



# Wines along Spain's Roman Silver Road

March 20-27, 2022



## What to expect

**A gourmet tour from Madrid to Malaga via Salamanca and Seville**

This springtime tour takes us through central and southern Spain, travelling from Madrid to Malaga over 7 nights through the diverse landscapes of Castile and Leon, Extremadura and Andalusia . We meet the innovators who are reviving the ancient wine lands of remote Spain, along the old Roman and Silver route from Salamanca through Caceres and Merida to Seville.

The trip is hosted by Joanna Wivell whose insider knowledge offers an inside track on how to taste the very best of Spain, underpinned by many years uncovering the heart and soul of Iberia.

The love of wine, and the stories surrounding it, is one of the key elements of this trip. We experience tastings of top class wines from established winemakers as well as visits to what are considered the best new wineries in the region.

## Highlights

- Meet groundbreaking, pioneer winemakers
- Tapas like a local in Madrid
- Prize-winning Ibérico jamón tasting at Guijuelo, one of the world's great ham curers
- Zamorano cheese and Juan Garcia grape wine tasting, followed by golden eagle spotting on the Douro
- Tour the Roman ruins in Merida, then lunch on the site of an old Roman vineyard

- A private sherry tasting in Jerez
- Flamenco in Seville
- Michelin star dinner at Seville's Abantal restaurant
- Farewell lunch and private wine tasting at Finca el Rosalejo, estate belonging to the Duke and Duchess of Ahumada

## Winery visits

Bernabeleva, Alma Roja, La Zorra, Santa Marina, Lustau, Fernando de Castilla



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## Trip Itinerary

**Start at 7:30pm in Palacio de Tropa in Madrid.**

**Day 1.** We meet in the reception area of the Palacio de Tropa, former Palace designed by Prado architect Juan de Villanueva. We start our trip with a tapas tour sampling our selection of Madrid's tapas bars, each with their own speciality and pairing wines.

**Day 2.** We board our bus and head north to Bernabeleva winery for a tour and tasting with owner Juan Bulnés. On to the medieval, walled city of Avila for a lunch paired with more much-acclaimed high altitude garnacha wines from Sierra de Gredos DO. We continue north to the university city of Salamanca for a walk with local guide Rosa through the old city and evening tapas in the picturesque main square. We stay at the Palacio de Castellanos, a former 16<sup>th</sup> century palace which looks onto the Los Dominicos monastery where Columbus developed his pitch to persuade the royal family to send him to the Americas in 1492.

**Day 3.** We visit artisan cheese-makers and Harrods supplier, Vicente Pastor to meet his sheep and taste his prize-winning zamorano cheese. We continue on to Arribes del Duero to meet British winemaker Charlotte Allen at her winery in the village of Fermoselle and visit her vineyard. Lunch is across the border into Portugal for lunch in Miranda do Douro for the regional specialty 'posta a Mirandesa' steaks. An afternoon tranquil boat cruise along the meandering Douro River with its steep gorges - an area of exceptional beauty with birds of prey such as the golden eagle often flying above. Back in Salamanca, an optional evening to explore the classics of this historic university city's tapas scene.

**Day 4.** A short drive to Guijuelo to visit award-winning ham curers, Simón Martín, whose family business dates back to 1907. On to the Sierra de Francia village of Mogarraz to visit Agustín Mailla at his winery, La Zorra with wines made from the local rufete grape. Lunch with mountain views from their



restaurant Mirasierra with local meat grilled on the table. We continue South to Extremadura to UNESCO World Heritage city of Cáceres for a short, guided evening walk and drink and tapa in the main square. We stay at the Parador, a converted former mansion house dating back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, situated inside the protected historic centre

**Day 5.** We continue south to Mérida, former capital of the Roman province, Lusitania for a guided visit of the Roman theatre, amphitheatre and Roman museum. On southwards to the Santa Marina winery for a tour and lunch paired with their DO Ribera del Guadiana wines including Miraculus and Gladiator (both of which received 91 Parker points). We continue to the majestic Andalusian city of Seville. Check in to our Moorish style hotel, Vincci La Rábida. An optional walk before a free evening for dinner.

**Day 6.** After breakfast, we visit Jerez de la Frontera, the first and oldest DO in Spain. Tour and tasting at Lustau, "Almacenista" producers of highly rated sherries since 1896. On to Fernando de Castilla, one of the oldest bodegas in Jerez, owned by Jan Pettersen, for a tour and tasting of their aged sherries, between 93 and 95 Parker points. Tapas lunch and back to Seville. Evening flamenco before dinner at Seville's Michelin starred El Abantal.

**Day 7.** Check out. We cross the Sierra and call at Finca el Rosalejo belonging to the Duke and Duchess of Ahumada for a tasting of locally prized wines and our farewell lunch in the main dining room. On to Málaga for our last night at the former 18<sup>th</sup> century Andalusian Palace, Hotel Palacio Solecio. A local drink and tapas to celebrate the end of our tour.

**Day 8** After breakfast end of tour



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\$4400/ £3100/ €3575 per person  
double occupancy  
\$800/ £550/ €650 single supplement  
\$500/ £400/ €400 deposit per person  
*Limited to 20 guests*

## Included

- 1 night at the fashionable 5\* Palacio de Tepa, Madrid
- 2 nights at the historic 4\* NH Palacio de Castellanos, Salamanca
- 1 night at a former 14th century palace, the 4\* Parador, Caceres
- 2 nights at the 4\* Vincci La Rábida, Seville
- 1 night at the 4\* Palacio Solecio, Malaga
- Private transport by luxury coach
- Tour manager
- Breakfast daily; 6 lunches/ 6 dinners
- Visits and activities as specified



## Not included

Airfare; meals not mentioned above; travel insurance; gratuities for guides

*Contact us to sign up for this trip*

## Iberian Wine Tours

+44 7873263809

