

## *JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA*

### *Sherry wineries and dancing Andalusia horses*

*The prosperous town of Jerez de la Frontera has given its name to sherry. Although prehistoric and Roman remains have been found at Jerez, the oldest surviving structure in the city is the Arab castle, from the 12<sup>th</sup> century; other interesting religious buildings are the Gothic church of San Miguel and the convent of Santo Domingo. But the visit to Jerez will be not complete without a tour of his wineries and the Andalusia horse dance*



- The "How the Andalusian Horses Dance" show is an equestrian ballet accompanied by totally Spanish music and 18<sup>th</sup> Century style costumes;*
- A stroll through the aging cellars (bodegas) becomes a tour through history, from the oldest and most traditional cellars to the most modern in the sector. More than 45 million liters of sherry and brandy de Jerez is stored in its cellars*

## SEVILLA



*Seville inspired Mozart, Rossini and Bizet. Operas like: "El Barbero de Sevilla" and "Carmen".*

*Seville was for centuries the gateway to the New World, today amalgamates the past, present and future perfectly, uniting modern business practice with the old ways and local colour in an inimitable way. Seville is made up of four major parts: the old part of the city, the site of the 1929 Exposition ( has twice played host to major international exhibitions, the Ibero American fair in 1929 and Expo in 1992) Triana and the Isla de la Cartuja (Island of the Cartuja).*

*Find the districts of Santa Cruz and the Judería (Jewish Quarter), El Arenal, la Alameda de Hercules, and an area referred to by some as the Acropolis, with significant monuments such as the Catedral (Cathedral) the Giralda, the Reales Alcázares (Royal Fortresses) and the Ayuntamiento (Town Hall), all of which are of immense artistic interest and contain valuable works of art such as paintings and sculptures.*

*The Alameda de Hercules is one of the most popular parks in Seville. It is said that Hercules founded Seville. It has a youthful and cultural atmosphere. During the city's Carnaval this park is a favourite meeting place.*

## DOÑANA NATIONAL PARK

*The Parque Nacional de Doñana is one of Europe's most important wetland reserves and a major site for migrating birds. It is an immense area over 1,300 sq km in the provinces of Huelva, Seville and Cadiz. It is internationally recognised for its great ecological wealth. Doñana has become a key centre in the world of conservationism.*



*Doñana is well known for its enormous variety of bird species, permanent residents, winter visitors from north and central Europe or summer visitors from Africa, like its numerous types of geese and colourful colonies of flamingo. It has one of the world's largest colonies of Spanish imperial eagles. The park as a whole comprises three distinct kinds of ecosystem: the marshlands, the Mediterranean scrublands and the coastal mobile dunes with their beaches.*

## LUGARES COLOMBINOS (Columbus Territory)

*After five centuries, Columbus remains a mysterious and controversial figure who has been variously described as one of the greatest mariners in history, a visionary genius, a mystic, a national hero, a failed administrator, a naive entrepreneur, and a ruthless and greedy imperialist.*

*Visit the places where the discovery voyage was forged Monastery of La Rábida. "The Cradle of the Discovery".*



*A visit here means stepping back in time to feel beneath our skins the pulse of one of most brilliant pages of history.*



*Muelle de las Caravelas, a wharf where you can see replicas of the ships that set sail for America*

*Jose Celestino Mutis Botanical Gardens, examples of plants and flowers from the fifth continents*

### ***MARISMAS DEL ODIEL (Marshes of Odiel)***

*The Paraje Natural de las Marismas del Odiel is the second most significant wetland reserve in Andalucía after the Parque Nacional de Doñana. This large estuary and marshland of the Odiel and Tinto rivers covers 72-sq-km between Huelva City, Punta Umbria, Gibraleón and Aljaraque. The humid area is an important rest and nest place particularly for migratory birds; it is possible to sight over three hundred different species in a year. Many animal species in danger of extinction can still be found in the wetlands. Some of the birds in this area are: grey and purple heron, spoonbill (30% from Europe can here to nest), flamingo, osprey etc*



## ARACENA Y MUSEO MINERO

*Aracena the chestnuts route*

### *LA GRUTA DE LAS MARAVILLAS (Cave of Wonders)*

*Discovered by accident (by a stray pig apparently!) the Gruta de las Maravillas is the largest in Spain, a mile and a half long, and is truly a marvel of subterranean lakes, striking colours and all manner of exquisitely adorned stalagmites and stalactites. The cave is lighted by indirect light and a sound system allows the playback of music. They play the *sinfonía del agua* by the local musician LUIS DE PABLO and the suite *Gruta de las Maravillas* by DON PRIMITIVO LÁZARO*



## MINERY MUSEUM

*The giant opencast mines of Río Tinto, as surreal a landscape as one will find this side of the Moon, The continual search for iron ore, copper, silver, sulphur and a host of other minerals has opened up amphitheatres of gargantuan proportions, vast man-made craters that measure several kilometres across.*



*Reputed to be the oldest mines in the world, Río Tinto has a particularly rich history. Their mineral wealth was already legendary in ancient times. According to myth, these are the fabled mines of King Solomon, and a section of the area is still known as Cerro Salomon today. The Spanish government sold the mines to a British syndicate in 1871 for a sum well below their real value. In true Anglo-Saxon style, the company's British managers soon had the mines running at full steam, making this one of the most important sources of copper and sulphur in the world. Also*

true to form was the way in which they built **Bella Vista**, a purpose-built village for British employees only. Known as the 'colonia inglesa', the British style houses, neatly trimmed gardens, tennis lawns and social club of Bella Vista can still be visited. This 'British' village in the middle of the Andalusia countryside also features a Presbyterian Church and mining museum. Several kilometres away is the Spanish town of Río Tinto, built to replace an older settlement that was swallowed up by the mine's expansion.

In its heyday, the Río Tinto Mining Company was quite an innovator. The football pitch and golf course built here were among the first on the European continent, and the half-timbered bungalows built for company employees at the Punta Umbría, on the Huelva coast, are the forerunners of the modern Costa.