

INSIGHT VACATIONS

Best of Spain & Portugal end Barcelona





KEY

- 1 Central Hotels + Nights
- ① Scenic Hotels + Nights
- Place Visited
- Optional Place Visited
- Trip Option
- Cruise
- Train
- Join/Leave Options
- Included Flights
- UNESCO Heritage Site

Day 1 | Welcome to Madrid



Join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for dinner in a local restaurant and enjoy an evening of typical madrileño flavours.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: The Westin Madrid Cuzco/Barcelo Emperatriz

Day 2 | Madrid of the Bourbons



Guided by your Local Expert, visit the Spanish capital's most historic neighbourhoods. Your drive continues through the Old Quarter, discovering the origins of the city. Enjoy a special visit to the renowned Prado Museum with an art historian who will guide you through the collective works of Velázquez, Goya, Titian, Rubens and more.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Westin Madrid Cuzco/Barcelo Emperatriz

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Toledo Excursion - A specialist guide takes you to the unique city of Toledo, Spain's capital during the golden era, and where El Greco lived and worked. Walk through the narrow cobble streets to visit the fine Gothic cathedral and admire the old city views along the Tagus gorge. Visit a specialist workshop where artisans create authentic Damascene ware, an ancient art perfected by the Moors and passed down over the centuries.

Adult: 59.00 EUR

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Adult: 46.00 EUR

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Madrid by Night - An evening drive to the most historic area of Madrid including stops for wonderful views of the city and a walk through the lively streets and squares of old Madrid. Enjoy free time for dinner in one of the many restaurants and return home along the grand Avenida Castellana with its spectacular fountains.

Adult: 25.00 EUR

Madrid by Night with Dinner - Enjoy an evening out in the nation's stately capital city. Tonight we'll enjoy a wonderful dinner out on the town in a carefully chosen venue, accompanied by Spanish wine and great local entertainment. What a wonderful introduction to Madrid.

Adult: 76.00 EUR

Day 3 | Segovia and Golden Salamanca



Continue your 15-day Spain and Portugal itinerary with a visit to the fortified city of Segovia. Walk through the medieval streets with a Local Expert and see the magnificent Alcázar fortress, before continuing to the historic aqueduct. Journey west, overlooking the ancient walls of Avila, en route to Salamanca. During your guided sightseeing tour of Salamanca, admire the golden stone buildings the city is famous for, including the arcaded Plaza Mayor, the honey-coloured cathedral and the 16th century university buildings.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Alameda Palace, Salamanca

Day 4 | Porto, Grande Dame on the Douro



Cross the Portuguese border to reach Porto. Situated on the River Douro, the city is celebrated internationally as the capital of Port wine. Visit the Vila Nova de Gaia wine stores and walk along corridors of casks. Get to know your tawnys and vintages during a tasting. Continue your exploration of the city, admiring the multi-coloured houses, churches adorned with glazed tiles and iconic bridges.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: NH Collection Porto Batalha

Day 5 | Holy Fátima, Ancient Óbidos and Lisbon



Continue to Fátima, Portugal's most renowned place of pilgrimage. Journey to the fortified town of Obidos and walk within its walls, exploring the narrow, medieval streets where you can stop for a tasting of locally made cherry liqueur. Your guided tour of Spain and Portugal continues to Lisbon, where this evening you may choose to join an Optional Experience at a family-run restaurant known for traditional Portuguese seafood.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: TURIM Marquês, Lisbon

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

An Evening in the Heart of Lisbon - Meet your Local Expert at Restauradores Square and set off on a leisurely stroll through the heart of Lisbon. As you wander from Praça Rossio through the elegant Baixa district, you'll uncover striking sights and stories. See St George's Castle, the majestic Santa Justa lift, Lisbon's Cathedral and more. During your walking tour, take a moment to relax with an aperitif in one of the city's main squares.

Adult: 43.00 EUR

Seafood Dinner By The Tagus River - As evening light settles over Lisbon's tiled facades and broad plazas, join locals in a venerable neighbourhood restaurant known for traditional Portuguese seafood. Seasonal dishes reflect the city's long Atlantic story, prepared using family recipes passed through generations in tucked-away quarters of the capital.

Adult: 76.00 EUR

Day 6 | Lisbon and the Age of the Great Discoveries



Sightseeing with a Local Expert takes you along the spacious avenues of the Lower Town and around the Pombal Square. Visit the Belém Quarter, whence sailing ships set forth to explore uncharted ocean and land. Enjoy a taste of the famous Pastéis de Belém from a traditional patisserie that has upheld the secret recipe of Portugal's finest pastry for almost 200 years. View the modern Monument to the Discoveries and the historic Belém Tower. Visit the National Coach Museum, featuring one of the most prominent horse-drawn carriage collections in the world. With the afternoon at your leisure, perhaps join an Optional Experience to the Portuguese Riviera, frequented by surfers, royalty and, on occasion, James Bond.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: TURIM Marquês, Lisbon

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Excursion to the Royal Portuguese Riviera - Like the Kings of Portugal before you, travel along the Portuguese Riviera. With your Local Expert, see the glamorous resort of Cascais and the wealthy playground of Estoril, with its famous Casino and learn of the inspiring people who frequented Portugal's Golden Triangle. Finally, a visit to Queluz Palace – all veritable jewels in the crown of Portugal.

Adult: 60.00 EUR

Fado Evening - Known as "the soul of the Portuguese identity", Fado is the emotive national song. Take in an unmissable performance of this UNESCO-recognised art in one of the country's famed Fado houses. To complete the experience, savour a typical Portuguese dinner with drinks included.

Adult: 83.00 EUR

Day 7 | Seville, the City of Carmen



Depart Portugal this morning and journey into the sun-drenched Algarve, pausing in one of the picturesque towns for a leisurely lunch and a tranquil glimpse into southern Portugal's coastal charm. From here, cross the border into Spain and continue through the changing landscapes of Andalucía, arriving in Seville by late afternoon. The evening is yours to relax, or you may wish to join an Optional Experience: Andalusian Evening & the Atmosphere of Old Seville, where traditional cuisine and music capture the spirit of this vibrant city.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: NH Collection Sevilla, Seville

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Andalusian Evening & The Atmosphere Of Old Seville - Enjoy a delicious array of alluring Andalusian specialities in a local restaurant with wine included. Perhaps round off the evening with a stroll through the atmospheric squares and lanes of Seville's old quarter, which has a magical charm by night.

Adult: 67.00 EUR

Day 8 | Free Time and Flamenco in Seville



Enjoy a relaxed start or choose to join one of two Optional Experiences: admire the architectural elegance of Pilatos Palace, or explore the Alcázar of Seville and nearby Plaza América, home to graceful pavilions from the 1929 Ibero-American Exposition. Continue exploring with Insight Choice. Choose to stroll through the atmospheric Santa Cruz Quarter with a Local Expert, or sit back and enjoy a scenic drive taking in the city's iconic landmarks. Later, visit the Seville Cathedral, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world and the final resting place of Christopher Columbus. In the evening, take part in a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience at the Cristina Heeren Foundation. Try your hand at flamenco during a lively dance lesson, then witness this expressive art form brought vividly to life in a passionate performance.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: NH Collection Sevilla, Seville

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on availability:

Pilatos Palace and Plaza América Visit - Explore the fusion of Mudéjar, Gothic and Renaissance styles at Pilatos Palace. Wander peaceful courtyards, admire Roman statuary and ornate tilework, and learn how this 16th-century palace shaped Andalusian design. Afterwards, visit Plaza América, a showcase of neo-Renaissance and neo-Mudéjar architecture from the 1929 Ibero-American Exposition.
Adult: 57.00 EUR

Seville Alcázar and Plaza América - Visit the royal Alcázar, famed for its exquisite tilework and tranquil gardens. Discover centuries of Spanish history before continuing to Plaza América, home to elegant pavilions from the 1929 Ibero-American Exposition.
Adult: 57.00 EUR

Day 9 | Head for Gibraltar and the Costa del Sol



Head south to Gibraltar, part of mainland Spain yet an overseas territory under British control since 1704. With your Local Expert, visit the Rock of Gibraltar and St. Michael's Cave. Relax as you travel the scenic route along the Costa del Sol through high end resorts where the rich and famous holiday, taking in the views of the coast.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Meliá Costa del Sol, Torremolinos

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Mediterranean Dinner - Join us for a delicious Mediterranean style dinner in a delightful family restaurant on the Costa del Sol. We'll sample fresh Mediterranean fare, including some of the restaurant's signature dishes such as "fritura malagueña" or sea bass baked in sea salt, a traditional recipe since Roman times. Your meal will be accompanied by local wine.
Adult: 66.00 EUR

Day 10 | At Leisure on the Costa del Sol



Enjoy the day at leisure on the sun-drenched Costa del Sol. Relax by the blue Mediterranean waters, stroll along the promenade, savour the specialities in the local restaurants or consider exploring Málaga, the birth city of Picasso.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Meliá Costa del Sol, Torremolinos

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Highlights of Málaga - A short drive brings us to Málaga, the thriving capital of the Costa del Sol. We'll see the old town with our Local Expert and see the house in which Pablo Picasso spent his early years. The town is also famous for its sweet, full-bodied wines and our tour concludes with a taste of the recent vintage.

Adult: 54.00 EUR

Day 11 | Dining with Locals and the Alhambra



Continue to Alfarnatejo, a quiet whitewashed village, with a population of less than 500 people, surrounded by stunning mountainous landscape. Walk the town centre to see the 18th century Iglesia del Santo Cristo de Cabrilla. Travel to the oldest olive grove in the region and stop at the rural mill-factory to taste a selection of different oils, paired with locally made farmer bread. In small groups, you are invited into the home of a local family to join them for a delicious lunch made of fresh, local produce with flavours typical of the region.

Continue to Granada to visit the magnificent Alhambra Palace with your Local Expert. Built as a citadel by the Moors in the 13th century, it is a wonder of beautiful gardens, fountains and stone cut like lace.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Barcelo Carmen / Vincci Albayzin

Day 12 | On to Valencia



Journey to Valencia. Pass through the Old City to see its ancient gates, and the City of Arts and Sciences. In your free time perhaps take a stroll to the Cathedral and El Miguelete? Alternatively sit back with a drink and watch the Valencians go about their day. Valencia is home to one of the world's greatest dishes, paella. Meet the chef of a local family-run restaurant in the heart of the Old City and learn how to make this local specialty during a Cooking Demonstration. Later, indulge in the delicious flavours of this classic dish at dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Barceló Valencia

Day 13 | Along the Coast to Peñíscola and on to Barcelona



Follow the coast to Peñíscola to view the sea-lapped castle used in the film 'El Cid'. Continue along the Costa Dorada to the Cava Bodegas at Sant Sadurn d'Anoia. During a delicious light lunch, enjoy a tasting as you learn the sparkling secrets of Spanish bubbly. Continue along the coast to reach Barcelona.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Meliá Sarrià, Barcelona

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Gaudi's Parc Güell and the Maritime Front - Enter a strange fantasy world at Parc Güell, Spain's most impressive public park which we'll visit with our Local Expert. Here Gaudi designed mushroom-like houses, "bird nest" pillars and a stunning mosaic dragon. The huge central terrace is enveloped by a ceramic-encrusted serpentine bench (reputedly the world's longest seat) and offers panoramic views of Barcelona and the bay. We then head to the Maritime Front, why not try one of the numerous waterfront restaurants?
Adult: 51.00 EUR

Day 14 | Barcelona Sightseeing



A Local Expert joins you for a drive along the Passeig de Gràcia, adorned with elegant wrought-iron street lamps and some of the most flamboyant Modernist buildings. Continue through the Eixample district to visit Gaudi's extraordinary masterpiece, the Sagrada Família*. See the central nave with its giant, tree-like pillars, spectacular vaulting and the beautiful rainbows flooding in through the intricate stained-glass windows. At a local restaurant, join your fellow travellers for dinner to toast to newfound friends and a two-week in-depth exploration of the Iberian Peninsula.

*As construction of the Sagrada Família nears completion, access may occasionally be restricted due to special masses, pilgrim visits or official ceremonies. If tickets are unavailable during your tour, you will visit the Hospital de Sant Pau, a stunning example of Catalan Art Nouveau by Domènech i Montaner. You will then join your Local Expert to admire the extraordinary exterior of Gaudi's iconic basilica.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Meliá Sarrià, Barcelona

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Montserrat & The Black Madonna - Enjoy a stunning drive to Montserrat, the mystical sacred serrated mountain, with unique formations and spectacular views. It's home to the Benedictine Abbey of Santa Maria de Montserrat and the 'Virgin of Montserrat', one of the most-venerated Black Madonna's of Europe. Catalan landscapes unfold before you as your Local Expert introduces this site of immense beauty and significance.
Adult: 61.00 EUR

Day 15 | Depart Barcelona



Today, bid farewell to your journey across Spain and Portugal as you transfer to the airport.

Meals: Breakfast

This document was last updated 22 May 2026.

While all information is correct at the time of publication, occasionally details or timings may differ.

Please refer to our website or speak to your Travel Director for the latest updates.