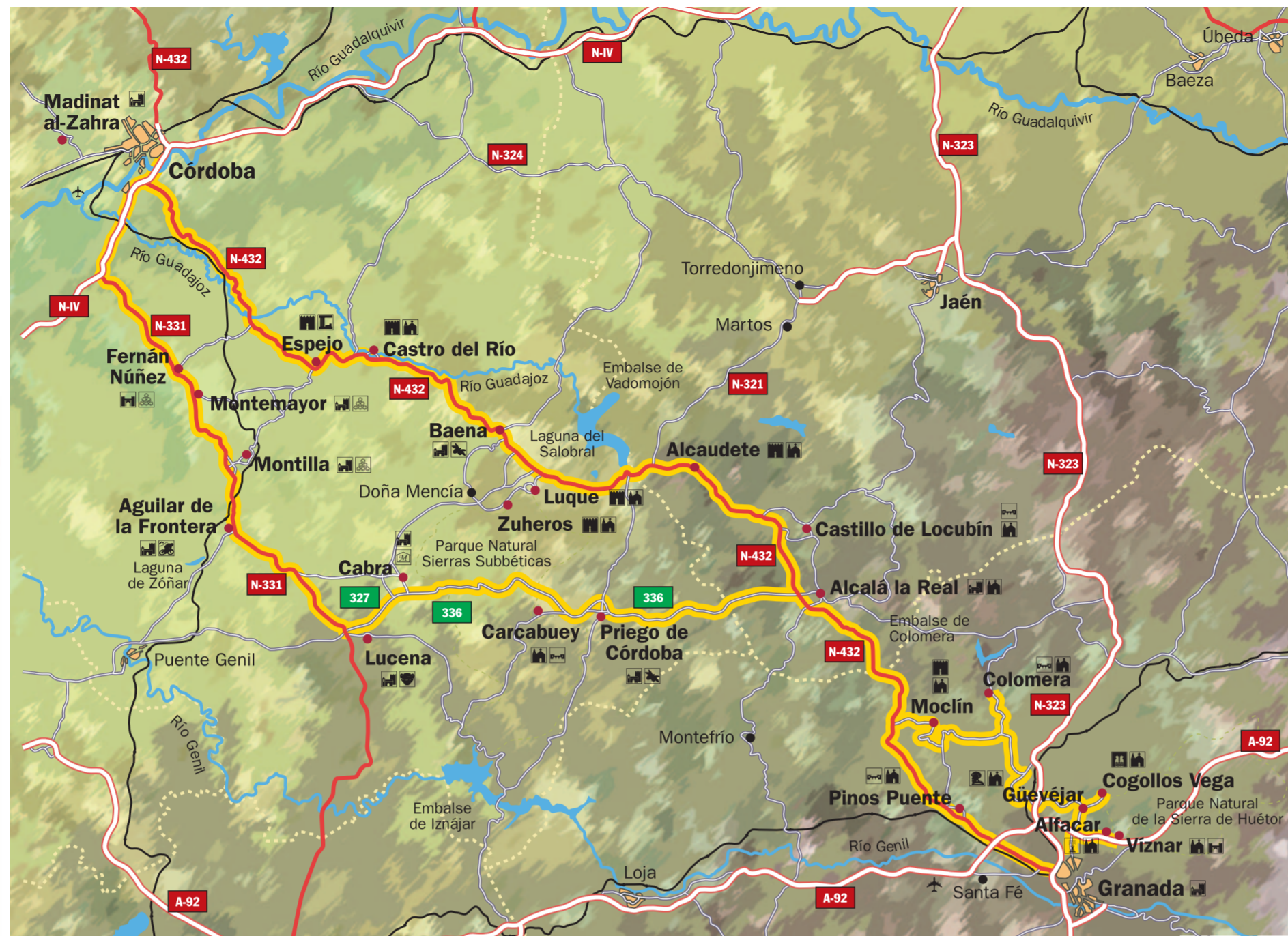


The Route of the Caliphate



It stretches between the two most significant cities in Hispano-Muslim history, Córdoba and Granada, encompassing the frontier region of Jaén. They were two magnificent cities that thrived during two great centuries. Córdoba's influence extended globally, while Granada was refined and dramatic. They represent the contrasting ends of al-Andalus' immense cultural, political, and social heritage, a civilization with unique and unrepeatable features. Between both cities, lies a land filled with legends, garrisons, watchtowers and castles, along with remarkable towns, people and customs. The Route of the Caliphate connects two large geographical depressions -Guadalquivir and Granada-through valleys that traverse the southern sierras. The route is defined by the presence of two mountain ranges: Sierra Morena in the province of Córdoba and Sierra Nevada in the province of Granada. During the reigns of the Umayyad caliphs, the territory along this route was encompassed by three provinces or *coras*: Córdoba, Cabra, and Ilbira. These provinces were integral to the splendour of the Caliphate in Córdoba, which was the foremost center of learning in the Western world during that era. It served as the backdrop for the adventures and tales immortalized in medieval Spanish romances.

The Route of the Caliphate runs between Córdoba and Granada along the roads N-432 and N-331, approximately 180 km (112 miles). On the way, it crosses the Guadalquivir valley, the sierras and the fertile plains of Granada



El legado andalusí

The Iberian Peninsula went through one of the most privileged periods in its history during the Muslim era, which resulted in a brilliant civilization. During this time, Andalusia became the cultural centre of Europe and the link between East and West.

The Routes of El legado andalusí trace the historic paths that once linked the kingdom of Granada with the rest of al-Andalus. This itinerary offers travellers the chance to revel in breathtaking landscapes, savour delectable cuisine, and unleash their imagination by transforming past events into a vibrant present experience.

Corral del Carbón, Granada, Spain. Headquarters of El legado andalusí Andalusian Public Foundation.



ROUTES AND DISTANCES

The journey between Córdoba and Granada is more or less 180 km (112 miles) long. Starting in Córdoba, it splits in two: the main road northwards along the road N-432 in the direction of Baena and other towns, follows the more popular and traditional route from the Guadalquivir valley towards Granada. The southern route winds along N-331 and other roads, through various towns, such as Lucena and Priego. Both ways join up again at Alcalá la Real, from there through Moclín to Pinos Puente and other towns in the plains of Granada, till the outskirts of the Nasrid capital are finally reached.

LANDSCAPE

This route includes several most remarkable landscapes, such as Sierras Subbéticas Cordobesas Natural Park with the main rocky outcrops in this area: La Tiñosa, Pico Bermejo, Lobatejo and El Picacho peaks. Further along the way there are Sierra de Moclín and Sierra Elvira and the Natural Park of Sierra de Huétor, that appear to act as the advance guard to the northern slopes of Sierra Nevada.



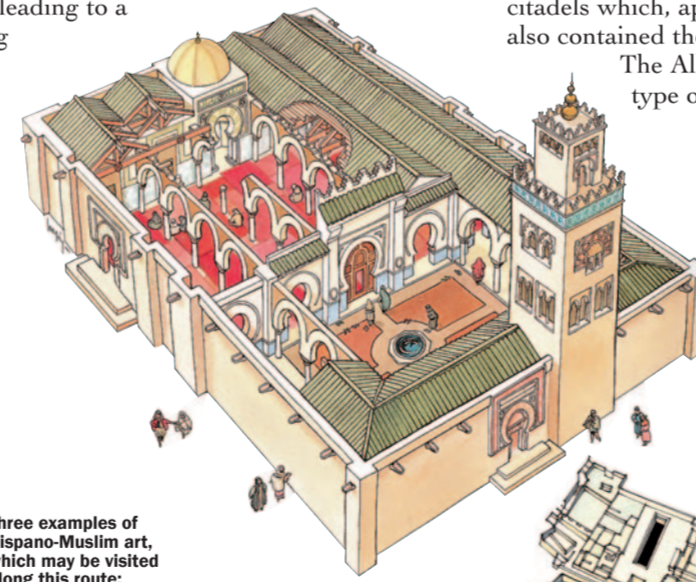
ARCHITECTURE

FROM THE MOSQUE TO THE ALHAMBRA

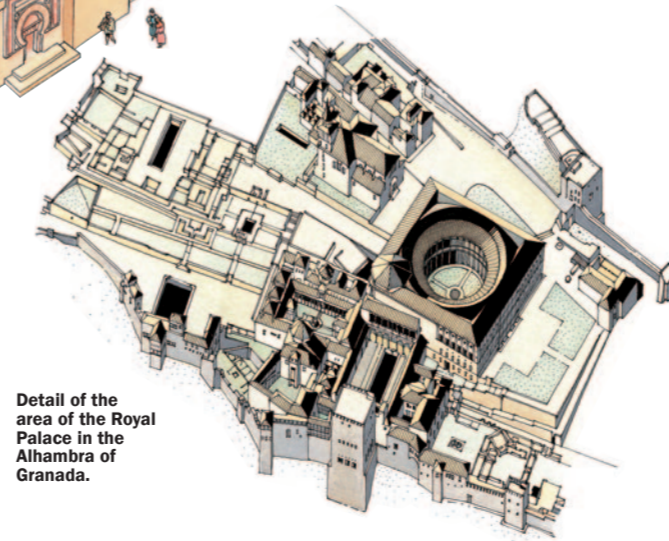
The mosque was the core of daily life in Hispano-Muslim cities. Prayer, teaching, administration of justice and social relations all went on inside or around the mosque. There were three distinct elements: tower, courtyard and hall of prayer. The *muezzin* called the faithful to prayer from the tower or minaret. Ritual ablutions were carried out in the courtyard or *shan*. The hall of prayer, or *liwan*, was an open rectangular space, leading to a wall, *al-qibla*, facing Mecca. In the middle of that wall was the

mibrab –an empty niche that indicated the direction of prayers. The principal mosque or *aljama* was situated in the centre of the town and of its trading quarter, the *medina*. Not far, were the *madrasa* or school of studies and the *alcaicería* –a series of lanes with shops that offered the most valuable wares. The mosque in Córdoba is the foremost example of Andalusí mosques. Apart from these religious and civilian buildings, there were the *alcazabas* (citadels) and *alcázaros* (fortresses). They were fortified citadels which, apart from providing the military elements, also contained the rulers' palatial quarters.

The Alhambra is an exceptional example of this type of fortified citadel.



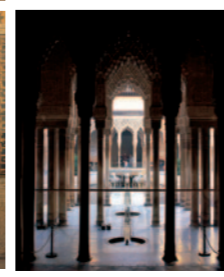
Reproduction of a mosque, like many of those found along this route from Andalusí times.



Detail of the area of the Royal Palace in the Alhambra of Granada.



Three examples of Hispano-Muslim art, which may be visited along this route: Madinat al-Zahra above, the Mosque in Córdoba and the Alhambra in Granada.



GASTRONOMY



OLIVE OIL

The olive tree and olive oil –symbols of peace, prosperity and knowledge– are substantial elements of the people who live on the shores of the

Mediterranean, birthplace of civilizations that marked long periods of history. There are signs of this precious green-gold liquid squeezed from olives all along this route. It is a vital activity in the area, where the abundant production comes under the designation of origin of oil from Baena and Priego and provides the opportunity for tasting some of the best varieties in the world.



FOOD

Along this route, the traveller can savour a variety of flavours that have stood the test of time, from ancient seasonings, marinades and cooking

techniques. The local cuisine preserves cultural traditions, with recipes rescued from old Arabic and Hebrew manuscripts. Among the most popular dishes are *salmorejo* (creamy tomato soup), artichokes "a la montillana", oxtail, and *flamenquines* (ham and meat stuffed rolls). Also delightful are *Pastel Cordobés* and *vaspiros de Almanzor* ("Al-Mansur's sighs"), from the pastry selection.



WINE

The area of Montilla-Moriles in the province of Córdoba produces some excellent wines: *fino*, *oloroso*, *amontillado* and

dulce, made from Pedro Ximénez grapes, which are widespread throughout the area. They are delicious with various kinds of sausages, as well as with deserts. There are also a few smaller wine-producing areas in the province of Jaén.

HANDICRAFTS



The province of Córdoba can still boast the highest number of artisans in an age when both workshops and trades are fast disappearing. The quality of cordovan leather work and pottery was already praised

in times of Charlemagne, and the visitor can still find fine examples today. Jewellers are particularly flourishing nowadays in Córdoba, with goldsmiths and silversmiths, as well as setters and engravers who produce some very attractive pieces. Various villages along the route also produce pottery, wood-work and wrought-iron workshops, that are well worth visiting.

TRADITIONAL FEASTS

There is a full calendar of feasts along the Route of the Caliphate throughout the year. *Cruces de Mayo* are famous in Córdoba, and so is Corpus Christi in Granada; and then each town or village celebrates its own feast, such as the original celebration of *Cristo del Paño* in Moclín, the pilgrimages of Nuestra Señora de la Sierra in Cabra and Nuestra Señora de Araceli in Lucena, without forgetting the processions of *colibrancas* and *colinegros* during the Holy Week in Baena, as showed in the illustration below.



The Routes of
El legado andalusí
Cultural Route of the Council of Europe

Route of the Caliphate

From Córdoba to Granada



Information Points

CÓRDOBA Centro de Recepción de Visitantes. Turismo de Córdoba Plaza del Triunfo s/n. Tel. 957 469 707 - 902 201 744	MONTILLA Oficina Municipal de Turismo Castillo de Montilla. Calle Iglesia, s/n. Tel. 957 652 354 - 672 780 521	MOCLÍN Ayuntamiento. Plaza de España, 1 Tel. 611 429 789
ESPEJO Ayuntamiento. Plaza de la Constitución, 5. Tel. 957 376 001	AGUILAR DE LA FRONTERA Oficina de Turismo. Plaza de San José, 2. Tel. 957 688 055	COLOMERA Ayuntamiento. Avenida Virgen de la Cabeza, 9. Tel. 958 387 011
CASTRO DEL RÍO Punto de Información Turística (Ayuntamiento) El Mirador de la Artesanía. Plaza San Fernando, 1. Tel. 957 943 081 - 652 880 894	LUCENA Oficina de Información Turística. Palacio de los Condes de Santa Ana. Calle San Pedro, 42. Tel. 957 533 282	PINOS PUENTE Ayuntamiento. Calle Real, 121. Tel. 958 450 136
BAENA Oficina Municipal de Turismo. Calle Virrey del Pino, 5. Tel. 606 704 354	CABRA Oficina Municipal de Turismo. Calle Mayor s/n. Tel. 957 523 493	COGOLLOS VEGA Centro de Interpretación y Punto de información de Cogollos Vega Plaza Llanete, s/n. Tel. 958 409 044 - 680 570 497
ZUHEROS Oficina de Información Turística. Plaza de la Paz, 2 Tel. 957 694 545	CARCABUEY Oficina de Turismo. Calle Majadilla, 1. Tel. 957 704 140	ALFACAR Ayuntamiento. Plaza de la Constitución, 7. Tel. 958 428 001
FERNÁN NUÑEZ Centro de Participación Ciudadana (Punto de Información Turística). Calle Miguel Hernández, 9. Tel. 957 382 124	ALCAUDETE Oficina de Turismo de Alcaudete - Centro de Recepción de Visitantes Plaza de Santa María, s/n (Junta Iglesia de Santa María) Tel. 953 560 304 - 633 763 629	ALFACAR Ayuntamiento. Plaza de la Constitución, 5. Tel. 958 543 304
MONTEMAYOR Casa de la Cultura. Calle Juan Pedro Carmona, 6. Tel. 953 102 717	ALCALÁ LA REAL Oficina de Información en Palacio Abacial Carrera de las Mercedes s/n Tel. 953 582 077	GRANADA Oficina de Turismo de la Junta de Andalucía. Plaza Nueva. Santa Ana, 4. Tel. 958 575 202
	CASTILLO DE LOCUBÍN Ayuntamiento. Calle Blas Infante, 19. Tel. 953 591 364	ALFACAR Oficina de Información Turística del Patronato Provincial. Calle Cárnel Baja 3. Tel. 958 247 128
	ALCALÁ LA REAL Oficina de Información en Palacio Abacial Carrera de las Mercedes s/n Tel. 953 582 077	GRANADA Oficina Municipal de Información Turística. Ayuntamiento de Granada. Plaza del Carmen s/n. Tel. 958 248 280

Fundación Pública Andalusí
El legado andalusí
Calle Mariana Pineda s/n. Corral del Carbón. 18009 Granada, Spain.
Telephone: +34 958 225 995.
www.legadoandalusi.es - info@legadoandalusi.es



CÓRDOBA



On the banks of the Guadalquivir river, this is a lively town, the provincial capital city that provides the usual infrastructure and utilities, as well as overseeing agricultural production – particularly olive groves and vineyards. History establishes it as a summit of wisdom and knowledge. It was already of utmost importance under the Romans; it was where the philosopher Seneca and the poet Lucan were born and it was the capital of *Hispania Ulterior*. It became the capital of the Umayyad Caliphate, where peoples from three different cultural traditions –Muslims, Jews and Mozarabs– lived peacefully together and contributed to the recovery of the classical culture of ancient Greece and retrieved it for Europe through its scholars, such as Averroes and Maimonides. Under Abd al-Rahman III, Córdoba became the centre of civilization, a bridge between east and west. Such a dazzling past has left its mark in wonderful buildings. The Mosque, one of the most remarkable works of art of all times, World Heritage, represents the essence of a city that receives visitors with open arms. Not far away, the remarkable ruins of the palatine town Madinat al-Zahra can be found.

FERNÁN NÚÑEZ

This medieval town dates back to the latter half of the 14th c. It owes its name to one of the beneficiaries of the distribution of land following the Christian conquest. It became quite well-known in the 17th c. as a result of the enlightened minds of the local lords. The ducal palace, begun in 1785, is worthy of note; it still has some remains of the medieval fortress that was the origin of the town. The parish church of Santa Marina de Aguas Santas is a magnificent example of baroque architecture, built around a 14th c. tower. The local festivities revolve around 18th July and the *Feria Real* (royal fair), held in August.



MONTEMAYOR



This is a fortress town with a view over low cultivated countryside. It may well have existed in the year 2000 BC, though the actual settlement dates from 1340, built around a medieval castle. The church of La Asunción is a blend of Gothic and Mudejar, with later reforms. There are several hermitages in the neighbourhood, as well as the remains of the castle of Dos Hermanas, originally Muslim.

MONTILLA

The village and castle of Montilla was awarded as a suzerainty in 1257 by Alphonso X. In 1508 Ferdinand the Catholic ordered that it should be demolished and part of the remains were used



to begin building the church of Santiago. The church of La Encarnación, begun in 1681, is considered a historical monument of national interest, and so is the Convent of Santa Clara by the architect Hernán Ruiz, finished at the beginning of the 18th c. It houses a valuable collection of works of art. The house of

El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, the house of San Juan de Ávila and the palace of the dukes of Medinaceli are to be found there. Montilla is famed above all for its wines that carry their own designation of origin and some of its *bodegas* (wine cellars) may be visited. The grape gathering festivities are held at the end of August - beginning of September, during which the grapes are pressed in the old way. The wines include *fino* (similar to sherry), *amantillado* (dark golden colour and strong aroma) and *oloroso* (matured white wine).

AGUILAR DE LA FRONTERA

This town was a municipality already under the Romans. During the Muslim occupation, it became known due to the Muwallad (Spaniard who adopted the Muslim religion) rebellion of Umar ibn Hafsun in the 9th c. Right on the road from Málaga to Córdoba, it became an important fortress town and remained so until the end of the Middle Ages. Some remnants of the wall and towers from its Andalusí past can still be found on the rocky outcrop known as the Peñón del Moro, which overlooks the town. The village square of San José is one of the few polygonal squares in Spain.



LUCENA



The first mention of this town goes back to the 9th c. to the effect that it was inhabited by Jews. Held by the Almoravids, it was economically prosperous and culturally advanced. The parish church of San Mateo, a National Monument, is possibly the original mosque that, in turn, might have been built over a synagogue. The reformed castle stands in the Plaza Nueva and is famous for having served as a prison to Boabdil, last monarch of the Nasrid kingdom of Granada, captured at the battle of Lucena.

CABRA

This is an area where the largest number of archaeological sites have been found in the province of Córdoba, with remains that go as far back as the Paleolithic Age. The castle of the Counts of Cabra was first a Roman fortress and afterwards, Muslim. The parish church, which has forty-four red marble columns, was built over the old mosque. The source of the Cabra river is not far away.



CARCABUEY



Settled in the limits of the Subbéticas mountain ranges, this town from Córdoba has been marked by the passage of numerous civilizations due to its condition of frontier town. *Karkabal*, the ancient Arab designation that means mountain pass, is towered by the parish church of La Asunción and by a medieval castle. It offers the visitor many alternatives for enjoyment, such as its gastronomy and festivities.

PRIEGO DE CÓRDOBA

Throughout history, this town has always been strategically relevant. The historian Ibn al-Khatib stated that in 745 the Egyptian soldiers who had entered the Peninsula settled in *Bago* and built fortresses among the high surrounding hills. *Bagub*, the Arabic name for Priego, probably grew out of one of these fortresses. In the year 889 it became the operation centre for Ibn Mastana, one of the leaders of the Muwallad revolt, who proclaimed himself lord of Priego and Luque. The



town was finally conquered by Alphonso XI and it was not until 1502 when real progress began and a great many buildings were put up. From its Andalusí past there are, among others, the castle that was later reformed by the Christians, the Barrio de la Villa (La Villa quarter), the original centre of Priego with Arab and medieval features, the Alfár (potter's workshop), and several watchtowers in the vicinity. Other monuments are the late Gothic church of La Asunción, dating from the 16th c., restored later in the 18th c. following a baroque model. The churches of La Aurora and San Francisco also stand out. Fuente del Rey is a characteristic feature of the town and a National Monument. There are some pleasant excursions near Priego, the road to Las Lagunillas for example, at the foot of Sierra Horconera, leading to La Tiñosa, the highest peak in the province (1,570 m. asl), to El Cerezo and to the Pico Bermejo gullies. A typical dish in Priego is *ajo blanco* (garlic soup) and meatballs made with fresh anchovies.

ESPEJO



The outline of its castle on top of a hill can be seen from some way off, overlooking the valley of the Guadajoz river. There are quite a few Iberian and Roman remains in the area. The thick powerful walls were put up by the Caliphs of Córdoba. The parish church of San Bartolomé is quite interesting, and so is the large house of the Dukes of Osuna. It is possible to find excellent and traditional confectionery in some of the bakeries, such as *mastabochos* or *cajados*.

CASTRO DEL RÍO



Its history goes hand in hand with the castle, which is a common feature of "frontier" villages (the frontier between Muslim and Christian territories). The origins are suspected to be pre-Roman: there are a few remains of the old wall that used to surround the highest part of the Barrio de la Villa. The front of La Asunción church is plateresque, eroded by the passing of time. The local Fair of Santiago is held between 25th and 27th July and it also includes the pilgrimage of Nuestra Señora de La Salud and the Cattle Fair.

BAENA

This town seems to be a compendium of Andalusian history since pre-Roman times. The place-name *Bayyana* comes from the Hispano-Roman owner of the villa, someone called *Baius*. On arrival of the Muslims in the 8th c. this was an active military, administrative and agricultural centre. The old part, called Almedina, still has an Arabic air. The castle was begun in the 9th c. and enlarged during the Caliphate and the Christian conquest. Subsequently it became the summer palace for the lords of Baena who in the 16th c. were great patrons and, therefore, responsible for the town's most outstanding buildings. The church of Santa María la Mayor is flamboyant Gothic and there are references to it in the 12th c. when it was a mosque before being turned into a Christian church in the 14th c. Nowadays, it is a delightful building with three splendid façades and some lovely chapels. It was reformed after the earthquake of 1681. Another remarkable building is the church of the convent of the Dominican nuns, dating from the 16th c. that contains marble statues, carved frameworks and paintings such as one by Zurbarán, another by Sánchez Coello and two by Bassano. El Coso square is a pleasing composition and a good example of the old part of the town, that is also the centre of a large area of olive groves that produce an excellent type of virgin oil under its designation of origin; a visit to the installations of Núñez de Prado Olive Oil and its traditional press is quite interesting. Holy Week is a popular feast, with its processions of *judíos caliblanco*s and *judíos colinegro*s (white-tailed and black-tailed Jews). The former also participate in the pilgrimage of La Virgen Blanca de la Alegría at the end of June.



ZUHEROS

A Muslim-founded town, it rises at the foot of a rocky mountain range that gave it its name, *Subayra*, which means "rock." It is one of the most charming and picturesque towns in Cordoba. The 9th c. castle is perched on top of one of these



enormous rocks. Not far away is Cueva de los Murciélagos (bats' cave), with rock paintings and an outstanding vantage point over this extraordinary landscape.

LUQUE



Right in the middle of the Sierras Subbéticas Natural Environment, the inevitable castle stands out, built by Mohammed I in the 9th c., and rebuilt by the Nasrids in the 13th c. The parish church started out Gothic and ended up being Renaissance. Among the most popular dishes in this area is stewed kid.

ALCAUDETE



This town is in the countryside of the province of Jaén, surrounded by olive trees, orchards and vineyards. It was a Visigoth settlement when Tarik took it in the year 715 and the Muslims settled around a Roman tower. Centuries later, the principal church of Santa María was built not far away, and it is an interesting catalogue of superimposed styles. There are many excursions to be enjoyed in the area, such as to the neo-Gothic cemetery, the hermitages nearby, Parador del Conde, park of La Fuensanta and the rivers San Juan and Víboras.

CASTILLO DE LOCUBÍN



From *Hun al-Ughin*, there are still some visible remains of Las Águilas castle at a place known as La Villeta, consisting of a group of white houses from where there is a wide view over the countryside. From this point there are excursions to Encinahermosa, that has Ibero-Roman remains; a horse or a bicycle ride will lead the traveller to Ventas del Carrizal among orchards, poplars and farm houses, to Sierra Martina and to the source of the San Juan river.

ALCALÁ LA REAL

It is one of the richest towns in Andalusí heritage, deriving its name from the Arabic word *Qalat*, meaning fortified town. Situated on the border, it holds significance as a gateway to the Guadalquivir Valley and the Vega of Granada, symbolized by a key at the centre of its coat of arms. The key to this door was already known by prehistoric settlers, Iberians, Romans, and finally the Arabs, who made their own for over six hundred years and shaped the city's layout around its prized jewel, the fortress. Alcalá reached its Andalusí pinnacle in the 12th century before falling, after changing hands alternately, under the Christian rule. It was from here that the Catholic Monarchs embarked on their journey to receive the keys to Granada. Alcalá was also the key to the border defensive system, interconnected with the castles of Alcaudete and Locubín, as well as a network of watchtowers, many of which are still preserved. Within the Fortress of La Mota, there are two distinct sections:



the alcázar and the abbey church. The alcázar, along with its three towers (Campana, Mocha, and Homenaje) surrounding a courtyard, formed the military enclosure of the ancient Muslim city settled in La Mota. The walls feature embedded cliffs and rocks, with seven access gates where the town expanded. The abbey church of Santa María la Mayor, located on a castle's esplanade, showcases Plateresque Renaissance architecture. Inside the nave, remnants of the original Gothic church, tombs, crypts, and two Roman cisterns have been uncovered. The former mosque, now known as Santo Domingo de Silos church, was established in 1341 and later renovated by Maximilian of Austria. The Archaeological Museum, located in the historic center, is housed in the Abacial Palace. The patron saint festivities of Santo Domingo on December 20th commemorate the conquest of the old Arrabal by Alphonso XI. On August 15th, during the feast of the Virgin of August, a procession takes place with 12,000 illuminated torches.

COLOMERA



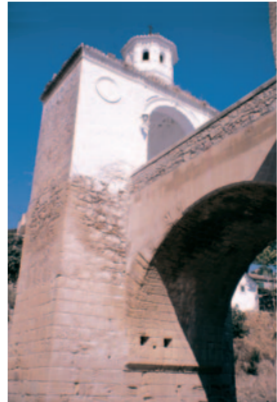
Only 25 km (15.5 miles) from Granada, located among pastures, this old Roman settlement was known as *Columbarium*. In Muslim times, it was a farmstead known as *Qalunbayra*, and only little remains of the old fortress. It was taken by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1486. The church of La Encarnación was built at the beginning of the 16th c. and is a mixture of Gothic, renaissance and mudejar. Nearby, a Roman bridge and a necropolis can be found.

MOCLÍN



It used to be an important location in the defensive system along one of the branches of the Route of the Caliphate. During the 14th and 15th centuries its history witnessed a series of conquests, reconquests, exchanges and truces. The castle, dating from Nasrid times, has two clearly distinct areas. The best-preserved one is the first one at the bottom, which includes an access tower. The second area is the citadel. In the lower part of the first area we find the Church of Cristo de El Paño, founded by the Catholic Kings and the renaissance *Casa del Pósito* (granary). There are various pleasant excursions to be made in the vicinity to outlying watchtowers within the defense system, such as Torre de la Porqueriza, some 3 km (1.8 miles) away, Torre de Mingoandrés on the hill of the same name and Torre de la Solana. Main road 452 through Tierra, upwards on the way to Moclín, offers a wide view of Sierra Nevada, La Almiijara, Harana and the fertile plains of Granada. There are also prehistoric remains near *Cueva del Malalmuerzo*, *Corcuela* and *Tózar*.

PINOS PUENTE



Its origins are related to the Ibero-Roman town of *Illuro*, nearby. It has always been mentioned as the provider of farm produce to Granada. It is known for being the place to which Columbus returned when he was recalled by Queen Isabella when he was already on his way to offer his services in France. The bridge at Pinos is a Visigoth construction dating from the 7th c. –one of the few still extant. There are several interesting bicycle rides in the area.

GÜEVÉJAR



Mention of this locality goes back to the 8th c. BC and in Arabic it was known as *Wabaar*, described as a farmstead by Ibn al-Khatib. The settlement was abandoned after the *Moriscos* (converted Muslims) rebellion against Philip II. The surrounding land produces olive oil, good wine and home-made pork sausages. Traditional dishes include *gachas picantes*, *choto en ajillo*, *cordero a la caldereta* and *migas con melón*.

COGOLLOS VEGA

Another farmstead in the area of the plains of Granada, houses some Arab baths in the southern part of the hamlet. It offers splendid views, being located in Sierra de Huétor, where trekking, mountain climbing and hang-gilding are possible.



ALFACAR



This was the place chosen by the Zirid kings for leisure. It lies in the mountainous depression to the north of Granada, 915 m. asl. In the 10th c. it was mentioned as "the potter's hamlet" or "the clay hamlet". In the 14th and 15th centuries it is mentioned by Ibn Battuta and Ibn al-Khatib. There are many flour mills and numerous bakeries that still exist. Its fame is due to the bread baked there, to the quality of the water and to its attractive location.

VÍZNAR



This hamlet was originally created when the engineering works were carried out for taking water from Fuente de Aynadamar along an irrigation channel to the Albayzín quarter in Granada, under the Nasrid dynasty. This channel is still extant, having undergone some slight changes. The Palace and the Church of El Cuzco, dating from 18th c. stand out.

GRANADA

Its privileged location between the Mediterranean coast and the upper Guadalquivir river, between the East coast and southern Andalusia, crossroads of historical paths, its unique landscape, the contrast between the peaks of Sierra Nevada and the subtropical environment of the coastal regions, have joined the successive civilizations in order to shape the modern city of Granada.

It is the end of the Route of the Caliphate and the common destiny to all the routes of El legado andalusí. Being the capital of the last of the Muslim kingdoms in the Iberian Peninsula, the patrimony of Granada encloses the memory of eight-centuries of Hispano-Muslim civilization inside the Alhambra palaces, a civilization that is unique for its distinctive features and constitutes one of the most valued treasures of mankind. Granada captivates the visitor through the enchantment irradiated by the palace fortress of La Alhambra, quarters with an indelible Andalusí stamp such as the Albayzín, a wonderful framework of walls, *carmenes* (andalusi houses and courtyards), palaces and ancient mosques, along with a fabulous and amazing repertory of monuments of all kind, such as the Cathedral, the Royal Chapel, the Madrasa, Corral del Carbón, Cartuja...

