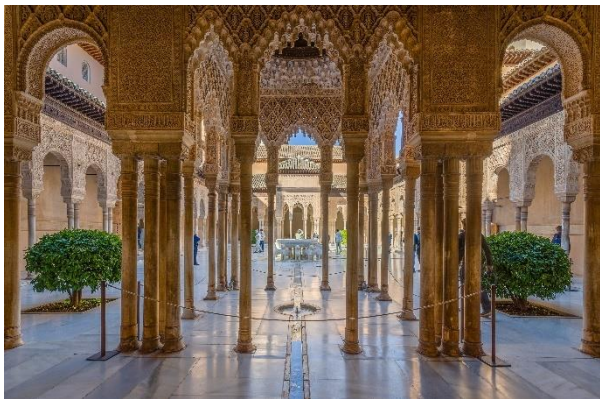




Landmark #18
Alhambra
Spain



The Alhambra is a fortress-palace located in **Granada, Andalusia, Spain**. It was originally built in **889 CE** on the remains of Roman fortifications, and then largely ignored until its ruins were renovated and rebuilt in the **mid-13th century** by Moorish emir **Mohammed ben Al-Ahmar** of the Emirate of Granada, who commissioned both its current palace and walls. It was later converted into a **royal palace** in 1333 by **Yusuf I, Sultan of Granada**. After the conclusion of the **Christian Reconquista** in **1492**, the site became the **Royal Court of Ferdinand and Isabella** and the palaces were partially refurbished to meet Renaissance tastes. Alhambra was the place where **Christopher Columbus** received royal endorsement for his expedition to the Indies. Later, though, the palace was allowed to fall into disrepair for centuries and the buildings were occupied by squatters until it was rediscovered after the defeat of Napoleon, who had conducted retaliatory destruction of the site. The re-discoverers were first **British intellectuals** and then other Northern-European **Romantic travelers**, who eventually made it into what is nowadays one of Spain's major tourist attractions.



Click on the Pictures for two **VIDEOS** on Alhambra