

THE CALL OF THE CANARY ISLANDS FROM KING JUBA OF NUMIDIA TO SANTIAGO CALATRAVA

MONDAY 7 MARCH TO MONDAY 14 MARCH 2016

Named variously over the millennia, The Fortunate Isles, the Isles of the Blessed, Atlantis, Elysium, the Garden of the Hesperides, the Canary Islands have boasted, since they emerged steaming from the sea, of near-perfect year-round temperatures. A volcanic archipelago off the coast of northwestern Africa, they are among Spain's farthest-flung territories. Their landscapes include four of the highest peaks within Spanish territory and some bizarre yet inspiring scenery: from black sand beaches with soaring pale cliffs to rugged, red, Mars-like panoramas. Pliny the Elder reported that the islands 'abound in palm-groves bearing dates and in conifers; ...there is a large supply of honey, and papyrus grows in the rivers...' Indeed, profuse pine forests alternate with extinct volcanoes in a mighty ancient landscape often more lunar than earthly - with colour, not black alone, but pink, blue, purple, ochre: a fiery painter's palette. The origin of the islands' first inhabitants has long been a source of mystery but they have left behind fascinating traces of their perplexities in their rock art in almost modernist squares, triangles, circles, and mazes. By the 19c, Canary Island painters trained in Paris, and imbued with the glories of Impressionism and Fauvism, celebrated the rich colours of the islands in pigment. Canary architecture includes striking black-and white churches such as those in the UNESCO heritage site of La Laguna, with intricate gilded retables and altarpieces. Houses are brilliantly-coloured in hues from sunset red to yellow and violet, and are equipped with beautifully-crafted balconies made from pine heartwood from inland forests; pebbled or Mozarabic-tiled patios are lined with glazed clay pots spilling over with brightly-coloured flowers and Modernista buildings show hints of the drama of Gaudi even from the distance of Barcelona. Cesar Manrique's remarkable house-studio was excavated from bubbles of lava, as were the dramatic walls and sloping floors of the Tenerife Espacio del Arte, by Tate Modern architects Herzog and De Meuron; meanwhile Santiago Calatrava's Auditorio rears over the harbour of Tenerife like a pterodactyl. The appeal of the Canary Islands is indeed both up-to-date and profoundly prehistoric.

MONDAY 7 MARCH TENERIFE

08:15	Meet Nicholas at Gatwick Airport
10:00	Flight departs for Tenerife South Airport, lunch provided by Inscape
14:30	Arrive Tenerife South, collect bags, private transfer to Garachico
17:00	Arrive Hotel La Quinta Roja, check in
18:30	Architectural walk in Garachico
19:30	Opening Group Dinner in La Tasquita de Eduardo

Night at Hotel La Quinta Roja

TUESDAY 8 MARCH TENERIFE

09:00	Leave for Santa Cruz
10:15	Arrive Santa Cruz/Museum of Nature and Man for coffee
11:00	Museum of Nature and of Man for prehistoric art guided visit
12:00	Leave by minibus for Santiago Calatrava's Auditorio
12:30	Auditorio guided visit
13:30	Group lunch at MAG Café Bistró in Auditorio
14:30	Leave for Tenerife Espacio de las Artes for Spanish surrealism
14:45	Tenerife Espacio de las Artes for curatorial visit
16:00	Coffee/tea in Tenerife Espacio de las Artes
16:30	Depart for Rambla and Parque Garcia Sanabria (sculpture park)
17:30	Return to Garachico
18:45	Arrive Hotel La Quinta Roja, rest
20:00	Optional Dinner

Night at Hotel La Quinta Roja

WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH TENERIFE

Leave for Spanish colonial town of La Orotava
Coffee and Architectural walk in La Orotava
Leave for Puerto de la Cruz Archaeological Museum
Visit Archaeological Museum
Optional lunch at Regulo
Leave for San Cristobal de la Laguna, ancient capital of Tenerife
Architectural walk La Laguna
Drive to Garachico
Arrive Hotel La Quinta Roja
Optional Dinner

Night at Hotel La Quinta Roja

THURSDAY 10 MARCH TRANSFER TO GRAN CANARIA

10:15	Bags to lobby please
10:30	Leave for Santa Cruz
12:00	Arrive Santa Cruz port for coffee
13:00	Boat to Agaete, Gran Canaria - group picnic lunch on the boat
14:20	Arrive Agaete for Ermita de las Nieves' Joos van Cleve altarpiece
15:00	Private coach to Cueva Pintada Archaeological Park
15:30	Arrive Cueva Pintada Archaeological Park for guided tour
17:00	Tea and coffee
17:30	Drive To Hotel Cortijo San Ignacio, Telde
18:15	Arrive Hotel, check in and rest
19:30	Leave hotel for dinner at Posada Del Mar
20:00	Group dinner at La Posada del Mar
21:30	Transfer back to hotel
22:00	Arrive Hotel
Night in Hotel Cortijo San Ignacio	

FRIDAY II MARCH

GRAN	GRAN CANARIA	
08:30	Bags to lobby please	
08:45	Leave for Las Palmas	
09:15	Las Palmas Cathedral visit	
09:50	Walk to Museo Canario	
10:00	Museo Canario visit for curatorial tour	
11:00	Coffee	
11:30	Casa de Colon (Christopher Columbus) for private visit of Archives	
12:30	Group lunch at Casa Montesdeoca near the Casa Colon	
13:30	Leave for Bandama Caldera	
14:00	Arrive Bandama Caldera rim	
14:30	Coffee	
15:00	Leave for Las Palmas Airport	
16:00	Check in	
17:30	Flight to Lanzarote	
18:15	Arrive Lanzarote, minibus to hotel	
19:15	Arrive Gran Melia Hotel, check in	
20:15	Group Dinner in Hotel restaurant, La Marea	

Night in Gran Melia Hotel

SATURDAY 12 MARCH LANZAROTE

09:00	Leave Hotel for Haria
09:30	Arrive Casa/Museo Cesar Manrique and studio for private visit
11:00	Leave for Teguise
11:45	Arrive Teguise for architectural walk
12:45	Leave Teguise for Tahiche
13:00	Group lunch at Los Aljibes de Tahiche
14:25	Minibus to Cesar Manrique Foundation Museum
14:30	Cesar Manrique Foundation Museum for curatorial talk, tour and reception TBC
16:30	Leave for Hotel
16:45	Arrive Hotel, rest
19:00	Leave for Macher
19:30	Group Dinner in Restaurant La Tegala
21:00	Leave La Tegala for Hotel

Night in Gran Melia Hotel

21:30 Arrive Hotel

SUNDAY 13 MARCH LANZAROTE

09:00	Leave for "Three Volcanoes" tour
09:30	"Three Volcanoes", a jeep and walk tour
12:30	Tour ends, leave for El Golfo
13:00	Optional lunch at Costa Azul
l 4:45	Leave for Los Hervideros
15:00	Stop at Los Hervideros
15:30	Drive back via La Geria wine region
16:15	Wine tasting at Bodega los Bermejos TBO
17:15	Drive back to hotel
l 7:45	Arrive Hotel, rest
20:00	Group Dinner at El Navarro

Night in Gran Melia Hotel

MONDAY 14 MARCH LANZAROTE TO LONDON

09:30	Leave for Nobel Laureate Jose Saramago's House
10:00	Arrive Jose Saramago House for private guided visit
11:45	Leave for airport
12:00	Arrive airport for check in, optional lunch in Airport
14:00	EasyJet flight departs
18:30	Arrive Gatwick

COST £2760 members, £2810 non-members, £260 single room supplement, £250 deposit, includes flights (with hold luggage) London-Tenerife, Gran Canaria-Lanzarote, and Lanzarote-London, ferry Tenerife-Gran Canaria, seven nights accommodation, all breakfasts, five lunches, five dinners with wine, all lectures, all entrance fees, tuition and guiding, private minibus travel during the tour, all gratuities, VAT.