

BEST OF SPAIN TOUR



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

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1300 168 910



Spain Escorted Tour

Duration: 14 days

Departs: 2023 & 2024

Stay: 13 nights first class hotels

Travel style: Escorted tour

Booking code: EBSG14M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

14 Days Best of Spain Escorted Tour

About the holiday

Delight in the wonders of Spain on an exciting tour that begins a deep appreciation of this alluring country!

Discover the astonishing art collections in the world's great museums and enjoy every chance to dine on the delicious local produce. Experience the Moorish influence in Granada and UNESCO World Heritage sites. Take to the streets of Seville and there's the option to feel the rhythmic vibe at a Flamenco show. Experience the unique beauty of Salamanca, Bilbao and Barcelona. All this and more awaits on an extraordinary escorted tour!

Why you'll love this tour...

- At the renowned Prado Museum view the astonishing collection of Spanish masterpieces
- Drive to Valencia with its groves of olives, almonds, lemons and oranges
- Visit the 13th century Alhambra in Granada
- In Cordoba, tour the impressive Mezquita de Cordoba, transformed into a soaring cathedral
- Tour the city of Seville with its many historical sites
- Explore the university town of Salamanca with its 12th century Old Cathedral
- Visit Bilbao's gleaming Guggenheim Museum, named the "most influential structure of its time"
- Explore Gaudi's colourful Park Guell in Barcelona
- Stand in awe at the iconic symbol of Barcelona - Gaudi's masterpiece, La Sagrada Familia
- Wine tasting in Penedes, internationally renowned for its fine wines

Travel dates:

2023 & 2024 - departs monthly from May to October*

**Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date.*

For current prices & travel dates call 1300 168 910 or email
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Escorted Tour Includes:

- 13 nights First Class accommodation
 - 2 nights Madrid
 - 1 night Valencia
 - 2 nights Granada
 - 2 nights Seville
 - 1 night Salamanca
 - 2 nights Bilbao
 - 3 nights Barcelona
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel portorage
- 20 meals: 13 breakfasts, 7 dinners with wine
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

Package excludes:

International flights from Australia - please contact us for the latest airfare deals

Airport transfers

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary

Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for guides, representatives & drivers

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

***Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators.
Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.***

Itinerary:

DAY 1, Monday - Arrive in Madrid

Welcome to Madrid, capital of Spain. Arrive and make your own way via taxi or shuttle to your hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure. Your tour begins with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 7 PM, followed by a light dinner at a local restaurant. We recommend that you select flights which arrive no later than 5 PM

Overnight: Madrid

Meals: Dinner

DAY 2, Tuesday - Lively Madrid

Today's tour of Madrid's impressive architecture begins at the Plaza de Cibeles with its striking buildings. Then, on to the world-renowned Prado Museum; stand before masterpieces by Velazquez, Goya, El Greco and others. The rest of the day is yours to explore on your own or, join the afternoon *optional* tour to Toledo. Take a walking tour among the most famous monuments. Visit the St. Tome Church with its El Greco masterpiece and Santa Maria la Blanca Synagogue with its beautiful Moorish architecture, the oldest synagogue in Europe still standing. Tonight, opt to explore Madrid's fabulous restaurants and non-stop nightlife

Optional: Half Day Toledo (PM)

Overnight: Madrid

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3, Wednesday - The "Garden City" of Valencia

Today, you head towards the Mediterranean coast and through the blossoming groves of olives, almonds, lemons and oranges to the "garden city" of Valencia, Spain's major port. This unique city is shaped by the vastness of the sea and the closeness of the coastal mountains. Hear the story of "El Cid," Spain's national hero who fought here against the Moors. Discover this treasure trove of Roman and Arabic architecture before continuing to the City Gates, City Hall, and Gothic cathedral. Stop by the huge City of Arts and Sciences, designed by contemporary artist Santiago Calatrava, with its extraordinary avant-garde architecture that includes impressive buildings such as the Hemisfèric and Oceanogràfic. The rest of the day is yours to discover the city independently. Tonight, dinner is at the hotel

Overnight: Valencia

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4, Thursday - Drive to Granada

Depart Valencia for Granada, a city sprawled at the foot of the Sierra Nevada. Upon arrival, check in to your hotel and spend the rest of the day at leisure

Overnight: Granada

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5, Friday - Moorish Influenced Alhambra

Today, your sightseeing of Moorish Granada is highlighted by a visit to the 13th century Alhambra*, one of Spain's most celebrated monuments, dramatically perched atop Assabica Hill overlooking the entire city. This imposing hilltop fortress, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the world's finest examples of Moorish art and architecture. During the reign of the Moors, the Alhambra served as the residence of the royal family. Walk along the lanes of the serene Generalife Gardens with its beautifully designed courtyards, waterfalls and ponds, and views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Continue to the Royal Chapel of Granada, a masterpiece of ornate Gothic style, known in Spain as Isabelline. View the tomb of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand made of pure white Carrara marble. Marvel at the magnificent collection of Flemish paintings, one of Queen Isabel's passions. Tonight, dinner is at a local restaurant

**Alhambra visiting times, which may include evening hours, and which areas of the complex are accessible on the day of your visit, are determined solely at the discretion of the Alhambra. Your itinerary will be arranged by your Tour Manager to accommodate the designated time of entry.*

Overnight: Granada

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6, Saturday - Mezquita de Cordoba, Seville in Andalucia

Cordoba, due to its strategic location, was once an important port city. Visit the astonishing Mezquita de Cordoba, one of the largest mosques in the world, transformed into a soaring cathedral in the 16th century. A walking tour of the city reveals the ancient Jewish Quarter with its labyrinth of winding narrow streets, shady flower filled courtyards, picturesque squares, and view of the 14th century Synagogue on Calle de los Judios. Afterwards, proceed to Seville, capital of Andalucia. This evening, participate in the *optional* Flamenco Show in this city known as the birthplace of Flamenco

Optional: Evening Flamenco Show

Overnight: Seville

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7, Sunday - Seville City Tour

The morning tour of Seville begins at beautiful Plaza de España and the fragrant gardens of Maria Luisa Park by the Guadalquivir River before visiting the quaint Barrio Santa Cruz with its narrow, winding streets. Continue with a visit to the Cathedral of Seville, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world and home to the burial site of Christopher Columbus. Built on the location of the former great Mosque, its original minaret, the Giralda Bell Tower, still stands. The afternoon is at leisure to explore Seville's shops, museums, and cafes, or join the *optional* Royal Alcazar of Seville tour that also includes a tapas lunch. After a delicious Andalusian tapas lunch in a local restaurant, explore the royal palace complex with its magnificent Mudejar architectural style. Tonight, savour dinner at a local restaurant

Optional: Royal Alcazar of Seville Tour with Tapas lunch (PM)

Overnight: Seville

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 8, Monday - Plasencia en Route to Salamanca

Depart Seville and travel north to the ancient city of Plasencia, that is located on the bank of the Jerte River. View the medieval city walls and the Old Quarter. Continue the drive to the lively university town of Salamanca; view the 12th century old cathedral, the Salina and Monterrey Palaces and the historic center of the city. Arrive at the Plaza Mayor, considered Spain's most beautiful central plaza, exceptionally memorable when illuminated at dusk. Dine together tonight in Salamanca

Overnight: Salamanca

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9, Tuesday - Stop in Burgos, Travel to Bilbao

This morning, travel north towards Bilbao. Stop in historic Burgos, with its famous French Gothic Cathedral of St. Mary, housing the tomb of El Cid. Then, continue to the extraordinary Basque city of Bilbao, home to the glittering Guggenheim Museum. Arrive in time for dinner at the hotel

Overnight: Bilbao

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10, Wednesday - Bilbao and the Guggenheim Museum

Today's sightseeing in culture-rich Bilbao begins in the heart of the Old Quarter, with its bustling market and pedestrianized streets that go back to the origins of the city. Continue to the gleaming Guggenheim Museum, named the "most influential structure of its time" when it opened in 1997. Designed by architect Frank Gehry, the inspirational design utilizes flowing canopies, ship shapes, towers and flying fins. This site, once an industrial wasteland, has re-energized the entire city and its diverse population. The interior of the museum houses an impressive collection of modern art with a cathedral-like atrium lit by enormous expanses of glass. Spend time at the museum, or consider the late afternoon *optional* tour to the historic fishing town and resort of San Sebastian; tour the charming Old Quarter and savor a typical Basque tapas dinner

Optional: San Sebastian Tour with Tapas Dinner (PM)

Overnight: Bilbao

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11, Thursday - Zaragoza en Route to Barcelona

Depart the Basque city of Bilbao and head to Barcelona. On the way, stop at the vibrant city of Zaragoza on the banks of the mighty Río Ebro. Then, continue to sensational Barcelona, Spain's second most important city with its unending choice of museums, galleries, and cafes.

Perhaps stroll along Las Ramblas, Barcelona's famous pedestrian walkway with its life-size animators, stalls and people watchers

Overnight: Barcelona

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12, Friday - Barcelona City Tour, Wine Tasting

Begin the day in this artistic city with a drive along the harbor to Plaza Catalunya, the city's bustling main square and Plaza de España home to the old bullfighting ring. Pass some of Gaudi's famous works, including the "skull and bones" Casa Batllo, on the way to visit Park Guell, one of the city's largest urban parks, another colourful and playful Gaudi creation. Continue on to view the iconic symbol of Barcelona, La Sagrada Familia, Gaudi's masterpiece; a colossal church that is legendary and still unfinished*. Ascend Montjuic Hill, home to the Olympic Complex, a number of sports facilities built for the 1992 Summer Olympics. Later, travel to nearby Penedes, one of the most exciting wine regions in Spain that produces many wine styles including traditional (sparkling) white and rosé Cava. Stop at one of the wine cellars for a tasting before returning to Barcelona. Tonight, join the rousing nightlife in this late night city

**Entrance to La Sagrada Familia is not included. Passengers can visit on their own and are advised to book tickets in advance.*

Overnight: Barcelona

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 13, Saturday - Full Day in Barcelona

A full day at leisure to explore Barcelona's countless museums and superb galleries or, choose to visit La Sagrada Familia independently. In the morning, join the *optional* guided tour to Montserrat that takes you on a drive past picturesque villages to Montserrat Mountain. On arrival, visit the Royal Basilica and view the world-famous 12th-century Romanesque sculpture of Virgen Moreneta. Tonight, bid adios to Spain and Tour Manager during dinner at a popular restaurant

Optional: Montserrat Tour (AM)

Overnight: Barcelona

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 14, Sunday - Depart Spain

Check out of your hotel this morning and make your own to the airport if you're flying out today.

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

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