



Adventure in Andalusia

A Cultural Journey through
Spain's Iconic Southern Heartland

Two departures:
March 7—14, 2027
&
March 14—21, 2027

ONWARD TRAVEL ✈️
EST 2014



THE GOATS WE'LL VISIT IN THE SIERRA CRESTELLINA MOUNTAINS

The southernmost region of the Iberian Peninsula, Andalucía, is one of the most culturally rich areas in all of Europe. When we think of things that are typically “Spanish” - flamenco, bullfighting, tapas, Spanish-Moorish architecture, orange trees - all of them are found thriving within the varied and beautiful geographic landscape of Andalucía.

Let's travel together to this place, the most populous region in Spain today. History here is deep, rich and interesting: Andalucía has been settled since prehistory, and was once a prosperous province of the Roman empire. Muslim rulers took control of the area, and called it *al-Andalus* from the 7th century to the 13th, when it fell to the Crown of Castille during the *Reconquista* (though the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada held out until 1492). Seville was a major maritime hub during the era of transatlantic trade, exploration and colonization. In cultural history, Andalucía is the birthplace of painters Velazquez and Picasso, poet Federico García Lorca, and the setting for the operas *The Barber of Seville* and *Carmen*. Whew, that's a lot and we're just scratching the surface...

We'll spend the first half of our tour in the regional capital, Seville, while the orange blossoms are in bloom and perfuming the streets. Then we'll travel to the ancient city of Cádiz which is totally surrounded by the ocean, through the Sierra Crestelina Mountains, passing by the Costa del Sol on our way to the hills of Malaga and legendary Granada where we'll find the Alhambra nestled in the foothills of the iconic Sierra Nevada Mountain range. What a journey it will be, we hope you'll join us!



Imagine yourself...

Laughing over tapas
and sangria in charming
Sevilla

Watching Atlantic Ocean
waves break on the
shores of the oldest city
in Western Europe

Letting the spirited soul
of Flamenco music and
dance overtake you

¡Bienvenido a Sevilla!

DAY 1: SUNDAY MARCH 7 | MARCH 14

- Explore exciting architectural monuments, historic and modern
- Sit down to a delicious welcome dinner with your fun travel group

Welcome to Spain! Arrive today in Seville, the capital of the dynamic region of Andalusia which we'll be exploring together this week. Fly into Seville's airport, or spend a few days in Madrid first and then come to Seville on the fast train which takes only 2.5 hours. We'll meet in the afternoon at our centrally located boutique hotel, Hotel Vincci Molviedro. Located in a shady historic square with a strong design sensibility incorporating traditional local materials and avant-garde aesthetics, it's a wonderful place to spend the next four nights.

This afternoon we're headed out on foot to explore some of the highlights of this historic, vibrant city. Breathe in the alluring scent of Seville's famous orange blossoms, which should be at their peak during the time of our visit. The Andalusian capital is bursting with sites of architectural interest and today we'll visit a few of them as we get the lay of the land, including *Las Setas* or "The Mushrooms," a modern urban landmark completed in 2011 and designed by Jürgen Mayer, a German artist and architect who won the city-sponsored competition. Below *Las Setas* is the Antiquarium, where we'll see some ancient Roman and Moorish artifacts. Finally, we'll visit La Casa de Pilatos, a structure dating to the 15th and 16th centuries which is considered to be the prototypical Andalusian palace. Replete with *azulejos*, the iconic Spanish glazed tiles, in over 150 designs, the structure is an ornate fusion of Gothic, Renaissance and Mudéjar Muslim architecture and our visit today will firmly establish your sense of place in the heart of this thrilling, historic region.

By now it's time for dinner and we'll visit a charming restaurant and wine bar to indulge in our first tastes together of delicious Andalusian cuisine. Over a meal of modern interpretations of classic recipes, as beautiful as it is tasty, let's raise a glass to our travel companions and the exciting week to come!

Meals Dinner



OnwardTravel.co Based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and the Hudson Valley, New York

Andalusian Urban Immersion

DAY 2: MONDAY MARCH 8 | MARCH 15

- Spend the day immersed in the exciting vibe of a legendary city
- Head out on the town to taste tapas with an engaging local expert

Enjoy a nice breakfast at the hotel this morning, it is included each morning of the tour. Then we are setting out with our local guide for a full day exploring this extraordinary place with a midday stop for lunch as a group. Some of the places we'll see include the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the See (typically just called the Seville Cathedral) and La Giralda, Real Alcazar and the Plaza de Espana. The Seville Cathedral, completed in the 16th century, is the world's largest Gothic Cathedral and one of the largest churches in the world. Replacing an important mosque that stood on the site when the region was under Muslim rule, it was built by the Spanish Crown after the Reconquista as a physical manifestation of the regional wealth. However, the imposing minaret of that mosque remains and was converted by the Catholics into the cathedral's bell tower known as La Giralda. Those who would like can ascend the Giralda together today, it's a hike up 35 wide, sloping ramps which were built so guards could ride to the top on horseback.

Real Alcazar is the oldest active royal palace in Europe, considered by many to be the most beautiful palace in all of Spain. Originally built by Muslim rulers in the 10th century and continually developed by different groups over centuries, the palace is an overwhelming example of human creativity and artisanal skill expressed in an abundance of intricate details. You will marvel at the extensive and elaborate woodwork, the mesmerizing patterns of *azulejos* (tiles), the ancient porticos supported by slender columns, and the serene courtyards with their gardens and fountains.

Tonight we'll split up into two small groups. One group will enjoy a free evening and the other will set out to discover the thriving tapas scene in Seville with our friend and local wine and food expert, Elio. Tomorrow night, those who had a free evening tonight will enjoy the tapas tour with Elio. Expect a fun and festive evening on the town with lots of tasty bites and convivial beverages. Elio knows all the best spots and best bites and loves to support small, locally owned businesses just like we do!

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



A Day to Honor Tradition

DAY 3: TUESDAY MARCH 9 | MARCH 16

- [Get an exclusive look at the ornate and prized work of a local artisan](#)
- [Learn about the history of flamenco and even practice a few steps](#)

This morning is yours to enjoy Seville how you like, whether you want to sleep in and go shopping or visit a fabulous museum such as the Seville Museum of Fine Arts or the UNESCO World Heritage Archivo General de Indias.

After lunchtime our group will reconvene for a fun afternoon experiencing the craftsmanship, creative legacies and musical heritage of Seville. First we're visiting a master artisan embroiderer who has been working at the top of his craft for over forty years and has made works used in religious ceremonies, bullfighting tradition and even in collaboration with major design brands such as Loewe. From there we are off to the Museo del Baile Flamenco - the Flamenco Dance Museum. We're going to learn all about the history of this iconic form of dance at this small, boutique museum that was established by a local woman with a passion for flamenco. And since some people learn best through experience, what better way to wrap up our visit than with a flamenco dance lesson just for our group! What a fun way to get smiling and moving together and really get to understand the soul of this important element of local culture.

Tonight, those who did not experience the tapas tour with Elio the night before will head out with him and the rest will have a free evening.

Meals Breakfast

Wine, Dine and Flamenco

DAY 4: WEDNESDAY MARCH 10 | MARCH 17

- [Taste a line of premium wines that almost never leave Spain](#)
- [Lose yourself in the spirit of Andalusian flamenco at an intimate show](#)

After a leisurely morning we're headed just out of Seville to visit a very special winery, Bodegas Salado. Established in 1810 and still family owned, Bodegas Salado produces a small amount of highly prized and unique wines which are mostly sold to top regional restaurants and are nearly impossible to get otherwise. So this is our opportunity to taste them! The winemaking team here are practically the guardians of the indigenous grape Garrido Fino, which was nearly extinct until they revived it and incorporated it into many of the wines in their production - it will be a treat to taste one of the 100% single-varietal wines they are making with Garrido Fino. After a tour of the winemaking facilities we'll sit down to a multi-course gourmet lunch in the cellar complete with perfect pairings of Bodegas Salado wines.

This afternoon, back in Seville, you'll have some free time. As evening falls our group will reconvene for a few tapas and a drink before we make our way to a small and highly regarded flamenco theater near our hotel. Flamenco, as we well know by now, is one of the most famous elements of Andalusian culture - incorporating soulful song, skilled musicianship, and energetic and emotive dance, its an art form that is hard not to love. Settle in for a delightful and immersive flamenco show this evening, sure to leave you smiling for a long time after.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Light Dinner

Jerez de la Frontera & Cádiz

DAY 5: THURSDAY MARCH 11 | MARCH 18

- [Check off the boxes for both wine appreciation *and* art appreciation](#)
- [Stay the night in an ancient city surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean](#)

The time has come to say adios to Sevilla, and begin our journey through the great region of Andalusia. Our first stop today is the small city of Jerez de la Frontera - most famous as the epicenter and birthplace of sherry production. This morning we're visiting one of the city's premier sherry bodegas and this location has a special twist - the owners also possess one of the finest private art collections in this part of Spain. So our tour of the facilities will not only teach us a thing or two about sherry wine, its history and production, but will also provide an opportunity to enjoy their fantastic art collection and learn some things about Spanish art history. After the tour we'll enjoy a lunch of hot and cold tapas along with a sherry tasting which just might make a connoisseur out of you!

From Jerez we continue south down the coast to the atmospheric ancient city of Cádiz. First settled by the Phoenicians around 1100 BCE, Cádiz is the oldest continually inhabited city in Western Europe. With its unique geographic situation on a small peninsula connected to the mainland by a sandy isthmus, it's hard not to feel a strong sense of place in Cádiz. We'll drop our bags at our casual hotel between the beach and the historic old town and set out with our local guide for an afternoon guided tour to learn about the fascinating history here, including a visit to the ancient Roman amphitheatre. Tonight you have a free evening to wander the ancient lanes of Cádiz and enjoy this special place as you like.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

Southern Spain Roadtrip

DAY 6: FRIDAY MARCH 12 | MARCH 19

- Walk with dairy goats in a beautiful mountainous landscape
- Settle in at a picturesque countryside retreat full of special details

We set out from Cadiz this morning headed east on a scenic drive through Los Alcornales National Park. We pass by Gibraltar and hit the Costa del Sol, which we'll travel up for a short time before we reach our first destination... a goat farm tucked into the Sierra Crestellina Mountains where the same family has been engaged in artisanal cheesemaking since 1930. Let's take a walk with their beloved Payoya goats and enjoy the evocative landscape before rolling up our sleeves and making some cheese ourselves. The time with this family will be warm and traditional, here in the Sierra Crestellina it's like going back in time. Of course we finish our time here with a cheese tasting and some vinho before we say farewell and continue our day's journey.

Now we're traveling the coastal road until we reach our final destination in the hills north of Malaga. If we have time we'll stop for a coffee and a stroll in one of the seaside villages we're passing. This afternoon we arrive at our home for the next two nights: Casablu. A gorgeous property, family owned and lovingly renovated, staying here will be a real treat. *Please note, you have the option to upgrade to your choice of their uniquely designed suites. See the registration form for details.* Settle into your lovely room, relax a little bit in the garden, this is a place to just be. This evening we'll enjoy a dinner focused on Andalusian specialties in the on-site gourmet restaurant.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Moorish Marvels

DAY 7: SATURDAY MARCH 13 | MARCH 20

- Stroll the ancient halls of one of the world's most beautiful palaces
- Dine on a multi-course tasting menu just steps from your bedroom

Is it possible we've saved the best for last? Today we're visiting the city of Granada, an ancient city at the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and location of the legendary Alhambra, "a fortress of talking walls and singing waters," as our local guide, Gabriela, describes it. The Alhambra, whose details are featured on the cover page of this itinerary, is an absolutely sumptuous visual feast of texture, decoration and precise craftsmanship developed alongside a system of water engineering unmatched in its time. The "red fort" has been there since the 9th century, but it wasn't until the Medieval period when the Nasrid Dynasty ruler Mohammed ben Al-Ahmar moved in that it was built into the majesty that typifies the structure today. It took skilled craftsman a century to build the palatine, or palace city, that still stands as the best preserved Islamic palatine in the world.

We'll take plenty of time, in the company of a fantastic local guide, to explore this unforgettable and gorgeous place. And we'll also enjoy a delicious, casual lunch in the Medieval Old Town of Granada, itself a jewel of Muslim architecture from the times of Moorish rule.

Tonight, back at Casablu, we sit down together for our final dinner with our travel group! Tonight we'll be dining on the tasting menu from the gourmet restaurant along with wine pairings. At the end of such a beautiful day let's raise a glass to the joys of traveling with new friends... ¡Salud!

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Farewell

DAY 8: SUNDAY MARCH 14 | MARCH 21

Transfers will be arranged from Casablu to nearby Malaga Airport or city center. We suggest not booking a super early flight, if possible, so you can enjoy the morning at the hotel. ¡Buen viaje!

Meals Breakfast

BEGINS	Hotel Vincci Molviedro, Seville, March 7 OR March 14 <i>Travelers may like to come a day early. Onward can assist with early travel arrangements.</i>
ENDS	Casablu, Mijas, March 14 OR March 21 Transfer to Malaga Airport is provided, no activities are scheduled for today.
SUITABILITY & MOBILITY	This tour includes walking for up to 20 minutes at a time, plus stairs, uneven natural terrain and cobblestones. <u>Travelers should be able to walk a mile at a comfortable pace.</u> If you have limited mobility, we may be able to accommodate you, but it is essential to inform us at the time of registration. Travelers may always opt out of activities they deem too physically challenging but refunds will not be provided.
TRIP LENGTH	8 days, 7 nights
LODGING	Hotel Vincci Molviedro 4 Nights Seville, Spain La Caleta Qe Hotel 1 Night Cádiz, Spain Casablu 2 Nights Mijas, Spain
TOUR DATES & PRICE	<u>Week 1:</u> March 7–14, 2027 <u>Week 2:</u> March 14–21, 2027 <i>Double Occupancy</i> \$4650 per traveler <i>Single Supplement</i> \$900 additional Please note that air travel is not included and a current passport is required for travel to Spain. <u>Please ensure that your passport is valid 6 months after the date of travel.</u> <i>You are welcome to pay your trip fee by credit card, please note that a 3% processing fee will be applied.</i>

Trip price includes the following:

- Departure airport transfer and ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- Seven nights accommodations.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, five lunches, and five dinners. We have fantastic gourmet experiences planned, with plenty of wine included, of course!
- Knowledgeable and fun Onward Travel tour director at your service.
- Activities, tastings, admission fees, and tours as detailed in the itinerary.
- Taxes and gratuities.

Register now!

Visit onwardtravel.co to complete the registration form and submit payment.

Space is limited to only 14 travelers. \$1,500 deposit due upon booking, balance due by December 15, 2027.

AIR TRAVEL

The tour will start in Seville (SVQ Airport) and end near Malaga (AGP Airport). Please confirm with Onward Travel that the tour is a "go" before booking non-refundable airfare. Contact Onward if you'd like assistance.



The Onward Travel Tour Director for this trip is **Mirsini**

Mirsini Iliopoulou is a local professional guide on the island of Crete where she was raised and lives. Onward met her when we were planning our first tour to Greece two years ago and found a quick synchronicity in our approach and values within tourism. Plus, Mirsini is not only bright and knowledgeable, she's a ton of fun. Mirsini may be back in Greece now, but she spent a decade of her young adulthood living in the U.K. and in Spain. On Crete she specializes in guiding Spanish and Portuguese visitors, as she is fluent in both of those languages, and well versed in their cultures.

Mirsini is thrilled to be traveling with two Onward groups in Spain next year, a country she has traveled in extensively herself and loves very much. At home, Mirsini lives in the picturesque coastal town of Rethymno and often spends time at her village in the mountains helping out with the family orchards (cherries, apples, walnuts etc). She looks forward to meeting and traveling together with you!

Note, on the first week Onward Travel co-founder Kat will be coming along as a co-host, she and her friend Mirsini are very excited to travel together again.

Please take note of the following useful information, and view more at www.onwardtravel.co/letsgo



Once Onward Travel receives your registration form, we will send you an **invoice** with instructions to pay the **deposit**.



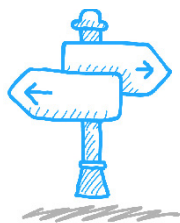
If you'd like to purchase **trip insurance**, we suggest Travelex. For more info, call them at 800-228-9792 or visit www.travelex.com and refer to location number 32-0704.



Four to six weeks before the tour **we will mail you a packet** with a packing list, traveler directory and other useful info.



Make sure you know where your **passport** is now! For travel to Spain it should be valid for six months beyond your return date.



Onward Travel's cancellation policy in a nutshell:

- \$250 of your initial deposit is nonrefundable
- Cancel within 90 days and the full deposit is nonrefundable
- Cancel within 60 days and 50% of total trip fee is nonrefundable
- Cancel within 30 days and the full trip fee is nonrefundable

See the full Terms & Conditions at www.onwardtravel.co/terms



Get in Touch!

Contact Onward Travel with questions or special requests:
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