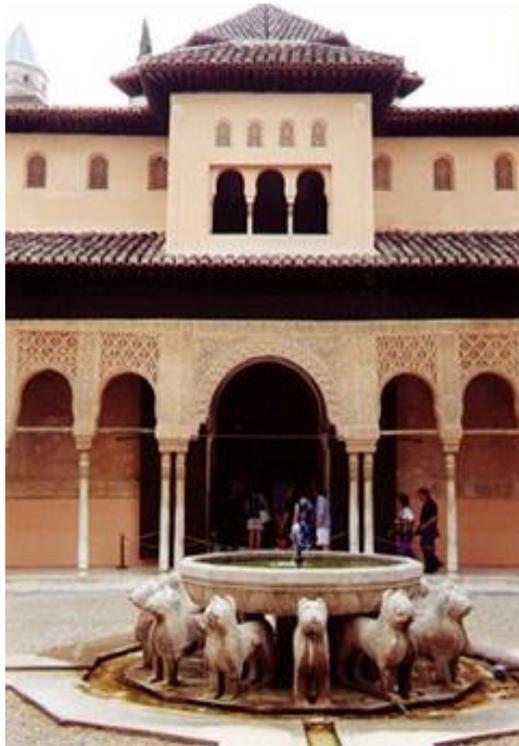


Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd.
95 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J1, Canada
Tel: 519-756-4900 / 519-753-2695 - Fax: 519-753-6376
tours@pauwelstravel.com – www.pauwelstravel.com



The Lions' Patio in the Alhambra (Photo free of copyright c/o Wikimedia Commons)

“ESPANA INCOGNITA” 2017: EXPLORING SOUTHERN SPAIN

Cordoba – Seville – Jerez – Cadiz – Ronda – Granada – Baeza – Toledo

11 days, from Friday, February 24 to Monday, March 6, 2017

A leisurely tour of Spain's sunny southern regions, focusing on fabulous Andalusia with its magnificent landscapes and glorious cities. This tour features six UNESCO World Heritage Sites, first-class hotels, excellent food, and fine local wines. The tour guide is historian Jacques R. Pauwels, PhD, author of 'Beneath the Dust of Time: a History of the Names of Peoples and Places' (London, 2009), who will lecture on the history of Andalusia and of Spain in general. A Flamenco show and a concert of Sephardic music are also included!

Tour price from Toronto, based on double occupancy, INCLUDING all present airport taxes, security fees, and fuel surcharges: \$3,375 CAD - Single room supplement: \$475 – “Land only”: \$2,675

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Day 1 – Friday, February 24:

Evening departure from Toronto to Madrid, with Air Canada. Dinner as well as a (very) light breakfast will be served on board.

Day 2 - Saturday, February 25:

Mid-morning arrival at Madrid Airport. A comfortable touring coach will be waiting for us here to transfer us southbound through La Mancha, the semi-arid homeland of the knight Don Quijote, the famous brainchild of Miguel de Cervantes, and scene of his adventures, including fighting windmills, some of which we will see as we motor by the town of **Consuegra**. Mid-afternoon arrival in the picturesque town of **Almagro**, where we check into the first-class hotel (220km) Casa Del Rector (www.lacasadelrector.com/en). Free time to settle in, explore the old town with its fine Plaza Mayor, and/or enjoy some local Manchego cheese and a glass of wine from the neighbouring town of Valdepenas before dinner in the restaurant of our hotel.



< Almagro's Plaza Mayor (Photo by Pusazul c/o Wikimedia Commons)

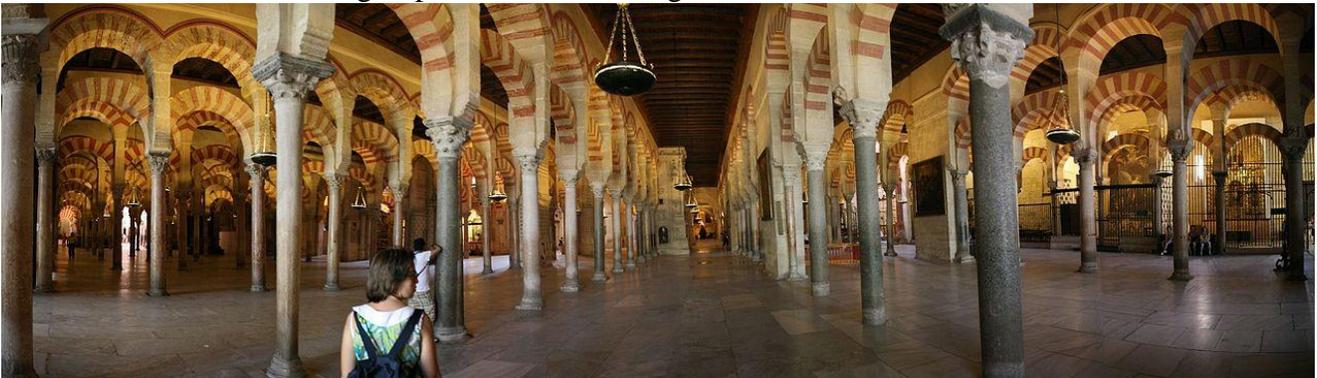
Day 3 - Sunday, February 26:

Departure after breakfast, and scenic drive along the “Road of Castles and Battles” via **Calatrava**, cradle of one of Spain’s medieval orders of “fighting monks” to **Las Navas de Tolosa**, a hamlet that witnessed an important victory of Spain’s Christians against the Moors in the year 1212. We visit the local museum and monument, and your guide will explain the historical importance of this encounter. We are now in the province of Andalusia, and in the afternoon we continue via the quaint town of

Andujar to one of the area’s most beautiful ancient cities, **Cordoba**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we will stay for two nights in a modern first-class hotel Cordoba Center (www.hotelescenter.es/en/hotel-cordoba-center). Dinner in the restaurant of our hotel.

Day 4 – Monday, February 27:

Morning walking tour of Cordoba’s historical city, with sights such as the colourful Juderia (Jewish district), the Roman bridge across the Guadalquivir River, the ancient water mills, and the Alcazar castle and gardens. But the absolute highlight will be our visit to the fabulous “Mosque-Cathedral,” a truly unique architectural masterpiece and unquestionably one of Spain’s greatest attractions, arguably even more impressive than the Alhambra in Granada; the complex combines Moorish architecture dating back to the Ommayad Caliphate of the 8th century with a baroque cathedral of the 16th century! The rest of the day is free to explore on your own, shop, and/or visit other monuments and museums, such as the Alcazar, Viana Palace, the Andalusian Museum, and the Provincial Archaeological Museum, featuring a collection of Roman, Visigothic, and Muslim antiquities (for more info, see <http://english.turismodecordoba.org/que-visitar.cfm>). In the evening your guide will tell the tragic story of Spain’s “Sephardic” Jews, conjured up in this city’s Juderia, with the Synagogue and the monument to Maimonides; and afterwards we will attend a performance of traditional Sephardic music and song in the Casa de Sefarad. No group dinner this evening.



The “forest” of columns in the Cordoba Mosque (Photo by Joe c/o Wikimedia Commons)

Day 5 – Tuesday, February 28:

Departure after breakfast, and short drive down the valley of the Guadalquivir to **Seville**, Andalusia’s superb capital. Walking tour of the historical city centre, with sights such as the huge Cathedral (with the tomb of Columbus) and its amazing belltower, known as the Giralda, a former minaret, the quaint Juderia, the Maestranza Bullring, Plaza de Espana, and Maria Luisa Park. In late afternoon we continue to Jerez, a quintessentially Andalusian town, and home of the very special “Sherry” wines, which became world-famous after the English started import them around 1600. Dinner and overnight in the first-class Hotel Sherry Park (<http://en.hipotels.com/hotel-sherry-park-in-cadiz/rooms.htm>).

UNESCO World Heritage Sites visited on this tour:

- * Historic Centre of Cordoba
- * Cathedral, Alcázar, and other monuments of Seville
- * Antequera Dolmen Sites
- * Alhambra, Generalife, and Albayzín in Granada
- * Renaissance Monumental Ensembles of Baeza and Úbeda
- * Historic City of Toledo

Day 6 - Wednesday, March 1:

Morning walking tour of Jerez. Highlights will include the Cathedral and the Alcazar, and we will also visit one of the famous local *bodegas* (wineries), such as Sandeman, Harvey’s, or Gonzalez Byass – with a wine tasting, of course. Afterwards we head for the show of the “dancing horses” at the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art, an unforgettable experience! (www.realescuela.org/en; see also www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9CDini9SDM) Group lunch in the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure in Jerez, a great opportunity to soak up Andalusian culture in an unspoiled setting; how about tapas or even dinner this evening in a typical establishment such as Bar Juanito (www.bar-juanito.com)? This evening we enjoy a traditional flamenco show, a typically Andalusian art of which Jerez is the undisputed Mecca!

Flamenco performance in the 19th century (Photo by Carlos Teixidor Cadenas, c/o Wikimedia Commons) >



Day 7 - Thursday, March 2:

Full-day excursion to **Cadiz**, the great and very attractive seaport situated on a peninsula stretching away from Spain’s Atlantic seaboard at a short distance from the Strait of Gibraltar – and Cape Trafalgar, where Nelson defeated a French fleet in 1805; founded around 1,000BC by the Phoenicians, Cadiz claims to be the oldest city in Europe, and for many centuries it enjoyed the monopoly of trade between Spain and its possessions in the New World! This exciting history will come to life as you tour the beaches, harbor installations, forts, Cathedral and fine baroque churches, and, last but not least, the fabulous fish market, with countless species from both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean! Also visit to the Torre Tavira, a former lookout tower now equipped with a camera obscura, providing bird’s-eye views of the old town (www.torretavira.com/en and www.torretavira.com/en/what-is-a-camera-obscura). After our formal sightseeing program: free time to stroll along the Atlantic waterfront, shop, explore the labyrinthine old town with its delightful plazas and narrow alleys, visit the Museo de Cadiz and/or churches such as the Santa Cueva Oratorio (featuring paintings by

Goya) – and perhaps have a delightful seafood lunch in one of the city’s many excellent restaurants! Return to Jerez in late afternoon. Dinner again in the restaurant of our hotel.

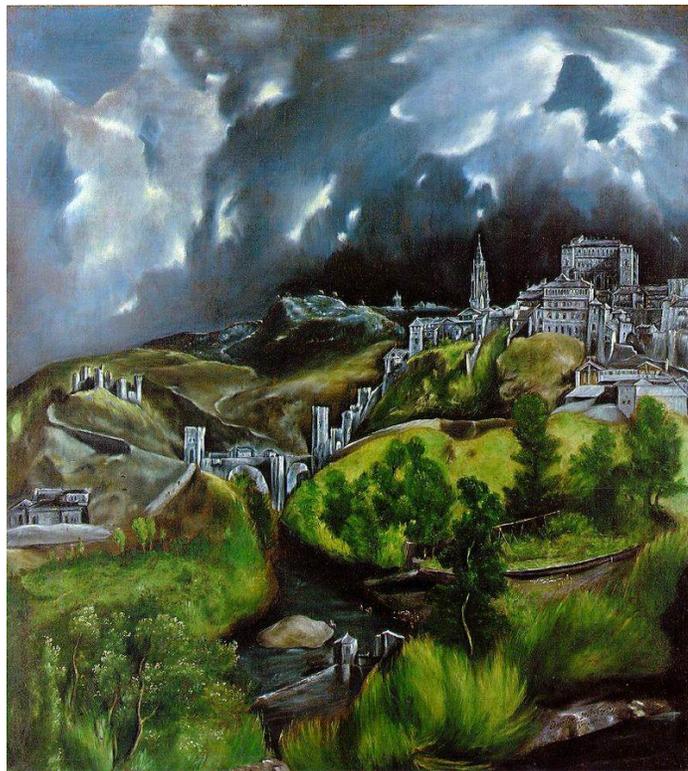
Day 8 - Friday, March 3:

Departure from Jerez after breakfast. We motor to **Arcos de la Frontera**, an old town located on top of a rock, then follow the scenic road of the “White Villages of Andalusia” such as **Grazalema** to the quaint walled town of **Ronda**, birthplace of bullfighting, perched spectacularly on top of a rocky spur overlooking a steep ravine. Walking tour of the old town, followed by free time for lunch. In the afternoon we continue to **Antequera** where we explore yet another UNESCO World Heritage Site: one of the largest and most important complexes of megalithic structures in Europe, featuring dolmens and burial chambers dating back to the Neolithic era of 5,000 years ago as well as the Bronze Age (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1501>). On to the great city of **Granada** for dinner and overnight in the fine, centrally-located first-class Hotel Melia Granada (http://granadahotel.com/hotel/Melia_Hotel_Granada).

Day 9 - Saturday, March 4:

Morning visit to the Alhambra, the superb palace and gardens (known as the Generalife) of the Moorish rulers of the kingdom of Granada during the late Middle Ages, as well as the Capilla Real, the impressive Gothic mausoleum of famous Spanish rulers Isabelle of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon as well as their daughter Juana (“mad Joan”) and her husband, Philip the Handsome; your guide will tell the tragic story of their lives, which impacted the history of Spain, Europe, and the entire world! Afternoon and evening free to enjoy Granada on your own. In the evening, an interesting *option* will be watching Flamenco songs and dances being performed by gypsies in the caves of the Sacromonte District (www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/read/articles/granadas-sacromonte-district).

< Toledo on a painting by El Greco (c/o Wikimedia Commons)



Day 10 - Sunday, March 5:

Departure from Granada after breakfast. Motoring northward, we pause in mid-morning to visit to the small old town of **Baeza**, another Andalusian urban jewel that, along with neighbouring Ubeda, earned UNESCO World Heritage Site status on account of its historical importance and fine, mostly Renaissance-style buildings (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baeza>). Then we continue through La Mancha to **Toledo**, like Granada one of the most beautiful cities in Spain, spectacularly located on top of a rocky spur encircled by a meander of the Tagus River. Sightseeing tour upon arrival, covering all the great sights, such as the Cathedral, the Alcazar, the Church of Santo Tomé with El Greco’s masterpiece. ‘The Burial of the Count of Orgaz,’ and the Synagogue of Santa Maria La Blanca. Overnight in the first-class Hotel Alfonso VI, located in the centre of the old town, next-door to the Alcazar and

only a short walk from the Cathedral (www.hotelfonsovi.com/en). Final dinner in the restaurant of our hotel or in a typical restaurant.

Day 11 - Monday, March 6:

After breakfast, transfer to Madrid Airport (100km) and return flight to Toronto with Air Canada, departing around noon and arriving around 2:30PM.

Tour price, based on double occupancy, from Toronto, INCLUDING all present airport taxes, security fees, and fuel surcharges: \$3,375 CAD - Single room supplement: \$475 – “Land only”: \$2,675

Included in the tour price are:

- Non-stop return flight Toronto-Madrid with Air Canada;
- The usual combination of airport taxes, security fees, and fuel surcharges;
- Accommodation based on double occupancy, in 4-star/first-class hotels; the single room supplement is \$475;
- Full breakfast daily and a total of *seven* 3-course dinners or lunch, frequently including wine;
- Overland transportation by private coach;
- All visits and sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary, including admission to museums and monuments mentioned.

Not included are:

- All items of a personal nature;
- Beverages with dinners, and meals other than those outlined above;
- A gratuity for the coach driver, normally \$25 or equivalent in local currency;
- Travel Insurance is available on an individual basis, please contact our office if interested.

Flamenco in Jerez: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5LFnXkl-Es>

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.
95 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T
Tel: 519-753-2695/519-756-4900 Fax: 519-753-6376
www.pauwelstravel.com - tours@pauwelstravel.com
Ont. Reg. #1034992

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. **Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and application form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.**

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made in full if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 46 days before departure: 25% of tour cost
45 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost
Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. reserves the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary as outlined. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. Any savings realized by these changes will be passed on to the passengers, any resultant expenses shall be borne by the passenger. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. acts only as an agent in securing hotel, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided to tour members subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. also reserves the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, in which case equitable refund will be made at the discretion of the tour operators.

AIR TRANSPORTATION:

Transatlantic economy flight by scheduled IATA carrier(s), based on an economy class group fare. All fares are subject to specific rules and regulations, to changes and to government approval. Deviations from the group flights are possible but subject to higher rates. Pauwels Travel will research any request for date or routing changes at the time they are requested. Should any individual rate be less than the group fare plus airline and administrative fees, the lower rate will be offered to the tour participant. Individual airfares are subject to immediate ticketing and the fare plus taxes must be paid at the time the ticket is issued by the participant requesting the change. Should the group airfare be the lowest available rate, an administrative fee of \$50.00 plus any airline charges will apply.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ___ seat(s) on the "Espana Incognita: from February 24 – March 6, 2017.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on Group flights _____ or Land only _____.

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for an interim payment of \$1000.00 and the balance due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR DATE TO BE SENT IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION.

PASSPORT NAME(S): **Please** indicate the appropriate title (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

Surname _____ First _____ Middle(s) _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") _____

ADDRESS _____

Postal Code: _____ PHONE: _____ (Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED? YES _____ NO _____

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____?

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: We find the earlier a request is made, the more success we have in filling it, so please list any dietary requests, allergies, any special physical needs or frequent flyer numbers etc here. **Please be advised that due to Airline policies, individual seat selection is not always available on group fares and cannot be guaranteed by our agency.**

We cannot ensure requests made 30 days or less prior to departure will be possible.

Insurance, Please call the office for premiums then record it on application and add premium to deposit.

I /we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

All-inclusive Package \$ _____ Non-medical Package \$ _____

Other \$ _____ **OR** Decline Insurance _____

PAYMENT: Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____

Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

"I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment". Date _____

(Signature)(s) _____

Please forward this completed and signed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

95 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J1

Tel: 519-753-2695/1-800-380-3974/519-753-2695 – Fax: 519-753-6376

Email: tours@pauwelstravel.com