

Passionate About Italy (&Spain)

Spain 2009

A Cultural Legacy

The program will consider various aspects of the history and culture of Spain (particularly Andalusia) as well as addressing the lives and achievements of some significant Spaniards

SPANISH HISTORY

From *Baetica to Vandalucia to Al-Andalus*
Romans, Visigoths and Muslim invaders

The miracle of the *Convivencia*
Spain under Muslim rule - a model of multiculturalism

A King of contradictions
Culture and learning at the court of Alfonso the Wise

Reconquista
The Catholic Church triumphant

A country divided
The Spanish Civil War 1936 – 1939

THE LITERATURE OF SPAIN

Muwassahas and Zejels
The Islamic poetic voice in Al-Andalus

The Sephardic experience
Hebrew poets in Medieval Iberia

The Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance
Miguel Cervantes and Don Quixote de La Mancha

Metaphors of desire and death
The life and work of Federico Garcia Lorca

Voices against tyranny
The literary response to the Civil War

THE ART & ARCHITECTURE OF SPAIN

Mosques and pleasure palaces
Moorish Architecture in Spain

Paradise on Earth
The Moorish Garden in Andalusia

Barcelona's eccentric genius
The unique architecture of Antoni Gaudi

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A Cultural Legacy (cont.)

SPANISH MUSIC

Al-Andalus - A Mediterranean musical melting pot
Arabic and Jewish voices in Andalucian music

Troubadour tributes to the virgin
Cantigas de Santa Maria of Alfonso the Wise

The soul of Andalusia
Flamenco and Cante Jondo

Nights in the gardens of Spain
Albeniz, de Falla and the Romantic vision

PHILOSOPHERS, SCIENTISTS & OTHER HEROES

Renaissance man before his time
Adb-al-Hasan Ali-ibn-Nafi (aka Ziryab - the black nightingale)

On the path to Truth
Muhyiddin Ibn 'Arabi and the quest for illumination

Two gentlemen of Cordoba
Ibn Rushd (Averroes) and the Second Moses (Moses Maimonides)

Scourge of the Moors
El Cid - The man and the myth

