



## ***EXCURSION IN ANDALUCIA***

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### **A walk through Malaga**



A nice Scandinavian summer is just what you wish for when you walk and discover a city center. We've been to Malaga several times but this time we went with our good friends who have not been here before. The sun heats while the wind cools just a little. The Spaniards still believe it's winter and are well dressed. Of course wearing shorts and short sleeves you have tourist stamped across your forehead, although I may think I feel like half Spanish after living here permanently for ten years. You can park right in the center and come up onto the pedestrian street Marques de Larios, with its pretty shops. In November it is not so many tourists but it's still wonderful in the nice weather. We stroll along Larios and look into the shops. When we come up

to the Plaza de Constitution it is the time to sit down at the coffee shop and take a Caffe con leche. I order Churros with chocolate for the guests to taste this very typical Spanish dish.

We turn directly to the right and walk the narrow shopping street towards the cathedral. There are many small shops, some tourist traps, others more serious. Small restaurants offer Menu el Dia at acceptable prices. This is a genuine Spanish urban environment. At the end of the street is the cathedral situated. Many Spanish tourists are visiting the church but we continue through the park because our goal is to go to the Picasso Museum a few steps away. This time, they have two exhibitions, in addition to the fixed Picasso exhibition. They show photographs of Picasso's life, although taken by famous photographers, but from his private life. They complement the picture that one has of the painter, even though they may not provide any explanation for the sometimes grotesque paintings. The second exhibition is a New York artist who possibly is inspired by Picasso. Even if you've seen the permanent exhibition a number of times you need to probably give some thought to many paintings and have to see them several times. Possibly one becomes a little less confused. In the basement of the museum there is major archaeological site to see.



If you go then around the corner, it is easy to slip into the Bar El Pimpi where many world celebrities have been if you can believe all the photographs on the walls. It is said that this is the oldest bodega in Malaga and it's really nice to get a glass of Malaga Dulce among the black wine barrels signed by someone famous. Out on the other side, is the Roman Theatre. The excavation of the area was made as recently as just a few years ago. The entrance to the museum is located on one side and then you

can go underground to see the remains of the Phoenicians and Romans.

We continue straight down towards the harbor. Here they have in recent years renovated the shabby harbor area and built a new luxury port area for cruise ships and mega yachts. When we were there was the private 93 foot m / y Tatoosh at the dock owned by a co-founder of Microsoft. If you follow dock to the east lays shops and restaurants along the quay and a harbor for the





smaller boats. All very tasteful made. It's fun to see how you can take advantage of old abandoned port areas and rehabilitate them into something beautiful for all residents. It will surely be a meeting place for everyone.

There is much more to see, the Carmen

Thyssen Museum, Centre Pompidou, Picasso Birthday Museum, Glass Museum, the old Market, the old fortress Gibralfaro on top of the hill, and the fantastic Automobil Museum – one of the best in Europe. You can find more information at [www.malagaturismo.com](http://www.malagaturismo.com)

If you visit Malaga during the Easter you will experience fantastic celebrations.

History of Malaga:

Málaga's history spans about 2,800 years, making it one of the oldest cities in the world. It was founded by the Phoenicians as *Malaka* about 770 BC, and from the 6th century BC was under the hegemony of Ancient Carthage. Then, from 218 BC, it was ruled by the Roman Republic and later the Roman Empire as *Malaca*. After the fall of the empire and the end of Visigothic rule, it was under Islamic rule as *Mālaqah* for 800 years, but in 1487, the Crown of Castille gained control after the Reconquista. The archaeological remains and monuments from the Phoenician, Roman, Arabic and Christian eras make the historic center of the city an "open museum", displaying its history of nearly 3,000 years.