

y Casas Cantabricas

# Personal touring itineraries in Spain and Portugal

# Via de Plata IC1

The ancient Roman trading route. An epic journey from the lush green north to the orange groves of the south.

#### Summary

Following the ancient, Via de Plata, trading route – literally the 'Silver Path' – this epic journey crosses Spain from north to south.

Few tours offer such extreme contrasts, from the arid plains and high sierras of Castilla-León and Extremadura down to the orange groves of Andalucia; from Christian Spain's main University city to the heart of the one-time sultanate, here you truly get a sense of Spain's rich and turbulent history...





### **Your Route**

#### **Tour Highlights:**

- Picos de Europa & north coast
- León & Astorga crossroads with the Camino de Santiago
- Salamanca, ancient University City
- Dehesa landscapes. Jamón Iberic
- Caceres, Trujillo, Guadalupe
- Sevilla full of Andalucian 'alegría'

#### **Travel Tips:**

Northern Connections: From Stansted: Easyjet to Asturias or Ryanair to Santander From Edinburgh or Dublin: Ryanair to Santander

Southern Connections: From Sevilla: Ryanair to Stansted, Glasgow or Dublin From Jerez: Ryanair to Stansted From Malaga: Easyjet to Stansted, Glasgow, Manchester, Luton + others, Ryanair to Edinburgh, Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester + others







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## **Itinerary Overview**

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room *	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Santander / Asturias / Bilbao		
1	Day 1 to 3	Asturias	Libardon	HLIB1 Historic hotel, near coast, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 40mins
				O Home cooked dinner for two, 1st night	
2	Day 4 & 5	León	León	HLEO1 Historic hotel in the heart of Leon, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	2hrs 10mins
3	Day 6 & 7	Salamanca	Topas	HTOP1 Castle amongst the vineyards of Salamanca, 1 x Double Room (2 sharing)	2hrs
4	Day 8 & 9	Extremadura North	Hervás	HHER2 C19th Manor house with beautiful garden in the heart of Hervas., 1 x superior double room (2 sharing)	1hr 20mins
5	Day 10 & 11	Extremadura Central	Trujillo	HTRU1 Palace with a pool in historic Trujillo, 1 x Standard double room (2 sharing)	1hr 40mins
6	Day 12	Extramadura South	Llerena	HLLE1 Historic town hotel with pool, 1 x Double Room (2 sharing)	2hrs
7	Day 13 & 14	Andalucía	Sevilla	HSEV1 City hotel at the heart of Sevilla, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 30mins
			Departing Sevilla, Jerez or	Málaga	20mins to Sevilla airport

\* Double room (2 sharing) can be either double or twin bedded. If you have specific requirements, please let us know.

## Your Itinerary

What the cost includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed & breakfast accommodation in each of the hotels
- 4 door compact class car hire to arrival at Sevilla
- Point-to-point directions
- Touring map and guidebook
- Our own travel app
- NB Flights not included
- Holiday Extras as detailed above

If you would like to book this itinerary please call us at your earliest convenience. If, on the other hand, you require further help or information or wish to investigate alternatives please don't hesitate to contact us.





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## Stage 1



#### Region: Asturias, east and central coast

Lovely seaside villages such as Llanes & Lastres Dinosaur coast - Jurassic museum near Colunga & fossil footprints on the beaches Visit Oviedo, the historic Asturian capital & Gijon by the sea Eat, drink and be merry in a traditional Asturian cider house The Spanish Cornwall? Beautiful beaches & cliff-top walks Beautifully preserved pre-romanic architecture, from the 8th Century

## Historic hotel, near coast

Nestled in the Asturian mountains at the foot of the Sierra del Sueve yet only fifteen minutes' drive away from the beaches and unspoilt fishing villages, Palacio de Libardon offers a perfect rural retreat and at the same time a great base for exploring Asturias. The hotel itself is a fine example of a 'Casona de Indianos', the palaces built by adventurers returning from Latin America, and consists of two main buildings, the main part da...<u>Read More</u>





## Stage 2



#### **Region: Leon**

Crossing point of the Camino de Santiago and Via de Plata. Cathedral of Santa Maria - beautiful stained glass Rose Window Tapas in la Zona Humeda, 'the wet zone', in the old-town See the true Holy Grail housed in the beautiful Colegiata de San Isidoro Take a trip to ovely Astorga with its Gaudi palace Visit Las Médulas & Ponferrada

#### Historic hotel in the heart of Leon

This very special hotel in a square in the Romantic Quarter in the heart of Leon, just a short walk to the magnificent Cathedral, is full of history and art. Forming part of the outstanding 11th century complex of the Real Colegiata de San Isidoro de Leon and the Panteon de Los Reyes with its amazingly vivid Romanesque frescos, amongst the best preserved anywhere, the hotel was at one time a monastery. The monastery houses the Caliz de Doña ...<u>Read More</u>









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## Stage 3



#### **Region: Salamanca**

Magnificent Salamanca Spain's foremost university town Walking in the Sierra de Francia Gijuelo ham, one of the best in Spain Site of Wellington's famous victory at the Battle of Salamanca and nearby Ciudad Rodrigo Via de la Plata - ancient Roman route linking Sevilla with Gijón on the north coast Arribes del Duero Nature Park - breathtaking catamaran journey on Duero river Wines of Sierra de Salamanca and nearby Toro and Rueda

## Castle amongst the vineyards of

#### <u>Salamanca</u>

The moat is now a lovely walled garden with a glimmering pool, the battlements sunny terraces for guests to relax and take in the views, and the armoury a cool shady patio but in every other way this hotel is a very 'proper' castle indeed. This XV century castle, at various times owned by Ferdinand, the Catholic King, the Duke of Alba and Cardinal Fonseca was declared a monument of national interest in 1931. Looking out over vineyards t...Read More





## Stage 4



### **Region: Northern Caceres, Valleys of Ambroz & Jerte**

Explore the high Sierras of Gredos and Salamanca Lose yourself in the Jewish Quarter of Hervás Valle del Jerte cherry trees by the million – a real treat in Spring! Visit Candelario & Béjar – two true beauties Plasencia – key staging point on the Via de Plata

## <u>C19th Manor house with beautiful</u> garden in the heart of Hervas.

Set in an attractive, peaceful square in the heart of old Hervas, with the former (17th Convento de los Trinitarios next door, this ancestral C19th home, has been sympathetically and lovingly restored to make the lovely, family-run hotel it is today. Just across the way from the town's atmospheric Jewish quarter, the largest in Spain, the dedicated and knowledgeable owners, have created a house of charm and character with taste and quality. ...<u>Read More</u>









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## Stage 5



#### **Region: Central Extremadura**

Ruta de los Conquistadores - Pizarro, Cortés...the conquerors of Latin America Castillo & Plaza Mayor of Trujillo Guadalupe, pilgrimage site - enormous monastery, Cathedral and Zurbaran paintings Caceres, Spain's first listed heritage city Roman Mérida, once capital of Lusitania UNESCO World Heritage Site. Monfrague Nature Park - vast holm and cork oak forests teeming with bird life

#### Palace with a pool in historic Trujillo

Just off the main square in Trujillo this 16th century palace has been converted into a modern and comfortable hotel whilst keeping its historic charm. The location is unbeatable, some rooms having views to the castle, others to the historic square or across the rooftops. In the summer the pool area is a refreshing oasis and enjoys excellent rooftop views. The helpful & friendly staff will make sure you get the most out of your stay in Truj...<u>Read More</u>





### Stage 6



### Region: Badajoz, Southern Campiña

Mérida, some of Spain's finest Roman ruins Paintings of Zurbarán and much more in Zafra la Bella Jerez de Los Caballeros – town of the Conquistadores Discover the "dehesa" grazing for the Iberian pigs Sample the local jamón at Monesterio – simply the best!

### Historic town hotel with pool

Walking into the Hospedería Mirador de Llerena will take you back to the beginnings of the C20th when this beautiful art deco palace "La Casa de Doña Mariana" (the original owner) was built. It stands right in the centre of the interesting old town of Llerena , at one time home to the great Spanish painter Zurbarán, in the south of Extremadura. Spanning two floors, it has been carefully restored to preserve many of its original features - t...Read More









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## Stage 7



#### **Region: Sevilla**

Gateway to the New World & all its riches 3 World Heritage Sites in the Old Town! Magnificent Cathedral & Archive of the Indies Moorish Alcázar Palace & Giralda Tower Thriving Flamenco culture in Triana Soak in the atmosphere of Barrio de la Santa Cruz Savour hand-cut 'jamón' in the wonderful tapas bars

### City hotel at the heart of Sevilla

With three World Heritage Sites within 5 minutes' walk this hotel can truly claim to be at the very heart of Seville - climb to the roof terrace & see just how close the Cathedral really is! The hotel enjoys a privileged position with relatively little traffic in a neighbourhood with some of the best, and most authentic, bars and restaurants to be found anywhere in the city centre. The building itself dates from the 18th century and is clas...<u>Read More</u>









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- a general food and vocab guide
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