

Flamenco in Jerez

A wonderful week in Andalucia with world-famous Flamenco stars Rafaela Carrasco, La Moneta, Beatriz Morales, Pascual Lorca (Guitar), Vicki Ramos and Nuria Garcia from London's renowned Escuela de Baile. This week is ideal for Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced dancers and includes classes in Bulerías, Bata de Cola and Cajon. Immerse yourself in the world of Flamenco at the Jerez International Flamenco Summer School in the heart of Andalucia!

Dates and Prices	5 August to 12 August - £699.00
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Unique Features	This unique Flamenco week is in association with the renowned London-based Escuela de Baile, who bring with them some of the best Flamenco teachers in the world. Combined with Club Dance Holidays' carefully designed itinerary, expert hosting and years of experience this is an excellent value Flamenco week. For a true taste of Andalucia, accommodation is in the authentic family-run Hotel San Andres with its shady courtyards and traditional Spanish hospitality.
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Your Holiday

What's Included	<p>Meet & Greet upon arrival at the airport</p> <p>7 nights' accommodation in the charming family-run pension San Andres (upgrade available)</p> <p>At least 9 hours' dance tuition</p> <p>Club Dance Holidays Tour Host</p> <p>Time to relax and enjoy the local sights</p> <p>Welcome Drink and Orientation Pack on arrival</p> <p>Note: there may be a supplement attached to the advanced and professional level Flamenco courses.</p>
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What previous Customers Have Said about this Holiday	<p>'The best holiday I ever had in my life'</p> <p>'Absolutely wonderful - loved Jerez!'</p> <p>'Great atmosphere, my dancing improved!!'</p> <p>'Opened a window to Spain and to Flamenco' 'Fun, exciting, cultural and very Spanish!'</p> <p>'New friends made' 'Glorious!'</p> <p>'Soul stirring and inspirational!' 'Interesting, fun, challenging'</p>
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Is this holiday for me?	<p>This holiday captures the true heart of Flamenco. Not only will you learn from some of the best, you will experience the passion of the dance in a destination which lives and breathes Flamenco.</p> <p>Week one is suitable for Improver, Intermediate and Advanced dancers and there is also a choice of optional classes including Bulerías, Cajon and Bata de Cola. Week two (12 - 19 August) is suitable for all levels including complete Beginners.</p>
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Your Destination, includes sightseeing	Worldwide capital of flamenco, sherry, and equestrian art, Jerez de la Frontera is the setting of our summer flamenco holiday run in conjunction with Escuela de Baile. Jerez has the strongest flamenco credentials of any town in Andalusia with a gypsy community that has made flamenco its own and a long tradition of flamenco dynasties. There are many Peñas in the town - many of which are private neighbourhood peñas and not open to the public. Also August tends
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to be a quiet time in the city as the locals are on holiday too! However, because of our associations with Centro de Baile de Jerez and the flamenco community in the town we are able to organise trips to some of the local Peñas so we should get our fair share of flamenco ambience!

Sights

Barrio Santiago – a fascinating and authentic white walled gitano quarter to the north of the cathedral.

The Alcazar and the Cathedral – a 12th century Moorish fortress and mosque and an 18th century cathedral.

Sherry Bodegas – these dominate the town and a tour can offer you a fascinating insight into the mysteries of sherry production.

Escuela de Arte Ecuestre – see the famous dancing horses of Jerez.

Beaches

The nearest beaches are some 30 minutes by coach. They are unspoilt beaches untouched by the over-development and mass tourism of the Costa del Sol. This is the Costa de la Luz so called because of the specially bright light. The Atlantic sea nearly always offers a cool breeze and playfully big waves. These beaches are very popular with local Spaniards. You will hear few English voices!

Centro Andaluz de Flamenco - the centre of flamencology in Andalusia with a huge archive of audio and video footage, an extensive library and a museum to flamenco.

Beach - The nearest beach (Puerto de Santa Maria) is about thirty minutes away and can be reached by public bus which runs once every hour. The ride to this lovely Spanish beach will cost you just 2 euros.

Climate and weather In August you can expect it to be very hot and sunny. Temperatures will be around 35°C.

Your Accommodation

San Andres - Pension* (Room only) (Included)

A charming family-run pension situated in a colonial house complete with plant-filled courtyard in the heart of Jerez. Beautiful covered gardens create a haven of tranquillity at this friendly and immaculately-maintained pension. All rooms have private bathroom, direct dial telephone and air conditioning.

An authentic Andalucian townhouse just minutes from Jerez's shopping and sight-seeing and a 20 minute walk to the dance studios – the perfect place to immerse yourself in the rich culture of Andalusia.

Classes and Workshops

Dance courses: On this week dance courses will be offered at Improver, Intermediate and Advanced levels. The classes will cover a full original choreography as well as associated technique. Typically the classes start with the basics of footwork, posture, hand movements and turns. A guitarist and singers will accompany the classes. Each daily class lasts one and a half hours.

Optional Bulerias courses: This course teaches the famous flamenco dance of Jerez — the Bulerías. These short pieces of choreography, full of character, are traditionally featured at the end of flamenco shows. All Bulerias courses are 1 hour a day over 5 days and can be taken as a supplementary course to accompany the set classes. These Bulerias courses fill up very quickly and must be bought at the time of booking your holiday (£80).

Optional Cajon course: A five hour course teaching you how to play the 'cajon'. The 'cajon' is a percussion instrument, a box on which the player sits as well as plays. It is fundamental to flamenco music. The course will familiarize you with the different 'compas' (rhythm structures of flamenco) and teach you how to play the cajon to at least one of the flamenco 'palos' (flamenco music pieces). There will be some cajones available for you to use on site. Please ask us about this at the time of booking. The course is one hour a day over five days (£60).

Studios: The classes take place at the Centro de Baile de Jerez Studios. They are modern, purpose built and have sprung floors and mirrors. There are separate changing rooms for men and women but no showers. The studios are air-conditioned.

The Learning Experience

Intermediate (Rafaela Carrasco) 10-11.30am

Advanced (Rafaela Carrasco) 11.45-13.15

Elementary (Victoria Ramos) 11.30-13.00

Bulerias: Intermediate/Advanced (Beatriz Morales) 9.00-10am

Cajon 9th - 12 August 13.00-14.00

Daily Itinerary

Sample Itinerary

This is a provisional itinerary aiming to give you an idea of what your holiday will look like. There will be some elements which will change: (OP) indicates an optional extra for which a charge will be made in advance.

DAY 1

Arrival and transfer to hotel

Evening - Overview of the week and Welcome Drink.

DAY 2

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Lunch

Afternoon - Free day for lunch. Wander around Jerez and get a feel for this city.

Evening - (OP) Informal dinner in charming restaurant with traditional Basque and Andalucian cuisine. (OP) Flamenco show and three course dinner

DAY 3

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Lunch;

Evening - (OP) Meet for guided visit of the Moorish Fortress and Mosque and a wine cellar with sherry tasting, tapas and flamenco show included.

DAY 4

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Lunch; Meet your tour host for a talk about the origins of flamenco and visit Centro Andaluz de Flamenco

Evening - (OP) Visit to local Flamenco Pena.

DAY 5

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Sightseeing suggestion - Equestrian show "How the Andalusian Horses Dance"; Lunch

Evening - Bars in Jerez town centre: Go on with your tour host for flamenco ambience in the local bars!

DAY 6

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Lunch; Sightseeing suggestion: Why not visit the beautiful white sand beaches of the nearby coastline.

Evening - Dinner; Open air flamenco show for locals! Do not miss it!

DAY 7

Morning and afternoon - Flamenco and Sevillanas classes; Lunch

Evening - (OP) Last night dinner in this Argentinean restaurant offering great atmosphere and delicious food. After the meal we will put on flamenco music and have our own juerga! Your chance to flamenco your last night away!

DAY 8

Transfer to Airport

Nightlife

In the evenings you can enjoy the steamy warm temperatures eating out at great terrace restaurants. There will be also be opportunities to see flamenco shows and to seek out the bars with flamenco ambience.

Your Teachers

Rafaela Carrasco began dancing at a young age at Matilde Corral's Escuela de Danza and in 1991 joined Mario Maya's Company where she became soloist. Her impressive career has included collaborations with Belen Maya., Javier Barrón and Rafael Amargo amongst others. With her own company she tours the world and will be performing at this year's Flamenco Festival at Sadler's Wells.

Beatriz Morales comes to us from Jerez where she received her teaching qualification. She has studied with many top teachers including Belen Maya and Mercedes Ruiz, performs at Los Gallos in Seville as well as internationally and is currently working with Antonio 'El Pipa'.

Vicki Ramos has danced with many well known flamenco companies. She is now head of Centro de Baile Jerez, travelling the world teaching and examining. PDB(SDS) RAD(T.Dip)

Nuria García, Head of Escuela de Baile, has danced with top flamenco companies and has taught workshops all over the world. Her work with new students is astounding.

Food and Meals

Andalusian cuisine: In Andalusia you will find many cosy, family-run restaurants offering traditional dishes such as paella, patatas a lo pobre (potatoes and green peppers), morcilla, chorizo, guisos (stews), migas (fried breadcrumbs), gazpacho, boquerones (whitebait), calamares (squid).

International cuisine: You will also find restaurants offering other types of cuisine: Italian, Chinese, Lebanese, Moroccan, Argentinian, Colombian and more.

Tapas/Raciones culture: Tapas bars are an intrinsic part of Andalusian culture. 'Tapa' translates as 'lid'. The idea is that you keep your hunger in check by eating small plates of food. With each drink that you order, you order a 'tapa' that comes either free or at a small charge with your drink. In most tapas bars you don't sit down. Rather, you stand or sit on stools at the bar. In tapas bars and in many restaurants you can also order 'raciones'. A ración is a plate of one type of dish (either meat or fish or salad etcetera). The idea is for a group of people to order a 'ración' each and for the group to then share the dishes between themselves. It's a great way to be able to try different dishes! If you would prefer to eat a sit down three course meal, we suggest that you eat at a restaurant with a set menu.

Vegetarianism is not a very mature concept in Spain. A lot of Spaniards, especially bar and restaurant owners, don't understand someone who doesn't eat pork. However contrary to popular belief there are some real treats for vegetarians - Mediterranean vegetables, bread and olive oil are of excellent quality. If you are vegetarian we will give you some more tips on arrival.

The food and water is just as well regulated in Spain as in Britain and the chances of falling sick because of what you eat are equally unlikely in both countries. However some people are upset by the change in diet. This can be minimised by ordering carefully.

Optional Extras

In addition to your holiday we also offer you a variety of optional extras to make your holiday even richer and add some local colour. You can buy your optional extras at the welcome meeting at the beginning of your holiday. We will ask you to pay in cash and fill out a form. These are the optional extras that we anticipate running – actual details and prices will be confirmed on arrival. Some may require minimum numbers.

Two dinners in local restaurants (£50 for both)

Tour of the 12th century Alcazar followed by a tour of a sherry bodega, including wine tasting and flamenco show (£20)

Dinner and show at Flamenco Tablao (£22)

Entrance to show at Flamenco Peña (£15)

Bulerías course: Bulerías means to joke and is a light hearted dance done at parties to show each dancer's best abilities. It is an interactive social dance and creates a great atmosphere. The course is one hour a day over 5 days. (£80)

Cajon course: A five hour course teaching you how to play the 'cajon'. The 'cajon' is a percussion instrument, a box on which the player sits as well as plays. It is fundamental to flamenco music. The course will familiarize you with the different 'compas' (rhythm structures of flamenco) and teach you how to play the cajon to at least one of the flamenco 'palos' (flamenco music pieces). There will be some cajones available for you to use on site. Please ask us about this at the time of booking. The course is one hour a day over five days. (£60).

Single Room
Supplements,
Upgrades and
Budget Options

Option 1 - Included

San Andres - Pension* Room only - (05/08/2012 to 12/08/2012 - 7 nights)

Twin (Based on 2 sharing)	Included
Twin (Single Occp.) (1 Person)	35.00 GBP
Extra Nights	
Triple (Per Room)	0 GBP per night
Twin (Based on 2 sharing)	40 GBP per night
Twin (Single Occp.) (Based on 1 sharing)	25 GBP per night

Flights and Transfers Flights: The nearest airport and the one we recommend you fly into is Jerez.

Airport Coach Transfer: There will be a coach transfer to your hotel. Those joining the coach transfer should look out for your tour host with a Club Dance Holidays sign in the Arrivals Lounge. If you wish to take advantage of the Airport Coach Transfer, please notify us at the time of booking.

Making Your Own Way to Jerez: For those whose flights don't coincide with our Airport coach transfer, we recommend you take a taxi from the airport which will take around 15 minutes (€20).

What to Expect in
terms of
Organisation

On Arrival: You will receive a detailed itinerary and annotated map, details of any optional extras and any extra classes we are running. We also include information on the local sights and recommended restaurants and other helpful tips.

Independence within the social activities: Your holiday is fully hosted. We also believe our guests like to be free to do what they want whenever they want. So we give you quality information and an itinerary including a map and all the addresses of where we have organised social and dancing activities. You can decide for yourself if and when you want to turn up. You are fully independent on these holidays. If you are travelling on your own the tour host will be at all the meeting points on the itinerary and there is always company and normally the chance say to share a taxi back the hotel.

Tour Host: During your holiday you will have a tour host who will be available to help you with any questions that you may have. They are present from the pickup at the airport until you go home, and also actively participate in the social events. Whilst it should be noted that tour hosts cannot be present at every moment (as they sometimes must prepare other activities for your holiday), their role is to facilitate as much as possible that you have an unforgettable holiday. They normally go to bed at around 1'o clock in the morning and you should continue to enjoy your evening.

Overview of the Holiday and Welcome Drink: At the beginning of your stay there is an Overview of the Holiday where your tour host will tell you about all details of your holiday and answer any questions you might have. At the Overview of the Holiday you can buy your optional extras. Also at the start of the week, Dance Holidays will invite you to a drink.

Getting Around: You are responsible for making your own way to the dance classes and meeting points on the itinerary. We will point out those times when it is sensible to take a taxi.

Before Your Go

Books on Spain It may be worth your while reading up on your destination before you go. The "Rough Guide to Andalucia" is the best guide book on Andalucia. Penelope Casas writes beautifully on Spain, such as "The Blue Guide" or "The Foods and Wines of Spain." Ian Gibson's "The Fire in the Blood" is one of the most fascinating insights into Spanish Culture.

Useful Things to Bring

Camera
Shoes suitable for walking around the streets
Dance shoes
Summer clothing for day
Light jacket for evenings
Swimming costume, suntan lotion and beach gear
This fact sheet and Joining Instructions

Passport, money, plane ticket.

What to Bring for Dancing:

Shoes: You do not need to special flamenco shoes or clothes. Shoes should have a court heel or a boot heel. Trainers are not appropriate. You can buy shoes out in Spain for around 30 - 50 euros. You don't need nails in your shoes to make the stomp as they're for gripping the floor not for making the noise.

Clothes: wear something cool and comfortable – tracksuit, shorts, skirt.

Budgeting for your holiday: In our experience people vary enormously in how much they choose to spend while on holiday. So here are some figures to help you make your own calculations:

Optional extra dinners	€40
Tapas and drinks on 5 days @ 15 euros	€75
7 Lunches or dinners @ 20 euros	€140
Other optional extras (check and see what attracts you)	
Taxis aren't really necessary	

Please note that these figures are dependent upon the exchange rate at the time of writing and therefore can only be approximate.

Health and Fitness: There are no particular health requirements for a dance holiday. However you should be able to dance for at least two hours a day in order to be able to enjoy the workshop/socials.

Insurance, Visa and Passport Requirements: Refer to the information supplement for full details. In brief, Insurance is a condition of booking. Visas may be required for non EU citizens. British nationals need a full passport to travel to Spain.

Joining Instructions: You receive these about five days before the start of your holiday. They will include your air ticket, confirm the address and phone number of the hotel, transfer details, and emergency contact numbers.

At Your Destination Banks and Money: The easiest way to buy obtain euros is by using a credit card at one of the numerous cash points. You can buy small amounts, as often as you like, at any time, without queuing. You will need to know your P.I.N. Bank opening hours are normally 9.00am to 2.00pm Monday to Friday. Banks will change cash and will sell you currency on your credit card providing the lines are open. You will always need to show your passport at a bank.

Tipping is generally not that common in Spain. There is no need to tip taxis but it is usual to leave a 5 - 10% tip at a restaurant if you are particularly pleased with your dinner/lunch.

We feel our tour hosts work hard to give you an exceptional holiday and sometimes you may find that they add some special touches which are beyond the call of duty. If you agree with us, you might wish to show your appreciation by way of a tip. You can do this by putting money in an envelope on your own or by getting together with other guests. This evidently is entirely at your discretion.

Making friends with the Locals and people not on the holiday: If you make friends with a local and would like them to come along to the activities organised by us, then just ask your Tour Host and except for the dance classes and provided they pay their way there should not be a problem. We are here after all to interact with the locals. Generally, however, we discourage people who are not on the holiday from coming out with us or joining the activities and we ask for your discretion in this respect.
