

archaeological museum
of córdoba



Opening times
To confirm hours and opening
days, consult
www.museosdeandalucia.es

Group visits
It is necessary to pre-arrange group visits by telephone: +34 957 35 55 17 / +34 957 35 55 25; email; or through the pre-arrange visit form on the web page.

Research service hours
Opening hours for researchers:
Please contact the museum.
Telephone: +34 957 35 55 19/
+34 957 35 55 20. Prior
authorisation is required to
research archaeological

visit us

a museum in transformation

The Archaeological Museum of Córdoba is a state-owned institution run by the Regional Ministry of Culture of the Junta de Andalucía.

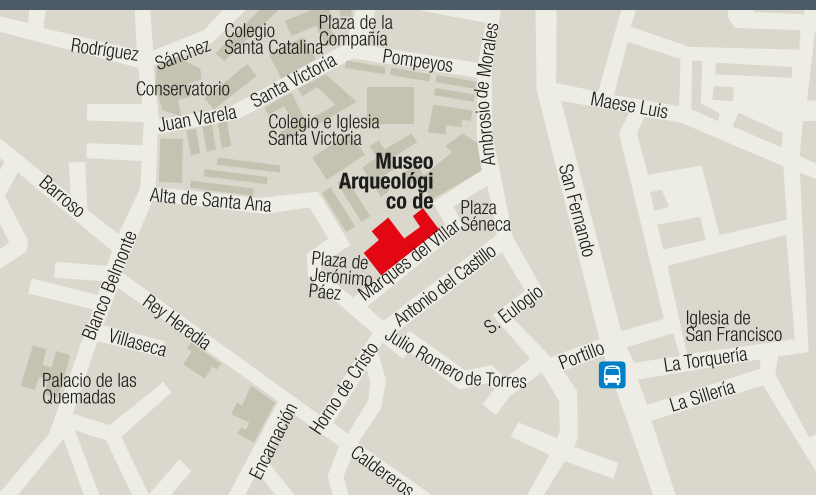
Situated in Córdoba's historical centre and designated a World Heritage Site, it is currently being modernised. Work on the new building, our current home, and the rehabilitation of the archaeological site on the basement level have already been finished. As the final phase of the renovation project, the Renaissance palace of Los Páez de Castillejo, the museum's official site, will be completely refurbished.

The purpose of this intervention is to modernise the concept of the museum by combining every aspect under the same roof—the large archaeological site, the Renaissance palace, the fascinating collections, and the institution's historical baggage—to create a unique exhibition which reflects the character of the city around it.



New wing of the Archaeological
Museum

- Renaissance palace of Los Páez de Castillejo




Photography: Paisajess españoles, S.A.


ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF CÓRDOBA
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 www.museosdeandalucia.es/culturaydeporte/museos/MAECO
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 **Public transport**
Urban bus services: in Plaza de las Tendillas. All radial routes go through the city centre.

T Taxi ranks: Plaza de las Tendillas, Mosque.

 Train station: Córdoba-Central.

Private transport
P Nearest public car park
Tendillas area, Calle Málaga, El Corte Inglés. Mosque area.

location

Malaga, the Archaeological Ensemble of Dolmenes of Antequera, the Archaeological Museum of Seville, the Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions (Seville), the Archaeological Ensemble of Carmon and the Archaeological Ensemble of Itálica.

They are there for the enjoyment of anyone with an interest in learning more about our land and heritage through their collections and the activities they organise. This artistic, archaeological and ethnographical heritage reflects how we were and how we have become what we are. Through their exhibitions and activities, the institutions show what we would like to be in the future.

We would like to welcome you to this museum and hope that you enjoy your visit. We encourage you to get to know all the Museums of Andalusia and we appreciate the bond you have created with Andalusian heritage, a bond that is bound to last forever.

Andalusian Ministry of Culture

The Museums of Andalusia, which the Ministry of Culture manages, form a network consisting of 23 institutions that differ widely from each other. The Museum of Almería, the Monumental Ensemble of La Alcazaba in Almería, the Andalusian Centre of Photography, the Museum of Cádiz, the Archaeological Ensemble of Baelo Claudia, the Archaeological Museum of Córdoba, the Museum of Fine Arts (Córdoba), the Archaeological Ensemble of Madinat al-Zahra, the Casa de los Tiros Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts (Granada), the Museum of Iruelva, the Museum of Jaén, the Archaeological Museum of Ubeda, the Museum of Arts and Traditions of the Upper Guadalquivir in Cazorla, the Archaeological Ensemble of Castulo, the Museum of

Dear visitor:



Façade of the Archaeological Museum of Córdoba

we/come

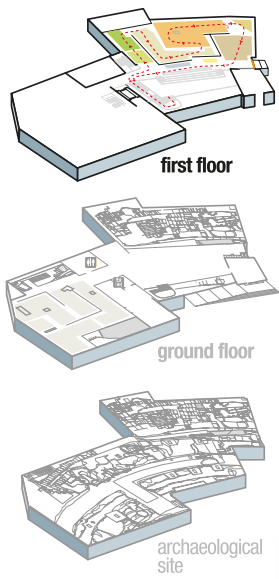
the “córdoba, a meeting of cultures” exhibition

Until the museum's future permanent exhibition is installed in the renovated palace, the Archaeological Museum of Córdoba is holding an exhibition that reflects the composition of its collections, featuring magnificent pieces ranging from Pre-history to the Late Middle Ages and including both the earliest and latest acquisitions.

The **"Córdoba, A Meeting of Cultures"** exhibition takes visitors on a journey through the history of Córdoba. The city's history is characterised by the fusion of ideas, peoples, and cultures that have left their mark and shaped our modern-day world as men and women defined by centuries of intermingling.

The central theme of the exhibition is the concept of cultural exchange—hence the title, which reflects the notion of Córdoba as a model of interculturalism and tolerance. The show also features the history of the museum, now over a hundred years old, and focuses on the importance of the modern-day province of Córdoba as the source of the items in the collections. themes are developed through three spaces, visited in the following order: first floor, ground floor and the archaeological site on the basement level. However, each space can also be appreciated independently.





first floor

Córdoba, power and centrality

Before Córdoba
This area explores the Prehistory and Protohistory of the province prior to its founding by the Romans. The fascinating items in this section span the period between the Lower Palaeolithic and the end of the Iberian world.

Colonia Patricia Corduba
The section on Roman Córdoba begins with an **Athlete's Torso**, exhibited for the first time, as a symbol of the world of images representing the Roman world. The evolution of urban planning in Córdoba is traced through inscriptions on civic works and a magnificent selection of capitals. Meanwhile, the architectural elements, statues and portraits reflect the increasing number of monuments built in the city from the time of Augustus. These had an added dimension as propaganda for the



Athlete's Torso



Córdoba, between Rome and Islam
The city's different transformations in the early centuries of the Middle Ages are illustrated through a selection of architectural elements, such as column shafts and capitals.



Capital of the Evangelists

Qurtuba
The other major section in this part of the exhibition follows the same pattern as that of Roman Córdoba. The city's expansion and decline are reflected in the capitals and bases. Islamisation and the symbols of propaganda used by the Islamic state are examined through important pieces which reveal the importance of water (**Fountain of al-Rummaniyya**), the creation of a uniform artistic language (stylised plant motifs), the promotion of civic and religious works (commemorative stones) and the official production of green and manganese ceramics and bronzes.

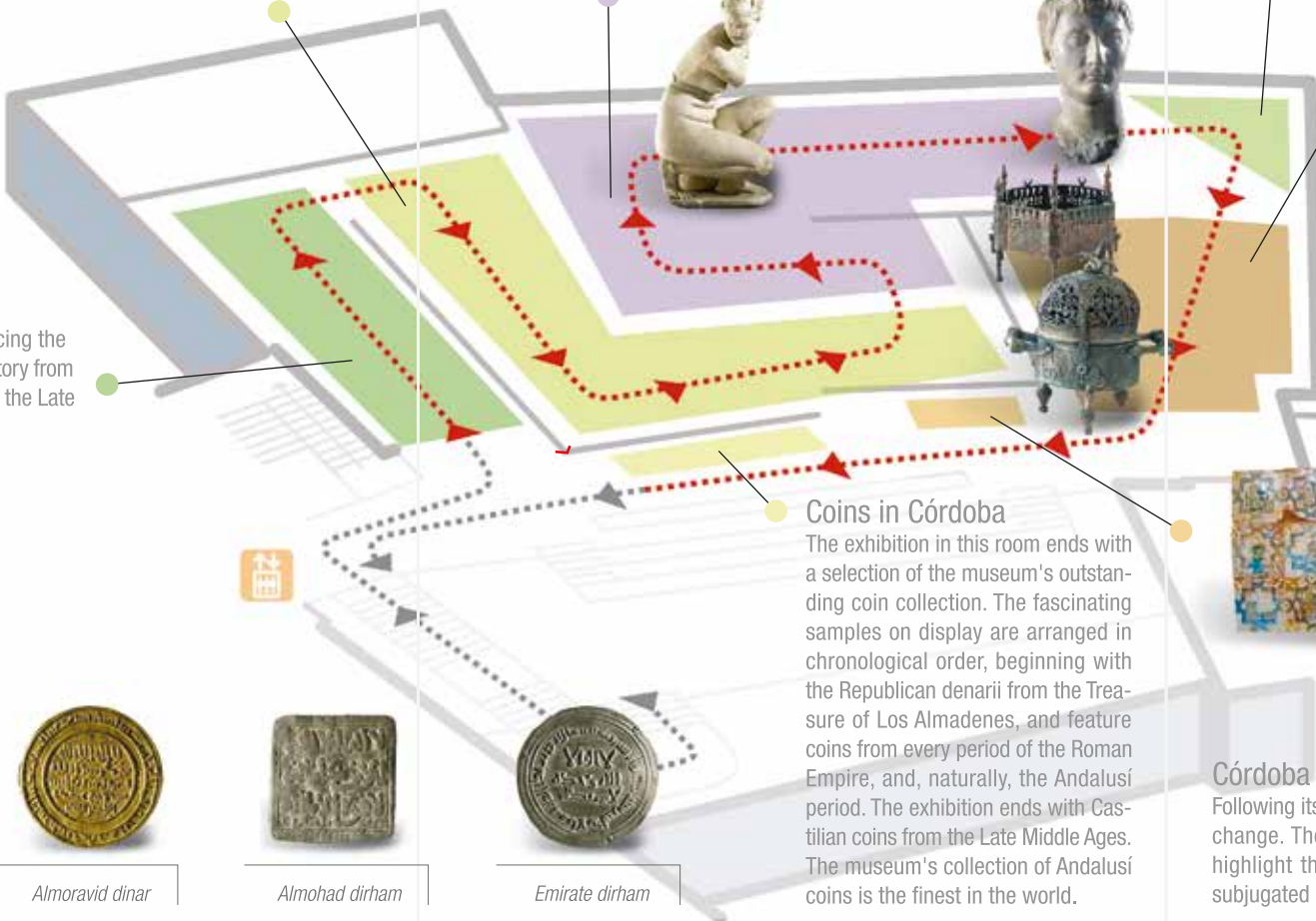


Almohad bronzes

Blue and gilt wall tiles from the Chapel of San Bartolomé

Córdoba in the Late Middle Ages
Following its conquest by the Christians in 1236, the city underwent gradual change. The pieces on display, several for the first time in many years, highlight the changes in the physical appearance of the city as it was subjugated once again to an intense process of Christianisation.

► **BEGINNING THE TOUR**
The exhibition begins by tracing the evolution of the Córdoba territory from early Prehistory to the end of the Late Middle Ages.



Almoravid dinar



Almohad dirham

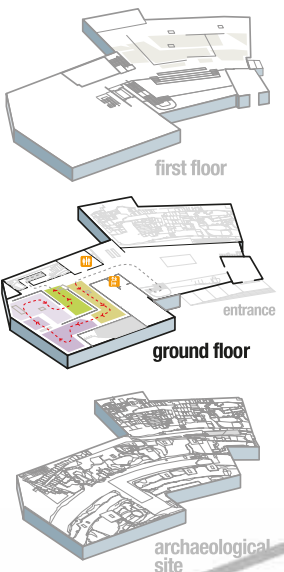


Emirate dirham

Coins in Córdoba
The exhibition in this room ends with a selection of the museum's outstanding coin collection. The fascinating samples on display are arranged in chronological order, beginning with the Republican denarii from the Treasure of Los Almadenes, and feature coins from every period of the Roman Empire, and, naturally, the Andalusi period. The exhibition ends with Castilian coins from the Late Middle Ages. The museum's collection of Andalusi coins is the finest in the world.

ground floor

living in Córdoba



Capital and Musician's Bottle

Leisure and entertainment
This section demonstrates the differences between leisure as an essentially private affair in the Andalusi world and the importance of public spectacles in Roman Córdoba.

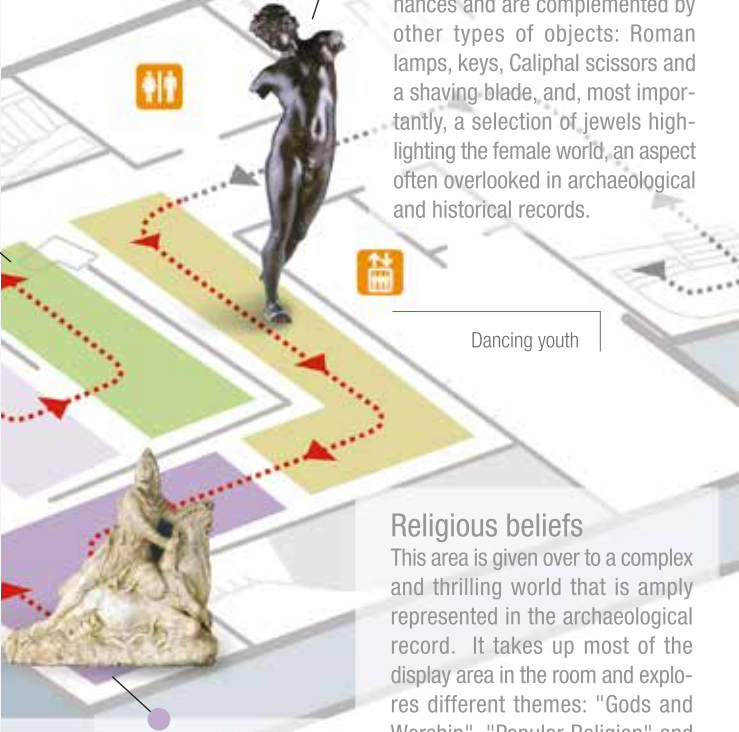
Funerary rites
The funerary world is magnificently illustrated in urns, headstones and sarcophaguses.

Popular religion
Superstition is represented by the famous Iberian votive offerings from Torreparedones.



Mitre

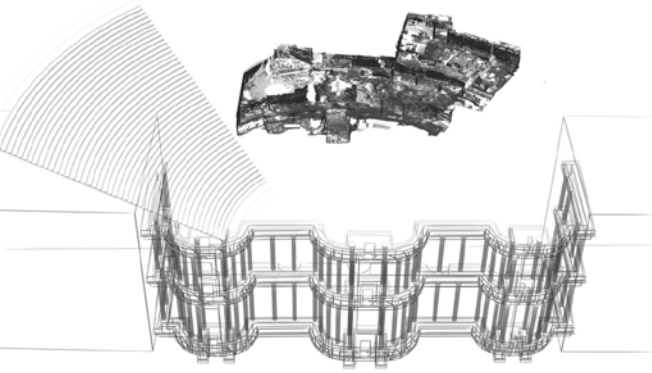
Iberian votive offerings from Torreparedones



► **The home**
This section is dedicated to everyday objects, mostly ceramics, in common use in Iberian, Roman and Andalusi homes. The Iberian pottery is from El Cerro de la Cruz, in Almedinilla, while the Roman and Islamic ceramics are from various provenances and are complemented by other types of objects: Roman lamps, keys, Caliphal scissors and a shaving blade, and, most importantly, a selection of jewels highlighting the female world, an aspect often overlooked in archaeological and historical records.

Religious beliefs
This area is given over to a complex and thrilling world that is amply represented in the archaeological record. It takes up most of the display area in the room and explores different themes: "Gods and Worship", "Popular Religion" and "Funerary Rites".

Gods and worship
A striking set of images is on display with pieces from the three main religions that succeeded each other in time: Paganism, Christianity and Islam.



archaeological site

On the basement level visitors can admire the remains of the Roman theatre of Colonia Patricia. Built in the 1st century, the Roman Theatre was abandoned in the 4th century and systematically plundered over the centuries. Only the basic infrastructure of the building has survived. A walkway over the site provides the opportunity to explore the different museum devices which shed light on the physical appearance and functionality of the theatre, as well as its destruction and subsequent transformation in medieval times.

There is a special emphasis on aspects such as the construction techniques of a model theatre, and on the preserved features: the original remains of the seating area, the circular crypt, the lime kiln built on the ruins of the theatre in the early Middle Ages, the Islamic reservoir, etc.

The audiovisual at the end of the visit provides additional insight into the marks left on the different strata by the destruction of the theatre building and the subsequent silting of the terrain.

