

ALHAMBRA



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L'ALHAMBRA

الحمراء

- Historical introduction
- Architectural and decorative characteristics
- Visit to Alhambra
- Conclusion

ALHAMBRA IN SPAIN, AN ARAB FORTRESS

الحمرا في اسبانيا ، وقلعة من الاراضي البور



Alhambra is an ancient Arab fortress located on the hills close to Granada.

It is the most famous example of the Islamic influence in Spain.



Alhambra in arab
is "al-Hamrā" :
the Red one
(الحمراء.)

The name had
origin from the
red colour of the
walls around
Alhambra.



Work on
Alhambra
began in 1238.

It was built on
the hill
Sabikah for
defensive
reasons.



The fortress stands on the site of the *Alcazaba*, a citadel built in 889 by the ziridi kings.



The royal palace was erected by king Yusuf and his son.

The Spanish king Ferdinand built the S. Francis convent, the only Christian presence in all the Alhambra.





In the XVIIth century the fortress fell into decay.

It was discovered again only one century later by Romantic travelers.



The World
Wealth Council
of UNESCO
stated the
Alhambra as
**Cultural
Heritage of
Humanity** on the
2nd of
November, 1984.

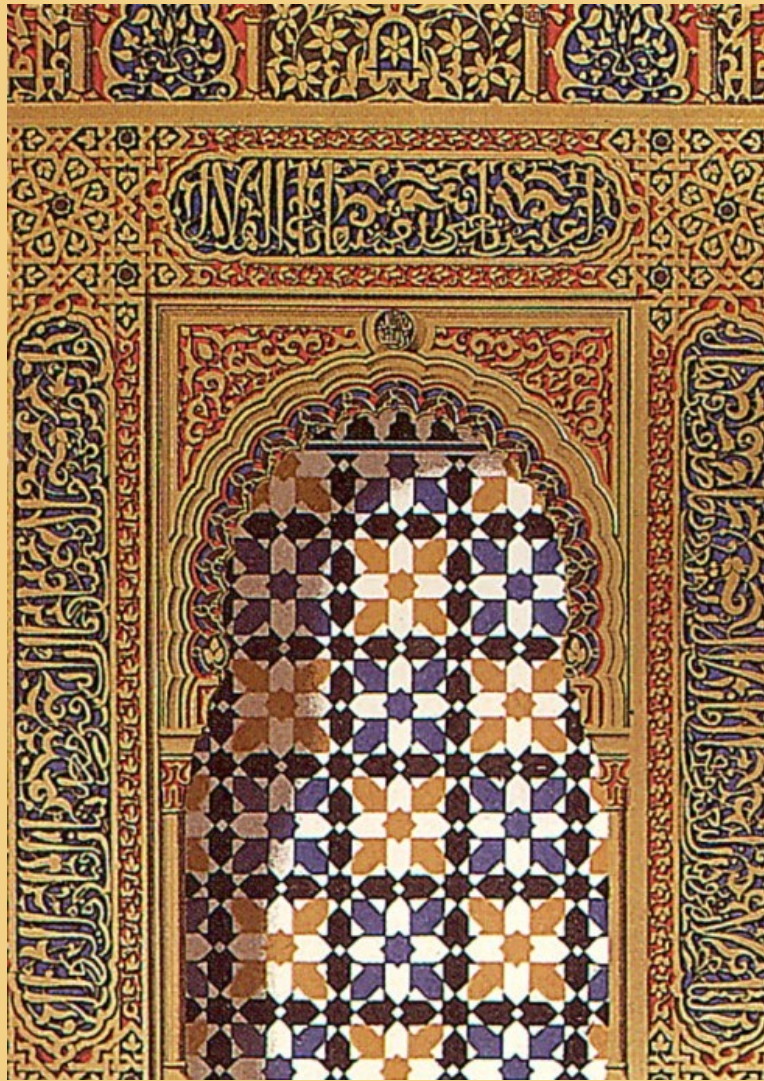
ARCHITECTONICAL AND DECORATIVE CHARACTERISTICS

الخصائص السلوكية وديكور

In all the Alhambra the light is predominant.

The decorations, different in every ambient, are not figurative.





The decorations are determined by chromatic variety, geometry and modularity typical of the mosques.



There is an alternation of stuccos, majolicas and arabesques that form an incredible richness of decorations.

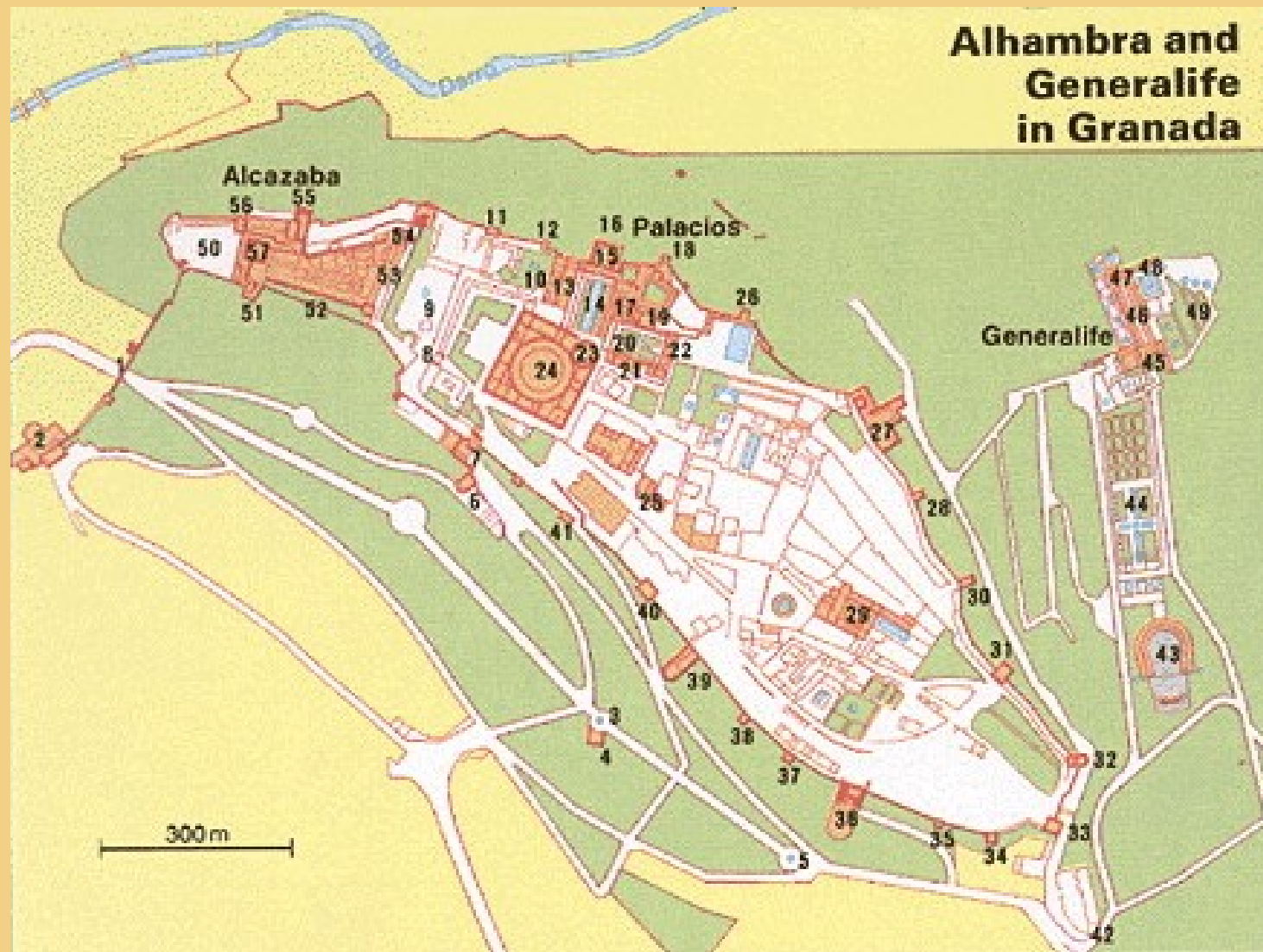
The ceiling decorations are typical of the islamic tradition.



VISIT TO ALHAMBRA

قصر الحمراء

Alhambra and Generalife in Granada



Let's get inside...



The main entrance of the Alhambra is the *Justice Door*.

In the middle there is the relief of a hand and a key, symbol of knowledge.

Alcazaba

Alcazaba was a fortified military complex, possibly stands on the remains of a Roman fortification.



Salón de Comares



A gallery of arcades is the hall of the throne room, called *Salón de Comares*.

The presence of water is a constant of the Alhambra.



Inside it, we can find the *Torre de Comares*.

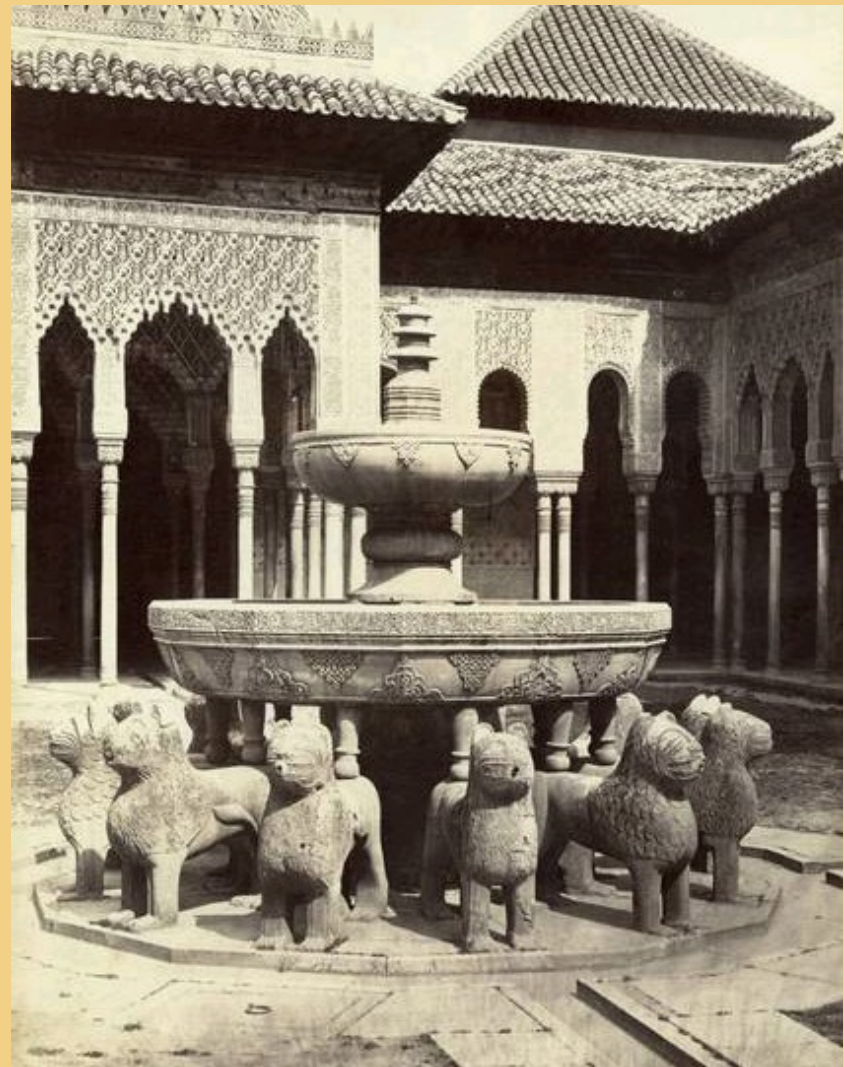
All around the tower there are 9 coloured glasses, called *cumarias*.



Palacio de los Leones

The internal court is surrounded by an arcade with 124 white marble columns.

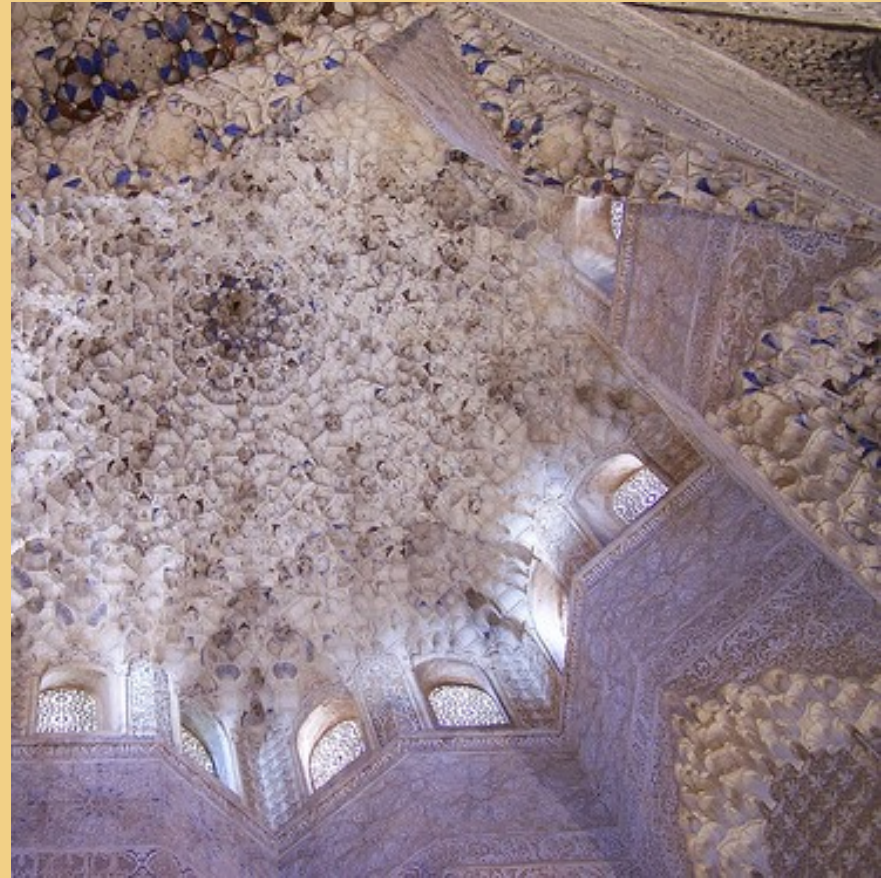
In front of this palace there is the *Fuente de los Leones*. The 12 lions represent the 12 tribes of Israel.



Sala de los Abencerrajes

It was the private room of the Sultan.

The light, from the cupole, change the color of the walls in every different moment of the day.

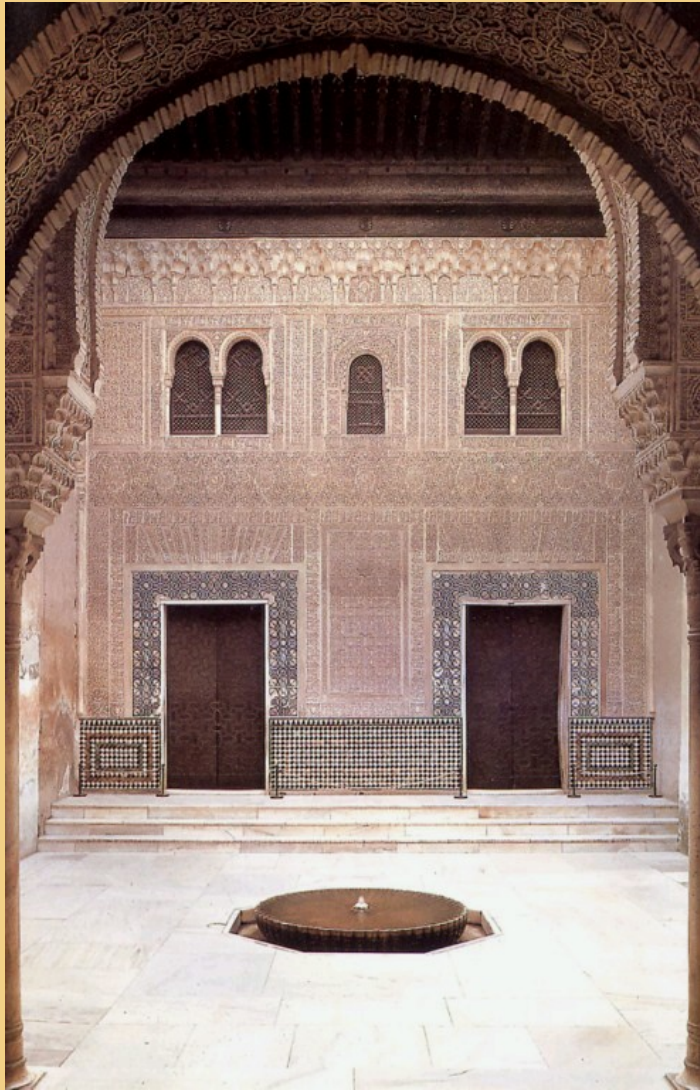




Sala de los Reyes

The Kings Room take is name from the paintings of the central vault, that represent the first 10 kings of the Nasrid dynasty.

Mexuar



The main entrance is a patio, with a fountain in the center, called *Cuarto Dorado*.

It is the most ancient room, used for the justice administration.

The room is decorated with gothic paintings and emblems of the Catholic kings.



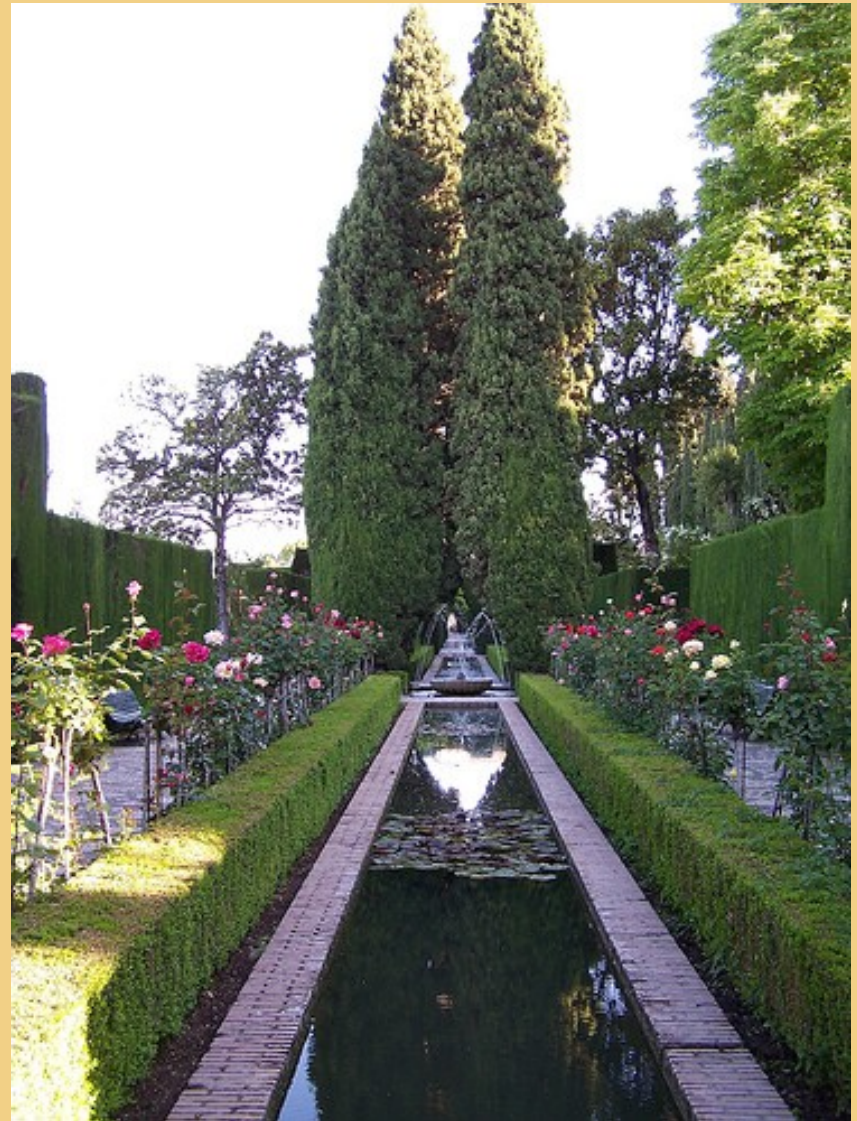
The Palace of Charles the 5th



It is one of the first Renaissance buildings created outside of Italy, and its architect, Pedro Machuca, was a student of **Michelangelo** in Rome. It was built in 1527.

Generalife

It is composed of a big garden and a charming villa: the summer palace of the Sultans.



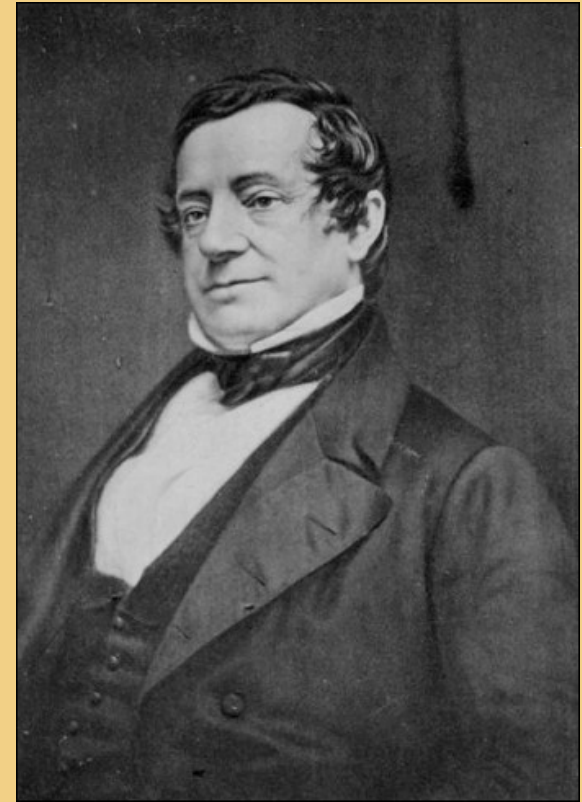
The Generalife keeps having the coranic function of the Paradise garden.





**LAST BUT NOT
LEAST...**

If you want to relive the atmosphere of Alhambra, we suggest you to read the book *Tales of the Alhambra* of **Irving Washington**, a collection novels about stories and legends of love and war, happening in this magic scenery.



THE END



الهدف



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Sources:

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www.google.it
www.legadoandalusi.es
www.vivagranada.com
Percorsi Modulari
D'Arte

Soundtrack:

Tribalistas "Ja sei namorar"
Shakira "Whenever"



“The Mediterranean Sea as a Meeting Point of Civilizations”

COMENIUS MULTILATERAL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT

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