



*Educational
Tours*



Adventure in Spain



9 or 10 DAYS

Adventure in Spain

Spain

Extension to Gibraltar



Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (8 with extension)
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 4 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Madrid • Toledo • Granada • Seville
- 1 EF orientation tour: Madrid
- 8 visits to special attractions: Prado • Royal Palace • Toledo Cathedral • Church of Santo Tomé • St. Mary's Synagogue • Alhambra • Seville Alcázar • Seville Cathedral

OPTIONAL:

- El Escorial and Valley of the Fallen
- Seville Flamenco Evening
- Morocco excursion

WITH EXTENSION:

- All of the above PLUS:
- 1 sightseeing tour led by your tour director: Gibraltar
- 1 visit to a special attraction: St. Michael's Cave



PBS

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The Alhambra in Granada (whose name is derived from Arabic roots meaning "crimson castle") was a fortress, palace and city all in one.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Spain • Relax as you fly across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Madrid

Arrival in Madrid • Touch down in Madrid. At 2,100 feet, this is Europe's highest capital. After clearing customs you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

EF orientation tour of Madrid • Your tour director shows you Madrid. Travel back in time to Spain's Golden Age, when painters like Goya and Velázquez ruled and the Royal Court reigned. Get acquainted with the center of Iberia and its biggest draw—the friendly *madrileños* that inhabit the cafés, *tascas* and flea markets that pack the city. And discover what makes Pedro Almodóvar want to immortalize the Madrid scene in his films.

Visit to the Prado • You'll also visit the world-renowned Prado, filled with works collected by the Spanish monarchy. One of the museum's most famous paintings is *Las Meninas* by Velázquez. You'll also find Goya's paired canvases *The Clothed Maja* and *The Naked*

Maja, along with works by Bosch, El Greco and many others.

Day 3 Madrid

Guided sightseeing of Madrid • Your sightseeing adventure begins with a panoramic tour of Spain's capital city. At the Puerta del Sol, the center of Madrid, pass through one of the nine arched gateways leading to the Plaza Mayor, the Renaissance hub of the city. This grand square has witnessed events ranging from bullfights to royal weddings to public executions. Continue to the Plaza de Oriente, Madrid's largest square, outside of the Palacio



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.

Real (Royal Palace). Next, you will explore this magnificent palace, built by Bourbon King Philip V. Once the seat of the most powerful court in the world, it was here that Spain officially joined the European Community in 1986. The palace boasts more than 2,000 rooms, including one with extravagant ceramic walls. Marvel at the splendid marble staircase, the golden Throne Room and the incredible variety of priceless frescoes and chandeliers.

Optional excursion to El Escorial and Valley of the Fallen • Opt to journey into the Castilian countryside. First stop is El Escorial, known to Spaniards as “the eighth wonder of the world.” In this royal city created by Philip II, see the king’s deathbed and the tombs of the majority of past kings and queens of Spain. This enormous Renaissance palace consists of 16 courtyards, 2,673 windows, 1,250 doors, 86 staircases, and 88 fountains. Then visit the Valle de los Caídos (Valley of the Fallen), an enormous mountain basilica commemorating the thousands who died in the Spanish Civil War. Here, at the foot of the Guadarrama Mountains, Franco lies buried.

Day 4 Madrid • Granada

Guided excursion to Toledo • Embark on a journey to the former Spanish capital of Toledo, where Muslims, Jews and Christians once peacefully coexisted. Notice the influence of all three cultures as you tour the 12th-centu-

ry St. Mary’s Synagogue. Designed to be a mosque, but then used as a synagogue, it was finally converted into a church. You’ll also visit the cathedral that dominates Toledo’s skyline before continuing to the Church of Santo Tomás. Here you’ll view *El Entierro del Conde de Orgaz* (The Burial of Count Orgaz), one of El Greco’s supreme achievements. Then, make a final stop at a local damascene workshop. Damascene is an intricate Muslim craft originating in Damascus and made famous in Toledo.

Arrival in Granada • Arrive in Granada. Located at the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, it was the last bastion of Moorish rule in Spain.

Day 5 Granada • Seville

Guided sightseeing of Granada • Recall both *The Arabian Nights* and the works of Washington Irving as you tour Spain’s most celebrated building: Granada’s 14th-century Alhambra. See the exotic mosaics and richly ornamented courtyards of the country’s last Moorish stronghold. Here Christopher Columbus discussed with the king his plans for sailing to India. Then walk in the footsteps of sultans as you tour the Generalife—a 14th-century palace surrounded by magnificent rose gardens—where they often spent their summers. (Please note: Because of the Alhambra’s extreme popularity, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons.)

Transfer to Seville • Arrive in Seville—capital of Andalusia, birthplace of Velázquez and host of the 1992 World’s Fair.

Optional Flamenco Evening • Encounter the drama, rhythm and heartbeat of Spain at an optional flamenco performance. Born of Indian, Moorish, Arabian and gypsy influences, flamenco dance is a passionate blend of intricate heelwork and clapping, accompanied by songs and guitar.

Day 6 Seville • Costa del Sol

Guided sightseeing of Seville • Hispalis, as Seville was called in Roman times, rests on the banks of the Río Guadalquivir and is Spain’s only river port. See the Old Tobacco Factory, setting of Bizet’s opera *Carmen*, and pass the Plaza de Toros, one of Spain’s preeminent bullrings. Then visit Maria Louisa Park to view the beautiful mosaics of Plaza de España, built for the 1929 Ibero-American Fair. Next, walk through the alleys of the Barrio de Santa Cruz, an aesthetic treat you’ll always remember. As you wind your way through this historic Jewish Quarter, notice the whitewashed houses with sand-colored trim—this is typical of Sevillian-style architecture. Top off your tour with a guided visit to the Moorish Alcázar. Built for Pedro the Cruel in the 14th century, it is one of the purest examples of mudéjar architecture in the world. When the Moorish Alcázar is closed (Mondays), groups will visit the Casa de Pilatos.

Guided visit to Seville’s Cathedral • Columbus landed in Seville upon returning from his first voyage in 1493. Pay tribute at his grave inside the city’s magnificent Gothic cathedral, the third largest in the world. Then climb the cathedral’s Giralda Tower for a spectacular view of the city below.

Transfer to the Costa del Sol • Travel to the sunny Costa del Sol.

Day 7 Costa del Sol

Optional excursion to Morocco • Join our full-day optional excursion to Morocco. Ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar and enter a world of mosques, camels, snake charmers and bustling markets. You’ll travel to Tetouan, a serene North African town whose culture and architecture reflect the area’s Moorish past. See the Andalusian and Islamic-influenced architecture as a local guide leads you through the Medina. You’ll also hear presentations at a carpet bazaar and a local spice shop.



Plaza Mayor is an architectural showpiece and a popular gathering spot for *madrileños*.

Day 8 Costa del Sol

Free day on the Costa del Sol • Soak up international culture on the relaxing waters of the Mediterranean!

Day 9 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 9 Costa del Sol

Excursion to Gibraltar • Alternatively, your group can plan to extend its stay an extra day on the Costa del Sol. Enjoy an excursion to the colony of Gibraltar. Under British rule since the War of the Spanish Succession, Gibraltar is best known for its limestone mountain, the Rock of Gibraltar. *El Peñón* in Spanish, the rock is believed to be one of the legendary Pillars of Hercules. The excursion includes a visit to St. Michael's Cave. Be on the lookout for the tailless Barbary apes that have long inhabited Gibraltar.

Day 10 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

Discover the Global Classroom

