NHG TRIP TO LEON, ZAMORA & TORO MARCH 27 – 30TH 2017

We have chosen 3 Cities in Castilian Spain for our Spring trip. **Leon**, the last major City on the Camino de Santiago route and oozing history. **Zamora**, a charming town, often overlooked on the tourist trail but favoured by the Romans and **Toro**, where Ferdinand & Isabela secured their primacy in Christian Spain at the Battle of Toro in 1476 and now a big contender on the red wine scene.

Travelling by AVE high speed train to Madrid and then onwards by Coach

Day 1

Our exciting 3 night 4 day trip to Leon, Zamora and Toro will start in Nerja on Monday morning, leaving SuperSol Capistrano by coach to Malaga. At 10.55, we take the high speed AVE to Madrid, in comfort, relaxing while enjoying the scenery and perhaps a glass of wine or a G & T with a light lunch. Upon arrival at Atocha Station in Madrid, we will transfer to a coach owned by a Leon based company, which will transport us to Leon, with a comfort stop en route. We continue on to Leon where we will check in to the NH Hotel, Plaza Mayor for 3 nights on a B & B basis.

That evening, we will be collected by coach to go the magnificent Parador de San Marcos, for a guided visit, followed by a cava reception and then Dinner, after which we will be transported back to our hotel.

Day 2

After an excellent buffet breakfast and a cooked breakfast for those who so desire, our guide will collect us for a walking tour of Leon in English. We will visit the Cathedral with its stunning stained glass windows, the Gaudi House, the Palacio Guzman, the Roman walls and the Museum of San Isidoro with its surprise ceiling! This will last approx. 4 hours with a coffee break. We will then adjourn to a local restaurant for lunch.

There will be some suggestions given, of places you may wish to visit independently in the late afternoon, others of you may wish for a siesta or a walk to take in the local colour.

In the evening, I will be going to a to a local, famous tapas bar and you are welcome to come along too!

Day 3

After breakfast, we travel to Zamora by coach. Zamora is a charming town with many surprising monuments and 23 churches – fear not, we will not be seeing them all! Our guide will meet us for a visit in English, which will include the Romanesque Cathedral with its Flemish Tapestries, gardens of the Castle, the XVI Palace which is now a Parador, the Plaza Mayor and an Art Nouveau style Calle.

We will then have lunch (the restaurant is opening especially for us) and return to Leon by coach. The evening will be free for you to explore or relax with some local wine.

<u>Day 4</u>

After breakfast, we board the coach for the start of our homeward bound journey, calling first at Toro.

Toro is another charming little town with a pretty main street, interesting shops and at the top of the town, the magnificent Colegiata with amazing carvings and works of art. This area, well known for red wine, now has 61 local bodegas. We will have a visit to an historic bodega, followed by lunch and a chance to sample their wine! We will then make our way to Madrid by coach to catch the AVE high speed train departing at 18.30 for Malaga. We will be collected by coach in Malaga, for our return to Nerja. ETA Nerja 10.00 pm

The area of Leon can be cold and so I suggest layers of clothing, which can be added or taken off and also, a weatherproof jacket and comfortable boots or shoes.

The first evening at the Parador, is an opportunity to wear something a little more glamorous!

Please bring Passport or I.D. with you CHECK YOUR TRAVEL INSURANCE

Remember medication (if appropriate) and 'phone chargers!