

# ESPANGLISH

*The Spanish Department's Fortnightly Newsletter*



Puente Romano de Córdoba, Cordoba, Spain

## ¡Bienvenida de vuelta!

Hi everyone and welcome to the Spanish newsletter!  
We can't believe we have already made it to half term  
so well done everybody!

This newsletter has been created for all those  
interested in the culture and languages of Spain and  
Latin America. Whether you're studying Spanish or not  
there is bound to be something for you in this  
newsletter. From cooking to music to stories to events.

If you have any suggestions or responses we would love  
to hear from you. Anything related to Spanish and the  
Latin American world is welcome just drop us an email  
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EspanGLISH is a biweekly newsletter so there aren't any  
deadlines. We look forward to hearing from you!

By Ruby Manhota, Maleeha Ahmad and Maya Brown

### IN THIS ISSUE

**PUENTE ROMANO DE  
CÓRDOBA**

**FESTIVAL OF THE WEEK:  
DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**

**TRAVEL: LA CIUDAD  
AMURALLADA**

**EL FUTBOL EN ESPANA**

**EXPRESIÓN DE LA  
SEMANA**

# Dia de los Muertos

Dia de los muertos translated to as the day of the dead is a national celebration of the dead in Mexico from the 31st of October to the 2nd of November.

*Día de los muertos traducido como el día de los muertos es una celebración nacional de los muertos en México desde el 31 de octubre hasta el 2 de noviembre.*

It originated several thousand years ago with the Aztec, Toltec, and other Nahua people from south america, who considered mourning the dead disrespectful. Catholicism, brought to the region by Spanish conquistadors also influenced some of the traditions.



This celebration recognizes death as a natural part of the human experience, a continuum with birth, childhood, and growing up to become a member of the community. On Dia de los Muertos, the dead are also a part of the community, awakened from their eternal sleep to share celebrations with their loved ones.

## How it is celebrated:

- Family setup ofrendas which are altars dedicated to loved ones. A Day of the Dead altar typically includes marigolds, candles, food and pictures of dead loved ones. People set them up in their homes and cemeteries. The marigold petals are believed to show the dead the way to their families.
- Calaveras (skulls) are used to show children not to fear death. The skulls are often drawn with a smile as to laugh at death itself. They take many forms such as sugar candies, clay decorations, and most memorable: face painting. Sugar skulls are decorated and placed on ofrendas of loved ones. A Calavera, or sugar skull, is a decorative skulls made (usually by hand) from either sugar (called Alfeñiques) or clay
- Pan de muerto is left at the ofrendas and it is a sweet bread traditionally made as an offering.
- Dressing up as skeletons is also part of the fun. People of all ages have their faces artfully painted to resemble skulls, and, mimicking the calavera Catrina, they wear suits and fancy dresses.

By Ruby Manhota



## Travel: La Ciudad Amurallada

The walled city of Cartagena “La Ciudad Amurallada” is a beautiful Spanish Colonial walled city with plenty of sights. Alongside el Castillo San Felipe de Barajas. It was declared a World Heritage Site in 1984 by UNESCO.

**La ciudad amurallada es una hermosa ciudad amurallada colonial española con un montón de lugares de interés. Junto al Castillo San Felipe de Barajas. Fue declarado Patrimonio de la Humanidad en 1984 por la UNESCO.**

The city was established over 400 years ago by invading Spaniards, who used treasures stolen from the graves of the natives whose land they had snatched to fund the building of a sparkling and prosperous port town. Having established a bustling town that mostly traded in grave robbing, Cartagena was granted the privilege of becoming South America’s only market for the trade of African slaves. Throughout the 1500’s-1700’s, the city was constantly under attack by pirates looking to get secondhand stolen goods. The people of the town were fed up with people stealing their stolen goods, and so the Spaniards decided to build a wall to keep the pirates at bay. Thus was born the famous wall surrounding the old city of Cartagena. Nowadays, there are many things to do in Cartagena, such as:



- Appreciate the perfectly preserved colonial architecture, blooming flowers hanging from bright pink balconies, and fairy-lit stone archways, this is, without doubt, the most beautiful neighbourhood in Cartagena.
- Try some of the world-class food. Each year more and more world-class chefs are flocking to the Walled City with bolder, more delicious menus. It’s rumoured that it’s even starting to overtake Colombia’s culinary capital, Bogota. If you’re a foodie, La Cevicheria, Carmen and Alma are must-tries while you’re here.
- Street food- With its beautiful Caribbean climate, tons of exotic fruits, such as papaya, maracuya, mangos and pineapple, grow in abundance here. So, when you see a lady selling fresh fruit salad cups, do yourself a favour and buy one. They’re delicious and super cheap.

- Pay for a picture with the palenqueras- In Cartagena's Walled City, you'll soon spot the palenqueras: black women in colourful dresses expertly balancing bowls of tropical fruit on their heads. With such beautiful smiles and colourful wear, they take a great photo. However, please bear in mind that these women, the majority very poor, make their living from posing for tourists and won't be best pleased if you try to sneak one of them. For a couple of pounds, you can help the local community and have your perfect photo—win-win!

**By Maya Brown**



## El Fútbol de España

*El fútbol es el deporte más popular en España. Aquí tenéis información sobre algunos equipos españoles.*

Football is the most popular sport in Spain. Here is some information about some Spanish teams.



The Spanish national team has been competing in international matches since 1920. It is one of eight national teams to have been crowned worldwide champions. Spain won the 2010 FIFA world cup, held in South Africa. They also won the Euro 2008 and Euro 2012, making them the only national team to win three consecutive titles. Because of this, they were the FIFA Team of the Year from 2008-2013. The team has two commonly used nicknames by fans: “La furia roja” (Red fury) and “Los toros” (Fighting Bulls). The team has two rivals: Italy and Portugal. Their rivalry with Italy is referred to as the Mediterranean derby. The most notable match between them was the UEFA Euro 2012 Final, which Spain won 4-0. Their

rivalry with Portugal is known as the Iberian War. They have competed against each other 36 times, resulting in 18 victories for Spain, 6 victories for Portugal and 12 draws.

**El Clásico** is the name given to any match between Real Madrid and Barcelona, who are fierce rivals. There are multiple reasons for why their rivalry is one of the largest in world football. Firstly, Madrid and Barcelona are the two largest cities in Spain. They also are the two football teams with the most followers on social media. However, the main reason behind their rivalry is because of political reasons. Real Madrid is seen as a representation of Spanish nationalism whilst Barcelona represents Catalan nationalism. Barcelona has become a symbol of Catalanism, which is why its motto is "Més que un club", meaning more than a club. During the Francoist dictatorship (from the 1940s to mid 1970s), Catalan identity and all other regional cultures were severely suppressed. This meant that Real Madrid was often favoured by the Francoist regime. Although the dictatorship is over, for many fans, hostility between the two teams still exists.



**Women's football** is a minor sport in Spain. However, recently its popularity has been on the rise, which has led to a greater economic investment supporting it. The first informal women's football competitions emerged in the 1970s and women's football became officially recognised by the Royal Spanish Football Federation in 1980, with the formation of the National Women's Football Committee. There are two national competitions, the League and the Copa de la Reina (Queen's Cup) The team has qualified twice for the Women's national football team.

**By Maleeha Ahmad**



## EXPRESIÓN DE LA SEMANA

This fortnight's proverb is "De músico, poeta y loco, todos tenemos un poco." literally means that we all have a little bit of musician, poet and crazy person in ourselves.

Nobody can always act rationally and we all have a bit of a crazy side within us. It's part of being human :-)

**siempre sé feliz!**