Welcome to the start of your Spanish adventure! Your tour leader will meet you at our hotel during the afternoon. After everyone’s checked in, we’ll enjoy an included dinner where you can get to know your fellow travellers and learn a bit more from your tour leader about what incredible experiences the next 7 days will bring!

**Experiences**

**Madrid:** Join the tour in Madrid and, if you arrive early, explore the Spanish capital before meeting up with the tour in the evening for an included dinner.

**Included Meals**

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**End Point:**

**Start Point:**

- Hotel in Madrid, Central Train Station
- Elba Madrid Alcala

- Hotel in Madrid, Elba Madrid Aeropuerto

19:30 hrs (traffic dependent)

21:30 hrs (traffic dependent)
This morning we’ll depart Madrid and make our way to San Sebastian on Spain’s northern coast. Along the way we’ll enjoy a comfort stop in Segovia, a picturesque UNESCO World Heritage Site city which offers the highest concentration of Romanesque churches in Europe, as well as an incredibly well-preserved Roman aqueduct that runs into the heart of the city. Later this afternoon we’ll arrive in San Sebastian, a charming city with a beautiful beach and vibrant nightlife. A foodie’s paradise, San Sebastian is known for its Basque gastronomy, so this evening is best spent exploring the beachfront bars and indulging in pintxo, northern Spain’s version of tapas!

Experiences

**Segovia:** Explore the historic old town of Segovia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Highlights in the old town include the ancient Roman aqueduct, the Alcazar (royal palace) and Segovia Cathedral.

**Enjoy a night in San Sebastian:** Relax on the beach and then get to know the locals as you hit the bars for traditional pintxo!

### Included Meals

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### Accommodation

Ibis Irun

**DAY 3: San Sebastian - Pamplona - Zaragoza**

Our first stop today is Pamplona, the historic city made famous by “the running of the bulls” during the San Fermin festival. Packed with history, you’ll have some free time to explore the beautiful medieval city centre and see the city walls and citadel. We’ll then head to Zaragoza, enjoying a wine tasting along the way, before taking a walking tour of the city. The city has experienced a long and varied
history, with Roman, Moorish, Jewish and Christian communities leaving their marks over the centuries, as seen in the Basílica del Pilar cathedral, Aljafería Islamic palace and the Roman theatre.

**Experiences**

**Pamplona:** Explore the history of Pamplona, including the Baroque facade of the town hall in Plaza Consistorial, the Gothic church of San Saturnino and Cámara de Comptos (the oldest building in the city, dating from the 13th century).

**Wine region:** As we make our way from San Sebastian to Zaragoza, we’ll drive through popular wine growing regions of northern Spain, and enjoy a tasting of local Spanish wines. Typical Spanish grape varieties include Tempranillo, Garnacha, Albariño and Macabeo.

**Zaragoza:** Enjoy a walking tour of Zaragoza and experience the legacy of the many different cultures that have influenced the city's history. The city centre is compact and easy to walk around; perfect for an evening stroll.

**Included Meals**

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**Accommodation**

Ibis Zaragoza Centro

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**DAY 4: Andorra - Barcelona**

On our way to Barcelona we'll take a comfort stop in Andorra, a tiny independent principality with a population of just 85,000, located between France and Spain in the Pyrenees mountains. We'll enjoy some free time to explore Andorra la Vella, the highest capital city in Europe and a popular ski resort. Later this afternoon we'll arrive in the cosmopolitan capital of the Catalonia region, Barcelona. Your tour leader will acquaint you with the city's vibrant energy with a driving tour, so keep your eyes open for the famous Sagrada Família cathedral, and some of the spectacular examples of Antoni Gaudí's eclectic art and architecture.

**Experiences**

**Visit Andorra and Andorra la Vella:** This tiny, independent principality has a population of just 85,000 and is located in the southern peaks of the Pyrenees Mountains, between Spain and France. Explore Europe's highest capital city - Andorra la Vella - and enjoy free time in this beautiful city.

**Orientation tour of Barcelona:** In this city renowned for its art and architecture, you'll see incredible sights such as the fantastical Sagrada Família, which is unlike any building you will have ever seen, and other spectacular modernist landmarks designed by Antoni Gaudí. See Barcelona's top attractions and gain insight into this vibrant city on a driving tour led by your tour leader.

**Included Meals**

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**Accommodation**

Sant Cugat Hotel

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DAY 5: Barcelona: Free Day

Today is all yours to do with as you please! The best views of the city can be had from Park Guell, and you can take in the panoramic splendour and skyline of Barcelona. The park itself offers a very interesting design which is a product of Anton Gaudi’s challenging architectural visualisations. Barcelona is home to many of Gaudi's building designs and you could spend the whole day simply locating each one. One of his most famous works is that of the unfinished Sagrada Familia - an interpretation of a Gothic cathedral which is unlike any building you will have ever seen. You can't miss it from Park Guell, or most other vantage points in the city. Harbour tours, La Ramblas, the 'Old Town', museums, art galleries and some of Europe's best shopping - there is much to do in this incredible city. If you wish to participate in our optional excursion, we can organise tickets for you to see a traditional Flamenco show! The dance of passion is performed with style, flair and energy, and is a real experience not to be missed.

Optional Excursions

Flamenco show & dinner: € 75

* Stated prices and availability are subject to change.

DAY 6: Peniscola - Valencia

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*Stated prices and availability are subject to change.*
Leaving Barcelona behind we'll make our way south down the coast towards Valencia, stopping off along the way in Peniscola. With a historic old town, beautiful promenade and sandy beach overlooked by an imposing castle built by the Knights Templar, there are few more picturesque places in Europe to enjoy a lunch stop. Once we've arrived in Valencia we'll enjoy an orientation tour of this thriving port city, which retains plenty of historic charm despite the decades of development that have given it a distinct space-age feel. As our last night on tour, we'll round off the day with a farewell paella dinner this evening.

Experiences

**Peniscola:** Enjoy a lunch stop in picturesque Peniscola, a fortified seaport on a rocky headland with only a narrow strip of land connecting it to the mainland. The castle was built in the early 14th century and served as the home of the Avignon pope Benedict XIII from 1415 to 1423.

**Orientation tour of Valencia:** Experience the bold architecture (both contemporary and art nouveau) - see the City of Arts and Sciences complex, Colón Market, Turia Gardens and the Cathedral.

**Paella dinner:** Enjoy a fabulous dinner, featuring paella in the city where this classic dish is so revered.

### Included Meals

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### Accommodation

- Silken Puerta Valencia

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**DAY 7: Valencia - Madrid**

Our journey continues through the historic La Mancha region, made famous by the legend of Don Quixote. Later, we'll explore Castillo
de Belmonte, with entrance to this medieval castle included in your tour package. The interiors are dominated by spectacular stucco works in the Gothic and Moorish styles, and a beautiful Neo-Gothic courtyard. Later this afternoon we'll arrive back in Madrid for the end of the tour.

Experiences

Belmonte Castle: Visit Belmonte castle, with entrance included in your tour package. This beautifully restored medieval castle was built in the 15th century on the hill of San Cristobal.

Included Meals

Breakfast: ✔️ Lunch: ✗ Dinner: ✗