

Cordoba

Andalusia · Spain

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Córdoba was the capital of Muslim Spain in the 10th century. Its old town still shows Roman, Islamic, Jewish and Christian layers side by side. The centre is small and flat, so two or three nights are enough to see the main sights.

The city suits history and architecture lovers, and slow walkers who like courtyards, squares and river views. Seneca, Averroes and Maimonides all have links to Córdoba.

When to visit

Spring and autumn are the best seasons, with warm days and cool evenings. Summers are very hot and dry, and days above 40 °C are common. Winters are mild.

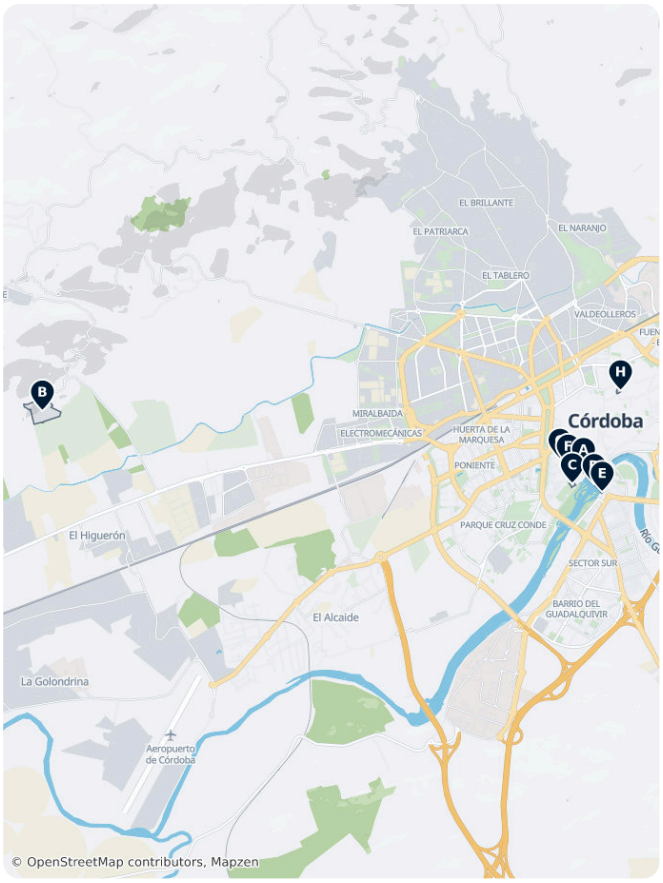
May is the busiest month. The courtyard festival (Los Patios) fills the first two weeks of May, when private patios open to visitors. The city fair follows later in May. Book a room well ahead for May.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Good Good for sightseeing	16° / 20° Feels like 12°	5° / 0°	Dry air
February	Good Good for sightseeing	18° / 23° Feels like 14°	6° / 0°	Dry air
March	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 27°	8° / 3°	Dry air
April	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 30°	10° / 6°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	28° / 35°	14° / 8°	21 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds
June	Fair Fair for sightseeing	34° / 41°	18° / 13°	25 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high) · Up to 13 days above 35°
July	Poor Poor for sightseeing	38° / 43°	21° / 17°	29 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high) · Up to 27 days above 35°
August	Poor Poor for sightseeing	38° / 43°	22° / 18°	28 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high) · Up to 27 days above 35°
September	Fair Fair for sightseeing	33° / 38°	19° / 14°	22 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · Up to 8 days above 35°
October	Great Great for sightseeing	27° / 34°	14° / 9°	Dry air · Calm winds
November	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 26°	9° / 3°	Dry air
December	Good Good for sightseeing	16° / 21° Feels like 13°	6° / 1°	Dry air

Best months: March, April, May, October, November

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- **A** Mosque–Cathedral of Cordoba is the city's main sight. Building began in 785 and the prayer hall grew over the next two centuries. A cathedral was built inside it in the 16th century. Free visits run Monday to Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30, but check the official site for changes.
- **B** Ruinas de Medina Azahara are the ruins of a palace city founded in 936 by *Abd al-Rahman III*. It was destroyed in a civil war in the early 11th century. It is a UNESCO site about 6 km west of the city.
- **C** Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos is a fortress that *Alfonso XI* began in 1328. It has gardens and Roman mosaics. The Catholic Monarchs used it as a base.
- **D** Roman Bridge of Córdoba crosses the Guadalquivir River beside the old town. It is a good place to walk at sunset.
- **E** Torre de la Calahorra - Museo Vivo de Al-Ándalus is a fortified gate at the far end of the bridge. It now holds a museum about Al-Andalus.
- **F** Judería de Córdoba is the old Jewish quarter, with narrow lanes and whitewashed walls.
- **G** La Sinagoga is a small synagogue built in 1315 in Mudéjar style. It is one of the few medieval synagogues left in Spain.
- **H** Palacio de los Marqueses de Viana is a 15th-century noble palace, now a museum, with twelve patios.

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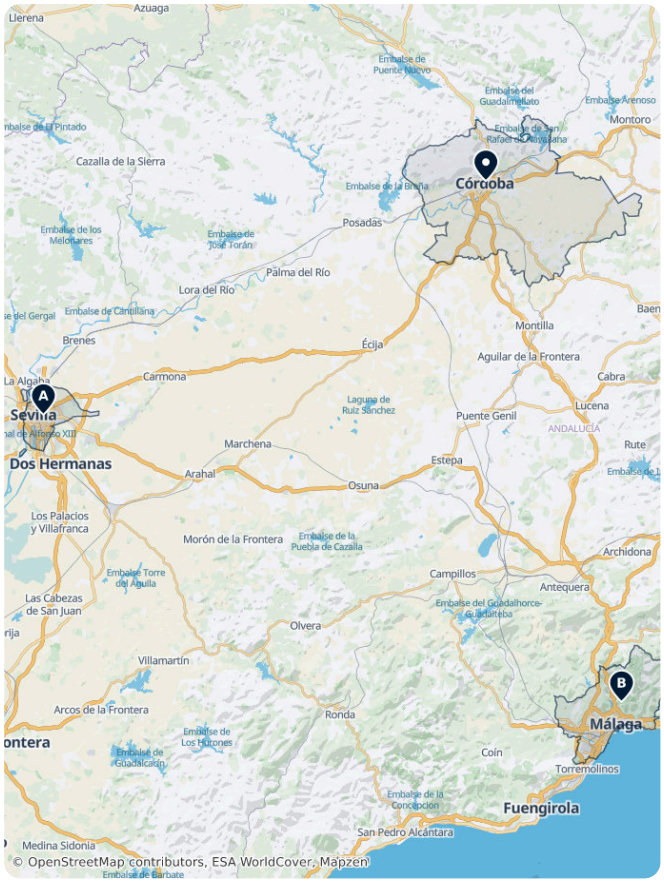
Day trips

Trains and cars both work for these trips. Closer places are in Córdoba province.

- Almodóvar del Río: a hill town with a large castle, close to Córdoba. The name means "the round one", after the hill.
- Montilla: about 50 km south. The centre of the Montilla-Moriles wine area. It is known for sweet Pedro Ximénez wines and sherry-style wines.
- Ⓐ Seville: about 45 minutes by high-speed train. Seville is the regional capital.
- Ⓑ Malaga: under 1 hour by high-speed train. A coastal city on the Mediterranean.
- Zuheros: 76 km south-east. A village with a castle built into the rock, near the Bats' Cave.
- Priego de Córdoba: about 100 km south-east. A town with many Baroque churches.



Where to explore

Combine Córdoba with these destinations in Andalusia:

- Seville and Malaga are both easy to reach by train.
- Granada is a larger city to the east.
- Carmona and Antequera are smaller towns for a slower trip.
- Baeza is a small historic town in Jaén province.
- Sierra de Córdoba are the hills just north of the city.

Getting there

- **By air**: Córdoba has a small airport about 6 km from the city, with limited, mostly seasonal flights. Most visitors fly to Seville or Málaga and continue by train.
- **By train**: Córdoba Central is the main station, about 1.5 km north-west of the Mosque–Cathedral. High-speed AVE trains run from Madrid in about 1 hour 45 minutes. AVE trains also run to Malaga in under an hour, and to Seville in about 45 minutes. Book on Renfe.

Getting around

- **On foot**: the old town and most sights are within a short walk of each other. Streets in the Judería are narrow and uneven.
- **Taxi**: useful for the station, hotels outside the centre and the trip to Medina Azahara.
- **Cycling**: possible along the river, but the old town lanes are better on foot.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town is compact and flat, and most sights are a short walk apart.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Cycling works along the river and in newer districts, but the old town lanes are narrow.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: not for the city. It helps only for villages and wine towns in the province.

Food & drink

Try salmorejo, a thick cold tomato soup topped with ham and egg. Flamenquín is another local dish: ham rolled in pork loin, then breaded and fried. Wines from the nearby Montilla-Moriles area are a local choice.

Good eating is spread through the old town. Look in the lanes around the Judería and the squares near the Mosque–Cathedral.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Churros · Churros con Chocolate
Fried dough sticks served with a thick, dark hot chocolate for dipping — a classic Spanish breakfast or late-night snack.

LUNCH

Paella Valenciana
A saffron-scented rice dish cooked in a wide, shallow pan. The traditional Valencian version uses chicken, rabbit, and green beans — best eaten at midday.

Gazpacho
A cold, blended soup of raw tomatoes, cucumber, pepper, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar, originally from Andalusia. Served as a drink or a starter, especially in summer.

DINNER

Pulpo a la Gallega
Boiled octopus sliced onto a wooden board and dressed with olive oil, coarse salt, and smoked paprika — a signature dish of Galicia.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Jamón Ibérico
Dry-cured ham from acorn-fed Iberian pigs, sliced paper-thin and eaten on its own or with bread. The finest grade, jamón ibérico de bellota, is one of Spain's most prized products.

Tortilla Española
A thick potato and egg omelette, served warm or at room temperature, found in virtually every bar in Spain. Often eaten as a tapa or a quick meal.

Patatas Bravas
Fried potato chunks served with a spicy tomato sauce or aioli — one of the most common tapas across the country.

Pintxos
Small snacks anchored to slices of bread with a toothpick, the Basque Country's answer to tapas. Found in bar counters across San Sebastián and Bilbao, often with elaborate toppings.

Croquetas
Crispy breaded cylinders with a creamy béchamel filling, typically made with jamón, bacalà (salt cod), or mushrooms.

DRINKS

Rioja Wine · Vino de Rioja

Spain's best-known wine region produces full-bodied reds from Tempranillo grapes, aged in oak. The crianza, reserva, and gran reserva labels indicate increasing age and complexity.

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Safety & health

Córdoba is generally safe for visitors. Take normal care with bags in crowded places.

Summer heat is the main risk. Visit sights early or late, carry water and rest in the afternoon. In an emergency, call 112.

History

Romans founded a settlement here in 169 BC, and Corduba became a Roman colony around 45 BC. Muslims took the city in 711 or 712. *Abd al-Rahman I* founded the emirate in 756 and ordered the mosque in 785. In 929 *Abd al-Rahman III* declared himself caliph. He founded Ruinas de Medina Azahara in 936.

King *Ferdinand III* entered the city on 29 June 1236, and the mosque became a cathedral. Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos was begun in 1328. La Sinagoga dates from 1315, when a Jewish community lived in the quarter around it. UNESCO listed the mosque in 1984 and the whole historic centre in 1994.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Spain at a glance:

CURRENCY

EUR €

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Spanish

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Córdoba Essentials

Córdoba's architectural landscape spans centuries, from the 1st-century BC Roman Bridge and ancient city walls to the 10th-century Umayyad palatial ruins of Medina Azahara. This collection highlights the city's Islamic heritage through the Calahorra Tower and traditional Hammam Al Andalus baths. Green spaces like the Royal Botanical Garden and the Agricultura Gardens provide tranquil retreats, while historical sites such as the Palace of la Merced and the Casa de las Cabezas museum showcase the city's transition through Roman, Moorish, and Christian eras.





A Roman Bridge

Ancient Roman stone arch bridge and viaduct featuring cobblestone pavement and Islamic architectural elements. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its historical and cultural significance as well as its role as a filming location.

Puente Romano, Córdoba 14009, Spain
(37.87658, -4.77786)

youtube.com/watch



B Calahorra Tower

The Calahorra tower is a fortified gate in the historic centre of Córdoba, Spain. The edifice is of Islamic origin.

Puente Romano, 14009 Córdoba (37.87558, -4.77653)

Oct-Apr Mo–Su	10:00–19:00
May-Sep Mo–Su	10:00–14:00, 16:30–20:30

torrecalahorra.com, +34 957 293929



C Palace of la Merced

The Palacio de la Merced is a historical building in Córdoba, Andalusia, southern Spain.

Plaza Colón, 15, 14001 Córdoba, Spain (37.89040, -4.78010)

+34 957201774



D Medina Azahara

Madinat al-Zahra or Medina Azahara was a fortified palace-city on the western outskirts of Córdoba in present-day Spain.

Carretera de Palma del Río, 14071 Córdoba (37.88601, -4.86742)

medinaazahara.org, +34 957 10 36 28



E Cordoba City Walls

The Roman Walls which once surrounded Córdoba, Spain, were built after the Romans captured the city in 206 BC, making it part of the Roman...

(Unnamed Road), 14009, Spain (37.86667, -4.76667)



F Agricultura Gardens

19th-century public park featuring a central pond inhabited by ducks, earning it the local nickname "Los Patos." It contains various monuments and diverse plant species.

(Unnamed Road), Córdoba 14011, Spain (37.88788, -4.78564)



G Belén Tower

The Torre de Belén is located in the San Basilio neighbourhood of Córdoba, Spain.

4 Plaza de Vista Alegre, Córdoba 14004, Spain
(37.87676, -4.78340)



H Hammam Al Andalus Banos Arabes

A great place where you can enjoy relaxation surrounded with history. An ancient Arab style bath will be a right choice after a busy day.

C/ Corregidor Luis de la Cerda 51, 14003 Cordoba, Spain
(37.87935, -4.77717)

Mo–Th	09:00–00:00
Fr–Sa	09:00–02:00
Su	09:00–24:00

hammamalandalus.com, +34 957 48 47 46



I Botanical Garden Cordoba

With a size of more than 5 ha, this well-kept garden offers you exotic as well as domestic plants of many species and a tranquil atmosphere.

Avenida de Linneo s/n, 14004 Cordoba, Spain
(37.86980, -4.78524)

jardinbotanicodecordoba.com, +34 957 200 077



J Cristóbal Colón con los Reyes Cristianos

Bronze monument located in the gardens of the Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos, depicting Christopher Columbus seeking support for his voyage from Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II.

(Unnamed Road), Córdoba 14004, Spain
(37.87510, -4.78310)

Casa de las Cabezas

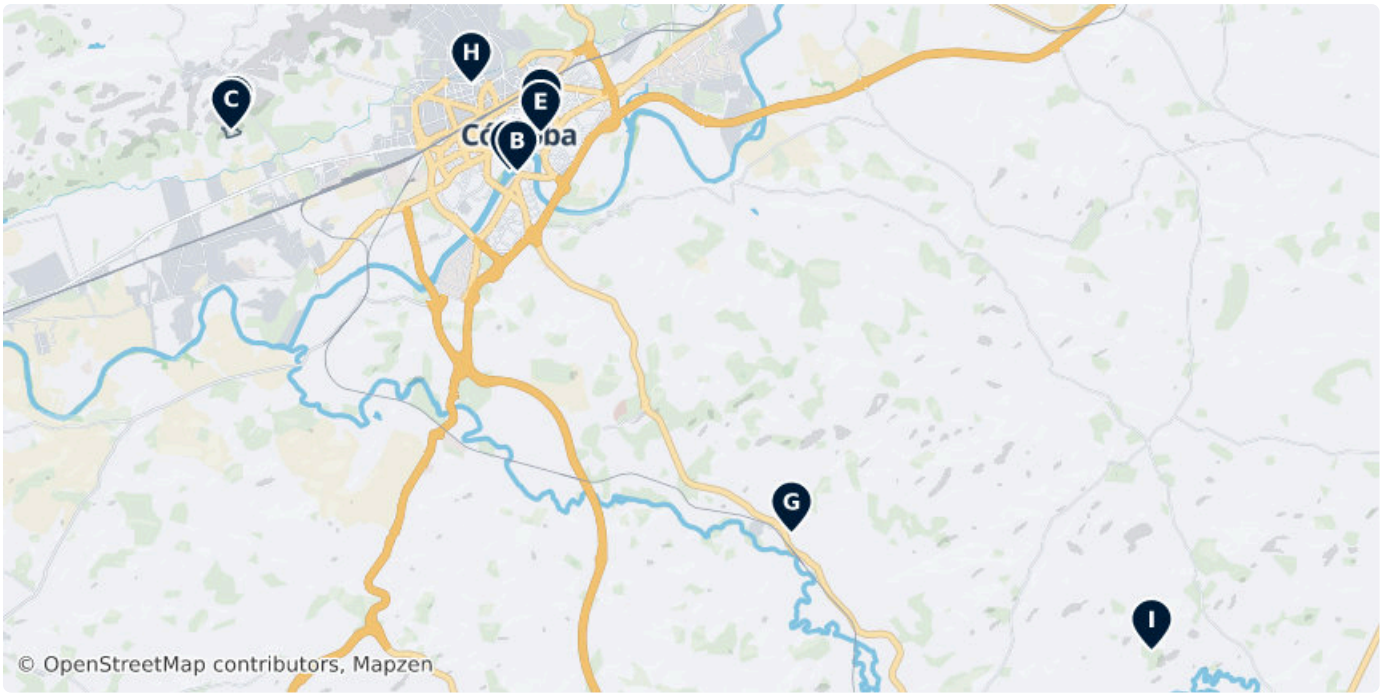
A restored house-museum showcasing medieval life in Córdoba. It features four courtyards and an underground Roman-era basement, and is tied to the local legend of the Seven Infantes of Lara.

(37.88044, -4.77694)

Mo–Su	10:00–20:00

Monuments & Heritage

Córdoba's architectural legacy spans two millennia, showcasing the intersection of Roman engineering, Islamic artistry, and Christian Gothic-Mudejar styles. This collection highlights the UNESCO-listed ruins of Medina Azahara, the fortified Calahorra Tower, and the Roman Bridge. It also features the 1st-century Valdepuentes aqueduct and the archaeological site of Ategua, alongside historic churches like San Lorenzo and Santa María Magdalena, which represent the city's medieval transformation following the Christian conquest.





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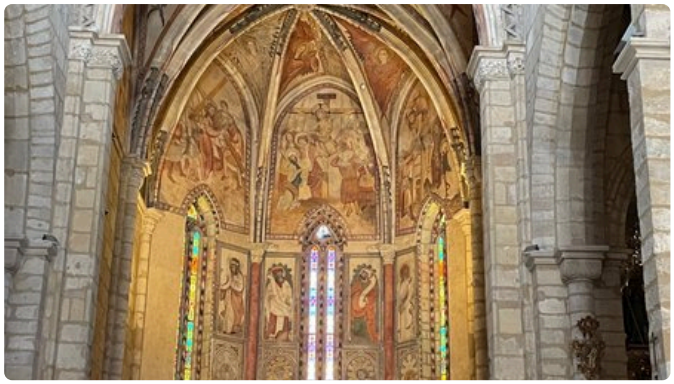
medinaazahara.org, +34 957 10 36 28



D San Lorenzo, Córdoba

San Lorenzo is a church in Córdoba, Andalusia, southern Spain. Situated in the historic centre, it was one of the twelve religious buildings...

28 Calle de la Escañuela, Córdoba 14002, Spain (37.88862, -4.76881)



E Santa María Magdalena, Córdoba

Santa María Magdalena is a church in Córdoba, Spain, built in the Mudejar style.

8 Plaza de la Magdalena, Córdoba 14002, Spain (37.88539, -4.76912)



F Molino de Pápalo

A historic water mill located along the Guadalquivir River, representing Córdoba's traditional hydraulic architecture.

Córdoba 14009, Spain (37.87580, -4.77892)

en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mills_of_the_Guadalquivir

G Castillo de Torres Cabrera

A medieval fortification featuring a prominent tower, originally built to defend the rural estates on the outskirts of the city.

14820, Spain (37.78497, -4.68933)

castillosnet.org/espana/informacion.php

H Acueducto de Valdepuentes

Also known as the Aqua Augusta, this 1st-century Roman aqueduct originally supplied water to the city and was later repurposed in the 10th century to serve Medina Azahara.

Calle de María la Judía, Córdoba 14011, Spain (37.89777, -4.79112)

I Ategua

A major archaeological site featuring Iberian and Roman fortifications, famous for its role during the Roman Civil War between Julius Caesar and the Pompeians.

14820, Spain (37.75542, -4.57489)

ategua.es/web/index.aspx

J El Gran Pórtico

The monumental eastern entrance to the palace-city of Medina Azahara, characterized by a series of grand horseshoe arches used for ceremonial purposes.

(Unnamed Road), 14005, Spain (37.88699, -4.86672)

Historic Religious Sites

Córdoba's religious landscape is defined by the Fernandine churches, a group of 13th-century structures commissioned by King Ferdinand III after the reconquest. This selection highlights architectural transitions from Romanesque and Gothic styles to the local Mudejar influence. Notable sites include the Basilica of San Pedro, which houses relics of local martyrs, and the Monastery of San Jerónimo de Valparaíso, a 15th-century complex built using materials from the nearby Medina Azahara. These sites showcase centuries of spiritual history through their ornate rose windows, fortified bell towers, and repurposed Islamic architectural elements.





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28 Calle de la Escañuela, Córdoba 14002, Spain
(37.88862, -4.76881)



B San Miguel, Córdoba

San Miguel is a Roman Catholic church in Córdoba, Andalusia, southern Spain.

1D Plaza de San Miguel, Córdoba 14002, Spain
(37.88593, -4.77941)



C Santa María Magdalena, Córdoba

Santa María Magdalena is a church in Córdoba, Spain, built in the Mudejar style.

8 Plaza de la Magdalena, Córdoba 14002, Spain
(37.88539, -4.76912)



D San Pedro

San Pedro is a minor basilica in Córdoba, Spain. The church is located in the square of the barrio bearing its name.

3 Plaza de San Pedro, Córdoba 14002, Spain
(37.88265, -4.77181)



E Convento de Santa Clara

Convento de Santa Clara is a defunct convent located on Calle del Rey Heredia in Córdoba, Andalusia, Spain.

(37.88054, -4.77809)



F Ermita de la Concepción

18th-century Baroque chapel located in the historic center, featuring traditional Andalusian architectural elements and a modest facade.

5 Calle de la Portería de Santa Clara, Córdoba 14003, Spain
(37.87975, -4.77779)

G Monasterio de San Jerónimo de Valparaíso

15th-century Gothic monastery situated opposite Medina Azahara. The complex was constructed using materials salvaged from the nearby Umayyad ruins and features a monumental cloister and late Gothic church.

14005, Spain (37.89442, -4.86760)

cordobapedia.wikanda.es/wiki/Real_Mo..., +34 958 22 52 26

H Convento de Capuchinas

17th-century convent complex housing a Baroque church and a collection of religious art. It was founded on the site of former palatial houses near the Roman temple.

3 Calle Obispo Fitero, Córdoba 14001, Spain
(37.88612, -4.77845)

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