

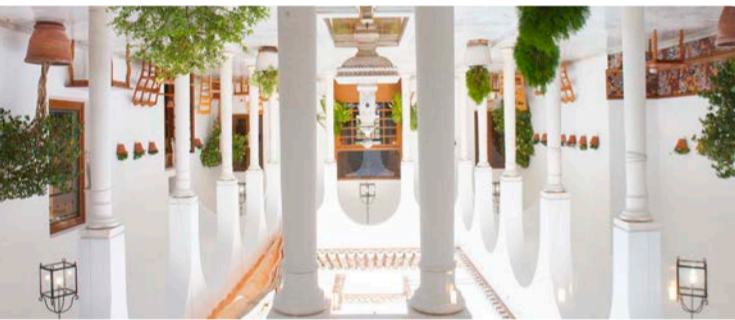


Priego de Córdoba

Practical city guide/ Map



# Priego de Córdoba



## Geography and history

## Monuments and Museums

## Festivals and traditions

## Gastronomy and crafts



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Priego de Córdoba is at the heart of Andalusia, in the Subbética region. It is recognised as a Special Protected Area for birds (SPA) by Europe. It is a **Natural Park** and also a **UNESCO Geopark**. Priego consists of the town itself, 8 compact nuclear villages and 17 villages of dispersed houses, offering a range of sustainable rural tourism. This great variety of ecology and countryside provides a number of opportunities for enthusiasts of mountaineering; trekking; pot-holing; or mycology (the study of fungi). Our mycology centre, **Jardín Micológico de la Trufa** in the village of Zagrilla is the only one of its kind in Europe. Priego has been inhabited since the 3rd century B.C. due to the fertile countryside, abundance of water and the natural defences of the steep cliff at the Adarve. From 1st - 3rd centuries there was an Iberian-Roman settlement, but it was the Arabs that were the real founders of the town itself. It started as a military encampment (8th - 9th century A.D.), later becoming the town of **Madinat Baguh** (9th century A.D.). The town's prosperity came to an end due to the Christian conquests (Fernando III, in 1225, and Alfonso XI, in 1341) and the hardships brought about by the continual movements of the frontier between the Christian and Muslim kingdoms, during the early medieval period. With the return of peace, after the fall of Granada in 1492, and the installation of the **Marquis of Priego** in 1501, Priego regained its former prosperity. Best illustrated by the construction of many historically important public buildings. After the difficulties of the 17th century, marked by several outbreaks of the plague, the financial boom provided by the silk industry enabled 18th century Priego to reach its artistic zenith expressed by the

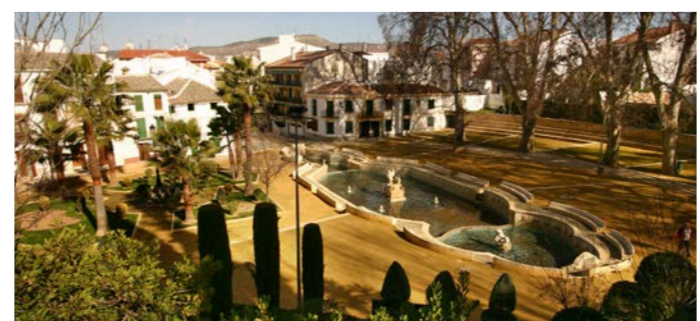


Baroque movement. In 1881, Alfonso XII conferred the title of city, by Royal Decree. Nowadays local development relies on the agricultural production of extra virgin olive oil of Protected Origin Designation, and also from the textile industry, business services and the tourist sector.

Situated between the mountains and the olive groves, in the heart of Andalusia, Priego de Córdoba owes its origins to the Muslim culture. The most powerful examples are the austere **Castle (4)** or the **La Villa neighbourhood (1)** with its narrow winding streets or even the Adarve, the natural vantage point that encircles it and formed the historical defences of the original medieval town. Priego is the capital of **Córdoba**



**baroque** and there are numerous examples of this artistic style. Most notably the sanctuary of the **Church of the Assumption (3)**; the **Iglesia de la Aurora (22)**; the **Saint Francis Church (21)**; the **Saint Peter's Church (8)**; the **Iglesia de las Angustias (10)**; the **Church of St. John of God (9)**; the **Iglesia del Carmen (19)**; the **Iglesia de las Mercedes (12)** and of course the **Fuente del Rey (17)**, with a statue of Neptune encircled by 139 jets of water. An historic destination with numerous examples of civic architecture, such as the mannerist style of the **Carnicerías Reales (6)**; the extraordinary **Plaza de Toros (26)**, which has been dug out of the rock; or the grand private houses of Calle Río and Carrera Álvarez. In order to properly understand what makes Prieguenses (people from Priego) special, visit the towns seven museums: the **Casa Natal of Niceto Alcalá Zamora (20)**, first President of the Second Republic; the **Centro del Paisaje Español Contemporáneo (11)**; the **Casa-Museo (house museum) of Adolfo Lozano Sidro (11)**, the great painter and illustrator; the **Almond museum (24)** in Zamoranos; the **Jardín Micológico de la Trufa (Fungi Museum) (27)** in Zagrilla; and the **Museo Etnográfico (25)** in Castil de Campos.



The most important are those for **Holy Week** and the Festival of los Domingos de Mayo. Both have been declared to be of special tourist interest. During Holy Week the local brotherhoods undertake processions leading up to the morning of Good Friday with the Jesus of Nazareth procession up to the Mount of Calvary. The religious float is born along by a great crowd of people, each desirous to play their part. Once the summit is reached, thousands of people raise the symbolic hornazo (a small pastry in the form of a chicken containing a hard-boiled egg) above their heads to receive the blessing of the Lord, performed by the statue itself. The **Domingos de Mayo** festival goes back to the 17th century and is celebrated on the weekends of the month. Its various religious celebrations involve famous singers, choirs and orchestras; along with spectacular processions and lively auctions. On the 3rd weekend in June, the pilgrimage, **Romería de la Virgen de la Cabeza**, heads from the town to the area above the village of La Concepción; **Corpus Christi** is still celebrated on the Thursday and the Barrio de la Villa neighbourhood is marvellously decked out to receive it. Following the town's prestigious International **Festival of Music Dance and Theatre**, on 1st - 5th September it celebrates the **Feria Real**.



Throughout the year there are other festivities to enjoy: **candelaria**; **carnival**; the **flamenco festival**; the various **village celebrations** or the **trovos**, a festival of competitive satirical interactive ballad singing. One of the most deep-rooted traditions, dating back more than 400 years, takes place every Saturday morning just after midnight. A band of singers and musicians form the **Brotherhood of Aurora** pass through the streets singing,

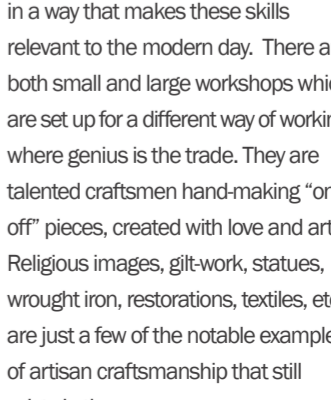
Priego has a rich and varied tradition of gastronomy. A style of cooking that is strengthened by the exceptional quality of one of the main ingredients, **extra virgin olive with Priego Protected Origin Designation**. It is the greatest prizewinning olive oil in the world. In Priego there are a great number of bars and restaurants that will prepare regional dishes for you to enjoy, all done with meticulous care: revuelto de collejas (scrambled eggs with the shoots of the campion plant), rabo de toro (ox tail stew), salmorejo (an emulsion of olive oil and



tomato traditionally thickened with moistened breadcrumbs) remojón de naranja (a mixed salad of oranges, egg, and salted cod), carrillada (a pork stew). In different patisseries and confectioners you will be able to taste local pastries, some available throughout the year whilst others are associated with specific festivals and religious festivals. Turrolate, pailllos de leche, pestiños, empanadillas, barquillos, isabelas are part of the delightful range of pastries and sweets delicately sweetened with natural ingredients such as cinnamon or honey to satisfy even those with the sweetest tooth. Priego is honoured with an incredible array of excellent craftsmen. They possess the talent handed down by their illustrious ancestors whilst working in a way that makes these skills relevant to the modern day. There are both small and large workshops which are set up for a different way of working, where genius is the trade. They are talented craftsmen hand-making "one-off" pieces, created with love and art. Religious images, gift-work, statues, wrought iron, restorations, textiles, etc., are just a few of the notable examples of artisan craftsmanship that still exists in the area.

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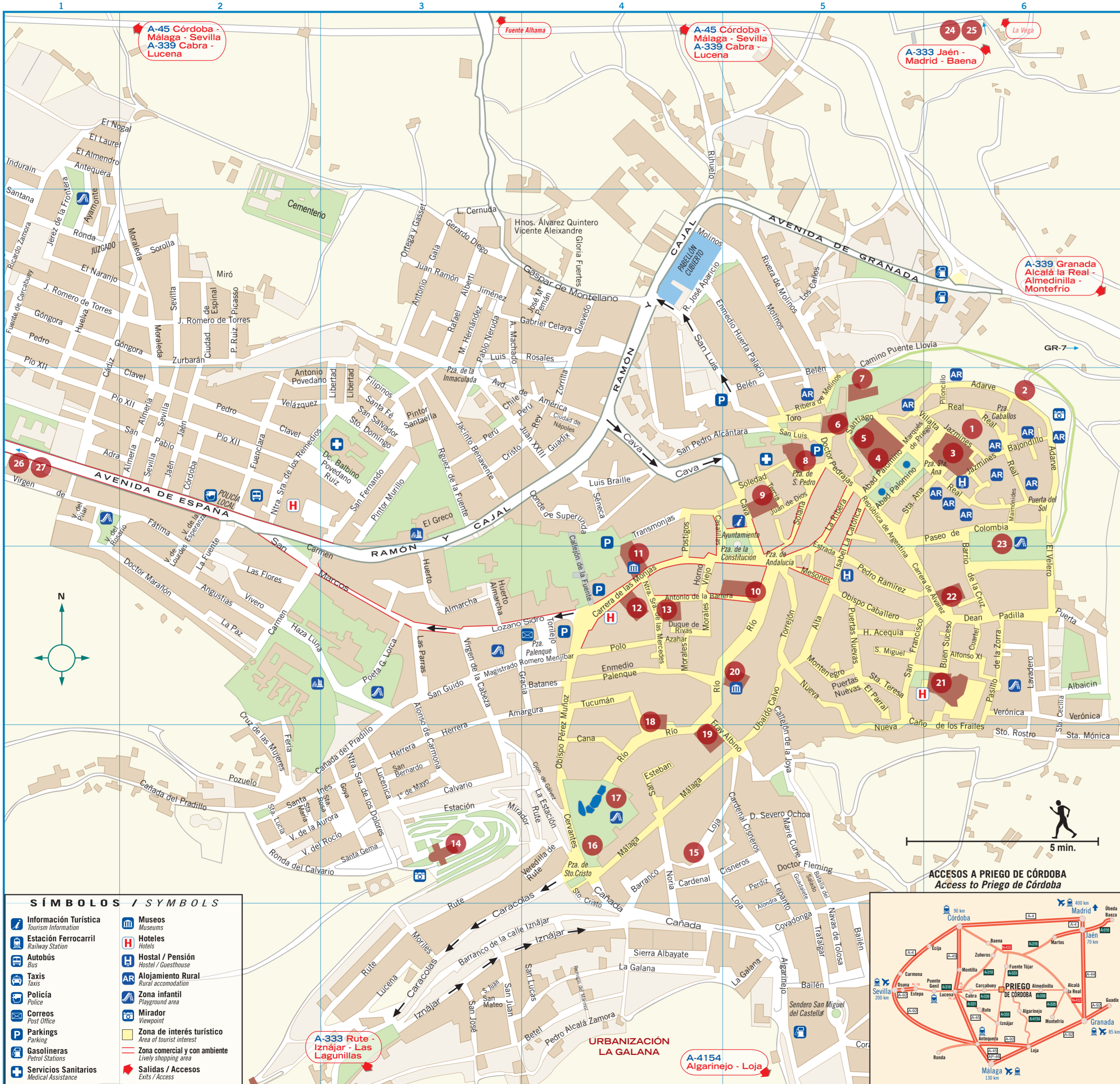
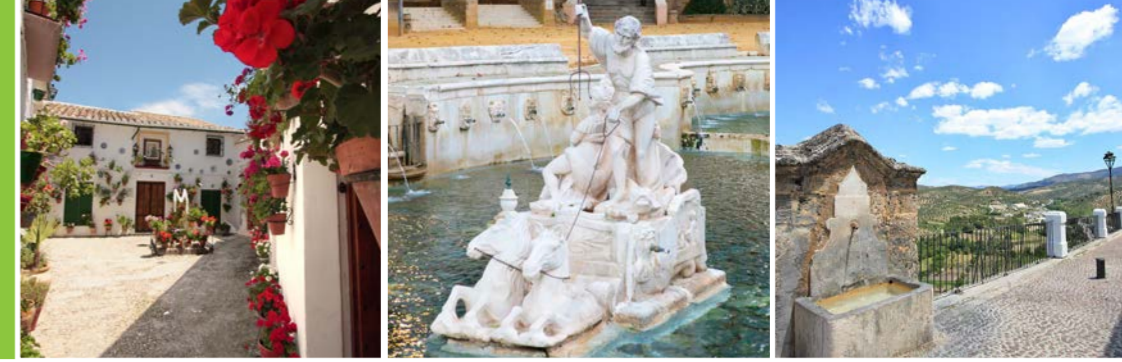
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# Priego de Córdoba



- 1 Barrio de la Villa
- 2 Balcón del Adarve
- 3 Iglesia de la Asunción
- 4 Castillo
- 5 Antiguo Molino de la Puerta
- 6 Carnicerías Reales
- 7 Huerto de las Infantas (C.I. Textil - Molino Montoro - Arco de San Bernardo)
- 8 Iglesia de San Pedro
- 9 Iglesia de San Juan de Dios
- 10 Iglesia de las Angustias
- 11 Casa-Museo Lozano Sidro Museo Histórico Municipal Centro del Paisaje
- 12 Iglesia de las Mercedes
- 13 Teatro Victoria
- 14 Ermita del Calvario
- 15 Lavadero
- 16 Fuente de la Salud
- 17 Fuente del Rey
- 18 Casa de la Cultura
- 19 Iglesia del Carmen
- 20 Casa-Museo Niceto Alcalá Zamora
- 21 Iglesia de San Francisco
- 22 Iglesia de la Aurora
- 23 Paseo de Colombia
- 24 Museo de la Almendra (Zamoranos)
- 25 Museo Etnográfico (Castil de Campos)
- 26 Plaza de toros
- 27 Jardín Micológico de la Trufa (Zagrilla)

SÍMBOLOS / SYMBOLS	
	Información Turística / Tourism Information
	Estación Ferrocarril / Railway Station
	Autobús / Bus
	Taxis
	Policía / Police
	Correos / Post Office
	Parkings / Parking
	Gasolineras / Petrol Stations
	Servicios Sanitarios / Medical Assistance
	Museos / Museums
	Hoteles / Hotels
	Hostal / Pensión / Hostel / Guesthouse
	Alojamiento Rural / Rural accommodation
	Zona infantil / Playground area
	Mirador / Viewpoint
	Zona de interés turístico / Area of tourist interest
	Zona comercial y con ambiente / Lively shopping area
	Salidas / Accesos / Exits / Access

