

Dossier

from the province of Seville

**SEVILLE.
LEARN.**

**LIVE.
ENJOY.**

Andalucía

**SEVILLE. LIVE.
LEARN. ENJOY.**

**Turismo
de la Provincia**
DIPUTACION DE SEVILLA



Dossier from the province of Seville

1 THE PROVINCE	4	4 CUISINE	28
Andalusian profiles	4	Emotion for the palate	28
Tradition and vanguard	5	Tapas	29
Arriving in Seville	6	From the field to the kitchen	29
Accommodation	7	One ingredient in a thousand dishes	30
By train	8	Flashes of gold, bitter skin	30
By river	8	Wines and spirits, now and always	31
The comfort of the bus	9	Winery culture	32
A city for two-wheelers	9	A sweet province	32
		A new philosophy	33
2 HERITAGE AND CULTURE	10	5 AND, ON TOP OF THAT	34
Milestones in History	10	Other ways of feeling	34
Cradle of emperors	11	Spaces adapted to all ideas	34
Traces of the life within the city	12	Ideal for leisure and business	35
Baroque art, past and present	12	Talking, learning	36
World Heritage Site	13	Lights, camera, action	36
Monumental heritage in the province	14	Industrial legacy	36
Interpreting the surroundings	15	Seville for every age	37
Palace-houses	16	At nightfall	37
Flamenco universe	16		
On History's stage	17	6 MAPS	38
Religious festivals	17		
Christmas	17		
Paths of Passion	18		
World capital of Easter	18		
Bullfights	19		
Fairs: fun and tradition	19		
3 NATURE AND LANDSCAPE	20		
The land speaks	20		
Natural paradises	21		
Horse riding tourism	22		
Golf: sport, nature and tradition	22		
Birding tourism	23		
Seville on two-wheelers	24		
Exploring paths and trails	25		
Action & Adventure	26		
Taking to the skies	27		
Fun in the water	27		



Church of San Luis de los Franceses, in Seville.

A treasure in the South



Fernando
Rodríguez
Villalobos

President. Seville
County Council

Welcome to Seville. You will never be able to close the door to emotions that you are about to open. Happy memories and soul touching experiences can never be forgotten. That is precisely what we want the travellers who visit this land, and the inhabitants who dwell within, to feel. Indeed, we have set our heart on achieving this. **Passion.** It is all about shared passion.

This document seeks to be **a tool that tourism professionals** can use to access in a direct and rigorous manner the numerous attractions that make the province of Seville a favourite destination for travellers. This document also seeks to become a medium for chronicling the emotions that will inevitably flare up when you feel an indelible love for any of the 105 Sevillian towns, which share the passion of history and look forward to the future that the younger generations are building and developing.

Here begins a journey that winds its way through six counties nestled between rivers and hills, and reflects the historical events that celebrated the name of Seville worldwide, and the ideas that plunged its inhabitants onto the blank pages of the future. The journey also highlights the daily **life** of Sevillian towns and cities, bearers of Andalusia's identity. Indeed, the face and soul of Sevillians reflect their pride in belonging to the South.

The province of Seville is not a hidden treasure on a map. It is **open to the world**, and to travellers who must run the risk of feeling how time come to a standstill in its streets and fields, who want to trap forever every moment lived.

The **journey** begins on the next page. All aboard!

Andalusian profiles

Bounded to the north by latitude 38°, and to the south by latitude 37°, **the province of Seville and its people have been shaped throughout its history by its geographical position.** It is located less than two hours by road from the Atlantic and Mediterranean coast, the Portuguese border and the historical enclaves of Cordoba, Cadiz or Merida to the north.

The territory, which is divided into six counties and 105 towns with a strong Andalusian identity, is proud of belonging to the South. This pride is reflected in the way of being (and living) of **its nearly two million inhabitants**, one-third of which live in the capital.

Natural and cultural attractions go hand-in-hand in a province with more than **300 monuments** of unquestionable historical relevance.

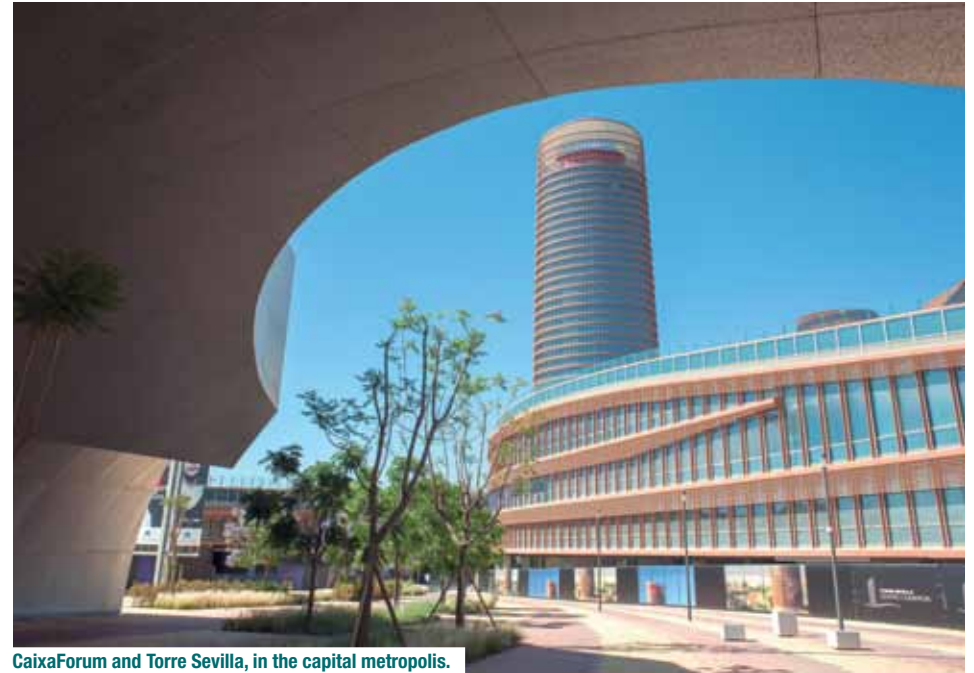
From the dolmens at Valencina de la Concepción and the ancient city of Italica to the forward-looking role of the aerospace industry, travellers will gaze upon more than five millennia of history,

in an environment in which water plays a crucial role in the landscape and in life itself.

Its most emblematic river, the **Guadalquivir**, is also a means of transport for thousands of cruise passengers who arrive each year in the heart of the capital. Rivers are also an inexhaustible source of fun for people of all ages who practice sports in **breath-taking natural environments**.



Plaza de España, Seville.



CaixaForum and Torre Sevilla, in the capital metropolis.

TRADITION AND VANGUARD

Owing to the legacy of monuments and archaeological sites left by different civilizations, and natural landscapes found across the territory, tourism has become a major economic driver of the province of Seville.

Industries other than tourism, such as agro-food production, and in particular

olive oil, fruits and rice, underpin the Sevillian economy.

Furthermore, the business fabric has diversified towards state-of-the-art technologies, with start-ups engaging in the transfer of knowledge to the technological sector, including aeronautics and biotechnology.



ARRIVING IN SEVILLE

Its historical status as a crossroads and melting pot of cultures has now been translated into convenience and versatility for anyone travelling to the Sevillian, and Andalusian, capital.

San Pablo International Airport handles five million passengers a year, which makes it a major air transport hub in Andalusia, second only to Malaga Airport. The airport, located within the metropolitan area, is one option for arriving by plane. However, its proximity to other airports, including **Jerez de la Frontera**, **Malaga**, or even **Faro** in Portugal, increases the number of flight connections with virtually the whole world.

The traveller has other transport options, including the railroad. Andalusia is criss-crossed by local and regional **trains**, as well as the cutting-edge **high-speed train**, which has made Spain



an international benchmark in recent years. **Suburban trains** are an excellent option also for travelling within the province, and even between different districts within Seville.

Furthermore, if the traveller is looking for leisurely romanticism through a beautiful landscape, he or she may prefer to use the excellent **network of roads and highways** to travel to Seville

from anywhere in Europe and discover the myriad attractions of this province.

With mild winters and hot, dry summers, the cities and natural areas scattered across Seville's six counties are virtually sun-washed the whole year, encouraging direct contact with the ever-fresh and amazing natural sites located in higher grounds. ■

Seville Airport:
www.aena.es/es/aeropuerto-sevilla/index.html





Osuna.



Hotel Alfonso XIII.

ACCOMMODATION

Seville has more than 35,000 hotel beds in the province, of which 24,000 are located in the capital. Accommodation ranges from small, boutique hotels to large, luxury hotels, including campsites, rural lodges and tourist apartments.

+
Catalog of Seville
Hotels



+
Catalog of Hotel Accommodation of the Province



+
Catalog of Non-hotel
Accommodation of the
Province



1 | THE PROVINCE



Train station Santa Justa in Seville AVE.

BY TRAIN

The AVE (Spanish High Speed Railway) is an excellent option to reach Santa Justa Station, the urban heart of the capital. The AVE links Seville with Madrid in 2 h 30 m, Cordoba in less than 45 minutes, Barcelona in 5 h 30 m, and Valencia in 4 hours. Furthermore, the expanding network enables new connections with other Spanish and, even, European cities like Paris.

Regional trains are another interesting option for travelling to Seville from other places in Andalusia, or, as in the case of local trains, to travel within the province.

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High Speed Train: http://www.renfe.com/viajeros/larga_distancia/

Regional trains: <http://www.renfe.com/viajeros/mediadistancia/>

Local trains: <http://www.renfe.com/viajeros/cercanias/sevilla/>

BY RIVER

The River Guadalquivir is navigable from its mouth to the city of Seville. The new locks to accommodate larger vessels, and the on-going maintenance works on the navigation canal, have consolidated Seville as a port of call for cruise liners and recreational crafts.

The tourist boats that navigate along the docks that engulf the city's old quarter, connecting Seville to Triana are an excellent choice to get a full picture of Seville, as are the cruise liners that sail down the River Guadalquivir to its mouth at Sanlúcar de Barrameda.

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Port of Seville: www.apsevilla.com

Puerto Gelves: www.puertogelves.com



Tourist cruise in the port of Seville.



Bus station Plaza de Armas.

THE COMFORT OF THE BUS

Seville has two strategically placed bus stations, located to the east and west of the historic city centre. Both stations, Plaza de Armas and the Prado de San Sebastián, have daily interurban, interprovincial, national and even international connections. The Prado de San Sebastián station is also considered intermodal, as it links with the surface tram (MetroCentro) and Seville's underground metro that serves the city of Seville and its metropolitan area.

In addition, the city has an extensive fleet of buses and boasts efficient hourly urban bus services that connect one of the largest cities of Spain to all destinations in the area.

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Bus station Plaza de Armas: autobusesplazadearmas.es

Urban transports of Seville and station of the Prado de San Sebastián: tussam.es

Metropolitan Transport Consortium: www.consorciotransportes-sevilla.com

A CITY FOR TWO-WHEELERS

In less than ten years, Seville has made it to the top of urban bicycle use statistics. With over 140 kilometres of bike lanes in the inner city, and over 70,000 daily trips, the city has become a true global icon for two-wheelers. This has been made possible by its flat terrain and mild climate throughout the year. Tram, metro, and urban and metropolitan buses make for an efficient, ecological and responsible transport network widely used by citizens.

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Public bicycles: www.sevici.es



Milestones in History

The civilizations that populated Seville over three millennia not only shaped the towns and countryside where crops were grown and battles were fought, or the hills from which ashlar were brought to build colossal cities, but also left a legacy of artistic and cultural heritage.

It can be argued that the territory, with the province as its core area, was stable and organised **since the 5th B.C.** under the Turdetans, a people directly related to the **Tartessians**, the first Western civilization.

Many historians argue that the Romanisation process of the Iberian Peninsula began in the Guadalquivir Valley with the founding of the city of Italica.

The splendour of the Roman Hispalis lasted until the Barbarian invasions in 4th century, which obscured the importance of the province for three hundred years, until **Isbiliya** concentrated the political, economic, religious, military and administrative powers of **Al-Andalus**.

Only a few years later, the **coexistence of Christian, Muslim and Jewish traditions** would transform neighbourhoods and customs, creating an atmosphere conducive to harmony amongst the three cultures.

Seville played a decisive role in the process of the "**Reconquista**". Centuries later, its strategic location enabled the enlargement of the world's frontiers through the Discovery of America.

It was in the 19th century that Seville became an important tourist destination. It caught the imagination of **romantic travellers**, driven by the need to visit the places where the history of Humanity was forged.

However, it was not until 1992 that Seville was catapulted into the global limelight when it celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Discovery of America. The **Universal Exhibition**, which commemorated knowledge and creativity as the engine for the development of the peoples, put the city squarely at the cultural centre of the world.



Moorish Castle in Alcalá de Guadaira.



Amphitheater in Itálica.

CRADLE OF EMPERORS

The archaeological ensemble of Itálica, located in the town of Santiponce, is undoubtedly the historical jewel in Seville's crown.

Located only 10 kilometres from the capital, the city founded in 206 B.C. is a prime example of the urban planning that characterised the golden age of the Roman Empire. Indeed, some of its most impressive structures, such as the amphitheatre, which could seat more than 20,000 spectators, remain clearly

visible. Originally built as a resting place for the legions that fought the Battle of Ilipa, Itálica became a reference for the Roman Empire, and the birthplace of two of the more relevant emperors: Hadrian and Trajan.

+
The Legacy
of Rome



2 | HERITAGE AND CULTURE



Castle of Los Molares.

TRACES OF THE LIFE WITHIN THE CITY

Fortresses, walls, castles, citadels and even monasteries, the province of Seville boasts myriad fortified buildings, the legacy of the different cultures that populated this area, and their relationship with other peoples.

The castles not only hold the memories of the palatial life of nobles and lords, sieges and conquests, but also of the daily life of its inhabitants, which are

re-enacted to help understand what life was like inside the walled buildings that crowned many Sevillian towns. Indeed, many of them were built on the outskirts of these castles.

+
Castles in Seville
province



Church of los Descalzos, in Ecija.

BAROQUE ART, PAST AND PRESENT

The province of Seville brims with authentic Baroque treasures, generally linked to expressions of the Catholic faith. Indeed, this was the period of greatest artistic splendour of faiths. However, the arts and crafts associated with Easter, which are still very much alive today, emerged even earlier, in the late Middle Ages. The “brotherhoods” continued to renew their heritage and adapt the traditions, contributing to the survival of a long-standing craft industry that revolves around the Holy Week.

+
Baroque in Seville province





Seville's Cathedral.



WORLD HERITAGE SITE

A visit to the Plaza del Triunfo is the best way to immerse oneself, and almost understand the historical heritage and impressive monuments of Seville at a single glance. Indeed, the architectural ensemble, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, reflects three distinct visions of the world.

Seville's Cathedral, the third largest temple of Christendom, and the best example of Baroque architecture, competes for fame with the General Archive of the Indies, a Renaissance administrative building that houses the historical documentation on the Discovery of America, and the subsequent trade with the New Continent.

Across the square stands the Real Alcázar, which is still used as a royal residence. Its gardens house plant species from around the world. A must-see attraction will transport the traveller to a time of historical splendour.

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Real Alcázar: alcazarsevilla.org

Catedral de Sevilla: catedraldesevilla.es

2 | HERITAGE AND CULTURE



Alcázar of Seville door, in Carmona.

MONUMENTAL HERITAGE IN THE PROVINCE

The historic and artistic heritage of Sevillian towns is comparable to that of the capital. Furthermore, their natural setting brings a new dimension to the visit.

The Cuatrovitas Shrine at Bollullos de la Mitación, the Arab baths at Palomares del Río or the walls of

San Juan de Aznalfarache are but a few examples of this communion between art and nature.

If we set our sights on ancient prehistory, the dolmens of Valencina de la Concepción speak about the rites and customs of the first settlers of the province.

The visit to the Campiña will shower you with indelible images of different towns, including Arahal, Écija, Fuentes de Andalucía, Utrera, Marchena, Osuna and Carmona.

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Monumental and Cultural Tourism Guide

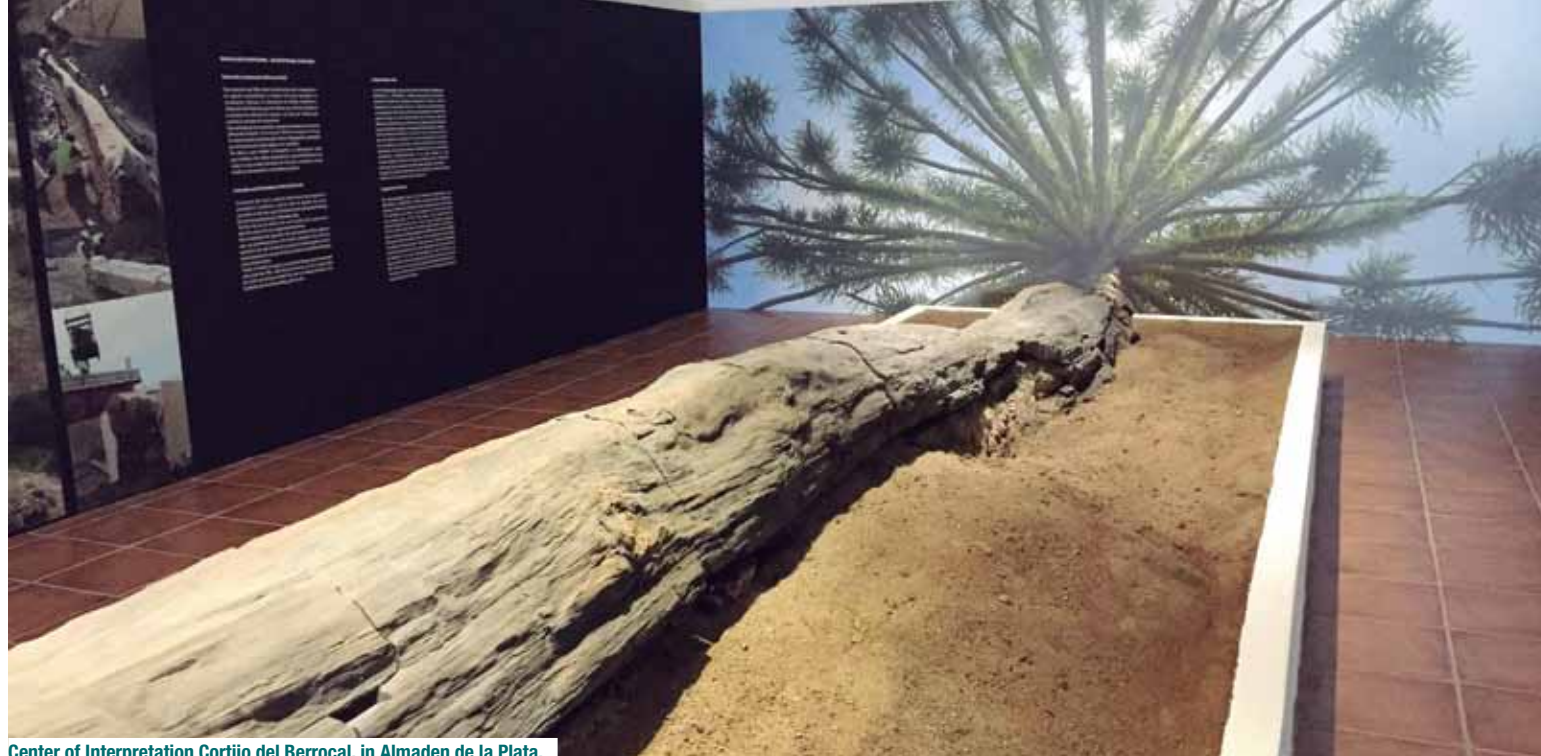


INTERPRETING THE SURROUNDINGS

In recent years, thematic museums and interpretation centres have become essential educational and tourism tools, helping to gain full insight and understanding of the cultural heritage, natural environment and ethnography of Sevillian counties.

Over 120 venues in the province provide insight into the territory, its culture and customs. They are a forum for knowledge, where visitors and local people alike can learn about the historical events that shaped each town, as it currently exists.

No matter whether the centre focuses on a specific theme, tradition, historic event or figure, or on the arts and sciences, or on the interpretation of a territory or a town, they are the ideal starting point of a route.



Center of Interpretation Cortijo del Berrocal, in Almaden de la Plata.



The Museum of Bellas Artes of Seville, the second pinacoteca of Spain after the Prado Museum.

+
Guide to museums and
interpretation centres in Seville
province



2 | HERITAGE AND CULTURE



Palace of the Granados. in Écija.

PALACE-HOUSES

Many towns in the province are closely linked to noble families and religious orders that owned large palace-houses with courtyards and important collections that are now open to the public.

Some of the most famous palace-houses, including the House of Pilate, the Palace of Dueñas and Palace of the Countess of Lebrija, are must-see attractions when visiting Osuna, Écija or Carmona.

These are excellent options to understand certain aspects of the province's history and life in its cities. For the better part of the 18th and 19th centuries, the noble families who lived in these houses assembled a huge collection of classic archaeological heritage, which visitors can now enjoy.



FLAMENCO UNIVERSE

The province of Seville is home to three main flamenco hotspots. One is located in the centre of the territory, in Los Alcores and Aljarafe counties, close to the capital, where the most popular flamenco songs, typical of the countryside and family celebrations, are performed.

The axis leading to the marshlands in the south of the province, from Los Palacios to Lebrija, has a more festive flair, while the purest flamenco can be found in

the eastern part, from Utrera to Estepa. Indeed, this area is often considered a cornerstone of flamenco arts.

Seville hosts the largest cultural event in the flamenco universe -the Bienal- on even-numbered years. During four weeks, the most renowned flamenco artists take to the stage in the evenings to evoke the past, present and future of these arts of uncertain origin, but undisputable Andalusian roots.

+
Where flamenco engulfs you



ON HISTORY'S STAGE

Mozart, Verdi and Beethoven set some of their most famous librettos in Seville's period of splendour, which overlapped with opera's period of high fame.

Seville is to the opera what New York is to the cinema: a permanent stage, perfectly visible in the streets of its historical centre. Efforts have been made in recent years to identify the places recreated on stage.

Furthermore, provincial theatres, large and small, have gained a well-earned place in cultural programmes, even par-

ticipating in the theatre circuit with spectacular productions and independent performances.

The province has also made a name for itself organising large concerts of world famous music stars.

+

Maestranza Theatre:
teatrodelamaestranza.es
Lope de Vega Theatre:
teatrolopedevega.org



RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS

Fifty days after Easter, an important religious milestone mobilises the province. Every year, the "Rociero" brotherhoods begin their journey, in wagon caravans and horses, towards a village nestled in Doñana's nature reserve, to celebrate the Pilgrimage of El Rocío.

Many Sevillian towns hold pilgrimages in spring and summer. The local people set out towards the shrines, frequently located in an exuberant natural environment.

On the eve of summer, Corpus Christi floods the historic centres of the towns with processions



The «hermandad» of El Rocío of Villamanrique, in the way of the Raya Real.

that have remained unchanged over time.

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Pilgrimages
in Seville
province.



CHRISTMAS

Over the last decade, Seville has become a favourite Christmas destination for Europeans. Bustling historic centres, brightly lit high streets, craft markets, street performances and activities for children have contributed to this success, not to mention, the mild winters of the Guadalquivir Valley.

Traditional Nativity scenes or the Cavalcades of the Magi that encourage the participation of the public are other reasons for visiting the province in Christmas.

2 | HERITAGE AND CULTURE



Semana Santa in Fuentes de Andalucía.

PATHS OF PASSION

Religion is at the root of many traditions and artistic expressions. Indeed, it remains essentially and deeply Christian, although the boundaries have been blurred owing to the mingling of the three cultures.

Easter is the core event of the province's religious calendar. The rites and traditions of the Holy Week led to the emergence of "brotherhoods" that have the indisputable ability of socially articulating the towns, even beyond the religious dimension.

The Commemoration of the Passion of Christ pairs folklore and culture with spirituality. It

involves a plethora of artistic representations, including paintings, images, gold and silver metalwork, music and architecture, that make up a large part of the province's heritage.



Easter. Guide of the province of Seville



WORLD CAPITAL OF EASTER

In the capital alone, sixty brotherhoods take part in penitential processions to the Cathedral. Especially emotive are the processions on the night into Good Friday, when the six most popular and world-renowned brotherhoods take to the streets.

For much of the year, the city's life revolves around Holy Week. The social and cultural work of brotherhoods is always present in Sevillian life, to the point that some shops are exclusively dedicated to the distribution of brotherhood-related products.

The so-called "Glory" brotherhoods periodically organise processions throughout the year.



Council of Brotherhoods
hermandades-de-sevilla.org



The «hermandad» of the Dulce Nombre, in Seville.



Bullfight at the Plaza de la Maestranza of Seville.

BULLFIGHTS

Easter Sunday, the last day of the Holy Week, ties in with other major festivity in Seville, the April Fair, radically different in its nature and devoted exclusively to having fun.

The first bullfight at the Maestranza is held on this day; a prelude to the fête, which originated as a cattle fair, that takes place two weeks later.

Bullfighting is linked to the festivals held in every town

across the province. Whether in historical bullrings or portable structures that enable many towns to hold a bullfight or "novilladas", the bullfighting season lasts for more than six months each year.

+
Territory
Bull. Seville



Seville's Feria de Abril.

FAIRS: FUN AND TRADITION

During the feast days, which usually coincide with important dates on the livestock-farming calendar or religious festivities, the towns take to the streets to celebrate the advent of spring or summer.

The oldest fair, held at Mairena del Alcor, kicks-off hundreds of similar festivals that last well into dawn. The tents where the activities take place represent an ephemeral extension of the

homes of the local people. Eye-catching horse-drawn carriages, flamenco dresses and rides for children form part of the festival, deeply rooted in provincial traditions.

Fairs are also an attractive platform for showcasing culinary traditions. The ephemeral tents offer a selection of home-style cuisine, including fried fish, snacks and traditional stews, which are shared with friends.

The land speaks

The traveller will be amazed with the striking features of Seville's landscape. None is more unexpected than the ever-changing landscape of the towering hills and cuts of Sierra Sur, only a few kilometres to the southeast, or the extensive plains to the west through which the River Guadalquivir meanders on its way to the marshlands of Doñana.

An overwhelming variety of flora and fauna species abound in each landscape shaped by thousands of years of human interaction with the land, creating several different provinces within the province of Seville.

The breeding of fighting bulls or purebred horses, in which Seville is a major global player, is particularly affected by human interaction with the environment.

This against the backdrop of pine and olive groves, meadows and dense riparian forests or croplands carefully stewarded by farmers to create a green carpet in the spring.

A name that garners particular attention in regards to nature is **Doñana**, one of the natural areas with the widest extension and the highest levels of protection in Europe. The Province of Seville covers 33.000 acres of this Natural Park, with tens of thousands of plants and animal species.

The restless glances of deer and Egyptian mongooses, foxes, lynxes and genets peep out of the foliage. Hares, wild boars and partridges capture the attention of hunters, who help to maintain biological balance of the hundreds of game reserves found across the Sevillian counties.

Special mention should be made of two animals -the bull and the horse- without which it would be impossible to make sense of the Sevillian territory. One of the most beautiful images a visitor can take home on his or her camera's memory card and, therefore, in his or her mind's eye and soul, is their noble silhouette in the countryside and meadows.



Landscape of Marsh and pine forests in Doñana.



NATURAL PARADISES

Owing to the variety of landscapes, Seville has one of the highest levels of biodiversity in Europe.

This unparalleled diversity in the Iberian Peninsula consists of not only mammals, reptiles, birds and amphibians, but also tree, shrub, heath and wild flower species. Seville's singular climate and terrain have created a myriad of unique ecosystems, including Doñana National Park and Sierra Norte Natural Park, so different and so spectacular in their exuberance.



Tourism and Nature Guide



3 | NATURE AND LANDSCAPE



HORSE RIDING TOURISM

Traditions, sport activities, cultural legacies and farming and livestock activities have contributed to the horse's continued importance and strong presence in rural communities and natural settings.

Furthermore, the yearlong mild climate allows the enjoyment of equestrian sports. The visitor can ride along trails, tracks and dirt roads that have been used for centuries, while taking in the beauty of different Sevillian landscapes.



GOLF: SPORT, NATURE AND TRADITION

Amateur golf is another major outdoor activity that has gained prominence in recent years. Once again, the mild climate favours its practice throughout the year.

The province is home to numerous well-designed golf courses, seamlessly embedded in the environment. Indeed, amateur and professional golfers from around the world frequently visit them.

One of Seville's unique contribution to sports has been the rehabilitation of traditional rural buildings, such as "haciendas" and "cortijos", which have been transformed into attractive clubhouses, located along different routes that respect the natural environment and bring new value to architectural heritage.



BIRDING TOURISM

Depending on the route the traveller takes, he or she will be able to watch cranes, herons, kites or vultures; or geese, flamingos, ducks, golden orioles or turtledoves. Bird lovers from around the world are drawn to the south of Andalusia by the songs of the birds, where they can enjoy their majestic silhouettes against blue skies, or pylons and stone cornices.

Natural reserves are a must-do visit for any bird watcher from around the globe, including Dehesa de Abajo or La Cañada de los Pájaros near Doñana; the griffon vulture colony at Peñón de Zaframagón, in the southeast tip of the province; the leafy landscapes of Sierra Norte or the wetlands of La Lantejuela endorheic complex.



+ Swing Sevilla



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Practical Guide. Doñana in Seville province



3 | NATURE AND LANDSCAPE

SEVILLE ON TWO-WHEELERS

When travelling the natural territories of a province blessed with excellent weather, there is nothing better than activities in direct contact with nature, including hiking, cycling or walking along breath-taking nature trails, such as the Guadamar Green Corridor or the Water Route in Guillena, suitable for both walking and cycling.

If you fancy cycling, the province has an interesting network of gently sloped greenways, the legacy of a former railway network that still criss-crosses the counties, now transformed into cycling paths, also suitable for walking.



Guide to cycling
in Seville province



Cycling route through the Corredor Verde of the Guadamar.



EXPLORING PATHS AND TRAILS

Also worthy of note is the network of paths and trails that traverse through farms and mountains, offering Nordic walking or hiking enthusiasts an excellent opportunity to be in contact with nature and explore the old quarters of the towns. These paths and trails, of varying difficulty, are suitable for people of all ages and physical conditions.

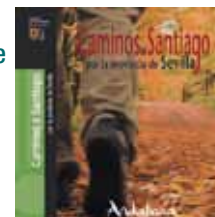
Many long-distance walkers choose the South as the starting point for their emotional journey to Santiago de Compostela. The traveller can cross through the province of Seville along the Vía de la Plata, or other Ways of St. James that run across the Campiña or Sierra Sur.



Nordic Walking routes
in Seville province



Ways of Santiago
in Seville province



3 | NATURE AND LANDSCAPE



The Roman route of oil in a pirogue, passing through the municipality of Ecija.

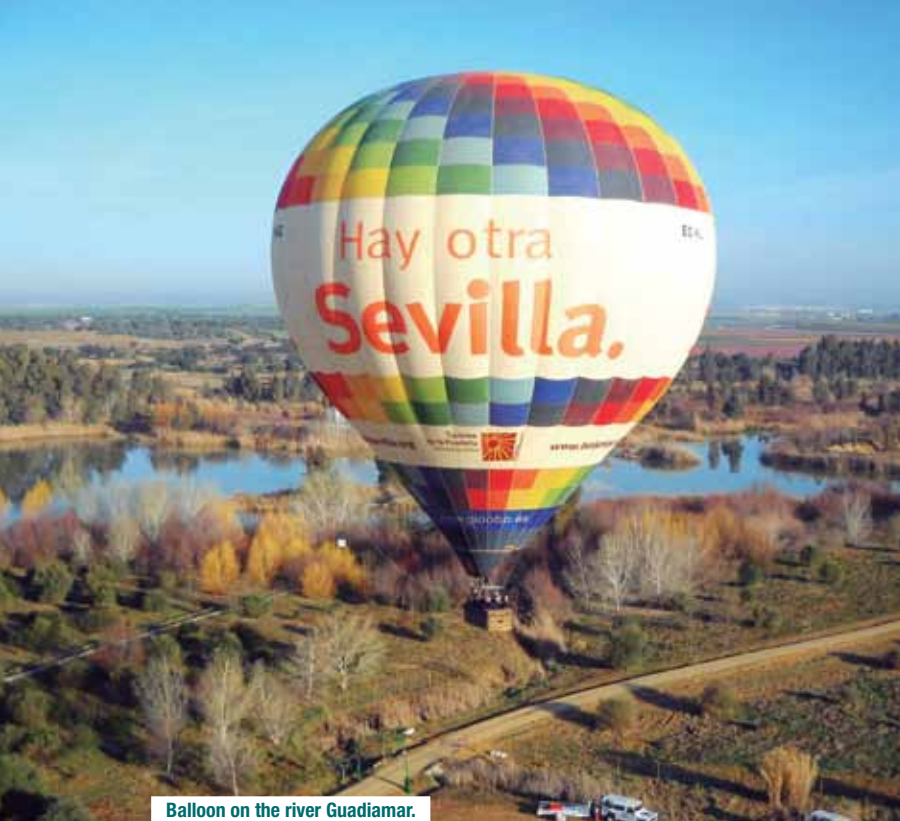
ACTION & ADVENTURE

Given the diversity of landscapes, and a climate that is pleasant most of the year, the number of sports and adventure activities that may be practiced in Seville's natural environment is unrivalled in Europe.

Sports, action, adventure and nature come together to deliver all kinds of experiences to the traveller: canyoning or climbing, off-road driving or paragliding, or activities suitable for all people, including rides on recreational boats.

+
Active Tourism and Nature.





Balloon on the river Guadiamar.

TAKING TO THE SKIES

Since the advent of aeronautics, Seville has played a major role in the history of aviation. Indeed, it continues to do so now and in the future through its powerful aerospace sector.

This is also reflected in the aerial sports practiced by Sevillians, including parachuting, paragliding and paramotor, as well as hot

air balloon, light aircraft and ultralight rides.

The towns of Bollullos de la Mitación, Mairena del Alcor, Guillena, Guadalcanal or Alcalá del Río have aerodromes where this kind of activity may be practiced, providing a different perspective of the natural and urban landscapes of the province.



Puerto Gelves.

FUN IN THE WATER

Water sports, including rowing or canoeing, have a sanctuary in the capital, namely in the backwaters of the River Guadalquivir, where the High Performance Centre is located. This centre hosts major international championships each year.

Sailing, windsurfing or wakeboarding are but a few other water sports that may be practiced in the river. Indeed, they coexist

with other recreational activities, including tourist cruises and paddleboats.

Visitors can also enjoy other water sports, including water skiing, kite surfing or even white water rafting, in rivers and reservoirs scattered across the province's nature areas, such as Malpasillo Reservoir in Badolatosa, River Rivera de Huelva in El Ronquillo or the "Batán" in Écija.

Yet again, excellent temperatures, constant winds and gentle terrain join forces to allow the visitor to enjoy the natural settings of Seville province.

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Puerto Gelves: puertogelves.com

Emotion for the palate

The province of Seville is one of the most important vertices of the rich Mediterranean gastronomic culture. The coexistence of different cultures through the ages, and the sharing of culinary knowledge and traditions have contributed to an enormous variety of dishes, products and techniques that are the true cultural identity of the territory.

Two other elements must be added to the mix: on the one hand, the excellent natural ingredients used in traditional recipes, both in household kitchens and hotels, which have developed into a tourist attraction: dining in Seville. On the other hand, the lifestyle, hospitality and mostly good weather invite people to live outdoors and enjoy a stroll **between tapas**.

Sophisticated restaurants, old taverns, modern eateries and traditional establishments such as “abacerías”, “tascas” and wineries, are not only compatible, but also complementary in delivering a genuine dining experience.

As for the ingredients in the recipe, the visitor can travel across the province of Seville without ever leaving the table: for instance, olives and pickles from Sierra Sur as appetizers, paired with the world famous Iberian cold cuts from Sierra Norte.

Perhaps, you may fancy a more elaborate rice dish from the Bajo Guadalquivir, or a traditional country stew from La Campiña with a little grape must from the Aljarafe.

An assortment of sweets from any of the convents found across the province, or a honey and sesame sweet rescued from a medieval book.

A journey, an experience, through time and space, where friends and/or family exchange experiences seated around a table.

An unnecessary excuse to cultivate the social dimension of life, celebrated in flavours and smiles.



Tapas of Seville.



TAPAS

Seville's world-renowned cuisine is interestingly best known for its size, rather than its ingredients, recipes or cooking techniques: the tapa.

Traditional or vanguard, these bite-size morsels served on small dishes make for an excellent lunch or a fun dinner at an affordable price.

Moreover, the tapa is also the best option to enjoy a gastronomic experience with family or friends, as it encourages conversation whilst going from one eatery to another.

The Sevillian people's lifestyle is reflected in the bite-size format of the tapa, which can consist of cold cuts, meats and fish, stews, salads, marinades, or even desserts.



Put vegetables on the market of the street Feria, in Seville.

FROM THE FIELD TO THE KITCHEN

Traditional food markets serve as the medium for linking kitchens and tables with the Sevillian landscape, and with the traditions influenced by different cultures over the centuries.

Visitors can see the freshness of agricultural produce (fruits, citrus, and vegetables) and wild products (green asparagus or Spanish oyster thistle) at specialised shops. Similarly, they can enjoy different varieties of cheese and cold cuts

made in each county. Or, even, taste the unique flavour of each town's breads.

+
Gastronomic guide
of Iberian cold cuts
from Sierra Norte
(Seville)





Sacks of rice.

ONE INGREDIENT IN A THOUSAND DISHES

The province of Seville is one of the world's largest producers of rice in its Indica, Japonica and Javanese varieties.

The over 35,000 hectares under rice represent one third of the total national area, and over 60% of annual production.

As would be expected, rice is an essential ingredient in Seville's traditional and haute cuisine.

Each county, each town and, virtually, each family has its own traditional rice recipe made with local produce. The extensive list of dishes includes duck or crab

rice, a specialty of the marshland area where the rice is grown or, in other places in the province, rice with vegetables or game meat.

+
Culinary
guide to rice



Center of Interpretation of the Olivo of Basilippo, in El Viso del Alcor.

FLASHES OF GOLD, BITTER SKIN

Olive groves are the ever-present element in the landscape of every county in the province. That is how it has always been over the centuries. Moreover, over the centuries, its fruit has been ubiquitous on the tables of all cultures.

Gordal, zorzaleña, manzanilla, hojiblanca, aloreña... split, cooked, open, whole... The myriad olive varieties and seasonings used to prepare the olives

as an appetiser or an ingredient in traditional dishes are also a product of the secular heritage of the peoples.

As is the olive oil, a mainstay of the region's agro-food economy throughout history. There is not a single Sevillian household or, for that matter, a hotel without a bottle of excellent virgin olive oil in its pantry.



Wineries Góngora, Villanueva del Ariscal.

+
Olive oil and
table olive
Guide



WINES AND SPIRITS, NOW AND ALWAYS

Over the last decade, the Sevillian wine industry has regained the prominent role it played in the sector over the centuries.

The different grape varieties used to make red and white wines achieve a unique ripeness and concentration of sugars thanks to the exceptional weather conditions of the province. This then

complements the distillery tradition of Sierra Norte County, and the iconic product of the Aljarafe, the grape must, which, every autumn, draws visitors and Sevillians alike to traditional wineries to enjoy, in moderation, a unique product.

+
Guide of the wines and spirits of
Seville province





Winery San Rafael in La Pañoleta, Camas.

WINERY CULTURE

Many towns and cities in the province, and even in the capital, have retained a tradition cherished by visitors: the ethnographic experience of enjoying tapas in wine cellars and wine shops, in an atmosphere reminiscent of past times. Indeed, this is one of the not-to-be-missed activities when visiting Seville.

Traditional stews, fritters, cheeses and sausages, seafood and, of course, fresh marinated and pickled vegetables are all part of the culinary tradition of the tapa, paired with a glass of grape must or wine, a bottle of beer or a glass of vermouth

These options can be enjoyed in a bustling environment, reminiscent of the deals that merchants, travellers and cattle dealers made over the wooden counters of taverns and cellars.

These eateries have managed to keep the essence, offering authentic journeys in time, whilst adapting to new times.



A SWEET PROVINCE

Two circumstances give sense to Seville's long-standing confectionery tradition: the centuries-long Islamic presence in the territory, and the subsequent emergence of religious orders in all counties.

Seville owes its endless variety of sweets, desserts and cakes to the Arab culture and conventual life.

To this must be added the excellent quality of local products such as honey, nuts and wild spices, which slowly made their way into family recipes, and eventually became a prosperous industry that has, inter alia, as its symbol the "mantecados" and "polvorones" produced in Estepa.

+
Sweet Seville: the confectionery route



Mantecados and polvorones from Estepa





Interior of the Abantal restaurant in the capital.



A NEW PHILOSOPHY

Always at the forefront of gastronomy, urban Sevillian towns boast a number of eateries that push the boundaries of the traditional tapa towards new culinary territories, whilst retaining its identity, in terms of overall service and product quality.

A new generation of restaurateurs committed to their time, with a new philosophy based on creating experiences for their patrons, has made Seville a benchmark in new cuisine, whilst upholding the philosophy of tapas and outdoor life, always associated with "dining in Seville".

Consequently, tapas that combine tradition, product excellence and uniqueness in its preparation and presentation bring a new dimension of entertainment and social relation to the dining experience.

Other ways of feeling

The province of Seville offers many other options suitable for all kinds of people that extend beyond active, nature, history and heritage tourism or cuisine with social and ethnographic values.

These range from activities for the whole family in spaces specially designed for children to thematic proposals, such as innovation in production or film settings. Indeed, there is something for every traveller.

Activities focusing on language skills or training in management and entrepreneurial skills are another interesting option. Seville and its towns are the stage for a trip geared towards personal productivity or professional growth.

SPACES ADAPTED TO ALL IDEAS

The province of Seville is home to an extensive network of venues of different sizes, formats and features where professional, institutional and corporate events can be organised.

These venues, which combine traditional architecture with functional and forward-looking features, enable the organisation of indoor and outdoor activities.

+
Guide to MICE venues



Fibes Seville Congress.



Torreón de la Juliana, in Bollullos de la Mitación.

IDEAL FOR LEISURE AND BUSINESS

Seville's capital and towns are the ideal setting for a professional congress or any other corporate event.

In addition to its exceptional event venues, the province also boasts a range of social and cultural activities that congress delegates can enjoy, alternating between business and leisure in unique surroundings.

Furthermore, the enterprises that choose Seville for their events can offer interesting incentives to their customers, employees and partners, as well as innovative management training initiatives.



Sevilla Congress and Convention Bureau:
sevillacb.com

5 | AND, ON TOP OF THAT



TALKING, LEARNING

The intense social life, which focuses on outdoor living and experience sharing, is the perfect complement to learning languages, a tourism option in which the province of Seville is also gaining ground.

Its geographical location, in the southwest tip of the European continent, the versatility of its transport links or the continued presence of foreign students in its universities have also contributed, in recent years, to positioning the province as a language tourism destination

for learning not only Spanish, but also English, German or Chinese, which are also taught at professional schools in Seville.

+
Language
tourism
Guide



INDUSTRIAL LEGACY

The growing interest of society in science and technology has pushed many innovative companies in the province to open their doors to visitors, and unlock the value of artisan and industrial spaces.

+
Industrial tourism in Seville province



Production plant of Heineken.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Since the advent of cinema, the province's urban and natural landscapes have been used as a backdrop for international super productions and stories written by talented Andalusian authors.

Seville offers a wide variety of opportunities for both audio-visual professionals, who will find here technical and human resources, a comprehensive administrative structure and exceptional light, space and weather conditions for filming, and travellers, who wish to visit the places that will go down in the history of cinema as iconic, owing to the performance of their screen idols.

+
Filming in Seville province.
Movie Locations.



Place of shooting the film, Isla Mínima of the same name by Alberto Rodríguez.



Show at Isla Mágica.



Puerto de Cuba, one of the nighttime terraces along the river.

SEVILLE FOR EVERY AGE

During school holidays, children can enjoy a wide variety of activities that combine recreational and educational features, enabling better use of their time whilst creating family experiences.

There are spaces in contact with nature and animals, such as Mundo Park in Guillena or Seville's Aquarium; theatrical performances for children; history storytelling for younger children in venues such as the Navigation Pavilion in the capital or Cotidiana Vitae in Santiponce.

And, of course, water... in parks like Aquópolis or Isla Mágica, where children can also enjoy a fun history and geography lesson.

+
Family holidays
in the province
of Seville

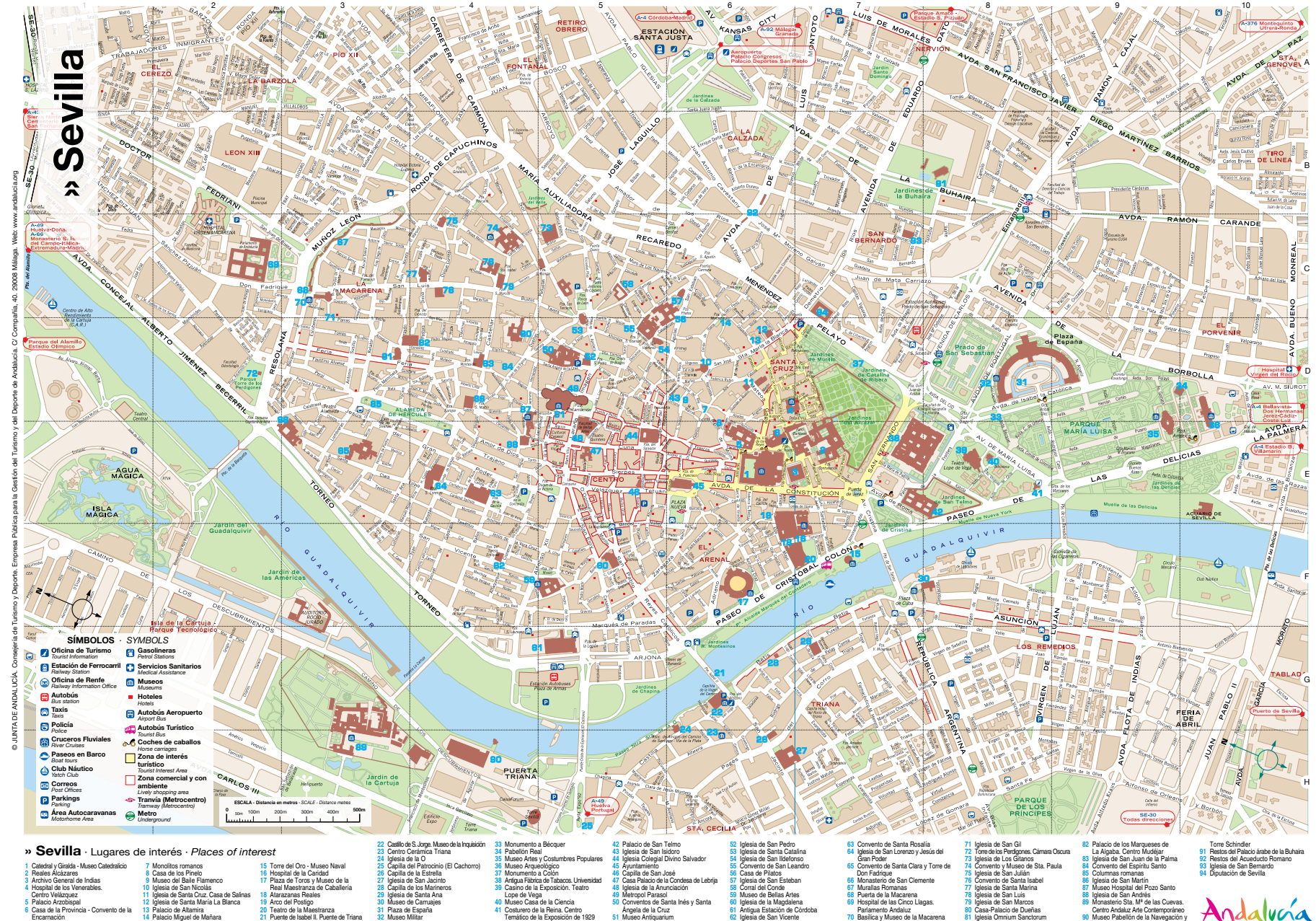


AT NIGHTFALL

Yet again, the province's mild climate is a major incentive for enjoying another dimension, namely, the city, and in particular, its nightlife.

Having one last drink in a terrace overlooking the Guadalquivir harbour, or in one of the rooftop terraces that have opened in recent years with a view of the monuments is a must do experience when visiting Seville.

The quiet atmosphere of the downtown streets, sleepy after the hustle and bustle of the shops, will engulf the traveller with the feeling that the true essence of the city is being revealed. Whether the latest trends in music or spontaneous flamenco, the sounds that spill out of some venues are the ideal companion for a night out to be enjoyed without haste: an essential approach in Seville.





SEVILLE IN FIGURES

Number of municipalities:
105

Inhabitants:
1.941.480

Surface:
14.036 km²

Protected areas:
1.965 km²

Average annual temperature:
19,2° C

Hours of sunshine per year:
3.373

Average altitude:
198 m

Gross domestic product:
34.537.000.000 €

Number of companies:
107.497

Hotel establishments:
345

Hotel rooms:
29.000

Visitors / year:
2.900.000 (2015)

Sports facilities:
2.150 nt

Public health centers:
185

Conference facilities:
108

**SEVILLE. LIVE.
LEARN. ENJOY.**

Dossier from the province of Seville

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