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## **Cultural Tour in Andalusia: The Nasrid Route**

## From 400€ per person

The discovery of the authentic Jaen countryside, away from the tourist trails and the cities of Ubeda and Baeza, two cities classified as World Heritage by UNESCO
 Visit to Granada and the Palatial City of the Alhambra (UNESCO)

- The delivery of a cultural guide specific to the Nasrid Route, 150 pages to allow you to carry out your excursions in the best conditions
- Explore a major Cultural Route of the Council of Europe

Without the kingdom of Granada, the dazzling epilogue of Islamic history in the Iberian Peninsula, the panorama of Spanish-Muslim civilization would be hopelessly incomplete and unintelligible. This is the reason why this route is entirely dedicated to the Nasrid dynasty, protagonist of an era: that of the last state of Al-Andalus, which it directed, to which it gave its form, and whose history tells us offers, in addition to countless political or military successes, artistic and cultural achievements as grand as the Alhambra.

However, this route begins long before reaching the monumental summits of this late sultanate, whose existence is precarious although dazzling, and which has often been taken as an example and a memory of human lightness. Discover this past of culture and history that shaped this land and its natives, and like travelers of the time, while discovering the magic and the beauty of the landscapes and villages, far from the beaten track, take the time to see the hospitality of their inhabitants.

THE NASRIDES ...

They are the last reigning Muslim dynasty in Spain and emerge from the family of Banu Nasar, who lived in Arjona (province of Jaen). An important figure in this family is Muhammad (called Ibn Yusuf Ibn Nasr al-Ahmar). In an era of unrest and struggle, this opportunist, over the course of his victories, gained popularity with Muslims; considering at the same time the successive defeats of its rivals, from whom the Christians are gradually recovering the territories.

Muhammad, also known as the magnificent al-Ahmar, entered the great city of Granada during the holy month of Ramadan in the year 1238. It is the date considered to mark the start of the Nasrid kingdom of Granada. It included the present complete provinces of Granada, Malaga and Almeria, and part of the provinces of Jaen, Cordoba, Seville and Cadiz.

## **Trip Summary**

<b>Day 1</b> Day 1 (140 km) - Baeza
Day 2 Days 2 and 3 (route of your choice) - Jaen countryside, Baeza
Day 3 Days 4 and 5 - Granada
Day 4 Day 6 - return and the end

#### Day 1



#### Day 1 (140 km) - Baeza

We start from Granada. Pick up and drive to Baeza. Hotel at the Puerta de la Luna hotel or Similar 4\*\*\*\*

## Day 2



#### Days 2 and 3 (route of your choice) - Jaen countryside, Baeza

Not far from Baeza is Navas de Tolosa, the initial stage of this route which opens through the passes of the Sierra Morena. These passes make Andalusia communicate with Castile, and served as a passage to the Christian advance as much as they played a decisive role in the advent of the Nasrid kingdom. This crucial corridor, between the high part of La Mancha and the Guadalquivir valley, will see the decisive part that would open Andalusia to the people of the north, when the Almohad power which then supported the unity of al-Andalus. Thanks to these confrontations, the many Nasrid monuments that the road reveals, castles and watchtowers, take in their architecture the Almohad forms, as well as those which derive from a prior art, Almoravid or Taifa, often adapting with Christian tendencies.

This route follows in the footsteps of this adventure that forever marked the landscape and the villages of the Holy Kingdom of Jaen and the lands bordering on the province of Granada. We discover by following it a real human and natural paradise. In addition to visiting the western campiña of Jaén, the hills of the Upper Guadalquivir and their fortified cities, this route is obviously also an opportunity to appreciate the monumental Renaissance constructions of the cities of Baeza and Ubeda.

Nights at the Puerta de la Luna de Baeza hotel or similar 4\*\*\*\*











### Day 3



#### Days 4 and 5 - Granada

In the same way as Muhammad ibn Alhamar - founder of the dynasty - more than 750 years ago, the traveler ends his pilgrimage on arriving in Granada. Converted into one of the great cities of Al-Andalus, Granada served as the peninsular capital after the conquest of Muslim Spain by the Almoravids at the end of the 11th century. But its true splendor dates from the 13th and 15th centuries, when it became the capital of the Nasrid kingdom.

The new dynasty inaugurated its reign with a decisive and transcendental gesture: the creation of the palatial citadel of the Alhambra on a hill opposite the Albayzin. End your stay by discovering this jewel, legacy of the dynasty, as much as of the city itself, famous until mythification: a privileged place for the meeting of western and eastern civilizations.

With Official guide we will visit Alhambra, Andalusian monuments of Granada.

Worshop of Ceramic and Arab Sufí Music Show

Two nights at the Casa Capitel Nazari hotel, in the heart of Granada or similar 4 \*\*\*\*



# Day 4



Day 6 - return and the end