

CERTIFICATE OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REGIONAL
MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE ANDALUSIAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ON THE LEGAL
PROTECTION OF THE FIESTA OF THE PATIOS IN CORDOVA AND ITS INCLUSION IN AN INVENTORY
OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

MS. MARGARITA SÁNCHEZ ROMERO, Director General of Cultural Heritage

HEREBY CERTIFIES

That the Fiesta of the Patios in Cordova is included in the inventory and enjoys the ensuing protection under two legal instruments as detailed below:

(i) The Intangible Heritage element, the Fiesta of the Patios in Cordova, and its inherent cultural space where the fiesta is celebrated, are protected by Law 14/2007, of 26 November, on the Historical Heritage of Andalusia (Ley de Patrimonio Histórico de Andalucía - LPHA), and registered in the General Catalogue of Andalusian Historical Heritage (Catálogo General del Patrimonio Histórico Andaluz – CGPHA), through protection of the Historic Quarter of the city of Cordova by virtue of Royal Order of July 26, 1929, published in the Official Regional Gazette of August 9, 1929, and updated by Decree 63/2003, declaring the Historical Quarter of Cordova Heritage of Cultural Interest. The latter regulation places special emphasis on the patios and the fiesta celebrated therein as the identity features of the Historic Quarter of Cordova.

Under both Andalusian and national Spanish legislation, "Heritage of Cultural Interest" (*Bienes de Interés Cultural* – BIC) is the maximum protection category for tangible or intangible property or elements, respectively. Both the initiation of proceedings for the declaration of an element as "Heritage of Cultural Interest" and its declaration and inscription in the General Catalogue guarantee the participation of the communities involved in the entire process. The General Catalogue of Andalusian Historical Heritage (CGPHA) is completed and updated on a regular basis.

The Andalusian Law is one of the most advanced in the protection of historical heritage sites in Spain, permitting full and joint protection of existing tangible and intangible heritage. Article 26.2 of Law on the Historical Heritage of Andalusia (LPHA) defines Historical Sites as "*groups of urban or rural buildings ... relevant for their historical, ..., ethnological, ..., social, ... interest*", while Article 27.2 provides that the protection of property, such as a historical site, includes "*movable property and activities of ethnological interest which, due to their intimate connection with the property in question, must be attached to same and treated as Heritage of Cultural Interest.*" In other words, pursuant to Andalusian regulations, intangible heritage can be protected together with tangible heritage and enjoy the same degree of legal protection, as in the case of the Historic Quarter of Cordova, the Patios and the Fiesta celebrated therein.

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(ii) The intangible cultural heritage element, the Fiesta of the Patios in Cordova and the inherent cultural space where the fiesta is celebrated, is included in the Intangible Heritage Atlas of Andalusia, a specific inventory of Andalusian intangible heritage for the registration, documentation, dissemination and safeguarding of Andalusian intangible heritage. The Intangible Heritage Atlas of Andalusia is structured into four large areas or categories: festive rituals, crafts and knowledge, forms of expression and gastronomy/cooking. Its territorial scope is the entire territory of the Autonomous Community of Andalusia.

The Intangible Heritage Atlas of Andalusia is prepared in collaboration with various institutions such as the Centre of Andalusian Studies or the Historical Heritage Research and Dissemination Service, and with the active participation, throughout the entire process, of different social groups such as Rural Development Groups, associations, craftsmen, guilds, among others, always attributing a central role to the communities involved.

The Intangible Heritage Atlas of Andalusia is completed and updated on a regular basis by the competent departments of the Andalusian Regional Government, with the participation of the communities involved.

In Seville on January 18, 2012.

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL
OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Signed by: Margarita Sánchez Romero

