

IBERIAN VACATION

Spain, Portugal and Morocco

May 20 - June 02, 2011 14 Days



PACE OF TOUR

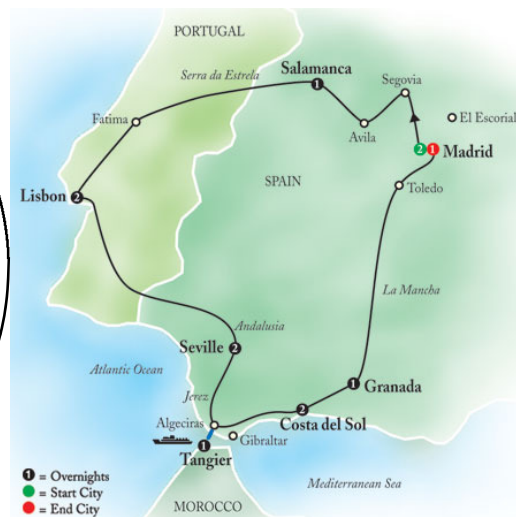
Leisurely Active

This fantastic trip covers three countries - Spain, Morocco, and Portugal - concentrating on the southern part of the Iberian Peninsula. On this tour, you'll see many of the area's historic sights, including the Alcazar in Seville, founded in the 11th century as a Moorish fortress, and the Alhambra Complex in Granada. The Alhambra was a palace, citadel, and fortress for the Nasrid sultans and their servants, elite soldiers, and high officials from the 13th to 14th centuries.

If you're interested in religious sights, this tour is not to be missed. Visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Rosary in Fatima, where pilgrims from all over the world visit; Jeronimos Monastery in Lisbon, built to thank the Virgin Mary for Portugal's success in its voyages around the world; the Church of Santo Tomé in Toledo, which has one of El Greco's most famous paintings.

Ferry crossings over the Strait of Gibraltar afford you spectacular views of the Rock. There's a full day at leisure at the Costa del Sol, so you can enjoy the sandy beaches, browse the shops, or join an optional excursion to the Rock of Gibraltar.

These are just a few of the many highlights on this wonderful trip to Spain, Portugal, and Morocco a trip of a lifetime!



TOUR PRICE per person, sharing.

Double occupancy	\$3,772
Single supplement	\$500

DEPOSIT: \$300 per person non-refundable.

HEALTH: None required. Consult with your physician and health clinic.

DOCUMENTATION: Valid Canadian passport 6 months beyond return date (recommended).

INSURANCE: Comprehensive Insurance \$150 per person including tax.

VISA: No visa required for Canadian Citizens.

INCLUSIONS

- Professional Tour Director and local guides.
- Flights from Toronto (Ask for airfare from other cities).
- Accommodation in first class hotels. • Gratuities to Guides & Coach drivers.
- Meals as listed. • Sightseeing as listed.
- Roundtrip airport transfers at destination.
- Tour Leader accompanies you from Toronto with a minimum number of participants.

Day 1 - DEPART TORONTO - MADRID - Depart for your overnight transatlantic flight to Madrid, Spain

Day 2 - ARRIVE MADRID, SPAIN (D) - Time to rest or to start exploring the Spanish capital. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel.

Day 3 - MADRID (B) - The capital of Spain since 1561, Madrid today is a strikingly modern city, the showcase of a country resolutely turned towards the future. Your Local Guide takes you to the Puerta del Sol, Plaza de España with its monument to Cervantes, the Parliament, Cibeles Fountain, elegant Calle Alcalá, and Paseo de Castellana. Then, the highlight: a visit to the palatial Prado Museum with its priceless art treasures. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4 - MADRID - SEGOVIA - AVILA - SALAMANCA (B,D) - A day in beautiful Castile. Cross the rugged Sierra de Guadarrama on the way to Segovia, famous for its Alcazar and the 2,000-year-old Roman aqueduct. Next, enjoy a walk through the walled town of Avila, where St. Theresa founded the Order of Carmelites. Overnight in Salamanca, whose baroque Plaza Mayor is one of the country's grandest squares.

Day 5 - SALAMANCA - FATIMA - LISBON, PORTUGAL (B) - The majestic scenery of the Serra da Estrela mountain range forms the backdrop of your morning drive into Portugal. Before heading for Lisbon, melt into the stream of pilgrims from all over the world as you visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Rosary in Fatima.

Day 6 - LISBON (B) - Lisbon was the center of Europe's longest-lived overseas empire. Morning sightseeing with a Local Guide features a drive through the Baxia quarter's main squares. Then, enjoy a walk through the cobbled alleys of quaint Alfama, the quarter of the seamen. Drive past the Bull Ring to Pombal Statue and along the grand Avenida da Liberdade. Stop for pictures of Belem Tower, guarding the mouth of the Tagus, and visit Jeronimos Monastery with the tomb of Vasco da Gama. Afternoon and evening at leisure.

Day 7 - LISBON - SEVILLE, SPAIN (B,D) - Today, enjoy a comfortable drive back into Spain and to the vibrant capital of Andalusia, Seville.

Day 8 - SEVILLE (B) - During your sightseeing tour with a Local Guide hear about the city's role in Roman times, its conquest by the Moors in 712 AD, and its contribution to the discovery of the New World. Admire Maria Luisa Park, the Golden Tower on the Guadalquivir River, and the university that used to be the tobacco factory of Carmen fame. Then, stroll through the narrow lanes of the charming Santa Cruz Quarter, and see the cathedral. Highlight is a visit to the Alcazar, founded in the 11th century as a Moorish fortress, with its Palacio de Don Pedro. For a truly Andalusian night out reserve a seat at our optional flamenco show.

Day 9 - SEVILLE - TANGIER, MOROCCO (B,D) - Through the sunny sherry wine region of Jerez to Algeciras. Board your Ferry

and sail across the Straits of Gibraltar to Africa. Continue to Tangier, jumping-off point for the Moorish conquest of Spain and home town of legendary medieval traveler Ibn Batuta. Sightseeing with a Local Guide includes a panoramic drive to Cap Spartel, where you will quench your thirst Bedouin-style with a glass of hot mint tea.

Day 10 - TANGIER - COSTA DEL SOL, SPAIN (B) - Visit Tangier's colorful Grand Socco square and explore the narrow streets of the Casbah. Return across the Straits and back in Spain, drive to your hotel in Torremolinos at the elegant Costa del Sol.

Day 11 - COSTA DEL SOL AT LEISURE (B) - Enjoy the sandy beaches, browse through the trendy boutiques, or join an optional excursion to the Rock of Gibraltar, in British hands since 1704.

Day 12 - COSTA DEL SOL - GRANADA (B,D) - Into the mountains to history-steeped Granada. Enjoy a walking tour with a Local Guide and visit its main attraction, the Alhambra Complex. A fantasy of "lace in stone" surrounded by arabesque gardens and fountains, it affords superb views of the Old Quarter and Sacromonte, a mountain occupied by Gypsy cave dwellers. Also admire the magnificent Water Gardens of the Generalife, the royal summer residence.

Day 13 - GRANADA - TOLEDO - MADRID (B,D) - The olive and orange groves of the rolling Andalusian hills and later the more barren landscapes of Don Quixote's La Mancha unfold before your eyes on the way north to Toledo, spectacularly situated on a granite hill surrounded by a loop of the Tagus River. Your walking tour with a Local Guide features the Moorish bridge and visits to an early Synagogue, the 13th-century gothic Cathedral, and the Church of Santo Tome with one of El Greco's most famous paintings. Time to visit a Damascene Steel Workshop before returning to Madrid. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner with wine at a local restaurant.

Day 14 - DEPART MADRID - TORONTO (B) - Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

INCLUDED SIGHTSEEING

Madrid - Welcome dinner at hotel and farewell dinner at a local restaurant; guided sightseeing, visit the Prado Museum.

Segovia - Take pictures of the Roman aqueduct.

Avila - Visit the walled town.

Fatima - Visit the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Lisbon - Guided sightseeing, visit the Alfama quarter and Jeronimos Monastery.

Seville - Guided sightseeing, visit the Alcazar, walk through the Santa Cruz Quarter.

Algeciras-Tangier - By ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar.

Tangier - Guided sightseeing, panoramic drive to Cap Spartel; visit the Grand Socco square.

Granada - Guided walking tour, visit the Alhambra Complex and the Water Gardens of the Generalife.

Toledo - Guided walking tour, visit an early synagogue, the gothic cathedral, and Santo Tomé Church with one of El Greco's masterpieces; a Damascene steel workshop.