First human remains were found in “La Cueva de Maltravieso”. However, Romans founded the colony Norba Caesarina in the 34 b. C., a city gate, “Arco del Cristo” has survived from that period.

In the XII century walls were built over the Roman foundations. Some defensive towers are preserved from that time like those of Bujaco, La Yerba and Horno. The Arabs and Christians entered into a period of fighting that lasted til April the 23rd, 1229. Cáceres was definitely reconquered by King Alfonso IX of León and consequently incorporated into the kingdom of León. From this moment on the constructions of palaces and ancestral houses started around two main squares: Santa María Sq. and San Mateo Sq. during the reign of the Catholic Monarchs, the years of greater splendour for Cáceres.
In Santa María Square we find the following buildings: the first one and probably the most important building is the Cathedral of Santa María, which is Gothic and Romanic style. Inside the church there is an exceptional main altarpiece with oak stalls. On the left of the Church we find the Palacio de Carvajal, which is now the Tourism area of Council of Cáceres. Opposite the church is the Palacio Episcopal, its oldest part dating from the XIII century and the most modern part from the XVII century. On the right is the Palacio de Mayoralgo which has a façade from 1537, and houses a Mudéjar courtyard; Casa de Hernando de Ovando; Palacio de la Diputación Provincial and the Palacio de los Golfines de Abajo, which has typical elements of a Gothic defense Mansion.

Next to it is San Jorge Square dedicated to the patron of the city, where the Convento de la Compañía de Jesús and the Church of San Francisco Javier are located, both in Baroque style.

In the high part of the old town, we see the Church of San Mateo built over an earlier Mosque. Also we may visit the Palacio de las Cigüeñas which is the only one which preserved its tower when the Catholic Monarchs ordered the demolition of the towers of noble houses; Palacio de las Veletas built in the XVI century and contains a Hispano-Arab cistern and it is presently occupied by the Cáceres Museum; El Convento de San Pablo in gothic style; La Casa del Sol; La Torre y Casa de los Sande from XIV century and the Palacio de los Golfines de Arriba. Not just Nobles lived in Cáceres, but a few minorities lived here too. We find evidence of this in the existence of the “Jewish Quarter” and also from Mudejars we find examples like La Casa Mudéjar from the XIV century.

From the XVIII century we find the last constructions inside the old quarter, in particular the reformation of the Arco de la Estrella by Manuel de Larra Churriguera. It is considered the most important gate of the city because it was the place where the Catholic Queen promulgated the laws of the city in 1477.

Outside the old quarter we may visit palaces and churches, like Santiago, Convento de Santa Clara and the Complejo Cultural San Francisco, which is built over an old Franciscan Monastery.

Set on a mountain top is the Sanctuary of “Nuestra Señora de la Montaña” patroness of Cáceres.
FESTIVALS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

The cultural and folk festivals in Cáceres bear witness to its friendly and hospitable people. Relax and enjoy to the most ancient parties or the most modern festivals, or go to the cinema, to a concert or simply go shopping.

- Romería de San Fabián y San Sebastián. 20th. January
- Parties of Candelas y San Blas. 2nd and 3rd February
- Holy Week “Party of International Turistic Interest” March-April.
- San Jorge. Patron of Cáceres. 23th April
- Bajada de la Virgen de la Montaña. April
- WOMAD Festival. May
- Feria de San Fernando. May
- Festival of Classic Theater of Cáceres. June
- Festival of Ancient Spanish Music. September
- Fair of Contemporan Art “Foro Sur”. October
- Medieval Market. November-December
LEISURE TIME

• CINEMA: The city has the Regional Film Archive of Extremadura, situated in the middle of the old town, in the Plaza San Jorge, where you can enjoy glorious cinema sessions. The city also offers Multicines Cáceres located at Virgen de Montaña Avenue featuring seven cinemas.

• SHOWS: There are two big sites: The Great Theatre and the Congress Palace, both with an extensive and varied program throughout the year.

• SHOPPING: Cáceres has many shopping centers and small shops around the city where you can buy a wide range of products with different prices for everyone, such as clothes, candy, accessories, mobile phones, gifts… a great offer to chose.
**MUSEUMS**

- **Municipal Museum** Ciudad de Cáceres.
  Plaza de Publio Hurtado, s/n y Adarve de Santa Ana, s/n – 927 226 889
- **Palacio de la Isla**
  Plaza de la Concepción, 2 – 927 260 015
- **Outside Museum of Sculpture “Parque del Príncipe”**
- **Interpretation Center “Torre de Bujaco”**
  Torre de Bujaco – 927 246 789
- **Touristic Center “Baluarte de los Pozos” in the Old Jewish Quarter**
  Barrio de San Antonio, 17 – 927 226 044
- **Promotion Center about Holy Week in Cáceres**
  Cuesta de la Compañía, s/n. 927 255 765
- **Complejo Cultural San Francisco. Exhibitions and Congreso Center**
  Ronda de San Francisco, s/n – 927 255 578
- **Museum of History & Culture “Casa Pedrilla” and Museum of Oswaldo Guayasamín**
  Ronda de San Francisco, s/n – 927 241 633
- **Museum of Cáceres - Palacio de las Veletas**
  Plaza de las Veletas – 927 010 877
- **Interpretation Center Cueva de Maltravieso**
  Av. de Cervantes, s/n. – 927 010 877
- **Roman Center Cáceres el Viejo**
  Ctra. de Cáceres a Torrejón el Rubio (Ex-390) Km. 2’5 – 927 006 988
- **Arab Museum Yusuf Al Burch**
  Cuesta del Marqués, 4 – 927 180 646
- **Museum into the Concatedral**
  Plaza de Santa María. Iglesia-Concatedral – 927 215 313
- **Museum Vostell**
  Paraje de Los Barruecos. Malpartida de Cáceres – 927 01 08 12
- **Visual Arts Center Helga de Alvear Foundation**
  Calle Pizarro, 8 – 927 626 414
- **Mercedes Calles y Carlos Ballesteros Foundation**
  Plaza de San Jorge, 2 – 927 223 611
GASTRONOMY

The cuisine in Cáceres has recipes from ancient romans, arabs and jews inhabitans of the old city, and now these recipes are used to create a brand new multicultural cuisine, adding to all this the Portuguese influence and the so called conventual cuisine.

In Cáceres, you can find right now the traditional cuisine and at the same time the most innovative recipes in its restaurants. In every borough of the city you can find restaurants, the tipical terraces and the taperias as well as the gourmets places, allowing the visitors to enjoy the best gastronomy in many different ways and with the tipical Spaniarnd tapa as its best.

HANDICRAFTS

In the whole province we find interesting handicrafts, which varies from one area to the next. In the north, people make wicker using chestnut tree fibre. Hervás specialises in hand made furniture, heather, ilex and ashes, with the cork make many decorative objets and to the presents, specially in the area of Valencia de Alcántara, Malpartida and Cáceres.
Here you can stay in a medieval Palace transformed into a hotel with all modern comfort. In Cáceres even your accommodation is an unforgettable experience.
Cáceres has the following remarks:

- Historical & Artistic Site by Real Orden in 1949
- Third Monumental Ensemble in Europe by the Council of Europe in 1968
- World Heritage City by UNESCO, November 26th. 1986
- Les Etoiles D’Or du Jumelage by the European Commission, December 5th. 1999
- ARCHIVAL by the Association for the Spanish Recuperation of Historical Centers, January 21st. 2004
- “Pomme D’Or for Merits in Tourism” by the International Federation of Journalists and Writers of Tourism in 1996
- Accesible Tourist Destination 2014 by ThyssenKrupp
- Spanish Capital of Gastronomy 2015

Also, Cáceres joins in tourist networks such as the ‘Group of World Heritage Cities of Spain’ and the Spanish Jewish Quarter Network ‘Paths of Sefarad’