

ITINERARY OF CHARLES V

PRUDENCE
La Macarena

FORTITUDE
Church of Santa Marina

CLEMENCY
Church of San Marcos

PEACE
Church of Santa Catalina

**FAITH, HOPE
AND CHARITY**
Plaza del Salvador

JUSTICE
Church of San Isidoro

GLORY
Cathedral

**REAL
ALCÁZAR**

NO8DO

AYUNTAMIENTO DE SEVILLA



Charles I of Spain and V of Germany
King of Spain, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire



Ghent (Belgium), 24.II.1500 – Yuste (Cáceres), 21 September 1558



NO8DO
AYUNTAMIENTO DE SEVILLA

Sevilla
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ITINERARY OF CHARLES V



SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Son of Johanna the Mad and Philip the Handsome, and grandson of the Catholic Monarchs and Emperor Maximilian I of Austria. The death of his father in 1506 and the absence of his mother, Johanna, left the then prince, together with his sisters Leonor, Isabel and Maria, in the care of his aunt, Margaret of Austria, at her court in Mechelen.

Although he had Luis de Vaca as his Spanish tutor, he was educated mainly in the French-speaking cultural environment that prevailed at the court of Mechelen. From 1511 onwards, his education was placed under the direction of Adrian of Utrecht, then Dean of Leuven, later Cardinal and Pope; and very soon he would have William de Croy, Lord of Chièvres, at his side as an advisor. In 1515, the now Count of Flanders was emancipated, ending the guardianship of his aunt Margaret of Austria. A year later, the death of Ferdinand the Catholic opened up a future in Spain for him; as his mother Johanna was still alive, he was entitled to the title of governor of the Spanish kingdoms, to rule them on his mother's behalf, but the future Charles V decided otherwise: he wanted the Cortes of Castile and Aragon to proclaim him king.

WEDDING IN SEVILLE

Seville was the setting for one of the most important events in the emperor's personal life: his marriage to Princess Elizabeth of Portugal, which took place at the Alcázar on 11 March 1526. While visiting Granada, Charles V decided to marry Elizabeth of Portugal in the city of Seville.

When Charles V arrived in Spain, at his first meeting with the Castilian Cortes, they asked him to marry a Spanish princess, and the same request was made by the comuneros of the Holy Junta of Avila. This would encourage the Hispanicisation of the new monarch who, having been born and educated abroad, would appear as a stranger in the eyes of his new Spanish subjects. This aspiration of his vassals was fulfilled when, after lengthy negotiations, he arranged his marriage to Elizabeth, sister of John III of Portugal, who was then his brother-in-law as he was married to his younger sister Catalina.

When the papal dispensation arrived on 1 November 1525, as Elizabeth and Charles were first cousins –Elizabeth was the daughter of Maria, daughter of the Catholic Monarchs, and Manuel I the Fortunate of Portugal– and needed papal authori-

sation to marry, the betrothal ceremonies were held by proxy, which had to be repeated on 20 January 1526 due to the insufficiency of the dispensation that had arrived from Rome.

Ten days later, the now empress set off for Seville, as it had been agreed that the meeting would take place there.

The meeting with the city's representatives took place at the Puerta de la Macarena, where a triumphal arch has been erected, along with six others marking the way to the city centre. The crowd gathered as the procession passed, both in the street and on the balconies of the houses. And so, flanked by a large crowd, the empress made her way to the Alcázar, where she stayed.

No less solemn was the welcome the city gave the emperor when he arrived in Seville eight years later. He also entered through La Macarena and passed under the same triumphal arches until he reached the Cathedral; he dismounted at the Puerta del Perdón.

Seven triumphal arches were erected along the route taken on their entry, first the Infanta of Portugal and then the emperor. They were part of a programme that portrayed the image of the hero of the Renaissance, manifested in his virtues of government.



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