Attractions in Granada

by Jason Thompson

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Granada has much to offer even if only in sights and attractions. This alone can draw loads of tourists every year be it summer or winter. There are many summer and winter sports and activities that can be undertaken in Granada to the delight of tourists.

Ancient Attractions

One of the interesting local attractions in Granada is La AlcaicerÃ-a. This is an ancient Arabian silk-market. It used to offer much vibrancy and lively ambience in its hey days when many traders come by for its wares. Over the centuries, fewer foreign traders drop by; hence, tourists will view some local and unique souvenirs.

Another ancient site is El AlbaicÃ-n which is situated on a hill which faces the famous Alhambra that was the residence of the king at the 11th century. The ancient Alcazaba walls and the Puerta Monaita arcs are still standing to display their past splendor.

Arabian bathes alongside the spectacular Dar Al-Horra Palace are available for viewing. The palace is said to belong to King Boabdilâ€™s mother.

Sacred Places of Worship

There were many Arabian mosques built during the Arabian conquest. However, many of their sites were built over with cathedrals and churches. Nevertheless, many of the Arabian mosquesâ€™ remains can be seen through their interior structures which were preserved.

The Great Mosque of Granada is at Iglesia del Salvador while the Alcazaba is located at Iglesia de San Juan. Santa Isabela church was built over a Moorish palace. San Juan church exhibits two interestingly structured minarets while the Santa Catalina Convents shows a 11th century Arabian house remains. The Church of San NicolÃ¡s will give tourists an amazing view of the Sierra Nevada ad Alhambra.

Historical Remnants

A lot of historical pieces of Granada's past can be viewed at its Archaeological Museum where many interesting prehistoric elements are displayed. Pieces from the various types of civilization such as the Phoenician or Visgothic era are found in this museum.

The famous Alhambra and the Royal Chancellery are wonderful architectural pieces of Moorish and Renaissance styled buildings which must be viewed while in Granada.

Mountain Delights

One of the interesting discoveries in the highlands of Granada is the Sacromonte caves which are actually the homes of gypsies throughout the centuries. These caves are in the Sacromonte Mountain with many converted as touristsâ€™ stops with the locals residing. The caves are beautifully decorated with ceramics as well as traditional copper-works. They form the backdrop for the impressive Flamenco performances.

Another mountain delight is the Sacromonte Monastery which was built in 1594 where treasure

seekers found Neroâ€™s famous lead plates epigraphs of persecuted saints.

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