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# **18 Day Spain and Portugal Highlights Tour**

Embark on an Iberian adventure as you take in medieval architecture, idyllic landscapes and delectable cuisine. First start to explore Barcelona, a city on the coast of northeastern Spain, the second most populous municipality of Spain. Continue to Madrid, the largest and the capital city of Spain. And then travel to Portugal to visit Porto, the second largest city in Portugal, Fatima, Center of the Christian Faith and World Pilgrimage Sanctuary and Lisbon, the capital city of Portugal and Europe's second oldest capital city. Return to Spain to discover the impressive tour of Cordoba's Mosque. Marvel at our city tour of the Andalusian Capital, Seville to see the Cathedral, the second largest in the Catholic world after St. Peters in Rome. Relax yourself in the exotic and expansive Alhambra Palace in Granada. On our fantastic tour, you will view Antonio Gaudí's architectural masterpieces, including La Sagrada Familia. Become part of an authentic "paella experience." Enjoy the fascinating art form that is Flamenco. Explore Spain and Portugal's culture and history set against a backdrop of sunny Mediterranean shores and grand mountain ranges.

# Day 01 (Thu): Australia – Dubai or Doha

Depart Australia on Emirates or Qatar Airways and fly overnight.

# Day 02 (Fri): Dubai or Doha - Barcelona

Connect your flight to Barcelona, Spain via Dubai or Doha. Upon arrival at the airport, you are transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.

Day 03 (Sat): Barcelona (B)



Breakfast at the hotel. Morning city tour of Barcelona. Drive along the main avenues with its impressive Gaudi modernist buildings such as La Pedrera and Casa Milá. The Montjuïc Park with spectacular views of the city and harbor, Olympic Ring, monument to Columbus and the Olympic Port. Visit the most important landmark in the city of Barcelona, Sagrada Familia. Admire Gaudi's masterwork by the hand of your

expert local guide. Afternoon at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 04 (Sun): Barcelona – Madrid (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the train station to take the high-speed train to Madrid. Arrival and transfer to your hotel. Accommodation.

#### Day 05 (Mon.): Madrid (B.D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Discover the beauties of the city with a guided city tour. Barrio de la Morería, the Hapsburgs District, Plaza Mayor and Plaza de la Villa; the Madrid of the Bourbons and the complex town planning schemes of Charles III, the Royal Palace, Cibeles and Neptuno Fountains and the Puerta de Alcalá. The contemporary Madrid with areas such as Gran Vía, Castellana, the district of Salamanca, as well as commercial and financial areas of Modern Madrid, and the Santiago Bernabéu Football Stadium. Afternoon at leisure to continue exploring the wonders that the city has to offer. Join your fellow travelers for an authentic Welcome Tapas Dinner. Accommodation at the hotel.

# Day 06 (Tue.): Madrid – Salamanca – Porto (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound for Portugal, we will drive towards Salamanca. Enjoy some free time in this University City and World Heritage Site of great architectural and artistic wealth. Continue to the Portuguese border to reach Porto. Located along the Douro River estuary in northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European towns, and proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 07 (Wed.): Porto (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided sightseeing tour of Porto. Admire the Cathedral, Stock Exchange building and Santa Clara church. Afterwards, enjoy a Douro River Cruise and discover famous Port Wine Cellars with a wine tasting experience included. Rest of day at leisure. Accommodation at the hotel.





**Day 08 (Thu.): Porto** – **Coimbra** – **Fatima (B)** After breakfast, we depart to Coimbra, one of the oldest universities in Europe and the birthplace of Fado. Free time. Continue to Fatima. Center of the Christian Faith and World Pilgrimage Sanctuary with its impressive Basilica and the Cova da Iria place where the Virgin Mary appeared, and the Chapel of the Apparitions, heart of the sanctuary, with the tombs of the three shepherds, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta. At night, possibility to attend the procession of the candles. Accommodation at the hotel.

# Day 09 (Fri.): Fatima – Batalha – Nazare – Alcobaca – Lisbon (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Batalha Monastery, a masterpiece of Gothic and Manueline style considered a World Heritage place by UNESCO. Continue to the picturesque fishing town of Nazaré. Free time and continue to Alcobaça (World Heritage) with its Gothic church and Cistercian monastery, whose origins date back to the XII C. We continue to Lisbon. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 10 (Sat.): Lisbon (B.D)

After breakfast, join a morning city sightseeing of the ancient Olissipo. Drive through its main squares and avenues, Belem Tower, Jeronimos Monastery, Monument to the Discoverers, Marquis of Pombal Square & Liberty Avenue. Afternoon at leisure for you to catch the nostalgic corners of Alfama Quarter, the old city gathered next to its Castle, with old buildings nested in narrow twisting "Ruas" full of color housing the genuine "tabernas". Join your fellow travelers and enjoy a typical Portuguese dinner visiting one of the oldest Fado venues in the city and located in one of the most interesting cultural neighborhoods in the area. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 11 (Sun.): Lisbon – Caceres – Cordoba (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound for Andalusian soils, back in Spain, we drive to Caceres, considered World Heritage site because of the city's blend of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic and Italian Renaissance architecture. Walk through its Plaza Mayor and the Old Town with its famous Medieval Quarter. We continue towards Cordoba, once the capital of the Caliphate. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 12 (Mon.): Cordoba – Seville (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Discover the impressive tour of Cordoba's Mosque (entrance included) and other sites that will ease our mind and spirit strolling through its narrow winding streets of the Jewish Quarter. In the afternoon, continue your journey towards Seville. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 13 (Tue.): Seville (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning city tour of the Andalusian Capital, Seville. Visit the Cathedral, the second largest in the Catholic world after St. Peters in Rome. Continue to Santa Cruz quarter, the natural scenario of Carmen as well as the myth of Don Juan; continue to Maria Luisa Park and Plaza de España. Afternoon is at leisure for you to enjoy the city of light. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 14 (Wed.): Seville – Ronda – Costa Del Sol (B)

After breakfast at the hotel, we will drive south passing through typical Andalusian villages to reach Ronda. Enjoy some free time to admire this town of Celtic origin and the marvelous view of the



valley and mountain range. We continue our journey with an authentic Olive Oil Experience at a local Almazara, LA Organic. Walk through their olive tree fields and taste their organic olive oil production. Bound for beautiful Spanish Mediterranean coast, we will continue to Costa del Sol. Accommodation at the hotel.

#### Day 15 (Thu.): Costa Del Sol – Granada (B.D)

Enjoy your daily breakfast at the hotel and depart to one of our favorite jewels in Spain, Granada. With its breathtaking monumental environment, we will visit the world-famous Alhambra complex (entrance included) and Generalife Gardens. After some time at leisure, join your fellow travelers to experience the most authentic Gypsy Flamenco show including dinner. Accommodation at the hotel.

## Day 16 (Fri.): Granada – Toledo – Madrid (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound for the impressive Imperial city of Toledo, World Heritage City, where the three cultures, Christians, Moorish and Jewish, have lived together for centuries. Enjoy a guided city tour of this historical old town through its narrow streets. Continue to Madrid. Accommodation at the hotel.

## Day 17 (Sat.): Madrid – Dubai or Doha (B)

Today you are transferred to airport for your flights home to Australia via Dubai or Doha. You will fly overnight.

#### Day 18 (Sun): Australia Arrival

You arrive home today. Your unforgettable European and Morocco tour ends.

Departure Date: 23 May 2024 Return Day: 09 Jun. 2024 Departure Date: 13 Jun. 2024 Return Date: 30 Jun. 2024 Departure Date: 08 Aug. 2024 Return Date: 25 Aug. 2024 Departure Date: 26 Sep. 2024 Return Date: 13 Oct. 2024 Departure Date: 10 Oct. 2024 Return Date: 27 Oct. 2024

Tour price:

May: \$7,980 per person, twin or double share September and October: \$8,280 per person, twin or double share June and August: \$8,580 per person, twin or double share

Single supplement: \$2,780 per person.

# **Inclusions:**

1. International economy class airfare to Barcelona and return from Madrid, Spain with airport tax and fuel surcharge on Emirates or Qatar Airways;

2. Fifteen-night accommodation at four-star hotels as indicated or similar on twin-shared basis as below;

3. Transfers and transport by luxury air-conditioned coach;

4. Guided visits in Barcelona (Sagrada Familia entrance included), Madrid, Porto (including Douro River Cruise and Port wine tasting), Lisbon, Cordoba (Mosque entrance included), Seville

(Cathedral entrance included), Granada (Alhambra entrance included) & Toledo as mentioned in the itinerary;

- 5. Daily breakfast;
- 6. Welcome Tapas Experience dinner in Madrid, Fado show and dinner in Lisbon, Olive Oil Tasting
- at Local Almazara, Flamenco experience with dinner in Granada;
- 7. English speaking Tour Director throughout the journey;
- 8. High-speed train ticket in Tourist Class Barcelona to Madrid.

## **Exclusions:**

- 1. Travel insurance;
- 2. ETIAS (the European Travel Information and Authorisation System) application;
- 3. Personal expenses;
- 4. Tip to guides and drivers (8 EUR per person, per day is suggested);
- 5. Any meals and services not mentioned in the itinerary.

# PS:

From 2024, Australians must get an ETIAS, a new entry requirement for Europe.

EU authorities are introducing the European Travel Information and Authorisation System to improve border management and security. As an Australian traveller, you need to apply online to visit the European Schengen Area.

# **Hotel Information:**

2 nights in Hesperia President or similar in Barcelona

3 nights in Riu Plaza Espana or similar in Madrid

2 nights in Bessa Hotel Boavista, Vila Gale Porto or similar in Porto

1 night in Santa Maria, Aurea, Regina, Estrela or similar in Fatima

2 nights in Lutecia, VIP Hotel or similar in Lisbon

1 night in Hesperia Cordoba or similar in Cordoba

2 nights in Melia Lebreros, Hesperia Sevilla or similar in Seville

1 night in Sol Principe, Sol Don Pablo, Sol Don Marco or similar in Costa del Sol

1 night in Catalonia Granada, Sabica or similar in Granada