



## GREECE

# THE GREEK ISLANDS, PORTUGAL & SPAIN EXPLORER JOURNEYS

(TOUR CODE: 12941)

### STARTS AND ENDS

Athens to  
Barcelona

### TRAVEL PERIODS

31 Mar 24 - 10 Nov 24

### EXPERIENCE

Cruising  
Escorted

### TRAVEL STYLE

Group Journeys

Embark on a captivating adventure across three countries, weaving through the beauty of Europe. Begin with a serene cruise across the Aegean Sea, and then, delve into the alluring charms of Spain and Portugal.

## Highlights

- **Guaranteed Departures.** Small group sizes (max 24 passengers). English speaking only tour with an experienced Tour Director.
- Cruise the Aegean Sea aboard **Celestial Olympia Cruise with Full Board included!**
- Embark on a **Douro River Cruise** and taste the **famous Porto wine!**
- Stop for a **wine tasting at Pinhao's centenary cellars** followed by a light lunch
- Admire the **Monastery of the Hieronymites & Belém Tower in Lisbon**, a UNESCO World Heritage site
- Experience the most heartfelt **Gypsy Flamenco show** in Spain!
- Explore the **Alhambra palace**, a must-see for every traveler!
- Marvel at the awe-inspiring city of **Barcelona**, home to world famous architect Gaudí and symbol of the Catalanian modernism

Immerse yourself in the rich history and captivating beauty of Athens, followed by a remarkable 4-night journey onboard the stunning Celestial Cruise.

Fly to Madrid and explore its bustling streets. Cruise along the majestic Douro River in Porto, known for its historic center and port wine. Visit Lisbon and its iconic landmarks like Belém Tower and Jerónimos Monastery. Admire the architectural marvel of Cordoba's Mosque-Cathedral and step back in time at Merida's well-preserved Roman Theatre.

Experience the vibrant ambiance of Seville, indulge in the beauty of the Alhambra in Granada, and witness the passionate artistry of a Gypsy

Flamenco show. Discover the UNESCO-listed city of Ubeda, where you'll savor the flavors of extra virgin olive oil during a tasting and light lunch. Explore the modern architecture of Valencia and soak in the Mediterranean vibes of Barcelona.



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

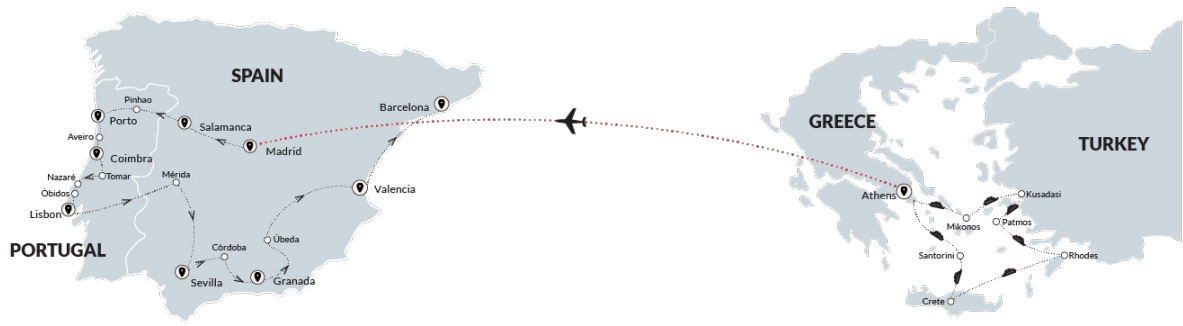
## INCLUSIONS

- 18-night accommodation in a 4-star hotel
- 4-night onboard the Celestial Cruise
- One way flight from Athens to Madrid
- Transportation by luxury coach
- Private transfers to/from airport as per itinerary
- Onboard the cruise: All meals (breakfast, lunch & dinner), glass of soft drinks, wine or beer during meals, tea-time, Midnight Snack, Entertainment and Activities on board
- Daily Breakfast at the Hotel
- Dinners as per itinerary
- Wine tasting at Pinhao's centenary cellars with lunch
- Rhodes Shore Excursion
- Cruise Aveiro's canals
- Guided visits in Athens, Granada, Ubeda with Olive oil tasting and light lunch, Valencia & Barcelona
- Guided visits in Madrid, Salamanca, Porto (including Douro River Cruise), Lisbon, Merida, Seville, Cordoba
- Entrance fees for Alhambra Palace, Cordoba Mosque, and Merida's Roman Theatre included.
- English-Speaking Only Tour Director throughout the journey

## ITINERARY

### Intro Map

The Greek Islands, Portugal & Spain Explorer Journeys



Day **1** Athens Airport Athens

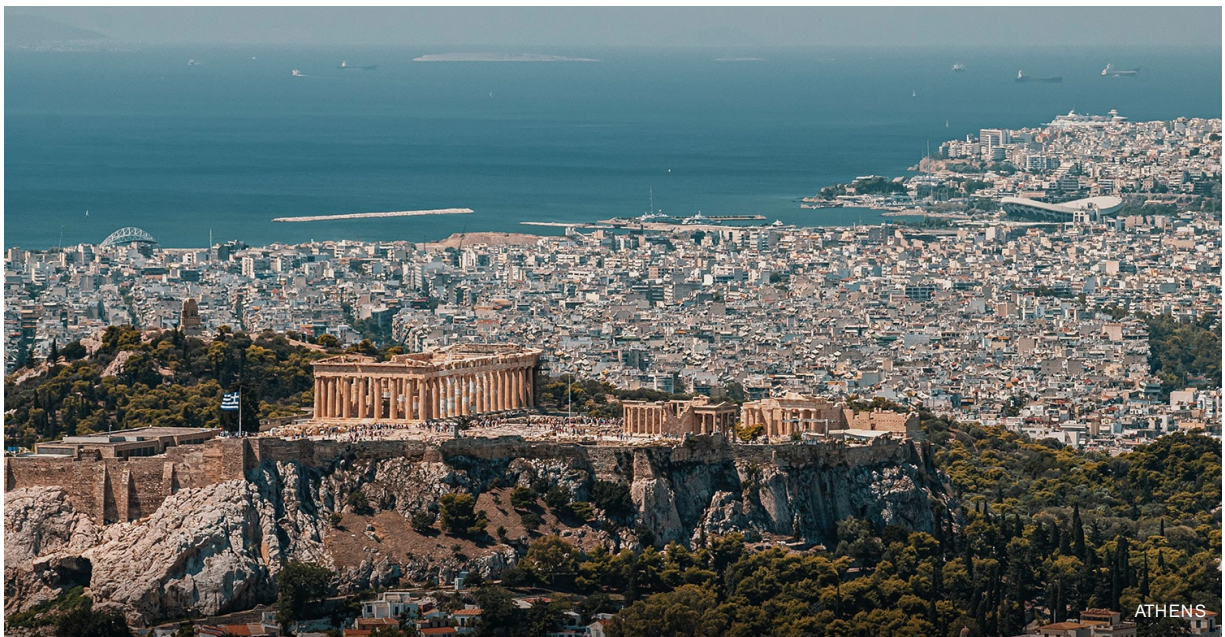
Meet & greet at the airport and take a private transfer to your hotel.

At 19:00, meet with your Tour Director (TD) at the hotel's Reception Desk for a welcome meeting. You will also meet your fellow travelers. Your TD will give you all the relevant details of the city and will inform you of the schedule for the following day.

The rest of the day is at leisure

Overnight stay in Athens at **Hotel Titania** or similar.

Dinner



Day **2** Athens Board your Cruise at Lavrion (Athens) Mikonos

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

All aboard the Celestial Olympia Cruise to discover the beauties of the Aegean Sea and its unique Mediterranean islands.

This breathtaking 4-night Iconic Aegean tour gives you an unforgettable feast of ancient history, authentic cuisine, Greek culture and stunning vistas. From the captivating capital of Athens, your voyage takes you through crystal-clear waters to discover an exciting blend of thrilling attractions, dramatic cliffs, rolling landscapes and all the romanticism of the Greek islands. Set yourself up in your exterior XB cabin, where you'll be staying for the next 4 nights.

Join your Tour Director and fellow travelers to discover the ship followed by your private welcome dinner.

Overnight stay onboard the **Celestial Olympia** in an Exterior Stateroom Cabin.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **3**

### Cruise: Kusadasi (Turkey) Patmos

Enjoy your full buffet breakfast on board the ship.

Day at leisure to enjoy your cruise and the Mediterranean scenery. Choose amongst the various shore excursions offered by Celestial cruises. Your Tour Director will help you organizing them.

Overnight stay onboard the **Celestial Olympia** in an Exterior Stateroom Cabin.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **4** Cruise: Rhodes Island

Enjoy your full buffet breakfast on board the ship.

Day at leisure to enjoy your cruise and the Mediterranean scenery. Choose amongst the various shore excursions offered by Celestial cruises. Your Tour Director will help you organizing them.

Overnight stay onboard the **Celestial Olympia** in an Exterior Stateroom Cabin.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **5** Cruise: Crete (Heraklion) Santorini

Enjoy your full buffet breakfast on board the ship.

Day at leisure to enjoy your cruise and the Mediterranean scenery. Choose amongst the various shore excursions offered by Celestial cruises. Your Tour Director will help you organizing them.

Overnight stay onboard the **Celestial Olympia** in an Exterior Stateroom Cabin.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **6**

## Cruise: Lavrio Port (Athens)

Enjoy your full buffet breakfast on board the ship.

Arrive at Lavrio, Athens' Port, at 0600 and commence disembarkation. Once at the port, your Tour Director will guide you to meet your Greek local guide to discover the city of Athens.

Drive through Panatenaico Stadium, where modern Olympics took over in 1896. Stop at Zeus Temple, father of all Gods. Continue to discover the main sites of Athens, such as the Parliament, Currency Museum, the Catholic Cathedral, Academia's neoclassic buildings, the University, the National Library and Adriano's Arc.

Continue to discover the highlight of the day, the Acropolis Archeological area. Propileos, Athena Nike's Temple, the original Erechthon's Temple, and Poseidon.

Check in at your hotel and rest of the day at leisure for you enjoy this historically stunning city of Athens.

Overnight stay in Athens at **Hotel Titania** or similar.

Breakfast



ACROPOLIS, ATHENS

Day **7**

## Athens

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Day at leisure for you enjoy the city. Optionally, you can have Delphi full day with lunch. (extra cost)

In the early evening, join your fellow travelers for a final Farewell dinner.

Overnight stay in Athens at **Hotel Titania** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



PLAKA, ATHENS

Day **8**

## Athens Madrid

Meet & greet at the airport and take a private transfer to your hotel.

At 19:00, meet with your Tour Director (TD) at the hotel's Reception Desk for a welcome meeting. You will also meet your fellow travelers.

The rest of the day is at leisure

Overnight stay in Madrid at the **Barcelo Torre Madrid Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 9

## Madrid

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

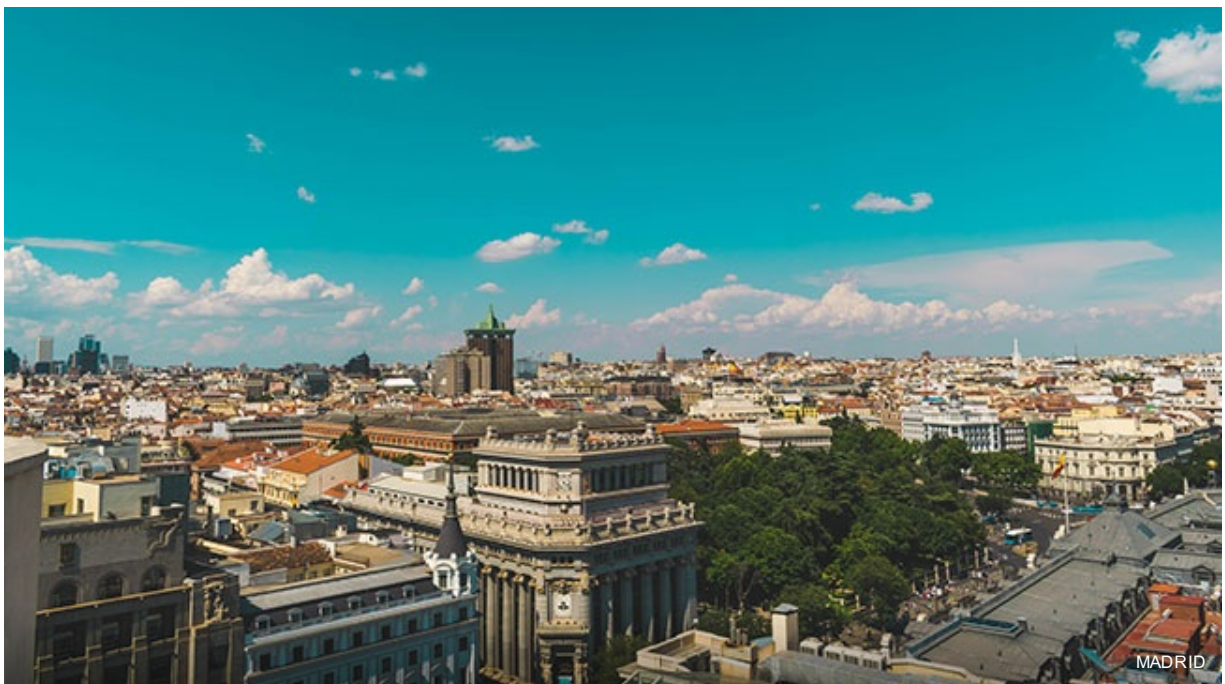
Set out for morning city discovery and enjoy one of the most exciting cities in the world, Madrid. See the highlights and live the passion this city has on its DNA.

Afternoon at leisure to continue exploring the wonders that the city has to offer. Optionally, take an excursion to Toledo.

In the early evening, join your fellow travelers for an authentic Welcome Tapas Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Madrid at the **Barcelo Torre Madrid Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner





Day **10** Madrid Salamanca

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Our Iberian exploration begins today. Bond for Portuguese soils, you will drive towards Salamanca. Enjoy a city tour this University City World Heritage of great architectural and artistic wealth

Overnight stay in Salamanca at the **Catalonia Salamca Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **11** Salamanca Pinhao Porto

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

We farewell Spain to discover Portuguese landscapes.

Our first stop will be at Pinhao, a beautiful little town on the Douro Riverbank and famous for their centenary cellars. Taste their wines while visiting their stunning vineyards. After the tasting experience, enjoy a local products-based lunch.

Continue to 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.

Overnight stay in Porto at the **Catalonia Porto Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



PLAZA MAYOR, SALAMANCA

## Day 12 Porto

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Feel the Douro River breeze while discovering Porto. Admire the Cathedral, Stock Exchange building and Santa Clara church. Afterwards, enjoy a Douro River Cruise.

Rest of day at leisure or optional tour to **Guimares**.

Overnight stay in Porto at the **Catalonia Porto Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



DOURO VALLEY VIEW, PORTO

## Day 13 Porto Aveiro Coimbra

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

We depart to **Aveiro**, known as "The Portuguese Venice". Enjoy a cruise on its beautiful canals aboard a traditional

Moliceiro boat. Enjoy time at leisure and explore the town, the old Beira Mar neighborhood and the Aveiro Fish Market.

Continue to **Coimbra**, one of the oldest universities in Europe and the birthplace of Fado. Time at leisure.

Overnight stay in Coimbra at the **Melia Aeminium Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



## Day 14 Coimbra Tomar Nazare Obidos Lisbon

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Today may seem long as you'll discover several small historical towns, but distances are short and sweet. Depart to the Tomar's Monastery, a Gothic and Manueline style masterpiece considered a World Heritage site by UNESCO. Continue to the picturesque fishing town of Nazaré. Enjoy time at leisure.

Continue to Obidos, beautiful example of Portuguese medieval walled town. Spend some time at leisure. Continue to Lisbon, Portuguese Capital.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at the **Sheraton Lisbon & Spa Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast

## Day 15 Lisbon

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Spread across seven hills and known for its decorative arts, **Lisbon** is one of Europe's most interesting capitals. 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 is 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".

In the early evening, join your fellow travelers and enjoy a typical Portuguese dinner visiting one of the oldest Fado venues in the city.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at the **Sheraton Lisbon & Spa Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **16** Lisbon Merida Seville

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel. We farewell Lisbon and Portugal while drive back to Spain.

Our first stop will be **Mérida**, capital of the ancient Lusitania roman Province. Mérida, the capital of Extremadura, in western Spain, was founded by the Romans in the 1st century BC. There are remains of the ancient city, such as the spectacular Roman Theater (entrance included). Enjoy some time at leisure.

Continue towards **Seville**, famous Andalusian capital, and the Spanish city of light. Optional evening experience at Setas de Sevilla.

Overnight stay in Seville at the **NH Collection Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **17** Seville

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Today you'll explore romantic Seville on a city tour. Visit the city's Jewish Quarter, with its labyrinth of narrow streets dating to the time of Moorish rule.

Afternoon is at leisure for you to enjoy the city of light. Optional tour to Jerez de la Frontera (extra cost).

Overnight stay in Seville at the **NH Collection Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **18** Seville Cordoba Granada

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Depart to **Cordoba**, a landmark of enormous heritage from a splendid past. You'll visit its impressive Mosque, now a Christian Cathedral, and its narrow Arabian-style streets. Bond for **Granada**, most magic city in Spain, driving through endless olive oil groves.

In the early evening, join your fellow travelers to experience the most authentic Gypsy Flamenco show in Spain, including dinner. An evening not to forget.

Overnight stay in Granada at the **Occidental Granada Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



CORDOBA

Day **19** Granada

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Today's highlight will be the visit to Alhambra Palace, most special Spanish World Heritage Site. The ornately decorated domes and archways are a testament to the brilliance of Moorish craftsmen. Located on a hilltop on the west bank of the River Darro, it also offers views across the entire city.

Rest of the day at leisure or optional tour for **Albaicin Moorish experience**.

Overnight stay in Granada at the **Occidental Granada Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



ALHAMBRA PALACE

Day **20** Granada Ubeda Valencia

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

We depart today towards **Ubeda**, UNESCO site and most likely, Spanish Olive Oil central. Enjoy a nice walk of this historical beautiful gem and taste their unique golden Extra Virgin Olive oil on a local taste, light lunch included.

Continue to **Valencia** famous for its the futuristic City of Arts and Sciences, a complex featuring stunning modern architecture.

Overnight stay in Valencia at the **AC Valencia Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



## Day 21 Valencia Barcelona

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Today you'll explore Valencia's old town and the exterior of the most avant-garde complex: Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias. Continue your journey in the early afternoon towards Catalunya. Reach Barcelona, main Mediterranean Spanish city and home to world famous architect Gaudí, symbol of the Catalanian modernism.

Overnight stay in Barcelona at the **Catalonia Barcelona Plaza** or similar.

Breakfast



CASA MILA BARCELONA

Day **22** Barcelona

Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Begin your day in **Barcelona** with a city discovery. See the Barcelona Pavilion, a study in minimalism built for the 1929 International Exposition. Then explore the Sagrada Família (entrance not included), a still-unfinished cathedral designed by Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí.

The afternoon is free to explore the city at your own pace.

In the early evening, join your fellow travelers for a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Barcelona at the **Catalonia Barcelona Plaza** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



SAGRADÀ FAMILIA

Day **23** Barcelona Barcelona Airport



Enjoy a full buffet breakfast at your hotel.

Take a private transfer to the airport.

END OF OUR SERVICES.

Breakfast

## ACCOMMODATION

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### Titania Hotel Athens

#### Athens

Titania Hotel is situated in the heart of Athens. Located in between Syntagma & Omonia squares, surrounded by the best of what Athens has to offer. The supreme location is the perfect home base for both business and leisure travellers. Within walking distance to the most emblematic places and easily connected with the rest of the city through public transportation. Metro stations Omonia and Panepistimio are right on our doorstep. This landmark hotel offers you a stay, as comfortable and convenient as it can be.



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### Celestial Olympia Cruise

Life onboard the Olympia is more than a cruise – it's an experience that invites you to indulge in our Hellenic heritage. Relax with a refreshing drink in the ambient lounges, indulge in sumptuous authentic cuisine or take advantage of our excellent onboard facilities, you will never be lost for something to do.

With ample facilities combined with distinctive Greek hospitality and personalized service, our friendly team aboard the Celestyal Olympia ensure your time with us is enjoyable, memorable and exciting.



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## Barceló Torre de Madrid

### Madrid

The ideal accommodation to discover Madrid in the most comfortable way. This signature design hotel is located in the Plaza de España, a stone's throw from Gran Vía, a 10-minute walk from the Royal Palace of Madrid and a 15-minute walk from Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor.

It has 258 fully equipped rooms, perfectly combining modernity and sophistication. Designed to guarantee the highest quality standards, these rooms have everything necessary to satisfy the most demanding guests, whether traveling for business or pleasure.

It has first-class facilities typical of a 5-star hotel. Among them, a sophisticated bar on the ground floor, meeting rooms for holding all kinds of events, restaurants where you can savor exquisite dishes and a Wellness area with a gym for those who wish to keep fit.

Endowed with a singular and exclusive character, the spectacular building where the hotel resides represents a symbol for the city not only because of its magnificent location, but also because for several years it was considered the tallest concrete building in the world.



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## Hotel Catalonia Plaza Mayor Salamanca

### Salamanca

In the historic center of Salamanca, next to the Plaza Mayor, is the privileged Catalonia Plaza Mayor Salamanca hotel with a rationalist style. Its unbeatable location allows you to discover all aspects of the city of Salamanca. In the hotel pool you can take a bath while you have a drink and sunbathe. Or if you prefer, you can practice a little sport in the gym.

The Catalonia Plaza Mayor hotel is next to the Plaza Mayor in Salamanca and only an 8-minute walk from the University of Salamanca, the

Cathedral and the Casa de las Conchas, whose ornamental motifs are symbols of the Order of Santiago.



## Hotel Catalonia Porto

### Porto

Visit Portugal's most charming city from the Catalonia Porto, set in a series of buildings protected for their historical value. You will be staying in the centre of Porto, next to Praça da Batalha and the San Ildefonso church in one of the most important commercial areas in town. Choose from our light-filled rooms decorated in pure Porto style with bright colours and the typical coloured tiles.

The Catalonia Porto hotel is ideal both for tourists traveling as a couple or as a family to get to know the city and its wide cultural offer, as well as for business travelers looking to combine their work commitments with the chance to explore vibrant Porto. The hotel is in a key location to visit all that you cannot miss, next to Praça da Batalha, presided over by the imposing Church of San Ildefonso.



## Hotel Meliá Aeminium

### Coimbra

In a very quiet residential area near the university hospital and centre of Coimbra, the hotel has a perfect location for exploring this beautiful city and region. Relax in extremely comfortable rooms. Try the varied buffet breakfast before setting out to enjoy the atmosphere and everything there is to see in what is known as the Portuguese "city of students".



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## Sheraton Lisbon Hotel & Spa

### Lisbon

Experience breathtaking views from the comfort of your room as you choose between our City and River view accommodations, immersing yourself in the stunning skylines that will leave you in awe.

Indulge in luxury and privacy with our suites featuring separate living rooms, providing the perfect space to unwind and entertain in style.



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## Hotel NH Collection Sevilla

### Seville

Formerly known as NH Central Convenciones, hotel has a privileged position in Seville's financial and business district. The historical area is a short walk away. And the public transport links are first-class so getting around the city couldn't be easier.

Like the rest of the hotel, rooms are contemporary and comfortable, with deluxe touches including rain showers and pillow menus.



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## Occidental Granada

### Granada

The Occidental Granada hotel (a member of the Barceló Hotel Group) is located in one of the best areas of the city, very close to Calle Recogidas, which connects the hotel with the center, and next to one of the stops of the new Granada metro. Both the Palace of Congresses and Exhibitions and the Science Park, one of Andalusia's cultural landmarks, are just a few steps away.

The Occidental Granada hotel is a place where you can feel the magic of Granada, enjoying both its privileged location and the services of a hotel that is a member of the Barceló Hotel Group.



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## AC Hotel by Marriott Valencia

### Valencia

AC Hotel Valencia is in the northern part of the city near the Oceanogràfic, the Museum of Arts and Sciences. It is a magnificent location to get to know in Valencia. The hotel rooms are redesigned for you to have an excellent experience with all the offered amenities. You can choose from 6 types of rooms according to your needs and preferences. This hotel offers the AC Lounge space, a recently renovated place, where it is possible to enjoy private areas to read, work and/or taste all kinds of dishes and drinks typical in Valencia. Our hotel in Valencia offers access to the Fitness Room, available to all guests. It has high-quality equipment for the best training. In addition, the AC Hotel Valencia has several rooms to hold meetings and events of all kinds, where the staff will take care of its organization.



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## Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza

### Barcelona

The Catalonia Barcelona Plaza hotel is located in Barcelona next to Plaza España and the facilities of the Fira de Barcelona and Montjuïc. With 347 rooms, an ideal place to stay on a business trip or a few days off. The panoramic terrace has a swimming pool and a large chill-out area with bar service and offers incomparable views of Plaza España and the Magic Fountains of Montjuïc, as well as most of the rooms. The Catalonia Barcelona Plaza hotel has 3 restaurants, an aesthetic and beauty center with treatments and massages, 13 meeting rooms equipped with the latest technology, free Wi-Fi, parking in the same building and excellent connections with all public transport.



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Greek

## LOCAL CURRENCY

Euro(€)

- No age limit
- All passengers must be able to independently board and alight the coach.
- When the group is made up of 12 or fewer passengers, the circuit will have no guide, but a knowledgeable expert driver.
- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.
- A minivan with driver/guide, normally not equipped with wifi, will be provided if the number of participants is equal to or less than 12.
- For organizational reasons, the itinerary may be reversed or modified without notice. In this case, our supplier ensures similar visits and excursions in accordance with the spirit of the tour program.
- Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

## Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fee
- Lisbon and Porto Local City Tax are not included, to be paid directly to the hotel
- 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 (Entrance tickets to sites and museums)

## IN PARTNERSHIP

