Article Side

Appreciating the Treasures in Granada by Levi Rose

Article published on May 12th 2012 | Travel

There is no better place in Spain than Granada to enjoy this world renowned Spanish pearls dubbed the â€˜Moorish Jewelâ€™ of Spain. This city is most visited by all tourists as the famous capital in Andalusia during its Moorish era. There is a rich Spanish history with lots of world famous monuments to prove its impressive past.

The Alhambra

One of the most spectacular sights in Granada is the Alhambra which is renowned for its exquisite architecture from the Arabian era. This ancient palace is very well preserved as its setting on the majestic mountains enhances its beauty and value. Here, one can also indulge in the military fortification of the 9th century La Alcazaba which was modified in the 13th century with an impressive tower. The Alhambra comprises many palaces within its perimeter where the Mexuar palace was built for undertaking juridical administration but was transformed into a Christian chapel with a magnificent Renaissance ceiling.

Next, the Comares palace is known as the best palaces built in the Alhambra which functioned as the king's residence. The impressive woodwork, ceiling and walls display many influences of Islam with Koran epigraphs.There is also the residence of Muhammad V, a Moorish king with great halls filled with lion sculptures carrying a fountain. The Mozarabes Hall was built by the Re-Conquest Christian architects with a baroque ceiling instead of the original cupola.

There are exquisite halls filled with Arabian-influence paintings and impressive ceilings displaying Ibn Zamrakâ€™s verses in gold and lapislazuli.

When the Alhambra was conquered by the Christians, more Italian Renaissance style architecture came into play. The palaces and museums showcase the Moorish and Spanish arts and crafts. Santa Maria Church is located in the Alhambra over the site of the Alhambra mosque with San Francisco Convent built over the palace of an Arabian prince.

Generalife Gardens

There is great beauty at the Generalife where well maintained exquisite gardens were set up as early as 14th century. Many famous authors and musicians found their inspiration in the Generalife. There are charming streets lined with flowers and shrubs with taverns to satisfy oneâ€™s appetite with the local wine and â€œTrevÃ©lezâ€• ham. There are gypsy caves and mountain monasteries to check out along the way with many popular fiestas that are frequently celebrated in rent villas spain . These fiestas are very colorful with music, dancing and drinking that can last for days. The festivals are based on Moorish and Christian traditions which are still actively practiced by the locals.

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Levi Rose - About Author:
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Article Keywords:
holiday villas spain, villa in ibiza, villas pals

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