

CASA DE CARMONA

PRESS INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

History and Origins of Casa de Carmona

The Restoration

The palace, originally constructed in 1561, was bought by the family of the present owner, Felipe Guardiola, in September 1986. Felipe himself was instrumental in the planning, finance and the direction of the restoration of the ruin to a luxury hotel of 30 rooms. The work was complete in March 1991 and the hotel opened its doors in September of that year.

No expense was spared and the result was grandeur probably even more luxurious than the building possessed when first built. However, the restoration has preserved all the palace's original spaces and details: most date from the sixteenth century. All the modern comforts have been introduced in an unobtrusive way (the air-conditioning is installed above the mouldings so that it cannot be seen) and the result is a remarkable and seamless fusion of the very best of old and new.

The Decoration

Since the layout is from the renaissance, with a Moorish influence, the rooms all look towards the interior. Each room has retained its distinctive height and proportions. Each is furnished with its own unique combination of antique furniture, elegant fabrics and original prints.

The Atmosphere

The hotel's main features are its grand spaces: four inner courtyards full of potted plants, each with a running fountain. The adjectives most called to mind about the hotel are immaculate, quiet, relaxed, opulent, distinguished and private.

Leisure Facilities

Petite swimming pool. Arab garden. Chess. Backgammon. Sauna. Steam room. Library. Mini-gymnasium.

The Overview

The prestigious Casa de Carmona, a 16th century palace converted into a five star luxury hotel, is an aesthetic delight. Enchanting patios with lush plants and the soothing sound of the fountains, grand drawing rooms, unique antiques and works of art inherited through generations and exquisite decoration provide an atmosphere of sheer opulence. The hotel is admirably well kept and the experienced staff are both amiable and professional.

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The Arrival

When you arrive at the Casa de Carmona, you sense that life has suddenly become much easier. You can stop worrying about your car and luggage: the porter will park your car and the concierge will immediately take your bags to your room. One of our charming receptionists will meet you at the door to show you around the house.

The Introductions

A member of the hotel's team will accompany you to your room. They will show you through the courtyards and gardens, they will take you through the library and offer you a complimentary drink from the free-bar. They will ask if you would like a chambermaid to unpack your bags and take any laundry you may have, and tell you that you may leave your shoes outside your door at night to find them awaiting you in the morning - freshly polished and ready for the day.

The Space

Enjoy the fresh air, contemplate the gardens and relax in the courtyards, shaded from the sunlight, smell the scent of the orange trees and the jasmine ... hear the silence and listen to the water of the fountains and the singing of the birds ...

The History

Carmona is possibly the oldest settlement in Europe. Its rich stores of Moorish, Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque artefacts, monuments, and ruins are testimony to its antiquity and survival throughout the ages. Many of the city's walls date to Roman times, the classic Gate of Cordoba, still guarding its venerable entrance at one end and the Gate of Sevilla - the most treasured example of an intact Roman gate in all of Spain - at the other.

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FACT SHEET

This enchanting 5 star hotel provides a unique combination of Moorish style and luxurious club atmosphere.

Address: Casa de Carmona
Plazo de Lasso, 1
Carmona
41410 Seville
SPAIN

Tel: + 34 95 419 1000
Fax: + 34 95 419 0189
Web: <http://www.casadecarmona.com>
Email: reserve@asadecarmona.com

Location: Tucked away in the beautiful town of Carmona, and only a stone's throw away from the bustle of Seville and the stunning attractions of Cordoba. The Casa de Carmona is 15 minutes by motorway from Seville International Airport.

Tour Operators: CV Travel, Magic of Spain
Member of Relais & Chateaux

Proprietor: Felipe Guardiola

Head Chef: Fernando Peña

Facilities at the hotel: Public Spaces Plaza de Lasso (used as parking for clients)
Entrance Courtyard
Main Courtyard
Arab Garden
Loggia Arched Terrace
Swimming Pool
Sauna
Mini-gymnasium
Hair salon

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- Rooms:** The Blue Suite
Seven junior suites
34 rooms
Library
Restaurant
Loggia (pool room)
Chess room
Snooker room
Shop
- Accommodation:** 30 individually designed and furnished rooms, including seven junior suites:
To make guests feel welcome, rooms include a variety of books and magazines to read, a VCR and music system to play any of the hundreds of films and CDs available for guests to enjoy. Satellite television and compact disc are available in the rooms.
- Conference Facilities:** The hotel is a superb location for corporate meetings and incentive trips. The meeting rooms are splendid and perfectly decorated with delightful colour schemes, magnificent paintings and superb comfortable furniture. The full length windows ensure a wealth of natural daylight. The hotel facilities include a range of up-to-date in-house presentation equipment that will suit the needs of most complex meeting.
- The Building:** Construction of the main palace was completed in 1561. The Loggia terrace was annexed in the 1700s and the Casa de Campo containing rooms 24 to 31 was annexed in the 1800s.
- Weddings:** Although not licensed for weddings, marriages are often conducted in the famous 14 churches of Carmona, including the church of Santa Maria. Receptions follow soon after the ceremony at Casa de Carmona.
- Cuisine and Private dining facilities:** Restaurant
Pool Terrace
- Reservations:** Reservations can be made by calling Casa de Carmona on + 34 95 419 1000. The hotel's fax number is + 34 95 419 0189. The web-page is at www.casadecarmona.com and the e-mail address is reserve@casadecarmona.com

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SOME ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE IN AND AROUND **CASA DE CARMONA**

CARMONA

Enjoy the spectacular Roman architecture in Carmona – two magnificent gates, a city wall, an amphitheatre, and the largest necropolis after Rome.

From the Arabs – a Castle and a mosque

Visit 14 churches - and many palaces around Carmona

For children and adults alike - enjoy a trip to the local zoo

SEVILLE

Only thirty minutes from the hotel by road, Seville is known as the most beautiful city in Spain. Try a selection of the following activities during a visit to Seville:

Visit the El Real Alcazar - said to be one of the oldest palaces in Europe

Climb the Giralda tower - visit this part of the Gothic Cathedral, which is the resting place of Christopher Columbus.

Dance Flamenco – some of the late night bars play nothing else

Try a tasty Tapas or two – The network of papas eateries is a reason to visit the narrow streets of Barrio de Santa Cruz.

A visit to the bullring – the historical Maestranza bullring dates back to 1761.

Parque de Maria Luisa – take a carriage ride around Seville's most significant park

CÓRDOBA

Located fifty minutes away from the hotel by motorway, Cordoba is a feast for the eyes:

Visit the Gran Mezquita – the highest and most envied wonder of the entire Arab civilisation

The Jewish Quarter – with its magnificent synagogue

The Alcazar – with its magnificent gardens

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ANDALUCIA PROVIDES A WEALTH OF ACTIVITIES FOR GUESTS AT THE HOTEL

Donana - a wildlife reserve

For beaches - visit the immaculate beaches of Huelva and Cadiz

Theatres - Seville

Bullfighting - as an alternative to traditional bull-fighting we propose a private bloodless bullfight – Guardiola family breeding bulls

Golf - golf school in Carmona and a wide selection of courses

Flamenco - shows in Seville, but for a fixed price of £500, a top-level, and private, flamenco show can be put on for 4 people: two sessions of 45 minutes each

FAMOUS GUESTS

Caroline Kennedy
George Lucas
Roger Waters
BB King
Iman

FURTHER DETAILS

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