

## SEVEN-DAY SAMPLE ITINERARY

### **SATURDAY:**

Transfer from Airport and arrive at Casa Aventura and settle in. Enjoy a champagne reception before a sumptuous BBQ or Buffet. Sample local wines or sangria.

### **SUNDAY:**

After breakfast an informal get-together to meet your tutor and fellow photographers. Lunch at Casa Aventura and relax on the terrace or by the pool before enjoying a three-course dinner with wine or sangria in our Morus dining room.

### **MONDAY:**

We spend the day in Velez Rubio, a pretty town full of postcard-type shots and stunning architecture – a perfect introduction to the Los Velez area. It sits at the foot of a fantastic “volcano-shaped mountain, “Cerro Maimon”. Refreshments in a typical Spanish cafe overlooking the superb Encarnation Church, declared a National Monument, and one of the best examples of religious architecture in Almeria. Lunch on tapas before capturing unique images of the town’s non-religious 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century civil buildings and mansion houses. The Baroque-style Hospital Real currently houses Miguel Guirao Archeological Museum, with its open courtyard and tinkling fountain. Before sampling our International cuisine, you will have one-to-one tutorials.

### **TUESDAY:**

After a briefing we spend the day in the 54,000-acre Sierra Maria-Los Velez, a natural park clothed in extensive pine forests and Mediterranean woodland, which holds many surprises for the visitor, including a rural lifestyle long disappeared from other parts of Spain. Here you can photograph the impressive Griffon vulture and the threatened European tortoise. Golden eagles and eagle owls soar in the skies above. A picnic lunch will be followed by a visit to the Information Centre, housed in a former wheat storehouse. Here you will see a watermill and prehistoric archaeological artefacts. After returning to Casa Aventura relax on the terrace and discuss the day’s findings before dinner.

### **WEDNESDAY:**

After breakfast and a short briefing we will transport you to the picturesque village of Velez Blanco to first wander through the labyrinth of narrow streets with overhanging balconies and bubbling fountains. Visit the town’s weekly colourful street market before refreshments in one of the small street cafes or bars. The 16<sup>th</sup>-century outstanding hilltop castle, one of the first Renaissance buildings constructed in Spain and featured in many of the tourist photographs of the area, is one classic shot you cannot afford to miss. Spectacular pictures of houses clinging to the mountainside can be captured here. Another location not to be missed are the Los Letreros Caves, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. These pre-historic cave paintings are where Almeria’s Indalo symbol was found dated to around 4000BC.

### **THURSDAY:**

After an early breakfast you will leave for Almeria’s stunning coastline to spend the day in Garrucha, famed as being a busy fishing port by day and in the evening the catches of the day are put to good use in the fish and seafood restaurants. One of the specialities of the port is the local red prawns which are exported all over Europe. The harbour is defended by an ancient castle, affords shelter to large ships, and is the natural outlet for the commerce of a thriving agricultural and mining district. The port also has a considerable trade in lead, silver, copper, iron, esparto grass and fruit. Lunch will be in one of the famous seafood restaurants. On returning to Casa Aventura, over drinks, there will be time to reflect on the images, memories and learning of the week, before dinner.

### **FRIDAY:**

Unless you’ve had enough of the viewfinder, an early start will see you in the historic city of Granada and the stunning Alhambra Palace. This is about as good as it gets for city photography. On your return we will dine out at a local restaurant. Later over coffee and liqueurs our tutor will pick out his favourite image of the week and winner will receive a bottle of champagne.

### **DEPARTURE DAY:**

We depart for the airport after an early breakfast.