



# GARDENS OF SPAIN 2013

A 20 day expert guided small group tour through Spain's beautiful gardens and emblematic cities



## Your personal escort, Helen Melville

Helen comes from a long line of market gardeners and has had over a decade of experience in running her own gardening business in Melbourne and now on the Bellarine Peninsula. She studied Horticulture and Landscape Design at Melbourne University (Burnley). Has experience on working on National Trust properties as well as large private gardens. Helen also conducts gardening lectures and workshops on the Bellarine and loves to share her passion for gardening with the amazing experience of travel.



HARVEY WORLD TRAVEL OCEAN GROVE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH IBERTOURS TRAVEL, "The Iberian Specialists"

## 15 April Depart The Bellarine Peninsula

You will be transported from the Bellarine Peninsula by coach to the airport for your flight with Emirates to Madrid.

## 16 APR MADRID

Arrival at the airport and transfer to your hotel for check-in. Welcome dinner tonight in a local restaurant. Dinner & overnight. D

## 17 APR MADRID – GUADALAJARA – MADRID

A morning excursion to the area of Guadalajara today where you will visit a private garden, of Eduardo Mencos' mother and aunts.  
Overnight. B

## 18 APR MADRID

This morning you will have a guided tour of the city, including the great Prado Museum. With almost 9000 exhibits in its permanent collection, the museum houses the world's greatest assembly of Spanish. Overnight. B

## 19 APR MADRID – LA GRANJA – AVILA

Departure to reach La Granja de San Ildefonso, only 11 Km from Segovia, a world heritage site in the heart of the Sierra de Guadarrama. Visit the 17th Century Royal Palace which is now a National monument of impressive beauty valued not only for its architectural merit, but also for its beautiful gardens decorated with statues and fountains. On to Avila & overnight. B

## 20 APR AVILA

A morning tour, including a walk along the old walls and a visit to the Cathedral. Built in the 11th C, the walls are over 2km long and they are punctuated by 88 study turrets on which storks can be seen nesting in season. Overnight. B

## 21 APR AVILA – JARANDILLA DE LA VERA – TALAVERA DE LA REINA – TOLEDO

Today your journey takes you to Jarandilla de la Vera to visit La Lancha – private working farm and garden of Eduardo and Anneli Mencos. Continue on to Talavera de la Reina, famous for its pottery. Continue on to beautiful Toledo. Overnight. B

## 22 APR TOLEDO

A morning tour with a local guide, visiting the Cathedral and Synagogue of Santa Maria la Blanca. You will have the services of the coach today so you can visit the Palacio de Galiana and Cigarral de Menores at your own leisure (optional). A free afternoon to be spent entirely at your leisure, strolling the narrow streets. Dinner at the hotel and overnight. B, D

## 23 APR TOLEDO – ARANJUEZ – CORDOBA

Morning departure the royal site of Aranjuez, chosen by the monarchy and the Spanish Court for rest and leisure during the 17th and 18th centuries. You will visit the impressive Royal Palace and beautiful La Isla garden, considered the most important and typical of the Hapsburg era (16th century).

You will travel on to the historic city of Cordoba. Overnight. B

## 24 APR CORDOBA – BAENA – GRANADA

Enjoy a morning tour of the Mosque and Alcazar the Los Reyes Cristianos, the palace - fortress of the Catholic Monarchs built in the 14thC. Afterwards, an interesting drive as you travel to Granada, stopping en route to enjoy a short visit of a famous producer of olive oil in the region, finishing your tour with an oil tasting. On to Moorish Granada. Overnight. B

## 25 APR GRANADA

This morning you will visit the majestic palaces and gardens of the Alhambra and Generalife, Spain's jewel in the crown of its long Moorish heritage. After the tour, join an ex pat guide for a tour of the Albaicin quarter where you will visit a carmen (walled-garden mansion) and a 15th century Moorish royal palace, followed by lunch. After lunch, free time. Overnight. B, L

## 26 APR GRANADA – LECRIN VALLEY – GRANADA

A special day today as you head to the village of Murchas, passing orange groves along the way as you head to an ecological 'finca' (country estate) in the Lecrín valley built by an ex pat couple as a true labour of love. A special day as you enjoy coffee and cakes on arrival, before a private cooking demonstration using regional ingredients. Lunch of tapas and wine, followed by some free time at the property and back to Granada after a full day. Overnight. B, L



**27 APR  
GRANADA – BENAHAUIS – RONDA**

Depart Granada and head to Benahavis to visit the private home and garden of Gerry Huggan en route to Ronda. Lunch is enjoyed at Los Faroles, one of the oldest restaurants in town. Free time after lunch. On to the white town of Ronda. Arrival and free evening. Stroll the whitewashed streets and alleys and soak up the atmosphere of this very special town. Overnight. B, L

**28 APR  
RONDA**

Enjoy a walking tour, including the Plaza de Toros, the spiritual home of bullfighting. Inaugurated in 1785, it is one of most important bullrings in Spain. You will explore the town and its charming whitewashed streets with your guide, visiting the 18thC Casa del Rey Moro with its steps that lead all the way down to the river. Dinner overlooking the gorge and overnight. B, D

**29 APR  
RONDA – SEVILLA**

A pleasant run north today as you head to Sevilla, via Utrera. Arrival and check-in. You may like to visit the Museum of Fine Arts or the famous "Maestranza" Seville's bullring built between 1761-1881. Tonight you will be treated to a Flamenco show. B

**30 APR  
SEVILLA**

Free morning at your leisure. This afternoon, a wonderful walking tour to visit the Reales Alcazares, the Cathedral and the Casa de Pilatos. The Cathedral occupies the site of a great Mosque built by the Almohads in the late 12th century. The Reales Alcazares was built in the 14th century by Pedro I and has beautiful Moorish gardens, surrounding a reflective pool. Overnight. B

**01 MAY  
SEVILLA**

This morning you will enjoy a guided walk with a local guide, to visit the Maria Luisa Park. It was donated to the city in 1893 by the Infanta Maria Luisa Fernanda de Borbón, Duchess of Montpelier. It is laid out in the shape of a trapeze and is criss-crossed by tree-lined avenues (Hernán Cortés and Pizarro avenues). Your visit will also include the Plaza de España and the Plaza de America, both the work of Anibal Gonzalez. Free time after the tour to relax and explore at leisure. Overnight. B

**02 MAY  
SEVILLA – BARCELONA**

Departure transfer to the station today for the train north to Barcelona. Arrival in Barcelona at Sants station where you are met and transferred to your hotel. Barcelona is Spain's second city and capital of the region of Catalunya. Overnight. B

**03 MAY  
BARCELONA**

A full day tour of the city today, beginning with a walk through the Gothic quarter, Ramblas Boulevard, including a visit to the Palau de la Musica Catalana. Stop for a tapas lunch in the city. You will then board the coach to head north to the Eixample district, to visit Gaudi's beautiful La Pedrera and Sagrada Familia, his supreme yet unfinished work. Free evening. Overnight. B, L

**04 MAY  
BARCELONA – PALAFRUGELL – LLORET DE MAR – BARCELONA**

A morning excursion today to the Costa Brava to visit two gardens in Calella de Palafrugell and Lloret de Mar. Your first stop is the botanic garden of Jardin de Cap Roig. In 1927, Colonel Woevodsky and Dorothy Webster bought the land of this estate in Cap Roig where they began building a castle and a magnificent park. The next stop is Lloret de Mar to visit Jardin de Santa Clotilde, set on land close to the cliff edge in a particularly beautiful part of the Costa Brava. Back to Barcelona for a memorable farewell dinner tonight at Casa Calvet. Overnight. B, D

**05 MAY DEPART BARCELONA**

After breakfast at the hotel, collect your luggage and check-out as you are transferred to the airport for your flight out of Barcelona. B We will fly home on Emirates and then met at Melbourne airport for our coach trip home.

**PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON  
TWIN SHARE IS \$9699.00**

Including return airfares from Melbourne with Emirates, taxes and fuel surcharges, coach transfers from the Bellarine Peninsula to Melbourne airport return, 4\* Hotels & meals as per itinerary, tours as per itinerary.

**Special offer!!! Book by the end of October and get \$200.00 off the price! Don't delay!!**

**\$1075.00 AUD** single supplement

A non-refundable deposit of \$3000.00 per person is due by 30 Nov to qualify for the above rate.

This special group departure is based on a minimum of 15 people travelling. If the minimum number of people is not met, a full refund will be provided, otherwise the refund is non-refundable.

**For information or to make a booking, please contact**

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**Terms and Conditions**

\* Departure is not guaranteed until a minimum of 15 passengers are booked and deposited. In the event of the tour not going ahead due to minimum numbers not being met your deposit will be fully refundable.

\*Agents may charge a service fee and/or fees for credit card payments which vary. Prices are correct as at the 12th of October but may fluctuate due to changes in surcharges, fees, taxes or currency exchange. Please check all prices, availability and other information with your travel agent before booking. Airfares are with Emirates airlines and includes applicable taxes, levies and charges in \$AUD. The airfare is subject to Emirates terms and conditions and the airfare can be withdrawn by Emirates at any time until booked and paid. Iber Tours booking terms and conditions apply.

