

Day 4. Priego de Córdoba.

Today's total distance is 40 Km (28 miles with a modest initial climb along a wide rural track)

From Zuheros we cycle to the village of Luque and then on to Priego, crossing the impressive landscapes of "Sierra Subbética" mountain range. Following our descent we will stop for lunch at Carcabuey. In the afternoon, we cycle on to Priego where we dine at the hotel, or in a restaurant of our choice.

Surrounded by olive groves and with a fine mediaeval castle, Priego is a small and delightfully picturesque town, considered the cradle of Spanish baroque architecture. The town is a maze of incredibly narrow streets, a labyrinth of whitewashed walls, cobblestone pavements and corners and niches overflowing with flower pots.

Day 5. Granada.

Today's total distance is 50 Km (32 miles along rolling country roads with minimal traffic).

Our day begins with a short minibus ride to visit the castle of Alcalá la Real following which we continue to our cycling departure point, close to the village Moclín perched above pinewoods with a ruined fortress. From here we wind our way gently up and down through olive groves and pine trees, arriving at the reservoir of Cubillas where we stop for lunch at a fine restaurant with views on to the lake. Here, we can choose to continue cycling, or ride in the minibus to the hotel in Granada. For the cyclists we have a further 20 km (12 miles) on the level, via Güevejar, with more intense traffic as we approach the city centre, where our hotel is located. Dinner in the city of Granada.

Granada is a romantic destiny. In the words of Alexandre Dumas written in 1846: "With the pretty name of Granada, you have already created a medieval city in your mind, half Christian, half Moorish". But Washington Irving's words define it more aptly: "It typified the oriental exoticism of the romantic vision of Spain".

Day 6. Granada.

Today's total distance is 20 Kms (12 miles rolling terrain)

Our day starts with a visit to the Alhambra, after which we explore the city of Granada either on cycle, or on foot, taking in Albaicín, the original moorish quarter. Here we climb to the panoramic outlook point of San Nicolás affording us a magnificent view of the majestic Alhambra lit up by the soft rays of the setting sun - an unforgettable moment and maybe the best highlight of our cycling tour through Andalusia. After dinner in a tapas restaurant, we have the option of seeing a late flamenco show in one of the gypsy caves in Sacramonte.

Day 7. Seville.

Leaving the hotel in Granada we drive by minibus to Seville, the journey lasting about two hours. Here we have a light lunch at the hotel, followed by a city cycling tour. This will be the end of our cycling activities.

Day 8. Seville or Madrid End of trip.

Guests have the option of returning to Madrid by high-speed train (tickets included), or extending their stay to enjoy the city of Seville on their own.

*N. B. Guests who will have spent their first night in Córdoba, have the option of adding the Madrid city program on their return from Seville.

Fitness: B (Intermediate) and **C** (Advanced). 5 daily routes of 40-65 kmts. (25-40 miles) with guided city tours in Córdoba, Granada and Seville. Routes always adaptable to the groups' ability.