

# Andalusia



## Travel with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte

### Spain: Journey through Historic Moorish Andalusia and Classical Barcelona\*

October 10-20<sup>th</sup> (10-Days)

\*2-night optional extension to Barcelona

Please contact Danielle Cobos via email ([dcobos@worldaffairscharlotte.org](mailto:dcobos@worldaffairscharlotte.org)) or call 704-687-7757 to confirm your interest in traveling with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte as soon as possible.

For questions or information regarding the trip, please contact LJ Stambuk, President & CEO of the World Affairs Council of Charlotte via email ([lstambuk@worldaffairscharlotte.org](mailto:lstambuk@worldaffairscharlotte.org)) or call 704-687-7760.

#### Day 1: Friday, October 10, 2014

#### Charlotte/Munich

Depart from Charlotte early evening via Lufthansa Airlines nonstop service to Munich. Time appropriate meals and inflight entertainment offered on board

#### Day 2: Saturday, October 11, 2014

#### Madrid/Munich

Arrive in Munich at 9:45 a.m.

Travelers will fly on connecting flight Lufthansa 1801 departing at 11:40 a.m. Arrive in [Madrid](#) at 2:20 p.m.

The group will be transported to the [Hotel Hesperia \(5-star\)](#), one of Madrid's leading contemporary luxury showcases. High-profile Spanish designer Pascua Ortega designed the hotel's stunningly modern interiors, spaces that elegantly blend with the classic style of the rooms.



Photo from the terrace at Hotel Hesperia – Source: [Dinaster](#)

Upon arrival at hotel, travelers may freshen up before the welcome dinner at [Restaurante Sobrino de Botín](#), Hemmingway's favorite restaurant and according to Guinness, the oldest one in the world. **Dinner will include wine.**

*Located in the heart of Madrid, Restaurante Sobrino de Botín is certified as the world's oldest restaurant by the Guinness Book of Records. Botin is a typical Spanish four floors restaurant, with a centuries old woodfire oven, dating back to 1725. The house specialties are cochinillo asado (succulent roast suckling pig with crispy skin) and cordero asado (roast lamb), cooked following old style Castilian recipes. ([Read More](#))*



Photo of Restaurante Sobrino de Botín – Source: [Wikipedia](#)

Stay overnight in [Madrid](#).

## Day 3: Sunday, October 12, 2014

## Madrid/Seville

Check out of hotel after breakfast.

Travellers will continue with a 4-hour panoramic tour of the city of [Madrid](#).

The Telegraph: [My Madrid](#)

*“No city on earth is more alive than Madrid, a beguiling place whose sheer energy carries a simple message: this city really knows how to live. Here is a place where the passions of Europe’s most passionate country are the fabric of daily life, a city with music in its soul and an unshakeable spring in its step. Few cities can boast an artistic pedigree quite as pure as Madrid’s and many art lovers return here again and again, so rich is the city’s art collection. For centuries, Spanish royals showered praise and riches upon the great artists of the day, from home-grown talents such as Goya and Velázquez to a stunning pantheon of Flemish and Italian masters.”* [Read More](#)

### Independent lunch.

Take a tour after lunch of the magnificent [Prado Museum](#), the main Spanish national art museum with features one of the world’s finest collection of European art (12<sup>th</sup>– early 19<sup>th</sup> century), based on the former Spanish Royal collection.

Transfer to Madrid train station at around 3 p.m. to board the 4 p.m. AVE high-speed train (Preference Class) to the beautiful city of [Seville](#).

Spend the next four nights at the [Alma Sevilla Hotel Palacio de Villapanes Sevilla](#). This exquisite boutique hotel is a converted 18<sup>th</sup> century palace situated just outside Seville’s historic Santa Cruz district.

### Independent dinner.



Photo of Madrid – The [Telegraph](#)



Prado Museum – Photo Source: [Wikipedia](#))



Photo of the Alma Sevilla Hotel – Source: [Alma Sevilla Website](#)

**Day 4: Monday, October 13, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Seville**

Spend a half-day on a guided sightseeing tour of the former Moorish capital of Spain's Andalusian region, [Seville](#).

As one of the largest historical centers of Europe, it is home to the minaret of La Giralda, the Cathedral of Seville (one of the largest in the Western world), and the Alcázar Palace.

**A custom tour has been arranged for travelers during the visit to the Cathedral and the Alcázar Palace.**

*"SEVILLE is easily [Spain's](#) most flamboyant city. As a former Moorish capital, its streets are awash in a sultry jumble of Christian-Muslim [architecture](#), with many grand buildings in need of a fresh coat of paint. And unlike much of Spain, Seville has resisted the urge to make its tiled courtyards and medieval sidewalks, some as narrow as a bicycle tire, sleek and trendy. Flamenco dancers, gypsy street performers and Andalusian cowboys in wide-brimmed boleros still strut in 2,000-year-old plazas shaded by orange trees and palms. On balmy nights, parties can erupt spontaneously over bottles of red wine. It's a contagious street theater in which everyone can join." (Source: [NY Times](#))*

Travelers will spend the afternoon and evening at leisure.

**Independent lunch and dinner.**



View of the Cathedral of Seville and the *Archivo de Indias* – Source: [Wikipedia](#))



Photo of The Alcázar of Seville – Source: [Real Alcazar website](#)

**Day 5: Tuesday, October 14, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Seville / Jerez / Cadiz / Seville**

Explore [Jerez](#) and [Cadiz](#) for the full-day. Included in today's tour to Jerez is a visit to the [Bodega González Byass Jerez](#), one of Spain's most well-known sherry bodego, for a tour and tasting.

Following the tasting, the tour will continue to the [Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art](#), which is devoted to conserving the ancestral abilities of the Andalusian horse while maintaining the classical traditions of Spanish baroque horsemanship. Travelers will be treated to a performance by world class riders and horses.



View of the View of Cathedral and bodega – Source: [Wikipedia](#)

### Complimentary lunch at a local restaurant in Jerez.

After lunch, journey to [Cadiz](#), one of Spain's oldest cities, situated founded about 1100 BC by the Phoenicians, and is among the country's principal ports. Travelers will enjoy Cadiz's beautiful beaches and cathedral.

*"Cádiz is generally considered to be the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in Europe. Now well into its fourth millennium, the ancient centre, surrounded almost entirely by water, is a romantic hodgepodge of sinuous streets where Atlantic waves crash against eroded sea walls, municipal beaches stretch for miles, and rambunctious taverns echo with the sounds of cawing gulls and frying fish."* [Read more](#)

### Independent dinner.

Return to Seville for overnight.



Photo of Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art – Source: [Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art website](#)



Photo of Cadiz – Source: [Andalucian.com](#)

## Day 6: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 Breakfast provided in the morning

## Seville/Cordoba/Carmona/Seville

### OPTIONAL: Full day excursion to Cordoba

[Cordoba](#) features some of Spain's most important monuments, including the Old Quarter built around the magnificent Mezquita mosque, a symbol of worldly and sophisticated Islamic culture, and Andalusia's only synagogue to survive the expulsion of Spain's Jews in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

*The city's heart needs no introduction, for its fame is widespread: the magnificent [Mezquita](#), a symbol of worldly and sophisticated Islamic culture, lords over the town centre and pulls thousands of tourists into its arched interior every day. The streets of the [Judería](#) (Jewish quarter) stretch out from the great mosque like capillaries (albeit those nearest the monument are clogged with tourist bric-a-brac), unexpectedly emerging on peaceful plazas. - [Lonely Planet](#)*

### Independent lunch.

The tour will continue to [Carmona](#), one of Europe's oldest urban sites. Located on a low hill overlooking a fertile plain,



Photo of Cordoba – Source: [Wikipedia](#)



Photo Mosque-Cathedral of Cordoba – Source: [Wikipedia](#)

Carmona is a delightful little town with a magnificent 15th century tower built in imitation of Seville's Giralda. The town is known for its thriving trade in wine, olive, oil, grain and cattle.

*“Carmona is a lesser-known highlight of western [Andalucía](#). This strategic site was important as long ago as Carthaginian times. The Romans laid out a street plan that survives to this day: the Via Augusta, running from Rome to Cádiz, entered Carmona by the eastern Puerta de Córdoba and left by the western Puerta de Sevilla. The Muslims built a strong defensive wall around Carmona but the town fell in 1247 to Fernando III. Later on Mudéjar and Christian artisans constructed fine churches, convents and mansions.” [Read more](#)*

**Dinner this evening will be at the Tablao El Arenal in Seville. Enjoy five tapas dishes, dessert and wine, followed by a flamenco show.**



Photo of Tapas – Source: [Wikipedia](#)

**Day 7: Thursday, October 16, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Seville/Ronda/Granada**

This morning, travelers will explore the dramatic city of [Ronda](#), considered the birthplace of modern bullfighting with the oldest ring in Spain. Spend between 4-5 hours in Ronda exploring this stunning cliffside city

*“Perched on an inland plateau riven by the 100m fissure of El Tajo gorge, [Ronda](#) is Málaga province’s most spectacular town. It has a superbly dramatic location, and owes its name (‘surrounded’ by mountains), to the encircling Serranía de Ronda. Established in the 9th century BC, Ronda is also one of Spain’s oldest towns. Its existing old town, La Ciudad (the City), largely dates back to Islamic times, when it was an important cultural center filled with mosques and palaces. Its wealth as a trading depot made it an attractive prospect for bandits and profiteers and the town has a colorful and romantic past in Spanish folklore.” [Read more](#)*

**Enjoy lunch in the spectacular [Parador de Ronda](#) in the center of the city with unparalleled views of the Tagus River.**



Ronda – [Photo Source: Wikipedia](#)



Photo Costa del Sol – Source: [Destination 360](#)

After lunch, continue on to the city of [Granada](#) via the Costa del Sol.

*“The Costa del Sol in southern Spain is made up of several towns along the Mediterranean coast. This area has transformed from small, fishing communities into a tourist destination for the jet set.”* Source: [Travel Channel](#)

Spend the next three nights in the city of Granada at the 5-star luxurious [Alhambra Palace Hotel](#).

**Dinner with wine is included tonight. Experience a wonderful evening dining at the [Mirador de Morayma](#), with breathtaking views of the Alhambra.**



Photo of Alhambra Palace Hotel (surroundings) – Source: [Hotel Alhambra Palace](#)

**Day 8: Friday, October 17, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Granada**

Participate in a full-day of touring [Granada](#) with visits to the Cathedral and the magnificent [Alhambra Palace](#), greatest Moorish palace built for the last Emirs in Spain.

*“Seville may have the pasión and Córdoba a medieval charm, but [Granada](#) has an edge. Most visitors concentrate solely on the magnificent Alhambra, but if you explore further, you’ll find [Andalucía](#)’s hippest, most youthful city, with a ‘free tapas’ culture, innovative bars and intimate flamenco haunts. Here the Islamic past feels recent, as Muslim North Africans make up some 10% of the population; there’s even a modern mosque in the medieval district of the [Albayzín](#). [Read more](#)*

**OPTIONAL EVENING PROGRAM: Flamenco Dancing in the Gypsy Caves (\*after independent dinner)**

Travel to [Mirador de San Nicholas](#) for an incredible view of Granada and the Alhambra enroute to Sacromonte.

Continue to Sacromonte, the area above Granada where gypsies have lived in caves for hundreds of years to find the real [flamenco](#), performed in a cave.

**Explore Granada at your leisure.**  
[Things to do in Granada – Lonely Planet](#)

**Independent dinner.**



Photo of the Alhambra Palace – Source: [Flickr](#)



Photo of Flamenco Dancing – Source: [Wikipedia Commons](#)

**Day 9: Saturday, October 18, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Granada**

Travelers may spend the full day sight-seeing in [Granada](#) at leisure **OR** participate in the following optional tour:

**OPTION 1: Full day tour to [Malaga](#) (75 miles) to visit the cathedral and the Picasso Museum.**

**Travelers will have the option of lunch at Restaurante El Pimpi or independent lunch.**

*“Although [its history](#) dates back centuries, since the 1950s [Malaga](#) has been best-known as the gateway to the Costa de Sol, which General Franco wanted to turn into the “Florida of Europe”” [Read More](#)*

*“The Picasso Museum follows Picaso’s progress from the late-19<sup>th</sup> century until his passing in 1973. Situated at the Palacio de Buenavista in the heart of the old town, the museum is a few minutes away from the house where Picasso was born on Plaza de la Merced, which is also open to the public.” [Read More](#)*

**Explore Granada at your leisure.**  
[Things to do in Granada – Lonely Planet](#)



Photo of The Cathedral of the Incarnation – Source: [Wikipedia](#)



Photo of “Olga in a Mantilla” – Source: [Wikiart](#)

**Day 10: Sunday, October 19, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Granada/Barcelona**

After breakfast, transfer to the Granada Airport for a short flight to [Barcelona](#). The flight will leave Granada at 9:25 a.m. and arrive in Barcelona at 10:50 a.m.

Upon arrival, travelers will be transported to a luxury hotel in the heart of Barcelona.

**Independent lunch.**

After lunch, enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of [Barcelona](#) that will include a visit to the [Sagrada Familia temple](#), a magnificent (unfinished) church designed by the famous



Photo of Park Güell – Source: [travelsurround.com](#)

Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí.

*“If you have time for only one sightseeing outing, this should be it. La Sagrada Família inspires awe by its sheer verticality, and in the manner of the medieval cathedrals it emulates, it’s still under construction after more than 100 years. When completed, the highest tower will be more than half as high again as those that stand today.” [Read more](#)*

This evening, the group will join in a farewell dinner at [Torre d’Atla Mar](#). Its unique setting with breathtaking views at a height of 250 feet over the Barcelona waterfront will make one feel like they’re “on top of the world.”

**Dinner will include wine.**



Photo of Sagrada Família – Source: [Wikipedia](#)



[Gallery Images](#) from Torre d’Atla Mar

**Day 11: Monday, October 20, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Barcelona/Munich/Charlotte**

Depart from the hotel this morning for Barcelona Airport to check-in for flight Lufthansa 1809, which departs from Barcelona at 9:20 a.m., arriving in Munich at 11:20 a.m.

Travelers will connect to Lufthansa 428, which departs Munich at 12:25 p.m. and arrive in Charlotte at 4:20 p.m.

**WELCOME HOME**

## OPTIONAL 2-DAY EXTENSION: BARCELONA

Day 11: Monday, October 20, 2014

Breakfast provided in the morning

## Barcelona/Montserrat/Barcelona

After breakfast, participate in a full day tour of [Montserrat](#), which will include a wine tasting at an area winery.

Montserrat is nicknamed [The Emerald Isle of the Caribbean](#) both for its resemblance to coastal Ireland and for the Irish ancestry of some of its inhabitants.

*“Twenty years ago, [Montserrat](#) marketed itself as being ‘The way the [Caribbean](#) used to be.’ Little did anyone know that in a few short years the slogan would become horribly ironic for anyone who harkened back to a pre-Palaeozoic era when volcanic eruptions shaped the planet. A series of volcanic eruptions beginning in 1995 devastated the lower two-thirds of the island. By 1997, the capital and only significant town, leafy Plymouth, was an ash-covered wasteland. Today almost 5000 people live in the northern one-third of the island that was unaffected by the volcano. Long the refuge of goats and a few herders, new settlements are rising over the steep brown hills.” [Read more](#)*



Photo of Montserrate (landscape) – Source: [Wikipedia](#)



Photo of the Monastery of Montserrat – Source: [Wikipedia Commons](#)

**Independent lunch and dinner.**

Day 12: Tuesday, October 21, 2014

Breakfast provided in the morning

## Barcelona



Photo of Barcelona – Source: [Wikipedia Commons](#)

*“Set on a plain rising gently from the sea to a range of wooded hills, [Barcelona](#) is the most cosmopolitan city in [Spain](#), and one of the Mediterranean’s busiest ports. Restaurants, bars and clubs are always packed, as is the seaside in summer.*

*Barcelona has been breaking ground in art, architecture and style since the late 19th century. From the marvels of Modernisme to the*

Enjoy a full day of exploring [Barcelona](#) at your leisure. Barcelona, a beautiful city sitting between the sea and mountains, holds the reputation of being the most cosmopolitan, modern and avant-garde city in Spain. Between its beaches, vibrant food landscape, unique architecture, shopping scene and wealth of cultural attractions, the city has everything tourist could want.

modern wonders of today, the racing heart of Barcelona has barely skipped a beat. The city's avant-garde chefs whip up a storm that has even the French reaching for superlatives. [Read more](#)

**Independent lunch and dinner.**

Things to do in [Barcelona](#)

What to do in [Barcelona](#) (Trip Advisor)

**Day 13: Wednesday, October 22, 2014**  
**Breakfast provided in the morning**

**Barcelona/Munich/Charlotte**

Depart from the hotel this morning for Barcelona Airport to check-in for flight Lufthansa 1809, which departs from Barcelona at 9:20 a.m., arriving in Munich at 11:20 a.m.

Travelers will connect to Lufthansa 428, which departs Munich at 12:25 p.m. and arrive in Charlotte at 4:20 p.m.

**WELCOME HOME**

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**PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

**15 Travelers**

**\$4895**

**20 Travelers**

**\$4625**

**25 Travelers**

**\$4455**

**Travelers must be members of good standing with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte. If you are not a member, please contact Danielle Cobos, Program and Membership Manager via e-mail at [dcobos@worldaffairscharlotte.org](mailto:dcobos@worldaffairscharlotte.org) or call 704-687-7757 or go to our [website](#) and sign-up online. Individual membership begins at \$50.**

**\*\*\*In addition, air/government taxes and fuel surcharges will be billed at prevailing rate at the time of billing.**

**Single occupancy is available upon request. If you are traveling alone, but would like a roommate, please let us know and we will work on matching you up with another traveler**

**BARCELONA 2-NIGHT EXTENSION**  
**PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**  
 (\*\*Single occupancy is available upon request)

**10 Travelers**  
**\$685**

**15 Travelers**  
**\$585**

**20 Travelers**  
**\$535**

**OPTIONAL TOURS**

<b>Optional Tours</b>	<b>10 Travelers</b>	<b>15 Travelers</b>	<b>20 Travelers</b>
Cordoba/Carmona	\$165	\$120	\$105
Gypsy Flamenco in Granada	\$58	\$54	\$50
Malaga/Picasso Museum <i>(*independent lunch)</i>	\$140	\$98	\$78
Malaga/Picasso Museum <i>(*lunch at Restaurante El Pimpi)</i>	\$195	\$153	\$133

- Please note that reservations for this trip are limited and confirmed on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- A deposit of \$500 per person is required upon confirmation to secure your place on this trip.
- Final payment will be due no later than Monday, August 25th, 2014.