

INSIGHT VACATIONS






The Art of Travelling in Style

SPANISH HERITAGE END BARCELONA





KEY

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

Day 1 | Welcome to Barcelona



Join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for your Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: Dinner with Wine

Hotel: NH Collection Constanza

Day 2 | Barcelona, the City of Gaudí



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 Gaudí's extraordinary masterpiece, the Sagrada Família, to see the central nave with its giant, tree-like pillars, spectacular vaulting and the beautiful rainbows flooding in through the intricate stained-glass windows. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: NH Collection Constanza

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Barcelona Evening with Montjuïc & Olympic Drive - We'll enjoy the beauty of Barcelona as the day ends, including a drive up to Montjuïc hill with our Local Expert to experience an incredible panorama over the city with its impressive harbor. Later, we've included free time for dinner in a Catalan restaurant with your newfound friends.

Adult: 31.00 EUR

Day 3 | Along the coast to Valencia



Follow the sunny Costa Dorada, past the rice fields of the Ebro Delta to stop by Peñíscola and see the sea-lapped castle, used in the film 'El Cid'. Pass through the famous orange groves to Valencia, the City of Arts and Sciences. Pass the Old City and see the city's ancient gates, to reach your hotel. 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 with a glass of sangria at your Highlight Dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Barceló Valencia.

Day 4 | Exquisite Granada and Alhambra



Travel south toward Andalucía, passing the castle at Lorca and troglodyte dwellings hollowed out of the soft rock near Guadix. Enjoy views of the Sierra Nevada from a distance as you reach glorious Granada. This historic city was a Moorish kingdom for almost 8 centuries and was the last stronghold to fall to the Catholic Monarchs of Spain in 1492. Overlooking Granada stands one of the most remarkable fortresses ever built, the Alhambra. Led by your Local Expert, explore this exquisite palace built as a citadel by the Moors in the 13th century. A fantasy of arabesque gardens, fountains and stone cut like lace. Later, stroll through the elegant exotic gardens of the Generalife, the Royal summer residence.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Gran Hotel Luna de Granada.

Day 5 | A scenic drive to Seville



The morning is at your leisure to explore as you wish. Perhaps join an Optional Experience to the Albaicín Quarter with a Local Expert and fall in love with Granada as you learn about its pivotal role in European history. Continue your travels to Seville past gleaming white villages and olive groves that stretch as far as the eye can see. This stunning capital of Andalucía is one of Spain's most charming highlights and with the evening at your leisure, you are free to explore this delightful city as you wish

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Meliá Sevilla, Seville.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Albaicín and the Royal Chapel - Take a leisurely walk with your Local Expert through the Albaicín neighbourhood, the last bastion of Islam in Spain. Explore the intriguing maze of narrow streets with whitewashed houses and patio gardens of bygone Moorish splendour. After a photo stop at one of the most famous views of the Alhambra Palace, visit the Royal Chapel housing the tombs of the 'Catholic Monarchs', Ferdinand and Isabella.

Adult: 41.00 EUR

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Dinner in Seville With a Horse and Carriage Ride - Seville is Spain's most majestic city and an evening out is a must! Tonight we'll enjoy a lovely array of traditional Andalusian specialities, served in a local restaurant with wine, beer & soft drinks included. As well as a wonderful meal, we'll experience a magnificent horse & carriage ride through the gardens of Plaza de America, the Murillo Gardens and Plaza de España, which is especially magical in the evening.

Adult: 72.00 EUR

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: 60.00 EUR

Day 6 | Seville, the City of Carmen



Visit the Seville Cathedral, the burial place of Christopher Columbus. Explore Seville with Insight Choice. Choose to embark on a walk through the old Jewish Quarter. Alternatively, enjoy a drive around the city with panoramic views. Visit the Cristina Heeren Foundation, a beneficiary of a TreadRight Foundation grant, for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. This private dance school is dedicated to promoting the conservation of flamenco and supports young enthusiasts from all over the world with a special focus on new talent from the Andalusian region. Feel the passion behind the choreography as you put your rhythm to the test during a dance lesson before witnessing emotions come to life in a flamenco performance.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Meliá Sevilla, Seville.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Seville Alcázar and Plaza América - Today with our Local Expert we'll visit the fabulous Real Alcázar - a Moorish fantasy in stone, set in richly-scented gardens. Wander through the Arabesque domed halls, horseshoe arches and jewel-box courtyards of this royal residence, while the garden fountains and terraces provide an oasis of tranquility. Afterwards, see the fanciful pavilions built for the Ibero-American Fair of 1929 on the way to the romantic Plaza de América in Maria Luisa Park.

Adult: 51.00 EUR

** This optional involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

Day 7 | Moorish Córdoba



Set off early along the Guadalquivir Valley, passing villages and towns studded with Moorish towers and fortresses. Stop in the perfectly preserved Moorish city of Córdoba and see the famous 2,000-year-old Roman Bridge. Meet a local historian and visit to the magnificent Mezquita, a beautiful 8th century mosque with a Christian cathedral built inside it. Make the most of your time at leisure and perhaps stroll the narrow streets of the city. Follow in the footsteps of Don Quixote as you travel through La Mancha and on to the capital - Madrid.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: AC Hotel by Marriott Cuzco/Radisson RED/Canopy by Hilton Castellana

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

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: 22.00 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: 66.00 EUR

Day 8 | Wonderful Madrid



Guided by your Local Expert, visit the Spanish capital's most historic neighborhoods. 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.

The afternoon is at your leisure to relax at a cafe, shop in the trendy boutiques or perhaps enjoy an Optional Experience to beautiful Toledo? In the evening, join your Travel Director and newfound friends at a local restaurant in the heart of the city. Toast to your adventures as you enjoy a delicious Highlight Dinner served with wine.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: AC Hotel by Marriott Cuzco/Radisson RED/Canopy by Hilton Castellana

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

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 cobbled streets to visit the fine Gothic cathedral and admire the old city views along the Tagus gorge. We'll also visit a specialist workshop where artisans create authentic Damascene ware, an ancient art perfected by the Moors and passed down over the centuries. *On certain dates when the cathedral is not accessible this will be priced at 40 Euro.*

Adult: 54.00 EUR

Day 9 | Madrid at Leisure



Enjoy a relaxed start and a full day at leisure to explore Spain's capital. Perhaps join the Segovia Optional Experience to visit this wonderful ancient city complete with fairy-tale castle and Roman aqueduct.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: AC Hotel by Marriott Cuzco/Radisson RED/Canopy by Hilton Castellana

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Excursion to Segovia - Drive to the fortified city of Segovia where a Local Expert leads you through the medieval streets from the Roman aqueduct to the magnificent Alcazar, one of the inspirations for Walt Disney's Cinderella castle. Inside this 14th-century palace, experience the paintings, tapestries, weaponry and armoury of the Spanish medieval era. Then take a panoramic drive outside the walls to admire stunning views over the Eresma valley, the Roman aqueduct and picturesque buildings of this medieval jewel.

Adult: 53.00 EUR

** This optional involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

Day 10 | Through Rueda to Santiago



Journey through the Guadarrama Mountains to the infinite horizons of Old Castile and continues past the impressive Castillo de la Mota, conquered by Queen Isabella. Travel on to Santiago de Compostela, where the tomb of the Apostle St. James was miraculously discovered in the Middle Ages.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: NH Collection Santiago de Compostela.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Dinner in Galicia - Tonight we'll have the chance to sample a wonderful variety of Galician dishes, complemented with fantastic locally-produced wine. Discover the Celtic influence in the cuisine and enjoy ingredients fresh from the Atlantic. Having experienced the heart and soul of this wonderful region, tonight is the perfect opportunity to experience Galicia through your taste buds!

Adult: 68.00 EUR

Day 11 | Santiago de Compostela



Explore Santiago de Compostela with Insight Choice. Choose between joining a city tour with a Local Expert and visit Praza do Obradoiro to admire the cathedral facade festooned with architectural frills. Alternatively, embark on a scenic walk on part of the Way of St James, through parks and gardens that transform with the seasons. Relax during your free time or explore the narrow streets and old squares of this city.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: NH Collection Santiago de Compostela.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Rías Baixas - Visit a Galician Grand Manor House known as a "Pazo", home to an aristocratic family and its garden. The journey with our Local Expert will also take us past the island of Arousa and the fishing villages of Vilagarcía and Vilaxoán. Enjoy the scenery of this most bountiful seafood area of Spain, a region also famous for its white wines.

Adult: 41.00 EUR

Day 12 | The Costa Verde to Oviedo



Pass through the ancient forests of Galicia and cross to the Green Coast of Asturias - one of Spain's most beautiful, named after the colour of the sea and the pine and eucalyptus trees that line the shore. On a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, meet Flor who will invite you to join her for lunch. Hear about daily life as you enjoy a delicious meal, typical of the region, that Flor has freshly prepared from locally sourced ingredients, accompanied by delicious local cider. Your route reveals glorious coastal vistas before turning inland to travel through old villages and deep valleys en route to Oviedo. Continue on to Oviedo where a Local Expert will show you the 9th century churches built when the city was the capital of Christian Spain. Visit the Cathedral of the Holy Saviour in the stately square of Plaza Alfonso II. Admire the incredible altarpiece, one of the finest in Europe.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch with Wine

Hotel: Barceló Oviedo Cervantes.

Day 13 | Santander



Visit the Holy Cave of Covadonga, a shrine to Pelayo, who achieved the first Christian victory over the Moors in 722. See the unique Roman bridge in Cangas de Onís as you head into the foothills of the Picos de Europa, a national park boasting spectacular mountain and gorge scenery. Enjoy views of the Costa de Cantabria while travelling to Santillana del Mar, arguably the most beautiful village in Spain. Stroll through the rustic cobblestone streets, admiring stone houses decorated with carved, heraldic symbols and reach the delightful church square. Continue on to the sophisticated beach resort of Santander where you have free time in the evening to enjoy this luxurious hotel. Why not take the time to explore the hotel terrace with stunning views of the bay below or relax with one of the many therapy treatments offered at the hotels spa?

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Eurostars Hotel Real, Santander.

Day 14 | Bilbao and San Sebastián



In nearby Bilbao, admire the striking modern architecture of the Guggenheim Museum, one of the world's most spectacular buildings. Enjoy the views as you are driven along part of the Costa Vasca, dotted with small coastal fishing villages and pause in the seaside city of Getaria to see 'El Ratón', the mouse-shaped rock. Continue to San Sebastián and admire its beauty during a city tour with a Local Expert. Explore the secrets of the harbour area and uncover the forgotten Basque maritime cultural heritage.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Barceló Costa Vasca, San Sebastián.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Donostia by Night with Dinner - View the beach as we head to the lively heart of the old town of Spain's gourmet capital for a sumptuous supper in one of the city's boutique restaurants. Wine and soft drinks included.
Adult: 79.00 EUR

Day 15 | The Cantabrian Coast



Enjoy a day at leisure to stroll along San Sebastián's boardwalk and with the city harbour filled with fishing boats and pleasure crafts, you can enjoy a number of sporting activities on its large sandy beach. Perhaps you'll want to explore the nearby French village of Saint-Jean-de-Luz, also known as Little Paris? Maybe stroll the promenade of the famous La Concha bay or enjoy the boutiques of the Old Town?

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Barceló Costa Vasca, San Sebastián.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Biarritz and Saint-Jean-de-Luz - With your Local Expert, today we head to Basque France (don't forget your passports!). First stop is Biarritz, home to the rich and famous, with its sophisticated spa resort. Next a short drive to St-Jean-De-Luz, jewel of the Basque Country, to visit the church where 'The Sun King', Louis XIV, married the Spanish Princess Maria Theresa.
Adult: 44.00 EUR

Day 16 | Pamplona and on to Barcelona



Journey to the famed town of Pamplona, known for its Running of the Bulls festival. With time free for you to explore, perhaps take a stroll to the famous Estafeta Street or visit Café Iruña, immortalised by Ernest Hemingway in the 'The Sun Also Rises?' In the afternoon join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience during a visit to a biodynamic farm whose secrets have been handed down through four generations. Take in the views of Catalunya and taste the flavour of the valley 'Terroir' in the form of a sparkling wine. Sample this light refreshment and follow the process from the vine to your glass, learning about the unique sustainable methods employed. Sparkling wine is essential to Catalan culture, flowing freely during celebrations it is the perfect way to start your adventure into Catalunya. Your travels continue to Barcelona, the vibrant capital of Catalonia, a land that retains its own distinctive language, culture and traditions.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hilton Barcelona.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Gaudi's Parc Guell 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 Gaudí 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: 46.00 EUR

Day 17 | Barcelona at leisure



Enjoy a relaxed start and a day completely at leisure for last minute shopping or to perhaps revisit some of Gaudí's unusual creations? Walk along the leafy Las Ramblas or why not take an Optional Experience to the ancient Monastery of Montserrat, dedicated to the Black Madonna? In the evening, join your Travel Director and newfound friends at a local restaurant. Raise your glass and toast your travels during your delightful Celebration Dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Hilton Barcelona.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Montserrat & The Black Madonna - We'll enjoy a stunning drive to Montserrat, the mystical sacred serrated mountain, with its 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 us, as our Local Expert introduces us to this place of immense beauty and significance.

Adult: 53.00 EUR

** This optional experience involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

Day 18 | Depart Barcelona



Today, bid farewell to your journey through Spain as you transfer to the airport.

Meals: Breakfast