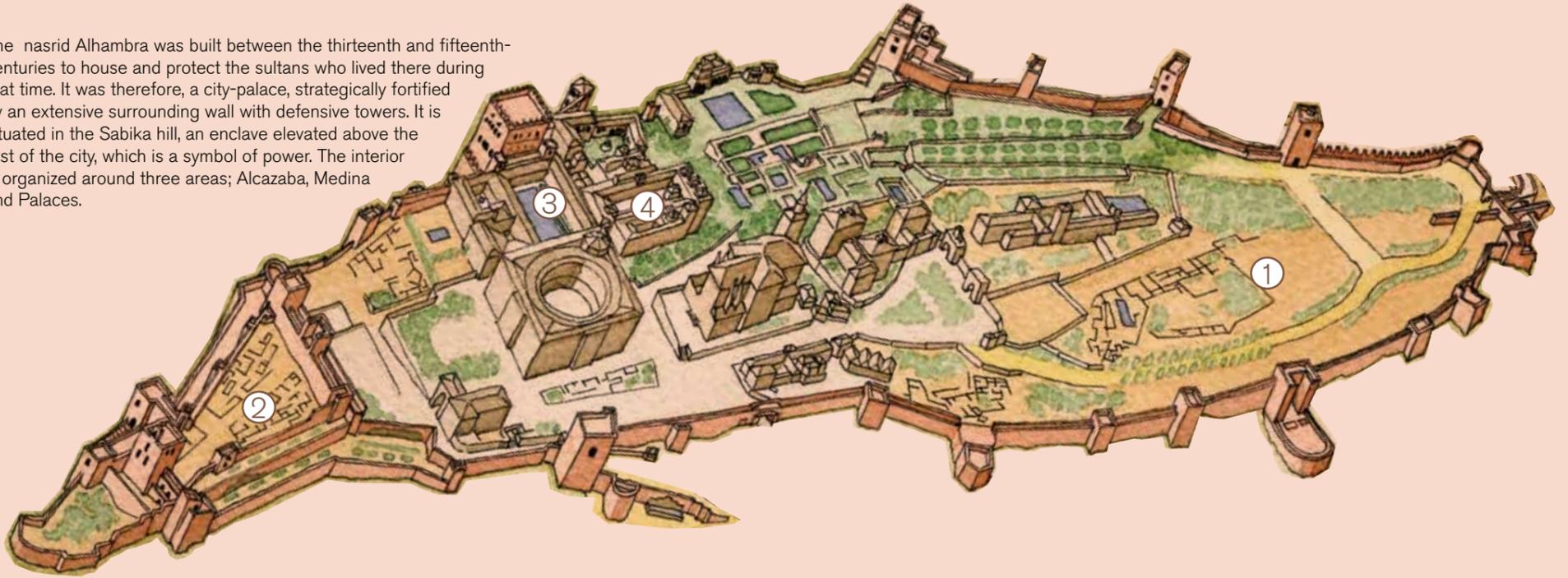


The nasrid Alhambra was built between the thirteenth and fifteenth-centuries to house and protect the sultans who lived there during that time. It was therefore, a city-palace, strategically fortified by an extensive surrounding wall with defensive towers. It is situated in the Sabika hill, an enclave elevated above the rest of the city, which is a symbol of power. The interior is organized around three areas; Alcazaba, Medina and Palaces.



### MEDINA ①

It is a space structured around the Real Alta Street that runs from the Torre del Agua to Puerta del Vino. In the Middle Ages this space had the necessary services for the functioning of the city: workshops area, houses, baths, mosque. We still can see the remains.

### ALCAZABA ②

It was the military district in which the soldiers lived. It is surrounded by high walls and watchtowers and it is only connected with the exterior through one door that allows to controls the access.

### PALACIO DE COMARES ③

This palace was the residence of the sultan and his family, as well as a political reception place. It is structured around the Patio de los Arrayanes with a large central pool and the Torre de Comares, whose interior houses the magnificent Salón del Trono.

### PALACIO DE LOS LEONES ④

It was built after the Palacio de los Comares and its use was more private. The four main rooms: Mocárabes, Reyes, Abencerrajes and Dos Hermanas are located around the rectangular courtyard surrounded by columns, in whose center we can find the famous lions fountain.

Observe the details: the decoration, the materials, the use of water and the gardens. But most of all enjoy with all your senses the colors, the light, the sounds.... they are also part of the visit.



NATURE



DECORATION



LIGHT



WATER



SPACES



BUILDINGS



SHAPES

### Make your hypothesis

### Observe & Research

### Don't miss!

### Did you know...?



①

#### Medina

Look at the shapes and the space allocation. What uses do you think these archaeological remains would have?



②

#### Alcazaba

Do you think the Alcazaba fortress is well placed to fulfill the role of military control of the city? Why?



③

#### Palacio de Comares

The Muslim home used to have a patio with a pool in the center. What functions do you attribute to this pool?



④

#### Palacio de los Leones

Observe the access to this palace; do you think this is the original entrance? Why?



Observe the extension of this neighborhood and make an estimate of the number of people who could live in it.

Look for the Palacio de los Abencerrajes. Note the dimensions and structure.



Although it looks like a labyrinth, it is the remains of houses and streets. Try to follow the layout of some streets. Look at the size of the houses, do they seem big or small to you?



Describe briefly the shapes and lines of the courtyard and the feelings you experience by watching it.

Observe the shape of the fountains that pour water into the pool, why do you think they have that shape?



Notice the column layout and the decor of their capitals.

Look at the central fountain and the twelve lions, what do you think it could symbolize?



Visit the bathroom of the mosque, frequented by the inhabitants of the medina in Nasrid period. Besides the hygiene service it was also a meeting and relaxation place. Notice the skylights that are in the roof, what do you think they served for?



Enjoy the views from the Torre de la Vela and try to find some of the most prominent landmarks of Granada: the Cathedral, the Albaicin, Sacromonte, Sierra Nevada...



Pay attention to the gradual entry of light from the courtyard to the Salón de Comares, what is the perception you get? What do you think that represents the dome that covers the Salón de Comares?



Look at the muqarnas dome in the Sala de Abencerrajes and compare it with the one in the Sala de Dos Hermanas. How are they alike and different? What do they suggest to you?



Along calle Real ran the royal canal that supplied water to workshops, houses and baths. In the upper part of the medina were located the industries, while along the walls the richest people had their houses.



The Torre de la Vela, with its steeple and bell, Christian additions, marked until recently the pace of the city life and the irrigation of the plain. Why do you think that the tower is named like that?



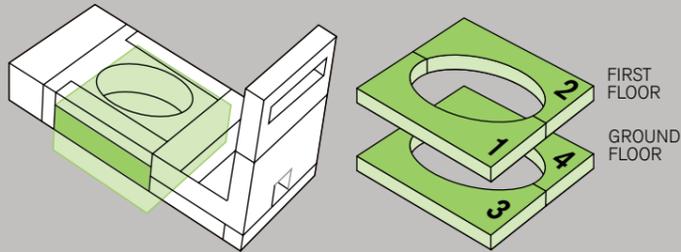
"... When in the rest of Europe castles in the air were made, in Granada were being constructed palaces on the water." (Titus Burkhardt) What does this phrase suggest you?



At the bottom and top of the shaft of the columns, lead is placed to make the columns more resistant to small vibrations and seismic movements.



The Museum has a formal design and content that invites visitors to delve into the history and identity of Andalusia. It has two floors and is divided into four themed rooms with the most advanced interactive technology, such as images, audio and interactive videos, along with original objects and replicas, that make us discover the past and present of Andalusia.



FIRST FLOOR

### HALL 1 DIVERSITY OF LANDSCAPES

Its content is mainly an introduction to rooms 2, 3 and 4. It is dedicated to the evolution and use of the natural environment as a source of resources for the humankind. Agriculture and nature have always been present in the history and economic evolution of Andalusia.

### HALL 2 LAND AND CITIES

This is based on the "social time", the life of Andalusian communities and societies immersed in times of war and peace, prosperity and adversity.

### HALL 3 WAYS OF LIFE

The hall is based on the idea of "time to live", on the history of the Andalusian everyday life, with a viewpoint of our ancestors daily life, from prehistoric times to the present.

### HALL 4 ART AND CULTURE

The artistic language, the most important characters and most outstanding examples of Andalusian culture and art, are the special features of this hall.

The themes and contents of each hall is supported by **SEVEN MUSEOGRAPHIC RESOURCES** that allows the audience to get a closer look to the culture and history of Andalusia from different perspectives



ATLAS



TIMELINE



WINDOWS  
OF HISTORY



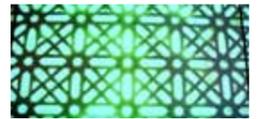
LEDING FIGURES  
IN HISTORY



SHOWCASES



LAYERS  
OF MEMORY



LANDSCAPES  
OF MEMORY



A tour of Al-Andalus contextualizes, strengthens and expands the activity developed in the Alhambra and furnishes students with a rich and complementary perspective of this historical period. We get to know the natural environment in which this civilization was settled and its contributions to the Andalusian landscape, social organization and economic system. We also delve into their cities and homes to learn the ways of life of the Muslims Hispanics and discover the principal cultural and artistic manifestations of this period of time.



HALL 1

The Nasrid kingdom mainly comprised the territories of Malaga, Almeria and Granada.

**Observe and respond:** What types of landscapes can we found in this part of Andalusia?

**Listen to Ibn Hawqal** who travels to Al-Andalus in the tenth century.

How did he describe this territory?

In the atlas of Andalusia you can **investigate** about the agriculture in the medieval time.

What products were grown in Al-Andalus? Which were the irrigation systems used?

Between the years 1240-1260, the water from the Darro's river was conducted to the Alhambra...

Read the news and **answer:** what parts the infrastructure has?



HALL 2

**Look** at the model of the Roman Cordoba of the first-century and compare it to the Caliphate Cordoba of the tenth century, do you think it has grown? What equipment could we find in the medina and what we would do in these places?

**Investigate** in the timeline.

Between 1100 and 1150 Almeria became the most prosperous port in the Mediterranean. What products were produced in the craft workshops and exported to faraway places?

**Explore** the Nasrid Granada of the fifteenth century.

What was the urbanism (the houses, the main buildings, the streets? Try to remember if you know a similar place and describe it.



HALL 3

**Imagine** you are a chef of the Nasrid court and you have to **make** a menu. You can find information about the food in the timeline or the layers.

First plate:  
Second plate:  
Dessert:

**Observe and identify** other objects that we could use in a Andalusian house and say what were their functions.

To cook  
To light up the house  
Food Storage

**Listen** to Yusuf and discover how was the school and what he was learning there. What is the alifato? And the Koran? In the layers of memory of this epoch you can see closely an alifato tablet like the one Yusuf has. Where is the alifato inscription?

The baths were public buildings where Andalusians took care of their personal appearance, but the act of bathing had other functions. Find out which ones. What were the different spaces for?



HALL 4

The Moorish architecture is characterized by sober structures coated with rich decoration with stucco and tile baseboards.

**Find** the Alhambra's stucco, investigate what material it was made with and describe the elaboration process that can be seen in the layers of memory.

**Find** the "Principal Andalusian art motifs" and discover which they are. Keep investigating about the epigraphy and words, what functions does it have? What used to be the contents of these inscriptions?

The Islamic prohibition of human figures and animals representation was something traditionally thought. **Find** the painting of the Salón de Embajadores of la Alhambra and **find out** in what kind of buildings these figurative representations were allowed.

In the Leading Figures window **look for** the Nasrid painter of the fifteenth century and answer: what does his Alhambra paintings show?