# 12 Day Classic Spain & Portugal March – November 2021 From \$2949\* Air and Land

\*Call for specific dates and rates



## DAY 1, Wednesday - Depart for Portugal

Depart for Portugal



## DAY 2, Thursday - Arrive in Lisbon

Arrive in captivating Lisbon, one of the oldest cities in Europe, and transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Drink and an orientation meeting at approximately 7 PM with your Tour Manager and fellow travelers, followed by a Welcome Dinner. We recommend that you select flights which arrive in your destination no later than 5 PM or earlier, if possible **Overnight:** Lisbon **Meals:** Dinner



#### DAY 3, Friday - Lisbon City Tour

In Lisbon, the tour begins with a stop at the top of Edward VII's Park to enjoy a magnificent view over the hills of Lisbon and the River Tagus. Next, view the treasured 16th century Belem Tower, a monument to Portugal's Age of Discovery and visit the Jeronimos Monastery, resting place of explorer Vasco da Gama, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Afternoon is at leisure or, join the *optional* tour to quaint Sintra, the "Glorious Eden" of Lord Byron, and ancient summer retreat of the royal court, highlighted by lavish romantic castles and stunning monuments. Visit the Sintra Royal Palace, a 15th-century royal residence, containing one of the largest tile collections in Portugal. Then, spend some free time in the village historic center before returning to Lisbon **Optional:** Half Day Sintra Tour (PM) **Overnight:** Lisbon

Meals: Breakfast



## DAY 4, Saturday - Travel to Seville

Depart Lisbon this morning heading south. Cross the region of Alentejo, with its rolling hills, vineyards and cork oak trees. Reach the Spanish border and enter the region of Andalucia. Continue your drive through picturesque Andalucia to Seville. After dinner, opportunity to attend an *optional* Flamenco Show in Seville, known as the birthplace of Flamenco **Optional:** Evening Flamenco Show (PM) **Overnight:** Seville **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner



#### DAY 5, Sunday - Seville City Tour

Begin the day at the beautiful Plaza de España and the fragrant gardens of Maria Luisa Park before enjoying a walking tour in the quaint Barrio Santa Cruz, the former Jewish Quarter of the city with its winding cobblestone streets. Continue with a visit to the Royal Alcázar of Seville and marvel at the many examples of Mudejar architecture in this beautiful palace, built for the Christian king Peter of Castile. The rest of the day is at leisure or, join the fascinating *optional* tour to Cordoba, founded by the Romans. Visit the astonishing Mezquita de Cordoba, one of the largest mosques in the world, transformed into a soaring cathedral in the 16th century. A walking tour of the city reveals the ancient Jewish Quarter with its labyrinth of winding narrow streets, shady flower filled courtyards, picturesque squares, and view of the 14th century Synagogue on Calle de los Judios **Optional:** Half Day Cordoba Tour (PM) **Overnight:** Seville

Meals: Breakfast



## DAY 6, Monday - Ronda Sightseeing En Route to Costa del Sol

This morning, head south to the dramatic cliffside city of Ronda, considered the birthplace of modern bullfighting. Start with a tour of Ronda, home to Spain's oldest bullring, the Plaza de Toros. Here, you can see the historic stables and museum along with displays of famous Matadors before proceeding to the Costa del Sol **Overnight:** Costa del Sol

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



## DAY 7, Tuesday - Full Day in Costa del Sol

Spend a full day at leisure in Costa del Sol to enjoy all of the delights of this resort area or, join the *optional* morning tour to Malaga, the birthplace of Pablo Picasso. Visit the Picasso Museum with over 285 works donated by members of Picasso's family. View the Paseo de la Alameda, Paseo del Parque & the Barrio de la Malagueta. A walking tour through this historical town is accented by views of the Malaga Cathedral, the second highest in southern Spain. Head over to Cathedral Square before heading back. Dinner is together tonight at the hotel

**Optional:** Half Day Malaga Tour (AM) **Overnight:** Costa del Sol **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner



## DAY 8, Wednesday - Excursion to Gibraltar

Journey to the impressive Rock of Gibraltar,\* a British colony for over 300 years standing guard over the Strait of Gibraltar, where the Atlantic meets the Mediterranean and Europe meets Africa. Take a tour of the area with minibusses climbing up to see St. Michael's Cave and the famous Barbary apes with dramatic views of both the Spanish and Moroccan coastline. Spend some time in the main street of town with its colonial buildings and duty-free shops. Return to the Costa del Sol for overnight

\*Gibraltar is a British Overseas Territory independent from Spain and therefore has different entry requirements. Non-US passport holders are responsible to check if a visa is required for Gibraltar in addition to all other countries on their itinerary. **Overnight:** Costa del Sol **Meals:** Breakfast



#### DAY 9, Thursday - Moorish Influenced Alhambra

Depart the southern coast and journey to Moorish Granada. Your visit is highlighted by a tour of the 13th century Alhambra,\* one of Spain's most celebrated monuments, dramatically perched atop Assabica Hill overlooking the entire city. This imposing hilltop fortress, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the world's finest examples of Moorish art and architecture. During the reign of the Moors, the Alhambra served as the residence of the royal family. Walk along the lanes of the serene Generalife Gardens with its beautifully designed courtyards, waterfalls and ponds, and views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Tonight, dinner together is at a local restaurant

\*Alhambra visiting times, which may include evening hours, and which areas of the complex are accessible on the day of your visit, are determined solely at the discretion of the Alhambra. Your itinerary will be arranged by your Tour Manager to accommodate the designated time of entry.

**Overnight:** Granada **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner



#### DAY 10, Friday - Toledo Sightseeing En Route to Madrid

Travel via the region of La Mancha, legendary home of Don Quixote, featuring panoramic views of its famous windmills. Continue to Toledo, the former capital city of Spain that still retains its medieval atmosphere and charm. Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986, Toledo is known for its extensive monumental heritage and historical coexistence of Christian, Muslim and Jewish cultures. A walking tour will include a visit to the Church of Santo Tomé with the masterpiece painting by El Greco and the Synagogue of Santa Maria La Blanca, the oldest synagogue in Europe still standing. Continue to Madrid and enjoy the evening at leisure **Overnight:** Madrid

Meals: Breakfast



## DAY 11, Saturday - Madrid City Tour

This morning take a sightseeing tour of Madrid. Drive along the Gran Via through the Opera District, Plaza de Colon and view the Royal Palace. Pass by the elegant Plaza de Cibeles and Puerta de Alcala Gate. The tour will end at the world-renowned Prado Museum, where you will be able to view works of art by famous artists such as El Greco, Velázquez, and Ribera. Spend the afternoon at leisure or, join the *optional* tour to Escorial. Visit what has often been described as the "eighth wonder of the world". El Escorial is, perhaps, Philip II's most enduring legacy to Spain. This combination monastery-palace-mausoleum is situated approximately one hour outside of Madrid in the foothills of the Guadarrama Mountains. Bid adios to your fellow travelers and Tour Manager during the Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant

**Optional:** Half Day Escorial Tour (PM) **Overnight:** Madrid **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner



## DAY 12, Sunday - Depart Spain

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight **Meals:** Breakfast

Escorted Package Includes

- Flights New York-Lisbon, Madrid-New York Other departure cities available. Click on date of departure for selection and prices
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges
- 10 nights First Class accommodations
  - 2 nights Lisbon
  - 2 nights Seville
  - 3 nights Costa del Sol
  - 1 night Granada
  - 2 nights Madrid
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- All transfers included only with airfare purchase on package arrival & departure dates<sup>†</sup>
- 16 meals: 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 5 dinners with wine
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

## **Special Features**

- Visit the Cathedral of Lisbon, the oldest place of worship in the city
- Tour the city of Seville with its many historical sites
- Travel to cliffside Ronda, birthplace of modern bullfighting
- Visit the 13th century Alhambra in Granada
- Enter the Church of Santo Tomé with its El Greco masterpiece in Toledo
- Visit the Prado Museum in Madrid and view an astonishing collection of Spanish masterpieces

<sup>+</sup>Transfers are available for purchase for land only or on alternative flight dates

# Is This Trip Right for You?

This moderately active trip covers a fair amount of ground each day. Expect from three to four hours walking every touring day. The pace is moderate, however you will encounter some uneven surfaces, cobblestone streets, stairs, steps and significant slopes. This tour is not recommended for people who have difficulty walking. This is a Classic program.

## AVANI Avenida Liberdade, Lisbon



This first class hotel is situated in Lisbon's city center.



Melia Lebreros, Seville

This first class hotel is situated in Seville's Nervion district.



Sol House Aloha - Costa del Sol, Torremolinos

This first class hotel overlooks Carihuela Beach.

#### Sercotel Gran Hotel Luna De Granada, Granada



This first class hotel is located in the city of Granada within walking distance of Parque Garcia Lorca.



#### Melia Madrid Serrano, Madrid

#### Book your Optional Tours before you travel. See more, save time, save money.

- Tours purchased while travelling may cost an extra 10% or more •
- Tours often sell out. Avoid disappointment •
- Save your cash. Credit card processing may not be possible locally •
- Travel insurance only covers services purchased prior to departure
- Book Online or call to book these tours up to 1 week before your departure
- The day the optionals operate varies by the day of the week •

#### Half Day Sintra Tour

Day #3

Enjoy an afternoon tour that includes a scenic drive along the Estoril coast with a short stop in Cascais. Then continue to Sintra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On arrival, visit the Sintra Royal Palace, a 15th-century royal residence, containing one of the largest tile collections in Portugal. Then enjoy some free time in the Village Historical Center.

01 May 2021 - 31 Dec 2021

Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.

Please note, this tour will require a good amount of walking. The pace is moderate, however, you may encounter some uneven surfaces, stairs, steps and slopes.



#### Evening Flamenco Show

This evening, enjoy a drink and traditional Flamenco show. As performed by some of Seville's leading Flamenco artists, enjoy routines based on the cante jondo or "deep song," which describes the performer's profound emotions in ancient poetic phrases. Although the development of Flamenco has centered principally in the region of Andalucia, it has come to embrace many of the folk traditions of the northern provinces. As a result, it has become, along with the bullfight, a popular symbol of Spain.

Approximate tour duration is 2 hours.

Day #4

01 May 2021 – 31 Dec 2022

\$60.00



#### Half Day Cordoba Tour

Enjoy a half day tour of Cordoba, founded by the Romans, and one of the most cultured and refined cities of medieval Europe. Visit the Mezquita, a former Moorish Mosque that today is Cordoba's main Cathedral. Continue with a walking tour of the city and visit the Jewish Quarter with a view of the medieval synagogue.

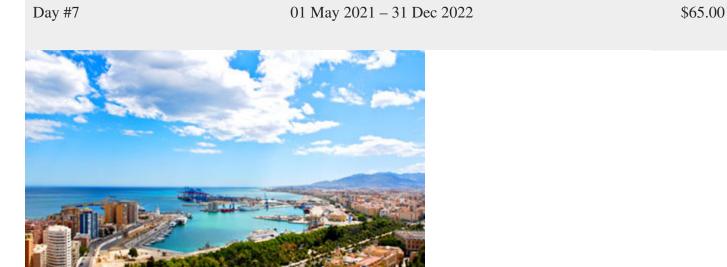
Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.



#### Half Day Malaga Tour

Today, enjoy a half day tour of Malaga, the birthplace of Pablo Picasso. Visit the Picasso Museum and view the Paseo de la Alameda, Paseo del Parque & the Barrio de la Malagueta. Take a walk through the historical town and continue to view the Malaga Cathedral, the second-highest Cathedral in southern Spain. Then take some time on your own to wander, or perhaps visit a local market. Head over to Cathedral Square before returning to Torremolinos.

Approximate tour duration is 5 hours.



#### Half Day Escorial Tour

Enjoy a visit to what has often been described as the "eighth wonder of the world." El Escorial is, perhaps, Philip II's most enduring legacy to Spain. This combination monasterypalace-mausoleum is situated approximately one hour outside of Madrid in the foothills of the Guadarrama Mountains. This austere monastery, erected by King Philip II in 1584, was intended to be a memorial to his father, King Charles V, and to commemorate Spain's victory at Saint Quentin in 1557. It has since become the burial place of subsequent Spanish kings and queens.

Approximate tour duration is 4 hours.





For more information Contact Earl Pike – Group Travelmasters – 888-293-3330