



AGENDA- Personalized Journey of History, Food, Wine,

Art & Horses in Andalucia with WEC's Friends

12th-21st May 2017



MAY, FRIDAY 12TH Departure from your US city to Jerez airport. There are alternative routes through Dallas with American Airlines, New York, or any major European capital and finally Madrid - Jerez de la Frontera. If you're not planning to arrive prior the organized trip, please note you lose 1 day with the time change, so **you will need to book your flight on Friday 12th in order to arrive to Jerez on Saturday 13th.**

MAY, SATURDAY 13TH - Sancti Petri, Cadiz - Arrival Please send your flight itinerary to ana@woodlandsequestrianclub.com so we can pick you up at the airport or arrange transportation for you. There

will be flamenco or horse shows in addition to this agenda that we might include in the itinerary if we consider it will make the trip more interesting. Please note that as requested by previous guests, we have arranged all nights' accommodations in the same hotel in front of the beach for everyone's comfort within a maximum of 2, 2.5 hours from all destinations.



HOTEL IBEROSTAR ROYAL ANDALUS ****

Novo Sancti Petri 11130 Chiclana de la Frontera - Cádiz

The *IBEROSTAR Royal Andalus* Hotel is an exclusive resort in Novo Sancti Petri, Cadiz. This elegant and spacious resort has direct access to the beautiful La Barrosa beach with its 6 miles of white sand and dunes, one of the best on the Costa de la Luz. This huge resort (197,000 sq ft) counts with all sorts of amenities for enjoying a perfect stay. Spinning, paddle, tennis, volleyball, archery, water polo, tennis, cycling, and the best golf courses in Cadiz are located in Sancti Petri!

Please meet the other travelers at the lobby by 6 p.m. to visit Sancti Petri's main areas and have dinner together.

Novo Sancti Petri's is the newer seafront town located to the south of the old town and supporting a new seafront promenade behind the magnificent beach called is Playa de La Barrosa. This beach actually stretches for 8km, from Sancti Petri village to Torre del Puerco, a defensive coastal tower dating from the 19th century.



In 1811 on this beach, one of the more important battles of the Spanish Wars of Independence took place. In the Battle of Chiclana the Anglo-Spanish troops defeated Napoleón's French troops. The Torre Bermeja dates from this time and so does the present Torre del Puerco, to the south although it is known to have existed since the sixteenth century. **Sancti Petri is widely known for its unbelievable sunsets over the Atlantic!**

MAY, SUNDAY 14TH - JEREZ - Feria del Caballo (Horse's Fair)

Spain's festive spring moves to Jerez de la Frontera for the annual Horse Fair, declared of International Tourist Interest.

Jerez is a city where sherry, flamenco and horses, but over The Feria in May, horses have no competition (even if the fair does also involve plenty of sherry and flamenco). One of Andalusia's biggest festivals, the fair attracts more than one million visitors and features music, dancing and bullfights. It also hosts all kinds of horse competitions, exhibitions, events and both national and international competitions of Classical Dressage, Doma Vaquera, RAID, Polo, Driving, Gala Shows by the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art, Yeguada de la Cartuja, EQUISUR and Bull Fights, all combining to make the Horse Fair an experience to be enjoyed to the full. We will enjoy colorful parades featuring hundreds of horses passing, the aristocratic-looking male riders decked out in flat-topped hats, frilly white shirts, black trousers and leather chaps, and their female *crupera* (sideways pillion) partners in flamenco-inspired dresses. Similar to Seville's Feria de Abril, the fairgrounds are filled with more than 200 *casetas* (tents).



MONDAY, MAY 15TH - CÁDIZ



Cádiz stands on a peninsula jutting out into a bay, and is almost entirely surrounded by water. Named Gadir by the Phoenicians, who founded their trading post in 1100 BC, it was later controlled by the Carthaginians, until it became a thriving Roman port. It sank into oblivion under the Visigoths and Moors, but attained great splendor in the early 16th century as a launching point for the journey to the newly discovered lands of America. Cadiz was later raided by Sir Francis Drake, in the struggle to gain control of trade with the New World, and managed to withstand a siege by Napoleon's army. In the early 19th century Cadiz became the bastion of Spain's anti-monarchist, liberal movement, as a result of which the country's first Constitution was declared here in 1812. Some of the

city's 18th century walls still stand, such as the Landward Gate. The old, central quarter of Cadiz is famous for its picturesque charm, and many of the buildings reflect the city's overseas links. Worth a visit are the city's Cathedral and churches of Santa Cruz and San Felipe Neri, which is famous throughout Spain as the place where, in defiance of Napoleon's siege, the provisional government was set up with its own liberal Constitution.

The old city looks quite Moorish in appearance and is intriguing with narrow cobbled streets opening onto small squares. The golden cupola of the cathedral looms high above long white houses and the whole place has a slightly dilapidated air. It just takes an hour to walk around the headlands where you can visit the entire old town and pass through some lovely parks with sweeping views of the bay.

TUESDAY, MAY 16TH - REAL ESCUELA (ROYAL SCHOOL OF EQUESTRIAN ARTS) , TIO PEPE WINERY and MEDINA SIDONIA



In Jerez we will see the Real Escuela Del Arte Equestre Exhibition: a spirited performance of magnificent stallions. There are tours of 60 stables, a wonderful tack room some of which dates back to the 18th century. Located inland, 20 km from Sanlúcar, Jerez holds worldwide acclaim for its sherry and brandy production. The word Jerez is derived from Arabic and has now become synonymous with the English word 'sherry'. The city is equally famous for its fine horses as well as Flamenco music and dance. The town dates back to Moorish times and possesses a charming old town, *casco antiguo*, with beautiful palm lined squares. The 11th century Moorish fortress, or Alcazaba, has been partially restored. Of special interest is its church, originally built by the Arabs as a mosque. Today the city of Jerez has a remarkably aristocratic air with wide streets, squares and magnificent rows of jacaranda trees.



5 p.m. We will also enjoy **Visit Tio Pepe Winery** (named after one of the founders' uncle), a brand of Jerez (wrongly known as Sherry) and the bestselling brand in the world. It is best known for its *fino* style of dry sherry made from the palomino grape. The Tio Pepe brand is owned by the González Byass Sherry house.

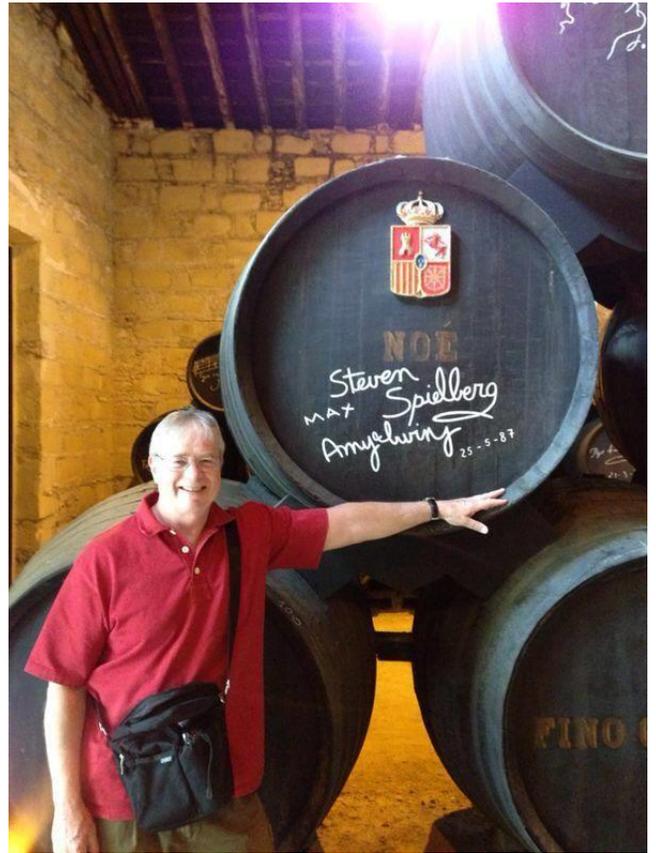
Tio Pepe has based its recent success on promoting itself as a very dry white wine to be served with food, in doing so aiming to differentiate itself from poor quality sherries and their downmarket reputation. The Tio Pepe soleras were established in 1844 and have run uninterrupted since that time. Your visit will include Jerez wine tasting.

WHITE TOWN:

Medina Sidonia is one of the richest cities, when it comes to history, in the entire province of Cadiz. It is located south of the route of the white towns, and it is famous for having within its township numerous fighting-bull ranches.

Located in the middle of the province, halfway between the farmland and the sierra, Medina Sidonia is the melting pot of many different civilizations:

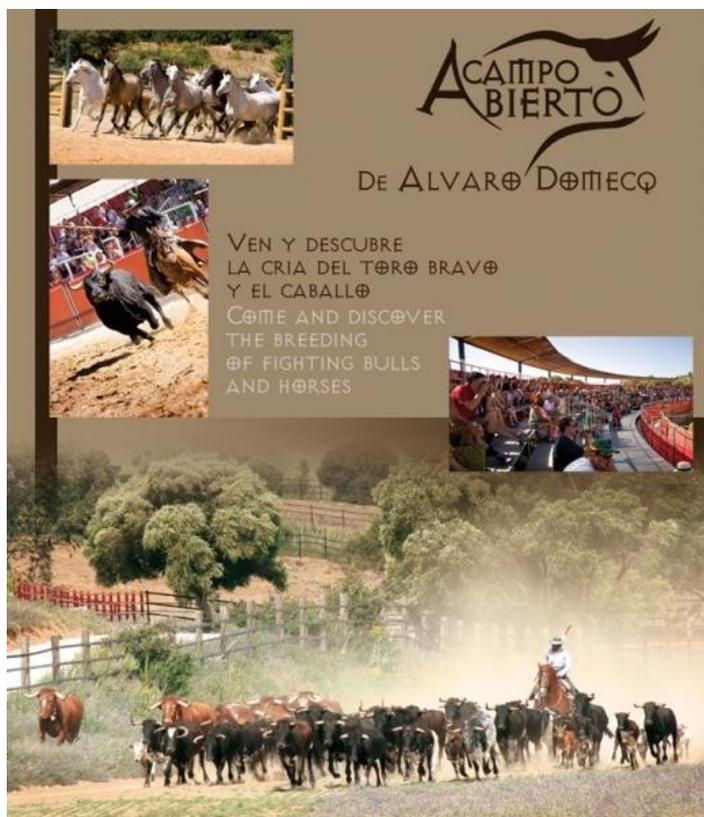
Phoenician, Roman, and later Muslim, the town reached its maximum splendor when it became the site of the Duchy of Medina Sidonia. It boasts numerous buildings and places of interest, such as the Roman sewers, from the 1st century; the Roman bridge; the ruins of the Arab castle of Torrestrella



(13th century), and of the arches of Pastora, Belén and Puerta del Sol; the monastery of San José del Cuervo; the convent of Las Descalzas, from the 17th century; the Visigothic hermitage of Santos Mártires, from the 7th century; and the church of Santa María de la Coronada, from the 15th and 16th centuries, one of the most significant examples of Flamboyant Gothic architecture in Cadiz.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th - CAMPO ABIERTO VISIT and JEREZ CITY



Enjoy the life of these wonderful animals in the best environment you can imagine, the freedom of the Andalusian countryside:

- Spanish Bulls
- Cows and their calves and stallion
- Mares with foals
- Riders and horses working in Doma Vaquera and high Equestrian school.
- The cow with the bull and their calves Oxen Mares with their foals Riders and horses performing classical and andalusian dressage **With the five senses:** See the natural beauty of the state, the different stages in the live of these animals. **Hear** the birdsong, the bellows of the bulls, the neighing of the horses, the sound of the cowbells.... And the quiet of the countryside, the Andalusian pastures. **Smell** the aromas of the land and flowers. **Feel** the caress of the wind on your skin. **Taste** the sherry wine with friends. as a very dry white wine to be served.

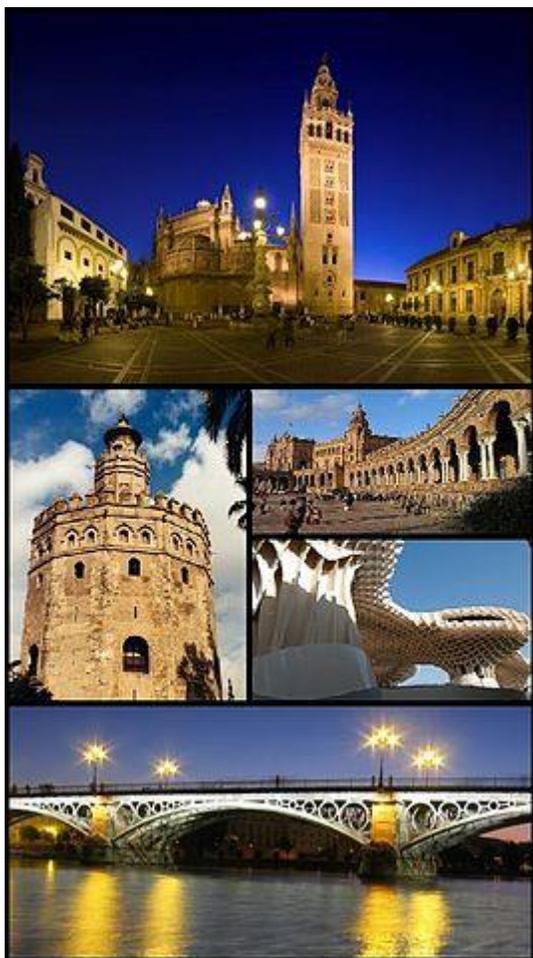
[Jerez de la Frontera](#), well known for its wines, its horses and its flamenco, preserves a historic centre that has been declared a historic artistic site. One of the noblest towns in Cádiz brings together the splendour of aristocratic palaces with the popular flavour of typically Andalusian houses.

This enormous offer of culture is enriched with the aromas of a regional cuisine in which the



Denomination of Origin of Jerez-Xérès-Sherry Manzanilla-Sanlúcar de Barrameda is outstanding. A visit to one of the city's wine cellars will help travellers to get a deeper understanding of its winemaking tradition. *PLEASE NOTE: If someone is interested in visiting Yeguada Militar Stud farm, while the rest of the group visits town, please notify your interest to Antonio during the trip.*

THURSDAY, MAY 18TH - SEVILLA



Sevilla is 3,000 years old. The city was greatly influenced by Arabic culture. Roman features remaining are an aqueduct, a temple on Mármoles St., the columns of Hercules. The walls surrounding the city were originally built during the rule of Julius Caesar. The city became Moorish in 712.

Following 1492, the Christopher Columbus expedition to the new world profited the city since it was awarded the only port monopoly to trade with American colonies.

The Sevilla Cathedral was built in 1401- 1519. The tower's interior was built with ramps to allow people on horseback to ride to the top. This Roman Catholic cathedral is the largest Gothic cathedral and the third-largest

church in the world. Outside of Seville are 9 PS20 solar power towers which provide



most of the city of Seville with clean and renewable energy. Once a 14th-century Moorish fortress, **The Parador of Carmona** offers spectacular views over the countryside and the Corbones River. A wonderful example of Moorish architecture, the Parador de Carmona boasts fabulous design details including a stunning central courtyard, vaulted ceilings, original stonework and spacious terraces. Admire the Mudéjar fountain, take a stroll through the pretty gardens and enjoy a quiet read or sit down under the arched galleries. Transport yourself back in time and imagine the fortress history through battles and different civilizations that have shaped this region of Spain.

PLEASE NOTE: If someone is interested in visiting Torreluna Stud farm, while the rest of the group visits town, please notify to Antonio, so he can drive you. Cost included.

FRIDAY, MAY 19TH - MONTENEMEDIO, WHITE TOWNS And Horseback Riding on the Beach

Montenemedio: Host of National Dressage Championships, Golf, resorts and much more. See about Montenemedio here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=fb24x4Z3OC8

The inland pueblos blancos (white towns) are well known for their unique beauty and spectacular settings - invariably hilltop locations, with the whitewashed houses huddled around a ruined castle.

Often the names of these “pueblos blancos” in Cadiz are testament to the towns’ significant past as settlements built to defend the respective territories of the Christians and the Muslims; the frequently seen suffix “*de la frontera*” of a white town place name refers to its historical border position.

Vejer de la Frontera is a Moorish looking hilltop town (190 meters above sea level) a place of white-washed houses, narrow winding streets, excellent food and wine and the unspoilt beaches of the Costa de la Luz are only a 10-15 minute drive away.



Today Vejer is a picturesque town still retaining much of the wall around the old part of town which blends in well with the newer part. Many of the streets are too narrow for cars and as you walk around if

you look through an open doorway you are likely to see beautiful inner patios with lots of flowers and plants. Vejer is a town steeped in history, having been used as a fortress town by the Phoenicians, later by the Romans and then underwent five centuries of Moorish rule until it was captured by King Ferdinand of Castille in 1248. Vejer then became a border town against the Moors and hence "de la Frontera" was added to it's name. The king gave control of Vejer to Don Alonso Perez de Guzman, founder of the ducal house of Medina Sidonia. The famous battle of Trafalgar took place just off the coast near the town in 1805.

Many parts of the town have views to the sea and you can even see the Moroccan coast on a clear day.

LET'S RIDE!

For those interested, we'll experience a unique sunset ride on the gorgeous La Barrosa Beach. Confirm by Saturday 7th to your guide Antonio who will ride so he can make reservations with the equestrian center. Cost Included in the final price.





SATURDAY, MAY 20TH - YEGUADA DE LA CARTUJA, CARTUJA STUD FARM, the Origins of the Spanish Horse

Cartujan Stud Farm: From its foundation towards the end of the XV century, the Monastery of *La Cartuja* has been converted into the cornerstone of the Jerezano thoroughbred horses.

For three centuries, which coincided with the centuries of greatest splendor of the kingdom of Spain, the Carthusian monks established a breeding stock which, through time, would be converted into one of the most celebrated and

appreciated stocks in the world. The exemplary livestock management, carried out in the surrounds of the splendid Renaissance building, situated in an exceptional geographical location in terms of climate and fertility, where the universally renowned Jerez wines are also grown. The Cartuja Stud Farm is considered to be the origin of the race Pure Spanish (Pura Raza Española).



SUNDAY, MAY 21ST - Check Out and Farewell

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES (Not included in the price):

- Flamenco Show (Information is still not available) *Please confirm interest with registration.*
- A Campo Abierto offers the possibility to ride around the bulls and see the bulls in liberty for 35€ (taxes included). If interested please confirm by May 1st, so we can book a horse for you.
- More wineries.... Jerez has hundreds of wineries. If you are still not satisfied, we'll be happy to suggest more wineries to visit after our Journey together.
- Travel to Granada, Córdoba, Madrid,... We'll be happy to advice on train schedules information or car rental so you can continue your visit around Andalucia and Spain after our friends' trip! The big festivities of Madrid (San Isidro) are on May 15th, so it is a good opportunity to visit the capital and celebrate! If you're interested in visiting other parts of Spain let us know! There is a waiting list and we will create the trip of there is enough interest!

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR JOURNEY OF HISTORY, FOOD, WINE AND HORSES AROUND ANDALUCIA!

QUESTIONS & INFO: Ana Renilla

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