



MADRID

JEWISH HERITAGE IN SPAIN

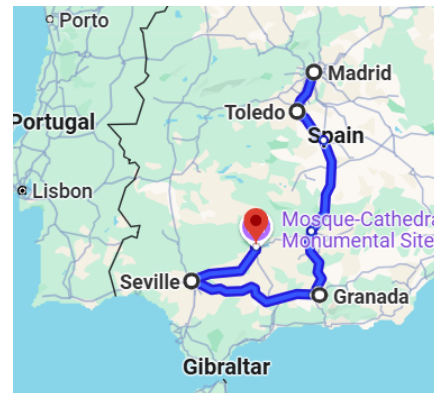
10 Days/9 Nights Itinerary

Day 1: MADRID Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your Hotel for check-in, followed by a Panoramic & Walking city tour of Madrid including the Royal Palace. Overnight stay.

Day 2. MADRID-SEGOVIA-MADRID Breakfast. **Segovia** – A Declared a World Heritage City. Segovia with its walls, its great plaza, its Cathedral, its Romanesque churches, its convents, its narrow streets, and its splendid mansions has been and is the meeting point of cultures down through the millennia: Roman, Arabic, Jewish and Christian. Corpus Christi Church (Old Synagogue): This has been a holy site for two religions, Christianity and Judaism. It was used as a synagogue until 1410 when it was confiscated from the Jewish community. In this church we find an original mix of two cultures which combines Christian decoration with a number of altarpieces dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi and paintings with the architecture of what in earlier times was the Sinagoga Mayor of Segovia's Jewish quarter and can be rounded off with a look at the remains of

the Jewish cemetery. During the visit you will also pay a visit to Jewish Cemetery. Free time for lunch. Before returning to Madrid you will stop in **Avila**, (Human Heritage city), for a visit of its famous **Avila Walls** and a walk through the **Jewish Quarter** including the façade of the former **Synagogue de Don Samuel**. Return to Madrid for your Overnight stay.

Day 3. MADRID -TOLEDO - MADRID Breakfast. Toledo – A Declared World Heritage City. Visit the most important Spanish Jewish city and the Capital of Sefarad. Our tour will start by passing through the **Cambrón Gateway**, formerly known as the Jewish Gate. Walking through the narrow streets of the Jewish Quarter, you arrive at the Mudejar “**Sinagoga of Santa Maria la Blanca**”, dating from the 13th century. The other important Synagogue, the “**Sinagoga del Tránsito**” was built in the 14th century and its decoration has influences of the Islamic, Mudejar and Gothic art. It also contains magnificent Jewish scripts of the Middle Ages. Today it houses an interesting



Sephardi Museum. The visit will also include other relevant monuments such as **Santa Tomé Church** with its **El Greco** masterpiece and its magnificent **Gothic Cathedral** and its treasures. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon return to Madrid. Overnight stay.

Day 4. MADRID - GRANADA Breakfast. Departure transfer to Madrid train station where you board the high-speed train to Granada (3,30 hours). Upon your arrival in Granada meet your driver for a transfer to your hotel.



GRANADA

This Afternoon is dedicated to discovering, with your guide, this historical city. There are very few cities which have such a rich history that is so well reflected in its many monuments, its appearance and in the atmosphere of its daily life, showing the many traces of the long Arabic past, from the Madraza, the old Arabic University to the Alcaiceria, the narrow market, and close by, the Corral del Carbón, the old Market, the great Renaissance Cathedral and the exquisite late **Gothic Royal Chapel**.

Day 5. GRANADA Breakfast - Today we visit the Alhambra (13th to 15th Century) a fortified palatine city built by the Nasrid Dynasty, which also includes The "Generalife", a summer residence set in beautiful gardens. The so-called "Royal Room of Santo Domingo" built in the orchards of Almaxarra, The Palace of Alcazar Genil used by the Nasrid Queens, The Palace of Charles 5th, designed in 1526 by Pedro Machuca in the heart of the Alhambra as a symbol of new power, in the most outstanding Renaissance work in Granada and possibly in Spain.

Afternoon at leisure & overnight stay.

Day 6. GRANADA - CORDOBA Breakfast. Transfer to the Granada Train Station to board the train to Cordoba. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon you start your visit at the Jewish Quarter, located between the Almodovar Gate and the Caliph's Fortress. From the Almodovar Gateway, in front of the Aljama, you walk through the Fernandez Ruano Street where the former Jewish Market was located, to Roperia Street, the Curtideria Street, the Alcaiceria Street and to Platerias Street. We arrive at the well-preserved Synagogue built in a Mudejar style whose entrance is through a beautiful courtyard. You will end the visit at the Mosque-Cathedral, one of the largest Islamic Temples in the world and whose construction started under Abderrahman 1st. The Cathedral was built inside the Mosque in the 15th century.

Overnight stay.

Day 7. CORDOBA - SEVILLE Breakfast. Morning at leisure to discover some of the hidden corners of Córdoba. Afternoon Transfer to Córdoba Train Station to board the train to Seville. Upon arrival to Seville transfer to the hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 8. SEVILLE Breakfast. Seville, the capital of Andalucía, the southern region of Spain, lies mostly along the right bank of the Guadalquivir river (from the arabic al wadi al-kvir –the big river-) in the land region known as the Guadalquivir Basin.

The Population of Seville is about 700,000 people with a minimal Jewish presence nowadays. However, Seville, which had the second largest Jewish population in all the Kingdom of Castile during the middle ages, is also where the destruction of Spanish Jewry began in June of 1391.

The bloodshed of Seville was the first of many and within two months it spread like wildfire all though Castile and Aragon, reaching even Gerona (next to the border with France).

These massacres led to mass conversions and, eventually, to the expulsion of the Jews in 1492. Our tour this morning (3 hours) will be dedicated to discovering the Jewish Heritage of the Andalusian Capital.





SEVILLE

The main idea of this tour is not just visiting key sites related to the Jewish past of the city but also to focus on all aspects of Judaism in Seville.

Not in vain, Seville is the first city in Spain where the Jews returned back after 1860 and settled down again, creating the first Jewish community of Spain after the expulsion in 1492. In order to understand current Jewish life in Seville (and in all of Spain) you need to put into context past and present so therefore, during our walking tour, You take an emotional journey where you will share, understand and enjoy the uniqueness of the Jewish past and present-day life in Sevilla.

You will walk inside the former Jewish quarter of Sevilla trying to understand how our ancestors lived in Spain until they were expelled from some cities of Andalusia (Sevilla among them) in 1483 and definitely forced to exile from Spain in 1492. Thus, it's still possible to walk through the area which once was occupied by the Jewish Quarter and to see the remains of the Synagogues that were converted to churches after the bloodshed of 1391 (Santa María la Blanca and San Bartolomé). Moreover, there are some parts of the wall that once

surrounded the Jewish Quarter which can be seen and even the remains of the Jewish cemetery from the XIII Century can be visited. The church of San Nicolás is also an important part of your journey. Here you will learn about the Blood libel of Santo Domingo del Val, a false accusation that Jews kidnapped and murdered a child in the city of Zaragoza in 1250 to use his blood as part of a religious ritual during Jewish holidays. Historically, these claims (alongside those of well poisoning and host desecration) have been a major theme in the European persecution of Jews.

Afternoon at leisure & overnight stay.

Day 9: SEVILLE

Breakfast. Morning visit to the most relevant monuments in the city. Walk through the typical district of Santa Cruz and a visit to the Cathedral (15th C.), the largest Gothic Church in Christendom, with its magnificent chancel, carvings by Martínez Montañés and paintings by Murillo, Zurbarán and Goya. Of the Almohade Aljama Mosque (12th C.) there remains, its striking minaret, the slenderest tower in Muslim architecture The Giralda, to which an exquisite bell tower was added in

the 16th Century and not far away another amazing monumental complex to see, the Alcazar, an Arabic Palace which was completed by Peter 1st the Cruel and is outstanding for its Mudéjar style and Moorish gardens.

Afternoon at leisure & overnight stay.

Day 10: SEVILLE – TRANSFER AIRPORT- Breakfast, and transfer to the airport.





BARCELONA

3 NIGHTS BARCELONA EXTENSION

Day 10 - SEVILLE/ BARCELONA

Breakfast. Upon arrival to Barcelona Airport (from Seville) you will meet your driver at the Airport Arrivals lounge for a transfer to your hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 11 BARCELONA

Breakfast. Walking around the Old City including the Gothic Quarter and Call, the former Jewish district. The relevant sites are the cathedral, Plaza St. Jaime, Plaça del Rey, reaching the Jewish Quarter (the Call) and the Ramblas with the **Market of La Boqueria**. During our visit along the Call (situated at the heart of ancient Barcelona, founded by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago we find the Jewish District, or "Call"). We will point out the locations of its **5 synagogues**, the bakery, the grocery, the fountain and we will see the traces of the King's doctor house, **Bonjuha Cabrit**. We will also visit some other locations that were related to the Jewish history in the city such as Saint James Square where La Generalitat (Government Palace of Catalonia) and the City Hall are still located today. We will admire the courtyard of the **Inquisition Main Quarters** in

4 Days/3 Nights Itinerary

Barcelona, where we can still see the Coat of Arms of this famous institution, officially active till 1812. This morning you will have completed a trip through the past and the present of Barcelonian Jews. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon we will pay a visit to the **Jewish cemetery** in Montjuic and it's breathtaking views over the city and continue for a visit to the world-famous Modernism Architect **Antonio Gaudi** highlights including the **Sagrada Samilia Holy Basilic** and the **Park Güel**.

Overnight stay.

Day12 - BARCELONA - GIRONA - BESALÚ - BARCELONA

Breakfast. Today we drive to **Girona**, a nice quiet city where we can stroll through the old town, starting at the **Call**, the **ancient Jewish Quarter** located at both sides of the Força street and over 600 years old. We continue to **Besalú**. Medieval village with Romanesque bridge over the Fluviá River. It was the capital of the

ancient county, nowadays it has disappeared. In this town you will visit the Jewish Quarter, known as "El Call" and a Mikvah, the **Jewish purification bath**. This is a unique building in Spain and one of three that have been found in Europe to this day. You can also pass through the towered entrance accesses the county's capital, built in the 11th century.. Lunch (on own). Return to Barcelona.

Overnight stay.

Day 13 - BARCELONA - TRANSFER AIRPORT

Breakfast, and transfer to the airport.





MALAGA

3 NIGHTS COSTA DEL SOL EXTENSION

Day 10 –SEVILLA- COSTA DEL SOL

This morning after breakfast you'll check out of your hotel and transfer to the train station for your trip to the Costa Del Sol. Upon arrival in Malaga meet your driver for a transfer to your Hotel in Marbella, situated on the Mediterranean Sea between Malaga and the Strait of Gibraltar.

Overnight stay.

Day 11 - MARBELLA – FULL DAY GIBRALTAR PRIVATE TOUR

This morning after Breakfast you are transferred to Gibraltar. 50 miles from Marbella, wherein lies the famous Rock of Gibraltar. It has a 300-year-old Jewish community and the Great Synagogue on Engineer Lane, notable for being one of the oldest in the Iberian peninsula (dating back to 1724). Furthermore, see the Rock of Gibraltar's legendary Barbary Apes and visit St. Michael's Cave. See the Old Moorish Castle and continue to the ancient Jewish cemetery. (Jews have lived in Gibraltar for at least 300 years). Visit the 200-year-old Nefusot Yehuda "Flamenco" synagogue.

Overnight stay.

4 Days/3 Nights Itinerary

Day 12 – MARBELLA AT YOUR LEISURE.

Breakfast at your Hotel . Day at leisure for visiting Marbella or Puerto Banús, or enjoying its sandy beaches. The old town of Marbella is pedestrianized. Its most notable features are the Plaza de Los Naranjos (with the old Town Hall).. (Not far from the center of Marbella, just a mile away, in the El Real residential area, you can find the first synagogue built in Andalusia since 1492. It was consecrated in 1978). Puerto Banús Marina was founded in 1970 on the concept of an Andalusian-style Mediterranean village, with luxurious avenues adorned with colorful gardens next to the sea.

Overnight stay.

Day 13. MARBELLA – TRANSFER TO MALAGA AIRPORT

Breakfast at your Hotel and private transfer to Malaga airport.

