

SPAIN - SIERRA NEVADA - ALPUJARRA SHORT BREAK

ITINERARY

Day 1

Transfers from Malaga airport are included in the price for trails of 5 or more nights. Airport transfers for short breaks are payable locally.

The collection time at Malaga is scheduled for 17:00 so you should book a flight with an arrival time before 16:00 to allow for luggage collection. Your return flight should depart from Malaga after 12:00.

The drive from Malaga to Bubion takes about two and a half hours. Private transfers from Malaga and Granada airports may be arranged on request.



The meeting point at Malaga Airport

Arrive at Bubion and settle into your accommodation. Later meet your guide, have dinner and learn about the ride ahead.

Please note that there are often slight changes to the itinerary depending on the weather and the group. Sometimes paths are closed because of repairs, sometimes a higher route is used because it is cooler or a lower one because it is warmer. During the winter months the peaks are under snow and the spring melts and rains can cause damage to paths, riverbeds and tracks. As such the paths and itineraries maybe changed in places or it may be necessary to dismount and lead on different sections.

Overnight Casa La Sevillana. Casa La Sevillana is a 19th Century town house, it has seven bedrooms with private shower-rooms, a large patio, a sitting room and a breakfast room. It is located in the heart of the village within a few minutes walk from the local restaurants and cafes.



Day 2

After breakfast you will be driven the 5 km up to the stables, where you will meet the horses. Today's destination is the village of Trevez, at 1,486 metres (4,876ft) the highest municipality in Spain. Through the day the terrain and pace is varied, starting with a slow morning giving horse and rider time to become better acquainted.

The first part of the morning you will be descending along forestry tracks and bridle paths through woodlands and small terraced farms passing the villages of Pitres and Portugos. It will be necessary to dismount and lead the horses for short periods on a few of the steeper paths and through the village streets.



On leaving the villages there is an ascent of approximately 600 metres to your lunch spot in the shade of the pine woods. Following lunch the trail joins one of the main forestry tracks through pine and oak woods, here there will be opportunities for trots and canters. At the end of the afternoon join the old bridle path descending into the village of Trevelez, here it is necessary to lead the horses on foot for c. 20 minutes.

(Approximately 6 hours riding)

Overnight La Fragua. Simply decorated, country hotel situated in the old Berber quarter of Trevelez. Amenities include an outdoor pool with views of the mountains (use of pool June to late September).



The pool at La Fragua



A typical bedroom at La Fragua

Day 3

This morning starts with a 15 minute walk through the narrow streets of Trevelez, before continuing east to the village of Berchules. After mounting up you will cross the river Trevelez and then follow the bridle path along edge the ancient acequia (irrigation channel) as it passes through oak and pine woods. Leaving the acequia the path then climbs to join a dirt forestry track along which you can have some trots and canters before commencing the descent through open hillside towards the village of Juviles. This offers panoramic views over the Contraviesa mountains to the Mediterranean and on a clear day Africa.



Picnic lunch in the oak woods above Juviles. Following lunch the trail descends towards the village of Berchules following tracks and paths over open hillside, small terraced farms and orchards. During the afternoon there is a section over open hillside where the path becomes very steep and it is necessary to lead the horses for c. 20 minutes.



(Approximately 6 hours riding)

Overnight Hotel Los Berchules. Comfortable family run hotel (use of pool June to late September).



The pool at Berchules



A typical bedroom at Berchules

Day 4

Today you head back to the village of Trevezlez via a much higher route. Leave Berchules and ride high into the hills, passing small farms and pastures. You will reach the higher pine woods where there will be opportunities for trots and canters. Continue through the woods and across the ridge (c. 2,300 m).

Enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking the valley of Trevezlez, with great views of the Contraviesa mountains and the Mediterranean to the south and the snowy peaks of the Sierra Nevada and Mulhacen (3,486 m) to the north.



After lunch, the path gradually starts to descend through pine and oak woods to the village of Trevezlez. On the final descent there are sections where it is necessary to lead the horses on foot.

(Approximately 5 to 6 hours riding)

Overnight La Fragua.

Day 5

Your final ride back to Bubion is along a very pretty and varied trail leading high into the mountains. It starts on a forestry track where you can have some good canters.

After around an hour, you will leave the track and head up through Oak woods, across small streams and on to open pasture high in the Sierras.



Today's picnic will be at 2,500m enjoying some stunning views. After lunch the landscape changes again as the path gently descends through pine forests to just above the stables. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner with the group.

(Approximately 6 hours riding)

Overnight Casa La Sevillana.

Day 6

You will be transferred to Malaga airport.