

Touring Spain & Portugal

Tailor - made tour by



Description

This tailor - made tour will take you to the south of Spain and the neighbor country, Portugal, specifically to Andalucía, el Algarve, Lisbon and Porto. You will visit some of the most important cities in both countries where to enjoy with delicious and traditional local food and thousand of activities can be made.

Hosted in 3* - 4* hotels or boutique hotels you will get to know the most important cities in Spain including Sevilla, Córdoba and Granada and Portugal including Faro, Lisbon and Porto and some small villages like Jerez, Cascais or Nazare, to mention one. You will find how despite of being so close they are completely different in people, places, food and traditions.

The whole tour has been organized to let you reach each place by public transport and spending time enough on each place.

Everything has been prepared to match all your requirements. However, if you are missing something or you would like to add or quit anything please let me know as this is not a closed pack. We are specialist in Tailor-made tours so fell free to ask for anything you would love to have.

Description

Sevilla is a great town with its beautiful Plaza de España, Giralda Tower and cathedral. It is the capital of Andalusia and the biggest town you will visit. Situated on the banks of the Guadalquivir River, Seville has a rich **Moorish heritage**, and used to be a prosperous **port** that carried out trade with the Americas.

Córdoba, situated in the interior of Andalusia where past and modernity blend in together. This thousand-year-old city, which has the **World Heritage** designation, is a living legacy of the different cultures that settled here throughout its history.

Granada. At the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains, between the rivers Darro and Genil, lies one of the most interesting cities in **Eastern Andalusia**. As well as its impressive Al-Andalus heritage, there are Renaissance architectural gems and the most modern facilities, fit for the 21st century.

Description

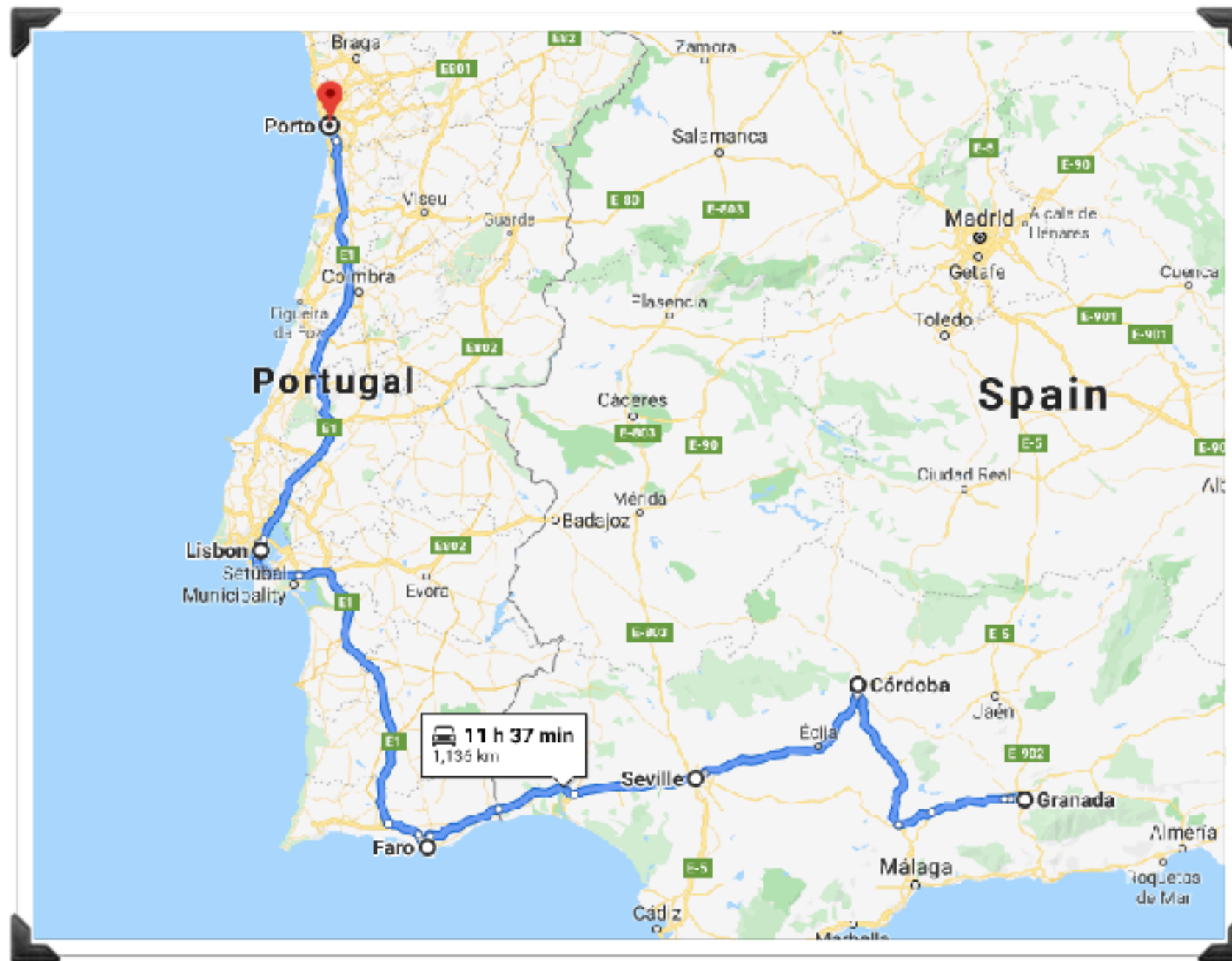
Faro is a historic and culturally rich city that boasts a variety of fascinating tourist attractions. Sadly, Faro is often overlooked, considered purely for its airport, but spend time in Faro, and you will discover a charming and authentic Portuguese city.

Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal's hilly capital, is a coastal city known for its cafe culture and soulful Fado music. From imposing São Jorge Castle, the view encompasses the old city's pastel-colored buildings, Tagus Estuary and the Ponte 25 de Abril suspension bridge. Nearby, the National Azulejo Museum displays 5 centuries of decorative ceramic tiles. And just outside Lisbon is a string of Atlantic beaches, from Cascais to Estoril.

Porto, Porto is a coastal city in northwest Portugal known for its stately bridges and Port wine production. In the medieval Ribeira (riverside) district, narrow cobbled streets wind past merchants' houses and cafes. São Francisco church is known for its lavish baroque interior with ornate gilded carvings. The palatial 19th-century Palácio de Bolsa, formerly a stock market, was built to impress potential European investors.

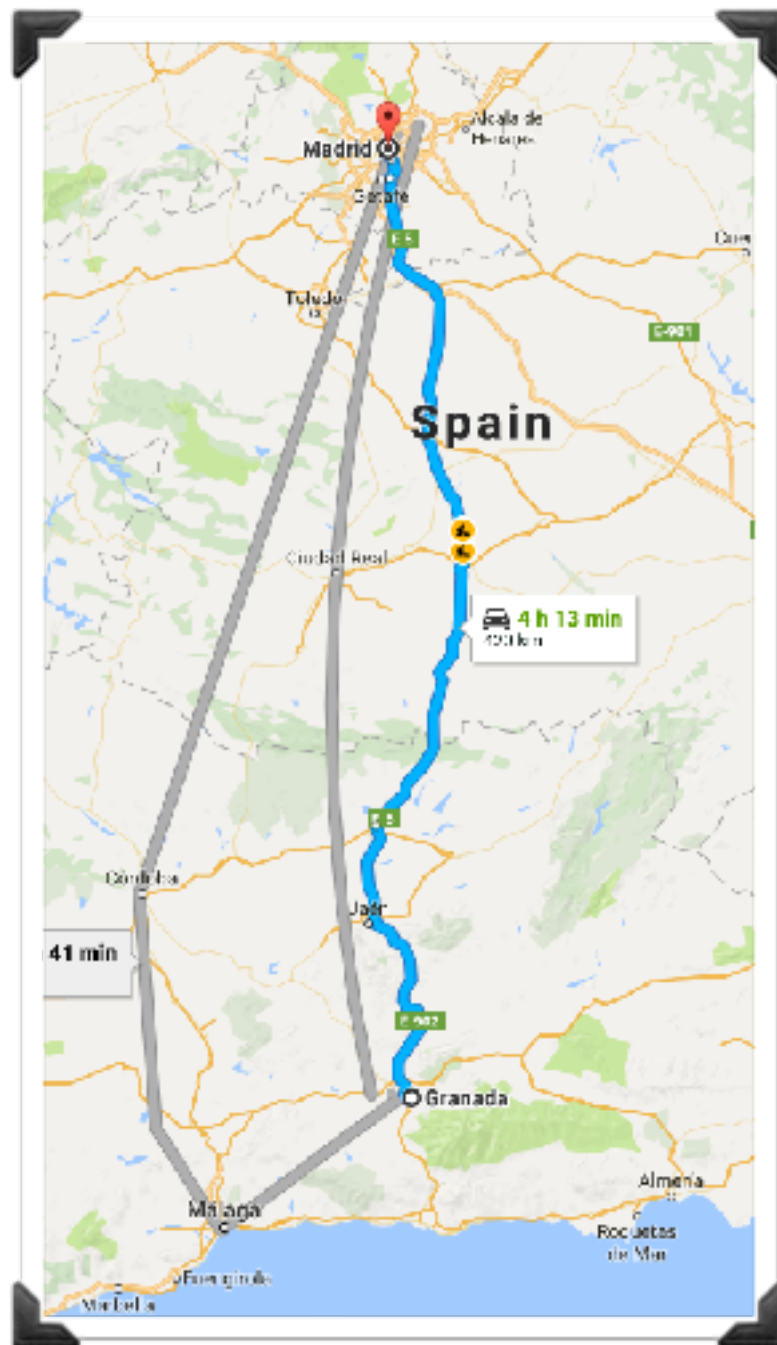
Douro Valley, The Douro is one of the major rivers of the Iberian Peninsula, flowing from its source near Duruelo de la Sierra in Soria Province across northern-central Spain and Portugal to its outlet at Porto.

Route Map



Route Map

Madrid - Granada



3h. 17 minutes

Journey Plan (nov 11th & 12th)

Days 1&2: Arrive in Madrid and get a train to Granada. I'll arrange 2 group tours, one to visit the 2 most emblematic neighborhoods, Sacromonte and Albayzin and another one to visit the Alhambra. Both can be private (should you be interested please ask!).

GRANADA

Granada has an unmistakable Moorish essence, due to the fact that it was the last city to be reconquered by the **Catholic Monarchs** in 1492. The gastronomy, craftwork and urban planning are influenced by its glorious past. Fountains, viewpoints and "Cármenes", houses surrounded by typical gardens of this city, create unforgettable corners in the city. It is no surprise that one of its old neighbourhoods, the Albaicín, has been awarded the **World Heritage** designation, together with the Alhambra and Generalife. It was an important cultural centre for many centuries, under the Moors and the Christians too, and nowadays it boasts a broad **cultural and leisure programme**. Film, music or theatre festivals are complemented with permanent or travelling exhibitions on all fields of knowledge. Old Renaissance palaces hold seminars, conferences and discussions, while the most **innovative infrastructures** are prepared for great events.

Granada has a vast network of accommodation, including historic buildings, such as the old convent of Santa Paula (AC Hotel) and the convent of San Francisco (**Parador de Turismo** located inside the Alhambra), "cármenes" (traditional villas with gardens) in the Albaicín, and cave houses in Sacromonte.

Because of its great communications, its marvellous climate, its beaches, and its snowy mountains, Granada is a unique destination for cultural, adventure and business travel.

Journey Plan (nov 11th & 12th)

GRANADA



Journey Plan (nov 11th & 12th)

GRANADA

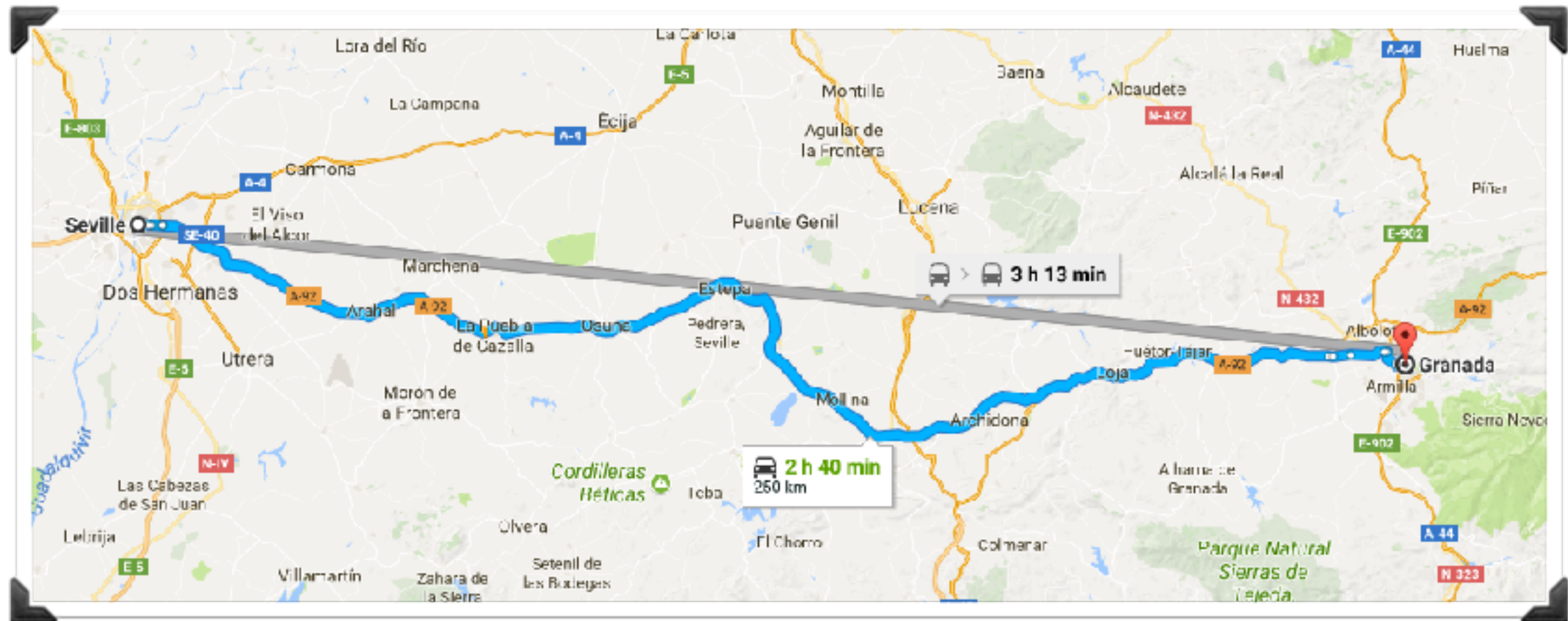
I will arrange a group tour through the Albayzin and Sacromonte neighborhoods and the Alhambra with entrance included. The first afternoon you'll visit the neighborhoods and the following morning you'll visit the Alhambra.

Not to be missed: Free tapas (small portions of food) at any of its many bars (don't miss C/ Navas street for this).



Route Map

Granada - Sevilla



3h. 25 minutes

Journey Plan (nov 13th - 15th)

Days 3-5: Get a high speed train to Sevilla and get a taxi to your hotel. Here you'll be able to visit the tomb of Columbus, but before you'll have a group tour through the city with a local through the most unknown places and a tapas tour where locals go, far from tourists. To visit the main places in town you'll have your guide book that will make it easy. I think you'll get to know this city much better this way.

SEVILLA

The streets and squares in the historic quarter of the capital of Andalusia are lively and busy. They treasure many constructions that have the **World Heritage** designation, and many districts are full of traditional culture, like **Triana** and **La Macarena**.

Seville is a prominent business and service centre in the south of Spain and has many **hotels** distributed all over the city which enable visitors to discover endless attractions. **Museums** and art centres, **theme parks**, cinemas, theatres and clubs are some of the many leisure options that a great city like Seville holds. Without forgetting, of course, the numerous terraces, inns and bars where visitors can practise one of the most deeply-rooted and tasty traditions in the city: "**Going out for tapas**".

Another good excuse to come to the Sevillian capital are the festivals. The celebrations of **Easter Week** and **Feria de Abril** (the April Fair), which have been declared of National Tourist Interest, reflect the devotion and folklore of the people of Seville, always open and friendly to visitors. But Seville's appeal does not end there, as the city is also the starting point for the many cultural routes the province offers, such as the **Roman Bética Route** or the **Washington Irving** route.

The visitor will also discover the immense natural wealth of this region, which sits halfway between two continents, in natural treasures such as the **Doñana Nature Reserve**, declared a World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, and the **Sierra Norte Nature Reserve**. They will be the ideal setting for practising **outdoor sports**, including hiking, horse riding, and cycling routes. If, on the other hand, **golf** is your sport of choice, then you will be glad to know that Seville has four excellent golf courses in its vicinity.

Journey Plan (nov 13th - 15th)

SEVILLA



Journey Plan (nov 13th)

SEVILLA: OFF - THE - BEATEN - PATH GROUP TOUR

Would you like to see another side of Seville? We will take you to places where you will blend in with the locals, where no one will look at you as a tourist or treat you differently. We will take you to an alternative Seville, full of bars, shops, bookstores, art galleries and bohemian corners where you can discover this city from a different perspective.

- Duration: 2 hours
- English and spanish (if spanish speakers join the tour)
- Includes: Local guide + 1 drink per person



Journey Plan (nov 13th)

GROUP TAPAS TOUR

Alameda de Hercules area is known for being the most alternative part of Sevilla and also the bohemian quarter. It is also known as the go-to spot for modern, alternative and non touristic tapas spots. On this unforgettable 3-hour tour, a guide will show you the best tapas bars that only the locals know about. From the most traditional tapas to tapas with a modern twist, all the places will leave you asking for more. In the 1980s this neighborhood was one of the most troubled in the city with a great number of brothels. Today, it is a center for culture and boasts the most alternative atmosphere in the city making it a great place to discover interesting and modern tapas that push the boundaries of this cuisine to new heights.

- - Duration: 3- 4 hours
- - Includes: Guide, 4 tapas and 4 drinks, Information sheet about Seville
- - Languages: English.



Journey Plan (nov 15th)

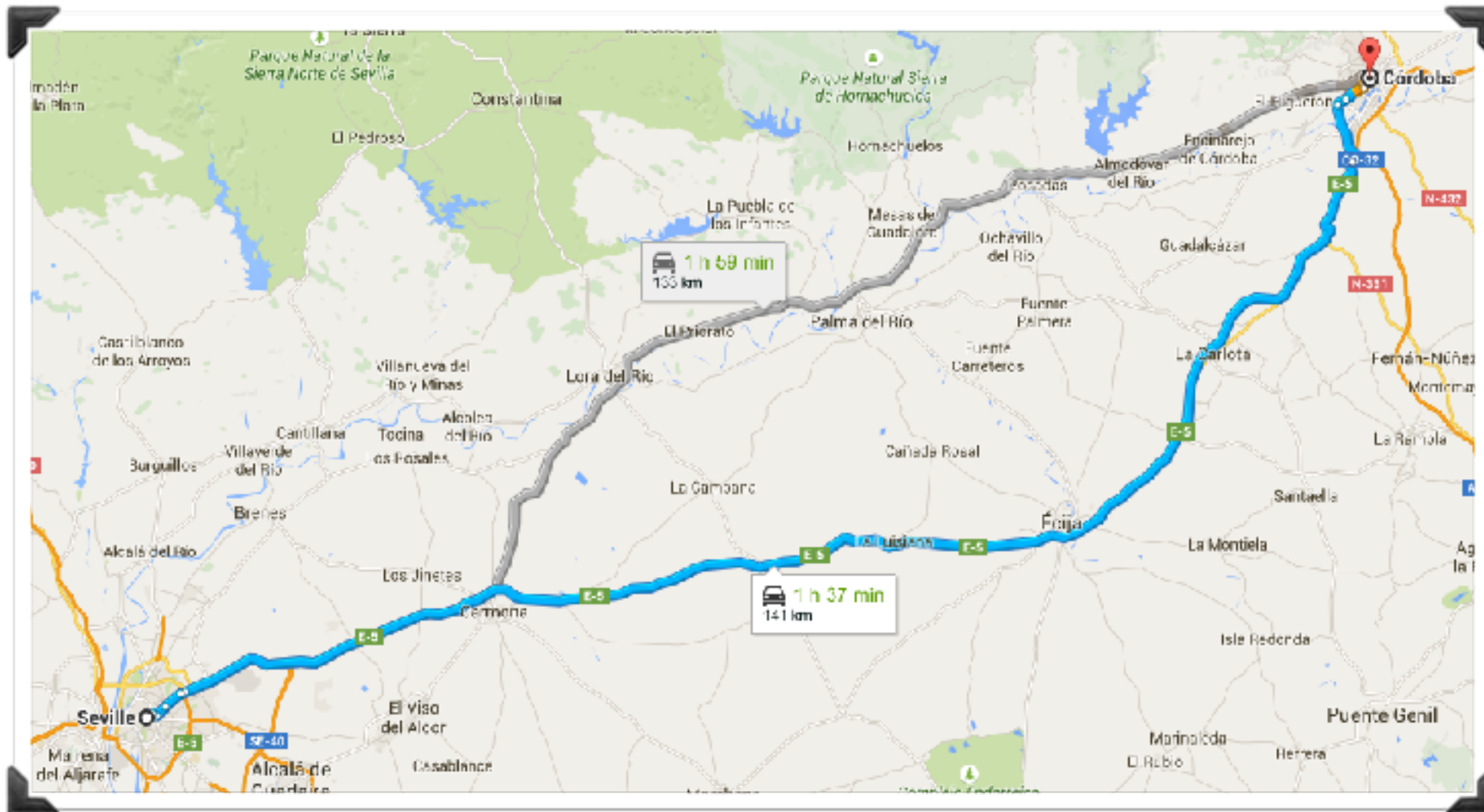
FLAMENCO SHOW

- Flamenco night:
 - I'll arrange tickets to see one of the best Flamenco shows in town.



Route Map

Sevilla - Córdoba



45 minutes

Journey Plan (nov 14th)

Day 5: I'll arrange a group day tour to Cordoba.

CÓRDOBA

Not many places in the world can say they have been the capital of Hispania Ulterior (Further Spain) under the Roman Empire, and capital of the **Umayyad Caliphate**. This splendour can also be seen because of the intellectualism of this city of knowledge, where figures like **Seneca**, Averroes or Maimonides were born.

If you walk round the old quarter you will discover a beautiful network of alleyways, squares and white-washed courtyards surrounding the **Great Mosque-Cathedral**, which reflects the importance of the city in the Middle Ages, and is the symbol of the city.

Without disregarding its splendid past, Cordoba is definitely a modern city that has been able to adapt to the present day, offering the most **modern infrastructures** and services, as well as a large network of hotels.

Very well connected to the other Andalusian capitals, Cordoba also has the **high speed train (AVE)** and a very extensive railway network linking it to all the big cities, like Madrid and Seville. Once inside the city, a large network of **buses** and **taxis** enable visitors to reach any destination in a few minutes.

Cordoba is also synonymous with **art, culture** and **leisure**, thanks to a myriad of cultural events that are organised here throughout the year: Flamenco festivals, concerts, ballet and other activities that are complemented by a number of museums and an exciting nightlife.

Meanwhile, the province is home to important buildings of the **Andalusian heritage**, whose highest expression is the **Medina Azahara**, located on the outskirts of the city. But there is great spectacle also for nature lovers. The parks of Sierra de Cardena in Los Pedroches and Montoro, the Hornachuelos Sierra and Sierras Subbéticas offer the possibility of practising all kinds of open-air sports, while at the same time enjoying the natural wealth of this province.

Journey Plan (nov 14th)

CÓRDOBA



Journey Plan (nov 14th)

CORDOBA

Tour includes:

Full tour through the city of Cordoba. This tour will begin in the Jewish Quarter, where you'll find out the origin of this city and of Sephardic Jews in the Plaza del Cardenal Salazar, moving to the Chapel of St. Bartholomew, the best example of Moorish art in Cordoba. Later, you'll visit the souk, place of manufacture and sale of Cordoba's handicrafts and whose courtyard is set as one of the famous Patios (World Heritage by UNESCO). Then see the synagogue, place of worship for this population and one of the three best preserved in Spain. Finally, you end up seeing the Caliphate Baths, an example of one of the many baths that the Muslims made in this area.

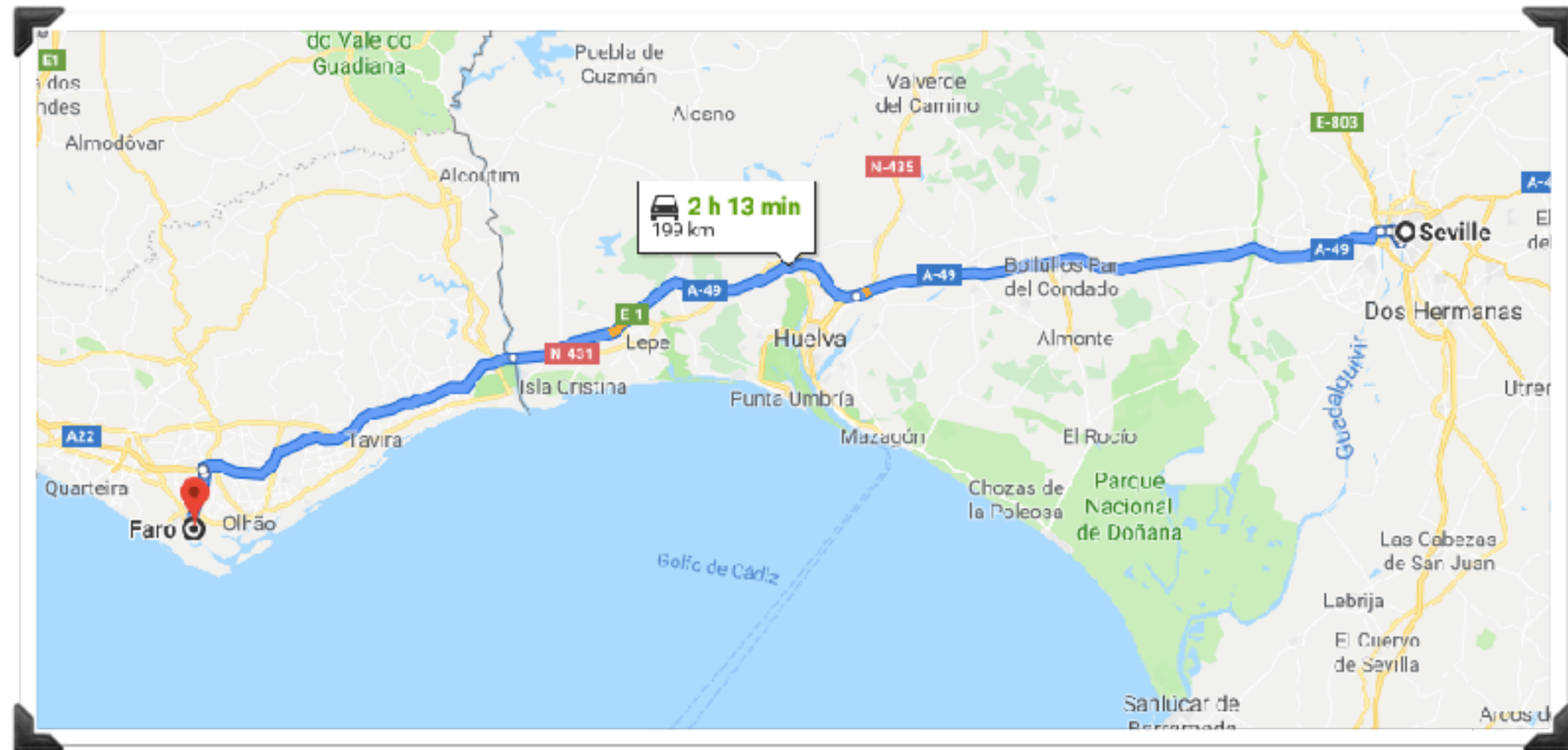
The next part of the tour is the Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos, ancient palace and fortress of the XIVth century and the scene of important events such as the visit of Christopher Columbus. You'll also see Roman elements such as mosaics and sarcophagus, and, of course, impressive gardens.

Finally, you'll enter the Grand Mosque-Cathedral, symbol of Cordoba, whose sequence of arcs of two colors will lead you to an absolute abstraction. You'll be able to delight yourself at the richness of the mihrab and, of course, see inside it the Cathedral built after the Christian conquest.



Route Map

Sevilla - Faro



2h. 30 minutes

Journey Plan (nov 16th & 17th)

Days 6&7: Get a bus to Faro and enjoy the city.

FARO

Faro is a fascinating city, which combines an extensive history, interesting tourist attractions and an abundance of Portuguese charm. Sadly, Faro is often overlooked, considered purely for its airport and being the main point of entry to southern Portugal, but spend time in Faro, and you will discover a wonderful and captivating city.

Within Faro, there is a delightful historic centre that is encircled by ancient city walls, while the pretty city centre is filled with pedestrianised shopping streets and peaceful plazas. By day there is an unhurried ambience about the city, with old men playing dominos in the plazas, but by night there is a surprising buzzing and social nightlife to Faro.

The city is also the gateway to the Ria Formosa nature park, a series of saltwater lagoons and mudflats that are a haven for migratory birds and wildlife. Beyond the Ria Formosa are three sandbar islands, which are the location of Faro's pristine beaches, along with traditional fishing communities.

Faro is a diverse and intriguing city, which will provide you with an authentic Portuguese experience, and deserves to be visited. This article will provide an introduction to Faro, either as a day trip or part of a holiday.

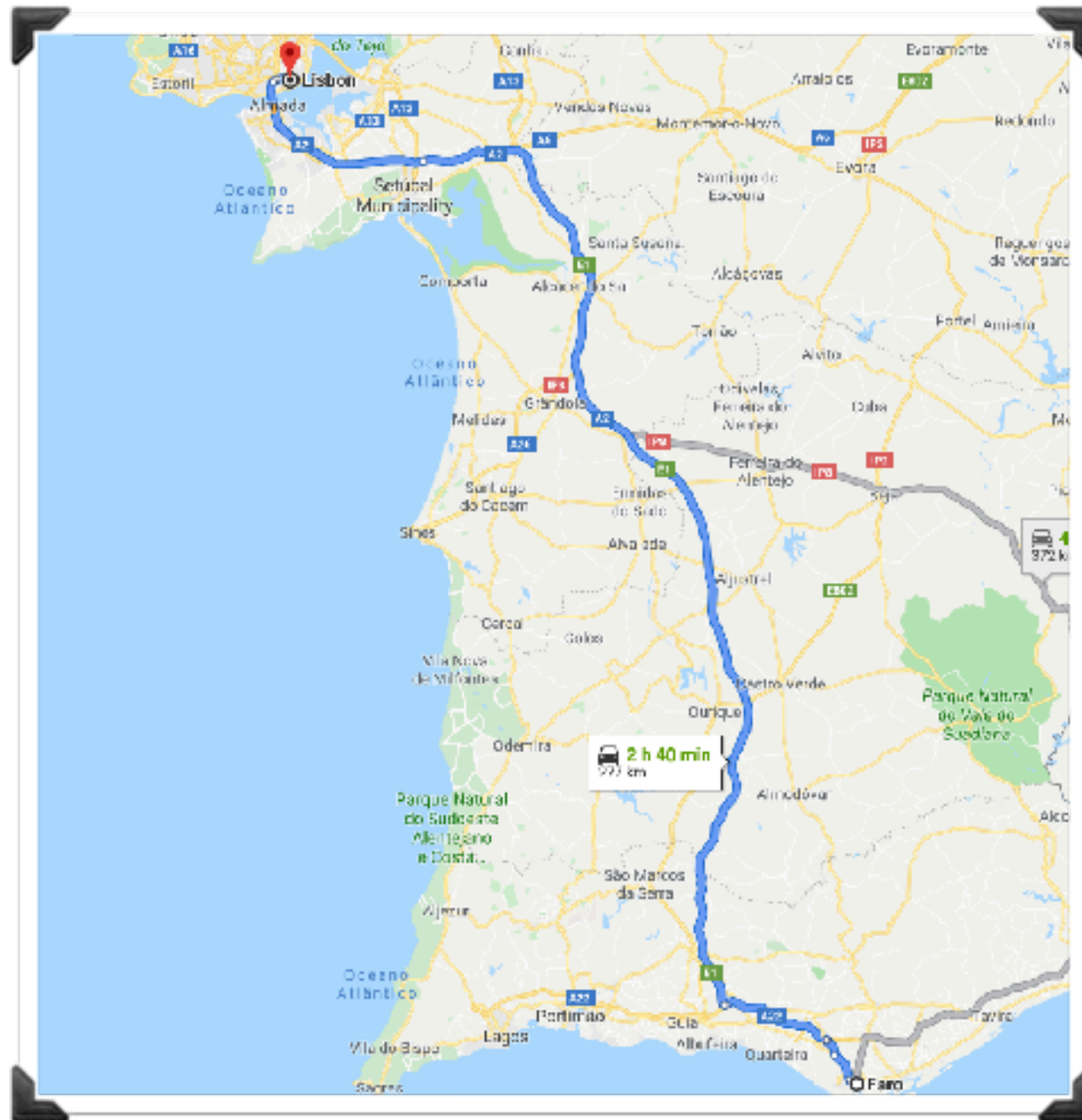
Journey Plan (nov 16th & 17th)

FARO



Route Map

Faro - Lisbon



3h. 34 minutes

Journey Plan (nov 18th - 20th)

Days 8-10: Get a train to Lisbon. Visit the city. Enjoy Lisbon at their own pace. I will arrange some tours you can read ahead.

LISBON

Lisbon is recognized as a global city because of its importance in finance, commerce, media, entertainment, arts, international trade, education and tourism. It is one of the major economic centres on the continent, with a growing financial sector and one of the largest container ports on Europe's Atlantic coast.

The city is the 7th-most-visited city in Southern Europe, after Istanbul, Rome, Barcelona, Madrid, Athens and Milan, with 1,740,000 tourists in 2009.

Lisbon is one of the oldest cities in the world, and the oldest in Western Europe, predating other modern European capitals such as London, Paris and Rome by centuries. Julius Caesar made it a municipium called *Felicitas Julia*, adding to the name *Olissipo*. Ruled by a series of Germanic tribes from the 5th century, it was captured by the Moors in the 8th century. In 1147, the Crusaders under Afonso Henriques reconquered the city and since then it has been a major political, economic and cultural centre of Portugal. Unlike most capital cities, Lisbon's status as the capital of Portugal has never been granted or confirmed officially – by statute or in written form. Its position as the capital has formed through constitutional convention, making its position as *de facto* capital a part of the Constitution of Portugal.

Journey Plan (nov 18th - 20th)

LISBON



Journey Plan (nov 18th)

DINER & FADO

I recommend you go out, enjoy and experience the magic of the Fado, the Lisbon typical song, considered World's Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO.

The food is not the most important thing in these places but the spectacle of Fado. Some recommendations:

- Coracao de Alfama
- Esquina de Alfama
- Aviela do Fado
- Parreirinha de Alfama
- Mesa de Frades



Journey Plan (nov 19th)

PRIVATE TOUR: SINTRA, CABO DA ROCA & CASCAIS

Take a day to head to a natural park just 25 minutes outside of Lisbon.

Our AMBASSADOR will give you an overview of both the Unesco World Heritage sites of Sintra, but also some less known spots to enjoy the beautiful natural scenery of the magical moon hill.

A drive by some beaches and a stop in Cabo da Roca, to take in the views over the rough Atlantic Ocean followed by a scenic drive along the coast of Cascais and Estoril will make a great escape, at your own pace.



Journey Plan (nov 20th)

PRIVATE TOUR: FÁTIMA, TOMAR & ALMOURO CASTLE

For believers... or not! A trip to the famous catholic sanctuary of Fátima is always a highlight of any trip north of Lisbon.

After the blessings in the morning we will take you on a drive to Tomar, a wonderful place where to highlight its great aqueduct among many other churches and palaces.

To end this tour you'll visit the amour castle.



Journey Plan (nov 21st)

PRIVATE TRANSFER & TOUR LISBON - PORTO WITH STOPS IN NAZARÉ & ÓBIDOS

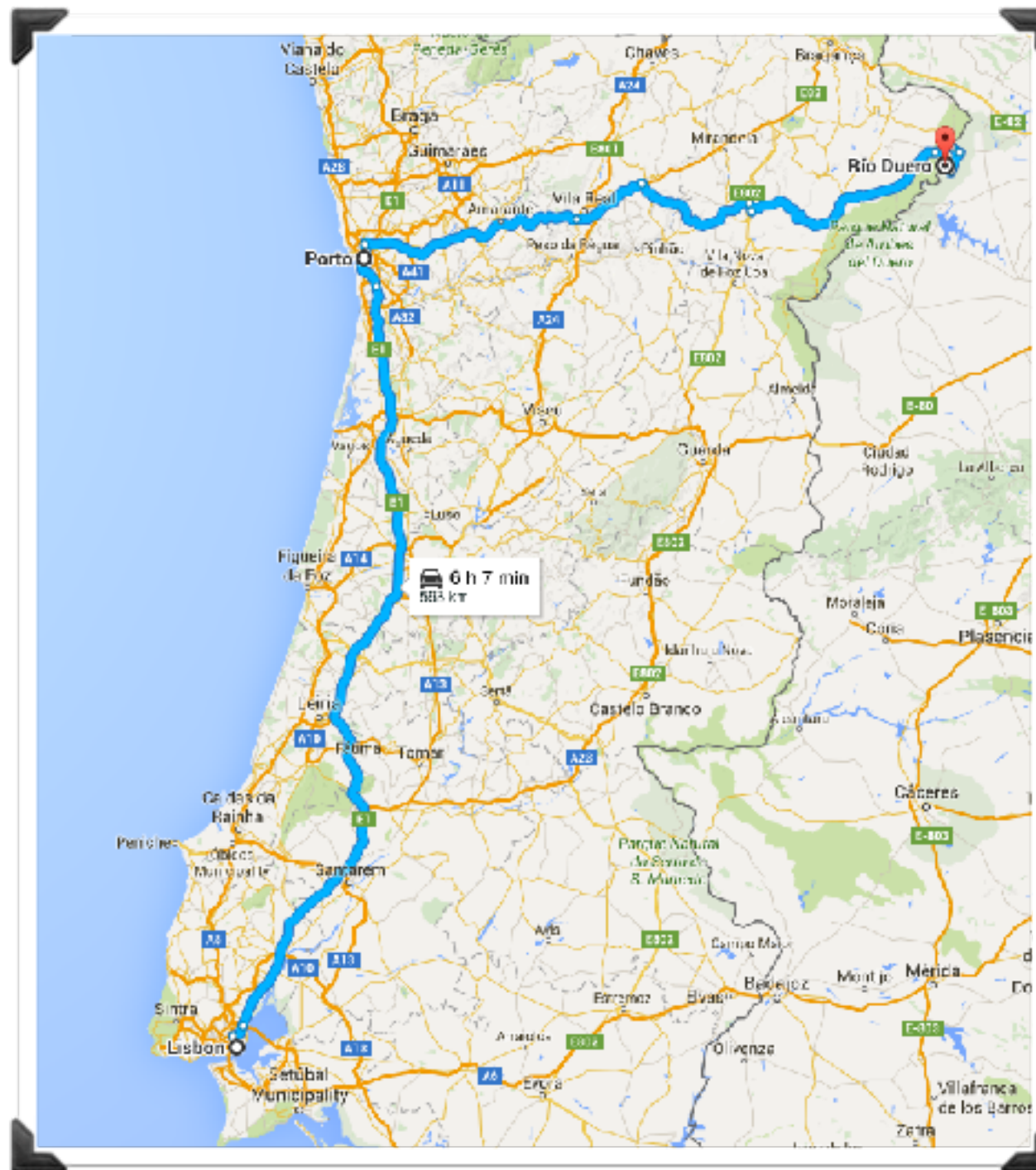
For believers... or not! A trip to the famous catholic sanctuary of Fátima is always a highlight of any trip north of Lisbon.

A private transfer will pick you up at your hotel in Lisbon and will take you to Porto with a couple of stopovers:

- 1.- Nazaré. This is now a mecca for extreme surfers searching for the wave of their lives, but also a paradise for seafood lovers.
- 2.- More ocean views away from the crowds and a stop in the medieval walled village of Óbidos will make you want to pray for more.



Route Map



Journey Plan (nov 21st - 23rd)

Days 11-13: Arrive in Porto with the transfer + stopovers mentioned in previous slides. I'll arrange some tours as described ahead for you.

PORTO

Porto, is the second-largest city in Portugal, after Lisbon, and one of the major urban areas in Southwestern Europe.

Located along the Douro river estuary in Northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European centres, and its historical core was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996. The western part of its urban area extends to the coastline of the Atlantic Ocean.

Its settlement dates back many centuries, when it was an outpost of the Roman Empire. Its combined Celtic-Latin name, Portus Cale, has been referred to as the origin of the name "Portugal", based on transliteration and oral evolution from Latin. In Portuguese, the name of the city is spelled with a definite article ("o Porto"; English: *the port*).

One of Portugal's internationally famous exports, port wine, is named for Porto, since the metropolitan area, and in particular the *caves* of Vila Nova de Gaia, were responsible for the packaging, transport and export of the fortified wine. In 2014, Porto was elected *The Best European Destination* by the Best European Destinations Agency.

Journey Plan (june 21st - 25th)

DOURO VALLEY & PORTO



Journey Plan (nov 22nd)

GUIMARAES & BRAGA

Take a day to know more about Portugal's foundation history in our birth city of Guimarães. This is one of the regions with the youngest population of the country but it carries old traditions and legends.

Then, within a short drive, we'll take you to the district capital - and arch-rival city - of Braga. The old and modern merge well in the middle of the greenery of the landscape, and in the shadows of two important religious sites.



Journey Plan (nov 23rd)

AVEIRO & COIMBRA

A day south of the river Douro will take you from the venice of Portugal to the renowned city of knowledge, Coimbra.

From the sea salt production, iconic Art Nouveau buildings and egg cream explosion in Aveiro to the traditions of student life in one of the oldest universities in the world, you'll be able to take in so much in just one day that you'll be graduated with distinction by our Ambassador.



Journey Plan (EXTRA DAYS)

NOT INCLUDED BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Once in Porto they should visit the **Douro Valley area**, popular for its wines but of great beauty with natural landscapes and amazing atmosphere. Please read ahead a plan for 3 days to visit this area and taste some of its wines visiting boutique wineries and staying in boutique hotels. Should you be interested please ask!!

Journey Plan (EXTRA DAYS)

DOURO VALLEY - ITINERARY

Day 1: Douro Wine Region: Gastronomy & Wineries

Departure to *Douro*, one of the most beautiful **wine regions** of the world, full of spectacular landscapes with the vineyards washed by the river Douro and the most exclusive and elegant Wineries where red, white and the delicious Porto wines are produced.

Accommodation in a Hotel in Lamego

Guided visit & Wine tasting in an elegant winery with beautiful river views

Free time for lunch in the beautiful old town of **Lamego**.

Dinner in the Restaurant of the Hotel. **Portuguese cuisine** made with organic fresh products.

Day 2: Alto Douro Wine Region: Boat trip & Wineries

Breakfast in the Hotel

We will spend the day in “Alto Douro”, the most beautiful area of the Douro wine region, declared as Human Heritage by the Unesco

Guided visit & Wine tasting in an elegant **Winery** surrounded by an amazing scenery with vineyards and the river Douro

Accommodation in a Hotel in Pinhao

Free time for Lunch

Boat trip along the river **Douro** in a traditional Portuguese boat called “Rabelo”, where the wine used to be transported in the past

Guided visit & Wine tasting in a beautiful **Winery** with spectacular river views Dinner in the Hotel

Day 3: Last steps in Douro Wine region

Guided visit & Wine tasting in an amazing Winery. It includes a fun visit to the spectacular vineyards by Jeep

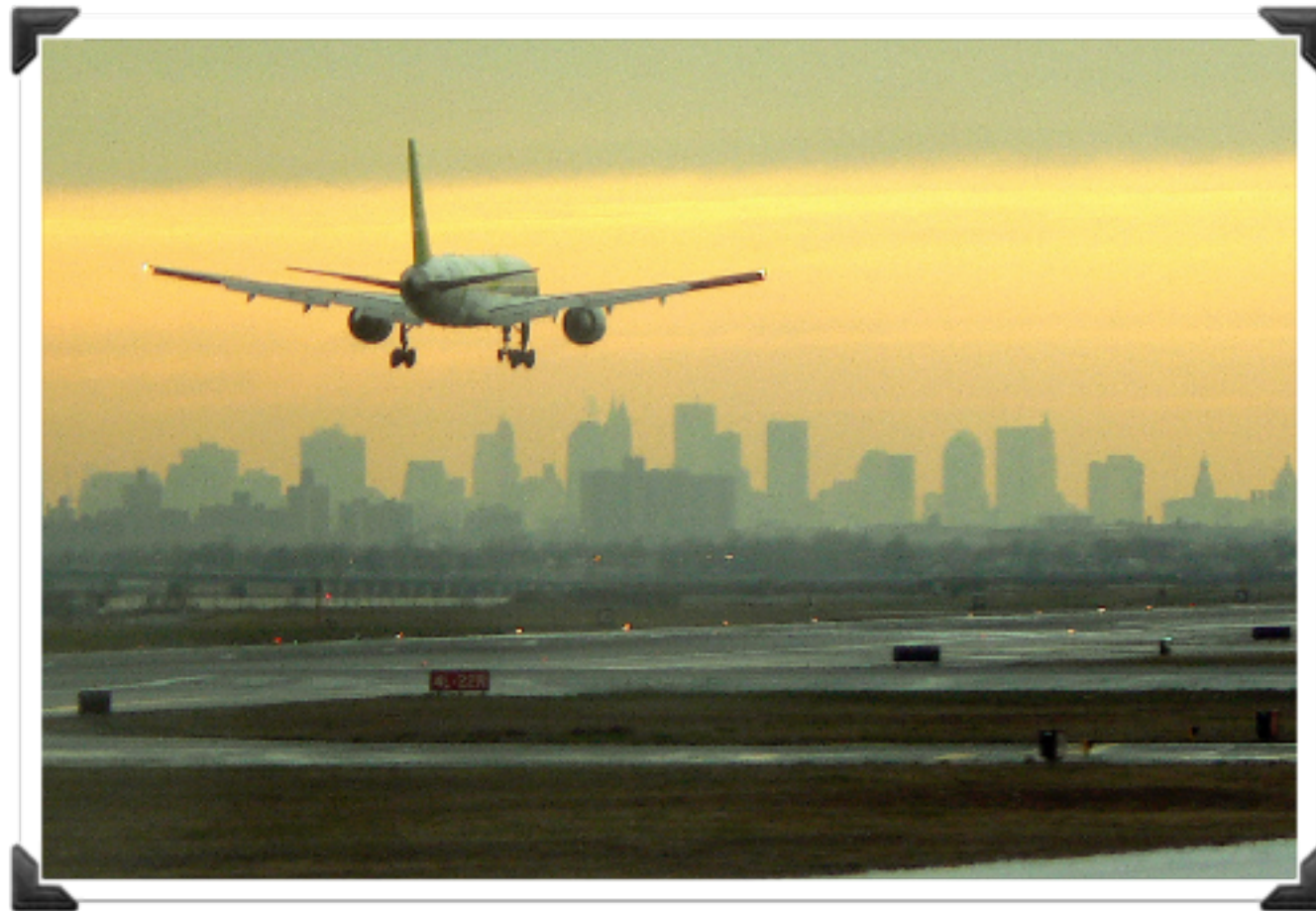
Lunch in a Restaurant with **traditional Portuguese cuisine**

Stop and free time to visit the medieval town of **Torre de Moncorvo** Accommodation in a Hotel in Torre de Moncorvo

Dinner in the **Restaurant of the Hotel. Portuguese cuisine.**

Journey Plan (nov 24th)

Day 14: End of trip.



Next steps to be done

Please **check the whole** route and tell me if you are missing something you would love to have, do or visit and I will include it or quit it.

If you want to enjoy any special local food as please tell me where and I will book the best restaurant for you.

Check the number of days in each place. Although I have planned this so you can spend time enough in each place to figure out how the town is, you maybe want to extend some days at some location. Please let me know and I will include it.

Our service include a **complete guide book** with your entire route, maps, places to visit, things to do, where to eat and drink, what to eat and drink, etc... so you can enjoy the north of Spain as if you were a spanish traveling around.

What's included

- Train Madrid - Granada
- **3* boutique hotel in Granada. Breakfast included. 2 nights.** (Double room - restored palace dating from 1503)
 - Group guided walking tour through Albayzin and Sacromonte neighborhoods.
 - Group guided tour through the Alhambra.
- Train Granada - Sevilla
- **4* boutique hotel in Sevilla. Breakfast included 3 nights.** (Double superior room - quaint 18th-century building with an Andalusian patio)
 - Group guided walking tour through Sevilla: off the beaten paths.
 - Group guided tapas tour in Sevilla: off the beaten paths.
 - Group guided tour: Córdoba.
 - Flamenco show
- Bus Sevilla - Faro
- **4* hotel in Faro. Breakfast included. 2 nights.** (Double room - in front of the marina)

What's included

- **4* hotel in Lisbon. Breakfast included. 3 nights.** (Double room - in the city center)
 - **Private tour:** Sintra, Cabo da Roca & Cascais
 - **Private tour:** Fátima, Tomar & Almouro castle
- **Private transfer Lisbon - Porto** with stopovers in Nazaré & Óbidos.
- **4* hotel in Porto. Breakfast included. 3 nights.** (double room with river views - in front of the Douro river)
 - **Private tour:** Aveiro & Coimbra
 - **Private tour:** Guimaraes & Braga
- Complete and comprehensive **guide** with your route, maps, what to see, etc.. so you miss nothing.
- **24/7 emergency contact number.**
- **Good-bye pack**

BUDGET 1 (bank transfer)

3599 euros/pp* = 5794,39 AUS dollars/pp* (2 people)

BUDGET 2 (credit card secure payment)

3599 euros/pp* = 5794,39 AUS dollars/pp* (2 people)

BUDGET 3 (paypal secure payment)

3775,35 euros/pp* = 6078,31 AUS dollars/pp* (2 people)

* pp = per person

* exchange rate 11/08/19 —> 1 eur = 1,61 AUS dollars

* These prices may vary after one week (11/15/19). Valid except typo.

Awards

Luxury Travel Guide - Service Excellence of the Year (2016) winner

LuxuryTravelGuide
GLOBAL AWARDS 2016
- WINNER -



Luxury Travel Guide - Bespoke Tour Operator of the Year (2017) winner

Luxury Travel Guide - Exclusive Tour Operator of the Year (2018) winner



Awards



Travel & Hospitality Awards - Tour Company of the Year (2018) winner

LUX Magazine - Global Excellence Awards (2017) - Best for Premium Customized Tours winner



LUX Life Magazine - Spain's Leading Destination Specialists of the Year (2018) winner

Luxury Travel Guide - Exclusive Tour Operator of the Year (2019) winner



Thank you

All our tours are made to suit all your needs and requirements. This one has been organized on a 2 person basis in double rooms sharing.

This trip has been planned starting in Granada and ending in Porto.

If you want to read some of our client's comments about us and our services click [here!](#)

We are specialists in CUSTOMIZED tours so I will adapt this presentation for you as many times as we need until you get exactly what you are looking for.



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