

Travel Information for Visitors

Department of Computer Languages and Systems, University of Seville, 2019

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1 Introduction

Founded in 1505, the University of Seville is an institution with more than five centuries of history that have left a legacy of renowned academic tradition and a unique cultural heritage.

The University of Seville is one of the oldest and top ranked universities in Spain. It is among the top seven Spanish Universities in funds granted for research. In addition, it is recognised as having high impact in 13 of the 22 fields of research by the ESI (Essential Science Indicators Research Areas).

This document provides all necessary information for visitors to reach the ETSII (Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Informática), which is the venue where the conference is going to be organised. In this document, you can find information about:

- travelling to Seville,
- public transport,
- reaching ETSI,
- possible accommodation.

We are glad to have you in our beautiful city, and we hope you enjoy your visit.

The main locations mentioned in this document are summarised in a Google Map: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m67tHIHkd9W-o63bj-4q_ZGX7pdBVV-&usp=sharing.

2 Travelling Information

2.1 Flights

Seville Airport homepage (SVQ): <https://www.aeropuerto-sevilla.com/seville-airport>

Airlines operating at SVQ:

Air Europa: <https://www.aireuropa.com/en/flights>

Blue Air: <https://www.blueairweb.com/en/gb>

British Airways: https://www.britishairways.com/travel/home/public/en_es

Brussels Airlines: <https://www.brusselsairlines.com/en-es>

EasyJet: <https://www.easyjet.com/en>

Iberia: <https://www.iberia.com/gb/?language=en>

Lufthansa: <https://www.lufthansa.com/us/en/homepage>

Ryanair: <https://www.ryanair.com/gb/en>

Smartwings: <https://www.smartwings.com/en>

TAP Portugal: <https://www.flytap.com/en-es>

Transavia: <https://www.transavia.com/en-EU/book-a-flight/flights/search>

Volotea: <https://www.volotea.com/en>

Vueling: <https://www.vueling.com/en>

Other major nearby airports are Madrid-Barajas (<http://www.aena.es/en/madrid-barajas-airport/index.html>), Barcelona-El Prat (<https://www.barcelona-airport.com/>) and Malaga-AGP (<https://www.airport-malaga.com>).

2.2 Railway

There are convenient train connections available between Seville and some major European cities:

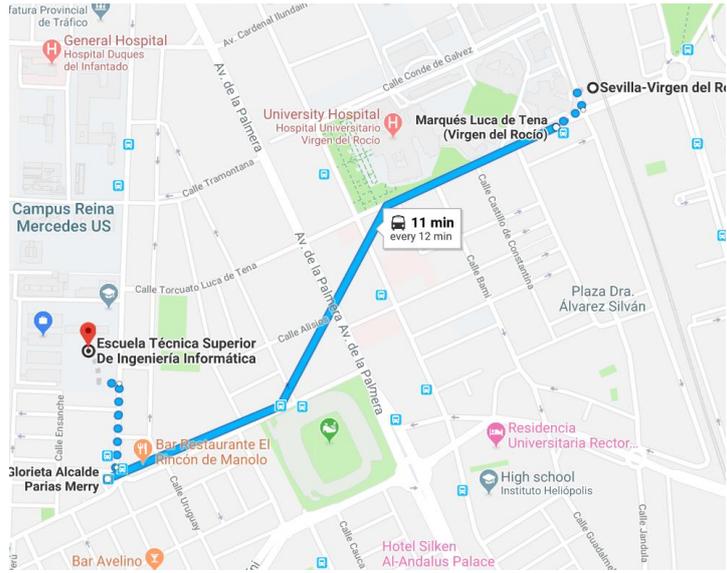
RENFE (national railway company)

http://www.renfe.com/EN/viajeros/larga_distancia/productos/index.html

- Madrid & Barcelona, by high-speed train and low-cost train
- Lisbon, by high-speed train
- Paris, Lyon, Toulouse, Marseille, by high-speed train

The main station is Santa Justa Station (location: <https://goo.gl/maps/JEGYvkgBsXM2>). That is the source and destination of inter-city trains. There are other minor stations located around the city, and they are all communicated to each other by commuter trains. All the stations are conveniently adapted for disabled passengers.

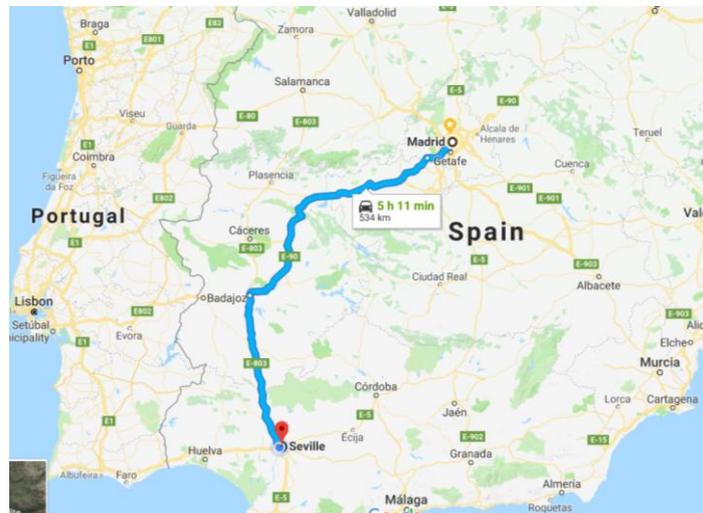
The nearest train station from the ETSII is Virgen del Rocío Station (location: <https://goo.gl/maps/Sv14PesuVPG2>). From there, you can reach ETSII by foot (1.2 km, 15 min walk) or by bus (line 2, the nearest bus stop is right in front of Virgen del Rocío Hospital, which is in front of the Station).



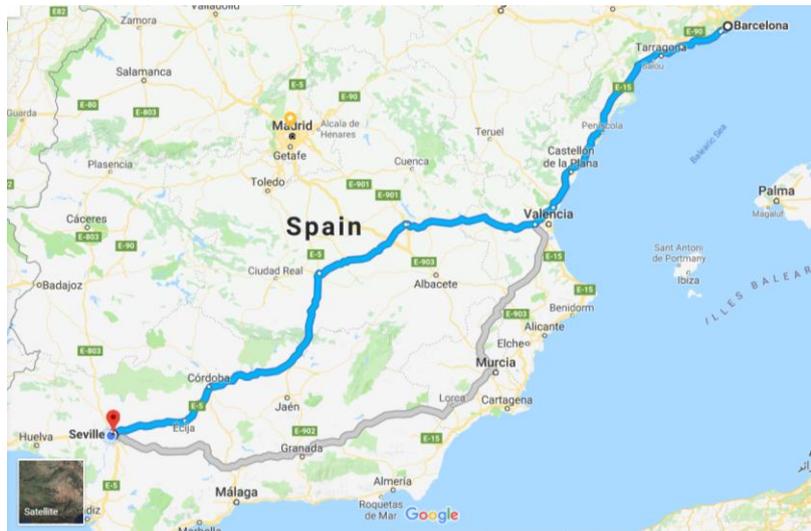
2.3 Car

To reach Seville by car, one can take the AP-7, A4, A-49, A6, A-66, or A10 motorway (toll road) or national routes no. A-5, A-66, A-92.

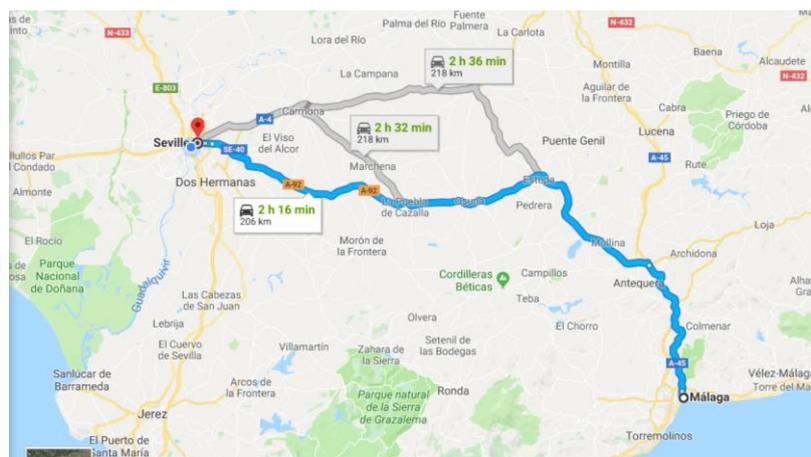
When arriving from Madrid (around 530 km), the fastest route is via A-5 and A-66 (toll roads):



When arriving from Barcelona (around 1,000 km), the fastest routes are via AP-7 and A-4, or AP-7 and A92:



When arriving from Malaga (around 220 km), the fastest routes are via A92 or A4:



3 Public Transport to reach the ETSII (US)

3.1 Public transport

A timetable for buses and trams and information about tickets and network plan can be found in the local bus company (<http://www.tussam.es/>, site in Spanish).

The best way to reach the ETSII using public transport is by bus:

- line 2 (“Glorieta Alcalde Parias Merry” stop)
- lines 3, 6, 34 (“Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Informática” stop)

Taxi phone numbers:

- Tele Taxi: +34 954 62 22 22, +34 954 62 14 61, website (Spanish): <http://www.teletaxisevilla.es/servicios/reservas>
- Radio Taxi Sevilla: +34 954 58 00 00, +34 954 57 11 11, website (Spanish): <http://radiotaxidesevilla.es>
- You can also take a ride on Uber (<https://www.uber.com/en-ES/cities/seville>) or cabify (<https://cabify.com/en>)

3.2 Bicycles for rent

There is a bicycle renting service working in Seville (<http://en.sevici.es>). You can pay for a short term subscription (<http://en.sevici.es/Subscriptions/Short-Term-Subscription>) that will allow you to use the bicycles as many times as you need for 7 days.

There are many bicycle parking stations around the city, and many of them are located around the ETSII (<http://en.sevici.es/Estaciones/Map>). The nearest one can be found at the ETSII main door.

4 Accomodation

There are several hotels located within a walking distance (https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m67tHlHlkd9W-o63bj-4q_ZGX7pdBVV-&usp=sharing):

- AC Mariott Sevilla – located 1 km from ETSII (12 min walk)
- Hotel Silken Al-Andalus – located 0,9 km from ETSII (11 min walk)
- Hotel Exe Sevilla Palmera – located 1,4 km from ETSII (17 min walk)

There are other hotels nearby that are communicated with the ETSII by taxi or public transport:

- Hotel Pasarela – located 3,4 km from ETSII (9 min taxi ride, 25 min bus ride)
- Hotel Meliá Sevilla – located 3,6 km from ETSII (10 min taxi ride, 25 min bus ride)
- Hotel NH Collection – located 3,7 km from ETSII (10 min taxi ride)
- Hotel Sevilla Center – located 4,5 km from ETSII (13 min taxi ride)
- Hotel Monte Carmelo - located 4,1 km from ETSII (13 min taxi ride, 21 min bus ride)

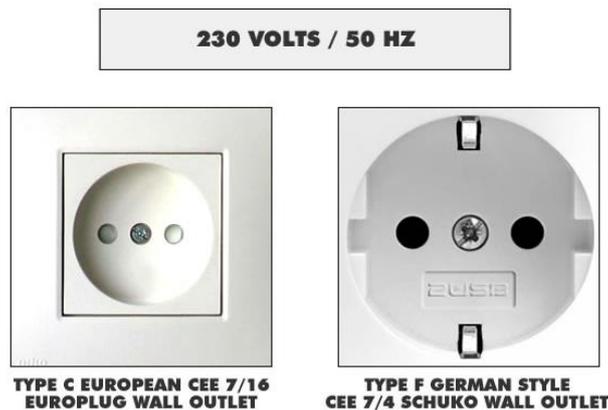
You can find full list of hotels here: <https://tinyurl.com/hotels-in-sevilla> or if you prefer, you can also check Airbnb website at: www.airbnb.com/s/Seville--Spain/homes.

5 Currency

The currency in Spain is Euro (EUR). The approximate exchange rate is 1.00 EUR = 1.14 USD

6 Electrical Plug/Outlet and Voltage Information

In Spain the power plugs and sockets are of type F. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. Type F, also known as “Schuko”, also works with plug C and plug E.

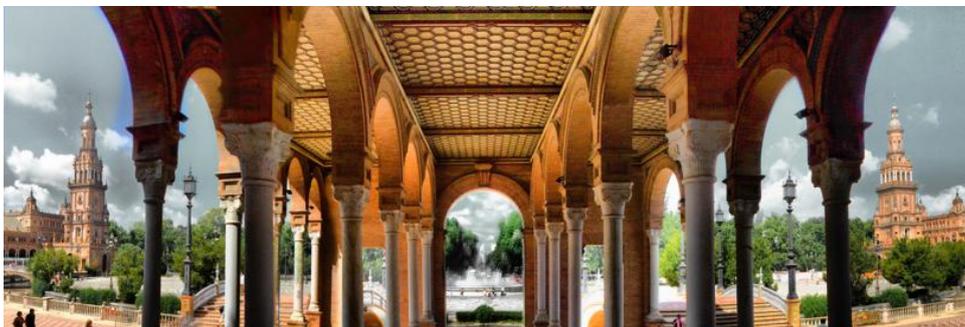


7 Go sightseeing

Welcome to Seville!

We are delighted to welcome you in Seville, which is one of the nicest cities in Southern Spain. Even if you pay us a lightning visit, this lively, garrulous city will attract your attention and will seek for room in your heart!

With a privileged climate, Seville is a universal, world- wide known and most-visited city, which has served as an inspiration for painters and writers. It is the capital of Andalusia, Spain’s largest and southernmost region, just a short hop across the sea from Morocco. The Giralda and Alcázar, two examples of stunning Moorish architecture, exist as a reminder of Andalusia’s Islamic heritage.



Spain's Square

Our city has much to offer: great weather, beautiful parks, historic buildings, national landmarks, wonderful architecture, superlative arts, theatre and museum offerings, our own royal symphonic

orchestra, and limitless choices for delicious dining and night-time entertainment. Add to that our diverse and friendly population and you'll see why people seek us out as a place to visit often, as well as one to call home. Please, scroll down. Don't miss this opportunity to discover our city!

A piece of history

Seville is the capital of Andalusia, a privileged region in Southern Spain with a unique and universal culture, Mediterranean and Atlantic at the same time, a synthesis of people and religions moulded by centuries of history. An open land, with around one million inhabitants, where people preserve an innate philosophy towards life — the so-called art of living — that allows the harmonious union of a past full of tradition with modern progress.

For centuries, analysts and chroniclers gave the honour of tracing Seville's limits to Hercules, who was one of the most popular mythical heroes, He raised six columns to mark the spot where Julius Cæsar would later find a city called Iulia Romula Hispalis. According to Saint Isidore of Seville, he called it Iulia after himself, Romula in honour of glorious Rome, and Hispalis because many buildings had wooden piles driven into the ground as foundations.



Hercules' columns

Subsequent historical researchers have been unable to correct this popular belief in Seville's mythical origins, to such an extent that it is celebrated in a popular verse:

*Raised by Hercules,
Julius Cæsar fortified me,
with high walls and towers.
I was conquered for the king
of heaven by Garcí Pérez de Vargas.*

So great was the admiration felt by Renaissance Seville towards its mythical founders that their statues were placed on two granite pillars with Corinthian capitals in a promenade called Alameda de Hércules. The statues were specially sculpted by Diego Pasquera, and they can still be admired.

Throughout its history, many diverse cultures have left their indelible mark, and because of this, Seville possesses an unsurpassable and unforgettable legacy of Roman, Moorish, Jewish and Christian treasures. This enrichment has continued during this century, with the Iberamerican Exhibition in 1929 and, more recently, the World Exhibition Expo'92. Seville's riches also include its sixteen museums; of exceptional interest is the Fine Arts Museum, Spain's second most important art gallery after El Prado in Madrid.

Shortly after Columbus set sail from Spain, and for the following 150 years, Seville achieved its greatest glory, becoming the neurological centre of Spain's empire and the gateway from Europe to America. Romantic travellers would later recall such splendours through archaeological remains of long disappeared towers, hidden patios in ancient homes and stately palaces. Seville's beauty and magic have provided the inspiration for the famous creations of innumerable artists such as Bizet's opera Carmen and Mozart's Don Giovanni, as well as many other important musical and literary works.

Today, with its 27 centuries of history, Seville is a modern city with a modern infrastructure and incomparable conference facilities that make it an unrivalled setting for holding large events.

The Guadalquivir River

Seville's history is intimately linked to that of the Guadalquivir river because it has been both a river port and a bridge between the Atlantic Ocean and the hinterland of Andalusia since its most remote past. Even as far back as the beginnings of the first millennium B.C. the area of Seville was destined to become the great market place of the Guadalquivir Valley. The original Seville was born where the river became no longer navigable for seagoing ships.

Going towards the Guadalquivir, you will retrace much of the history of a city that is best defined as a cultural crossroads: on the west bank of the river, Betis Street is the starting point of Triana, the colourful working class neighbourhood that is popularly known as The Independent Republic of Triana. It faces the thirteenth century Gold Tower that first served as a Moorish defensive tower and now houses a maritime museum. The walkway that runs between the Gold Tower and Triana's Bridge follows the original port of the city and will probably be one of your favourite places to stroll at ease, chiefly at summer nights.



This is a view over the Independent Republic of Triana ;-).



A shot of the Guadalquivir river and the Gold Tower

Further north along the river, the traveller can find La Cartuja, the site of the 1992 Universal Exposition, which today is used for businesses, entertainment facilities, and some schools of the University of Seville.

Garden and Parks

Seville is a city lined with orange trees, and the smell of orange blossom fills the air in springtime. Thanks to its Arabic heritage, Seville's gardens are oases of peace and quiet. The most picturesque are the Alcázar's gardens, laid out in Arabic style, with rivulets, waterfalls, tile work and hints of jasmine and bougainvillea.



The Alcázar



Las Setas

Maria Luisa's Park is one of the city's largest ones because it has a surface area greater than 400,000 square metres. It was originally built as a Romantic garden for the palace of San Telmo on the occasion of the 1929 Latin American Exhibition. Murillo's Park also deserves a visit. It borders the walls of the Alcázar and leads into the Santa Cruz neighbourhood. The park is very Sevillian in style, full of arcades and foliage, ceramic work and abundant flowers. We also recommend a visit to the gardens of the Valle, adjoining a section of the historic city wall.



Maria Luisa's Park

Monuments

Seville is plenty of monuments, and you will encounter the rich blend of Moorish and Christian art of the twelfth century Alcázar, which was refurbished by Pedro I in the fourteenth century and is today one of the outstanding Mudejar style palaces of Spain.

The Alcázar stands side by side and in contrast with the Magna Hispalensis, which is, we are in no doubt, Seville's most famous landmark. It is the world's second largest church after Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Its origins date back to the twelfth century, when it still was an Almohade

mosque. Later in 1401, the mosque was knocked down partially and served as a basement for the new cathedral, which consisted of five buildings, twenty-five ordinary chapels, and a royal chapel that currently contains many paintings by Murillo, Zurbarán, Valdés Leal, Goya, and other famous painters.

At present, the Patio de los Naranjos and the Minarete are the only signs of its Moorish past. The Minarete, which is popularly known as the Giralda tower, stands as an appendage of the cathedral from which you can get a bird's-eye view of the city. The crowning glory of our Giralda is the Giraldillo, a big statue that represents a pregnant woman that symbolises the Faith.

Between the Alcázar and the cathedral, you can find the Archivo de Indias, the richest repository of colonial New World documents which is housed in the sixteenth century Exchange House.



Seville's Cathedral

Shopping

Seville is an excellent city for shopping. There are many pedestrian streets where you can stroll at ease... and each of them has its own character.

The historic centre, around La Campana and the pedestrian streets Tetuán and Sierpes, includes traditional shops with ceramics, guitars, flamenco costumes, fans, embroidery, as well as modern shops of fashion, music, and so on. Nervión, near Santa Justa's rail station, has several department stores. Los Remedios, on the bank of the river that skirts Triana, is the location of several boutiques with an international reputation.

The ceramics market is in Triana, whereas the biggest open-air markets are the Plaza del Duque and the Plaza de La Magdalena, which sell leather work and costume jewelry. The Alfalfa neighbourhood, especially around the Cabeza del Rey Don Pedro Street and adjacent streets, has a large number of antique shops and galleries that exhibit and sell contemporary art. The most traditional flea market is held on Thursdays at Feria Street.

The anecdote: Saint Isidore of Seville

Born about the middle of the sixth century, Saint Isidore of Seville was the brother of three saints, namely: Saint Leander, his predecessor in the see of Seville, Saint Fulgentius, and Saint Florentina.

Early an orphan, he was educated by his elder brother Leander, severely but with great success; he was truly remarkable for his erudition, covering every branch of knowledge (including Hebrew and Greek). He was indeed a walking encyclopaedia, and it was not surprising that he was chosen to succeed his brother as archbishop of Seville, an office he held for some forty years.

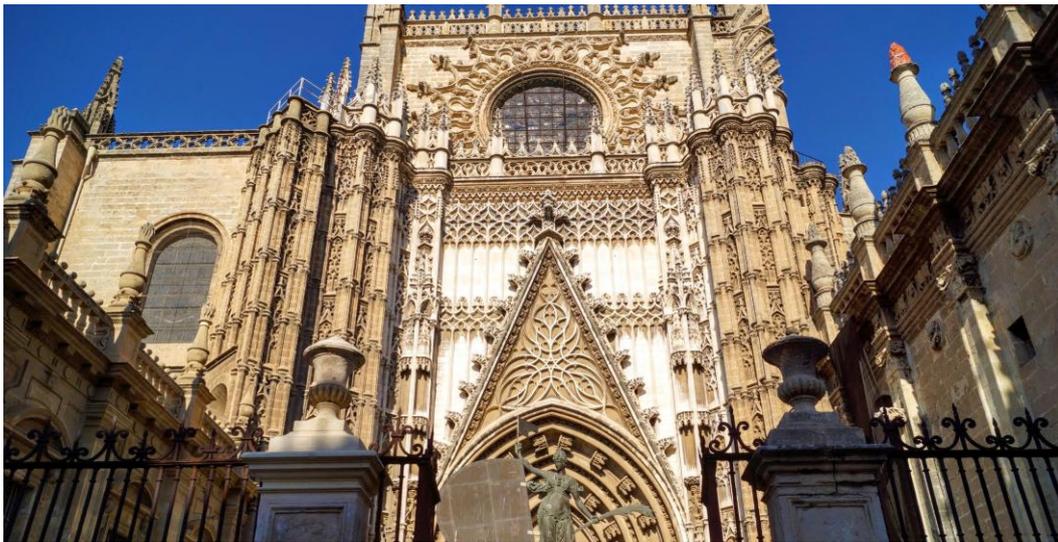
The duties of his episcopate did not stop the output of his amazingly prolific pen. He wrote a dictionary of synonyms, a treatise of astronomy and geography, biographies of illustrious men and of biblical characters, and a history of the Goths, our only source book for much of our Visigothic history. His most comprehensive and influential work was in fact an encyclopaedia, his *Etymologies*, which summarised the knowledge of his age. In a period of encroaching barbarism this work of preserving the surviving inheritance of antiquity was urgent and indispensable.

Isidore died a saintly death in 636. His relics were later translated to León, in Northern Spain. Benedict XIV proclaimed him a doctor of the church, and Pope John Paul II appointed him as the Patron Saint of Internet users and computer programmers.



Saint Isidore of Seville

More pics of Seville



Seville's Cathedral







Spain's Square

8 Useful links

- [1] A tour of Seville: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=12&v=LnV7IkZU-OY>
- [2] The University of Seville:
http://www.us.es/downloads/folletos/Folleto_Welcome_US_web.pdf
- [3] The city: <http://www.us.es/eng&/acerca/ciudad>
- [4] Visit Seville: <http://www.visitasevilla.es/en>
- [5] TripAdvisor: https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attractions-g187443-Activities-c47-t26-Seville_Province_of_Seville_Andalucia.html
- [6] Seville online: <http://www.sevillaonline.es/english/seville/monuments.htm>
- [7] Seville on your mobile phone (iOS):
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sevilla/id735129770?mt=8>,
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/seville-travel-guide-offline/id387825662?mt=8>
- [8] Seville on your mobile phone (Android):
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=es.sdos.visitasevillamobile&hl=es>,
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.etips.seville.travel.guide>