

Spain | Madrid & Barcelona



Highlights of this comprehensive itinerary include exploring the Royal Palace and Almudena Cathedral, an excursion out the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama to visit El Escorial, a tour of Bernabeu Stadium, and studying the works of Goya, Velázquez, Titian, Rubens, and Bosch at the Prado. Our hotel, at the heart of the city, is walking distance from the best flamenco, tapas, churros, paella, and jamón ibérico in Madrid.

From Madrid we travel to Barcelona, a city founded by the Romans over 2000 years and now one of richest and most cosmopolitan cities in Europe. Highlights include a harbor cruise, the medieval buildings of the Gothic Quarter, the remarkable works of Antonio Gaudi and the Modernista movement, and the renovations for the 1992 Olympic Games, most evident along the waterfront.

Day	City	Highlights
1	Airborne	Meet your Program Director at the airport for an overnight flight to Spain!
2	Madrid	Arrive in Madrid and navigate to the hotel using public transportation. Explore the city around Plaza Major and El Rastro, then tour the Palacio Real. Watch the sunset from Jardines de las Vistillas.
3	Madrid	Climb to the cupola of the Cathedral de la Almedena for a panoramic view of Madrid. Enjoy a professionally guided walking tour of the city, and then grab lunch at Mercado de San Miguel. Enjoy a late-afternoon visit to the Museo del Prado. Stroll to Parque de la Montaña along Gran Via to catch the sunset at Templo de Debod.
4	El Escorial	Travel to the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama to tour El Escorial, return to Madrid for a tour of Estadio Bernabeu and a visit to the Reina Sofia, then get ready for an evening of Flamenco!
5	Barcelona	AVE to Barcelona, navigate to the hotel, and enjoy lunch at Plaça Real. Explore La Rambla, finding the Modernista Dragon and Mosaic at Plaça de la Boquera, shopping at Mercat de Sant Josep, tasting the water at Font de Canaletes and then relaxing at the foot of the Columbus Monument before a Catamaran Harbor Cruise.
6	Barcelona	Explore Barri Gòtic, visiting the Cathedral and Casa de la Ciutat. Visit Palau de la Música Catalana. Lunch. Explore the Quadrat d'Or, finding Gaudi's Casa Milà and visiting Casa Batlló. Late afternoon and evening exploring Gaudi's Park Güell. Dinner back in the Old Town.
7	Barcelona	Visit Sagrada Familia. Walk through Parc de la Ciutadella, finding the Hivernacle and Arc del Triomphe. Lunch and shopping on Port Vell Marina. Explore Born Neighborhood, visiting Museo Picasso and Basílica de Santa Maria del Mar. Late afternoon and evening in Port Olímpic.
8	Airborne	Flight Home



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