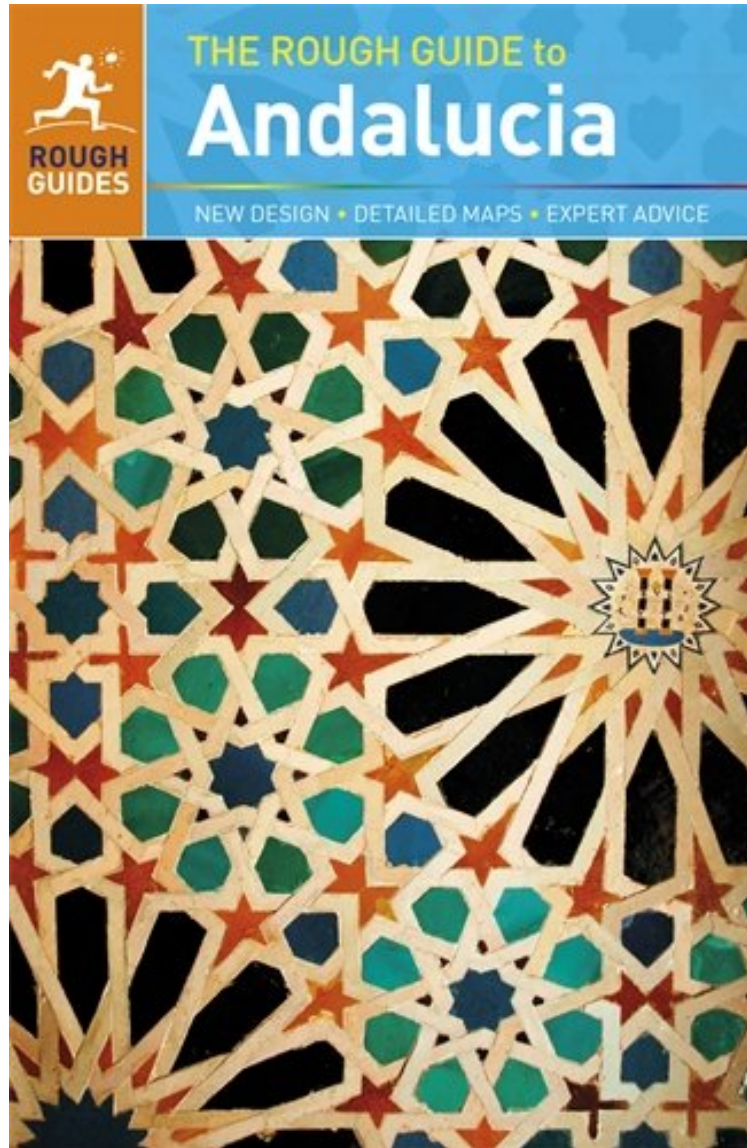


[E-BOOK] The Rough Guide to Andalucia

The Rough Guide to Andalucia

Geoff Garvey, Mark Ellingham
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Geoff Garvey, Mark Ellingham : The Rough Guide to Andalucia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rough Guide to Andalucia:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great guideBy Mathew GrantWe purchased this guide along with the lonely planet andalucia guide for our just-completed 2 week trip. The RG was vastly superior in every conceivable way, except perhaps weight. It had abundant and mostly accurate information. i particularly appreciated its overall organization in comparison to the LP where the lodging, etc. is separated out and put in the back of the book. There

were 2 short comings - we ran into quite a few small towns where no map was provided, but would have been helpful (like Nijar), and a number of recommended eateries that had either gone out of business or were shown in the wrong location (along with the post office in seville).0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good details on so many townsBy nittney114Great book! I was looking for something to plan a trip to Costa del Sol, especially Marbella and Torremolinos, tons of good information! Most books I saw other than this focused on some of the more popular Spanish cities like Seville and Barcelona. This one went into great detail on all the small coastal towns, I would recommend!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Rough Guide to Andalucia SpainBy James of Irvine, CAI am enjoying this guide very much. I purchased it in preparation for a trip to Gaucin, Spain, a rather small white village in Andalucia. Despite the town's small size, the Rough Guide recommended several restaurants, places to stay, and means of travelling to and from Gaucin. It also has a handy Spanish-English dictionary for words and phrases needed by travellers.

The new full-colour "Rough Guide to Andalucia" is the essential guide to one of Europe's most vibrant destinations. The autonomous region of Andalucia is the part of the Iberian Peninsula that is most quintessentially Spanish, a land of flamenco, sherry and ruined castles. Lavish photography brings to life the region's wealth of attractions from the breathtaking Alhambra palace in Granada and Cordoba's exquisite medieval Mezquita to the spectacular natural beauty of Andalucia's numerous national parks. "The Rough Guide to Andalucia" provides comprehensive coverage of all major sights and towns, with incisive reviews of the best places to eat, sleep and drink in every price range as well as insider tips on the best tapas bars, clubs and beaches. Expert background is provided on every destination, together with lively articles on the region's history and culture. There are detailed and easy-to-use colour maps and plans for every major town, city and monument to help make finding that hotel, restaurant or museum easy. Make the most of your visit to southern Spain with "The Rough Guide to Andalucia".

Reliable, readable Rough Guides Conde Nast TravellerAbout the AuthorMark Ellingham wrote the first Rough Guide - to Greece - in 1981. He followed that with The Rough Guide to Spain the following year and has spent time in Andalucia most years since then. Geoff Garvey has been captivated by Andalucia since his first visit as a student in the early 1970's.Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Where to go: Andalucía's manageable size makes it easy to take in something of each of its elements – inland cities, extensive coastline and mountainous sierras – even on a brief visit. The main characteristics and appeal of each province are covered in the chapter introductions, but the more obvious and compelling highlights include: Sevilla. Andalucía's capital city, the home of flamenco and all the clichés of the Spanish south has beautiful quarters, major Christian and Moorish monuments and extraordinary festivals at Easter and, afterwards, at the April feria. Moorish monuments. Granada's Alhambra palace is perhaps the most sensual building in Europe; the exquisite Mezquita, a former mosque, in Córdoba, and the Alcázar and Giralda tower in Sevilla, are also not to be missed. Castles. Niebla in Huelva and Baños de Encina in Jaén, as well as those in the cities of Málaga and Almería are the outstanding Moorish examples; the best Renaissance forts are at La Calahorra in Granada and Vélez Blanco in Almería, whilst hilltop Segura de la Sierra in Jaén has the most dramatic location. Cathedrals. Sevilla's Gothic monster is the biggest, but those of Cádiz, Granada, Jaén, and Almería are all worthy of a visit. Renaissance towns and hill villages. Small-scale towns and villages, once grand, now hardly significant, are an Andalusian forte. Baeza and Úbeda in Jaén are remarkable treasurehouses of Renaissance architecture, while Ronda and the White Towns to the west are among the most picturesque hill villages in Andalucía. Baroque. The Baroque splendours of Andalucía are without equal; towns such as Écija and Osuna in Sevilla province, and Priego to the south of Córdoba have clusters of stunning Baroque churches and mansions. Roman and prehistoric ruins. Italica near Sevilla, Baelo Claudia near Tarifa and Carmona's Roman necropolis are all impressive Roman sites, while for an atmospheric "lost city" Mulva, in the hills of the Sierra Morena, is hard to beat. Andalucía also has some of the most important prehistoric sites in Europe, including a group of third millennium BC dolmens at Antequera, and the remarkable Los Millares site near Almería. Beaches and resorts. For brashness and nightlife it has to be the Costa del Sol, but you'll find the more authentic resorts such as Nerja, Almuñecar and Mojácar are less frenzied. The region's best beaches lie along the Atlantic coast and to the east of Almería. Hiking. The Sierra Nevada and the nearby foothills of Las Alpujarras in Granada are excellent places for hiking, as are the densely wooded hills of the Sierra de Cazorla and the Sierra de Morena – including the latter's less well-known offshoot, the Sierra de Aracena, in the north of Huelva. Andalucía's dozen or so parques naturales (natural parks) are located in areas of great natural beauty, and are detailed in the Guide. Seafood. This is Andalucía's speciality and is excellent all along the coast but particularly so in Málaga and seafood-crazy Cádiz. The many good places to try it are listed in the relevant chapters throughout the Guide. Bars. Spain has the most bars of any country in Europe, and Andalucía has more than its share of these. For sheer character and diversity, the bars of the cities of Córdoba, Sevilla and Cádiz are some of the best anywhere. Offbeat. Among the more curious things to see in Andalucía are a self-styled "pope" who has built a "New Vatican" near Utrera in Sevilla province; a rosary museum at Aroche in Huelva displaying beads once owned by the famous; a nineteenth-century English-designed housing estate in the middle of the city of Huelva; a mini-Hollywood in Almería

which preserves the film-set of famous "paella westerns"; still-functioning nineteenth-century sulphur baths used by Lord Byron at Carratraca in Málaga; a Communist village run on Utopian principles at Marinaleda in Sevilla; the spectacular mines of Río Tinto in Huelva, and Andalucía's oldest inn, complete with highwayman's cell at Alfarnate, in the rugged Axarquía district of Málaga. When to go In terms of climate the question is mainly one of how much heat you can take. During the summer months of July and August temperatures of over 40°C (104°F) on the coast are normal and inland they rise even higher in cities such as Sevilla, generally reckoned to be the hottest in Spain. The solution here is to follow the natives and get about in the relative cool of the mornings and late afternoons finding somewhere shady to rest up as the city roasts in the midday furnace. The major resorts are busy in July and packed in August (the Spanish holiday month) when prices also are at their highest. Better times to visit are the spring months of April, May and early June when lower temperatures combine with a greener landscape awash with wild flowers. The autumn is good, too, although by this time much of the coastal landscape looks parched and the resorts have begun to wind down; in hilly areas, however, such as the sierras of Cazorla and Aracena and the high valleys of Las Alpujarras the splendours of autumn can be especially scenic. The winter months – particularly December and January – can often be dismal and wet as well as cold at altitude, although Almería sees only one day of rain a year on average and in winter has many days of perfect crystal visibility.