






Spain & Portugal Explorer

Tour Overview

 Start Point Madrid	 End Point Madrid	 Meals 14 Breakfasts 7 Dinners	 Transport Air-conditioned coach	 Tour Type Fully-guided tour
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Itinerary

Day 1: Start of tour in Madrid


 Dinner  Sercotel Madrid

Welcome to Madrid and the start of this exciting 15-day tour of Spain and Portugal! Arrive at the hotel this morning and meet your tour leader. The tour kicks off with a locally-guided tour of Madrid. Marvel at the Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor and Mercado de San Miguel. This evening, enjoy a delicious Spanish welcome dinner.

Included:

- ESX - Guided tour of Madrid
- ESX - Welcome dinner in Madrid

Day 2: Segovia - San Sebastian

 Breakfast  B&B Hotel Donostia San Sebastián Aeropuerto

Depart Madrid this morning and travel to Spain's northern coast. Along the way, stop off in Segovia, a picturesque city with a UNESCO-listed old town. Arrive in San Sebastian, a charming city with a beautiful beach and vibrant nightlife, in the late afternoon. San Sebastian is renowned for its culinary scene. Why not find a local spot for dinner?

Included:

- ESX - Explore the historic old town of Segovia
- ESX - Enjoy a night in San Sebastian

Day 3: Pamplona - Zaragoza

 Breakfast  B&B Hotel Zaragoza Centro

Visit Pamplona this morning. Famous for "the running of the bulls", Pamplona's top sights include its medieval city centre, city walls and citadel. After, enjoy a local wine tasting in the countryside before embarking on a locally-guided walking tour in Zaragoza. Zaragoza's diverse history can be seen in the architecture of the Basilica del Pilar and Roman theatre.

Included:

- ESX - Visit Pamplona
- ESX - Sample Spanish wines
- ESX - Enjoy a walking tour of Zaragoza

Day 4: Zaragoza - Alquezar - Barcelona



 Breakfast, Dinner  Sercotel Ciutat de Montcada

Hit the road to Barcelona! On the way, visit an olive oil press. Then, explore the enchanting medieval hilltop town of Alquezar which boasts a magnificent backdrop against the Pyrenees mountains. Arrive in Barcelona in the late afternoon. Explore the cosmopolitan capital of Catalonia on a driving tour. Check into the hotel and enjoy a group dinner tonight.

Included:

- ESX - Visit an olive oil press
- ESX - Explore Alquezar
- ESX - See Barcelona on a driving tour

Day 5: **Barcelona: Free Day**

 Breakfast  Sercotel Ciutat de Montcada

Today is free to explore Barcelona! A fantastic way to see the city is on the Highlights of Barcelona optional excursion. Explore Palau Güell, La Boqueria market, the Gothic Quarter and, of course, the magnificent Sagrada Família! Why not join the optional Flamenco show and dinner excursion tonight for a vibrant Spanish music and dance experience?

Optionals:

Highlights of Barcelona featuring the Sagrada Família

Barcelona Flamenco Show & Dinner

Day 6: **Peniscola - Valencia**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Silken Puerta Valencia

Leaving Barcelona behind, travel along the south coast towards Valencia. Stop for lunch in picturesque Peniscola. Arrive in Valencia and enjoy a guided tour. Discover Valencia's uniqueness in how it retains its historic charm despite a distinct space-age feel. Look forward to tasting paella tonight - one of the dishes Valencia is famous for!

Included:

ESX - Visit Peniscola

ESX - Embark on a guided tour of Valencia

ESX - Enjoy a traditional paella dinner in Valencia

Day 7: **Valencia - Belmonte Castle - Madrid**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Sercotel Madrid

Today, journey through the historic La Mancha region, made famous by the legend of Don Quixote. Next up, explore Castillo de Belmonte. Located on the hill of San Cristobal, tour the medieval castle and discover grandly furnished rooms and dungeons. Arrive in Madrid this afternoon. Enjoy an included dinner and meet new travellers who will join the group.

Included:

ESX - Visit the medieval Belmonte Castle

Day 8: **Toledo - Granada**

 Breakfast  Abades Nevada Palace

This morning, head to Toledo, an ancient, UNESCO-listed city. Fall in love with this charming medieval town before continuing south to Granada. Discover the city's Moorish history on an orientation tour. Tonight, taste local cuisine on the Granada Local Food & Wine Pairing. This unmissable culinary experience must be booked prior to the start of the tour - [click here to book!](#)

Included:

ESX - Visit Toledo

ESX - Discover the delights of Granada

Optionals:

Granada Local Food & Wine Pairing

Day 9: **Granada - Ronda - Seville**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Hotel Porcel Torneo

This morning, join our optional excursion to the awe-inspiring Alhambra Palace. As Granada's most iconic sight, the excursion must be pre-booked - [click here for more information](#). This afternoon, travel to Ronda and admire spectacular views from Puente Nuevo. Later, arrive in the enchanting city of Seville. Enjoy a driving tour, free time and dinner before checking into the hotel.

Included:

ESX - Admire the views from Puente Nuevo in Ronda

ESX - See Seville on a driving tour

ESX - Enjoy a local dinner in Seville

Optionals:

Alhambra Palace & Gardens

Day 10: **Seville**



Breakfast



Hotel Porcel Torneo

Start the day with a locally guided walking tour and soak up the culture, sights and sounds of Seville! Later, explore this beautiful city at your own pace. Seville is famous for its flamenco dance, tapas bars and orange trees. Tonight, opt-in to join the Flamenco dinner show excursion for vibrant Spanish culture and flavours!

Included:

ESX - Explore the streets of Seville on a guided tour

Optionals:

Seville Alcázar & Cathedral Tour

Seville Flamenco Show & Dinner

Day 11: **Algarve - Lisbon**

 Breakfast, Dinner  VIP Executive Art's Hotel

Cross the border and travel to Portugal! Visit the Algarve, the stunning southern coastal region of Portugal. Make a comfort stop at one of the region's beautiful beaches and enjoy impressive views, golden sand, and azure blue waters. Arrive in Lisbon and set out on an orientation tour of Portugal's colourful capital city.

Included:

ESX - Visit the Algarve

ESX - Enjoy a driving tour of Lisbon

Day 12: **Lisbon: Free Day**

 Breakfast  VIP Executive Art's Hotel

Lisbon is yours today. This morning, head to Sintra on the optional Colours of Sintra excursion and explore Pena Palace, a colourful hilltop palace in a UNESCO World Heritage Site village. This afternoon, join the optional Fátima Sanctuary & Coin Caves excursion and venture to Portugal's most celebrated religious pilgrimage site to explore the limestone Coin Caves and impressive Sanctuary.

Optionals:

Colours of Sintra: The Essence of Pena Palace

Fátima Sanctuary & Coin Caves

Day 13: **Obidos - Porto**

 Breakfast  Park Hotel Porto Gaia

Today's first stop is the picturesque, fortified town of Obidos. Later, arrive in Porto - Portugal's second largest city. See top sights including Ponte de Luis and the Clerigos Tower on a driving and walking tour. Enjoy a Port wine tasting this afternoon. Tonight, join the Evening on the Douro optional cruise along the Douro River followed by a delicious dinner.

Included:

ESX - Visit Obidos

ESX - Enjoy a driving and walking tour of Porto

ESX - Taste Port

Optionals:

An Evening on the Douro

Day 14: **Ciudad Rodrigo - Salamanca**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Zenit Hall 88 Studios

Wave goodbye to Portugal and travel back to Spain. Stop in Ciudad Rodrigo. Inhabited since the Neolithic period, this city is famous for its 12th-century city walls. Arrive in Salamanca later and embark on a locally-guided tour of this golden-hued university city. End the tour with some free time in the Plaza Mayor. Enjoy an included, three-course Salmantian farewell dinner.

Included:

ESX - Visit Ciudad Rodrigo

ESX - Explore Salamanca

ESX - Enjoy a farewell dinner in Salamanca

Day 15: **Avila - Madrid**

Breakfast

Depart Salamanca this morning and travel to Avila to enjoy free time. Nestled amongst rolling hills in Spain's countryside, Avila is notable for its many Romanesque and Gothic churches as well as its exceptionally well-preserved medieval walls. Finally, continue on to Madrid, where this incredible 15-day tour of Spain and Portugal concludes.

Included:

ESX - Visit Avila

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