# San Sebastián, Bilbao, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Granada, Madrid and Barcelona

#### 🛗 28 Days

- Locations Included
  - San Sebastián (3 nights)

- Bilbao (1 night)
- Porto (3 nights)
- Lisbon (3 nights)
- Albufeira (4 nights)
- Seville (4 nights)
- Granada (2 nights)
- Madrid (3 nights)
- Barcelona (4 nights)

# Daily Schedule

Day	Highlights	Location
Day 1	Arrival in San Sebastián, Transfer, City Tour + Pintxos Tour	San Sebastián
Day 2	Bike tour: The train track trail	San Sebastián
Day 3	Hiking the Camino de Santiago Trail, Michelin starred restaurant	San Sebastián
Day 4	From San Sebastián to Bilbao (or viceversa) along the Basque Coast, Guggenheim tickets (and guide)	San Sebastián to Bilbao
Day 5	Bilbao to Porto, Welcome to Porto	Bilbao to Porto
Day 6	Porto city tour	Porto
Day 7	Aveiro & Coimbra	Porto
Day 8	Lisbon - Porto via Nazaré & Óbidos, Welcome to Lisbon	Porto to Lisbon
Day 9	Lisbon city introduction	Lisbon
Day 10	Sintra, Cabo da Roca & Cascais	Lisbon
Day 11	Lisbon to Albufeira	Lisbon to Albufeira
Day 12	Free day in Albufeira	Albufeira
Day 13	Cooking class	Albufeira
Day 14	Free day in Albufeira	Albufeira
Day 15	Off-the-beaten-path City Tour, Tapas & Flamenco night	Albufeira to Seville
Day 16	Day tour to Córdoba	Seville
Day 17	Day tour to Gibraltar	Seville
Day 18	Day tour: Ronda & White villages	Seville
Day 19	Seville to Granada, Sacromonte and Albayzin tour	Seville to Granada
Day 20	Alhambra Group Tour	Granada
Day 21	Granada to Madrid, Private city tour	Granada to Madrid
Day 22	Madrid to Toledo, Private City Tour	Madrid
Day 23	Museum guided visit, Tapas in Malasaña	Madrid
Day 24	Madrid to Barcelona, Free Time	Madrid to Barcelona
Day 25	Full Day City Tour & Gaudi (incl skip the line Tickets for Sagrada Familia & Parc Güell) - SMALL GROUP	Barcelona
Day 26	Montserrat Tour & Boy's Choir (escolanía) & Light Hike, Cooking class	Barcelona
Day 27	Costa Brava, Tossa de Mar & Boat Ride (Small group)	Barcelona
Day 28	Depart Barcelona	

# **Detailed itinerary**

# Arrive in San Sebastián

Private transfer Private transfer · 1.5 hours



#### City Tour + Pintxos Tour

Private group  $\cdot$  5 hours  $\cdot$  Dinner Included

A Complete walk through the city center and Old Town, visiting the Constitution Square, La Concha Bay, the Cathedrals, La Bretxa Market, and the city center area with multiple stories and tales that happened in San Sebastian during the history and are not in the History books!

INCLUDES a special selection of 5 pintxos & 5 drinks in up to 5 different bars.



Ask question

No hotels selected in San Sebastián

### San Sebastián



#### Bike tour: The train track trail

Private group  $\cdot$  4.5 hours

This tour is set in one of the deepest, wild woods of the Basque Country, we will follow the ancient, railway route that once was used to bring iron from the mines to the city. It has now been transformed into a 25 km winding, peaceful escape alongside the river with the sounds of the woods taking us through timeworn tunnels and into little villages.

There are some great breather spots along the way and you have the chance to cool off in the river at the end of the ride.

A great way to get those legs going, escape the masses, the heat of summer in the city and a special way to see the Basque Country.



Ask question

No hotels selected in San Sebastián

### San Sebastián



Hiking the Camino de Santiago Trail

Private group · 8 hours · Lunch Included

# START YOUR HIKE IN SAN SEBASTIAN walk the "CAMINO"

The mountainside is etched with a centuries-old walking trail that was once a Christian pilgrimage route to the town of Santiago de Compostela, where St James' remains are said to be buried.

Known as the Way of St James or the Pilgrims' Way, the coastal trail is now as popular for its views as it is for its history, offering incomparable vistas of San Sebastian and the Basque Coast.

#### **CROSS BY BOAT TO PASAJES SAN JUAN**

Hiking rocky paths, we will make plenty of stops to soak up the panoramas. The route heads down the hill and goes at a steady pace, allowing you to focus on the idyllic scenery stretched out before you. Once we arrive to Pasajes San Pedro on the Bay of Pasaia, we will board a sightseeing boat to cross the waters to Pasajes San Juan.

#### FULL LUNCH A WATERFRONT RESTAURANT

#### 5 COURSE FULL LUNCH BY THE WATER

A very well deserved great lunch will be awaiting in a waterfront restaurant in Pasajes San Juan, a captivating coastal village, with very narrow streets, where the 19th-century French poet Victor Hugo found inspiration.

#### TAXI BACK TO SAN SEBASTIAN

After lunch and crossing back by boat, the return to your hotel will be very relaxing.

We will get back to your hotel in San Sebastian by taxi







#### Michelin starred restaurant

Private group · Lunch, Dinner Included

Enjoy a delicious meal at a michelin starred restaurant.





No hotels selected in San Sebastián

# San Sebastián to Bilbao



#### From San Sebastián to Bilbao (or viceversa) along the Basque Coast

Private group · 8 hours

From San Sebastián to Bilbao visiting some small coastal villages like Zarautz, Getaria or Zumaia and the flysch formations and the amazing landscape of San Juan de Gaztelugatxe.





#### Guggenheim tickets (and guide)

Private group

Tickets for the Guggenheim museum will be purchased in advance for you.

Note I can arrange a private guide to go along with you inside the museum to explain the museum itself and the exhibition at this time. Please ask!



No hotels selected in Bilbao

# Bilbao to Porto



Welcome to Porto

Self guided

Welcome to Porto, the second-largest city in Portugal, after Lisbon, and one of the major urban areas in Southwestern Europe.

Located along the Douro river estuary in Northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European centres, and its historical core was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996





No hotels selected in Porto

Porto



### TRIP'EIRA CITY TOUR EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

This trip will introduce you to Porto, the culture, the people, the city and the surroundings. More than show you the city, we want you to experience it.

We pick you up and begin what will be an unforgettable ride.

This tour is designed to take you on a journey in and around the city, learning all the historical background of Porto, while at the same time falling in love with it, trying some of the best food that you have to taste in the city.

While it may be fun to be in the city center for a while, it's much more fun to be able to get out of the overcrowded areas and dive in in the real Porto.

In this tour we give you an in-depth view of this rapid changing city while seeing the best views around and exploring the most exciting areas.

Not only we will make you fall in love in the city - in the end you will never want to leave again, especially because of the wine .



Ask question

No hotels selected in Porto

Porto



A day south of the river Douro will take you from the venice of Portugal to the renowned city of knowledge, Coimbra.

From the sea salt production, iconic Art Nouveau buildings and egg cream explosion in Aveiro to the traditions of student life in one of the oldest universities in the world, you'll be able to take in so much in just one day that you'll be graduated with distinction by our Ambassador.



No hotels selected in Porto

## Porto to Lisbon



#### Lisbon - Porto via Nazaré & Óbidos

Private group · 8 hours

A private transfer will pick you up at your hotel in Porto and will take you to Lisbon with a couple of stopovers:

1.- Nazaré. This is now a mecca for extreme surfers searching for the wave of their lives, but also a paradise for seafood lovers.

2.- More ocean views away from the crowds and a stop in the medieval walled village of Óbidos will make you want to pray for more.





### Welcome to Lisbon

Self guided

Welcome to the capital of Portugal. Lisbon is recognized as a global city because of its importance in finance, commerce, media, entertainment, arts, international trade, education and tourism. It is one of the major economic centres on the continent, with a growing financial sector and one of the largest container ports on Europe's Atlantic coast.

The city is the 7th-most-visited city in Southern Europe, after Istanbul, Rome, Barcelona, Madrid, Athens and Milan.



No hotels selected in Lisbon

### Lisbon



Lisbon city introduction

Private group  $\cdot$  5.5 hours

#### EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CITY

We will show you our city like if it was our house. Just meet us in our meeting point and we'll pick you up in portuguese style and take you for an unforgettable ride. This tour is designed to take you and other travellers on a journey in and around the city, learning all the historical background of Lisbon and Portugal while at the same time falling in love with it, trying some of the best food that you have to taste in the city.

#### More than showing you the city we will make you understand it

While it may be fun to be in the city center for a while, it's much more fun to be able to get out of the overcrowded areas and dive in the real Lisbon.

Traveling in our amazing city is much more than taking a picture to the 28 tram; you have to understand it's people and eat the food and drink the wine, or it's like you've never been here. In this tour we give you an in-depth view of this growing capital while seeing the best views around and exploring the most exciting areas, street art, food and knowing its people.



Ask question

No hotels selected in Lisbon

# Lisbon



#### Sintra, Cabo da Roca & Cascais

Private group · 5.5 hours

Take a day to head to a natural park just 25 minutes outside of Lisbon.

Our AMBASSADOR will give you an overview of both the Unesco World Heritage sites of Sintra, but also some less known spots to enjoy the beautiful natural scenery of the magical moon hill.

A drive by some beaches and a stop in Cabo da Roca, to take in the views over the rough Atlantic Ocean followed by a scenic drive along the coast of Cascais and Estoril will make a great escape, at your own pace.



No hotels selected in Lisbon

# Lisbon to Albufeira







# Albufeira

### Albufeira



The cuisine is one of the treasures of Algarve's region. Our guests are invited to enter a world of local flavors and smells of the delicious culinary traditions of the Region. All the classes use the freshest ingredients such as seafood, seasons and vegetables that combined with the Chef Lucia Ribeiro's experience makes each class and plate a unique discovery.

#### The Cooking School & Gourmet Shop

Located at Lemon Square since 2018, the cooking school is assembled with state-of-the-art equipment and a luminous environment that invites for long afternoons paired with the best of Portuguese wine that accompanies the experiences. You will also find a gourmet shop full of gourmet local products that you can take with you to prepare the delicious plates you learned when you get home.







# Albufeira

## Albufeira to Seville



### Off-the-beaten-path City Tour

Private group · 2 hours

If you fancy seeing the city in a different way, with a local guide, a walking tour is opportune to choose. In two hours you'll

be shown places where you will blend in with the locals, where no one will look at you as a tourist or treat you differently. We will take you to an alternative Seville, full of bars, shops, bookstores, art galleries and bohemian corners where you can discover this city from a different perspective.





Small group · 4 hours

Enjoy a 100% Spanish night with Flamenco, tapas and a walking tour in one of the most beautiful neighborhood of Seville, Santacruz or Triana. This Spanish evening offers a well-balanced dose of delicious food, a wide variety of Spanish wine, an awe-inspiring flamenco show as well as a tranquil walk in a charming neighborhood.

Depending on the day we will choose the right Flamenco venue for you so that you either visit the Jewish quarter or Triana. The show takes approximately about an hour, which would be an intense hour. The evening continues with a leisurely walk and some more delicious tapas in taverns full of atmosphere.

Depending on the season and the time your guide will take you to the best places where you will go "de tapas" the same way the locals do. In total you will visit 3 different traditional taverns sampling the most authentic food from each place.







Private group · 10 hours

The city of Cordoba, located on the banks of the Guadalquivir, was the capital of the province of Betica during the Roman Empire and the Caliphate of Cordoba. The history of Cordoba has left us with architectural wonders such as the Mosque-Cathedral, the Roman Bridge and the old Jewish Quarter, among others.

Departing from Seville, Naturanda's guide will pick you up at one of the meeting points and take you to Carmona, a white village located only half an hour from the city and which deserves a short stop to admire its beauty. After this short guided tour, we will set off for Cordoba, where we will arrive after approximately one hour of travel. Once we arrive at our main destination, we will take a guided tour on foot through the historical centre of the city, visiting such significant monuments.

We will walk through the most significant streets of the city, passing by the Roman Bridge, the old Jewish quarter, the Royal Stables and the Cordoba Synagogue (closed on Mondays). We will also take a short walk through the famous and colourful Cordoba courtyards which will give us the opportunity to take wonderful photographs, which will always remain as one of the most beautiful memories of this excursion to Cordoba.

After getting to know the historical centre of Cordoba we will take a short break on our tour to enjoy Cordoba's cuisine as recommended by our guide, or enjoy your own lunch or picnic if you wish. You will also enjoy some free time in case you want to do some shopping.

After lunch, and to put the finishing touch to our day trip, we will visit the beautiful Mosque-Cathedral of Cordoba, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1984.

There, visitors will have enough time to enjoy this wonderful architectural monument, created in its origins for the Muslim cult, and which represents one of the main jewels of the historical and architectural heritage of Andalusia.

After our visit to the Mosque of Cordoba, we will return to the meeting point to board our transport which will take us back to Seville, where we will arrive after having enjoyed a magnificent day of excursion having visited places of extraordinary beauty.

Remember that if you want to enjoy another day in the capital of Cordoba you can book your excursion with one night's accommodation included and return to Seville the following day with us.



Ask question



Private group · 10 hours Take a day tour to Gibraltar from Seville.

Gibraltar, An Anglo-Dutch force captured Gibraltar from Spain in 1704 during the War of the Spanish Succession on behalf of the Habsburg pretender to the Spanish throne. The territory was subsequently ceded to Britain "in perpetuity" under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. It was an important base for the Royal Navy; today its economy is based largely on tourism, online gambling, financial services, and shipping.[10] [11]

The sovereignty of Gibraltar is a major point of contention in Anglo-Spanish relations as Spain asserts a claim to the territory. Gibraltarians overwhelmingly rejected proposals for Spanish sovereignty in a 1967 referendum and again in 2002. Under the Gibraltar constitution of 2006, Gibraltar governs its own affairs, though some powers, such as defence and foreign relations, remain the responsibility of the UK Government.



Ask question



#### Day tour: Ronda & White villages

Private group · 10 hours

On this tour we will travel through the ancient Andalusian kingdoms of Castille and Granada whilst reveling in the scenic nature, history and tradition. We will begin our journey by touring through the Sevillian countryside. We will stop at The Castle of Las Aguzaderas, an interesting medieval building which is located at the old border line among Catholic kingdom and Moorish kingdom.

After that, we will continue through the mountains until arriving to the white village of Zahara de la Sierra. After exploring the streets, we will set off for Sierra de Grazalema. On the way, we will drive through the Natural Park Sierra de Grazalema that offers you a range of amazing landscapes and views over the provinces of Cádiz, Malaga, Seville, as well as Puerto de las Palomas which is 1157 meters above sea level. We also get the chance to witness vultures in their natural habitat due to the fact that these mountains are home to the largest colony of Griffon vultures in Spain.

Once in Grazalema, you will have time to enjoy a nice meal, surrounded by the picturesque white houses decorated with colorful flowers.

After lunch, we will leave Grazalema and head to Ronda, on the way we will cross a very beautiful Mediterranean forest full of cork trees and oaks. Where up to this day locals still work with its cattle (iberian pigs, goats and cows), to extract honey, cork, aromatic spices or wood.

After an exciting morning, we will reach Ronda, one of the oldest towns in Spain. It is unique for its natural surrounding and history. It was built on two different cliffs so the town is connected by the most famous bridge in Spain, known as —The New Bridge even though it was built in 18th century.

Our guide tour will take you around the city and explain you about its rich history. After that, you will have free time to explore the town's beauty.



Ask question

### Seville to Granada



#### Private transfer Seville to Granada

Private transfer · 2.5 hours

A private car and driver will pick you up at your accommodation in Seville and take you on a comfortable and scenic 2.5-hour journey before arriving at your accommodation in Granada.



#### Sacromonte and Albayzin tour

Private group · 2 hours

A tour that combines the two most characteristic neighborhoods of Granada: The Muslim Quarter and the Gypsy Quarter. Both located in hills with amazing views one next to the other, and facing the always breathtaking Alhambra. Both neighborhoods are full of history and beauty ... and also of slopes!



Ask question

No hotels selected in Granada

# Granada



Alhambra Group Tour

Group tour  $\cdot$  3 hours

Visit the Alhambra with an expert guide and discover the importance that this Andalusian palatine city held both for Granada and for what later became what we now know as Spain.

For three hours we will visit the entire Alhambra complex: Nasrid Palaces, Alcazaba, Charles V Palace, Generalife and gardens. Art, architecture and history at your fingertips!



No hotels selected in Granada

## Granada to Madrid





#### Train from Granada to Madrid

Train · 3.5 hours

Make your way on your own to the train station in Granada. We will provide you with your ticket to board this 3.5-hour service to Madrid. Upon arrival, you will make your way on your own to your hotel.



#### Private city tour

Take a city tour with Almudena. She is one of the best in Madrid (teacher at university and collaborator with the Prado museum) and beyond all that he is very good dealing with people.

She will not only take a tour through the city center with you but also show you hidden corners, the local living and hints for a real experience.

If you are into museums, Almudena is also you woman. She will complete the experience in the museum making it much more than a traditional visit to the works inside it.



No hotels selected in Madrid

## Madrid



#### Roundtrip Train Madrid - Toledo - Madrid

Train  $\cdot$  0.5 hours

Make your own way to the train station. We will provide you with tickets to and from Toledo.



Private City Tour Private group · 3 hours

My local guide, María José, will pick you up and take you to the best viewpoint of Toledo. From there you'll be able to get great pictures of the city. Later you'll be taken to the city center for a walking tour. It will include tickets to the main attractions and monuments you'll visit.

María José will also be able to share her local point of view of the city, telling you her own experiences and hidden corners you'll later be able to visit at your own.

At the end of the tour she will give you recommendations on where to go for lunch since you'll have time for that and to explore afterward before going back to Madrid.



Ask question

No hotels selected in Madrid

### Madrid



#### Museum guided visit

Private group · 2 hours

The Prado Museum is one of the greatest art museums in the world. Bosch, El Greco, Rubens, Tintoretto, Velazquez, Murillo, Goya... the ultimate artists of all times together in this Royal Collection.

But there are many others that holds much interest and have a great prestige, such as the Reina Sofia hosting the Guernica by Picasso, the Thyssen-Bornemisza, with works of Durero among many others, or the Sorlla museum, to mention some.

My local guide, Almudena, will show you a fine selection of the masterpieces of each period/artist in the selected museum/s.

She is one of the best in Madrid (teacher at university and collaborator with the Prado museum) and beyond all that he is very good dealing with people.

If you are into museums, Almudena is also your woman. She will complete the experience in the museum making it much more than a traditional visit to the works inside it.

Entrances are included so that you will avoid the lines. You'll just need to be ready to discover the secrets of the masterpieces with your tour guide!

The minimum duration is 2 hours though we can have the guide with as as long as we want, just ask!







#### Tapas in Malasaña

Small group · 3 hours · Dinner Included

Visit 4 locally owned tapas bars and restaurants that epitomize the unique blend of modern and traditional that makes the Malasaña neighborhood so iconic. Taste cured Iberian meats, the cheese board of your dreams, artful tostas, perfectly prepared seasonal vegetables, the best bravas in Madrid and so much more. Each dish is paired with its accompanying drink, as Spanish tradition dictates. From sparkling cava to robust red wine, you'll taste the liquid heroes of tapas culture, all of which are of course made in Spain!

#### What's Included

- Local Guide: Walk and eat your way through the trendy Malasaña neighborhood with a local guide.

- Spanish wine tasting: Start the evening with a cava toast and get a crash course in Spanish wine. Taste 5 unique local wines throughout the evening.

- Neighborhood walk: See modern and traditional collide as you discover the stories and legends of the Malasaña neighborhood.

- Tapas dinner: Taste both traditional and modern tapas at 4 stops. Includes an abundant dinner's worth of tapas.

#### **Dietary Accommodations**

This tour is adaptable for: Vegetarians Pescatarians Gluten free (not celiacs) Dairy free Non-alcoholic options Pregnant women



Ask question

No hotels selected in Madrid

## Madrid to Barcelona





#### Train from Madrid to Barcelona with Hotel Transfers

Train · 2.5 hours

A private car will pick you up at your hotel in Madrid and take you to the train station. We will provide you with your ticket to board this efficient service to Barcelona. The journey is generally 2.5 hours. Upon arrival, a private car will meet you and take you to your new accommodation.



Self guided

I suggest you to take a walk through the gothic quarter, maybe visit the boqueria market and the cathedral.

I would visit one of the many works of Gaudi in town.

If it is a sunny day I'd choose the Parc Güell, which is a great open sky space full of his works.

If the day is cloudy or rainy I would suggest either the Sagrada Familia or the Casa Mila. Both great.

Please think about this before traveling, maybe a week before, and check the weather forecast, you may need to get tickets in advance. Sometimes, specially in high season, it can be difficult to get tickets the same day.



Ask question

No hotels selected in Barcelona

### Barcelona



# Full Day City Tour & Gaudi (incl skip the line Tickets for Sagrada Familia & Parc Güell) - SMALL GROUP

Small group  $\cdot$  8 hours

Join us on a comprehensive guided tour of Barcelona's major highlights, with skip-the-line access to Gaudi 's world-famous masterpieces: La Sagrada Familia and Park Güell. On this day tour you will also discover the ancient Roman part of the city, the impressive Mountain of Montjuïc and much more! Enjoy a personalized guide service in the company of a small, friendly group. To ensure your comfort we also include pick up and drop off at your accommodation.

#### Highlights:

Sample the best of Barcelona on this small group full-day sightseeing tour.

Enjoy breathtaking panoramic views of the city, and tour the 1992 Olympic Village located on top of Montjüic Mountain.

Avoid long lines at La Sagrada Familia, Gaudí's crowning masterpiece.

Enjoy a guided tour inside the Sagrada Familia.

Wander along the ancient Roman walls and narrow, winding streets of the Gothic Quarter before visiting a 2,000-year-old Roman Temple.

Gain priority access to Park Güell, a beautifully landscaped park decorated with Gaudí's works.

Stroll down the elegant Passeig de Gracia, marveling at Modernist masterpieces like La Pedrera and Casa Batlló.

Get a taste of the Mediterranean lifestyle and enjoy Barcelona's coastline through the city's old fishing district and modern-day beach Platja La Barceloneta.



Ask question

No hotels selected in Barcelona

### Barcelona



#### Montserrat Tour & Boy's Choir (escolanía) & Light Hike

Small group  $\cdot$  5.5 hours

The experience starts in the upper part of Passeig de Gràcia, before journeying to experience the natural splendor of Montserrat, Catalonia's most emblematic mountain. Topped by a Benedictine Monastery, Montserrat is an ideal half-day trip to spend a fun day in nature, just a few kilometers away from Barcelona. On the way to the Monastery, admire the Massif of Montserrat, a spectacular multi-peaked rocky range packed of unique needle-shape formations. Upon arrival, visit the Monastery, which was founded in the 10th century and still functions to this day, with over 70 monks. It is also well-known for hosting the figure of La Moreneta (visit not guaranteed), who is the patron saint of Catalonia. Your guide will bring history alive by explaining the history and ventures of this Monastery dating nearly a thousand years.

Board the Sant Joan Railway to observe the area's fascinating flora and fauna following a trail (soft trekking) with the best specialized guide in Montserrat Natural Park.



Ask question



Small group · 4 hours · Lunch Included

#### La Boqueria market tour and Spanish Cooking Class

Together, the tour and the class take approximately four hours. The tour starts with accompanying our chefs to the world famous La Boqueria market, located nearby. During this 'behind the scenes' guided tour, you will meet many vendors, some of whom have been there for generations. You will learn about locally grown products and participate in the selection of ingredients that will be used later in the cooking class (this market tour depends on availability and schedule).

Upon returning to our kitchen, you will begin preparing the four course menu consisting of classic paella (on Mondays and Bank Holidays Chicken paella will be cooked) and some starters, all of which you will enjoy. All our classes are taught by professionally trained bilingual Spanish chefs. The classes provide a fun, social, hands-on experience, where you will be participating in the preparation of the various dishes under the thoughtful guidance of our chef instructors. Our classes are designed for accomplished and novice cooks, and there are activities in the food preparation process for every skill level.

Red and white wines are served while you enjoy the meal you just prepared. All our menus can be adapted to accommodate any food restriction you may have. Please advise us beforehand so we plan accordingly.

Please note that La Boqueria market is closed on national holidays.





No hotels selected in Barcelona

# Barcelona



#### Costa Brava, Tossa de Mar & Boat Ride (Small group)

Small group  $\cdot\,10$  hours

Dive headfirst into the fascinating local culture of Costa Brava, considered by many to be the most beautiful coastal region of Catalonia. Enjoy scenic views of idyllic coves as you cruise the Mediterranean coast by boat, and discover one by swimming right through. Your small group size will guarantee personalized attention from our professional guide, who will point out the secret spots of Costa Brava, including natural coves and charming fishing villages.



Ask question

No hotels selected in Barcelona

# Transfer to Barcelona-El Prat Airport (BCN), Departure



### Private transfer from Barcelona to Barcelona-El Prat Airport (BCN)

Private transfer · 0.5 hours

A private driver will transfer you from your hotel to Barcelona-El Prat Airport (BCN) in time to catch your flight.

# What's Included

#### Activities

- Day 1: City Tour + Pintxos Tour (private group)
- Day 2: Bike tour: The train track trail (private group)
- Day 3: Hiking the Camino de Santiago Trail (private group), Michelin starred restaurant (private group)
- Day 4: From San Sebastián to Bilbao (or viceversa) along the Basque Coast (private group), Guggenheim tickets (and guide) (private group)
- Day 6: Porto city tour (private group)
- Day 7: Aveiro & Coimbra (private group)
- Day 8: Lisbon Porto via Nazaré & Óbidos (private group)
- Day 9: Lisbon city introduction (private group)
- Day 10: Sintra, Cabo da Roca & Cascais (private group)
- Day 13: Cooking class (private group)
- Day 15: Off-the-beaten-path City Tour (private group), Tapas & Flamenco night (small group)
- Day 16: Day tour to Córdoba (private group)
- Day 17: Day tour to Gibraltar (private group)
- Day 18: Day tour: Ronda & White villages (private group)
- Day 19: Sacromonte and Albayzin tour (private group)
- Day 20: Alhambra Group Tour (group tour)
- Day 21: Private city tour
- Day 22: Private City Tour (private group)
- Day 23: Museum guided visit (private group), Tapas in Malasaña (small group)
- Day 25: Full Day City Tour & Gaudi (incl skip the line Tickets for Sagrada Familia & Parc Güell) SMALL GROUP (small group)
- Day 26: Montserrat Tour & Boy's Choir (escolanía) & Light Hike (small group), Cooking class (small group)
- Day 27: Costa Brava, Tossa de Mar & Boat Ride (Small group) (small group)

#### Transportation

- Day 1: Private transfer
- Day 5: Flight
- Day 19: Private transfer Seville to Granada
- Day 21: Train from Granada to Madrid
- Day 22: Roundtrip Train Madrid Toledo Madrid
- Day 24: Train from Madrid to Barcelona with Hotel Transfers
- Day 28: Private transfer from Barcelona to Barcelona-El Prat Airport (BCN)

#### Accommodations

Your specialist has not yet selected any hotels for you.

Please ask your specialist to select hotels with availability for your travel dates.

### **Excludes**

- International flights
- The meals not mentioned in the trip plan
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance, and repatriation insurance
- · Optional excursions, activities, and optional tours

### Places you will visit

### San Sebastián

3 nights



San Sebastián is known for its world-renowned culinary scene, but seeing even a snapshot of its arresting setting on the Bay of Biscay, edged by magnificent gold-sand horseshoe bays and backed by lush hills, is enough to make anyone eager to visit.

Basque gastronomy has gained fame largely for *pintxos* (the Basque version of *tapas*), but the city offers the gourmand a great deal more. The city boasts 19 Michelin stars within a 15.5-mile (25-km) radius of the center to tempt diners. And beyond the pintxos bars, the *Sidrerias* (cider houses) offer another distinctive culinary experience. The beaches are a major draw too. The highlight is the 1-mile (1.5-km) long **Playa de la Concha**, a stunning sweep of sand along the city front, connecting the two sides of the San Sebastián with a long promenade overlooking the coast.

Be sure to explore the famous *Parte Vieja* (**Old Quarter**), which sits around the eastern edge of **Bahía de la Concha** between the ocean and the River Urumea. This area is the historical nucleus of the city and is known for its maze of churches, pintxos bars, and buildings dating back to the early 19th century. On the western side of Parte Vieja is the iconic **San Sebastián City Hall**. Constructed in 1887, it was the Gran Casino during the Belle Époque period until it was closed in 1924. Bullet holes remain in the walls from a 1936 citizens' uprising against General Franco.

You might also stroll the banks of the **Urumea River**, where you'll find further fine architecture such as the Belle Époque sandstone-built **Victoria Eugenia Theater**, the palatial **Maria Cristina Hotel**, and many aristocratic houses dating to the turn of the 20th century. You can get some good pictures walking across the **Puente María Cristina**, too, one of the bridges crossing the river from Parte Vieja.

- For great views looking back at San Sebastián, take a ferry to the offshore island of **Santa Clara** in the middle of Bahía de la Concha, or ride one of Spain's oldest and most charming funicular railways up to **Mont Igueldo**, which offers up some expansive panoramas from the western edge of the city.
- Relax on **Playa de la Concha**, one of San Sebastián's three beaches, overlooked by the La Concha Promenade, which is also worth a stroll. Some say this is the best beach in Spain: see if you agree!

- Have a picnic on the grounds of **Miramar Royal Palace**, where the Spanish monarchy once spent their summers. The house itself is not open to the public, but you can visit its tranquil gardens and marvel at its breathtaking views over the water.
- Learn all about the Basque Country at the biggest museum devoted to Basque history and culture, **Museo de San Telmo**, a Dominican convent complemented by a sleek contemporary extension.

#### Bilbao

1 night



Discover **Bilbao**, a marvel of a Basque Country metropolis that is both modern and historic. The beating heart of the city is its **Old Town**, home to the city's oldest landmarks as well as many excellent bars, restaurants, and boutiques. Major sights include the 18th-century Baroque **Church of San Nicolás** with its two imposing cupolas and the 16th-century **Church of San Antón**, dedicated to Anthony the Great, an Egyptian saint and the father of monasticism. Other notable sights include the 14th-century **Cathedral of Santiago** and the **Mercado de la Ribera**, which, at 107,639 square feet, is the largest covered marketplace in Europe.

No visit to Bilbao is complete without stopping in at the **Guggenheim Museum**, a triumph of contemporary architecture designed by the legendary Frank Gehry. This glimmering titanium structure looks more like a sculpture than a building, with its sleek lines curving in virtual defiance of physics. Inside, the museum's nearly 260,000 square feet house a treasure trove of works from sensation modern artists such as Andy Warhol, Anish Kapoor, Mark Rothko, Jeff Koons, Louise Bourgeois, and Eduardo Chillida.

- Indulge in the Basque region's incredible food culture. All around Old Town you'll find bars and restaurants serving up delicious *pintxos*, which is the Basque version of tapas. Be sure to pair your delectable tidbits with a glass of *txakoli*, the local white wine.
- Do not miss the city's oldest art museum, the **Fine Arts Museum** (Museo Bellas Artes), where you can peep at masterpieces by El Greco, Goya and Gauguin.
- Voyage on a **boat trip** down city river Ría del Nervión to see sights like the Gugenheim from a different perspective.
- Take the funicular up **Mount Artxanda** for a breathtaking panoramic view overlooking Bilbao.
- Go whale watching in the **Bay of Biscay**, where razorback whales, long-finned pilot whales, and dolphins are often seen.

### Porto

3 nights



**Porto** has captivated visitors since the Romans first laid eyes on the riverside settlement in the 4th century. The UNESCO-listed **Ribeira** district with its winding cobblestone lanes, looming Gothic churches and breathtaking views over the **Douro** is a delight to explore. And no matter your weakness — European art, cutting-edge architecture, historic food markets — you'll find countless temptations in Portugal's second-largest city.

First-time visitors can get the lay of the land on a tour of Porto by antique car or perhaps get acquainted with its culinary prowess on a food tour or a private cooking class. Wine lovers should prioritize a visit to the famous port wine lodges just across the river in **Vila Nova de Gaia**. Beyond the highlights, previous travelers have enjoyed delving into lesser-known facets of Porto, including the fishermen's district of **Matosinhos**, which is rightly famous for its great seafood restaurants.

- Browse titles by Portugal's top authors at **Livraria Lello**. The bookshop, with its curved wooden staircase and stained glass ceiling, is one of the most striking in Europe.
- Take a walk past photogenic buildings that are covered by *azulejos* (hand-painted tiles). Gorgeous works cover the facades of the **Igreja do Carmo** and the **Igreja de Santo Ildefonso** as well as the interior of the **São Bento** train station.
- Hear a performance inside the futuristic **Casa da Música**. Designed by famed Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas, the concert hall is reputed to have some of the world's finest acoustics.

### Lisbon

3 nights



Cheery yellow trams still trundle along the cobblestone streets of **Lisbon**, one of Europe's most charming capitals. Home to lamplit neighborhoods, grand plazas and windswept vistas over the **Tejo River**, Portugal's capital is a place both of storied traditions and dynamic modernism. You can take in UNESCO World Heritage sites like the 16th-century **Jerónimos Monastery** then flash forward 500 years to cutting-edge art at the **Berardo Collection**. The Lisbon experience is about many things: biting into the world's best custard tart at a legendary **Belém** bakery, watching the sunset over the **Alfama** from a panoramic viewpoint, and exploring the city's fascinatingly diverse neighborhoods.

Previous travelers have explored the city on innovative excursions and customized experiences. An electric bike tour of Lisbon's Seven Hills takes in stunning views over the city while visiting some of its most impressive sights. A private cooking class gives you delicious insight into Portugal's venerable food scene, while sunset cruises along the Tejo provide a cinematic vantage point of the city. You can also take food tours, insightful walking tours through the historic center, and even explore the city by Tuk Tuk, GoCar or riding sidecar on a motorcycle tour.

- Take a stroll through the maze-like lanes of the Alafama district. By evening, you can hear live *fado* music spilling out onto restaurant terraces as the scent of char-grilled sardines wafts through the air.
- Browse for curiosities from the past at the twice weekly Feira da Ladra, Lisbon's biggest flea market.
- Join revelers in the drinking dens (and streets) of **Bairro Alto** and the **Cais do Sodre**, home to the city's best nightlife.
- Munch your way through Portuguese and international temptations at the sprawling **Time Out** market near the waterfront.
- Check out the craft breweries and galleries of the up-and-coming Marvila district.

### Algarve

4 nights



Stretched along the southern coast, the sun-drenched **Algarve** region is home to Portugal's loveliest beaches. The options here are staggering. You'll find wild and unspoiled beaches along the **Costa Vicentina**, from fine white sands and calm azure waters to golden sands backed by red cliffs. The waterfront towns offer plenty of variety, from sleepy settlements perched near sea cliffs to vibrant nightlife-loving towns popular with expats. There are also historic towns like **Tavira** that offer a little of everything, including superb restaurants, medieval architecture and excursions to a nearby island.

Though the beaches get all the attention, there's much to explore beyond the sandy shoreline. Previous travelers have made excursions to the **Serra do Caldeirão**, a mountain range that begins just inland. There you can hike to **Foia**, the Algarve's highest peak, for breathtaking views on clear days. The region is also famous for its honey and *medronho*, a brandy made from the fruit of the arbutus tree. Tours of the **Parque Natural da Ria Formosa** showcase another jewel of the Algarve. The protected reserve is home to salt pans, lagoons and islands, with abundant birdlife.

- Hit the waves in **Carrapateira**, one of the Algarve's best surfing spots. If you need to hire gear or want to take an introductory class, surf schools in town have you covered.
- Head to **Lagos** for aquatic adventures. On the beaches just outside the city center, you can hire kayaks, paddleboards, windsurf boards, surfboards and other essentials, and you can also go scuba diving.
- Feast on seafood fresh off the boat at one of the Algarve's many top restaurants. For *cataplanas* (seafood stews cooked up in a copper pot) with outstanding views, head to clifftop **Sitio do Rio** above **Praia do Amado**.
- Enjoy the unrivaled views over the sea from the headlands of **Cabo de São Vicente**, Europe's southwesternmost point.

4 nights



Seville provides the perfect mix of culture, architecture, and gastronomy. This vibrant city has been an eye-catching spot on the map for many centuries, first as a thriving cultural and commercial hub under Moorish rule in the 12th century and later as Spain's key New World trade center where gold and silver from Spain's vast territories in Central and South America were minted. This varied past is best showcased in Seville's set piece church, the world's largest Gothic **cathedral**, where the mosque that previously stood on the site has been subsumed into the bell tower design. Sporting flamboyant Neo-Moorish structures and opulent mansions, and dotted in beautifully manicured parks, the Andalusian capital quickly gets you hooked. Located on the banks of the Guadalquivir River, it is also a relatively small and fairly walkable, bike-friendly city, which adds to your enjoyment of it.

See the big sights like Moorish palace **Real Alcázar** and blockbuster art museum **Mueso de Bellas Artes**, but remember that it is the little things that can make a stay here truly special: eating tapas in a lively bar, browsing a market for tasty local treats or experiencing one of the city's legendary festivals. And like all Andalusian cities, Seville ticks to the seductive rhythms of Flamenco, which was born in Andalusia, and shouldn't be missed while you are here. There's nothing quite like experiencing the power, passion, and drama of this sultry music and dance in the heart of the region where it was created. A visit to the **Museo del Baile Flamenco**, an interactive museum and live music venue, will reveal flamenco's rich history from its origins to its current global renown.

- Visit the exciting **Plaza de la Encarnación**. This is the site of **Las Setas de Sevilla**, or Sevilla's mushrooms. These modern abstract sculptures provide an above-the-ground walkway with great views of the city.
- Attend a flamenco show in the **Triana** neighborhood, an important tradition in the region.
- Tour Mudéjar marvel Real Alcázar, a showpiece sight every bit as spectacular as Granada's Alhambra, and a major complex of palaces, courtyards, terraces and ornate grounds that requires some time to see in full. It's another place to observe the coming together of Moorish and Christian architectural styles. You can also enjoy some time in the gardens, containing pools, fountains, a hedge maze, the photogenic porticoed walkway of Galería de Grutesco and much more.
- Spend time lingering in Seville Cathedral, the largest Gothic cathedral on the planet! Besides witnessing this
  entrancing architectural wonder and seeing its famous bell tower—La Giralda—, you can visit the tomb of
  Christopher Columbus. Although this figure is highly controversial, many visitors are interested in seeing his
  tomb because of his historical importance.

### Granada

2 nights



Granada was once the last bastion of Al-Andalus (the historic Muslim name for the Iberian Peninsula) when the region was ruled by the Moors, and you can experience this vibrant influence on the city from the top down, starting with Granada's most famous landmark, the **Alhambra**. This imposing Muslim fortress was built atop a hill overlooking Granada and dates to the 9th century. It was rebuilt in the 14th century by the Nasrid Dynasty and served as a Moorish palace until 1492 when it became the Royal Court of Ferdinand and Isabella after the Christian reconquest.

Granada is also renowned for its delightful culinary scene, seasoned with sultry spicy flavors from its Moorish roots, and an equally Arabic-influenced street life. All this combines to make an abundance of exciting, animated restaurants and bars. For every glass of wine, soft drink, or beer you order, you receive a free portion of tapas, so ready yourself for a fantastic culinary adventure too. The show is all set to the tempo of flamenco, the spirited, colorful dance and music that developed in Andalusia and is an vital element of Granada culture to this day.

- Explore the magnificent Alhambra and the surrounding **Generalife Gardens**, the crowning highlight of the city.
- Experience the nuanced flavors of Andalusian food at a restaurant like Picoteca 3Maneras
- Walk the labyrinthine streets of the old Arabic quarter, **Albayzín** (UNESCO World Heritage-listed in its own right for its well-preserved medieval Moorish street layout) and nearby **Sacromonte**. In these hilly, historic neighborhoods you can visit beautiful buildings like the Moorish citadel of **Palacio Dar al-Hora**, as well as many *miradores* (viewpoints) with spectacular panoramas over Granada.
- Spend time appreciating the diverse appeal of city center attractions like **Granada Cathedral**, the elaborate Catholic church built on top of the city mosque after the Reconquest of Granada, the **Royal Church**, burial place for Catholic kings, and the **Madraza** (medieval Koranic school).
- Browse the stalls at the **Alcaicería**, a traditional Arabic silk market now full of Andalusian treats, trinkets, and souvenirs.
- Catch a flamenco show at one of Granada's tablaos to appreciate the importance and majesty of this spellbinding dance and music form.
- Take tea at one of the atmospheric teterías (teahouses) on Calle Caldereria Nueva.

### Madrid

3 nights



Home to the government and royal family, the buzzy capital **Madrid** has a central location in Spain that has ensured it is a melting pot of traditions. As a result, it boasts the most varied and vibrant culture of anywhere in the country. It is best known for its grand palaces, parks, and excellent museums, including some of the continent's very best art museums. The city is made for walking, too—with wide, elegant boulevards displaying a fabulous array of architectural styles and expansive, manicured parklands such as **El Retiro Park**. It also boasts some of Europe's and the world's finest art museums, the must-see **Prado Museum** and **Reina Sofia Museum**. The former showcases art throughout the ages, with works by Goya, Velázquez, and other Spanish masters, while the latter focuses on 20th-century works.

What makes this city of about three million people so grand is that, on the one hand, it's a modern European metropolis filled with chic boutiques, beautiful green spaces, numerous classy cafés and restaurants, and legendary nightlife. On the other, it's hosted many centuries of seminal Spanish history, as you'll see in the imposing plazas and palaces around Madrid de los Austrias, the city's medieval center, and the charming cobbled streets of Barrio las Letras, a neighborhood of Cervantes once called home.

- Take a *paseo*(stroll) through the **Madrid de los Austrias** area in the city center. You'll definitely want to see some of the highlights like the **Puerta del Sol**, one of the most historic and expansive plazas in the city, and from here, you can walk a couple of minutes southwest to **Plaza Mayor**, one of Spain's grandest squares and the neighborhood's heart and soul. Just down the street, you'll find the **Royal Palace of Madrid**, home to Spain's monarchs, a building originally raised by the Moors in the 9th century but owing most of its appearance to a 16th-century renovation.
- Head just east of the center for a wander through **El Retiro Park**. This 308-acre park and UNESCO World Heritage Site is the green lung of Madrid, filled with fountains, gardens, lakes, and one particularly beautiful landmark, the **Palacio de Cristal**, an 1887-built glass-and-cast-iron conservatory modeled on British architect Joseph Paxton's Crystal Palace.
- Browse the **Mercado San Miguel**, the historic municipal market (it's been open for over 100 years), where you can graze to your heart's content on the seemingly limitless tapas on offer from the 30-odd stalls. There are also international food options plus any number of desserts, headlined by fresh churros and chocolate and artisanal ice cream.
- Visit the Teatro Real opera house, built in 1818. You can check their calendar to take in dance, music, and

theatre performances.

- As to the difficult decision about where to dine amid Madrid's fabulous places to eat, you can now sample the cuisine of the city's most famous chef, Dani García, who previously operated a three-Michelin-starred restaurant, for more affordable prices at Dani, a suave brasserie in the Four Seasons Hotel.
- If you are interested in sports, take a tour of the **Estadio Santiago Bernabéu**, the 81,000-seat stadium home to the Real Madrid football club.

### Barcelona

4 nights



Barcelona, the capital of the fiercely independent Catalonia province, is a cosmopolitan city built upon Roman strata, where labyrinthine medieval quarters share space with the most striking examples of 20th-century modernism and avant-garde architecture. Barcelona is a city where you can get happily lost—in its energy, its culture, and its cuisine. Despite being one of the more popular tourist destinations in the world, there's a mystique to the city that's irresistible, and plenty of chances to stray off-piste into centuries-old side-streets and atmospheric local markets. Its unique Catalan culture draws visitors in, and they, in turn, get seduced into staying for the iconic and idiosyncratic cityscape, the world-class cuisine, sultry nightlife, museums, art galleries and alluring beaches rimming the nearby coast.

No visit here would be complete without learning more about the work of its most illustrious architect and the most famous representative of Catalan Modernism: Antoni Gaudí, who has defined how Barcelona looks today. Stroll around Gaudí's **Park Güell**, a wonderful expanse where nature and art meet, and marvel at the soaring heights of the **Sagrada Familia**, the iconic basilica that is already a UNESCO World Heritage site, even though it is still under construction.

travelers can participate in the Barcelona ritual of Vermouth tasting, getting insights into the drink's history along the way, go on a Gaudí walk to discover the architect's impressive legacy in the city or discover the fascinating Gothic Quarter through their taste buds sampling delicious tapas.

- Peruse the **Picasso Museum**, which houses over 4,000 works by the cubist master, or the **Museu Nacional** d'Art de Catalunya, home to an impressive collection of Catalan art that spans over 1,000 years.
- Experience one of Spain's and Europe's best **dining scenes**, which made globally renowned stars like Albert and Ferran Adrià and Carles Abellan. Start with Tapas 24, helmed by Abellan: a showcase of how daring and delicious tapas can be.
- Visit one of the city's prettiest green spaces, the 19th-century **Parc de la Ciutadella**. You'll find modernista treasures hidden amongst the fauna, like the castellated **natural history museum**.
- Gravitate to Montjuïc Castle, which sits on a prominent hill overlooking Barcelona, at sunset. The castle was built during the Reapers' War in 1640. To get there you'll travel in a cable car offering up fantastic views of the city, and you could wander round the surrounding neighborhood of El Poble-Sec beforehand, a leafy area full of interesting 19th-century buildings, theaters and stylish eateries.