

Spain Travelogue 2017

.

July 13 - 28

.

Valeria Vélez Zaragoza

.



La Alhambra from El Mirador de San Nicolas

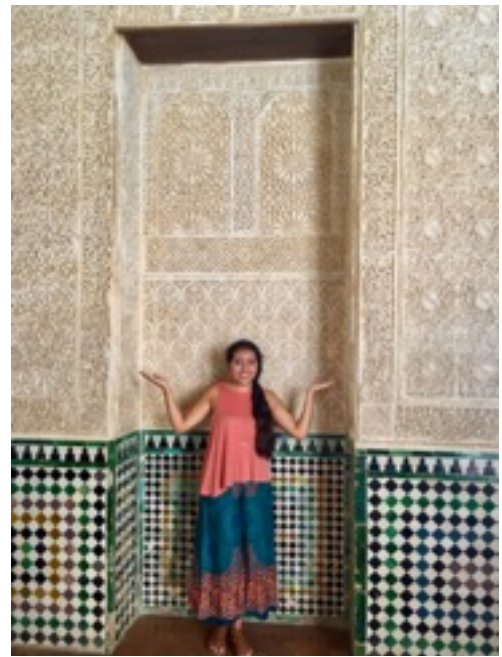
.

Incredible is an understatement when describing my experience in Granada, Spain. Never did I imagine that I would fall so quickly and deeply in love with this two-week journey. Not only did this trip rekindle my interest in the beauty of literature while taking Humanities 340 with Professor Jerez-Gomez in Spain, it was rewarding to travel with a group of strangers that turned into friends (since I have only traveled with family or by myself). This program included plenty of excursions and we were given free time to wander about and explore in order to immerse ourselves into the Spanish culture.

.

One of my favorite sites that we saw was la Alhambra, which is an Arabic-style palace and absolutely stunning! Even though the heat was intense that day, this palace blew me away with its rich history and detailed yet meaningful architecture. We were also given a small tour of Generalife (a garden located behind la Alhambra), which was so peaceful and relaxing - a perfect place to read or to take a casual stroll.

.



Excursion to la Alhambra

Apart from the beautiful sites and monuments that we visited, the every-day experiences are what made this trip complete. One night, a group of us came to cheer on our friends as they played futbol with locals, which was a fun match to watch Mexico (our friends) versus Morocco (the locals)! Afterwards, we cooled down with a refreshing mint tea while chatting and singing current songs in Spanish at a nearby teteria (tea place) with our new local friends. Another memorable experience would have to be our last dinner together as a group, as we gave our professors and our tour guide (Inma) shirts with our signatures on the back to express our immense gratitude for all the effort and care they put into making this a successful study abroad trip. To our surprise, we were each given a paper with our names written in Arabic given to us by Inma, and we ended our dinner with a great flamenco show!



Lastly, I would like to thank the Center for Global Management, Professors Jerez-Gomez and Habich, and President Morales (for the award) since these individuals helped make the Spain Study Abroad program an unforgettable experience for myself and for my new friends!

Hasta luego Granada! 🇪🇸



Valeria