n11sC **NO SINGLE** SUPPLEMENT for Solo **Travelers** ANDALUCÍA | IN A PARADOR 111245

SPONSORED BY

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

University of Illinois Alumni Association May 22-30, 2025

EXPL-O-RERS

Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

Bask in southern Spain's historic gems and captivating beauty on this seven-night journey in Andalucía! We'll make our home for the week in a first-class, modern parador in Antequera surrounded by serene countryside scenery. From there, we'll embark on daily excursions that illuminate Andalucía's unique heritage, a fascinating intermingling of cultures and religions. You'll be filled with awe at the beautiful legacy of the Moors: the courtyards and fountains of the Alhambra in Granada; the iconic red-and-white arches of La Mezquita in Córdoba; and the elegant Alcázar in Sevilla. Other memorable moments await you: a stroll through Sevilla's colorful historic quarter, the breathtaking view over El Tajo Gorge in Ronda and an impassioned flamenco performance.

To help you fully appreciate Andalucía's history and culture during your journey, our travel planners have meticulously selected knowledgeable local guides and included insightful lectures. You'll also enjoy the fellowship of traveling in a small group while still having ample opportunities to strike off on your own. Best of all, your very capable, professional Travel Director will take care of the details so that you can focus on savoring Andalucía's delights. Join us in southern Spain by reserving today!

Sincerely,

David Bambrey President, University of Illinois Alumni Association

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

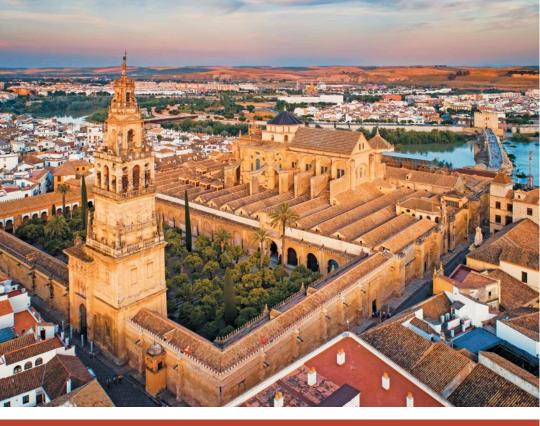
UNESCO World Heritage

- 1. Antequera Dolmens Site
- 2. Alhambra, Granada
- 3. Cathedral and Alcázar, Sevilla
- 4. Historic Center of Córdoba



Dolmen, Antequera





A World of Discovery



Embrace the romantic spirit of southern Spain! Settle in for the week at a modern parador in lovely Antequera and then embark on engaging excursions throughout the region. Learn how Andalucía's heritage has been shaped by an intriguing mix of cultures and religions as you encounter its spectacular treasures. Take in awe-inspiring palaces, imposing fortresses, remarkable prehistoric tombs and a glorious mosque-cathedral.

Inspiring Moments

- Ponder the influence of the Moors as you explore the enchanting Alhambra.
- Clap to the rhythm of a soulful **flamenco performance.**
- Immerse yourself in the charm of Antequera, nestled in Andalucía's picturesque heartland.
- Marvel at the breathtaking view of El Tajo Gorge in Ronda.
- Delight in the majestic architecture of the cathedral and Alcázar in Sevilla.
- Sip a glass of wine at a countryside bodega as you savor your adventure in Andalucía.
- Experience four UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Top: La Mezquita, Córdoba Above: Flamenco dancer Cover: Ronda | Mail panel: Plaza de España, Sevilla ALUMNI CAMPUS ABROAD® ARCHITECTURE | ART | CULTURE | CUISINE | HISTORY | NATURAL BEAUTY



Day 1| In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Málaga, Spain.

Day 2 | Málaga, Spain | Antequera

Upon arrival, transfer **Э** to Antequera and check in to the Parador de Antequera.

Tonight, get to know your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the parador.

Day 3 | Antequera

Ancient Antequera. The prehistoric Menga and Viera dolmens were built by farmers in the valley between 3500 and 3000 B.C. On a guided tour of this UNESCO World Heritage site, imagine the labor and skill involved in constructing these immense stone burial chambers. Then, embark on a guided walk through Antequera. Start at the Alcazaba, the 14th-century Moorish fortress that once guarded the city, where you'll enjoy sweeping views. Continue into the old town to admire its landmarks and stop for lunch after your walk.

Free Time: The afternoon is yours to plan.

Enrichment: *Andalucía and the Moorish Influence.* A local expert examines the lasting impact of eight centuries of Muslim rule.

Day 4 | Granada

The Palace City of Alhambra. Travel today to the Alhambra, a UNESCO World Heritage site, in Granada. This exquisite Moorish palace complex and fortress was constructed in the 13th and 14th centuries by the kings of the Nasrid dynasty who sought to create their own paradise on earth. Admire intricately filigreed courtyards and halls in the Palacios Nazaríes, walk through the fortress and stroll in the gardens of Generalife. Relax later over lunch at the Parador de Granada within the Alhambra.

Day 5 | Sevilla

Sevilla. Journey to the cultural heart of southern Spain. On a scenic/walking tour, see the centuries-old bullring and the Moorish watchtower near the river. Along your route, stop at the splendid Plaza de España, built in 1929 for an international exhibition, which features a canal and tiled alcoves representing the provinces of Spain. Next, visit the grand Real Alcázar, a medieval Moorish palace still in use today as a royal residence, and the stunning Cathedral of Sevilla, the world's largest Gothic church. Together, they have been named a UNESCO World Heritage site. Conclude with a walk in the charming Barrio de Santa Cruz and time for lunch on your own. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for dinner at the parador.

Antequera





Day 6 | Ronda

Ronda. Spectacularly set above El Tajo Gorge over the open countryside, Ronda is a showstopper and the largest of Andalucía's pueblos blancos, or white towns. Begin your guided walk at the bullring, Plaza de Toros, established in 1785. Stand in the arena and delve into the dramatic world of bullfighting at its museum. Later, soak up marvelous views of Ronda from the terrace of Casa de San Juan Bosco. Cap off your Ronda visit with a tour of the beautiful Iglesia de Santa María la Mayor.

CAHI Connects | *Bodega Lunch & Tasting.* Sample fine wines and enjoy lunch at a winery.

Ronda



Day 7 | Córdoba

Córdoba. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Córdoba's mosque-cathedral, La Mezquita, contains the finest examples of Moorish architecture in Spain. While the mosque was built in the eighth century, the cathedral was erected within the complex in the 16th century after Spanish forces recaptured Córdoba in 1236. The mixture of Islamic and Christian decorative elements dazzles the eye, including the prayer hall of striped arches, the golden mihrab, the altar screen and the mahogany choir stalls. Afterward, see the Roman bridge over the Guadalquivir River, and walk along the Jewish quarter's winding lanes lined with whitewashed houses.

Free Time: Select a nice spot for lunch on your own in Córdoba.

This evening, join your group for a delectable dinner at a restaurant in Antequera. After your meal, appreciate the emotion and precision

Wine tasting





of flamenco, Spain's famous art form, during a special performance.

Day 8 | Antequera

Enrichment: *Contemporary Spain.* Gain insights about issues impacting the nation.

Free Time: Spend your last day at leisure in Antequera. Another option is to take the complimentary, round-trip shuttle to vibrant Málaga and make your own plans. You can also choose to join today's Elective Activity.

(Felective | El Torcal & Olive Oil Experience. Marvel at the otherworldly limestone formations of El Torcal de Antequera Nature Park on a drive. Take a coffee break there and, if you'd like, walk to see the rocks up close. Head next to a family-owned olive oil mill for a tour and a delicious brunch featuring their fresh oils.

Celebrate your time in the south of Spain tonight at a Farewell Reception and Dinner at the parador.

Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer **t** to the airport in Málaga for the return flight **t** to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and Otransfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on and off motor coaches

Included Features

Accommodations {with baggage handling}

 7 nights in Antequera, Spain, at the first-class Parador de Antequera.

Extensive Meal Program

 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- **(AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- AHI Sustainability Promise:
 We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Sevilla



Accommodations



Parador de Antequera | Antequera

Our travel experts have carefully selected this first-class, modern parador for its ideal location in the heart of Andalucía. Explore charming Antequera, relax on the terrace overlooking Spain's southern plain or enjoy a dip in the pool. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of this property's services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.

o Tripadvisor



Alhambra, Granada



Reserve your trip today!

To book your journey, please call our AHI Travel Experts

at 844-414-0369 or

visit https://uiaa.org/explorers/.

Program Dates

Travel dates May 22-30, 2025

★ Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates*

May 23-30, 2025

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

	\$3,640
Special Savings	\$750

Early Booking Special Price*

*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by date on address panel and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

\$2,890

VAT in the amount of \$295 per person is included in the above prices. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined. **Single supplement waived for solo travelers!** This offer is limited, capacity-controlled and tends to sell out quickly.

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at https://il.ahitravel.com/destinations/1892A?schoolld=69. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

AHI FlexAir 🚯

Let us arrange your flights

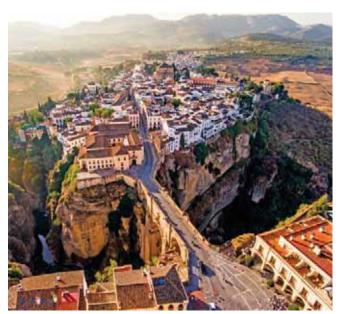
Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure transfers on group dates
- flexibility to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays

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Plaza de Toros, Ronda



El Tajo Gorge, Ronda

AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

Travel Consultants stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators each offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Once you arrive:

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



Jewish Quarter, Córdoba



La Mezquita, Córdoba

844-414-0369

https://uiaa.org/explorers/

E X P L-O-R E R S

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Revel in southern Spain's cultural treasures!

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Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

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