

Self-guided

Bike tour

Spain



Tour description

Day 1
Arrive Priego de Córdoba

Day 2
Circular rides 15/ 28/
40 km

Day 3
To Montefrio 47 km

Day 4
Rest day or visit Granada

Day 5
To Rute 53 km

Day 6
To Zuheros 56 km

Day 7
To Priego de Córdoba 25 km

Day 8
Tour Ends

Andalucía

Our 'Ruta de los Olivos' will take you through an almost unknown region north of Málaga, between the famous historical cities of Córdoba and Granada. Daily tours of 26km to 57km through a sea of olive trees and Mediterranean woods on the slopes of the Sierra Subbética range. Soft grey-green trees and red-ochre earth tones, punctuated by white villages in Moorish style. All deadly calm during 'siesta' hours yet lively in the evening when villagers emerge to enjoy the coolness outdoors.

Some of the highlights of this trip include exploring the authentic Andalucía, with white villages scattered across a softly undulating grey-green sea of olive orchards.

On an independent holiday you can explore the area at liberty, cycling along quiet roads through changing scenery. These holidays offer all the pleasures of hiking point to point, arriving at a new destination each day, without the hassle of carrying any luggage. Distances each day are moderate, allowing you to ride at your own pace and enjoy the countryside. Our detailed route notes, maps, together with the official marker posts, will ensure that you can enjoy your holiday without worrying about finding the routes.

Tour Details

Daily: April to end June
September to December

Cost: \$1295 per person
Single Room Upgrade: \$395

Bike Rental: \$ 200

Length: 8 days / 7 nights

Grade: Moderate w/ hilly stages

Starts/Ends: Priego de Córdoba



Fast Facts

- Lovely accommodations, always with private facilities, 2 with pools (4 nights)
- Buffet breakfasts
- Luggage transport, route notes & maps
- GPS tracks available on request

E-Bike Info:

For those who need a little boost, we have a small inventory of E-Bikes for your trip.

- E-bike rental: \$350
- Limited supplies available, reservations recommended

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Day 1 Arrival in Priego de Córdoba

Arrive in beautiful Andalucía and settle into your comfortable 4-star accommodation. After today's journey, you may wish to take a refreshing dip in the swimming pool and then enjoy an aperitif before dinner.

Day 2 Cycling around Priego de Córdoba 15 /30 /42 km

Choose among several options for cycling in the area. All three routes include a visit to the village of Priego de Córdoba and of course the joy of riding along endless country lanes, winding through olive orchards with views of historic Moorish watchtowers. 300m to 700m in ascents.

Day 3 From Priego de Córdoba to Montefrío 47 km

Today is a day for a more demanding ascents. From Priego, you ride up and straight through the Sierra Albayate. Then it's on to Montefrío, another lovely village of white-washed houses clustered round a Moorish castle. Your accommodation is a converted traditional olive oil mill and press. Olives and olive oil are the singular most important export in this region. It is rumoured that Spain produced 4/5 of the world production. Liquid Gold for them, for sure. 880m in ascent.

Day 4 Day to rest or to visit Granada

A day to rest and relax or to enjoy an excursion by bus to Granada, a small city with an ancient past and a surprisingly cosmopolitan feel. In addition to the Alhambra, stunning display of Moorish architecture not to missed, the city has other jewels to offer: the enchanting labyrinth of narrow lanes in the Albaycín quarter, the steets lined with tea houses or the impressive Capilla Real (Royal Chapel). Remember to book your Alhambra tickets on-line in advance (optional).

Day 5 Montefrío to Rute 53 km

Once again the enchanting tapestry of beautiful grey-green orchards on gently rolling hills, waves in a sea of olive trees. Soothing landscapes to purify your soul. Today's route will take you through the towns of Milanos and Algarinejo and is composed of a short, practically flat section of 8km on paved road, and a more difficult second part on a packed hard gravel road. You'll have to save a bit of energy for bursts up a few short ascents toward the end. 900m in ascent.

Day 6 Rute to Zuheros 56 km

Cycling route through lovely countryside, marvelling at the seemingly endless array of olive orchards. You then follow a section of the Via Verde, a converted railway bike path ideal for cycling. Your accommodation in the village of Zuheros makes an excellent base for visiting Córdoba and the Mezquita (for this option, you'll need to book an extra night hotel). 500m in ascent.

Day 7 Zuheros back to Priego de Córdoba 25 km

A shorter ride today, through the beautiful area surrounding the Sierra Subbética Natural Park where you'll ride by the villages of Zuheros and Luque. Back at your 4-star accommodation in the country, take a refreshing plunge in the pool. This evening, choose from among 3 restaurants for dinner. 250m in ascent.

Day 8 Tour ends

Tour ends after breakfast.



What to Expect

What will the weather be like?

The daytime temperature will be around 22 to mid-30's degrees C (70's to 90's F), with very little rainfall. The trip is not recommended during the hottest times of July and August.

How many hours of cycling a day?

Be prepared to ride between 4 to 6 hours daily. This is not a supported tour, so you must ride the route once you set out.

What are the bikes like?

21 speed Giant hybrid bicycles with Shimano gears with Gel saddles, aluminum frame, puncture resistant 28" tires, saddle bags, lock, repair kit and handlebar bag. You can bring your own pedals to attach.

How fit do I need to be?

The fitter the better, so you will enjoy the rides each day. There are some hills and some level terrain.

What is the food like?

We have included a buffet breakfast each day. Most of the hotels offer some cheeses, fruits, meats and yogurts. For lunch, you can stop in a local restaurant for a full meal or mid-day snack. For dinner, our notes will offer some suggestions close by. Remember that the Spanish eat very late, so plan to have a snack on your own.

What are the hotels like?

Based in 4 Andalusian style properties, they are chosen for their charm and location. Properties are charming hotels, well-located in the towns. All the rooms have private facilities.



Extra Services

Taxi transfers are available from Lucena to Priego de Córdoba, and vice versa (must be booked in advance).

Extra overnight stays can be booked at any of the accommodations. We recommend an extra night in Zuheros for those who want to visit Córdoba by public transport. The hotel in Priego de Córdoba is the perfect place for a day to rest by the swimming pool.

Getting There

- The nearest airport is Málaga.
- From Málaga airport there is a regular bus service, which runs throughout the day to the central bus station in Málaga city centre departures every 30 min.
- There are regular bus services between Málaga central bus station and Lucena (about 30km from Priego de Córdoba).
- There are also regular daily buses from Lucena to Priego de Córdoba.

You can also book a taxi transfer from Málaga airport directly to your first accommodation, and vice versa (please request in advance).

- More info at www.alsa.es

How to book your holiday

- Contact our office to make sure there is space available. One of our travel planners will walk you through the entire process.
- Download the reservation form from our site and send in completed form by fax or email. Once this is done, your space is confirmed and a pre-departure packet will be sent.
- A deposit is required immediately, and final payment is due 60 days prior to the trip departure. Terms & conditions are outlined in our Reservation Form.
- Plan your air travel as soon as possible.
- We encourage you to purchase travel insurance, either through us or a travel insurance provider directly.
- Ensure you are in proper health for the trip chosen. Contact us, for more information on vaccinations, inoculations, and fitness requirements.