



Highlights of Spain & Portugal

**Madrid • Granada • Cordoba • Seville • Lisbon
Merida • Toledo**

This itinerary covers the Southwest of the Iberian Peninsula bringing together two countries, Spain and Portugal, which share traditions, history and culture. Widely known for bull-fights and fantastic beaches, Spain and Portugal offer much more. They are, and have been for thousands of years, cultural centers of Europe. Marvel at their tremendous historical and cultural heritage, enjoy their fine food and wines and their lifestyle, the famous Iberian zest, a vibrant nature which makes the Peninsula one of the most visited places in the world.

Day 1: Depart from the U.S. (in-flight meals on overnight flight)

Day 2: Upon our morning arrival in **MADRID** we will meet our tour manager who will accompany us for the entire trip. Enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of the center of Madrid with stops for pictures at the significant sites and a stop for coffee in the Plaza Mayor. We'll check into the lovely TRYP Madrid Menfis for two nights. Located on the Gran Via near the Plaza de Espana, you'll enjoy your bright and spacious rooms in the heart of central Madrid. After time to refresh and relax meet your traveling companions for a welcome dinner at the Asador Real Restaurant. (D)

Day 3: This morning we will tour the city center on foot and by coach including a visit to the Royal Palace. Then enjoy free time for shopping and sightseeing on your own. Enjoy the city life, its museums and sprawling plazas. This evening we will have a wonderful "tapas" (called "pinchos" in Madrid) dinner at La Taurina Restaurant. (B, D)

Day 4: Today we depart for **GRANADA** with a stop made along the way at the windmills on the high flatlands of La Mancha made famous in Don Quixote. On arrival we'll have a delightful lunch outside, weather permitting, on the grounds of the Alhambra at La Mimbres, before taking a professionally guided tour of the fabulous Alhambra Palace and Gardens. Afterwards, we'll check into the beautiful Saray Hotel for one night. Take time to relax and drink in the ambiance of this enchanting hotel before we head to the Mirador de San Nicolas for a wonderful view of the Alhambra at sunset. This evening enjoy a traditional flamenco show at the Tablao Los Tarantos! (B, L)

Day 5: Our first stop today will be in **CORDOBA** to visit the Great Mosque - an impressive 9th century work of architecture - and its Medieval Jewish Quarter. Delight in a typical Andalusia lunch at La Amudayna Restaurant before we continue our journey to **SEVILLE**. We'll check into the luxurious Gran Melia Colon for two nights and then you can explore the exciting Old Town! (B, L)

Day 6: Enjoy a guided tour of Seville including the Alcazar's magnificent Medieval Palace and Gardens. Stroll through the Barrio de Santa Cruz, the historic Jewish Quarter with its narrow cobblestone streets and whitewashed houses. There will be free time before we have dinner at Taberna del Alabardero. (B, D)



Day 7: Depart for **LISBON** via **EVORA** declared a UNESCO “World Heritage” city for its beauty and well preserved Roman sites. Arrive in Lisbon in the afternoon and check into the well located and contemporary Sana Lisboa Hotel for two nights. Dinner will be held in St. George’s Castle at the Casa Do Leao Restaurant. (B, D)

Day 8: This morning we’ll take a guided tour of **LISBON**, known as the “White City, thanks to its unique luminosity. See its famous Alfama and Medieval quarters, the Jeronimos Monastery and Belem Tower. The afternoon will be at leisure to enjoy Lisbon's lively streets and shopping centers. This evening we’ll have dinner at a typical Portuguese restaurant, Casa Linhares. Enjoy a Fado Performance of traditional Portuguese love songs. (B, D)

Day 9: We depart Lisbon this morning and visit **MERIDA** and **TOLEDO**, two UNESCO “World Heritage” cities. We’ll take a panoramic coach tour in Merida and then have free time to explore its Roman Art Museum and Roman city remains. Lunch will be included at the Parador Nacional of Merida. In Toledo we’ll take a guided walk in the city center and visit the Cathedral with free time afterwards to explore the city. Later today we arrive back in **MADRID** where we will check into an airport hotel for convenience in meeting our morning flight tomorrow. (B, L)

Day 10: Today we fly back to the United States. We’ll be taking with us wonderful memories of our amazing trip to beautiful Spain and Portugal. (B)



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