

Drive Espana

Algarve in Autumn 2022

Great Driving, Great Hotels, a Trackday and the Classic!!

23rd October - 7 November

October and November might be wet, cold and blustery in the UK but It usually isn't in Spain and Portugal and the 2021 Algarve Tour may be your last opportunity to get the hood down and feel the warmth of the sun.

We've put together a trip which will give great driving, great hotels, stunning scenery and a range of fun things to do. Spanish and Portuguese roads are in the main very quiet and where we're going, great fun to drive on! We've continued our process or ringing the changes so there are new stops to change the mix and some the same to maintain the highlights. In 2014 after the very first day's driving a participant exclaimed **"I've just driven down the best road on the planet!"** In 2021 we had bright sunshine and blue skies pretty much every day bar one—not bad for October/November

Starting with an afternoon crossing from Plymouth to Santander on the luxury Pont Aven, we get an early afternoon lunchtime arrival so there's plenty of time for a scenic run through the Picos de Europa mountains before running on to our first stop for two nights at Leon. The Parador has been closed for refurbishment for over five years and promises to be spectacular . Then a short hop to Segovia with its fairytale palace, Roman aquaduct and buzzing city centre were staying a short cab ride away, with great views over the city and the cathedral.

After Segovia it's off to our next stop is at Merida, a world heritage city and the site of the best preserved Roman ruins in Iberia, the emperor Trajan was Spanish! Then we head south to Huelva on a fantastic road and then straight into Portugal to Alvor , which is just 12 miles from the circuit. We will have VIP passes for Saturday and Sunday and there may also be the chance to join an on-track parade

After the racing we're off to Jerez for a night at the Hotel Puerto Sherry which is a lovely marina side hotel in El Puerto de Santa Maria, styled inside like an art deco liner it's a stop where we are always more than welcome After Jerez we go to Durcal just outside Granada for two nights and a track day at the Circuito de Guadix. Here, with an English team, safety is the best and the circuit never bores. Lewis Hamilton trained at Guadix in his early days and a large number of well known drivers and teams test there all year round. (Will he be Sir Lewis by then?)

Sooner or later we have to head for home, so we've organised a great drive; from Granada we head to Toledo for a great view and great city and then skirt Madrid over some super mountain passes for our last night in the wonderful 17th Century Palace Hotel in Lerma with a super Saturday drive to the ferry

The trip will be limited to 20 cars and Jasper Gilder will accompany this group.



European tours & track days  drive the open road

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Itinerary

Sat 23 Oct	Afternoon departure from Plymouth on the Pont Aven
Sun 24 Oct	Arrive Santander and drive to Leon for two nights at the Parador—a Converted medieval Hostel which has come up in the world to be one of only two 5* Paradors' Leon is a lovely town with a great Cathedral (200 miles)
Tues 26 Oct	Drive to Segovia for two nights—It's a great town with the Aquaduct, Castle and Cathedral (They claim the Disney Magic Kingdom castle is based on theirs—so do others!) The hotel is modern, but the views are great (160 miles)
Thurs 28 Oct	Drive to Merida for an overnight at the Parador which is an 18th century convent in the heart of this world heritage city (230 miles)
Fri 29 Oct	Drive to Alvor for three nights at the newly refurbished Pestana Alvor Praia Hotel 12 miles from the circuit. The drive today is also a real drivers road, for mile after mile! We will have full circuit passes and hospitality for the Saturday and Sunday (245 miles)
Mon 1 Nov	Drive to El Puerto de Santa Maria for a night at the waterside Hotel Puerto Sherry (220 miles)
Tues 2 Nov	Drive to Durcal for two nights at Hotel El Senorio de Nevada, a beautiful new hotel in the heart of the Sierra Nevada. We've got a night out at a local Thai restaurant planned—it's a great place (195 miles)
Wed 3 Nov	Exclusive trackday at Circuito de Guadix; with a British team and very high standards we should be able to operate an open pit lane
Thurs 4 Nov	Time to head North—drive to Toledo for a night in the Parador—the best Hotel view in Spain? It's very spectacular—(245 miles)
Fri 5 Nov	Drive to Lerma for our last night in the C17th Palace (175 miles)
Sat 6 Nov	Drive to Santander for afternoon departure on the Galicia (130 miles)
Sun 7 Nov	Mid evening arrival at Portsmouth

What is included

- ⇒ Overnight accommodation as described.
- ⇒ Return Ferry to Spain with outside cabin
- ⇒ Dinner bed and breakfast at all hotels
- ⇒ Track day at Circuito de Guadix
- ⇒ Services of Jasper Gilder as tour leader
- ⇒ Map and Road book.

Price £4250 per car with driver and one passenger

For more info or to book contact Jasper Gilder on 01442 842542 / 07831 327727 or email info@driveespana.com

