

Muslim Tour and Sephardic Traces in Almería

Capacity: Up to 40 people Duration: 5 hrs. (approx.)

Times		Description	Min	Type Of Ground	Restroom
From	То				
0:00	0:30	Panoramic View	30	Concrete pavement	•
0:30	0:50	Arab Cisterns	20	Tiles	
0:50	1:00	Calle Las Tiendas	10	Tiles/ Cobblestones	•
1:00	1:30	Adela Alcocer Museum	30	Tiles/ Marble	
1:30	2:00	Path to La Hoya towards Alcazaba	30	Tiles/Cubblestone/ Marble	•
2:00	3:15	Visit to the Alcazaba	75	Slabs/ pebbles	
3:15	4:00	Tearoom for a snack	45	Concrete pavement	
4:00	4:30	Return to the ship on foot / by bus	30		





Tour description

The history of Almería is rich in culture, traditions, and diversity.

On one hand, the Muslim Almería, known at the time as **Al-Mariyya Bayyana**, was a prosperous port city in Islamic Spain during the Middle Ages, especially from the 10th century. Under Muslim rule, the city experienced significant economic, cultural, and military development, becoming one of the most important commercial centers in Al-Andalus in the 11th century.

Thanks to its strategic location on the Mediterranean coast, Almería was the main port for maritime routes connecting the Mediterranean with North Africa, Egypt, and the Near East.

Muslim Almería was also a vibrant cultural center where the arts and sciences flourished. The Muslim community in Almería coexisted with Jewish and Christian minorities.

The history of Jewish Almería is one of the great unknowns, as there are no remains, but the places where Jews settled can still be identified by plaques. Sefarad is the name that Spanish Jews gave to Spain during the Middle Ages, and sefardíes refers to those Spanish Jews who were expelled in 1492.

This route will mainly focus on the fortified Almería, surrounded by defensive walls, and its grand citadel or Alcazaba of Almería, which dominates the city. Built in 955 by Abd-al-Rahman III, the first Umayyad caliph of Córdoba, it is one of the largest of its kind on the Iberian Peninsula, designed to protect the city. It consists of three enclosures: two Muslim and a final Christian enclosure, constructed after the city's conquest by the Catholic Monarchs in 1489.

You will learn about the history, customs, traditions, and gastronomy of the Muslims, Jews, and Christians who coexisted between the 10th and 15th centuries.

And what better way to end our tour than with a light snack based on Arab/ Sephardic cuisine in a beautiful tearoom in the oldest neighborhood of our city, at the foot of the Alcazaba, or in a small alleyway filled with jasmine?



TETERÍA ALMEDINA

A lovely tearoom offering Moroccan and Tunisian cuisine in the heart of the Almedina neighborhood, with tables in a gardened street or inside with an Arabic atmosphere.

Further info:

Hours: Open Tuesday - Sunday, 12:00 AM - 12:00 PM / Closed on Mondays.

Phone: +34 697 93 29 11

Address: C/Paz 2, Almería. How to get there.

Web

Access: Easy access for customers with reduced mobility









Times		Description	Min	Type Of Ground	Restrooms
From	То				
0:00	0:30	Walk through the Park	30	Concrete pave- ment	
0:30	0:50	Walk towards the Adela Alcocer Museum via C/ Reina	20	Tiles	•
0:50	1:20	Adela Alcocer Museum	30	Tiles/marble	
1:20	1:35	Path to the Alcazaba via C/Almedina	15	Tiles/Cubblesto- ne/Marble	
1:35	2:00	Path to the Alcazaba via C/Descanso	25	Slabs/cubblesto- nes/pebbles	
2:00	3:15	Tearoom for a snack	75	Slabs/pebbles/ a little bit od dirt	
3:15	4:00	Visit to the Alcazaba	45	Concrete pave- ment	
4:00	4:30	Return to the ship on foot	30		





Tour description

From the foot of the ship, we will take a bus to the heart of the city. Passing through the old Fishmonger's-La Chanca neighborhood (dominated by the unique **Church of Saint Roque** with its tall tower), we will take the highway towards Murcia, from where we will enjoy beautiful panoramic views of the city and the sea.

After taking the exit for **Federico García Lorca Avenue**, we will drive along it until we reach **Purchena Gate**, the nerve center of the city since the Muslim era, where the bus will drop us off. From here, we will walk towards **Shops Street**. This street, of Arab origin, still has a narrow, winding design and is one of the most typical of the 11th-century Muslim era. In Muslim times, Shops Street was the old road to Pechina, ending at the **Pechina Gate**, the main gate of the 11th century. This pedestrian street is named by the number of shops it contains. Originally, it was a commercial street.

Before heading to Shops Street, we will visit the **Arab Cisterns**, which date back to the 11th century and were commissioned by the first king of the Taifa of Almería, Jairán. Divided into three aisles, the most characteristic material used is brick.

From Shops Street, we will turn about 20 meters onto Arráez Street to visit the **Adela Alcocer Municipal Archive**, where we will have the opportunity to see one of the oldest books in the archival collection: the Book of Acts of the Distribution of Land in Almería from 1492, after the Catholic Monarchs' conquest. This book records the distribution of land parcels given to the Christians who came from other cities to repopulate Almería, the Muslims who remained (known as Moriscos), and the Jews settled near the Church of Santiago and the Marín Square area. This information comes from research carried out by several scholars. The Book of Distribution is a historical gem of the city.

From there, we will continue towards our final destination, the **Alcazaba**, via **La Hoya**. This ravine is located on the edge of the historic city—between the monumental Alcazaba and Saint Cristóbal Hill—and we will observe the line of walls with the square towers of Jayrān's wall. In medieval times, it was occupied by a neighborhood that was later abandoned. The pre-existing terracing has been preserved, restoring its walls. The water channel and irrigation system used for terrace farming have been recovered, and two ancient irrigation pools have been put back into use.

From La Hoya, our final destination, the Alcazaba, is just 10 minutes away along the steep Almanzor Street, which leads us to the entrance of the largest monument of its kind in Spain. As we approach, we will already see its main entrance, dominated by the Tower of Mirrors.

Stroll through its garden areas in the first enclosure and archaeological remains, such as cisterns, while enjoying the views of the city and sea from its viewpoints and listening to the sound of the water from its fountains. Continuing upwards, we will reach the **Torre de la Vela Wall**, where the views of the city stretching to Cape Gata are a true delight for the eyes. In the second enclosure, admire the magnificent palace structure with its archaeological remains, including cisterns, baths, and a wall that once belonged to the Private Residence of King Almutasim. If we have time, we can enter the third Christian enclosure, which was constructed after the city's conquest by the Catholic Monarchs. Here, we can observe the large parade ground, the characteristic Homage Tower, and a large viewpoint over the sea, where we can see the Fishing Port and the traditional Fishmonger's-La Chanca neighborhood.

You will have the chance to enjoy a typical Arab/Sephardic sweet accompanied by lemonade or Moroccan tea.



TETERIA BARAKA ALMEDINA

A beautiful tearoom and restaurant at the foot of the Alcazaba with a terrace and courtyard

Further info:

Hours: Open Wednesday – Thursday, 12:00 AM – 10:30 PM / Friday – Saturday, 12:00 AM – 11:30 PM / Sunday, 12:00 AM – 10:00 PM – Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Phone: +34 662 14 17 62

Address: C/Almanzor 27, Almería. How to get there

Web

Payment: Cash only







The Ultimate undiscovered treasure







