



SPAIN

BEST OF SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND MOROCCO (TOUR CODE: 12396)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Madrid

TRAVEL PERIODS

02 Apr 2023 - 22 Oct 2023

EXPERIENCE

Escorted
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Escorted Group Tour

Fall in love with the medieval and exotic wonders of Madrid, Portugal, Andalusia, and Morocco on this exciting 21-day coach tour.

Highlights

- **Travel on a luxury coach** with a maximum occupancy of **24 passengers** and equipped with reclining seats, air conditioning, video service and music.
- Learn the most curious legends of **Madrid** while tasting the typical **tapas paired with local wines**
- Discover **wonderful beaches of the Costa del Sol** and surrounding areas
- Enjoy a **traditional Flamenco show** in a cave in Granada
- Explore the highlights of Marrakesh, Casablanca, Rabat, Meknes and Fez

Set foot in the historic centre of Madrid and then drive to Avila and Salamanca before crossing the Portuguese border to reach Porto. Embark on a scenic cruise on the glistening Douro river before departing for Fatima to discover the World Pilgrimage Sanctuary. You'll continue your quest exploring the culture of Lisbon, Caceres, and Cordoba before arriving in Seville, where you'll wander around its historic centre dominated by the colossal cathedral. You'll stop in Ronda on your way to Costa del Sol where you'll have some free time to discover its beaches and the surrounding areas.

From the coastal area, a ferry boat shall take you to Tangier, a Moroccan port on the Strait of Gibraltar. Your Moroccan visit includes Casablanca, Marrakech, Meknes and Fez. On your way back to Madrid, you'll stop in Granada to visit the world famous Alhambra complex and Generalife Gardens, and continue onto the Imperial city of Toledo to visit a famous "Damasquinado" (gold and silver inlaying in iron) factory.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights in Madrid at Hotel Princesa Plaza- 4* or similar
- 2 nights in Porto at Hotel AC Porto- 4* or similar
- 1 night in Fatima at Hotel Sao Jose- 4* or similar
- 2 nights in Lisbon at Hotel Roma- 4* or similar
- 1 night in Cordoba at Hotel Tryp Cordoba- 4* or similar
- 2 nights in Seville at Hotel Catalonia San Justa- 4* or simliar
- 4 nights in Costa del Sol at Hotel Sol Don Pablo- 4* or similar
- 1 night in Casablanca at Hotel Mogador Marina- 4* or similar
- 1 night in Marrakech at Hotel Mogador Kasbah- 4* or similar
- 2 nights in Fez at Hotel Menzeh Zalagh- 4* or simliar
- 1 night in Granada at Hotel Alixares- 4* or similar
- Transportation by luxury coach
- Arrival private transfer from Madrid Airport to Madrid
- Departure transfer from Granada to Granada Airport
- Daily breakfast
- Meal: 8 dinners
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Exclusive Port wine tasting
- Olive Oil Tasting at Local Almazara
- Monolingual tour escort in English
- Entrance tickets to Mosque in Cordoba, Cathedral in Seville, and Alhambra included

ITINERARY

Day 1 Madrid

Meet and greet at the airport and transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight in Madrid at **Hotel Princesa Plaza** or similar.



Day **2**

Madrid

After breakfast, enjoy your morning Madrid panoramic city tour: discover the medieval origins of the city, with its Arabic fortress at the **Barrio de la Morería**, famous for its historical buildings. Drive through the courtesan district of the **Hapsburgs** characterized by Phillip II and its Renaissance and Baroque style buildings, **Puerta del Sol**, **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**.

Admire the contemporary Madrid with areas such as **Gran Vía**, **Castellana**, the district of **Salamanca**, **Plaza Castilla**, and **Parque del Oeste**, as well as commercial and financial areas of Modern Madrid, the emblematic **Las Ventas Bullring** and the **Santiago Bernabéu Football Stadium**.

The afternoon is free for you to explore the other wonders of city has to offer and join your fellow travelers for an authentic Welcome Tapas Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Madrid at **Hotel Princesa Plaza** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **2**

Madrid, Salamanca, Porto

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart from Madrid to reach **Salamanca** and enjoy free time in this UNESCO World Heritage University City of great architectural and artistic wealth.

In the afternoon, depart to the Portuguese border and arrive in **Porto**. Located along the Douro River estuary in northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European towns and was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996.

Overnight stay in Porto at **Hotel AC Porto** or similar.

Breakfast

Madrid → Salamanca → Porto

PUENTE VIEJO, SALAMANCA

Porto

Breakfast at the hotel, then take part in a panoramic sightseeing tour of **Porto**, considered a World Heritage city. You will admire the **Cathedral**, the **Stock Exchange building**, and the **Santa Clara church**.

Afterward, enjoy a different perspective of the city with the Douro River Cruise and discover the local historical heritage by visiting one well-known Port Wine Cellar, with a wine tasting included. Rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight stay in Porto at **Hotel AC Porto** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 5 Porto Coimbra Fatima

After breakfast, departure to **Coimbra**, which hosts one of the oldest universities in Europe and represents the birthplace of *Fado*. Free time for lunch and then proceed to **Fatima**, the centre of the Christian Faith and World Pilgrimage Sanctuary with its impressive Basilica and the Cova da Iria place where the Virgin Mary appeared. Visit the Chapel of the Apparitions, the 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.

Overnight stay in Fatima at **Hotel Sao Jose** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 6 Fatima Batalha Nazare Alcobaca Lisbon

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 to relax and continue to **Alcobaca** (World Heritage Site) with its Gothic church and Cistercian monastery, whose origins date back to the XII C. The last stop for the day is in **Lisbon**.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at **Hotel Roma** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **7**

Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning sightseeing tour of the ancient **Olissipo**. Drive through its main squares and avenues, Belem Tower, Jeronimos Monastery, the Coach Museum, the Monument to the Discoverers, Marquis of Pombal Square, and 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 colour housing the genuine "tabernas" where Fado sounds as a missing past.

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.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at **Hotel Roma** or similar.

Breakfast



Lisbon Caceres Cordoba

After breakfast, depart to the **UNESCO World Heritage city of Caceres**, considered such important historical site thanks to its mix of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic, and Italian Renaissance architecture.

Walk through its Plaza Mayor and the Old Town with the famous Medieval Quarter. Then, continue to **Cordoba**, the former capital of the Caliphate.

Overnight stay in Cordoba at **Hotel Tryp Cordoba** or similar.

Breakfast



Cordoba Seville

Breakfast at the hotel. Impressive tour of the city's **Mosque** and its other famous sites. Ease your mind and spirit by strolling through the narrow winding streets of the Jewish Quarter.

In the afternoon, continue your journey towards Seville.

Overnight in Seville at **Hotel Catalonia Santa Justa** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 10 Seville

After breakfast, enjoy a morning panoramic city tour of the **Cathedral**, the second largest in the Catholic world after St. Peters in Rome, the **Santa Cruz quarter**, **María Luisa Park**, and **Plaza de España**.

Afternoon at leisure for you to discover the views and flavors of this wonderful city.

Overnight in Seville at **Hotel Catalonia Santa Justa** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 11 Seville Ronda Costa del Sol

After breakfast at the hotel, drive south and pass through typical villages. Reach **Ronda**; 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. Bond for the beautiful Spanish Mediterranean coast, we will continue to Costa del Sol.

Overnight stay in Costa del Sol at **Hotel Sol Don Pablo** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **12** Costa del Sol

Breakfast at the hotel. Day at leisure to enjoy the lovely beaches of the Costa del Sol and neighbouring places.

Overnight stay in Costa del Sol at **Hotel Sol Don Pablo** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **13** Costa del Sol Tarifa Casablanca

After breakfast at the hotel, drive along the picturesque tourist route of Costa del Sol and arrive at Tarifa, where a ferry boat will be used for the short crossing of the strait of Gibraltar towards Africa. Arrival to Tangier: disembark, clear customs, and drive southwards to Casablanca, the current industrial and economic capital and most populated city, housing 10% of

the country's population. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Casablanca in **Hotel Mogador Marina** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day 14 Casablanca Marrakech

After breakfast at the hotel, start your panoramic city tour through the most exciting sections of the city, such as **Anfa Boulevard**, **Nations square**, and the residential areas, and visit the outside of Hassan II **Grand Mosque**.

Departure towards **Marrakech**, the capital of the South, located within an extensive oasis between the Atlas Mountains and the pre-desert area. City sightseeing, including the **Koutoubia Tower**, the twin tower of the Giralda in Seville, Saadines Tombs, and Bay Palace. Walk through the medina, souks, and the magical **Jma El Fna Square**, which is packed with fortune tellers, snake tamers, acrobats, and dancers, transforming the city centre into an open-air theatre. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Have a delightful dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Marrakesh at **Hotel Mogador Kasbah** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **15** Marrakech Rabat Meknes Fez

After breakfast, head early for **Rabat**, Morocco's capital.

Visit the Royal Palace's exterior, the **Mohamed V Mausoleum**, and the **Hassan Tower**. Then go to the Imperial City of Meknes, where you will see the **Bab el Mansour Walls** and the **Mausoleum of Moulay Ismail**, Morocco's only mosque that allows non-Muslims.

After the excursion, arrive at **Fez**, the most monumental one of the Imperial Cities, its University of **Karaouyne** is the largest Islamic sanctuary in Morocco, ancient theological schools, and so on.

Have a delightful dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Fez at **Hotel Menzeh Zalagh** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner

Day **16** Fez

After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a morning city tour of the most ancient and monumental of the Imperial Cities, visiting the most interesting points: the 7 gates of the Royal Palace, the Jewish Quarters or Mellah, the gate of Bab Bou Jelous and a walking tour of the "Medina" (Old City), declared World Heritage Site. The afternoon is at leisure.

Have a delightful dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Fez at **Hotel Menzeh Zalagh** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **17** Fez Tangier Tarifa Costa del Sol

After breakfast at the hotel, departure to Tangier. Transfer to the pier to board the ferry to return across the strait of Gibraltar back to Spain. Drive towards Costa del Sol and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Costa del Sol at **Hotel Sol Don Pablo** or similar.

Breakfast

Day **18** Costa del Sol

After breakfast, the day is at leisure for you to enjoy the wonderful beaches of Costa del Sol and the surrounding areas.

Overnight stay in Costa del Sol at **Hotel Sol Don Pablo** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **19** Costa del Sol Granada

After breakfast, depart towards the city of **Granada** and its incredible monumental environment, the last stronghold of the Moorish Kingdoms up to 1492. Visit the world-famous **Alhambra complex** and Generalife Gardens that have inspired several authors with their sound and sights, such as the "Tales of the Alhambra" by W. Irving.

After some time at leisure, join your fellow travelers to experience the most authentic Gypsy Flamenco show including dinner.

Overnight in Granada at **Hotel Alixares** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **20** Granada Toledo Madrid

Breakfast at the hotel. Find the impressive Imperial city of **Toledo**, a World Heritage City, where the three cultures - Christians, Moorish and Jewish, have lived together. Representative of Spanish art, history, and spirituality, the whole town is a National Monument. Short guided tour of this historic old city through its narrow streets.

Then, continue your journey by returning to the capital of Spain, Madrid. Enjoy the Farewell Market experience dinner.

Overnight in Madrid at **Hotel Princesa Plaza** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **21** Madrid

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport.

Breakfast



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Spanish

LOCAL CURRENCY

Euro

- This tour might be a combination of different programs. Change in the tour escort and passengers may occur in-between the programs.
- Minimum group size 8, maximum group size 24 per vehicle.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package