



## /01. Andalusia awaits you with pride

Andalusia is one of the **favourite destinations** of the LGBTI community. This is no accident. It has historically been a **hometown**, a **hospitable** and **tolerant** region, capable of recognising the plurality of people who inhabit it and of those who choose it to spend their free time there.

A good example of its commitment is the **regulatory framework** that it has developed, which complements the national social context, with the passing of same-sex marriage legislation. In 2014, Andalusia pushed through the **Comprehensive Law on Transsexuality** and in 2017 the **Law** that guarantees the rights, equal treatment and non-discrimination of LGBTI people (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, and/or intersex) and their families.

**Spain is one of the first countries, after Belgium and the Netherlands, to pass same-sex marriage legislation**

In this coexistence, characterised by respect for diversity, Andalusia has offered **seductive options** for the LGBTI community with a large number of **top-quality tourist resources** such as hotels, beaches, spas, restaurants, shops, museums, leisure centres and **pride festivals** that have had a great impact on the national and international scene.

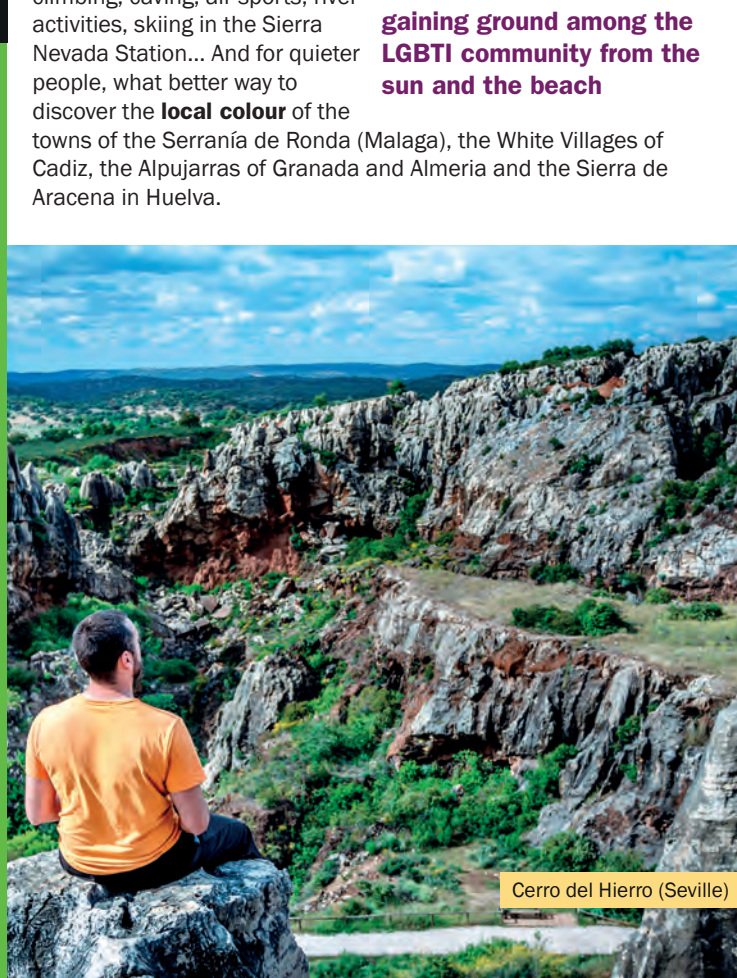


## /07. Active nature

**Sport and nature** go hand in hand in a region like Andalusia, which has **protected natural areas** as valuable as **Doñana** and with a **diversity of landscapes** that range from the warm Guadalquivir Valley, to the lush mountain ranges of medium-height and high mountains, volcanic landscapes to the white peaks of the Sierra Nevada. They have become the setting for **rural and inland tourism** that is increasingly **fashionable** among the **LGBTI community**, which seeks another type of tourist experience that complements that of large cities such as Seville, Cordoba, Granada, Torremolinos or Marbella.

Andalusia offers endless possibilities for **active leisure**: hiking through the Sierra de Grazalema, Greenways, MTB routes, canyoning in the Río Verde, climbing, caving, air sports, river activities, skiing in the Sierra Nevada Station... And for quieter people, what better way to discover the **local colour** of the towns of the Serranía de Ronda (Malaga), the White Villages of Cadiz, the Alpujarras of Granada and Almeria and the Sierra de Aracena in Huelva.

**Rural and inland tourism is gaining ground among the LGBTI community from the sun and the beach**



## /02. Get Moving

Andalusia is a **well-connected region**, with a magnificent transport network by air, sea and land that allows visitors to move around the region quickly and easily. It has **six airports**, five of them international (Malaga-Costa del Sol, Seville, Jerez de la Frontera, Almeria and Granada-Jaen) and one national (Cordoba).

As well as modern highways, it has the **High-Speed Train (AVE)**, with stations in Seville, Malaga and Cordoba, and trains arriving from Madrid and Barcelona. For its part, the seven Andalusian **cruise ports** (Algeciras Bay, Almeria, Cadiz Bay, Huelva, Malaga, Motril-Granada and Seville) offer unique tourist attractions very close to their docking points.



## /08. Cuisine

Andalusia has a wide **range of accommodation**, much of which has the **Gay-Friendly badge** that certifies that they provide a **tolerant environment** for the community. In addition, another of the most significant and important characteristics of the Andalusian hotel sector, which makes it competitive, is its **excellent value for money**. A variety of options that will allow the customer to make their reservation based on their tastes and budget.

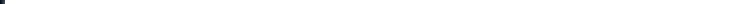
Thus, the LGBTI tourist can find modern and avant-garde **urban hotels** next to other more monumental and historic ones, designer holiday **apartments**, hostels, luxurious resorts with spas, hostels with a special charm, **rural houses** ideal for a weekend getaway and even singular **cave houses**.

Andalusia has a rich and healthy cuisine rooted in tradition and in high quality products such as olive oil, but which has made a decisive commitment to **innovation and modernisation** in recent years, with the help of creative **Andalusians chefs** recognised by the prestigious Michelin Guide.

The recipe book is long and imaginative. The best way to approach it is to try small portions of its cuisine as a **tapa**, a widespread culinary custom in the region that can be tried throughout the year in traditional local bars, taverns, restaurants, gourmet markets, and so on.

**In some areas of Andalusia tapas are served for free when ordering a drink**

For those curious food lovers who want to discover at first hand the raw materials on which Andalusian dishes are based, we suggest that they go on one of the **gastronomic tours** around the region, faithfully tracing the contours of Andalusian cuisine through its most representative products: wine, oil, rice, ham or almadraba tuna.



## /03. From Torremolinos to the world

In 50s and 60s, **Torremolinos** was, in addition to being a tourist attraction for those seeking the sun and the beach, a model for **social and cultural development**. There was a **cosmopolitan and multicultural atmosphere** that attracted foreign tourists and world-famous film and showbiz celebrities en masse.

It was a redoubt of freedom in Franco's Spain that soon became a pioneer **meeting point** for homosexuals from all over Europe. There, the first gay bar in the country, **Tony's Bar**, was opened in 1962, alongside other legendary bars in the now-disappeared **Pasaje Begonia**, now called Pasaje Gil Vicente, which will soon regain its name thanks to an initiative of the municipality of Torremolinos. This alley in the town centre, which until the 70s was a leading international nightspot, has also been declared a **Place of Memory** of Andalusia in the Congress of Deputies, thanks to a proposal endorsed by all the political groups and that also plans the creation of an LGBTI historical archive and a visitor centre.

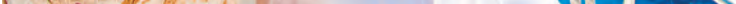
Torremolinos was the **origin of the movement to make the community visible** and continues to be a **leader in LGBTI tourism**. It is the site of the **first LGBTI hotel in Andalusia** (the largest in Europe), which is a major attraction for visitors who come to this town in the Malaga region to enjoy its popular gay festivals and sunbathe on its beaches.



## /09. Accommodations for all tastes

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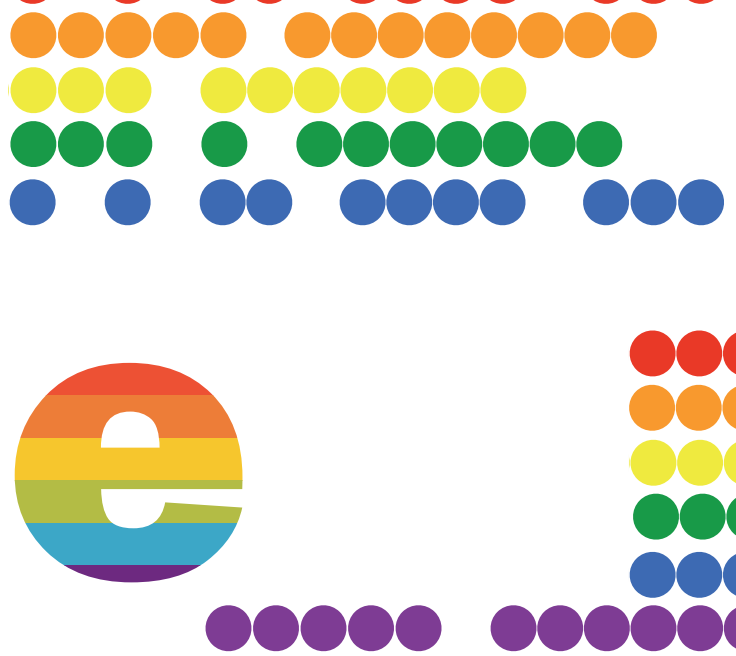
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## /04. Nightlife

Experience the endless Andalusian night, feel its rhythm and discover the **best nightlife venues** where you can enjoy the party and meet people, in an atmosphere of freedom where **diversity and respect for different sexual orientations** prevail. Many of them are aimed at an LGBTI audience.

We can find quieter **pubs and trendy bars**, perhaps for a first drink and a chat; and other, livelier ones, to enjoy dance or electronic music, with DJ sessions, where on weekends you can enjoy **drag and quick-change shows**. Other options are clubs with live music, lively terraces or even beach bars to continue enjoying the beach into the night.

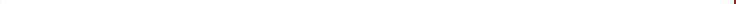


## /10. Cultural heritage and History

Andalusia has an extensive cultural heritage of incalculable artistic value that has been recognised by **UNESCO**, with the inclusion in the **World Heritage** list of monumental jewels such as the Alhambra, Generalife and the Albaicin of Granada; the Historic Centre of Cordoba, including the Mosque-Cathedral and the Jewish Quarter; the Cathedral, Alcazar and the Archive of the Indies of Seville; the Renaissance Monumental Ensembles of Ubeda and Baeza; the Antequera Dolmens Site, the Caliphate City of Madinat Al-Zahra and the Rock Art of the Mediterranean Arch of the Iberian Peninsula.

The homeland of **great artists and writers** such as Velázquez, Murillo, Alberti, Juan Ramón Jiménez, Lorca and Picasso, among many others, the region also has some of the best **museums** in the country such as the Museum of Fine Arts in Seville, considered the country's second art gallery, the Malaga Museum, the Picasso Museum and the avant-garde Pompidou Centre, both also in Malaga.

Another way of approaching the enormous cultural wealth of this land is through the routes that run through its towns and cities, inviting visitors to discover its traditions, popular architecture and iconic places. Highlights include the itineraries of the **Roman Betica, The Andalusian Legacy, the Route of the Castles and Battles, Journey to the Time of the Iberians** or the **Columbian Places**, among others. The poet and playwright **Federico García Lorca** has his own cultural route that runs from his home at Fuente Vaqueros to the scene of his death at Alfacar.



## /05. Sun and beach

The sun and beach tourism that Andalusia offers is one of the great attractions for LGBTI travellers from around the world. There are more than **900 km of coastline** bathed by the waters of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, with beaches noted for **quality of their waters** and their **environmental values**. You can also enjoy them at any time of the year thanks to the region's **special climate**, with an average temperature of 16°C and a perennial luminosity, the result of its 3,000 hours of sunshine per year.

The **variety of Andalusian beaches** can be seen on region's **five coasts**: from the golden and fine sand beaches of the **Costa de la Luz** (in Huelva and Cadiz), to the famous beaches of the **Costa del Sol** (Malaga), from the warm beaches of the **Costa Tropical** (Granada) to the virgin beaches of the **Costa de Almería**. In all of them there are spaces for nudists and naturists to enjoy.

The coast is also an exceptional enclave for all types of **nautical activities**. We can go **sailing** from one of the Andalusian marinas, towards the Cape Trafalgar or admire the mobile dunes of Doñana Park; **watch cetaceans** in the Strait of Gibraltar; **scuba dive** in the waters of Cape Gata or **windsurf** on the beaches of the Ensenada de Valdevaqueros and Los Lances (Cadiz).



## /11. Take care of yourself

Andalusia offers **numerous spaces** for LGBTI tourists to **relax their body and mind**. To the facilities with **spa and thermal circuits** that have hotels and centres specialising in health and beauty, the region adds its **spas** located in natural environments, in mountain areas or near the beach. Warm and welcoming, they offer **bespoke treatments** and have all kinds of services so you can feel right at home.

With the experience in a **Hamam** or **Arab Bath**, an inheritance of Andalusia's past, the visitor will enjoy incomparable sensations, either in its waters with different temperatures, in the massage rooms or by taking tea at the end of a relaxing session. There are also **saunas** and **Turkish baths** that are more focused on the LGBTI audience.



## /06. Festivals and traditions

Andalusia is a **land of contrasts and traditions** that invites visitors to mix with the people of its land and enjoy its festivals firsthand. There are more than **3,000 festive events** that highlight the cheerful and outgoing character of Andalusians. **Carnivals** such as that at **Cadiz** (which was declared of International Tourist Interest) flood streets with colour which soon after and throughout the region will see the processions of thrones and floats of the Andalusian **Holy Week**, which is of great artistic value.

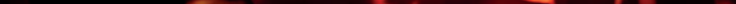
The smell of incense soon gives way to the **sounds of flamenco** that are heard at the stands of **fairs** as popular as the April Fair in Seville and the Jerez de la Frontera Horse Fair. Spring brings with it unmissable dates for the diary, such as the **Cordobes Patios** (Intangible Heritage of Humanity), the **Crosses of Granada** and the **pilgrims of El Rocío** in Almonte (Huelva) and Our Lady of Cabeza de Andujar (Jaen). And in August, it's worth going to the Malaga Fair or **Sanlúcar de Barrameda** (Cadiz) to see the beautiful spectacle of the **Horse Racing** on the beach, with the Doñana reserve as a backdrop.



## /12. Go outside with pride

More and more events directly linked to the LGBTI community are held in Andalusia, with it being a first-class tourist destination. The best example are **Pride festivals**, which feature prominently in the national and international scene, such as **LGBTI Pride Seville, Manliva Pride** or **Pride Torremolinos**, which is now one of the three main pride festivals in Spain alongside those in Madrid and Maspalomas.

In the **Andalusian cultural calendar**, there are also an important place for LGBTI-themed contests and festivals such as **Andalesgal** (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Film Festival of Andalusia); **Togaytherland**, an innovative LGBTI culture and leisure festival in Andalusia; and the **Pride Culture Festival**, which aims to be a benchmark for the performing, audiovisual, plastic, literary and artistic arts as a means to make LGBTI culture visible.







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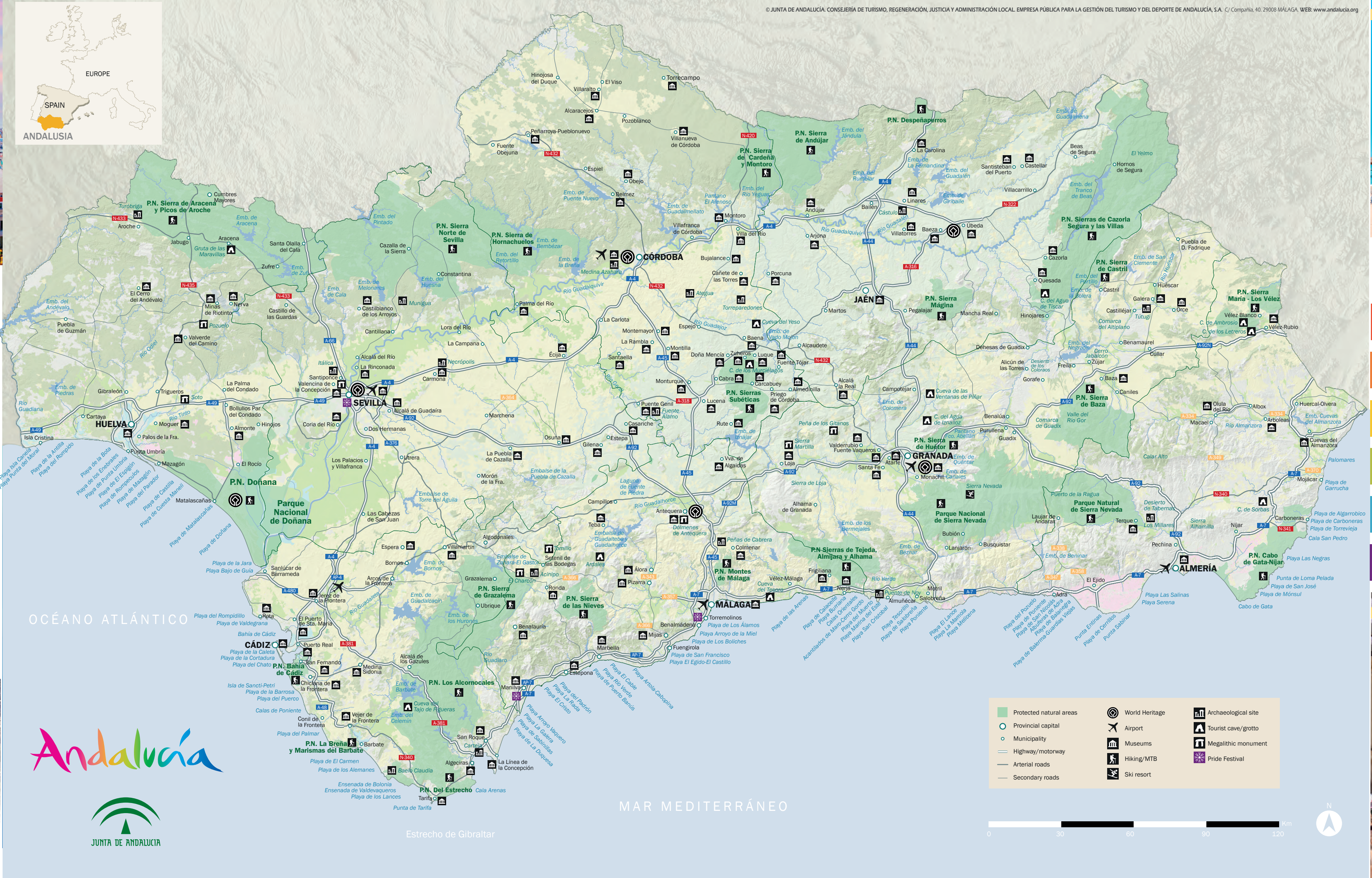


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