

Golf and the Cultural Cities of Andalucia, Spain

Saturday 22 September – Monday 1 October, 2012
8 nights, 3 rounds Fully Escorted Tour with Concierge Guide

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

This evening depart the US.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Arrive in **Malaga Airport**. Once you have passed through Immigration and collected your luggage you will be met in the arrivals hall and transfer to your awaiting transportation. Transfer to the Gran Melia Don Pepe in **Marbella**. (45mins)

Check in at the **Gran Melia Don Pepe**. On the beach-front and in extensive sub-tropical gardens, the Gran Melia Don Pepe hotel stands in an enviable position overlooking the Mediterranean and the long traffic free marine promenade. There are shops, restaurants and bars in the immediate neighbourhood and it is a 10 minute walk to Marbella centre and just a little further into the attractive old town. A renowned hotel, it has lots of amenities, including a large swimming pool, tennis courts, heated indoor pool and a fitness centre with jacuzzi, sauna, Turkish bath and massage. Two restaurants serve international and local cuisine, Calmina Restaurant boasts a Michelin star.

This afternoon enjoy an optional tour into the Andalusian Mountains (1hr) for a visit to **Ronda**. One of the most spectacularly located cities in Spain. Ronda sits on a massive rocky outcrop, straddling a deep 330ft gorge. The New Bridge (Puente Nuevo) separates the old and the new Ronda. On the south side perches a classic Moorish city of cobbled alleys, window grilles and dazzling whitewash, while in the newer town lies "El Mercadillo" one of the oldest bullrings in Spain.

Overnight: Gran Melia Don Pepe, Superior Seaview Room



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Golfers today **Finca Cortesin**. Located to the west of Marbella with wonderful views over the Mediterranean Sea. The natural environment and landscape of Cortesin are one of its most attractive features. The designers Cabell Robinson and Herald Huggan, landscaper of international fame, have managed to maintain the natural character, finding a perfect equilibrium between the natural plants of the Mediterranean forest and the well manicured fairways and greens.

Non Golfers will enjoy **cooking lessons and lunch** in a private beach front villa near Puerto Banus given by Rashida Reidel, a local culinary celebrity of North African origin. (Specialising in Mediterranean and Andalusian cuisine) Rashida, our culinary expert describes her speciality as a teacher as being her ability to combine wholesome, healthy cooking with oriental and western flavours. Using the abundance of locally available natural food products (Andalusia is described as the "Salad Bowl" of Europe) to produce Mediterranean specialities such as the exquisitely aromatic couscous, tapas or other Andalusian dishes and a wide variety of colourful savoury canapes.

Tonight enjoy dinner with your fellow tour participants in a local Marbella restaurant.

Overnight: Gran Melia Don Pepe, Superior Seaview Room



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Golfers today play at **Valderrama**. The best known course on the Costa del Sol, having hosted the 1997 Ryder Cup Matches. It is a course which invariably is in excellent condition throughout the season, consistently ranked as the best in Continental Europe and is Spain's only course in the Top 100 in the world. It demands precision from the tee in order to find the narrow fairways nestled between the cork trees. A strong nerve is required on the lightning fast greens. Please note strict handicap limits are set by the club. Men 24 & Ladies 32.

Non Golfers will visit Gibraltar, famous worldwide for its Dramatic Rock. It is located in a strategic position at the southern end of the Iberian Peninsula. It overlooks the Straits of Gibraltar and is linked to Spain by a narrow isthmus. Gibraltar is imposing but small. It measures less than six square kilometres in total. It is inhabited by around 30,000 people made up of Gibraltarians, British, Moroccans, Indians and Spanish. There is also a colony of the famous apes, the only ones in Europe to run free in a semi-wild state. Gibraltar is a British self-governing colony and a member of the European Union by virtue of Britain's membership.

Overnight: Gran Melia Don Pepe, Superior Seaview Room



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Check out from the Gran Melia Don Pepe and travel southwest to Tarifa.

Enjoy a full day trip to **North Africa** to discover the delights of **Tangier**. The day starts with a 40min ferry ride across the Straits of Gibraltar from Tarifa to Morocco where you will be met by your guide who will stay with you for the entire day. Following lunch (included) you will have time for shopping in the Medina and Souk which is a maze of tiny streets and fascinating shops selling everything from leather goods, jewellery, to carpets, perfumes and spices.

Following the visit return to Spain and continue from Tarifa to **Seville** (2hrs). Check in at the **Vincci La Rabida Hotel in Seville**. Located in the city centre, just a stone's throw from the Cathedral of Seville and the "La Maestranza" Bullring. The hotel is in the Barrio del Arenal neighbourhood, which is well-known for its restaurants that offer the famous "tapas" from Seville.

Overnight: Vincci La Rabida, Superior Room



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Today we explore the Santa Cruz area of Seville with its maze of narrow streets which represents Seville at its most romantic and compact. A visit to the **Cathedral** and **La Giralda** is a must. The cathedral occupies the site of a great mosque built by the Almohads in the late 12th century. La Giralda, its bell tower and the Patio de los Naranjos are a legacy of this Moorish Structure. After the Cathedral walk across the Plaza and visit the **Alcazar**. The fascinating, unmissable Alcazar dates back to 913. Entrenched within the beautiful palace complex are the remarkable stories behind the ruling forces that shaped the history of Seville and Spain.

Visit the El Arenal area of the city which is bound by the Guadalquivir River and dominated by the dazzling bullring **Plaza de Toros de la Maestranza**, an 18th century bullring, arguably the most magnificent in Spain. The riverfront is dominated by one of Seville's best known monuments, the Moorish **Torre del Oro**, the Tower of Gold formed part of the walled defences linking up with the Alcazar. The tree lined promenade leading from the tower is the perfect place for a stroll along the riverbank.

Overnight: Vincci La Rabida, Superior Room



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Following breakfast golfers will play **Real Club de Seville**. Located to the south of the city, this is a testing layout which opened for play in 1991 to a design by Josie Maria Olazabal. The club has played host to the World Cup and most recently the Spanish Open. While it looks fairly flat it is a scenic course with natural lagoons, mature trees and heavy bunkering providing the main hazards. The greens are relatively small, to score you must find the fairway for the best chance to get close to the pin with your approach.

Non Golfers will enjoy a leisurely morning in **Seville**. Free time this morning to further explore at your own pace or revisit your favorite part of this wonderful city.

Following golf, we depart Seville for **Cordoba** (1hr 30mins) arriving in the late afternoon and check into the **Hospes Palacio Del Bailío** built during the 16th century and declared a Cultural Heritage Monument.

A true Andalusian gem, **Cordoba**, Spain has a rich and varied history. Over the centuries, Cordoba has been inhabited by three of the world's major religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, which have shaped the architectural landscape and customs of the city.

Overnight: Hospes Palacio Del Bailío, Standard Room



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

This morning enjoy a city tour of **Cordoba** with a visit to the famous **Mezquita** (Mosque). Set in the historic old town of Cordoba, the Mezquita is a World Heritage site. The most stunning of its features are the arches and more than 850 columns of granite, jasper and marble that support the roof. Nineteen naves make up the quadrangular plan of the early mosque, divided by a double series of arches. Alternating red and white, brick with stone and other decorative elements were used, in addition to sculpted marble, stucco, mosaics, and plasterwork to give this amazing look.

After lunch we leave Cordoba for **Granada**. (2hrs). The final destination is spent within the site of the Alhambra at the **Parador de Granada**. Set among gardens and fountains which recall a past where the Arabian merged with the Christian. A converted ancient convent built on the orders of the Catholic Monarchs on top of a Nazrid palace, of which important remains are still conserved. This monumental complex offers the guest peaceful walks around the area and the city.

Overnight: Parador de Granada, Standard Room



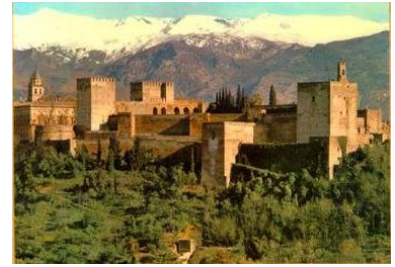
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Today is spent with a guided tour of the **Alhambra**, one of the most famous architectural sites in the world. A series of palaces and gardens built under the Nazari Dynasty in the 14th Century. This mighty compound of buildings, including the summer palace called Generalife, with its fountains and gardens stands at the foot of Spain's highest mountain range, the Sierra Nevada, and overlooks the city below and the fertile plain of Granada.

At the centre of the Alhambra stands the massive Palace of Charles V, an outstanding example of Spanish Renaissance architecture. Other major Christian monuments found in the city are the Cathedral, including the Royal Chapel where Isabel and Ferdinand lie buried, the Monastery of La Cartuja and many churches built by Moorish craftsmen after the Reconquest, in Granada's unique "mudéjar" style.

This evening join your fellow tour participants for a farewell dinner.

Overnight: Parador de Granada, Standard Room



MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

Transfer to **Malaga Airport** for departing flights. (1hr 45mins)

LAND PACKAGE COSTING

Golfer - per person based on sharing twin or double room	\$4,895.00
Non Golfer - per person based on sharing twin or double room	\$4,165.00
Single Room Supplement (to be added to the above costs)	\$1,485.00

TOUR INCLUSIONS

INCLUDED

- Accommodations in the Gran Melia Don Pepe, Vincci La Rabida, Hospes Palacio Del Bailío & Parador de Granada for 8 nights
- Breakfast daily
- English Speaking Concierge Guide throughout the duration of the tour
- Local Guides for sightseeing in Ronda, Gibraltar, Morocco, Seville, Corboda & the Alhambra
- Green fees and confirmed starting times for 3 rounds of golf. (Cart share available at additional \$135 per person)
- Round trip airport transfers to/from Malaga Airport on the designated transfer days
- All transportation throughout as listed in the daily schedule
- All transportation to/from golf courses
- All local taxes and service charges

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare
- Visa and passport fees.
- Luggage, cancellation and accident insurance.
- Meals and beverages other than those specified.
- Guide Gratuities
- Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes and e-mail service.

HOTEL DESCRIPTIONS

MARBELLA - GRAN MELIA DON PEPE

On the beach-front and in extensive sub-tropical gardens, the Gran Melia Don Pepe hotel stands in an enviable position overlooking the Mediterranean and the long traffic free marine promenade. There are shops, restaurants and bars in the immediate neighbourhood and it is a 10 minute walk to Marbella centre and just a little further into the attractive old town. A renowned hotel, it has lots of amenities, including a large swimming pool, tennis courts, heated indoor pool and a fitness centre with jacuzzi, sauna, Turkish bath and massage. Fashionable Puerto Banus, with its restaurants and shops, is just 6km away. All bedrooms and bathrooms are air-conditioned/heated and bathrooms have bathrobes and hairdryer, satellite TV, modem and fax connection, free safe and mini-bar.



SEVILLE - VINCCI LA RABIDA

The Vincci La Rabida is a boutique hotel located in an exquisitely restored eighteenth century palace in the heart of old Seville, and is very well connected to all main streets of the city just a stroll away from the famous Cathedral and the Maestranza Bullfighting Arena. It has 2 restaurants offering inventive Andalusian dishes, one of which has a view of the Cathedral while the terrace has views of the Giralda. Spacious rooms are all typical Sevillian designs that are apparent throughout the building, creating an elegant and warm atmosphere.



CORDOBA – HOSPES PALACIO DEL BAILIO

Hospes Palacio del Bailio is composed of several buildings arranged around a total of five patios. The main patio is also the most spectacular as the traditional paving has been replaced with a glass floor, revealing a dramatic perspective on the Roman ruins buried four and a half metres below. Restoring paintings and frescos from the 19th century is a further example of the care and attention given to the revitalisation of past beauty at the Hospes Palacio del Bailío. Built between the 16th and 18th centuries this traditional Andalusian agrarian estate has been meticulously restored and finely balanced with contemporary design. Original detailing such as wrought-iron balcony railings, terracotta tiles, Moorish decorative elements and a lavishly painted ceiling have been artfully combined with understated modern touches.



GRANADA - PARADOR DE GRANADA

The Parador of Granada is a small four star hotel in a fifteenth century convent which is part of the famous Palace of Alhambra. The building lies in the Alhambra, a series of palaces started in 1238 and added to by later Arab rulers. The Parador is part of a palace and mosque built between 1332 and 1354 which was later converted into a Franciscan convent with a charming tiled patio remaining from this conversion. Part of the building was the former chapel where the kings of Spain were buried until their remains were moved to the Royal Chapel where they now lie. The interior combines the Arabic and Christian styles with classical furniture, numerous portraits, engravings, embroideries etc. The bedrooms are all different and have views of the famous buildings that make up the Alhambra site.

