

PRESENTED BY



Santa Barbara Museum of Art May 1-9, 2025



#### Dear Members and Friends,

We invite you to join SBMA on a seven-night journey in Andalucía to relish in Southern Spain's historic gems, awe-inspiring architecture, sophisticated cuisine, and captivating beauty. We'll make our home for the week in the contemporary Parador de Antequera surrounded by serene countryside. With Antequera as our base, we will embark on daily excursions that illuminate Andalucía's unique heritage, a fascinating layering and intermingling of time and cultures, through the Bronze age, Roman and Muslim-Moorish rule, Jewish communities, and Christian conquistadores, all with their lingering influence on art and architecture. You'll be filled with awe at the courtyards and fountains of the Alhambra in Granada, the iconic red and white striped arches of La Mezquita in Córdoba, and the elegant Alcázar in Sevilla. Experience memorable moments as you stroll through Sevilla's colorful historic quarter, gasp over the breathtaking view over El Tajo Gorge in Ronda, and tap your feet to an impassioned flamenco performance. All while enjoying the celebrated wine and cuisine of Andalucía, land of iconic vineyards and olive groves.

SBMA offers one or two value tours per year, and these programs offer enriching, immersive, well-planned educational travel experiences at a lower price point. A limited number of single occupancy rooms are available with no single supplement, and an early booking discount makes the price even more attractive. Designed to be exclusive to SBMA members, this tour is limited to no more than 28 participants, allowing for the fellowship of traveling in a small group, while still providing ample opportunities to strike off on your own. To help you fully appreciate Andalucia's history and culture, our travel planners have meticulously selected knowledgeable local guides and included insightful guest lectures. A capable, professional Travel Director will take care of the details so that you can focus on savoring Southern Spain's treasures. We hope you reserve today and begin looking forward to your upcoming adventure with SBMA!

Sincerely,

Julie Blair

Julie Blair Travel & Special Programs Coordinator Santa Barbara Museum of Art

For more information call SBMA at 805-884-6431, email travel@sbma.net, or visit www.sbma.net/travel.

#### **UNESCO World Heritage**

- 1. Antequera Dolmens Site
- 2. Alhambra, Granada
- 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.

Top: La Mezquita, Córdoba Above: Flamenco dancer Cover: Ronda | Mail panel: Spanish musician | Antequera

#### **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.

#### 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 3 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 | 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 quided 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.

AHI Connects | Bodega Lunch & Tasting. Sample fine wines and enjoy lunch at a winery. This evening, gather for dinner at the parador.

#### Day 6 | Sevilla

Sevilla. Get acquainted with southern Spain's

Antequera





cultural heart on a scenic/walking tour. At the beautiful Murillo Gardens, admire fountains and benches adorned in tiles as well as native trees and flowering plants. Then, walk in the vibrant Barrio de Santa Cruz. See the Moorish watchtower by the river and the centuries-old bullring. 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 named a UNESCO World Heritage site. End with free time for lunch on your own.

**Museo de Bellas Artes.** Take in exceptional works of art at one of Spain's finest galleries, housed in a majestic, 17th-century former

Ronda



convent. Religious art from the Baroque period is a special highlight with pieces by renowned painters Francisco de Zurbarán and Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, among others.

Free Time: Return to the hotel for leisure time.

#### 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.

Wine tasting





**Free Time:** Make lunch plans in Córdoba. Join your group this evening for dinner at a restaurant in Antequera, followed by a spirited flamenco performance.

#### Day 8 | Málaga

**Enrichment:** Spanish Art Through the Ages. Gain insights about Spain's artistic legends. Travel to dynamic Málaga to tour two of its most prestigious museums.

**Museo Picasso Málaga.** Study captivating art by Pablo Picasso on a guided tour at this museum in the city of his birth. The selections on display are ones that he kept for himself or created for family members.

Free Time: Choose a nice spot for lunch.

**Museo Carmen Thyssen Málaga.** Appreciate a private collection of impressive paintings by prominent Spanish artists of the 19th and early 20th centuries as well as other masterpieces.

Celebrate your journey tonight at a Farewell Reception and Dinner at the parador.

#### Day 9 | In Transit

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

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

 $f \Omega$ Flights and  $f \Omega$ transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

#### **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



 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.
- 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.
- MAHI Sustainability Promise:

  We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

4

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.

#### Tripadvisor



Alhambra, Granada



#### Reserve your trip today!

To begin the reservation process please call the SBMA Travel Program

at **805-884-6431** or

visit santab.ahitravel.com.

#### **Program Dates**

#### Travel dates 🛧

#### May 1-9, 2025

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

#### Tour dates\*

#### May 2-9, 2025

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

#### **Land Program**

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Early Booking Special Price*	\$2,890
Special Savings	\$750
Full Price	\$3,640

\*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.

Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges). 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 santab.ahitravel.com. 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



Plaza de Toros, Ronda



El Tajo Gorge, Ronda



Jewish Quarter, Córdoba

#### 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.



La Mezquita, Córdoba



Santa Barbara Museum of Art

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# AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey. - An exceptional travel value.

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- Unique access to local sites.
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