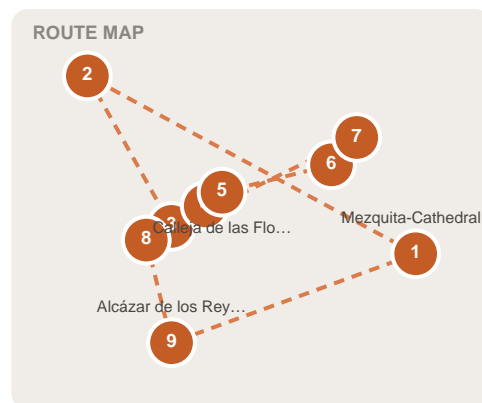


Jewish Quarter Heritage Walk

Heritage • Easy • Free self-guided tour

Distance	Duration	Stops	Route
1.8 km	2–3 hours	9 stops	Circular
Best time	April to June for flowers in full bloom. September to November for cooler temperatures and smaller crowds.		

The compact streets of La Judería pack more history per square metre than almost anywhere else in Spain. Córdoba's Jewish community thrived here from Roman times until the expulsion of 1492, and this 1.8km walk threads through what remains: narrow whitewashed alleys, a rare medieval synagogue, the cultural centre of Casa de Sefarad, and the same Roman-era street grid that Sephardic families walked for centuries. The whole circuit fits in two hours at an easy pace, though you'll want an extra...



Stop-by-Step Route

1 Mezquita-Cathedral

Monument • 10 min

Start at the western façade on Calle Torijos. You don't need to go inside at this point — the exterior walls alone, with their blind arcades and Roman stone blocks at the base, are worth five minutes. The bell tower rising from the original minaret stays visible throughout the walk.

Tip: The west door (Puerta del Perdón) faces Calle Torijos. This is where the walk begins, not the main ticket entrance on the south side.

2 Puerta de Almodóvar

Landmark • 10 min

A 14th-century gate built over Roman foundations at the northwest corner of the old city walls. The arch frames a view back toward the Mezquita tower and north toward open countryside. The statue just outside the gate is Averroes (Ibn Rushd), the 12th-century philosopher born two streets away.

Tip: The gate faces west and catches good light in the late afternoon. The narrow Calle Judíos connects it directly to the synagogue — a 3-minute walk.

3 Synagogue

Monument • 20 min

Built in 1315, this is one of three medieval synagogues still standing in Spain. The prayer hall is small — you could cross it in eight steps — but the Mudéjar stucco work on the upper gallery is detailed and largely original. A Hebrew inscription runs along the upper walls. Entry costs 0.30€ for EU citizens and is free for residents of Córdoba.

Tip: Closed Monday. Lines are rare, but the hall fits maybe 20 people comfortably, so arrive early or just after opening (10:00) to have it quiet.

4

Casa de Sefarad

Monument • 45 min

A private cultural centre in a restored 14th-century house directly across from the synagogue. Five rooms cover Sephardic history, music, women's roles, and the Inquisition period, with artefacts and context that the synagogue itself lacks. Live Sephardic music performances run most weekday evenings.

Tip: Entry is 4€. The small courtyard café serves decent coffee. The music programme schedule is posted at the entrance — worth checking before you move on.

5

Calleja de las Flores

Monument • 15 min

A dead-end alley off Calle Blanco Belmonte, famous for the geranium-pot walls and the framed view of the Mezquita tower at the far end. The composition works because the alley bends slightly, placing the spire dead-centre. Early morning, the pots are freshly watered and the light is soft.

Tip: Come before 9:30am or after 7pm. At midday in summer, tour groups queue shoulder-to-shoulder. The flowers are at their best April through June.

6

Caliphal Baths

Monument • 20 min

Tenth-century Arab thermal baths, part of the palace complex that once extended from the Alcázar to the river. Excavated from under a 16th-century house, the star-shaped vaulted ceiling with filtered light is the best-preserved element. Context panels explain the hot, warm, and cold room sequence.

Tip: Open Tuesday to Sunday. Often skipped by visitors rushing to the Alcázar, so it's usually quiet. Entry included in the Alcázar ticket on the same day.

7

Capilla de San Bartolomé

Monument • 15 min

A 15th-century chapel with one of the finest Mudéjar tile interiors in the city — geometric azulejo panels covering the lower walls, star-vaulted ceiling painted in gold and blue. It sits on a side street that most visitors walk straight past. Free entry, almost always empty.

Tip: The chapel is on Calle Averroes, a 2-minute walk from the Caliphal Baths. Easy to miss: the door is set back in an archway. Push it — if it opens, you're in.

8

Maimonides Square and Statue

Landmark • 10 min

A small plaza on Calle Judíos with a bronze statue of Moses Maimonides (1135–1204), the philosopher and physician born in this quarter. The square is a natural rest point before the final stretch to the Alcázar. The tourist information office nearby has free walking maps if you want them.

Tip: The statue is polished smooth on the right foot from decades of tourists rubbing it for luck. The tradition is recent and purely touristic, but the plaza is genuinely pleasant.

9

Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos

Monument • 45 min

The walk ends at the fortress built by Alfonso XI in 1328 on the ruins of earlier Visigothic and Moorish palaces. The Roman mosaics inside the lower halls are worth slowing down for — one, from the 2nd century, shows a feast scene in fine detail. But the terraced gardens along the city wall, with their long water channels and cypress hedges, are the real reason to allow 30 minutes here rather than 10.

Tip: Entry is 6€ (free Tuesday afternoons for EU residents). The tower stairs are steep and unrailed in places — comfortable shoes matter here. Gardens close at the same time as the fortress, not later.

Insider Tips

April mornings before the buses arrive

The first tour coaches park on Calle Torijos by 9:30am. If you start the walk at 9:00, you'll reach Calleja de las Flores by 9:20 with the alley to yourself. By the time you loop back past the synagogue, the groups will have moved on. The geraniums are freshly watered and the light on the Mezquita tower is soft and angled.

Tuesday afternoon for free Alcázar entry

EU residents enter the Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos free on Tuesday afternoons (from 16:30 in summer, 15:30 in winter). The gardens are also much quieter mid-week. Combine this with the 0.30€ synagogue entry and you can do the entire walk for under 5€.

The synagogue courtyard at opening time

The small courtyard outside the synagogue on Calle Judíos catches direct morning light between 10:00 and 11:30. The whitewashed walls, orange tree, and Hebrew inscription above the door photograph well without the midday harshness. Arrive at opening (10:00) and you'll often have the courtyard alone for a few minutes.

FAQ

Is the Jewish Quarter walk free?

The streets and most exterior sites are free. The synagogue costs 0.30€ for EU citizens (free for Spanish nationals). Casa de Sefarad charges 4€. The Alcázar costs 6€ (free Tuesday afternoons for EU residents). You can do a satisfying version of the walk for under 5€ total.

How long does the Jewish Quarter walk take?

The route is 1.8km and takes about 2 hours at a relaxed pace without entering any sites. Add 45 minutes for the synagogue and Casa de Sefarad, and another 30 to 45 minutes for the Alcázar gardens. A full visit with all interiors runs 3 to 3.5 hours.

What is the best time to walk La Judería?

Early morning (before 10:00) or late afternoon (after 17:00) in summer. April through June is ideal — the flowers are out, temperatures are manageable, and the light is good for photos. Calleja de las Flores specifically gets crowded from mid-morning to early afternoon every day.

Is the walk suitable for children and pushchairs?

Yes, the main route is flat and manageable with a pushchair using the wider parallel streets. The cobblestones on the smaller alleys are uneven in places. The synagogue has one small step at the entry. The Alcázar gardens are fully accessible at ground level.

What day should I avoid for this walk?

Avoid Monday if you want to visit the synagogue, which is closed that day. The Alcázar is also closed Monday. Tuesday afternoons offer free entry to the Alcázar for EU residents, which makes it a good day to walk the route if you plan to visit the fortress.

