

## The Seville Spring Fair 2010

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### La Feria de abril de Sevilla

The Seville Spring Fair, La Feria de abril de Sevilla, is held in the Andalusian capital of Seville, Spain. The fair generally begins two weeks after the Semana Santa, or Easter Holy Week.

The fair officially begins at midnight on 19 April, and runs six days, ending on 25 April 2010. Each day the fiesta begins with the parade of carriages and riders, at midday, carrying Seville's leading citizens who make their way to the bullring, La Real Maestranza, where the bullfighters and breeders meet.

The Fair dates back to 1847 when it was originally organized as a livestock fair by two councillors, José María Ybarra and Narciso Bonaplata. Queen Isabel II agreed to the proposal, and on 18 April 1847 the first fair was held at the Prado de San Sebastian, on the outskirts of the city.

It took only one year before an air of festivity began to transform the fair, due mainly to the emergence of the first three casetas, belonging to the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, the Town Hall, and the Casino of Seville. During the 1920s, the fair reached its peak and became the spectacle that it is today.



### Itinerary

#### Day 1

Arrive in Seville today and head to your accommodation. Today you are free to explore and enjoy the magnificent capital city of Andalucía where the Feria will be in full swing. For the duration of the fair, a vast area on the far bank of the Guadalquivir River is totally covered in rows of casetas (individual decorated marquee tents which are temporarily built for the duration of the fair). Some of these casetas belong to the prominent families of Seville, some to groups of friends, clubs, trade associations or political parties. From around nine at night until six or seven the following morning, at first in the streets and later on within each caseta, you will find crowds partying and dancing "Sevillanas", drinking Jerez sherry, or manzanilla wine, and eating tapas.



#### Day 2

This morning you will have the opportunity to ride around the stunning countryside of Seville or you can choose to enjoy a horse drawn carriage tour of this magnificent city. Your tour will take you along the Guadalquivir river and past the beautiful minaret of La Giralda cathedral (one of the largest in Christendom), and the Alcázar Palace. The city's treasures also include Casa de Pilatos, Torre del Oro, the Town Hall, Archive of the Indies (where the historical records of the American continent are kept) and the Fine Arts Museum (the second largest picture gallery in Spain). Later you will enjoy a typical Spanish tapas meal in a "caseta de feria" whilst enjoying the annual feria celebrations.





### Day 3

Today after breakfast you will have another opportunity to ride choose from a dressage lesson in the classic Spanish style or ride out in the countryside. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the Feria. This evening we can arrange a traditional Flamenco evening for you in the centre of Seville.



### Day 4

Breakfast and departure to Seville airport. You can choose to extend your stay if you would like.

## Prices

**£395 per person for small group (5 or more)**

**£425 per person (minimum 2 people) staying in a traditional cortijo/hacienda**

**£535 per person (minimum 2 people) in a quality hotel**

*Included in the price:*

- Three nights of accommodation on B&B
- Two riding opportunity either dressage lessons or hacks
- Guided tour of the Feria with tapas lunch/dinner in an authentic 'Caseta de Feria'



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