

Discovering Ronda. Estimated duration: 1h 30 min

Starting Point: Hotel San Gabriel

Ending Point: City Centre, Plaza del Socorro

Please use this guide together with the blue city plan we provide

Let's leave the hotel and turn right. On the tiny square we see the **Moctezuma Palace** (number 15 in the map) house of the heirs of the last Aztec Emperor. Seduced by the idea of a "new world", asked to be baptized with a Spanish name. The building hosts now the permanent exhibition of the renowned local painter Joaquin Peinado, who worked closely with Picasso and was a critically acclaimed member of the School of Paris.

We continue walking along the narrow winding street to the right of the museum until arriving to a square with balconies to the valley. The zigzag stairs lead us down to one of the former gates of the city within a 5 min. walk (9): the view is magnificent.

Take it easy on your way up, remember you are on holidays. Back to the square we turn right heading Plaza Mondragón (10), a sumptuous dwelling of Moorish and Catholic kings, fair prize for the courageous knight Mondragón, a preeminent building and our local Museum.

We leave Mondragón behind and turn left 30 meters later, passing by the convent, towards the church **Santa Maria** (11), heart of the old quarter - former roman temple and grand mosque. Reconquered Ronda in 1485 the catholic kings Isabel and Fernando shaped it as we see it. Magnate William Randolph Hearst copied its belfry as a model for his magnificent mansion San Simeon, the Xanadu in Orson Welles "Citizen Kane".

On the square.

The space on the left was originally used by merchants. The townhall, a former military headquarter dates back to 1734. On the opposite side there are two convents. The one by the restaurant was originally a cemetery for the executed and became a long time ago the home of the Sisters of the Cross. The one with the red belfry was originally a Muslim prison. The Sisters of the Order of Santa Clara have lived there in seclusion since 1540.

Let's now continue our tour going down towards the main street, where we turn left. Within a hundred meters we turn right towards the **Alminar** (14). Ronda has dressed this little tower according to the style of the different eras; from Arabic minaret to Christian belfry.

Just a very short while after passing the Alminar, we enter a narrow pedestrian path on our left hand, see the cypress in the back? This used to be the Medina (arabic for „old town“), a labyrinth of narrow streets with white washed, lopsided facades. Walking in a more or less straight line, we'll soon find ourselves by a fountain, in front of the **Moorish King's House** (13). Water was an invaluable treasure, Christian slaves carved a staircase below this splendid mansion all the way down to the river to guarantee water supply in times of siege.

Following our way down we pass by Salvatierra Palace, the baroque house of a rondenian noble family. The metal work on its main portal are fine examples of Ronda's famous artisan tradition. The stone figures bear clear influences of the imagery of the new overseas kingdoms.

Passing through the **Arch of Felipe V.** (16), former town gate, we are heading towards the **Old Bridge** (18). Built in 1616 it was called new bridge until the actual New Bridge was finished (late 18th c.). From here we see the gorge on one side and what is known as "The Roman Bridge" on the other; which was actually built during the Arab domination. Does it make any sense?

Let's follow the stairs leading to the **Arab Baths** (22) around which the leather manufactures gathered. Don't miss to visit the baths! A remarkable video projection provides an accurate idea of the exceptional influence this building once had on the society of its time (English version every 15 minutes). Back in the Old Bridge, on the Padre Jesús quarter, we take a look at the church (21) and the fountain (20).

We take the stairs going up by the gorge and pretty soon see the entrance to the garden Ciudad de Cuenca (19). Let's enjoy the beautiful view and relax for a while. After crossing the garden we leave through the exit in the upper part and turn left towards the **New Bridge** (6) (2 minutes). The colossal construction took 40 years to be finished and has become Ronda's landmark. The sudden death of its architect remains an unsolved mystery until today. Follow the pedestrian walk by the edge of the cliff to have the best views of both the bridge and the valley.

Who dares to step on the hanging balcony behind the Bullring? Let's continue our walk towards "**La Alameda**" (2), the main park. The passage leading there was named after Orson Welles. Welles and Hemingway are some of the personalities who fell in love with Ronda.

Let's follow the walk by the cliff until its very end to undo it afterwards. Known as "el paseo de los ingleses" (the path of the the English), it was originaly connected to Hotel Victoria and for a time since its construction in the 1900s was exclusively used by the tourists who came by train from Gibraltar to enjoy the clean air of the mountains.

We leave the park through any of its front gates and turn right on the main street towards the **Bullring** (3).


Have a nice day

COMER EN RONDA / EATING IN TOWN


BARES DE TAPAS / TAPAS BAR

RESTAURANTS


1  Lunes - Domingo noche
Monday - Sunday night
TRAGATÁ
La innovación, la tradición y la calidad unidas de la mano.
Terraza en temporada.
*The innovation, the tradition and the quality live in perfect harmony.
Terrace on high season.*

2  Martes noche - Miércoles
Tuesday night - Wednesday
EL ALMACÉN
Los propietarios han conseguido aunar la esencia de lo antiguo en un espacio contemporáneo. Terraza en temporada.
The owners have gotten to make a fusion with the essence of the tradition in a contemporary space. Terrace on high season.

3  Martes noche - Miércoles
Tuesday night - Wednesday
LA TABERNA
El favorito de los rondeños en la plaza. Calidad y buen precio.
Terraza en temporada.
The local's choice in the square. Quality and fair prices. Terrace on high season.

A  Martes / Tuesday 35€
ALMOCABAR
Sin duda una de las mejores cocinas de la zona. También bar.
Terraza en temporada.
No doubt, one of the best choices in the whole area. Also bar. Terrace on high season.

B  Pregunte en recepción
Ask in reception 30€
CASA MARÍA
¡Eliás ha vuelto!
El elegido de Jamie Oliver.
Terraza en temporada.
"Eliás is back! Jamie Oliver's choice" Terrace on high season.

4  Domingo noche
Sunday night
TOROTAPAS
Buenos vinos de Ronda y Jerez. Tapas con sabor tradicional y vegetarianas, buen ambiente y más...
Good wines from Ronda and Jerez. Tapas traditional and vegetarian, good atmosphere and more...

5  Lunes mediodía
Monday lunch
DE LOCOS
Guillermo es vasco y Begoña es de Córdoba. ¡Buena combinación!
Terraza en temporada.
Guillermo is basque and Begoña is from Cordoba. Great combination! Terrace on high season.


6  Domingo / Sunday
LECHUGUITA
Un clásico generación tras generación. Económico. Popular. "Se prohíbe el cante."
Terraza en temporada.
A classic generation after generation. Economic. Popular. "Singing is forbidden". Terrace on high season.

C  Lunes - Domingo noche
Monday - Sunday night 25€
CARMEN LA DE RONDA
Calidad y amabilidad a la vuelta de la esquina.
Terraza en temporada.
Quality and good service just around the corner. Terrace on high season.

D  Ninguno / None 30€
PEDRO ROMERO
Cocina tradicional y Rondeña en un restaurante lleno de carisma.
Traditional cuisine and Rondeña in a restaurant full of charisma.

NOCHE / NIGHTLIFE

TIENDAS / SHOPS

E  Lunes - Domingo noche
Monday - Sunday night 75€
BARDAL
Bardal y su Chef Benito Gómez ganadores de una estrella Michelin en 2018.
Bardal and his Chef Benito Gómez winners of a Michelin star in 2018.

 **PRECIO APROXIMADO / PERSONA**
APPROXIMATED PRICE / PERSON
 **DÍA DE CIERRE**
CLOSING DAY

7 DULCINEA
8 DRINKS & CO
9 HEAVEN IRISH TAVERN

10 EL PENSAMIENTO
REGALOS/GIFTS
11 LA CASA DEL JAMÓN

12 ADOLFO DOMÍNGUEZ
MODA NACIONAL NATIONAL FASHION
13 GRABADOS SOMERA
ETCHINGS

