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...
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 km²
- 325,700 inhabitants
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)

**CONNECTIONS BY AIR & BY LAND**
TOURIST Attractions

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

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 **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 (14th century), one of only 3 still standing in Spain,

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

The **Baths of the Caliphate Fortress**, 

The **Roman Bridge**, 

The **Arab Souk**...
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 Cordoba 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.

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.
Medina Azahara (10th 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.
A MONUMENTAL HERITAGE UNIQUE IN THE WORLD

Córdoba has an historical heritage unique in the world, with sites such as the splendid 13th 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.

### VISITS TO THE MOST POPULAR SITES IN 2019

1. Mezquita- Catedral  
2. Sinagoga  
3. Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos  
4. Medina Azahara  
5. Palacio de Viana  
6. Torre de la Calahorra  
7. Baños Califales  
8. Real jardín Botánico  
9. Capilla de San Bartolomé

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<td>Capilla de San Bartolomé</td>
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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 Cordoba 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 Cordoba such as salmorejo (cold tomato dip), oxtail, aubergines with honey, or flamenquin (rolled pork fritter).

Cordoba’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).

These D.O. products would be useless without the expertise of Cordoba’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 16th 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 courtyards (“patios”) can be enjoyed all the year round, through a number of new activities which have been launched recently by private companies:

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...
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.
TOURIST
Visitors Reception Centre (Vrc),
Tourist Information Service
Hotels
Restaurants
Tavers

INFRAESTRUCTURE
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.

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.

TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICE

Pepe Muñoz >
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!
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)

### HOTELES 5* (2)
- Hotel Eurostar Palace: 155
- Hotel Hospes Palacio del Bailío: 49
**TOTAL HOTELES 5***: 204

### HOTELES 4* (18)
- Hotel Abetos del maestre 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
**TOTAL HOTELES 4***: 1,588

**THE ACCOMMODATION OF YOUR DREAMS**
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).
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...
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.

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
Avenida de la Media Luna
Puerta de Sevilla
San Basilio
We wait for you in Córdoba!
We will take care of you!

www.turismodecordoba.org
imtur@turismodecordoba.org