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Traditional Attractions of Jerez de la Frontera by [Ricky Ponting](#)

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There are several reasons to visit Jerez de la Frontera. It is renowned for its locally produced sherry wine as well as the local equestrian school. These two components give Jerez the flavor and distinction of a manorial town.

Historical Monuments

Jerez is surrounded by ancient 12th century town walls which were built by the Almohads. These walls enclose 46 hectares with a 4,000 meter circumference. There are two remarkable towers which form part of the Alcazar which used to be a Muslim rulers'™ residence until the Re-Conquest Christians subdued it.

Many Moorish mosques, Arab baths, Gothic and Baroque churches exist in Jerez with numerous palaces to depict the different eras of Jerez.

Attractions

Jerez has been long producing its famous DO XÃ©rÃ©s-Jerez-Sherry wines XÃ©rÃ©s-Jerez-Sherry for more than 3000 years which it exported to Rome 2000 years ago. These Jerez Sherry wines were popular with the English during the 12th century. Jerez has many bodegas or wine cellars with a long production tradition. This famous attraction of Jerez, the bodegas, never fails to draw tourists to a wine tasting session while being enlightened with the wine production process and its history. The local brand Sherry originates from the Moorish term for the city 'œSherish'œ.

Jerez'™s closeness to the Costa de la Luz beaches which are 15 km away makes it an ideal holiday spot for tourists.

Jerez is also renowned for its traditions of flamenco and fiestas. It offers numerous important historical heritage and artistic monuments. Motorcycle racing fans are delighted to enjoy the annual 'œGrand Prix'œ here.

Jerez also offers top pedigree horses that are locally bred; these creatures were first brought in by Carthusian monks in the past for breeding purposes. The military took over the breeding task for military purposes. Today, many species of rare and noble breeds can be viewed at the annual Horse Fair which is held in May. It is purportedly one of Andalusia'™s largest and most popular fairs.

Dressage demonstrations by the Royal Andalusian Equestrian School can be viewed at Palacio Duque de Abrantes.

Culture

Jerez has held on to one of the most revered cultures in its history; the flamenco is very much alive and vibrantly practiced during special occasions and fiestas. However, the abundance of tablaos or flamenco clubs in Jerez allows locals and visitors to enjoy the culture anytime. There is the popular and famous Festival Flamenco Jerez with outstanding performances for all to enjoy.

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