

# Monumental and Hidden Andalusia

## PROGRAM

### Day 1 **MÁLAGA / BENALMÁDENA PUEBLO**

- ❖ Arrival at Málaga airport with flight ...
- ❖ Greeting and transfer to Benalmádena Pueblo.

*This small white town is located only 2 km far from the coast. A balcony over the Mediterranean, 241 m above the sea level, it remains nearly untouched by the tourism, preserving its charming traditional atmosphere.*



- ❖ Dinner and overnight at LA FONDA HTL (3\*).



#### **LA FONDA HOTEL**

*Located on the main square, La Fonda could be described as a balcony over the Mediterranean. The façade of this nice and exclusive hotel was designed by César Manrique. Once inside, you will be captivated by its silence and stillness.*

### Day 2 **BENALMÁDENA PUEBLO / MÁLAGA / ALPUJARRAS / GRANADA**

- ❖ Breakfast.
- ❖ Departure to Málaga and small panoramic tour.



*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: Larios street, Pasaje de Chinitas, Plaza de la Merced (where Picasso was born), the Renaissance Cathedral, Alcazaba, Town hall, Bullring and the Park.*

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- ❖ Continuation to Las Alpujarras.

*This mythical region, the last Moorish refuge, located between Sierra Nevada mountain range and the Mediterranean, is well known for its white villages perched on the sides of the mountains with their typical terraced architecture and its delicious gastronomy.*



- ❖ Visit of the most beautiful towns within the area known as Poqueira Cliff and continuation to Granada.
- ❖ Dinner and overnight at MONASTERIO DE LOS BASILIOS HOTEL (3\*).



### **MONASTERIO DE LOS BASILIOS HOTEL**

*This was an old monastery located in the heart of the city, restored and converted into a charming hotel providing all the modern comfort. The banqueting hall is a former cloister from 17th century.*

## Day 3 **GRANADA**

- ❖ Breakfast.
- ❖ In the morning, guided tour: Alhambra and Generalife.



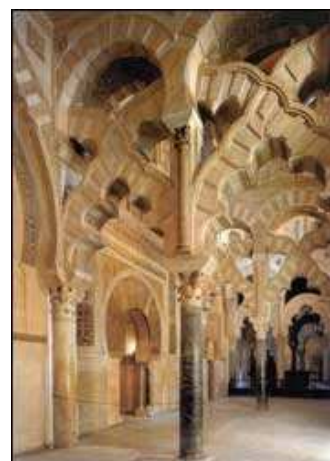
*The Alhambra is one of the most beautiful monuments in the history of Islamic art. From its position on top of a hill called Assabica (red), it dominates the whole of the city. The visit to this complex of halls and "patios" (courtyards) of indescribable beauty evokes the splendour of the Arabic past 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.*

- ❖ Afternoon at leisure.
- ❖ Dinner and overnight at MONASTERIO DE LOS BASILIOS HOTEL (3\*).

**Day 4 GRANADA / CÓRDOBA / SEVILLE**

- ❖ Breakfast.
- ❖ Departure to Córdoba.
- ❖ Time at leisure.
- ❖ In the afternoon, guided tour: Mosque and Jewish District.

*The Great Mosque of Cordova, one of the finest buildings created by Islamic art, was considered a wonder of the medieval world. Its construction was initiated by Abderramán 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.*



- ❖ Continuation to the small town of Valencina, in the province of Seville.
- ❖ Dinner and overnight at VEREDA REAL HOTEL (3\*).

**VEREDA REAL HOTEL**

*Located in the small town of Valencina de la Concepción, in the heart of the Aljarafe area, only 7.5 km far from Seville. This former country manor-convent combines a pure Andalusian architecture with materials and designs evoking the mountains of the Northern Spain. Rooms providing all the modern comfort, swimming pool, garden and banqueting hall.*



## MONUMENTAL AND HIDDEN ANDALUSIA

### Day 5 **SEVILLE**

- ❖ Breakfast.
- ❖ 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.*

- ❖ Afternoon at leisure with motorcoach at disposal for transfers to the city centre.
- ❖ Dinner and overnight at VEREDA REAL HOTEL (3\*).

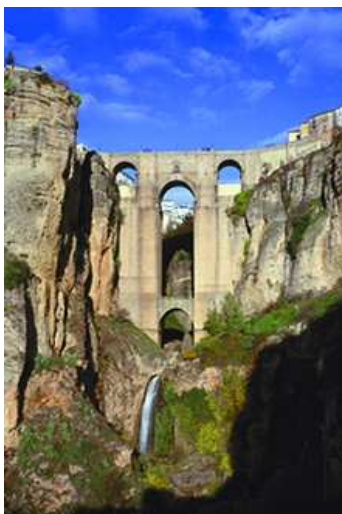
### Day 6 **SEVILLA / ARCOS / RONDA / CORTES DE LA FRONTERA**

- ❖ Breakfast and departure to Arcos de la Frontera, small unique town, with and important historic-artistic monumental centre.
- ❖ Walking tour of the town centre and continuation to Ronda through the Route of the White Villages.



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- ❖ In the afternoon, guided tour: Santa María, Don Bosco 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.*

- ❖ Continuation to the small town of Cortes de la Frontera.

*This gifted region captivates the visitors with its impressive landscapes, its rich and varied flora and fauna and the vast historic legacy conferred by the passage of time to its towns and cities. Strategically located in the heart of Andalusia, it gives lodge to over twenty white towns, three valleys, a plain and three vast natural parks: Grazalema, Sierra de las Nieves and Los Alcornocales, where the traveller will have the chance to admire authentic jewels of nature such as the "pinsapo" (Spanish fir), the royal eagle and the vulture. In addition, its peculiar steep geography, its giant geological formations and the variety of its ecosystem made of it the ideal destination for the lovers of risk, adventure and mountain sports.*

- ❖ Dinner and overnight at SOL Y SIERRA HOTEL (4\*).



### **SOL Y SIERRA HOTEL**

*Inaugurated in 1988, this classic Andalusian style hotel, surrounded by gardens, is located in one of the most important cynegetic reserves in Spain, 15 km far from Ronda, capital of the region, and close to the white towns in the province of Cádiz. Its 26 rooms are particularly comfortable, with full bathroom, direct telephone, satellite TV, mini bar, air conditioning/heating, and terrace with nice views over the lush landscape. Big swimming pool and conference facilities.*

**Day 7 CORTES DE LA FRONTERA**

- ❖ Breakfast.
- ❖ Full day excursion to the Route of the Genal.



*The Genal valley is one of the most precious natural treasures in Andalusia. A full day route through this natural park will allow us to admire a stunning landscape and visit small towns such as Gaucín, famous for its Eagle Castle, the impressive view over the valley and its delicious traditional pastries, and Genalguacil, where we can find a magnificent forest of "pinsapos" (Spanish fir), as well as an unusual collection of art works distributed among its streets and squares which were donated by artists who gather in this town every other year.*



- ❖ Dinner and overnight at SOL Y SIERRA HOTEL (4\*).

**Day 8 CORTES DE LA FRONTERA / MÁLAGA**

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