Tour Extension 'Pueblos Blancos'

Overview

The 'Pueblos Blancos' tour extension, takes you to visit some of the most stunning white villages that Andalucia is famous for.



Some are set in mountain ranges, others high up overlooking the Mediterranean, but all essentially of Moorish design.

Stroll through the narrow white-washed lanes filled with flower pots, take a relaxed tapas lunch and relax.

A great way to wind down after the City tours.

Day 1: FRIGILIANA At 09:30, we drive to the white village of Frigiliana. This exceptionally beautiful white-washed village is truly one of a kind.

A maze of cobbled streets, with meticulously maintained whitewashed houses, that provide a stunning contrast against the blue skies and red slate roofs. The colourful plant pots brimming with bougainvillaea, lavender and jasmine, all add an extra dash of colour to this enchanting scene.

As you wander up the hillside through the pedestrianised cobbled streets, past the white houses with doors painted an array of pastel colours, past tiny nooks and crannies and viewpoints that offer glimpses of the surrounding countryside and the coast below, you can fully understand why Frigiliana is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful villages in Andalucía.



A village that has consistently won awards to that effect, Including being voted as the 'prettiest village in Andalucía' by the Spanish tourism authority.

It is a delight to wander through the narrow lanes of the village. Spotless and clean it seems as if it was painted white only yesterday.

Colourful flowerpots are everywhere and the painted doors and shutters provide a gorgeous contrast against the white facades.

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The village also holds lots of events, the most popular of which being the '*Festival de las Tres Culturas'*, the three cultures festival, which takes place on the last weekend of each August.

The festival includes countless live performances on the main stage along with street performers all around the streets of the village.

Exploring the village, you will find hidden corners and encounter symbols with Christian, Arab and Jewish origins.

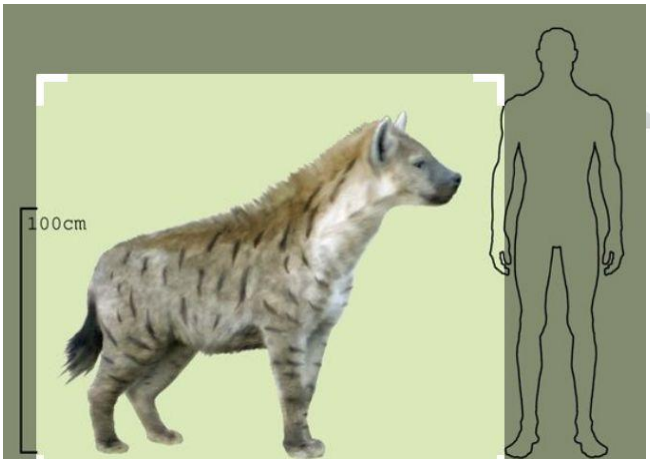
After lunch, we leave Frigiliana a for a visit to the Nerja Caves.



Approximately 5 million years ago, during the Upper Miocene, water penetrated the fissures of the marble rock and dissolved it, forming a huge subterranean cavern.

Seismic movement and landslides during forced the water to find new pathways through the cave system and began the formation of the giant stalactites and stalagmites that can be seen in the cave.

They were discovered on the 12th of January 1959 by a group of young locals, who were on a late-night walk searching for bats. They entered the cave network through a narrow sinkhole known as *'La Mina'* the Mine.



Skeletal remains found in the caverns indicate that they were inhabited from about 25,000 BC, up until the Bronze Age.

Cave paintings from the Paleolithic and post-Paleolithic eras have been discovered on the walls of the cave.

For about 4,000 years from 25,000 BC the caves were used seasonally by a small group of humans, and were occupied by cave hyena during the periods that the humans were absent.

By 21,000 BC the human population had taken up year-round residence in the caves and had increased in number.

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A culture based on hunting in the local area had evolved, illustrated by first cave paintings found in the cave, which date to around the time.



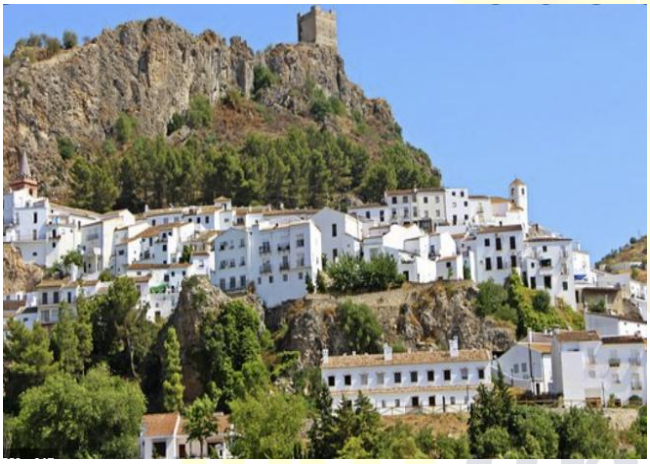
Pine nuts and snails were important elements of the diet.

Up until around 10,800 BC the hunting culture continued to develop with more prey species being taken, including goats, rabbits, fish and marine mammals.

A wide variety of animal bones, shells and fish bones from this time have been found in the cave, including the remains of a number of offshore species, along with stone and bone tools.

After the visit we spend a short time in Nerja.

Day 2: ZAHARA DE LA SIERRA & GRAZALEMA At 09:30, we depart for the white village of Zahara de la Sierra.



Located in the province of Cádiz, it is perched on a mountain, overlooking a valley and a man-made lake formed by the dam.

The town was originally a Moorish outpost.

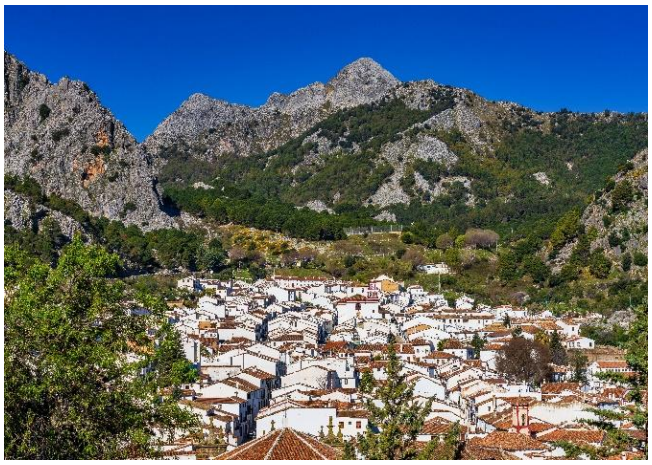
Due to its position between Ronda and Seville, it was a perfect site for a castle to be built, to serve as a fortress in case of attack.

The remains of the Moorish castle still exist.

It was ruled by Arabs until 1407 when it fell to the Christians, but it was recaptured by the Emirate of Granada in 1481.

This capture gave a pretext to Castile's war against Granada.

It was finally captured by Castilian troops under command of Rodrigo Ponce de León, Duke of Cádiz in 1483.



We drive into the spectacular Grazalema National Park to the white village of Grazalema where you take a late lunch and have a wander before returning to your accommodation

The drive through the Grazalema National Park is stunning.

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Day 3: SUBÉTICCA, ZUHEROS & PRIEGO DE CÓRDOBA At 09:30, we depart for the Subbética National Park.

The area is a Mecca for Olive Oil, producing some of the best oil in the world.

We arrive in Zuheros, a white village in the Subbética, have a wander and coffee before we head for the Baroque town of Priego de Córdoba for lunch.

Zuheros is a small village of around 640 inhabitants and is famous for its cheese.



Many consider Zuheros to be one of the best of the white villages, even going as far as to claim it the most beautiful village in the world; '*el pueblo mas bonito del mundo*'.

It is a quiet village and relatively off the tourist circuit.

It's a great place to stop, take a coffee break and admire the wonderful views.

Located in the province of Córdoba, it is the gateway into the beautiful Sierra Subbética National Park.

The village is at an altitude of 700 metres.

The castle was built in the 9th Century.

After Zuheros, we travel to the Baroque town of Priego de Córdoba and have lunch.

The town is found on the *'Ruta del Califato'* the trade route of the Caliphate.

It is called *City of the Water* because of the many springs and *'Jewel of the Baroque Native of Córdoba'* due to its beautiful Baroque Architecture.

It has often been referred to as the lock and key to the Kingdom of Granada.

The oldest section of Priego is the *'Barrio de la Villa'*. It is bordered on one side by the town's natural fortress, a high cliff.



The alleys that wind through this part of the town are Moorish in style, decorated proudly with flowerpots and religious icons.

Some homes retain the ancient tunnel system that went from their cellars to the castle.

The Olive Oil from Priego de Córdoba is highly prized, winning many of the most prestigious prizes in international competitions.

'Venta del Barón' winning the title of best olive oil in the world for three consecutive years, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

'Niceto Alcalá-Zamora y Torres' (6 July 1877 – 18 February 1949) was born in Priego.

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A Spanish lawyer and politician, he served, briefly, as the first Prime Minister of the Second Spanish Republic, and then from 1931 to 1936—as its President until the start of the Spanish Civil War.

We return to the Villa for your final evening and night before your departure.



What's included

- All tour transportation in one of our air conditioned tour vehicles
- Transfers to the airport, train station and local Malaga Hotels between the hours of 09:00 and 18:00
- Dedicated Tour Leader
- Bed and breakfast accommodation in the Villa

What's not included

- Any other meals, drinks, subsistence
- Any flight, train, bus or other transportation
- Any expenditure not detailed above

Tour Extension Price 'Pueblos Blancos'	Per Person	Single Supplements
'Pueblos Blancos' 3 days/3 nights	**£650**	**£95**
Room upgrades if available **Premier Suite** **Junior Suite**	 **£80** **£50**	
Antequera Parador Hotel	**£760**	**£195**

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Notes

- Wear comfortable shoes, drink lots of water and use sunscreen cream
- All bookings are subject to our terms and conditions, a copy of which are included in the booking form
- Prices are based on two guests sharing a room
- Prices are in £GBP