

The Porvenir Times

International College of Seville Newsletter

APRIL 2026 EDITION



THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

CULTURAL VISITS & TRIPS

Read about our Cathedral tour, and Cultural Visits to Granada and Ronda.

HOLY WEEK

See how we enjoyed the festivity.

STUDENT CORNER

"From Flamenco With Love", by College of Staten Island student Lukasz Klekotko .

VISIT TO ICS

Learn about the visit we received this month from ICISP.

ACTIVITES

See photos from our last two cooking classes.

UPCOMING NEWS

Two more celebrations and our epic trip to North Africa, yet to come!



THE CATHEDRAL

Spring Cultural Visits



Guided tour by Professor Duda Popovic.



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

Built on the site of the former Muslim Great Mosque, the Seville Cathedral is the largest Gothic church in the world. Legend has it that those who designed the Cathedral of Seville claimed "Let us build a church so beautiful and so grand that those who see it finished will think we were mad".



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

A MOST SPECIAL VISIT

It was a pleasure welcoming our partners from ICISP (Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs) to Seville and to ICS!



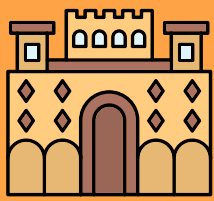
[Click on photos to see FB album](#)



We truly enjoyed the opportunity to share our school, our city, and a glimpse of the student experience here in Spain. Thank you for your visit, your collaboration, and your continued trust in us – we look forward to many more shared experiences ahead!



[Click on photos to see IG post](#)

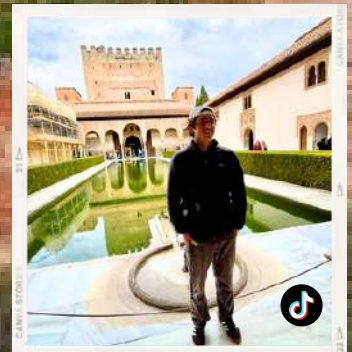


WEEKEND IN GRANADA

The last vestiges of Al-Andalus



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



[Click on picture to see TikTok video](#)

In Granada we toured a most compelling city of serene Islamic architecture and Arab-flavored street life at the foot of the Sierra Nevada.

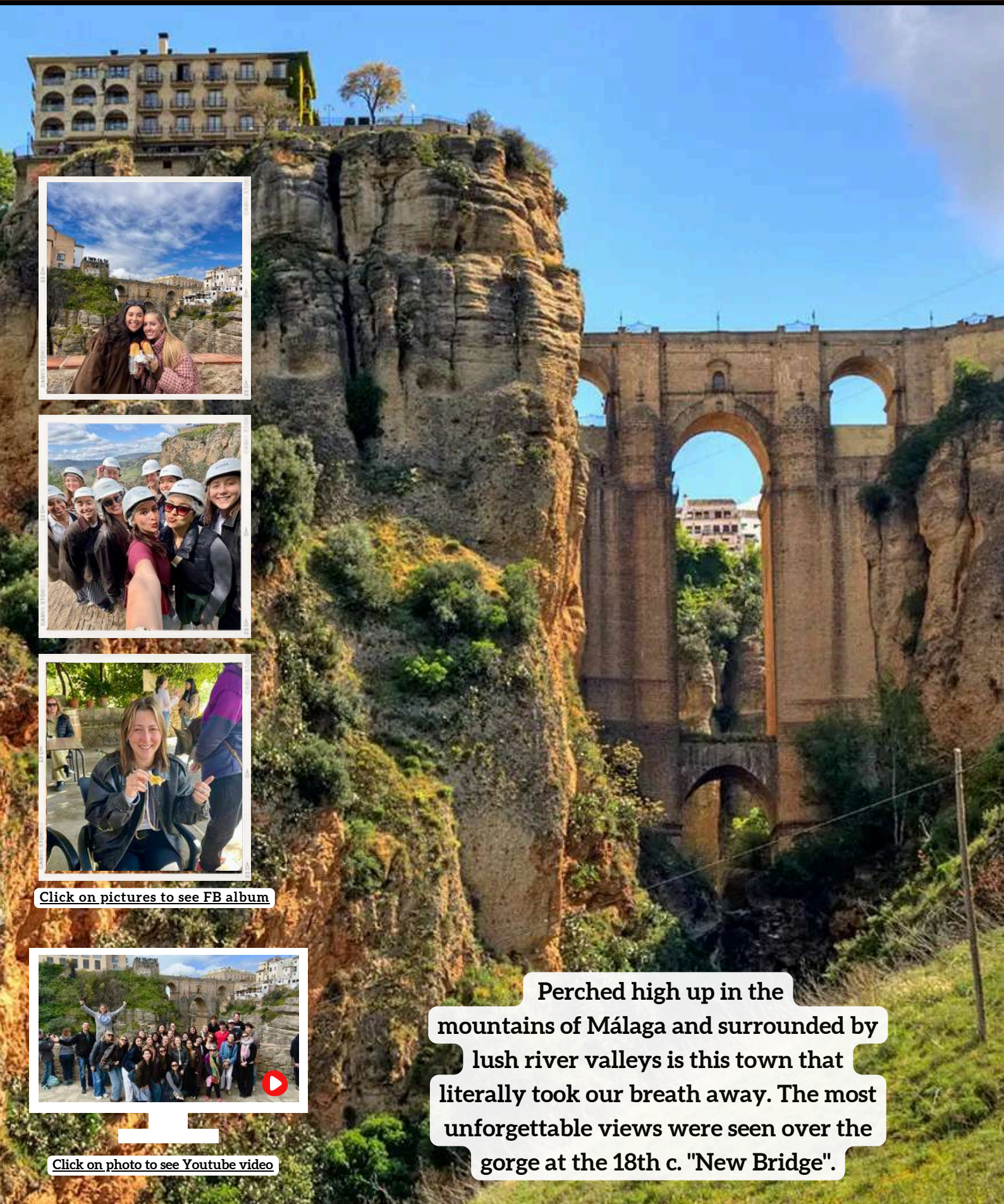


[Click on picture to see YouTube video](#)



DAY TRIP TO RONDA

Perfect day in the countryside!



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

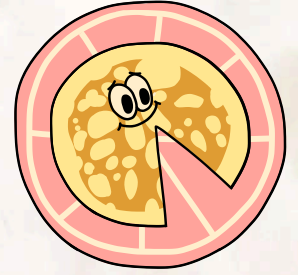


[Click on photo to see Youtube video](#)

Perched high up in the mountains of Málaga and surrounded by lush river valleys is this town that literally took our breath away. The most unforgettable views were seen over the gorge at the 18th c. "New Bridge".



Spanish Cooking Class



This month we had our last session of *Paella Mixta* and started on *Tortilla Española* with Fruity *Sangría*. As always, our students not only learned how to make these Spanish classics, but had a truly memorable meal!



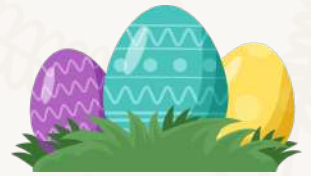
[Click on pictures to see Facebook album](#)

[Click on photo to see Instagram post](#)



Holy Week at the ICS

How fortunate were we this year?! Not only was our Holy Monday celebration an absolutely epic affair, but we even saw the procession of La Paz on Palm Sunday for a change of itinerary.



[Click on pictures to see Facebook album](#)



From Flamenco with Love



The various forms of arts I have come across in Sevilla have captured my mind and heart. In particular, Flamenco music and dance have become a significant part of my time here. Back in New York, my studies revolve around music production and audio engineering. And while I went into this semester expecting to give myself a break from working with music, time and time again I end up learning that this idea is simply a losing battle as I get pulled right back into it. The spark this time around came within the first few days of arriving in Spain. One of our first group activities was a trip to a Flamenco show at the Flamenco Dance Museum. I recall calling my sister the day before and when she heard I was going to see this Flamenco show, she was very excited on my behalf and used the word “intense” to describe it. I had a hard time imagining how a dance could evoke such a strong reaction but needless to say that made me even more excited to find out. And surely enough, any expectation I may have had was blown out the water. The combination of the dance and the music created this epic and dramatic mood with this constant shifting balance of elegance and force. You could see the intensity and passion in the dancers’ performances but also the technical skill and how physically demanding it was. By the second half of the show any time the male lead would do a spin you just saw this ring of sweat flying all over.



The Flamenco Dance Museum



Flamenco singing and guitar-playing

To me, however, the greatest hero of the night was the guitarist. I started playing guitar around 2018 and it was my gateway to taking upon music as my studies and my passion. So, naturally, in any live performance setting my attention is drawn towards the guitarist and I try to analyze what they are doing at all times. As luck would have it though, I ended up picking a seat from which my view of the guitarist was completely obstructed by a big fat pillar, so in the aftermath of the show I was jokingly devastated that I could not see more of the technique and style of my newly discovered guitar hero. It did however force me to just enjoy and listen, and to this day I hope to find a good recording of this performance or maybe just a setlist of pieces he had played that night. It is one thing to play the instrument and completely another to make you feel and create whole moods and soundscapes using the instrument. It just took me on a rollercoaster of emotions and the way it combined with the dancing, I was just sitting there the whole performance with a smile on my face and my attention fully locked in on every move, visual



From Flamenco with Love

Part II



and sound. Inevitably, this would mark the end of my music break, having lasted probably no more than 96 hours.

Soon after I began my search for any instrument I could have access to during my stay. And eventually after some asking around as well as inspiration from a rather mediocre attempt to play the piano at one of our Paella cooking classes, my mission was successful as I am now a proud temporary owner of a small piano keyboard sitting in my room. (Huge thank you to the ICS faculty, especially Javi who was so kind to find and allow me to use said keyboard this semester). I have also since signed up and taken part in the Sevillanas dance classes. I have been interested in learning how to dance for a while now but for one reason or another I have never gotten around to it. So when I heard about the Sevillanas classes being offered, I made sure to sign up the very first day.



Learning the steps of "Sevillanas"

At the time of writing this, today is actually going to be my last class. It has been an absolute blast and I am very happy to say that I can dance the first Sevillana in its entirety and I am hoping to learn the remaining three Sevillanas during the rest of the semester on my own time. I enjoyed learning to dance a lot and I would actually come back from the lessons and continue practicing the steps at home and reviewing the videos. While I often did not understand much of what was said during these lessons due to my still rather limited Spanish, I cannot describe the sheer boost in confidence when at the end of one of the lessons, Rocío who is one of our housemoms and who leads these lessons, said I was doing a good job! Just for that moment alone every minute spent practicing in front of the mirror was worth it! And what a fun skill to have in your arsenal and a cool way to learn control and coordination of the body. Although I have to admit, as soon as the arm movements come in along with the steps, my brain is pushed to work at 150%. I aspire to achieve that extent of multitasking and limb coordination someday but for the time being, it remains above my skill level.

Sevillanas dance class with Rocío Albéniz



Sevillanas dance class with Rocío Albéniz

UPCOMING AT THE ICS

Activities.

With the semester almost at its conclusion, we still have the April Fair, one last celebratory farewell party and our epic three-day trip through North Africa that await our group.

And...

At the end of the month we will begin the ICS Summer Term and will start off with a fun-packed Welcome Week!

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



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