

# Andalusia without luggage

*Explore the whole of the region from its heart*

## PROGRAM

### Day 1 **MÁLAGA / ANTEQUERA**

- 📍 Arrival at Málaga airport with flight ...
- 📍 Greeting and transfer to the city centre for a panoramic tour of Málaga.

*Described by Vicente Aleixandre as the "City of Paradise", Málaga enjoys a privileged climate. The visitors can stroll in the gardens and let themselves captivate by the view of the city, the port and the distant mountain ranges. Our tour will include the most emblematic corners of the city, such as Larios street, Pasaje de Chinitas, Plaza de la Merced (where Picasso was born), the Renaissance Cathedral, Alcazaba (Muslim castle), Town hall, Bullring and the Park.*



- 📍 Continuation to Antequera, monumental town strategically located in the heart of Andalusia.
- 📍 Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

## HOTEL ANTEQUERA GOLF

Antequera Golf Hotel is located in a residential area quite near to the city centre (only 5 minutes on foot) and offers to its guests all the installations and services of a luxury hotel.

It has got a total of 169 spacious double rooms and 11 suites with magnificent views on the lowland areas of Antequera or the hotel inner garden. The rooms have all the features of a great hotel:



- ✓ Hair-dryer
- ✓ Air-conditioning and heating
- ✓ Direct telephone
- ✓ LAN Internet connection and analogical modem connection
- ✓ Interactive TV with international channels and the best PPV channels
- ✓ Mini-bar
- ✓ Safety deposit box


Extensive gastronomic offer with the best local products served daily in the buffet restaurant El Encinar. Coffee shop, piano bar and disco. Gardens and terraces to enjoy the peacefulness and tranquillity under the Andalusian sun. Multipurpose meeting rooms with capacity from 20 to 1000 people. The spacious lounges have got movable combined units to hold any kind of event.

Magnificent sport facilities: aerobic room, gymnasium, big indoor swimming pool, sauna, Turkish bath, Scottish shower and a 18 holes golf course located in a lovely area. Many other sportive and nature activities nearby can be arranged from the hotel.



Day 2 **ANTEQUERA**

 Breakfast.

 In the morning, guided tour of Antequera: Collegiate Church of Santa Maria la Mayor and Dolmen of Menga.

ANTEQUERA "CROSSROADS OF ANDALUCIA"

*A visit to this historical Andalusian town is a journey almost 5,000 years back in time, beginning with the Bronze Age and the native Iberians. The timeline is there to be followed in this fascinating city's profusion of burial mounds, dolmens, Roman baths, a Moorish Castle, Gothic churches, Renaissance fountains and baroque bell towers.*



*The first sighting of Antequera in the distance is that of a typical medieval town, with the spires of her many churches and the walls and towers of the great Moorish fortress silhouetted against the sky. Spread out in the valley below lie rich farmlands irrigated by the Guadalhorce River. For centuries this has been one of Andalusia's most fertile areas, and is currently a leading producer of asparagus, cereals and olives. In summer, its fields turn brilliant yellow with sunflowers.*

*The town and valley are overlooked by an enormous crag of limestone, 880 metres high, called La Peña de los Enamorados, or "The Lovers' Leap". The name comes from a local legend about an impossible love affair between a young Christian man from Antequera and a beautiful Moorish girl from nearby Archidona, who were driven to the top of the cliff by the Moorish soldiers, where, rather than renounce their love, they chose to hurl themselves into the abyss.*





*One of Antequera most impressive sights is its dolmens, located in a park to the west of the town, the most spectacular of which is the Cueva de la Menga. These megalithic mass tombs, made of huge slabs of rock, were created by the original Iberian people and date back 5,000 years. There are many such dolmens in Andalusia, but none as large as the Cueva de la Menga. When it was excavated in the nineteenth century, many hundreds of skeletons were found in its inner*

*chamber.*




## ANDALUSIA WITHOUT LUGGAGE

*Other fascinating monuments to be seen in the town are the recently excavated Roman baths, the magnificent Renaissance church of Santa Maria la Mayor, the Church of Nuestra Señora del Carmen, the 19th century bullring, and the Arch of the Giants, built in 1585, which leads up to the 13th century Moorish castle.*

*We recommend the Convento de las Descalzas, the Barefoot Carmelitas, on the square of the same name. Inside the heavy wooden entrance, there is a small counter with a display of bakery products and prices, next to a revolving wooden door. You pull a rope which rings a bell, and then hear a woman's voice say "Sí", after which you give your order and place your money on the tray. The hidden nun then spins the tray around, with the pastries emerging from the door.*



-  Time at leisure for lunch (not included) and rest of the day at leisure to discover the area, play golf or relax at hotel.
-  Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

### Day 3 **ANTEQUERA / GRANADA / ANTEQUERA**




-  Breakfast.
-  Departure to Granada.
-  In the morning, guided tour: Alhambra and Generalife gardens.

*The Alhambra is one of the most beautiful monuments in the history of Islamic art. From its position on top of a hill called Assabica (red), it dominates the whole of the city. The visit to this complex of halls and "patios" (courtyards) of indescribable beauty evokes the splendour of the Arabic past of the city. In the Generalife, leisure place for the Nazarid kings, we will enjoy the fresh and relaxing atmosphere of this enchanting place and let our senses get impregnated with the perfume and colour of its flowers and the murmuring of its fountains.*





-  Time at leisure and return to Antequera.
-  Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

**Day 4 ANTEQUERA / SEVILLE / ANTEQUERA**

-  Breakfast.
-  Departure to Seville.
-  In the morning, guided tour: Panoramic, Cathedral and Santa Cruz district.




*Our visit will start with a panoramic tour of the some of the highlights in the city: the Cartuja Island, where Expo '92 was held, Guadalquivir river, Tower of Gold, Bullring, old Tobacco Factory (now University), Park of María Luisa with the pavilions built for the Exhibition held in 1929, and the impressive squares Plaza de España and Plaza de América. Visit of the Gothic Cathedral, the largest in Spain, with the Giralda tower — striking minaret of the former mosque. Then a walk by Santa Cruz Quarter, a maze of small alleys with colourful names stepped in legend and small squares where the peacefulness of a tiny garden is an invitation to rest.*

-  Time at leisure and return to Antequera.
-  Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

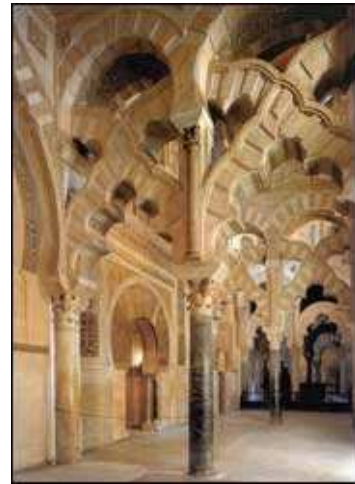
**Day 5 ANTEQUERA / CÓRDOBA / ANTEQUERA**


 Breakfast.

 Departure to Córdoba.

 In the morning, guided tour: Mosque-Cathedral and Jewish district.




*The Great Mosque of Córdoba, one of the finest buildings created by Islamic art, was considered a wonder of the medieval world. Its construction was initiated by Abd El Rahman I in the 8th century. The system of columns supporting double arcades of piers and arches with alternating red and white voussoirs manages to create a stunningly original visual composition. Walk in the Jewish District, complex of fresh narrow streets and Andalusian "patios" where we can find the only Synagogue preserved in Andalusia.*



 Time at leisure and return to Antequera.



 Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

**Day 6 ANTEQUERA / RONDA / ANTEQUERA**



-  Breakfast.
-  Departure to Ronda.
-  In the morning, guided tour: Santa Maria Collegiate Church, old district and Bullring.



*Ronda or the 'Dreamed City', as poet Rainer Maria Rilke called it, is one of the oldest cities in Spain and retains much of its historic charm. Centre of the mountain range which bears its name, it is divided in two by an impressive sheer cleft over 300 ft deep called El Tajo. Walking tour of the old town, rich in places of interest like noble mansions and convents. We will visit the Church of Santa María, formerly the Mosque, with Gothic and Renaissance architecture and Hispano-Moslem tower. Our tour will end with a visit to the 18<sup>th</sup> century bullring, totally of stone, where Pedro Romero, the famous bullfighter, set up the rules of bullfighting on foot still respected nowadays.*



-  Time at leisure and return to Antequera.
-  Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

**Day 7 ANTEQUERA / ROUTE OF BAROQUE ANDALUSIA / ANTEQUERA**




-  Breakfast.
-  Full day excursion through the Route of Baroque Andalusia, visiting the towns of Archidona, Lucena and Priego.

*Baroque period was a Golden Age in Andalusia. This style — originated in Italy — achieved its greatest splendor in southern Spain during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a wealthy period in which Catholic Church was committed to fight Protestantism. This combination of facts produced in Andalusia — a deeply religious land — a high number of fine art pieces in this ornate style countering to the simplicity of Protestantism. We will visit some small towns with a rich baroque legacy such as Archidona — in the province of Málaga — with a rare square called Plaza Ochavada and fine baroque churches. Another baroque gem — already in the province of Córdoba — is the town of Lucena, where we can find a masterpiece: the shrine of San Mateo Church, as well as many interesting religious and civil buildings. Our last stop will be the town of Priego — considered the cradle of baroque style in Córdoba — where its own baroque school created fine chapels profusely decorated.*



-  Return to Antequera.
-  Dinner and overnight at ANTEQUERA GOLF HOTEL (4\*).

**Day 8 ANTEQUERA / MÁLAGA**

-  Breakfast.
-  Transfer to Málaga airport.
-  Departure with flight ...