

**TRAIN : Al Andalus**

**JOURNEY : Seville to Seville**

Journey Duration : Upto 7 days

### **Introduction**

Southern Spain's luxurious, broad-gauge train resumed service in May, 2012, with its 1920s-era cars newly renovated. Enjoy the mesmerizing Spanish landscape on the Al-Andalus as you travel through the country's southernmost territory. The train is a combination of impeccable service; elegant decor and delicious cuisine along with sheer luxury which will make you feel like royalty and ensure an unforgettable experience.

Seville – Jerez – Cadiz – Ronda - Granada - Linares-Baeza – Cordoba – Seville

### **Day to Day Itinerary**

**Check-in at Hotel Alfonso X111 at 10:30hrs.**

#### **Monday: Seville – Jerez.**

Following check-in from 10:30, and whilst your luggage is being taken to the train, you have time to wander Seville before returning to the hotel for lunch. The capital of Andalusia, Seville boasts the most extensive historic city centre in Spain, home to the Gothic Cathedral with its bell tower named Giralda, the Royal Alcazar and the General Archive of the Indies. After lunch there is a panoramic tour of the city, taking us across the famous Plaza de España before boarding the Tren Al Andalus. There follows welcome cocktails onboard after which you are shown to your suite. Dinner on board as we head to Jerez for the night.

#### **Tuesday: Jerez.**

Breakfast on board, followed by a visit to a sherry bodega. Afterwards there is a show by the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art: "How the Andalusian Horses Dance", an equestrian

ballet with eighteenth century Spanish music and costumes. Lunch in Sanlúcar de Barrameda overlooking the salt marshes of Doñana National Park and river Guadalquivir's mouth, followed by a walk around Sanlúcar de Barrameda, from where our luxury coach will take us back to Jerez de la Fronter. Dinner is served onboard the train. Overnight in Jerez.

**Wednesday: Jerez-Cádiz.**

This morning the coach takes us to Cádiz, considered one of the oldest cities in Europe. After a tour and some free time to venture around Cádiz, we return to the train for lunch as our journey heads to the stunning city of Ronda, a breathtaking location set on a plateau cut by the deep gorge Tajo de Ronda, through which river Guadalevín runs. Here we have dinner and overnight.

**Thursday: Ronda – Granada.**

After breakfast on board there is a tour of Ronda, followed by some free time prior to lunch. Return to the train as it travels to Granada, a city nestled on the foothills of Sierra Nevada. Dinner and overnight in Granada.

Friday: Granada. After breakfast on board the tour of this beautiful place includes the famously romantic Alhambra and the captivating Jardines del Generalife, followed by free time in Alhambra in which to absorb the Moorish elegance before having lunch in the Parador. In the afternoon, visit the city; the quarters of Albaicin, Sacramonte and its cathedral, the first Spanish Renaissance church. Take advantage of wandering around before dinner at a local restaurant, followed by a flamenco performance. Overnight in Granada.

**Saturday: Granada - Linares-Baeza – Úbeda - Cordoba.**

Whilst having breakfast, we arrive in Linares-Baeza, from where the coach travels through the countryside covered with over 70 million olive trees, to the Olive Oil Museum for a guided visit of this fascinating industry. Then we go to historic Baeza, a city that dates back to the Moorish occupation and is the seat of the International University of Andalucía. Lunch in Úbeda, with its

beautiful hand-carved stone and whitewashed facades, which one can wander around after lunch. Returning to the train, dinner is served during the journey to Cordoba. Overnight in Cordoba.

**Sunday: Cordoba – Seville.**

Breakfast on board followed by a tour of this city, that during the 10th century and beginning of the 11th century was the most populous city in the world, and during these centuries became the intellectual centre of Europe. Thus there is a mixture of Roman and Moorish architecture. Of particular interest are the Reales Alcazares, built in 1328, and the incredibly beautiful Mosque / Cathedral of the Juderia. Lunch is served back on board the train whilst travelling to our final destination, Seville.

Journey ends: 17:00hrs approx.