Stunning Andalucía
Granada • Córdoba • Seville
March 3–12, 2017
with Inés Arribas, Senior Lecturer in Spanish
Explore the historic treasures, cultural heritage, and vibrant landscapes of Spain’s stunning Andalucía.

Our sojourn in the southern coastal region of Spain takes us to some of the most striking and ornately decorated palatial residences in the world. We’ll see the impressive Moorish detail of Granada’s Alhambra, Seville’s stunning Alcázar, as well as awe-inspiring cathedrals including Córdoba’s Mezquita and Seville’s Gothic Cathedral. Throughout the itinerary, we’ll also be special guests during private palace and garden visits, and we’ll have ample opportunities to shop in local boutiques and outdoor markets.

Boutique Hotels

Our deluxe, four-star accommodations include Hotel Vincci Albayzín, set around a traditional Andalusian-style courtyard and close to Granada’s historic center. The elegant NH Amistad Córdoba Hotel is a converted 18th-century mansion next to the old city walls in Córdoba’s Jewish quarter with views of Mezquita. In Seville’s old town, Hotel Bécquer is close to the Cathedral and Guadalquívir River with panoramic views.

Travel with Study Leader Inés Arribas

Inés Arribas earned her B.A. from the Sorbonne University in France and her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Hispanic Literature and Culture. She joined the Spanish Department at Bryn Mawr College in 2001 where she serves as Senior Lecturer and Language Program Coordinator. She is the author of La literatura de humor en la España democrática (1997), an important popular genre for understanding the sociopolitical context of post-Franco Spain. She has conducted research on cultural representations of Spanish gypsies in Spanish literature, film, and the Internet. Her more recent project focuses on slam poetry and spoken word in Spanish as a pedagogical tool to enhance the Spanish language curriculum. She teaches language courses at the introductory and advanced levels, as well as culture and literature courses. An avid flamenco dancer, she occasionally teaches flamenco workshops at Bryn Mawr and beyond.
This custom travel program has been created uniquely for Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association.

Friday, March 3, 2017
Departures
Take independent overnight flights to Granada, Spain.

Saturday, March 4, 2017
Welcome to Granada
Upon arrival in Granada, take a group transfer to the four-star Hotel Vincci Albayzín located in the historic center of Granada. Relax in the hotel’s Andalusian-style courtyard and enjoy a welcome reception before check-in. Later, gather with your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at a popular local restaurant.

Hotel Vincci Albayzín, Granada (Rec., D)

Sunday, March 5, 2017
Granada’s Historic Center
This morning, follow an expert local guide on a walking tour of Granada’s Renaissance city center. See the luminous interior of Granada’s cathedral, visit Capilla Real where Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II are buried, and admire the exterior architectural detailing of the Madraza, the first Arab university in Granada. Enjoy a gourmet lunch at the Andalucía Museum of Memory’s restaurant with panoramic views of the city. This afternoon, drive into Granada’s Moorish quarter, the Albayzín district, for a visit at a private historic garden. Walk to the Mirador San Nicolás to admire magnificent views of the iconic Alhambra and majestic Sierra Nevada mountains. Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure to experience the charm of this historic city.

Hotel Vincci Albayzín, Granada (B, L)

Monday, March 6, 2017
Alhambra, Nasrid Palaces & Generalife
Begin with a lecture by Bryn Mawr Senior Lecturer Inés Arribas. Then, embark on an in-depth guided tour of the Alhambra, examining the ornamental details that make it the pinnacle of Spain’s Moorish architecture. Begin with an exploration of the Nasrid Palaces with their mysterious courtyards and delightful gardens. Continue to Alcazaba, the military zone of the enclosure featuring terraces, plazas, and towers, as well as the idyllic Garden of the Adarves. Tour through the terraced gardens of Generalife, the Nasrid “summer palace” of Granada’s caliphs. Relax during an Andalusian lunch at the enchanting Parador within the Alhambra property. This afternoon, enjoy free time to continue exploring the extensive grounds of the impressive and breathtaking Alhambra.

Hotel Vincci Albayzín, Granada (B, L)

Tuesday, March 7, 2017
Olive Cultivation in Úbeda & Jaen
Depart Granada on a scenic drive to the lovely city of Úbeda to meet a local Spaniard, whose family has dedicated itself to the production of olive oil since the 18th century. Take a tour with him in the nearby countryside to learn about olive cultivation and olive oil production and taste the region’s olive oil. Continue to the city of Jaen and be special guests at a 16th-century Renaissance palace, the home of the same family whose olive grove and olive oil mill we just visited. Experience a private lunch with our hosts in their lovely palace followed by a brief guided visit of its interiors. Continue to Córdoba, an extraordinary Moorish city that flourished as a center of scholarship under the caliphs.
Seville’s Fine Arts Museum & Flamenco

After a morning lecture by Dr. Arribas, depart on foot to Seville’s Museum of Fine Arts to tour its collections of works from the 15th century through the 19th century. After time for an independent lunch and afternoon, gather with fellow travelers at a traditional tablao to watch a special Flamenco performance. Then walk to a nearby Andalusian restaurant for a celebratory farewell dinner.

Hotel Bécquer, Seville (B, D)

Sunday, March 12, 2017
Depart for the U.S.
After breakfast, take a group transfer to the Seville airport for independent return flights to the United States. (B)

TRAVEL INSURANCE
The Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. For additional information, please contact Sarah Doody with Bryn Mawr travel at 610-526-5316 or sdoody@brynmawr.edu.

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Witness the vastness of the Mezquita of Córdoba, a mosque so immense that a Catholic church was built inside it after the Reconquista.

Learn about olive cultivation as special guests of a local family that has dedicated itself to the production of olive oil since the 18th century, followed by a private lunch in their 16th-century palace.

Enjoy a flamenco performance at one of Seville’s traditional tablaos.