Protection plan is strongly suggested for all participants. We offer Travel Insured International's Group Deluxe Travel Protection plan with an optional "Cancel for Any Reason" (CFAR) rider. Plan details and pricing can be found via the links below. Payment may be made at any time up to your final payment for the tour, except if selecting the CFAR option, in which case payment is due within 14 days of reservation; checks should be made payable to Dean Dalton Tours. **If you decline to purchase any of the Trip Protection plans we offer, please check the appropriate box on the reservation form to indicate that you accept full responsibility.**

To see a description of the Travel Protection Plans, with pricing, please copy and paste the following address into your browser bar: <http://www.deandaltontours.com/docs/2020PlanDescription.pdf> or for the full plan document: <http://www.deandaltontours.com/docs/2020PlanDocument.pdf>

The "\$0 trip cost" plan does not cover pre-existing conditions or cancellation and provides limited trip interruption benefits.

Terms and Conditions of Sale—Spain Tour, Andalucia and Valencia April 19 to May 5, 2021 (plus optional Madrid extension to May 7, 8, or 9)

A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required to guarantee your reservation; the date of receipt will determine the order in which travelers are booked, in the event of a sold-out tour. The balance of the tour price is due on or before January 15, 2021.

Cancellation forfeitures, ground portion:

- 120 days or more prior to departure:** deposit will be refunded, less \$100 per person administrative fee
- From 120 to 90 days prior to departure:** full deposit is forfeited
- 89 to 60 days prior to departure:** 30% of tour cost is forfeited
- 59 to 30 days prior to departure:** 60% of tour cost is forfeited
- 30 days or less prior to departure:** 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Included in quoted tour prices: All ground transportation by private coach, from arrival at Seville airport, April 20, to Madrid airport on May 5 (7, 8, or 9); luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in hotels listed in the itinerary or comparable, including hotel taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, as indicated in the online itinerary.

Not included in quoted tour prices: Airfare to Spain and returning, costs of passports or visas (visas are not required for U.S. citizens), laundry; meals or beverages, optional performances, and sightseeing not included in the itinerary; room service; travel protection; gratuities to guides and drivers; communication charges; excess baggage fees.

Exchange Rates: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The listed prices for this program were calculated at an exchange rate of 1.00 euro = \$1.15 US dollar.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

Passports and Visas: Passports are required; visas are not required for U.S. citizens traveling to Spain.

Itineraries: Hotel accommodations, performances, meals, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the operation of this tour with a minimum of 15 participants, with exception only in case of "force majeure." That term refers to any major event, including but not limited to civil unrest, natural catastrophe, military action, public health emergency, etc. that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control. In case of such cancellation by Dean Dalton Tours, refunds will be based on the actual cost of each traveler's tour package, less a proportionate share of any unrecoverable expenditures and a small overhead charge (not exceeding the amount of traveler's deposit).

Claims and Refunds: Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For verifiable claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

Photography: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

Limits on Responsibility: Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.