



Córdoba<sup>®</sup>  
ES más

IMTUR  
INSTITUTO MUNICIPAL  
TURISMO DE CÓRDOBA

CÓRDOBA  
PATRIMONIO DE  
HUMANIDAD



**Córdoba** is a medium-sized city – a city whose streets are **a delight to stroll through** and **whose climate** is benign throughout the year, full of **charming spots and unique historic treasures**, where the people are **cheerful and friendly**, and give **a warm welcome to visitors**, to whom they proudly show their **impressive cultural heritage**, their unique accolade of **four World Heritage Sites**, their passion for **flowers**, their admiration for that noble beast, the **Andalusian Purebred Horse**, and their delicious, healthy **cuisine** based on Denomination of Origin products and prepared by top chefs. **Córdoba is this and so much more ...**

Whether you visit with your family, as a couple, for work or for business, young, old or middle-aged alike, wherever you come from, we will welcome you with open arms...

# GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION

- Córdoba is located in the south of Spain
- The Gateway to Andalusia
- The third largest and third most populous city in Andalusia
- Surface Area (municipal district): 1,253 km<sup>2</sup>
- 325,700 inhabitants



# CONNECTIONS BY AIR & BY LAND

Several **international airports** are only 2 hours away: the busiest being Madrid, Malaga and Seville.

Córdoba has an **airport** run by AENA, currently hosting **commercial, medical and military flights and some charter flights for passengers.**

Connected via the **AVE** (Spanish High Speed Train) and the conventional **Railway Network. State Network of Highways** (A-4 'Southern Highway' and A-45 'Málaga Highway' and N-432 National Road)



## Recorridos de Alta Velocidad Tours of high speed

- Córdoba
- Granada
- Málaga
- Sevilla
- 
- Madrid
- Barcelona



The City of Córdoba  
World Heritage Sites  
The Courtyards (“Patios”) of Córdoba  
The Spanish Purebred Horse  
Local Cuisine

# TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Major cultural events  
Crafts and jewellery  
Festivals and traditions  
Flamenco  
Natural Areas



The eighth-century **Mosque** is Córdoba's jewel in the crown, the most significant Moslem site in the whole of Western Europe and one of the most remarkable buildings in the world.

It has been a **World Heritage Site since 1984**, and what makes it unique is that it contains a magnificent Christian Cathedral within.

Visits can be made not only during the day but also at night, thanks to the **night-time tours "The Soul of Córdoba"**, which take place from Monday to Saturday (according to timetables and availability).

We recommend visiting it in both ways (day and night) to enjoy the full range of sensations.

# THE MOSQUE OF CÓRDOBA

4 WORLD  
HERITAGE AWARDS

WORLD  
HERITAGE SITE  
SINCE 1984



The **Old Quarter**, one of the largest historic centres in Europe, was declared a World Heritage Site in 1994.

At its heart lies the **Jewish Quarter**, an area inhabited by Jews in the Middle Ages, dotted with sites and museums that are a must on any visit:

The only surviving **Synagogue** in Andalusia (14<sup>th</sup> century), one of only 3 still standing in Spain,

The **Mudejar Chapel of San Bartolomé** (14<sup>th</sup> /15<sup>th</sup> centuries),

The **Baths of the Caliphate Fortress**,

The **Roman Bridge**,

The **Arab Souk**...

# THE HISTORIC QUARTER

WORLD  
HERITAGE SITE  
SINCE 1994

4 WORLD  
HERITAGE AWARDS



The **Festival of the Courtyards of Córdoba**, popularly known as “The Patios Festival”, was declared **Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2012**, and bears witness to a forgotten way of life and cultural expression: it is the pride of Córdoba and a unforgettable showcase of floral beauty.

The Patios Festival takes place during the **first two weeks in May**, in seven neighbourhoods spread around the city, although guided tours of the courtyards can be made throughout the year.

# THE PATIOS FESTIVAL

**INTANGIBLE HERITAGE  
OF HUMANITY**  
SINCE 2012

**4 WORLD  
HERITAGE AWARDS**

If you visit the festival, the main thing is to show respect: remember that you are visiting a private house, and the owners have kindly opened their doors to the public to allow you to share in this delightful display of flowering plants.



4 WORLD  
HERITAGE AWARDS

# CALIPHATE CITY OF MEDINA AZAHARA

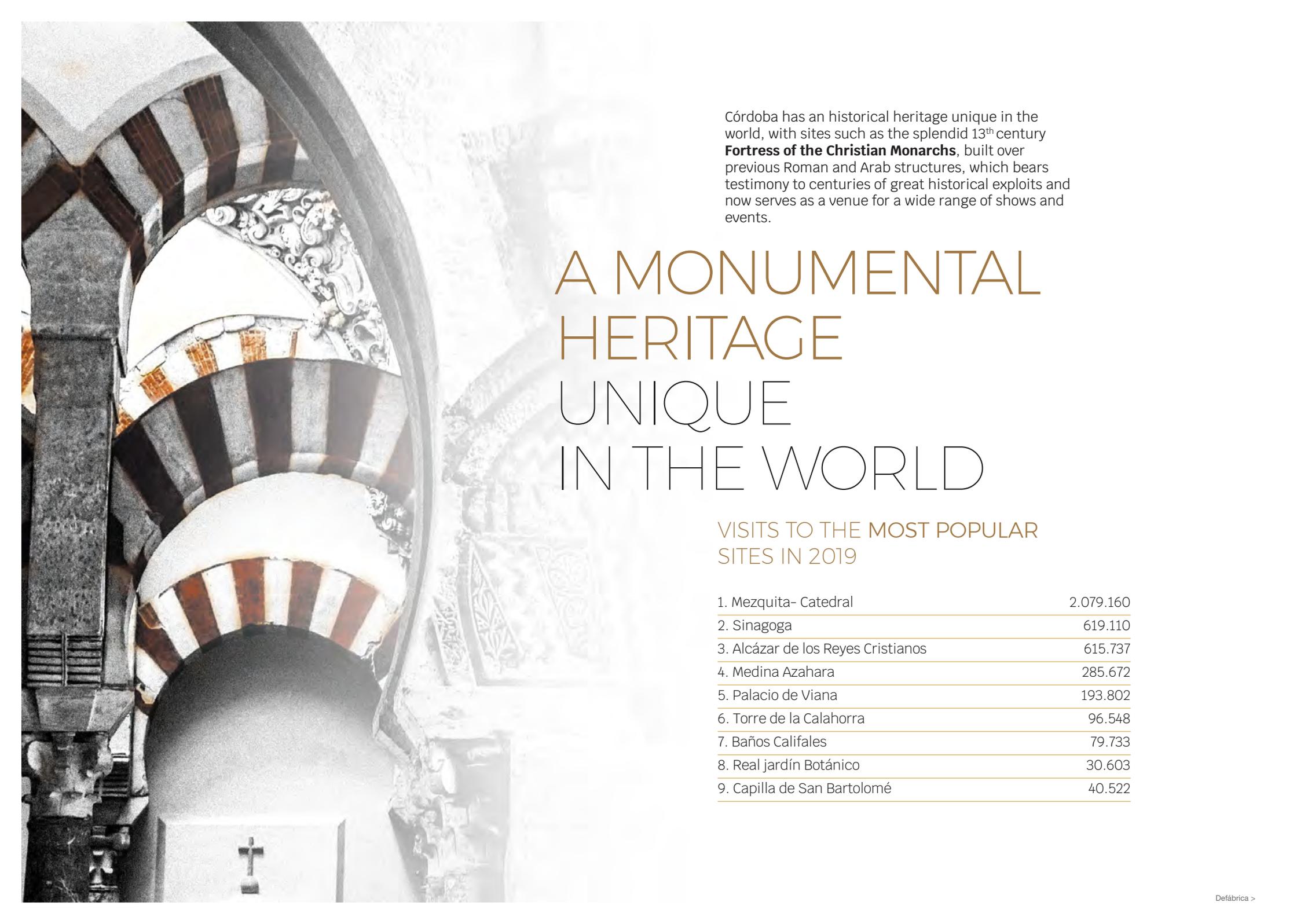
WORLD  
HERITAGE SITE  
SINCE 2018

**Medina Azahara** (10<sup>th</sup> century) is the archaeological site of what was once a palace-city built by Caliph Abd-al-Rahman III as a symbol of the power of the Caliphate of Córdoba and which, according to legend, he dedicated to his favourite concubine.

**A World Heritage Site since July 2018.**

Close by the archaeological site stands the Madinat Al-Zahra museum, which is well worth a visit, especially to see the excellent video recreating the history of the palace-city.

This exceptional site lies about 9 kms from the city of Córdoba and the best way to get there is either by car or by the **Tourist Bus** or the **Bus to Medina Azahara**.



Córdoba has an historical heritage unique in the world, with sites such as the splendid 13<sup>th</sup> century **Fortress of the Christian Monarchs**, built over previous Roman and Arab structures, which bears testimony to centuries of great historical exploits and now serves as a venue for a wide range of shows and events.

# A MONUMENTAL HERITAGE UNIQUE IN THE WORLD

## VISITS TO THE MOST POPULAR SITES IN 2019

1. Mezquita- Catedral	2.079.160
2. Sinagoga	619.110
3. Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos	615.737
4. Medina Azahara	285.672
5. Palacio de Viana	193.802
6. Torre de la Calahorra	96.548
7. Baños Califales	79.733
8. Real jardín Botánico	30.603
9. Capilla de San Bartolomé	40.522



Córdoba boasts one of the finest **archaeological museums** in Spain, with valuable artefacts from different historical periods and architectural styles, all housed in a building constructed on top of the archaeological remains of the city's **Roman Theatre**. The **Julio Romero de Torres Museum** is another gem, which displays the artist's work and captures the essential beauty of Córdoba like no other.

There are many more museums, too...  
We challenge you to get to know them all!

# MUSEUMS WITH PRICELESS TREASURES

## VISITS TO THE MOST POPULAR MUSEUMS IN 2019

1. Museo Arqueológico	291.832
2. Museo de Bellas Artes	70.055
3. Julio Romero de Torres	53.495
4. Museo Taurino	21.100

**Córdoba has an age-old culinary tradition**, influenced by the Mediterranean diet and by the different civilizations which have lived here, giving rise to a cuisine featuring dishes unique to Córdoba such as **salmorejo** (cold tomato dip), **oxtail**, **aubergines with honey**, or **flamenquin** (rolled pork fritter).

Córdoba's cuisine is typified by the use of high quality local products, produced under **7 Denominations of Origin**: 4 for **Olive Oil** (Baena, Lucena, Priego de Córdoba and Montoro-Adamuz), 1 for **wine (Montilla-Moriles)**, 1 for **vinegar** (Montilla-Moriles) and 1 for **Iberian Ham** (Valley of the Pedroches).

# DELICIOUS CUISINE BASED ON DENOMINATION OF ORIGIN PRODUCTS

These D.O. products would be useless without the expertise of Córdoba's **top chefs** (the city has 3 chefs with Michelin stars, and a whole host of expert chefs specialising in traditional, innovative and international cuisine), the local training centres for chefs, the **gourmet markets** and all the many excellent **catering establishments**.

For all these reasons, in 2014 Córdoba was awarded the title of **Ibero-American Capital of Gastronomic Culture**.





**Is the Purebred Horse Spanish or Andalusian?** ... The answer is both, although here in **Córdoba** we like to say this breed is native to our city, for one important historical reason. Back in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, King Felipe II gave the orders for his Royal Horse Guards to create a new horse breed and purpose-built the “Royal Stables” in Córdoba to house them.

Many events are held in Córdoba to honour this noble animal:

throughout the year, a top quality, original **Equestrian Show** is held in the very building where this breed of horse was born,

also in autumn, the **Autumn of the Horse** program offers visitors a wide variety of recreational activities: championships, events, shows, exhibitions, workshops, conferences and much more, all centred around the horse.

# THE CITY OF THE SPANISH PUREBRED HORSE



The courtyards (“patios”) can be enjoyed all the year round, through a number of new activities which have been launched recently by private companies:

# CITY OF FLOWERS

**new routes and guided visits to the “patios”,**

in the different neighbourhoods of Córdoba,

**new festivals such as “Flora”**

whose 1st edition was held in 2017, where internationally-renowned floral artists transform the courtyards of well-known buildings around the city with their breathtaking floral designs.

There is no end to the **festivals connected to flowers**: the arrival of spring is marked by **“Orange Blossom Time”**, the **battle of the flowers**, the **May festivals** and many more...



# WITH A CULTURAL AGENDA PACKED WITH WORLD FAMOUS EVENTS

Córdoba offers a huge range of cultural events throughout the year, the pick of which would be:

The **International Guitar Festival**, whose 1st edition was held back in 1980, a cultural event with musical and artistic expressions focused around the guitar which has consolidated its position as one of the leading festivals around the world,

the **White Night of Flamenco** where the top artists from the world of Flamenco perform on stages set up in squares, streets and local taverns,

**Cosmopoetica**, the International Poetry Festival,

**Eutopia**, a Festival of young people's creativity,

**Kalendas, Córdoba in Purple, Nights of Ramadan, the festival of Sephardic Culture:** all these programs allow us to learn about the different cultures which once inhabited Córdoba

**Riomundi**, a festival of World Music on the banks of the River Guadalquivir ...



Córdoba is famous for its **silver and gold jewellery** and their manufacture represents one of the city's economic mainstays.

The best known style is the Córdoba **filigree**, which consists of gold or silver threads soldered to a metal structure to form shapes and create **jewellery** in exclusive, classic and avant-garde designs.

Córdoba has now achieved worldwide fame for its gold and silverwork, and has grown into **one of the largest production centres for jewellery in Spain**.

# EUROPEAN CENTRE OF REFERENCE FOR JEWELLERY

The Córdoba Jewellery Park was created in 2008 to house jewellery-producing companies and now forms the largest concentration of companies in the sector in Spain and Europe, bringing together manufacturing companies of jewellers', goldsmiths, costume jewellers' and watchmakers.



Córdoba is the perfect place to find unique, original craftwork designed by the best master artisans.

# CRAFTWORK 'MADE IN CÓRDOBA'

This is one reason why the Old Quarter of Córdoba was declared an **Designated Craft Area in 2014**. Currently, the Cordoba Association of Artisans includes 18 workshops of different trades, featuring:

**Leather goods**, especially those known as 'Cordobanes' and 'Guadamecies', which are painted, embossed leatherwork items in traditional and contemporary designs. The technique dates from the period of the Umayyad Caliphate in Córdoba, and is still very much alive to this day,

**Guitar makers** and their flamenco guitars,

**Pottery** from the north of the province...



# FESTIVALS AND TRADITIONS

Cordoba hosts many festivities and traditions, but all the best-known festivals are held in the spring:

**Holy Week**, which in Córdoba is marked by its solemnity, the opening of the **Orange Blossom**, whose characteristic scent permeates the city and always appeals to visitors,

the **Battle of the Flowers**, which welcomes the spring with a parade of floats from which thousands of flowers are thrown to the public, the **May Crosses**,

a Christian tradition which has become an extremely popular local festival,

the **Montilla-Moriles Wine-tasting Festival**, the **Courtyards ("Patios") Festival**, the **Town Fair dedicated to Our Lady of La Salud...**

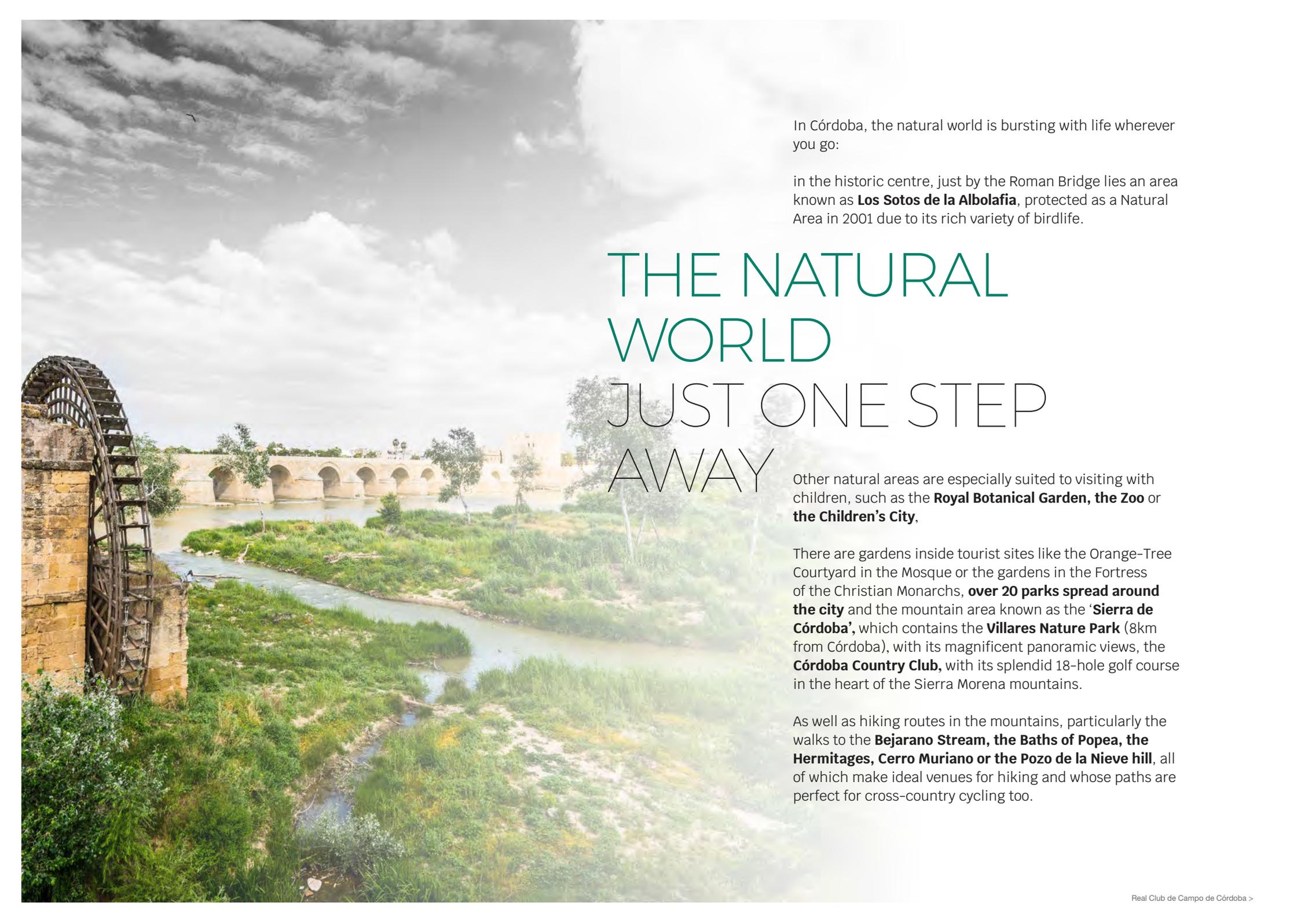
What they all have in common is the outburst of popular 'joie de vivre', respectful celebration and the desire to share our happiness with all our visitors.



# THE SOUL AND MYSTERY OF FLAMENCO

Flamenco is a deeply-ingrained part of the culture in many areas of **Córdoba**:

The **Fosforito Flamenco Centre** in the Potro Inn  
Flamenco **events, activities and festivals**,  
Flamenco **stages** and **clubs**,  
**dance schools**,  
**guitar-makers**,  
Flamenco **fashion**,  
**taverns**,  
Flamenco **experiences**  
**Artists...**



In Córdoba, the natural world is bursting with life wherever you go:

in the historic centre, just by the Roman Bridge lies an area known as **Los Sotos de la Albolafia**, protected as a Natural Area in 2001 due to its rich variety of birdlife.

# THE NATURAL WORLD JUST ONE STEP AWAY

Other natural areas are especially suited to visiting with children, such as the **Royal Botanical Garden, the Zoo or the Children's City**.

There are gardens inside tourist sites like the Orange-Tree Courtyard in the Mosque or the gardens in the Fortress of the Christian Monarchs, **over 20 parks spread around the city** and the mountain area known as the '**Sierra de Córdoba**', which contains the **Villares Nature Park** (8km from Córdoba), with its magnificent panoramic views, the **Córdoba Country Club**, with its splendid 18-hole golf course in the heart of the Sierra Morena mountains.

As well as hiking routes in the mountains, particularly the walks to the **Bejarano Stream, the Baths of Popea, the Hermitages, Cerro Muriano or the Pozo de la Nieve hill**, all of which make ideal venues for hiking and whose paths are perfect for cross-country cycling too.



Visitors Reception Centre (Vrc),  
Tourist Information Service  
Hotels  
Restaurants  
Taverns

# TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE

Gourmet Markets  
Tourist Bus  
Boutique  
Shopping



Córdoba has several **tourist information points** in the city, the main one being the **Visitors Reception Centre (VRC)**, situated in the heart of the Jewish quarter right next to the Mosque, the main tourist site in Córdoba.

# TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICE

At the VRC, visitors to Córdoba can find information about the city, the province and the rest of Andalusia, book visits to the sites, take a break from sightseeing, enjoy the restaurant with the most popular local 'tapas' and shop for a wide range of souvenirs and local products.

The team of tourist information officers will be delighted to attend you and help you to solve any problem or query which may arise.

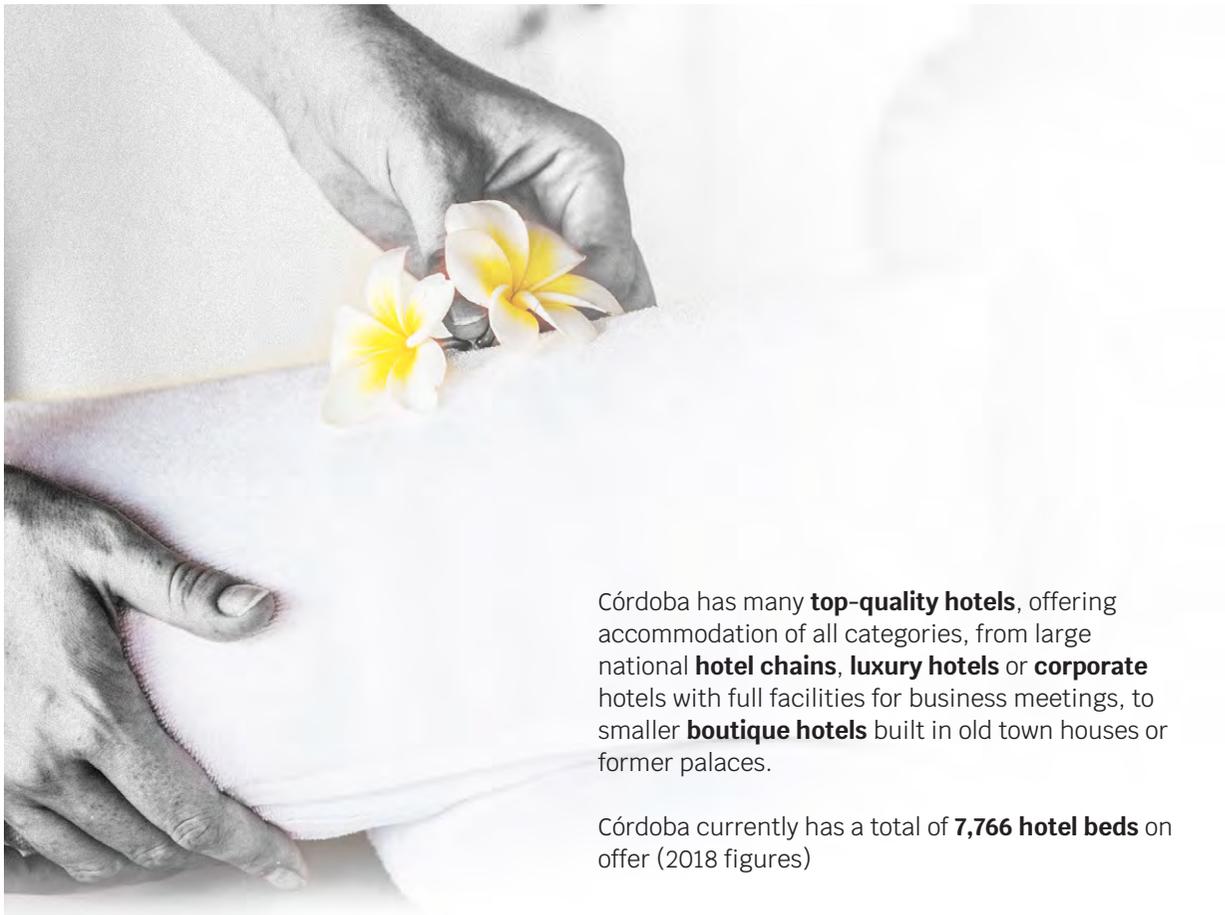


Córdoba has a wonderful team of official tourist guides and experts in our cultural heritage who will make your visit that extra bit special. They know the history of Córdoba like the back of their hands and can show you all the city's hidden corners, as well as telling you fascinating facts and legends from the past.

All these guides are at your disposal for a personalized guided tour. Group visits are also organized, with guaranteed departure times – book your place in advance and join the fun!

Being shown around Córdoba by one of these guides is definitely a worthwhile experience – it will make the visit so much more rewarding!

# TOURIST GUIDES



Córdoba has many **top-quality hotels**, offering accommodation of all categories, from large national **hotel chains**, **luxury hotels** or **corporate hotels** with full facilities for business meetings, to smaller **boutique hotels** built in old town houses or former palaces.

Córdoba currently has a total of **7,766 hotel beds** on offer (2018 figures)

# THE ACCOMMODATION OF YOUR DREAMS

HOTELES 5* (2)	Hab
Hotel Eurostar Palace	155
Hotel Hospes Palacio del Bailío	49
<b>TOTAL HOTELES 5*</b>	<b>204</b>
HOTELES 4* (18)	Hab
Hotel Abetos del maestro escuela	43
Hotel AC Córdoba	98
Hotel Ayre Córdoba	157
Hotel Balcón de Córdoba	10
Hotel Córdoba Center	207
Hotel Eurostar Conquistador	128
Hotel Eurostars Patios de Córdoba	65
Hotel Eurostar Azahar	45
Hotel Exe Ciudad de Córdoba	89
Hotel Exe Las Adelfas	101
Hotel Hesperia Córdoba	152
Hotel H10 Palacio Colomera	45
Hotel Las Casas de la Judería	65
Hotel Macía Alfaros	143
Hotel Madinat	11
Hotel NH Amistad Córdoba	108
Parador La Arruzafa	94
Hotel Soho Boutique Capuchinos	27
<b>TOTAL HOTELES 4*</b>	<b>1.588</b>



# DELICIOUS CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

One thing you can be sure about when you visit Córdoba is that you will be treated to excellent food, with a wide variety of dishes available which are always good value for money. There are two **Michelin star restaurants** (El Choco 1\* and Noor 2\*).

**Gourmet markets** (Victoria Market, Patios de la Marquesa and Ágora), with a wide variety of stalls showcasing different cuisines.

**Chefs' training centres** such as La Casa Manolete, recently opened in 2019 which also features two new restaurants (La Casa Manolete Bistro and A Flor de Piel).

There are also a huge range of excellent **restaurants and taverns** throughout the city ...



When it comes to shopping, you'll find Córdoba is a perfect place to purchase local **Denomination of Origin products**, artistic craft work such as **Cordobanes or Guadamecies, fans, shawls, small souvenirs, designer clothes, jewellery** and a wide range of other items you can see for yourself as you stroll around the city, in small boutique stores or modern shopping malls. Not surprisingly, Córdoba has a special night dedicated to shopping in the month of June (Shopping Night).

# SHOPPING IN CORDOBA



Córdoba has all the ingredients to make the perfect venue for national and international congresses, conventions and business meetings: its rich historical heritage, its privileged geographical location, an excellent communications network, a modern, efficient Congress Palace located next to the Mosque, a future centre for exhibitions, fairs and conventions, well-equipped meeting halls in attractive venues, attended by professional staff...

# VENUES AND HALL FOR PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS



Although Córdoba has one of the largest Historic Quarters in Europe, it's easy to get around on foot, and that way you can really appreciate the details that otherwise go unnoticed.

Even so, if you want to reconnoitre the city beyond the old quarter and learn more about the city's fascinating history, we suggest you either hop on the **Tourist Bus (City Sightseeing)** to take a round trip of Córdoba, with stops in all the city's main neighbourhoods, or take the **minibus** to explore the narrow, winding streets and even venture up to the Hermitages in the 'Sierra de Córdoba' hills behind the city.

## TRANSPORT FOR TOURIST

Another must is a trip to Medina Azahara (9 km from the city), and the best way to get there is by the **Bus to Medina Azahara**, a service which includes the trip both to the museum and to what is arguably the most important Islamic archaeological site in the Western world.



## QUALITY TOURISM

In Córdoba, we are well aware of the importance of being a **quality destination**, and this is why the local tourist board IMTUR, in its role as a local branch of the ICTE (Institute for Spanish Tourist Quality), acts:

- as a link between the ICTE and commercial companies to ensure their compliance with the Spanish Tourism Quality System
- to carry out administrative tasks on behalf of the ICTE in the local area
- as an interlocutor between the local tourist sector and the government on quality-related issues
- promoting and spreading the culture of quality among local tourist companies.

A number of local companies have been awarded the 'Q for Tourist Quality' prize:

- Esmeeting Events and Congresses
- Parador de Córdoba
- Restaurant Garum 2.1
- Salinas Tavern
- Every day we are working to help more companies win quality certification awards.





**Quality can be defined** as achieving **full customer satisfaction** in the most profitable way for the company.

Awareness about quality is a relatively modern concept, and its meaning has changed over the years. Back in the 1940s, it referred only to the product, while in the 1960s, this idea was extended to include service too. The 1980s saw the emergence of the concept of Total Quality and in the nineties, that of Excellence in Tourism. Currently, the latest quality systems include elements such as the concept of the 'destination', and self-evaluation survey tools.

This is the case of the Integral **System of Spanish Tourist Quality in Destination**, which the Cordoba Municipal Institute of Tourism (IMTUR) has been putting into practice in the city since 2003.

**In Córdoba, a total of 42 companies have won SICTED awards** in 2019.



Medina Azahara



Parque Joyero

Avda. de Medina Azahara

Jardines de la Victoria

Glorieta de la Media Luna

Glorieta de la Cruz Roja

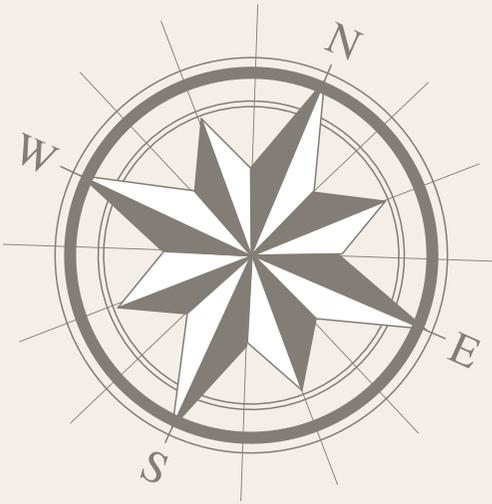
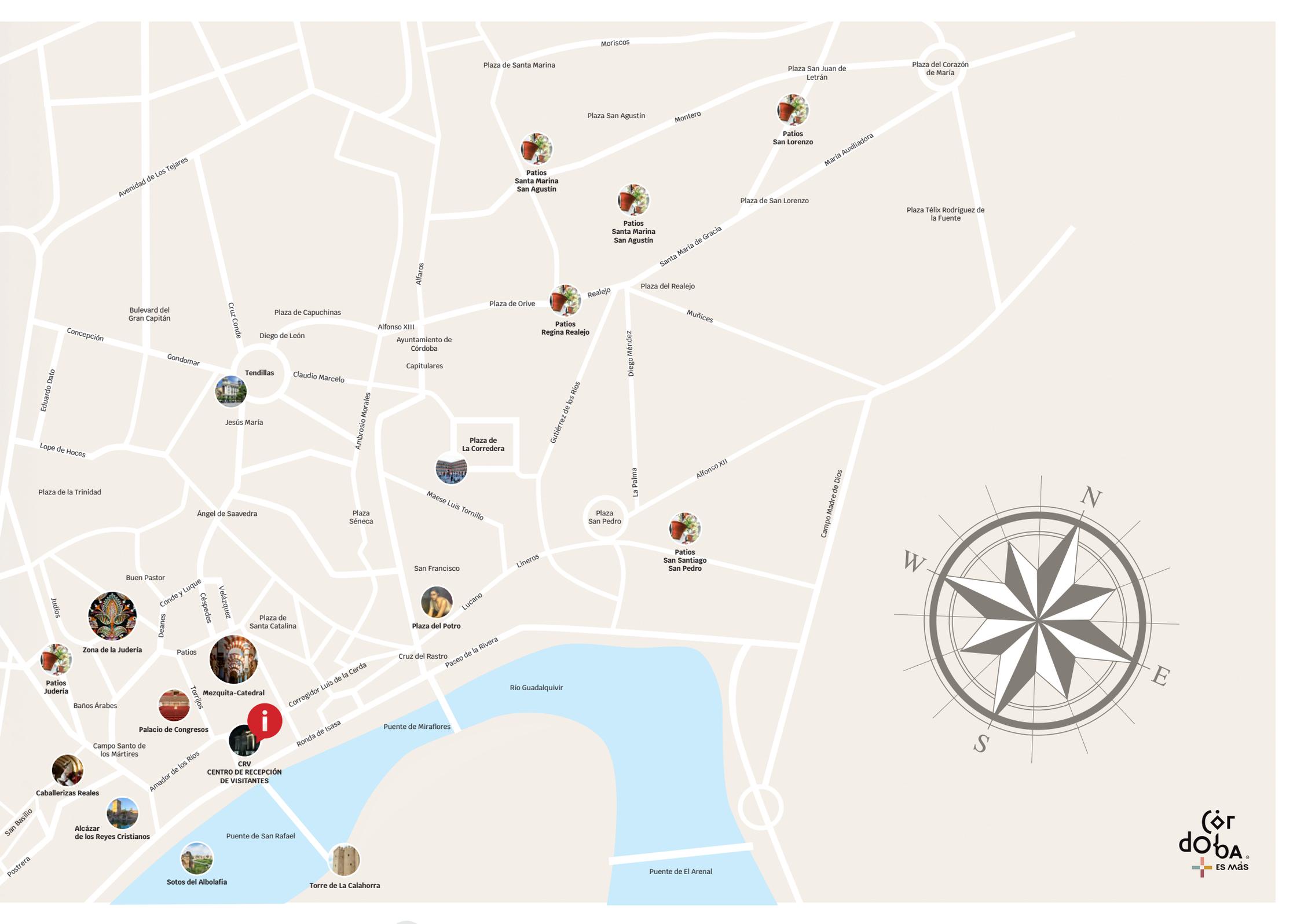
Avda. del Aeropuerto

Avenida del Conde Vallellano



Patios Alcázar Viejo

Puerta de Sevilla



Map labels include: Plaza de Santa Marina, Plaza San Agustín, Plaza San Juan de Letrán, Plaza del Corazón de María, Patios San Lorenzo, Plaza de San Lorenzo, Plaza Télix Rodríguez de la Fuente, Plaza del Realejo, Plaza de Orive, Patios Santa Marina San Agustín, Patios Santa Marina San Agustín, Patios Regina Realejo, Plaza de La Corredera, Plaza San Pedro, Patios San Santiago San Pedro, Plaza de Capuchinas, Plaza de Orive, Plaza de la Trinidad, Ángel de Saavedra, Plaza Séneca, Plaza de Santa Catalina, Plaza del Potro, Plaza de Santa Marina, Plaza de la Trinitad, Ángel de Saavedra, Plaza Séneca, Plaza de Santa Catalina, Plaza del Potro, Plaza de la Trinitad, Ángel de Saavedra, Plaza Séneca, Plaza de Santa Catalina, Plaza del Potro, Plaza de la Trinitad, Ángel de Saavedra, Plaza Séneca, Plaza de Santa Catalina, Plaza del Potro.





We wait for you in Córdoba!  
We will take care of you!



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