



TIMELESS

TOURS & TRAVEL

FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELLER

SPAIN & PORTUGAL ENGLISH ONLY COACH TOURS 2024

All prices are in Australian Dollars unless otherwise stated

3/5/24

16 DAY NORTHERN SPAIN & PORTUGAL TOUR with MADRID (MCGPTCE)

DEPARTS MADRID SUNDAYS APRIL – OCTOBER 2024
ENGLISH SPEAKING ONLY, SMALL GROUP – MAXIMUM 24 PASSENGERS

2024 TOUR BOOKING SPECIAL <i>Book and pay in full by FRIDAY 17 MAY 2024 to receive the following prices:</i>		
2024 Departure Dates Sundays	Per Person in Double / Twin	Per Person in Single
June: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Sep: 22, 29 October: 6, 13, 20, 27	AUD 5535	AUD 7655
July: 14, 28 August: 11, 25	AUD 6095	AUD 8185
September: 1, 8, 15	AUD 5930	AUD 8050

Day 1 (Sunday) ARRIVE MADRID

Arrive Madrid airport, transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Accommodation.

Day 2 (Monday) MADRID

Breakfast at your hotel. Discover the beauties of the city with a guided city tour. Barrio de la Morería, the Hapsburgs District, Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor and Plaza de la Villa; the Madrid of the Bourbons and the complex town planning schemes of Charles III, the Royal Palace, Cibeles and Neptuno Fountains and the Puerta de Alcalá. The contemporary Madrid with areas such as Gran Vía, Castellana, the district of Salamanca, Plaza Castilla and Parque del Oeste, as well as commercial and financial areas of Modern Madrid, the emblematic Las Ventas Bullring and the Santiago Bernabéu Football Stadium. Afternoon free to continue exploring the wonders that the city has to offer. Join your fellow travellers for an authentic Welcome Tapas Dinner at a local restaurant. Accommodation. (BD)

Day 3 (Tuesday) MADRID / BURGOS / JLA RIOJA / BILBAO

Breakfast at your hotel and then depart for Burgos. Free time to visit the 13th century gothic Cathedral, the 3rd largest in Spain after Seville and Toledo. We will continue to Haro, in the heart of La Rioja, one of the most famous Spanish wine regions. Among the vineyards, we will visit a traditional and family run wine cellar. Take a taste of the world famous Rioja Reds. Depart for Bilbao. Accommodation. (B)

Day 4 (Wednesday) BILBAO / SAN SEBASTIAN / BILBAO

After breakfast a Bilbao city tour and discover its most recent developments. Time at leisure for you to explore the esplanade where The Guggenheim Museum is located in order for you to admire this modern architectural building. Continue to San Sebastian in the afternoon, one of the most famous tourist destinations where they hold the International Film Festival. Panoramic city tour of this marvel style bourgeois city, seeing the extraordinary landscape dominated by the bay and the magnificent La Concha beach. We will approach Mount Igeldo, to contemplate the marvellous views of the city. Free time to stroll through this elegant city. Back in Bilbao, enjoy dinner at local restaurant to taste the famous typical "pintxos", Basque name for tapas. Accommodation. (BD)



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Day 5 (Thursday)

BILBAO / CASTRO URDIALES / SANTANDER

After breakfast at your hotel head to Asturias, famous Green Spain, we will proceed to the old fishing village "Castro Urdiales". Time at leisure. Depart to Santander, a port city located between the sea and the mountains, well known for its Sardinero Beach. Accommodation. (B)

Day 6 (Friday)

SANTANDER / SANTILLANA DEL MAR / COVADONGA / OVIEDO

Breakfast at your hotel. Depart for Santillana del Mar, one of the most important historical artistic towns in Spain. It contains architectural treasures such as the Collegiate of Santa Juliana, a Jewel of the Romanesque Architecture in Cantabria. Continue to Covadonga, where you will have free time to see the Sanctuary and the Grotto where you will see the patroness of Asturias our Lady of Covadonga. In the afternoon, departure to Oviedo, where you will see on a series of hills the beauty of Saint Maria de Naranco Church, Jewel of the pre Romanic Asturian architecture. Free time to explore Oviedo, many streets are pedestrian, where you will be able to see World Heritage sites like The Cathedral, a splendid example of gothic Asturian architecture. Join your fellow travellers to dine at a traditional cider house. Accommodation. (BD)

Day 7 (Saturday)

OVIEDO / MONDONEDO / LUGO / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Following breakfast at your hotel, depart for Galician lands. On the way to Lugo, take a short stop at Mondoñedo. Time at leisure to visit the 13th century Cathedral and try the delicious "Mondoñedo cake". Continue to Lugo. Time at leisure to explore the Roman remains that still retains like its walls, declared World Heritage. We finally approach Santiago de Compostela's holy land, declared World Heritage, as it is the most important centre of Christian Pilgrimages in Spain as the end of the Camino de Santiago. Accommodation. (B)

Day 8 (Sunday)

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Breakfast at your hotel. Join a Santiago city tour where you will see the main square called Obradoiro and the Cathedral (entrance included) dedicated to the Apostle Santiago. Rest of the day at leisure to explore the narrow cobblestone streets. Accommodation. (B)

Day 9 (Monday)

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA / RIS BAJAS / PORTO

Breakfast then depart towards one of the most marvellous areas of Galicia, the Rias Bajas (Spanish Fjords). Continue to the Ria de Arosa, where we will do a cruise, with tasting of the typical wines and mussels. Bound the Portuguese border to reach Porto. Located along the Douro River estuary in northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European towns, and proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996. Accommodation. (B)

Day 10 (Tuesday)

PORTO

Breakfast at your hotel. Enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of Porto. Admire the Cathedral, Stock Exchange building and Santa Clara church. Afterwards, enjoy a Douro River Cruise and discover famous Port Wine Cellars with a wine tasting experience included. Rest of day at leisure. Accommodation. (B)

Day 11 (Wednesday)

PORTO

Breakfast at your hotel. Day at leisure in Porto. Accommodation. (B)

Day 12 (Thursday)

PORTO / COIMBRA / FATIMA

Depart for Coimbra a city with one of the oldest universities in Europe and the birthplace of Fado; Free time then continue to Fatima. Centre of the Christian Faith and World Pilgrimage Sanctuary with its impressive Basilica and the Cova da Iria place where the Virgin Mary appeared. The Chapel of the Apparitions, heart of the sanctuary, with the tombs of the three shepherds, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta. Tonight, it may be possible to attend the procession of the candles. Accommodation. (B)

Day 13 (Friday)

FATIMA / BATALHA / NAZARE / ALCOBACA / LISBON

Today, depart for the Batalha Monastery, a masterpiece of Gothic and Manueline style and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Next travel to the picturesque fishing town of Nazaré. Free time. Continue to Alcobaca, another UNESCO World Heritage site, with its 12th century Gothic church and Cistercian monastery. Later continue to Lisbon. Accommodation. (B)

Day 14 (Saturday)

LISBON

After breakfast join a morning sightseeing tour of the ancient Olissipo, drive through its main squares and avenues, Belem Tower, Jeronimos Monastery, Coach Museum, Monument to the Discoverers, Marquis of Pombal Square, Liberty Avenue. Afternoon at leisure for you to catch the nostalgic corners of Alfama Quarter, the old city gathered next to its Castle, with old buildings nested in narrow twisting "Ruas" full of colour housing the genuine "tabernas".



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Join your fellow travellers and enjoy a typical Portuguese dinner visiting one of the oldest Fado venues in the city and located in one of the most interesting cultural neighbourhoods in the area. Accommodation. (BD)

Day 15 (Sunday) LISBON / CACERES / MADRID

Today leave Lisbon to return to Madrid. En-route stop in Caceres to visit this ancient city. Old Town Caceres has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage site because of its historic architecture; a blend of Roman, Islamic, Northern Gothic and Italian Renaissance styles. Walk through its Old Town and Plaza Mayor during this short stop. Continue to Madrid. Accommodation. (B)

Day 16 (Monday) DEPART MADRID

After breakfast; transfer to Madrid airport. END OF TOUR. (B)

2024 Departure Dates Sundays	Per Person in Double / Twin	Per Person in Single
April: 14, 28 May: 5, 12, 19, 26 June: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Sep: 22, 29 October: 6, 13, 20, 27	AUD 5830	AUD 8065
July: 14, 28 August: 11, 25	AUD 6420	AUD 8620
September: 1, 8, 15	AUD 6245	AUD 8480

Tour Includes:

Madrid airport arrival & departure transfers on day 1 & day 16;
 Daily Breakfast, Welcome dinner in Madrid, Wine tasting in La Rioja, Pintxos Dinner in Bilbao,
 Dinner and cider tasting in traditional cider house in Oviedo,
 Mussels and wine tasting in a Rias Baixas cruise, Fado Show and Dinner in Lisbon;
 Guided visits in Madrid, Bilbao, Santiago (Cathedral ticket included),
 Porto (including Douro River Cruise and Port wine tasting), Lisbon;
 Transport by coach and English speaking tour director*

First Class (4*) Tour Hotels used (or similar):

Madrid: Hyatt Regency Madrid; Bilbao: Barcelo Nervion, Occidental Bilbao; Santander: Santemar;
 Oviedo: AC Oviedo Forum, Exe Oviedo; Santiago de Compostela: Eurostars, Exe Peregrino;
 Porto: Vila Gale Porto, Bessa Hotel Boavista; Fatima: Santa Maria, Aurea, Regina, Estrela; Lisbon: Lutecia

Additional Information:

Passport details are required in advance;
 *During the Madrid Stay, the tour escort will not be available;
 Tourist city taxes (in applicable cities) are to be paid locally;
 In the event that the guided tour of Madrid is not operated for technical reasons
 will be replaced by the Madrid Hop-on Hop-off Bus 1 day instead.
 Luggage Limit: one suitcase per person (max. 25kg, 157cm total dimensions),
 If 2 passengers are sharing one suitcase larger measurements will be accepted.

Private Driver-Guide & Tour Directors: The operator is aware of the importance of the accompanying driver-guide and tour directors during the journey, therefore, they are selected from among the most qualified professionals, who know perfectly well our routes and cities to visit. During the tour, they will make explanations about it, coordinate the accommodation services and take care of the proper development of the circuit, making your trip an unforgettable experience.

When the group is made up of 10 or fewer passengers, the circuit will have no guide, but a knowledgeable expert driver-guide. Such change will not be considered as a significant change of the trip.

Guaranteed Departures: All departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 8 passengers. If, for occupancy reasons, we can't deliver our Small Group Journey, we will give you the option of joining our regular coach tour, with the same departures dates and tours as your Small Group Journey. This alternative will carry out a discount to be advised.

Generally, coach tours in Spain, Portugal, Morocco use local guides in cities/destinations visited. Tours are also normally accompanied by a tour escort. Your tour may comprise a combination of tours, other participants in your tour may be going to or leaving for other destinations. Your tour escort may also change during the course of your program.

THE OPERATOR, JULIA TRAVEL, RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER HOTELS OR ITINERARY IF NECESSARY



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