



## In the footsteps of Virginia Woolf in Southern Spain

**Duration:** 6 nights

**Goat guide:** 2 goats

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## About this trip

We love Andalucia and we want you to join us to discover this beautiful lesser-known area of Southern Spain - away from the crowds but still with blue skies, warmth and the Spanish joy of life!!

This time we bring you a literary walking trip - to discover the places and paths walked by Virginia Woolf on her visit to the Alpujarras in 1923.

Some paths are much the same and guided by Encarna we will discover more of Virginia Woolf's life.

### **Extend your stay**

We can help with hotel recommendations, travel information and help with getting a private guide.

We have a love of Andalucia and especially the more undiscovered parts away from all the coastal tourists. The Alpujarras are known for the ancient white villages clinging to the hills with trails between them that people have walked for centuries.

What might not be so well known is that this was an area where the spirit of Bloomsbury blossomed. Gerald Brenan was part of the Bloomsbury set who discovered the lost hamlet of Yegen in the Alpujarra and lived there for many years. He was considered the most outstanding Hispanist of the last century for his works like *The Spanish Labyrinth*, *The Face of Spain* or *South from Granada*.

He had visitors from London and Dora Carrington, Lytton Strachey and on April 3, 1923, the Woolf couple, Virginia and Leonard, arrived at the tiny hamlet. They stayed some fifteen days. Brenan knew them from London, where Virginia had already started to excel as an extravagant and Romantic figure. The Woolfs wanted to know Brenan more in-depth and they walked and talked and got to know each other and the area.

We walk in Virginia Woolf's footsteps and experience what she experienced all guided by our experience local guide Encarna.

# Trip Overview

**Guide:** Our local english speaking guides to help you discover the best of the area.

We will lead you on a journey to discover a walking holiday which Virginia Woolf did herself. In 1923 she visited Granada and then on to a small village Yegen in the Alpujarra in southern Spain. Join us to find out more and walk amongst this beautiful landscape of olive trees and the ocean in the distance.

We have other holidays in the Alpujarra region and if you would like to stay on to experience both Yegen and Capileira we can arrange a discount for both holidays. Please do get in touch.

**Walking Grade:** 2 Goats

**Base:** Hotel Reina Cristina where the poet Lorca stayed in Granada – we spend 2 nights here and have our welcome meal in their traditional restaurant with many photos of him and other literary characters on the walls.

From Friday we travel by local bus to the village of Yegen and stay 4 nights at El Rincón de Yegen – very typical, simple local accommodation in this small village run by Todyn and Loli. Loli was born and bred in a small neighbouring village and whilst staying here we will experience some of the local foods,wines and music.

Rooms are in traditional apartments with shared kitchens and living rooms. There are 2 or 3 rooms in each with 2 bathrooms. There are also some ensuite rooms which will be allocated on a first come first basis.

**Getting there:** Best is to fly to and from Granada but direct flights are minimal. Flights to Malaga are cheap and frequent and there is now a direct train line to Granada taking 1 hour 20mins. We can advise if you would like to travel this way.

**Arrival:** Our meeting point will be Hotel Reina Cristina, C/Angulo, 3 , Granada for a 17.00 briefing and short orientation walk with your guide before a welcome dinner together at 20.00 in the Hotel Restaurant.

**Departure:** A group transfer from Yegen after breakfast at approx 9am to arrive at Malaga Airport for approx 12 noon. Book flights after 14.00. We can recommend a stay in Malaga to make it a two city break and advise on hotels.

If you do want to extend your stay and visit other places in Andalucia we can help.

## Holiday Includes

- Ensuite room for solo occupancy – 2 nights in Granada
- Room for solo occupancy with shared bathroom ( 2 or 3 women and 2 bathrooms) – 4 nights in Yegen
- All breakfasts
- All Lunches in Yegen – packed lunches for walking
- All evening meals
- English speaking guiding and an option of walks/activities
- Alhambra Visit
- Local transport for walks and tours
- Some local activities such as wine tasting and flamenco
- Group Airport transfers for departure

### Not included:

- Travel to Granada
- Lunches in Granada
- Additional drinks



# Itinerary

The itinerary may change depending on the weather and at the discretion of the guide. All walks will be in the footsteps of Virginia Woolf and you will hear about her travels here whilst you walk. We ask you to trust our guides as they are highly experienced and they will always plan to give you the best holiday.

## Day 1

### Arrival in Granada

- 17.00 Check In and settle in before a briefing and a short orientation walk
- 20.00 Welcome briefing and dinner together in the hotel restaurant.

## Day 2

### A visit to the Alhambra

Virginia Woolf visited La Alhambra in the same trip, before going to Yegen. We will walk in the neighbourhood of Sacromonte and Albaicin with views over the Alhambra and will book a group visit to the Alhambra.

- 20.00 Dinner together in a local Spanish restaurant

## Day 3

Bus Granada to Yegen and settle into our traditional village hotel. Orientation of Yegen.

## Day 4

### Explore the village of Yegen

- Visit to Gerald Brennan's House-Museum. A former Inn where Gerald Brennan stayed before renting a house in Yegen. It is in the same condition of the 1923 Inn that Virginia Woolf and her friend visited.
- Walk along the Gerald Brennan trail, where Virginia Woolf walked too (and other members of the Bloomsbury group as did the painter Dora Carrington 2,5Km.)
- Lunch and free time to walk, think, write, relax in nature... There is massage available which can be booked on arrival.

## Day 5

### Route Aben Aboo, The last Moorish king of Andalusia

- Yegen-Montenegro-El Golco (GR-7) – 6-7 kms. This is a very beautiful hike in nature. We will go slowly and stop for a picnic lunch.
- Dinner together

## Day 6

### Local walk Yegen to Fuente de la Salud 5km – 2 – 3 hours walking

- Final dinner together

## Day 7

### Travel home

Group transfer to Malaga after breakfast for return flights. Pick up from Yegen around 9 am.



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