

MUSIC IN SEVILLE

A week of music, history and culture
with London Festival Opera

19th to 26th November 2019

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Roman mosaic floor, Palacio de Lebrija, Seville



Plaza España, Seville



School of Equestrian Art, Jerez



Interior of the Great Mosque, Cordoba



Torre del Oro

Seville, the birthplace of flamenco and city of Carmen, Don Juan and Figaro has been an inspiration for musicians and composers for centuries. There are close to 30 operas, symphonies and music pieces that have been written here and Sevillians are proud of this heritage. Added to this, the city boasts some of

the most beautiful architecture in the world from palaces to private casas. It therefore seemed the perfect destination to join with our good friends and outstanding performers, London Festival Opera and offer you a week of exploration, music and relaxation. We are also delighted that Cesar Perez will be joining us as Tour Manager for this exclusive tour. A native of the city of Seville, Cesar's local knowledge will enhance our visit tremendously. We have planned a week of private concerts in magical settings, sumptuous meals and cocktail receptions, along with explorations of the Moorish architecture that the region is famed for. We have purposely planned our trip late in the year to avoid the tourist high season months when the crowds of day trippers descend in their masses, however with good fortune we will still be able to take advantage of some winter warmth.

Our View

"When I travelled to Seville to research this trip, it was my first time in the city and I fell in love with the authentic Andalusian feel, the narrow winding Medieval lanes and stunning Moorish architecture around every corner, the imposing Cathedral and the beautiful gardens of the Alcazar Palace. Not to mention the delicious food in the city credited with the invention of Tapas. I visited the university which dates back to the 15th century and once housed the tobacco factory where Carmen worked, as well as the bullring where Don Jose committed the murder of his beloved; I felt that we had to be accompanied by London Festival Opera to bring the story to life. The hotel is in a great position, located in the heart of old Seville and a short stroll from many historical sites and restaurants. I hope you enjoy reading about the trip and decide to travel with us to the heart of Andalusia".

ALEXIA WILLIAMS, PRODUCT MANAGER



London Festival Opera in Seville

London Festival Opera

We have long been associated with London Festival Opera, the travelling opera company. Bringing together artists from the major British opera companies including the Royal Opera, English National Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, London Festival Opera have a considerable reputation and have performed in many of the world's leading venues.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Seville, Spain. Fly by scheduled flight to Seville. On arrival transfer to the Hotel Vincci La Rabida for your seven night stay.

Day 2 Seville – The Alcazar & Christian Cathedral. Today we will see Seville's two greatest monuments, the Muslim Alcazar with its exotic terraced garden and the Christian Cathedral, reputed to be the largest Gothic style church in the world. The Reales Alcazares, the Royal Palace consists of a series of smaller palaces built by the kings of Seville around and on top of the ruins of King Al-Mutamid's



Moorish palace. This evening enjoy a cocktail dinner in the private Casa Bailen. This 17th century palace, which has been elegantly restored, belongs to the granddaughter of the Marquis of Nervion, Lady Josefa Ybarra. Here we will enjoy 'A Night at the Opera' performance by London Festival Opera, which will include operas associated with Seville such as Mozart's 'Don Giovanni' and Rossini's 'The Barber of Seville'.

Day 3 Jerez. Today we enjoy a full day excursion to Jerez. This morning we will visit one of the most famous wine cellars, 'Bodegas Real Tesoro' where we will learn all about the different types of sherry. We start by visiting the central patio with its magnificent collection of Baroque works of art, the Bodega de Lola where Tio Mateo Sherry is produced. Next we visit the Bodega's Art gallery where you can see over 100 engravings by Picasso as well as works by Chillida, Miró, Zuloaga, Tàpies, Dalí and many other contemporary artists. The visit will end with a wine-tasting. We continue to the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art, a centre for training of dressage riders and technical personnel and the selection of pure Spanish thoroughbreds for breeding. We will enjoy a Horse Show and see the palace exterior and the Picadero arena. Our visit will be followed by lunch in a local restaurant before we return to Seville.

Day 4 Carmen's Seville. Our morning excursion is themed on one of the most popular operas of all time, 'Carmen', the story of which is set in Seville. A gypsy woman from Triana was crossing the bridge every day over the large Guadalquivir River to reach the tobacco factory. We will understand the strong feelings which existed between Don José and Carmen: passion, love and hate until the tragic end in the bullfighting arena. This magnificent bullring is considered to be one of the finest in Spain and is one of the oldest and most important in the world. The building, with its

impressive Baroque façade, dates from 1762 -1881 and was immortalised in Bizet's Carmen. Enjoy a free afternoon. This evening London Festival Opera will perform highlights of Bizet's 'Carmen' at the splendid hotel Alfonso XIII, one of the most famous luxury hotels of Seville since 1929, year of the Iberoamerican Exhibition. After a cocktail in the galleries and inner courtyard, dinner will be served in the majestic Royal Dining Room.

Day 5 Cordoba. Our full day excursion will take us to Cordoba; the city was both the Roman and the Moorish capital of Spain, and its Old Town, clustered around its famous mosque (Mezquita), remains one of the best examples of Moorish heritage in Andalusia. We will start our tour crossing the Roman bridge and visit the Mezquita-Cathedral. It was built between the 8th and 10th centuries and is one of the earliest and most breathtakingly beautiful examples of Spanish Islamic architecture. After our visit we will take a walk through the fascinating Jewish Quarter. Lunch will be taken at a local restaurant.

Day 6 Carmona & Necropolis. Located on a low hill overlooking a fertile plain, Carmona is a picturesque, small town with a magnificent 15th century tower built in imitation of Seville's Giralda. Not surprisingly, given its proximity, Carmona, once an important Roman city, shares a similar history with Seville. The architectural and sculptural remains of this period are of great importance, especially the impressive Roman Necropolis of Carmona where we will start today's excursion. The Roman Necropolis is unique and is an example of the significance that Carmona had in the region in Roman times. It lies on a low hill at the opposite end of Carmona amid cypress trees and contains more than nine hundred family tombs dating from the second century BC to the fourth century AD. Enclosed in subterranean chambers hewn from the rock, the tombs are often frescoed and contain a series of niches in which many

of the funeral urns remain intact. Some of the larger tombs have vestibules with stone benches for funeral banquets and several retain carved family emblems. Opposite is a partly excavated amphitheatre. We then proceed to Carmona, where we will enjoy a walk through this enchanting village and have lunch at Parador de Carmona before returning to Seville. In the evening our local agent will offer the option of a Flamenco Show (subject to availability, details and pricing will be available locally).

Day 7 Seville. A day at leisure for relaxation or to further explore Seville. For our final evening we have organised a private cocktail reception and Gala dinner at Palacio de Lebrija, considered the "best paved house-palace in Europe" owing to its collection of roman mosaics, which pave practically the whole of the ground floor. London Festival Opera will perform an 'Opera Gala Night' in period costume, featuring the works of Verdi, Offenbach, Gounod and Puccini.

Day 8 Seville to London. Transfer to Seville airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

Prices per person

Based on double occupancy

CATEGORY

Twin room	£2795
Junior Suite	£3095
Twin room for sole use	£3395

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Seven nights accommodation at the Vinci La Rabida Hotel on bed and breakfast basis • Lunch on days 3, 5 & 6 • Three London Festival Opera performances including dinner and drinks • Excursions as described • Tour Manager • Local Guides • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance, optional Flamenco Show.

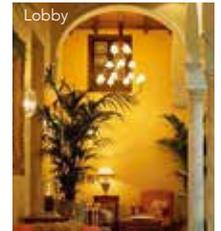
YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Vincci La Rabida

Designed as an 18th century palatial home, the Vincci La Rabida is a beautifully restored four-star boutique hotel which retains many original features such as stone archways, colourful tiles, French balconies and beamed ceilings. The hotel has a beautiful Andalusian courtyard and a roof terrace looking on to La Giralda and is ideally situated to view the main sights. Located in the heart of old Seville in the Barrio del Arenal neighbourhood, which is well-known for its restaurants offering the famous ‘tapas’ from Seville, it is just a stroll away from the Cathedral and the Maestranza bullfighting arena.

Your Space

The hotel has 103 guest rooms, all of which are spacious and equipped with modern amenities including a minibar, in-room safe, satellite TV, hairdryer and air conditioning, bathroom with shower and bathtub and a pillow menu. The bedrooms’ interiors follow the hotel’s architectural design with its traditional Andalusian style and the warm décor with earthy tones and terracotta tiles, dark wood furnishings and wrought iron bed-heads provide a quiet and comfortable setting. The Junior Suites are filled with light and feature a king-size bed in a spacious bedroom as well as a sitting room area with a sofa-bed. The majority of the suites are split across two levels with the sitting area and bathroom on the ground level and bedroom on the upper level. The Andalusian-style interior patio is an ideal spot for relaxing with a drink or sampling some tapas dishes. *Please note that the El Mirador restaurant located on the roof terrace is closed for dinner during the winter months.*



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.

Cover image: Courtyard of the Maidens in the Reales Alcazares, Seville