

Spain

BY TRAIN



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▲ FRANCIA STATION
BARCELONA

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Front Cover: Al-Andalus train, Linares (Jaén)

Photo courtesy of Renfe

Back cover: Malaga Cathedral

Photo: pabkov/ 123rf.com

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Fly by HST	4
From Madrid to Barcelona	
Southwards	
Northwards	
Eastwards	
Great routes, full of luxury	16
Transcantabrian Grande Luxe	
Costa Verde Express	
Al Andalus	
Other routes by train	23
La Robla Express	
Cervantes by Train	
More railway experiences	
Interrail: a different way of travelling	29



Travel quickly and comfortably to all corners of the country: take the train.

INTRODUCTION

▲ LA ROBLA EXPRESS

Enjoy Spain's incredible railway infrastructure when you travel. The National Network of Spanish Railways (**RENFE**) connects all the major cities and Spain's different communities with Madrid.

You'll love the **high-speed trains (AVE in Spanish)** for discovering Spain's major cities. You'll be able to travel long distances in such a short time and when you arrive punctually at your destination you'll be full of energy and ready to explore new places and enjoy exquisite cuisine. For example, in a single day you can have a quiet breakfast in **Madrid** and then have dinner while enjoying a Flamenco show in **Seville**.

Experience the pleasure of travelling in a **luxury train**. Admire the countryside from the dining car while you enjoy the best cuisine Spain has to offer. You'll love the **Transcantabrian**. You'll discover Green Spain aboard a real railway gem: trains equipped with spacious suites with en suite bathroom, hydro sauna, turbo massage, steam bath and much

more. Another option is the **Al-Andalus**, an opportunity to travel through southern Spain on board a genuine palace on rails. The belle époque décor, the luxurious 1920's-style saloon cars and the delicious cuisine will ensure that your trip is unforgettable.

There are **other attractive routes** to choose from which are full of surprises. Discover the beautiful countryside in the north of Spain from the vintage **La Robla Express** train, a replica of the coal train from the late 19th century.

If you prefer day trips, there are many options to choose from. From Madrid you can take the **Strawberry Train**, a railway gem with wooden carriages that will take you to Aranjuez, a beautiful historical location whose cultural landscape has been awarded the World Heritage designation by the UNESCO. Then there's the **Medieval Train**, a dramatised journey to the monumental town of Sigüenza in Guadalajara.

Cantabrian Sea



FLY BY HST

If after visiting a city you'd like to "fly" to another one, take the HST. These trains fly through the Spanish countryside at full speed so you can make the most of your time. This network connects a large number of cities, so you can discover them and plan a tailor-made journey.

FROM MADRID TO BARCELONA

The HST connects Spain's two main metropolitan areas: Madrid and Barcelona. You'll be travelling from the centre of the mainland to the coast in just two and a half hours. You can also stop off half-way and cities such as Zaragoza.

MADRID

Enjoy this vibrant capital full of art, history and entertainment. Take a stroll along the "**Paseo del Arte**" or "Art Promenade" which is packed with museums, palaces and gardens, and which has been awarded the World Heritage designation under the name "*Paisaje de la Luz*". You'll have three of the world's most important collections of paintings right at your fingertips: the **Padro National Museum**, the **Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum** and the **Reina Sofía National Museum and Art Centre**. Take a stroll through

the old historical quarter and discover the personality of neighbourhoods like **Madrid de los Austrias**, **Chueca** and the "**Barrio de las Letras**" (Literary Quarter). You can do it by day or by night, there are so many options, including settling down on a bar's terrace, in a tavern or restaurant to enjoy delicious traditional cuisine and avant-garde gastronomy.

BARCELONA

You'll just love this cosmopolitan, avant-garde, Mediterranean city which is full of surprises. Moving around on foot or bicycle you can discover neighbourhoods such **La Rambla** and the sea-front promenade. Deep in the renowned **Gothic Quarter** you'll feel like you're back in the Middle Ages. Take a leap forward to Catalan Modernism with Antoni Gaudí: you'll be impressed by his masterpieces, the **Sagrada Família** or the **Park Güell**, both World Heritage Sites. Check out the city's incredible cultural agenda and sign up for exhibitions, concerts, functions... You'll love the cuisine in Barcelona which is a perfect blend of tradition and creativity. Give yourself a treat: try the craft pastries and sparkling wines. You can also take the HST to Barcelona from many other cities, like Malaga.





▲ THE CATHEDRAL-BASILICA OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PILAR
ZARAGOZA

ZARAGOZA

The capital of Aragon has a delightful historical old town located on the banks of the Ebro River. Stroll along the river bank and see the impressive bridges. Take a walk or cycle along the streets, boulevards and pedestrian promenades where you'll enjoy the intense cultural life and beautiful buildings like the city wall, the thermal baths and the Roman forum and theatre; the **Aljafería Palace**; the **Basilica of El Pilar**, a Baroque gem, and the **Goya Museum. Ibercaja-Camón Aznar Collection**. This will be a great opportunity for you to enjoy some tapas (exquisite aperitifs served on small plates) by going from bar to bar. Zaragoza also has a surprising contemporary side consisting of buildings

and bridges built for Expo 2008, like the river aquarium, the Aragón Pavilion and the Third Millennium bridge.

OTHER CITIES ALONG THIS ROUTE

In just over 20 minutes, you can travel from Madrid to the historical city of **Guadalajara** and taste its delicious lamb or famous trout and buy the well-known La Alcarria honey. High-speed trains also connect to **Catalayud**, where you can enjoy the Mudéjar architecture in its historical centre.

Between Zaragoza and Barcelona there are stops along this route in Lleida and Tarragona, two Catalan cities. In the centre of **Lleida**, located on a hillside,

you'll find a 13th century Romanesque Gothic temple, the **Seu Villa** or Old Cathedral. This area has a varied and delicious cuisine: try the snails and the chocolate from Agramunt. If you're looking to take a dip in the Mediterranean along the Costa Daurada and enjoy some fresh fish and seafood then you really must visit **Tarragona**. Visit the historical old town, surrounded by 3rd century BC Roman walls, and see the marvellous Roman Amphitheatre next to the sea, an impressive archaeological World Heritage Site.

Another option is to travel as far as **Huesca** you can enjoy the historical old town and perhaps you'll be tempted to make an excursion or two up into the Pyrenees.

SOUTHWARDS

Start the day in Spain's capital and then carry on in Seville, in the heart of Andalusia, or in Malaga, on the shores of the Mediterranean. The **Madrid-Seville** and **Madrid-Malaga HST** routes connect a number of cities.

Before reaching Andalusia, the HST can stop in two cities in Castile-La Mancha. In just less than an hour you could be in **Ciudad Real**, strolling through the historical old town and tasting the exquisite cheeses, wines and game dishes.

In **Puertollano**, you will discover its mining past and a museum about Cristina García Rodero, the first Spanish female photographer to be hired by Magnum agency.





▲ MOSQUE-CATHEDRAL
CORDOBA

CORDOBA

You'll just love this Andalusian city whose historical centre was declared a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO. The HST from Madrid will get you there in just over an hour and a half. Visit the beautiful old town, with fascinating narrow streets, squares and white-washed patios, and you'll be dazzled by the monumental **Mosque-Cathedral**, a symbol of the Moorish legacy in Spain.

Try the local cuisine, like the refreshing Cordoba "salmorejo" (a tomato-based chilled cream soup), bread with olive oil and pickled anchovies. If you prefer something sweet, then try the Cordoba cake, sweet pastries and honey fritters: you'll discover the Moorish influence on Cordoba cuisine.

① You can also take the HST to Cordoba from cities such as: **Seville, Barcelona, Valencia, Malaga and Zaragoza**.



Foto: Mikhail Mironov/123RF.com

SEVILLE

On a visit to the capital city of Andalusia you'll see how cheerful the people are and discover real architectural treasures like the **cathedral** and the **Real Alcázar**, both World Heritage. You'll be 500 kilometres from Madrid enjoying the sunshine and the fine weather and it will only have taken you about two and a half hours. While you're here you really should go to a *tablao* where you'll just love the Flamenco singing and dancing, a popular art form recognised by the UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage.

If your visit coincides with **Easter Week** or the **April Fair** you'll be able to take part in one the most impressive popular festivals in the country.

▲ APRIL FAIR
SEVILLE

▼ CATHEDRAL OF SANTA MARÍA DE LA SEDE
SEVILLE





MALAGA

It's only around two hours thirty minutes from Madrid to the Mediterranean city where the amazing artist Pablo Picasso was born.



Photo: Pabkov/123RF.com

MALAGA

Stroll along the beautiful beaches, even in winter, and try the renowned "pescaíto frito" (typical little fried fish) and an "espeto", skewered sardines grilled over the embers. You'll also find exquisite and surprising avant-garde cuisine.

For total immersion in culture, here there are around 40 exhibition venues, including the **Picasso Museum Malaga** and the **Pompidou Centre**. The historical city centre boasts a **Roman theatre**, the **Alcazaba** and delightful historic parks and gardens. From Mount Gibralfaro you'll get incredible views over the city.

For night-time entertainment you can try the town centre, or perhaps a quiet drink on the promenade. You could also seek refuge on the terrace of one of the hotels: from the top floor you can enjoy the lights of a city that never sleeps.

If you take the HST from Madrid to Malaga you'll be able to stop off in two small Andalusian towns. **Puente Genil** (Cordoba), is surrounded by olive groves and the Genil River runs through it, here you really have to try the quince jam of which the locals are really proud. If you're looking to discover palaces, convents, chapels and even a Moorish citadel, then stop over in **Antequera**. This delightful town in the province of Malaga also has Bronze Age monuments like the Antequera Dolmens Archaeological Complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

i You can also take the HST to Malaga from other cities, such as **Barcelona**.

GRANADA

You can also take a high-speed train between Madrid and Granada. Some trains may stop in **Loja**, before arriving in Granada, one of the best-known cities in all of Andalusia.

Once in Granada, a visit to the **Alhambra** is essential. This is a spectacular set of palaces and gardens that once symbolised the power of the Nasrid dynasty, and has now become one of the most famous monuments in the world.

You can also take a walk through the historic centre to see the **Cathedral** and its **Royal Chapel**, where the Catholic Monarchs are buried.

At sunset, you should visit the **Albaicín neighborhood**, which, together with the Alhambra and the **Generalife**, has been declared a World Heritage site. Here you will find the charming San Nicolás viewpoint, with unforgettable views.

The night can end with dinner and a flamenco show in the **Sacromonte neighborhood**, known for its peculiar cave houses.



VIEWS OF THE ALBAICIN NEIGHBOURHOOD FROM THE ALHAMBRA



NORTHWARDS

Discover Castile-León, a region rich in culture and renowned for its delicious cuisine. You can visit incredible cities like **Segovia**, **Valladolid**, **Palencia**, **León** and **Zamora**. You can also take a high-speed train to Galicia, specifically the area around Ourense.

SEGOVIA

You'll arrive less than half an hour after leaving Madrid. The spectacular 1st century Roman **aqueduct** is your point of entry to the old town, a World Heritage site. A stroll through the charming narrow streets will lead you to impressive Medieval and Renaissance buildings like the Gothic **cathedral**.

The **Álcazar** will loom up in front of you like something from a fairy tale, with its drawbridge, tower and large double windows. Segovia will tempt you with its extraordinary cuisine. Try the typical roast suckling pig, or broad beans from La Granja, accompanied by a Ribera del Duero wine.

Just over half an hour from Segovia and an hour from Madrid you'll come to **Valladolid**. You'll just love the historical Renaissance old town. The National Sculpture Museum is well worth a visit, and when you get hungry you can try a few of their renowned tapas.

If you're on the Spanish Romanesque trail then you have to visit **Palencia**, an hour and a half by HST from Madrid. The traditional cuisine includes roast suckling lamb, pigeon casserole and delicious vegetable stew.

If you decide to take the HST line to Ourense, you can reach **Zamora** in just one hour from Madrid. Zamora is one of the European cities with the highest number of Romanesque churches in its city centre. Make sure to try its cheese and the cod dish "bacalao a la tranca".

LEÓN

This city in northwest Spain is also a stop-over for Pilgrims on the Way of Saint James (World Heritage). If you take the HST from Madrid you'll get there in a little over two hours. The historical old town has Roman walls and there are two gems from its splendid Medieval past: the **cathedral**, a magnificent Gothic building with splendid stained-glass windows, and the **Basilica of San Isidro** (also known as Spain's Romanesque "Sistine Chapel"). Make for the "**Barrio Húmedo**" (Wet District) which is what they call the district full of bars and restaurants, and enjoy some of the delicious cuisine León has to offer. Favourites are cured meats, chorizo sausages and mushrooms served as tapas, and taste some of the local wines with designation of origin: the León and El Bierzo regions.





▲ CATHEDRAL
BURGOS

BURGOS

In just over an hour and a half, you can reach this city by high-speed train from Madrid. Its spectacular **cathedral** is a must-see stop. It has been awarded the World Heritage designation by the UNESCO, and it is one of the best examples of Spanish Gothic architecture. Walking through its old town, you can stop at the **Royal Monastery of Las Huelgas**, the **Arch of Santa María**, the **Espolón Promenade** and the **Plaza Mayor**. Enter the **Museum of Human Evolution**, where you can see the main fossils found in the nearby Atapuerca site and visit the site itself. At meal

time, enjoy products such as black pudding or roast suckling lamb.

OURENSE

On the AVE, you can also enter Galicia and discover the city of Orense in just over two hours from Madrid. This destination is more than 2,000 years old, and will surprise you with its famous **hot springs** where you can bathe both day and night. Many of them are free and located on the banks of the Miño River.

EASTWARDS

If you're in Madrid but you're missing the sea, you can always take the HST to **Valencia** or **Alicante**. In around two hours you can be strolling on the beach and enjoying a delicious paella.

You'd could also make a stop in **Cuenca**, in Castile-La Mancha, less than an hour from Madrid by HST. You'll be amazed by the impressive **Hanging Houses** on the rock walls. If you enjoy meat, here you'll find a variety of game-based dishes. Cuenca is also on the HST route to **Albacete**, the largest city in the Castile-La Mancha region.

Castelló de la Plana and **Murcia** are also within reach from Madrid on a high-speed train; the journey is around three hours.

► HANGING HOUSES
CUENCA



VALENCIA

You'll love this city with a wonderful climate and magnificent beaches. Stroll through the maze-like streets of the thousand-year-old **district of El Carmen**. Visit the **Cathedral** and the **Silk Exchange**, two Gothic gems. To spend some time surrounded by trees you should visit the **Turia gardens**, on foot or by bicycle. While you're here, you really shouldn't miss the **City of Arts and Sciences**, an impressive scientific and cultural complex which includes the **Oceanogràfic**, the largest aquarium in Europe.

ⓘ For more information on HST routes and timetables, click [here](#):
www.renfe.com



▲ CITY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
VALENCIA



▲ SANTIAGO CATHEDRAL
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

GREAT ROUTES, FULL OF LUXURY

Get on board a luxury hotel on rails and travel through the beautiful countryside. After enjoying a pleasant evening you can rest in absolute comfort in your suite while the train remains in the station. During the day you'll click gently along while enjoying five-star services, delicious food and entertaining activities.

The stops are planned so you can get the most out of the places along the route. There'll be a coach waiting to take you to visit beautiful places and enjoy select restaurants.

Enjoy the romantic experience of travelling by train in one of these incredible palaces on rails



For eight days you can enjoy all the glamour of the great express trains of the 1920s, which were the inspiration for so many films and books, but with all the comfort of the 21st century. Discover the north of Spain travelling along the Cantabrian coast from **San Sebastian** (Basque Country) to **Santiago de Compostela** (Galicia) or vice versa.

You'll be able to rest in one of the 14 carefully decorated luxury suites and enjoy the beautiful landscapes as they pass by the window of your private lounge or the large windows in one of the original saloon cars from 1923, real gems of our historic railway heritage.

▼ TRANSCANTABRIAN GRANDE LUXE TRAIN ITINERARY





SPAIN BY TRAIN

TRANSCANTABRIAN GRAND LUXE



TRANSCANTABRIAN GRAND LUXE



As you travel through the **Basque Country**, **Cantabria**, **Asturias** and **Galicia** you'll be able to enjoy the exquisite cuisine which characterises northern Spain. Both on the train and elsewhere, you'll get to try typical, traditional dishes prepared by internationally renowned chefs. From a typical white-bean stew and mountain casserole to baked fish, anchovies and seafood. And not forgetting sweets, pies, cured meats and the best wines of these regions. Those with special dietary requirements can request a special menu at the time of booking.

Each morning, after an exquisite breakfast on the train, a host of surprises await you: guided tours through the streets of delightful towns, museums and cathedrals, and restaurants.

The Bay of **San Sebastian** is surprisingly elegant, while **Bilbao** is a dynamic, avant-garde city. There you'll be visiting the impressive Guggenheim Museum Bilbao and, in **Santander**, you may want to go into the Grand Casino. You can also visit some of the smaller towns such as **Santillana del Mar** which has a beautiful historic town centre, and **Ribadesella** with a delightful seafront promenade. Nature is also part of the schedule: there's the Picos de Europa National Park and the spectacular beauty of the Playa de las Catedrales beach in Galicia. Then there's **Santiago de Compostela** with its historic old town centre and the magnificent cathedral, the ultimate goal for thousands of pilgrims each year.



Back on the train, there'll be a live performance for you to enjoy, you can have a quiet drink in the saloon car or just take refuge in your luxury suite. As the trains stops during the night so you can get a better rest, you can always get off and stroll around at will.

COSTA VERDE EXPRESS

This is another spectacular alternative to explore Green Spain between **Santiago de Compostela** and **Bilbao** (or vice-versa). During a six-day trip, you will discover the most beautiful cities in the Basque Country, Cantabria, Asturias and Galicia, with the best service and in top comfort, while savouring the most select Spanish dishes.

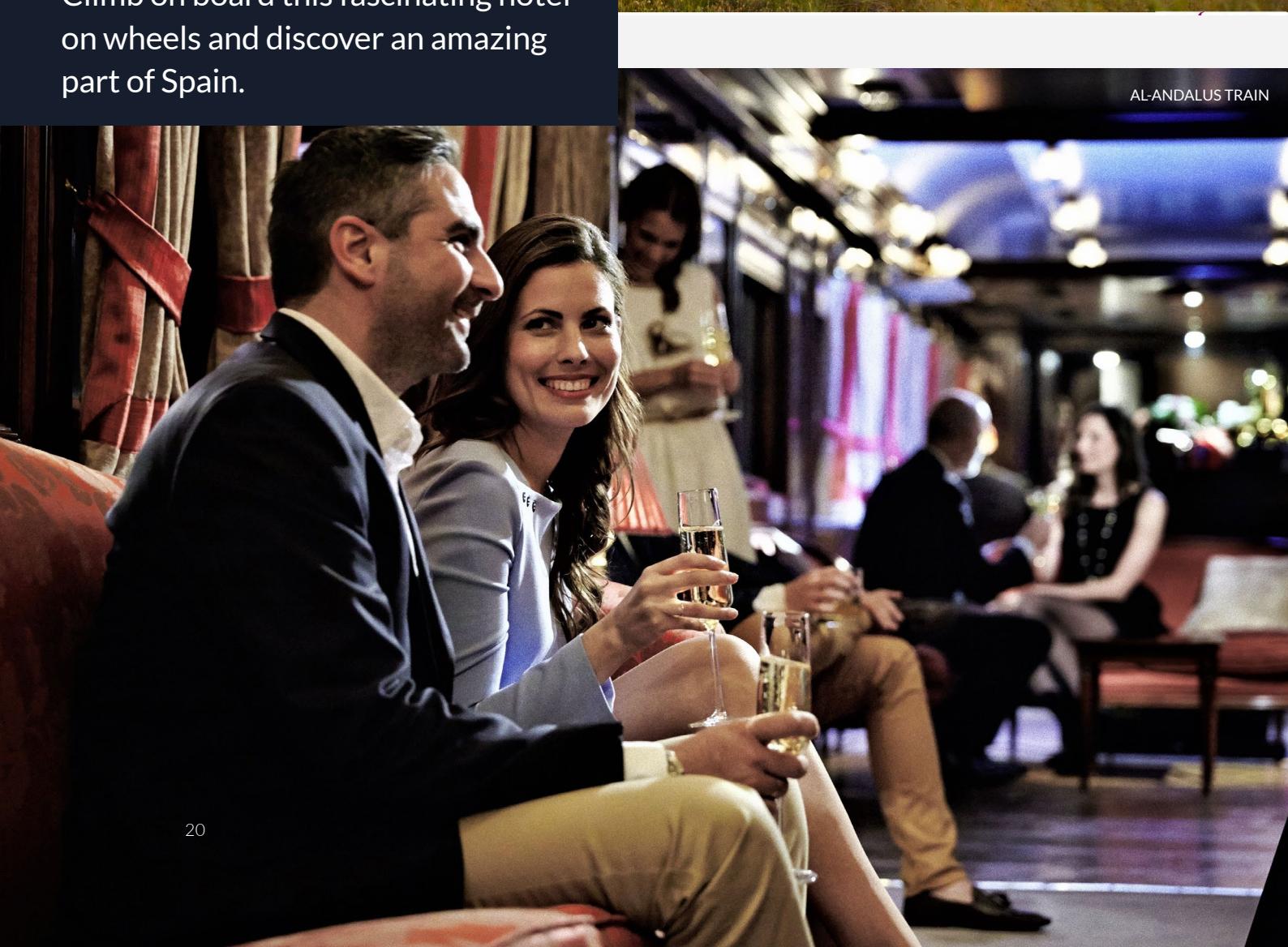
▼ COSTA VERDE EXPRESS ITINERARY





Climb on board this fascinating hotel
on wheels and discover an amazing
part of Spain.

AL-ANDALUS TRAIN IN GRANADA



AL-ANDALUS TRAIN



▲ AL-ANDALUS TRAIN ITINERARY

AL ANDALUS

The Al-Andalus is one of the most comprehensive luxury trains in the world. It is like being taken back to the magical atmosphere of the *Belle Époque*. The *suite carriages* are the same as those built in France for the British royal family to travel between Calais and the French Riviera. A perfect blend of old-fashioned charm and up-to-date services.

In the saloon cars you can enjoy a delicious breakfast or dinner while enjoying the magnificent countryside. Relax in the piano car where you can have a drink while enjoying a live performance.

To discover the spell-binding south of Spain, you can take the **Andaluzian** Route from Seville to Malaga (or vice-versa) during a wonderful sev-

en-day journey. If you are leaving from **Seville**, the capital of Andalusia will charm you with its Arab historical centre, its good weather and its friendly residents. Make sure to visit monuments like the Cathedral, the Alcázar and the Archivo de Indias, all of them World Heritage Sites. And you will love strolling along the alleyways in the Santa Cruz neighbourhood or stopping at the beautiful Plaza de España.

This route also takes you to the millennium-old city of **Cádiz**, regarded as the oldest city in the West, before it carries on to Jerez. There, you can enjoy a dance show with Spanish music starring Andalusian horses, or explore the famous sherry wine cellar.

In **Ronda**, visit its iconic Puente Nuevo bridge over the Tagus, 98 metres in

height. The journey then takes you to **Cordoba**, to explore its historical centre (World Heritage), and its Mosque-Cathedral, one of the most important monuments of the Muslim West.

The train route also stops at the World Heritage Cities of **Úbeda** and **Baeza** (Jaén), and carries on to **Granada**. There, you will be able to

stroll along the beautiful palaces and gardens of the Nasrid fortress of the Alhambra, and its charming historical centre. Dinner will be at a local restaurant.

The trip ends in **Malaga**, where you will visit its Alcazaba, a palace-like fort from the Muslim era.

MOSQUE-CATHEDRAL
CORDOBA



OTHER JOURNEYS BY TRAIN

There are numerous train journeys where you can enjoy the trip itself as well as discovering new treasures, be they long journeys or day trips. Always remember to check the departure since they vary depending on the time of year. Choose the one you like, book in advance and... all aboard!





▲ LA ROBLA EXPRESS

LA ROBLA EXPRESS

Enjoy the art, landscapes and gastronomy of the north of Spain travelling on a train which has been converted into a hotel: La Robla Express. You can choose the route between **Bilbao** and **León**, or between León and Bilbao, both lasting three days and two nights.

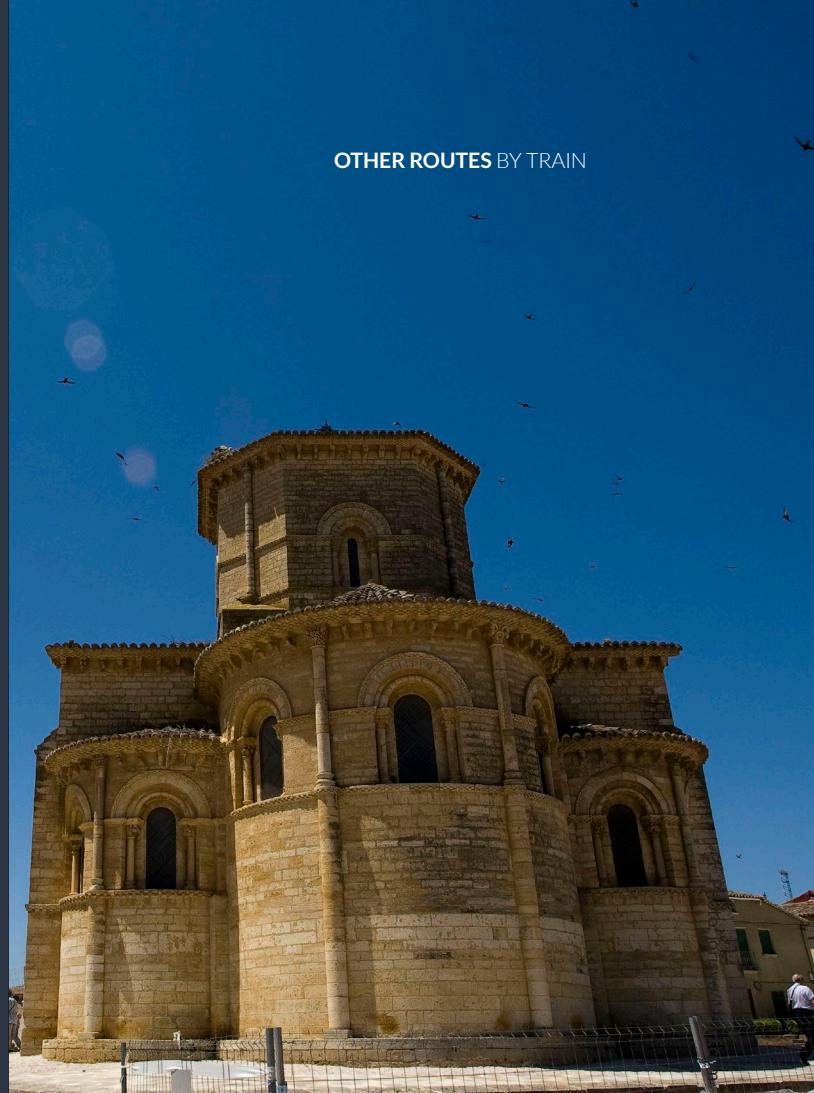
In your perfectly-equipped compartment, with modern décor, you have bunk beds to rest in and your own bathroom. Just like many other trains, the La Robla Express stops during the night so you can have a good rest.

Every morning as the train sets off, you can enjoy the landscapes through the large windows while you have your breakfast. Lunches and dinners are organised in typical restaurants, so you get to try the local produce and traditional dishes. The coach which accompanies the train will take you to places where there are guided tours, museums and monuments to visit and shows to enjoy. The tour includes all the entry fees as well as meals in the selected restaurants.

On your first day in the **Bilbao-León** itinerary, you follow route of the old coal train from **Bilbao**, in the Basque Country, to the city of **Frías** and the nearby waterfalls of Toberas (Burgos) and to **Espinosa de los Monteros**, a beautiful town in Burgos' Las Merindades.

On your second day, you visit Palencia's Romanesque destinations (along Saint James' Way), **Carrión de los Condes**, **Frómista** and **Saldaña**. Next, your journey takes you to the Canal of Castile and the Roman villa of La Olmeda and its magnificent mosaic collection. Your trip ends from **Cistierna**, at the city of **León** and its famous cathedral.

► CHURCH OF SAN MARTÍN DE TOURS,
FRÓMISTA



If you decide to take the **León-Bilbao** train, the journey is very similar but there are some variations. For example, you will visit the extraordinary **Valporquero caves**, famous for their stalactites, stalagmites and whimsically shaped flowstones, and their impressive Gran Rotonda chamber with more than 100,000 cubic metres of underground space.

On your last day, you will travel through the amazing landscape of the Mena valley on your way to **Bilbao**. Once there, you will explore the city and its well-known Guggenheim Museum Bilbao.



VALPORQUERO CAVES
LEÓN



▲ SCULPTURE OF DON QUIXOTE
ALCALÁ DE HENARES (MADRID)

CERVANTES TRAIN

Take a literary tour to Alcalá de Henares, the town where the author of *Don Quixote* was born. It only takes one day. This is a perfect excursion if you happen to be in **Madrid**: this theme train leaves Atocha station, in Madrid, and arrives in **Alcalá de Henares** in just 35 minutes. The city's university and historical centre have been awarded the World Heritage designation by the UNESCO.

You'll be taken back to the Cervantes era even before you get on the train: a group of entertainers in period costumes from the Spanish Golden Age will welcome you on the platform and accompany you throughout the tour. They will act out passages from

Cervantes: you'll certainly be immersed in a literary environment.

In Alcalá de Henares there will be guides waiting to take you to the most symbolic venues in the old town, like the house where the renowned author was born and inside the "Corral De Comedias", one of the oldest surviving open-air theatres left in Europe. You'll then have some free time to visit this historical city and perhaps to try some traditional local cuisine. Before returning to the meeting point you might try some of the city's typical pastries, a "costrada" (flaky pastry with cream and almonds) or "rosquillas" (similar to doughnuts).

MORE RAILWAY EXPERIENCES



▲ PUERTA DE ATOCHA STATION
MADRID

While you're in Madrid, take the **Medieval Train** and combine history, theatre and gastronomy in a single day. It takes no time at all to reach **Sigüenza** in Guadalajara, you'll spend about an hour and a half immersed in a Medieval atmosphere surrounded by actors playing the roles of typical characters from the era: troubadours, stilt walkers, jugglers. You'll even be served typical sweets while you're on board. When you reach your destination you'll be shown around the town by local guides. You'll be fascinated by the majestic cathedral, the castle and the Plaza Mayor square. There'll be typical dishes like traditional breadcrumbs and Castilian soup and for dessert you should try some Doncel egg yolks.

Another option while you're in Madrid is to climb aboard the **Strawberry Train**. This will take you to **Aranjuez**, a beautiful historic town about 50 kilometres from Madrid. This is a perfect excursion



ROYAL PALACE
ARANJUEZ

to go on with your family. You'll travel in carefully restored wooden coaches built in the early 20th century. Stewardesses in period costume will serve locally-grown strawberries.

**There are more suggestions
for organised train journeys.
Here are just a few of them**

There'll be programmed guided tours to help you discover the delights of Aranjuez, like the Royal Palace, the Royal Longboat Museum and the Prince's Gardens. You can even take a boat trip on the Tagus River. If you get peckish, you can try some of the local produce and game, like asparagus, pheasant and quails, for example.

Far from Madrid in the north of the country there are some great rail journeys. How about enjoying the beautiful scenery in **Galicia** from its tourist trains? There are a number of different routes to choose from: they are themed day trips which include the train journey, a specialist guide, activities, programmed visits and coach transfers where required.

If you'd like to visit cellars in wine-producing regions like **Ribeira Sacra** and **Valdeorras**, there are a number of different wine routes. If you'd rather visit the region's historical and natural

heritage then you have the route for the lighthouses, mansions and camelia gardens, monasteries, as well as the route around the city of **A Coruña** and its Galician Beer Museum. With the **Lamprey Route** (Pontevedra), you will discover the famous *pesqueiras*, ancient constructions on the Miño River used for catching lampreys (an unusual fish that, once cooked, becomes an exquisite dish). For more of a gastronomic experience, try the **Galician Cheese Route**. And for relaxation, choose the Thermal Ourense Route.

RIBEIRA SACRA
LUGO

INTERRAIL:

A DIFFERENT WAY OF TRAVELLING

If you'd just like to take last-minute decisions about your holidays, then take out an Interrail pass: With this pass you have free travel in certain areas. There are different types with a different duration. In some cases advance booking is required or recommended. If you're a European resident, a **One Country Pass** such as an **Interrail Spain Pass** will enable you to travel in a single country (in which you are not resident), whilst with a **Global Pass** you can take trains in more than 30 different European countries. If you're not a European resident then you can take out a **Eurorail Pass**. There are special offers for young people, seniors and families. Children under 12 travel free of charge if accompanied by an adult.

With an **Interrail Spain Pass** you can take RENFE trains and the ferries to the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean.

For a unique experience, travel around Spain with an Interrail pass.

For more information go to:

- ① www.interrail.eu/es/
- ① www.renfe.es

FOR EASIER **TRAVEL**

Get a **Renfe Spain Pass** and you'll be able to travel all over Spain (providing you are not a resident) on HST, long distance and medium distance trains. The pass is valid for one month starting from the first trip and it can be booked up to 6 months in advance. The passes are for four, six, eight or ten trips.

You can choose your seat, either standard or comfort.

Remember: if you take a HST or long-distance train, you can buy the Cercanías combined ticket to travel free on Cercanías, Rodalies and Alicante's TRAM from four hours before departure and up to four hours after arrival at your destination.

If you need any help when you travel, RENFE's **Adif Acerca** service is available free of charge to help passengers with disabilities or those with reduced mobility. This will give you peace of mind when you get on and off the train and move about the stations.

