

# The Porvenir Times

International College of Seville Newsletter

MARCH 2024 EDITION

## THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

### CULTURAL VISITS

Read all about the Itálica & Alcázar tours that our students took this month.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

See pictures from our cooking and dance classes, as well as from all the other activities our students have done!

### STUDENT CORNER

"Lost in the Melody", by University of Hawaii at Manoa student, Elilai Petko .

### FESTIVITIES AT THE ICS

Find out how we celebrated two holidays this month.

### UPCOMING NEWS

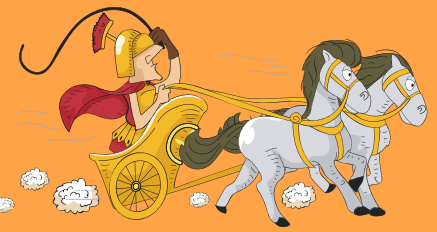
Read what's new and coming at the ICS.

To view all of our student blogs, visit [ics-seville.org/blogs](https://ics-seville.org/blogs).

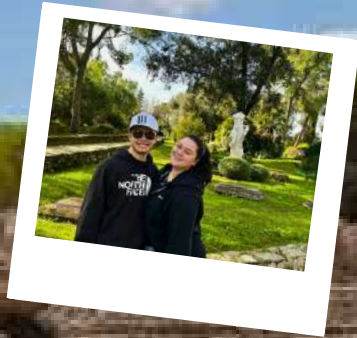


# ITÁLICA

## Spring Cultural Visits



Guided tour by Professor Duda Popovic.



[Click on photos to see FB album](#)



[Click on photo to see YouTube video](#)

The city of Itálica was the birthplace of the Roman emperors Trajan and Hadrian. Founded in 206 BC, it was one of the earliest Roman settlements in Spain. There are remarkable mosaics, an impressive amphitheater and archeological remains that give more than a glimpse of life during the Roman Empire.

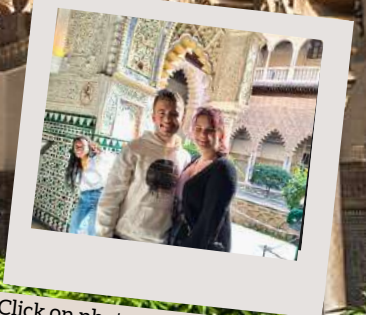
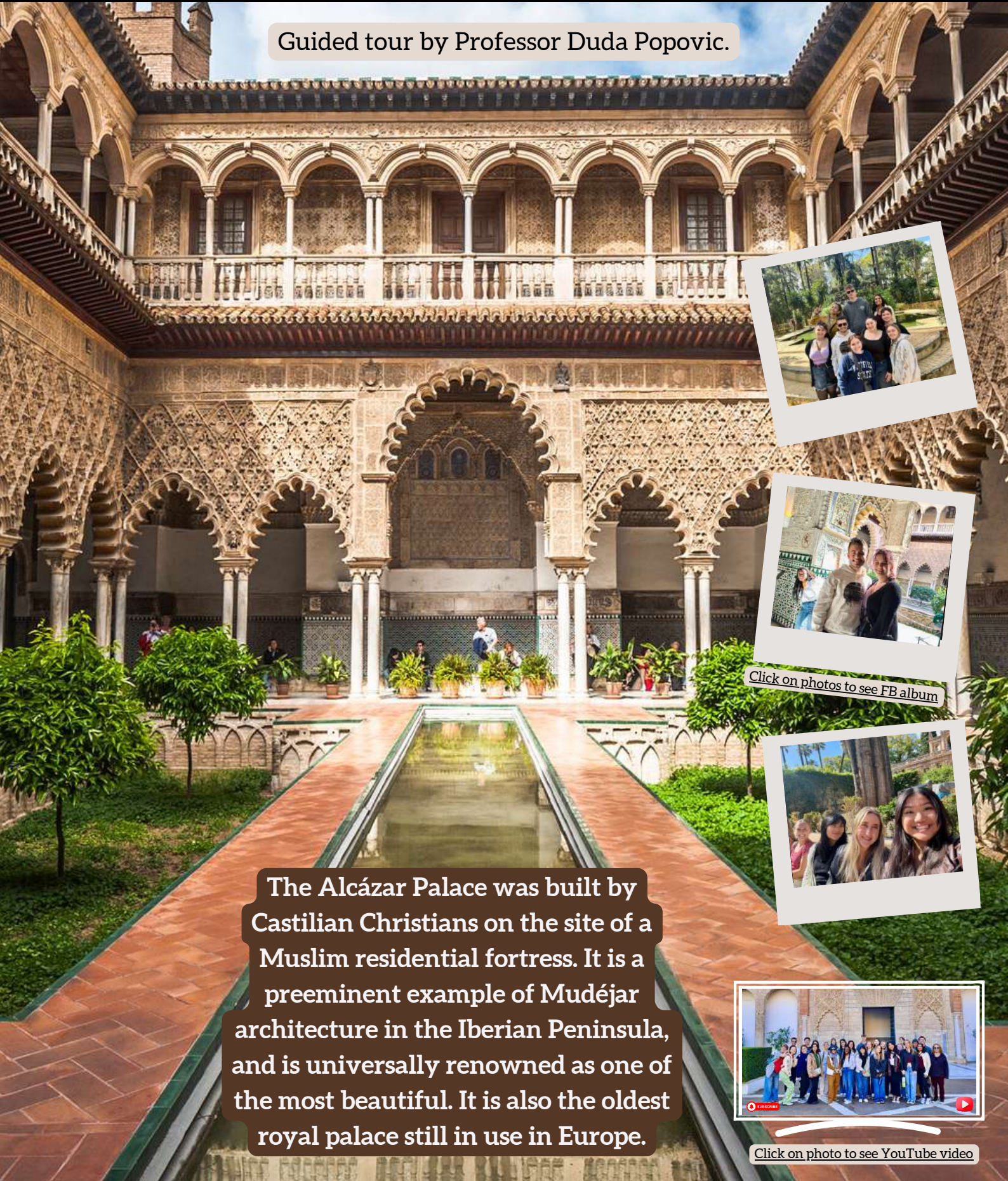


# THE ALCÁZAR

## Spring Cultural Visits



Guided tour by Professor Duda Popovic.



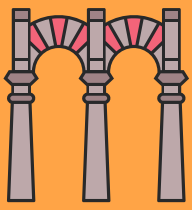
Click on photos to see FB album



The Alcázar Palace was built by Castilian Christians on the site of a Muslim residential fortress. It is a preeminent example of Mudéjar architecture in the Iberian Peninsula, and is universally renowned as one of the most beautiful. It is also the oldest royal palace still in use in Europe.



Click on photo to see YouTube video



# VISIT TO CÓRDOBA



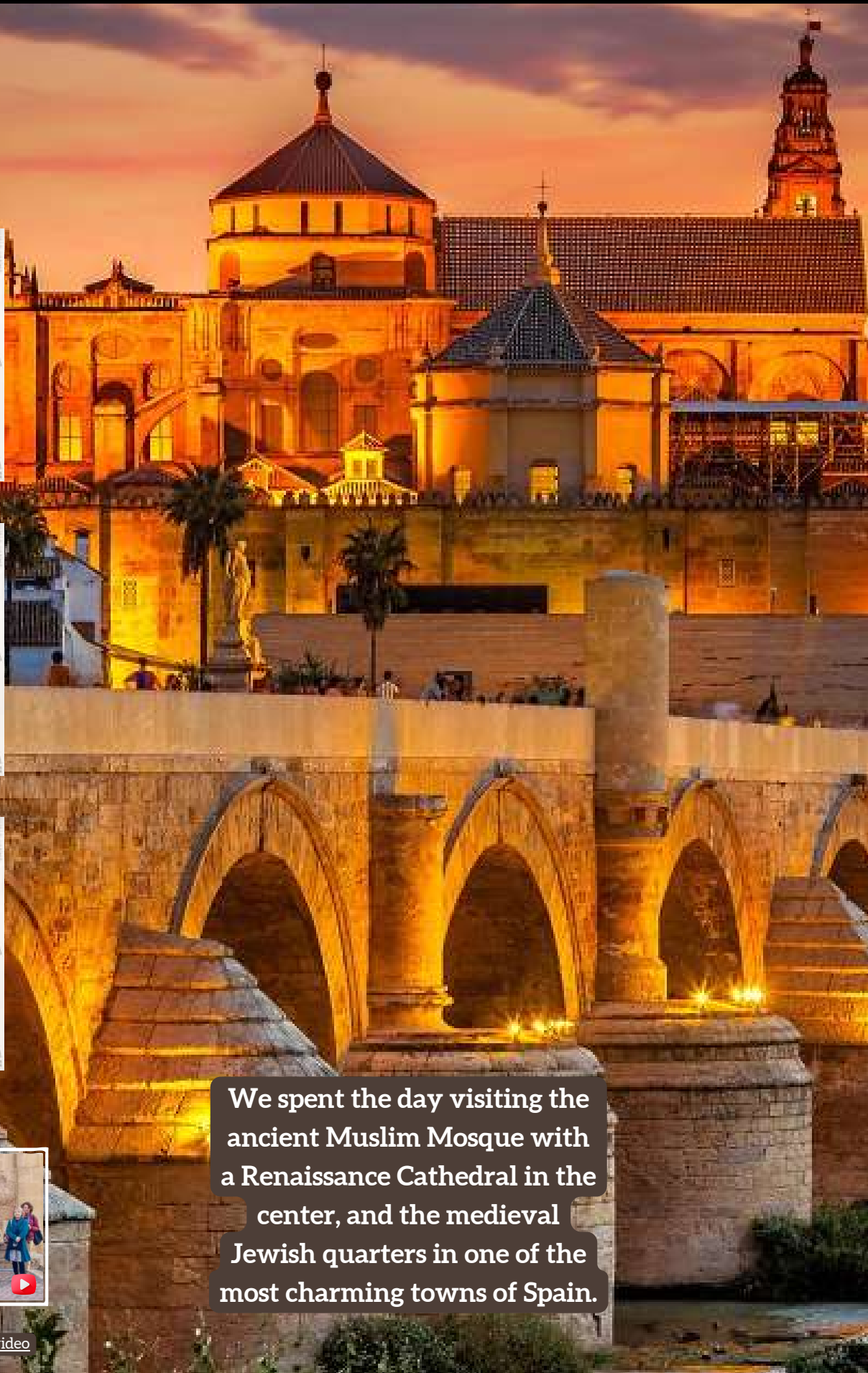
*Al-Andalus in its heyday of glory*



[Click on photos to see FB album](#)



[Click on photo to see YouTube video](#)



**We spent the day visiting the ancient Muslim Mosque with a Renaissance Cathedral in the center, and the medieval Jewish quarters in one of the most charming towns of Spain.**



# Lost in the Melody



At a hastened pace, I wound more deeply into Sevilla's skeleton, the echo of my empty footsteps was brought to life by a melody of tangled voices. My footsteps grew quicker as my eyes alternated their glance between the directions on my phone and the narrowing streets. I held my phone low in my hands, in an attempt to hide it, hoping to blend in with the well oriented Spaniards that passed by me. I was playing a game of catchup to the rest of the group after taking a short detour, allowing myself to slow down only shortly before my arrival.



Entrance of the locale



Performers

A white wooden plank stretched vertically to mark the entrance of the flamenco bar. The words "La Carbonería" were imperfectly painted to welcome its visitors. As I turned into the entrance I was surprised to see a courtyard in front of me. The tables stood mostly empty, but still, I could taste the cigarette smoke in the air. Relieved, I quickly spotted my friends still standing in the courtyard as they waited to enter the bar. I peeked over a friend's shoulder to take a look inside the bar and was immediately overwhelmed by the amount of people that had somehow managed to find room within this small space. The long wooden tables that ran from one end to the other were swallowed by the crowd. The pounding of empty beer glasses on the countertops was staggered with the rustling of fingers hastily ripping open bags of potato chips as they were being tossed on the tables by the passing waiters.

Despite the crowd, there was little talking, the attention was instead drawn to the flamenco dancer who stood in a corner protected by the markings of a yellow and black duct tape square. She could not have been beyond twenty two years of age, but was dressed elegantly in a black flamenco dress. The strum of a guitar marked the start of the performance. A soft struck melody met the awaiting ears of its listeners. Whether they knew it or not, they were watching the instrumentalist improvise, as he allowed his heart to communicate the next chord to his fingers. I was surprised by the length of the instrumental introduction, and noticed many around me, mainly foreigners, dividing their attention between their companions and the music, as they grew slightly impatient.



Flamenco dancer

I too, despite my awe of the guitar and vocals, was awaiting the dancing to start. And finally, a stomp. The young woman had started dancing. Her arms moved like waves in the ocean, small waves, big waves, slow then fast. This softness stood at variance with the hoof-like sound that resounded as her shoes made contact with the wooden platform she stood atop. Her dance was a storm, starting slowly and quickly picking up as she spun forcefully in circles. Her hair tie was starting to loosen its tight grip, as strands of her long ponytail got pulled out by the wind she was creating. Her dance was powerful, and it was beautiful.

Once it was over I was confused to find myself sad. I had just watched this woman dance a tale of her life, but I know that she had more to tell in her story and wished that I'd be able to watch it till the end

# THE PLACES YOU CAN GO

NEW

PODCAST

EPISODE



## Episode 7: An English Teachers Guide to Thriving as an Expat in Seville

Guest: [Giada Gagliardi](#)

Our latest podcast episode features former ICS student with the longing to return to Spain. Giada is now participating in the NALCAP program as an English teaching assistant. Join us as we discuss tips for paving new professional pathways abroad and teaching in a multicultural classroom.

22 Minutes



## Did you miss last month's episode?

Episode 6: Sounds of Seville: A Musician's  
Tale of Cultural Fusion

Listen Today



## Looking for more episodes?

Check out the full catalogue of episodes  
on our [website](#) or on [Spotify](#) and [Apple  
Podcast](#).





# SPANISH COOKING & SEVILLANAS CLASS



Click on pictures to see Facebook albums

# Post-Arrival Student Session



What stage of cultural adjustment are you experiencing?

## Setting Healthy Goals and Expectations for the Semester

Students shared their personal experiences, ranging from initial excitement to feelings of disorientation and homesickness. Through open dialogue and shared insights, they discovered common themes and reassured one another that their emotions were a natural part of the adjustment process.

With a deeper understanding of the challenges they might encounter, students transitioned to setting healthy goals and expectations for their semester abroad. They discussed the importance of maintaining a balance between academic responsibilities and cultural exploration, as well as prioritizing self-care and mental well-being. Click [here](#) for more highlights from the session.



## Dealing with Culture Shock

This session provided an invaluable platform for our students to navigate the complexities of cultural adjustment and set healthy goals for their semester abroad. Facilitated our experienced staff member, Evan Kindle, the session began with an open discussion on the stages of cultural adjustment and strategies for coping with culture shock.

# EXTRACURRICULARS

## ICS Evenings Highlights

### Flamenco Night at La Carboneria

La Carbonería Flamenco Night was an exhilarating cultural experience that captivated the hearts and souls of our spring 2024 students. Renowned for its authentic Flamenco performances, the students were transported to a world of raw emotion and rhythmic expression.



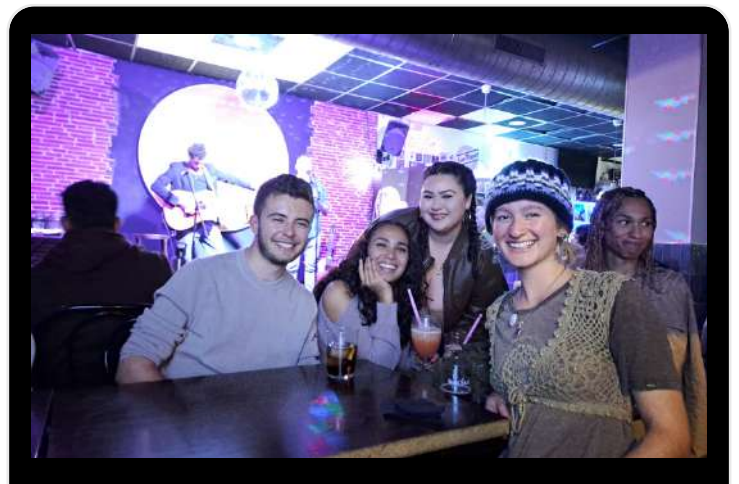
### Swing Dance Night at Gallo Rojo



Click on photo to see YouTube video

The Gallo Rojo Swing Dance Night was a delightful journey back in time that enchanted our students with the infectious rhythms and vibrant spirit of swing dancing. The air was filled with laughter and excitement as dancers of all levels came together to revel in the joy of swing.

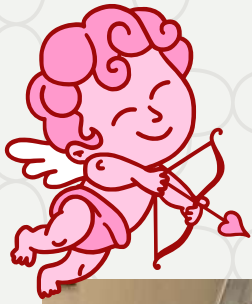
[More Highlights](#)



### Open Mic Night at La Señora Pop

Señora Pop's Open Mic Night was more than just a showcase of talent; it was a celebration of community and creativity. Our students found themselves immersed in an inclusive environment where self-expression was celebrated and connections were forged.





# Festivities at the ICS

At the ICS we celebrate all the holidays, big and small!



## VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's was a day of cake and cookies and all things sweet.



## DÍA DE ANDALUCÍA

**Día de Andalucía**

**ICS POP UP CAFÉ**

**Prices:**  
 Toast: Free    Juice: Free  
 Tea: Free  
 Butter, Jam, Olive Oil, Cream Cheese: Free



For Andalucía's regional holiday we celebrated with a typical breakfast of fresh bread, lots of toppings and a variety of beverages.





# ICS ALUMNI VISITS



*How we love reminiscing with students from past semesters!*



Jamie, Spring 2002



Diana, Spring 2023



Isette, Summer 2010



Sophia, Fall 2014



Jenna, Spring 2016



Carlton, Spring 2001



Giada & Isabelle, Spring 2022



Gavin & Cal, Fall 2015

Recently, we have received visits from students from 10, 20 and even 30 years ago. It is always our pleasure to receive these visits and we are humbled to know that our students remember us with such fondness.



Britney & Giada, Spring 2022



Andy, Spring 2011



Colleen, Spring 2014



Sister & Brother, Kristen & Rob Spring 1990 & 1993



Scott, Fall 1991



Taylor, Spring 2017



Will, Summer 2021



Allie, Summer 2015



Gabriella & Jamila, Fall 2017

# UPCOMING AT THE ICS

---

## *Cultural Visits.*

During this month we will have a guided visit to of Seville's Gothic Cathedral.

## *Trips.*

We will visit the historic and breathtaking city of Granada.

## *Activities.*

We will continue this month with our Paella Mixta classes, as well as our Sevillanas dance classes for those students preparing for the April Fair!

## *Holy Week*

On Holy Monday, March 25, we will have our annual celebration.

Follow us to stay updated and visit our website to learn more about our programs!



c/ Porvenir, 15 - 41013 Seville , Spain

Phone: (+34) 95-423-3838

Email: [info@ics-seville.org](mailto:info@ics-seville.org)