

## Art & Culture Andalucia

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

Gaucin, Ronda, Córdoba and Málaga bespoke group



*Córdoba Great Mosque interior*

This is a wonderful opportunity to see Andalucía, including a typical 'white village' with the most outstanding mountain views and over twenty international artists' studios; spectacular Ronda, with its medieval quarter and famous bullring, stunning Córdoba, the medieval capital of Al-Andalus under the Umayyad emirs and caliphs; and the beautiful old town of Málaga, with its Roman and Islamic heritage, its restaurants and its remarkable variety of galleries and museums. Tutors from Art & Culture Andalucía will provide guidance full of knowledge and enthusiasm, as well as knowing where to eat and where to stay.

Join us for an uplifting early summer break in beautiful Andalucía.

*"The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls."*

Pablo Picasso.

## Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**Meet at Málaga airport at 2pm, for transfer to the beautiful mountain village of Gaucín**

In the pueblo blanco (white village) of Gaucín, in the Serranía de Ronda, we provide gorgeous villa accommodation for the first two nights of your exploration of Andalucían culture. The village is home to more than twenty international artists' studios, and you arrive during Art Gaucin Open Studios. This is a once yearly celebration of all the artists of the village and one or two guest artists. The views of distant Gibraltar and the Straits, and of the Rif mountains in Morocco are spectacular. The climate in May is perfect, warm, and sunny, but not yet the full heat of summer. After two nights at the villa, the last three days are spent in Ronda, Córdoba and Málaga.



*Gaucín Village, Serranía de Ronda*

After settling in at the villas, there will be an introductory talk followed by a one-hour presentation entitled 'Moorish Architecture: The Legacy of a Vanished Kingdom'. Then, after aperitifs at 8 o'clock, the evening meal will be al fresco on the terrace if it's warm enough.

## Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May

After breakfast there will be a one-hour presentation, 'Picasso, the Boy from Málaga' followed by coffee or mint tea. Next will be a one-hour presentation entitled 'Experiencing and Understanding the Great Mosque of Córdoba'. Following a leisurely lunch in the garden, you will then begin your tour of galleries with a map and a guide, after which we will have aperitifs on the terrace, followed by a Paella evening.

## Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May

After an early breakfast at the villa, we will leave for Ronda by coach at 9am. On arrival at 10am, there will be a visit to Ronda Cathedral and Old Quarter, with a coffee break. Next is a guided visit to Ronda Bullring, the oldest stone-built bullring in Spain. Following that there is a guided visit to the Medieval Moorish Baths, the best preserved on the entire peninsula.

Following lunch in Ronda, we will take the coach to Córdoba, where we will check in to our boutique hotel.

At 7pm we will meet for sunset drinks before heading off to the nearby Flamenco show and light tapas at the Tablao el Cardenal, after which, if you're still hungry, there are many delightful restaurants and tapas bars to explore in the old town.



Ronda: the 'New' Bridge over the River Tajo

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

Following breakfast, we visit the museum dedicated to Julio Romero de Torres, a painter who was a native of Córdoba. After lunch we visit Córdoba Great Mosque, for a tour with detailed notes and an exploration of this World Heritage Site, considered by many to be the most beautiful mosque in the world. After visiting the mosque, we will go for a walk around the nearby Alcazar Palace and Gardens, You then have a free evening to explore Córdoba's medieval quarter and its many restaurants.

### **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

On Friday morning, after breakfast, we leave for Málaga at 9 o'clock. On arrival we stop for coffee, before a guided tour of the Alcazaba Moorish fortress. This will be followed by a locally guided visit to the Picasso Museum. After lunch in the new port, we go to our last destination at the Pompidou Centre, for an unguided, chatty visit, finishing at 6pm.

We will then meet the coach and travel to the airport, for check-in by 8 pm.



Picasso. Still Life with Minotaur and Palette.





*Centre Pompidou, Malaga*

## **TUTORS**

Dr. Jacqueline Cockburn is co-founder and director of Art & Culture Travel. She is a course director at the V&A, and also lectures for The Royal Academy and The Art Fund.

Ian Cockburn is co-founder and director of Art & Culture Travel and has an MA from the Courtauld Institute in medieval Spanish art history.

Both lecturers are accredited by The Arts Society.

### **The fee of £1,750 (minimum 12 people, shared rooms, plus 20% for individual rooms) includes:**

Collection at Málaga airport and transport by private coach to Gaucín. Transport by private coach to Ronda, Córdoba and Málaga. Three lectures by expert art historians. All (en-suite) accommodation in Gaucín and Córdoba. All meals, wine, and refreshments, except Saturday and Sunday evening. Guided and unguided visits and entry to all museums, and monuments, visits to studios, Flamenco show and tapas in Córdoba.

**Not included in the fees:** Flights, travel, and medical insurance.

**Note:** Itinerary subject to change, if necessary

**Fitness:** Please note that as a courtesy to your fellow travellers, a good level of fitness and mobility is required for walking and for visiting galleries and monuments.

**Contact: Jacqueline Cockburn at Art & Culture Andalucía**

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