



# Grand Tour of Portugal & Spain: Porto to Barcelona

## 15 days | 18 days with Basque Country extension

The seafaring history and Moorish architecture that the Iberian Peninsula is known for only tells part of the region's story. The other half lies in the local culture, which is best experienced at a bustling Portuguese taverna or in a colorfully tiled Spanish plaza. Dive into the delights of classic destinations like lovely Lisbon and sunny Seville while also enjoying time to marvel at sites such as the captivating Chapel of Bones in Évora and awe-inspiring Alhambra in Granada.



## Your tour package includes

13 nights in handpicked hotels13 breakfasts5 dinners with beer or wine10 sightseeing toursExpert Tour Director & local guidesPrivate deluxe motor coach2 train rides

#### Included highlights

Stock Exchange Palace Monument to the Discoveries Évora's Chapel of Bones Seville Cathedral Olive oil tasting Alhambra Córdoba's Mezquita Prado Museum

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with some hills.

#### Group size

15–38

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## **Overnight flight** $\rightarrow$ 1 night

## Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Porto today.

## $\textbf{Porto} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

## Day 2: Arrival in Porto

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Portugal! Settle in to your hotel in the heart of this 2,000-year-old, UNESCO-listed city. Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner tonight.

## Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Porto

Included meals: breakfast

Get to know Porto like a true tripeiro (Porto resident) as you follow your local guide.

- Wander through the medieval lanes of the Old-World Ribeira district and along the picturesque Douro Riverfront
- Pass citywide icons, such as the Baroquestyle Clérigos Tower, the Gothic São Francisco Church, and the wrought-iron Maria Pia Bridge
- Step inside the city's famed neoclassical Stock Exchange Palace

Enjoy free a free afternoon in Porto or add an excursion.

+ Douro River Cruise & Port Wine Cellar Visit

## $\textbf{Lisbon} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

## Day 4: Lisbon via Coimbra

Included meals: dinner, breakfast Drive south and stop to explore Coimbra on a guided walking tour of the city's chapel and the country's first university. After, continue on to Lisbon and sit down for an included dinner.

#### Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Lisbon

Included meals: breakfast

Get to know the Portuguese capital on a tour with a local guide.

 Admire views of the city from Eduardo VII Park and pass the Praça Marquês de Pombal as you travel along Avenida da Liberdade

- Stop at the waterfront to discover the city's maritime heritage at the Monument to the Discoveries and Tower of Belém
- View the outside of the church at Jerónimos Monastery, built to honor voyagers
- Walk from Time Out Market through the heart of the city to Praça do Comércio

Spend a free evening in Lisbon or add an excursion.

+ Lisbon Cooking Class & Dinner

## $\textbf{Seville} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

## Day 6: Seville via Évora

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Join a local guide on a tour of UNESCOrecognized Évora, a picturesque Portuguese locale and one of Europe's oldest continuously inhabited cities.

- Take in the region's whitewashed homes and intricate tilework
- Pass the remains of the Roman temple and enter the Chapel of Bones

After, continue on to Seville, Spain and sit down for an included dinner.

## Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Seville

Included meals: breakfast

Uncover the beauty of Seville, the historic Andalusian capital, on a guided tour.

- View the tiled pavilion of the Plaza de España
- Pass the whitewashed homes of Barrio de Santa Cruz
- Enter the Gothic Seville Cathedral, the thirdlargest church in the world

Enjoy free time in Seville or add an excursion. + Seville Tapas & Wine Tasting Tour

## **Granada** $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

## Day 8: Granada via olive oil farm

Included meals: breakfast, dinner Leave Seville and make your way to Granada, stopping en route to discover some of the flavors of Andalusia.

• Stop at an olive oil farm and join a local guide for a tour of the olive groves, mill, and cellar

Sample some orange-infused olive oil drizzled on top of chocolate gelato
Enjoy free time to shop

Continue on to Granada and sit down for an included dinner.

## Day 9: Sightseeing tour of the Alhambra

Included meals: breakfast

Take a guided tour of the UNESCO-recognized Alhambra, the Moorish sultans' last stronghold in Spain.

- Walk along the Cypress Promenade to view the upper and lower gardens of Generalife Palace, once the Nasrid dynasty's summer home
- Enjoy panoramic views overlooking Granada and the surrounding countryside
- View the unique curved, Roman-style courtyard inside the Palace of Charles V
- Admire the blend of Western art and Islamic design as you stroll through ornamented courtyards
- Enter the Nasrid Palaces and see the Mexuar, where the Council of Ministers met
- See where the royal family lived during visits to Comares Palace and the Palace of the Lions

Please note: The order of activities is subject to change.

Spend a free evening in Granada or add an excursion.

+ Granada Flamenco Show

## Madrid $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

## Day 10: Madrid via Córdoba

Included meals: breakfast

Transfer through the Andalusian countryside to Córdoba, Europe's largest medieval city, and discover its history on a guided tour.

- View the Calleja de las Flores
- Enter the Mezquita, a UNESCO World Heritage site built in the eighth century as a mosque and then converted into a cathedral during the Reconquista
- Walk through the Old Town and the Jewish Quarter

After, board a high-speed train and travel to Madrid.

Please note: Porterage is not included for the train transfers. Travelers must be comfortable lifting and carrying all luggage over steps, onto platforms, and into luggage storage.

#### Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Get an insider's view of Madrid with a local guide.

- View the Royal Palace, Spain's largest royal residence
- Pass by the Temple of Debod, a reassembled temple from ancient Egypt
- View the city's many squares, including Plaza Colón and Plaza Neptune
- Explore the Prado, a world-class art museum that began as the private collection of the Spanish monarchy and is home to the works of Goya, Velásquez, and more

Enjoy a free evening in Madrid or add an excursion.

+ Traditional Spanish Evening

## Day 12: Free day in Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Madrid or add an excursion. + Toledo

## $\textbf{Barcelona} \rightarrow 2 \text{ nights}$

## Day 13: Train to Barcelona

Included meals: breakfast

Board a high-speed train and travel to Barcelona. Then, enjoy a free evening in the city or add an excursion.

+ Park Güell & La Pedrera

## Day 14: Sightseeing tour of Barcelona

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Follow a local on a guided tour of the Catalonian capital.

- Step inside La Sagrada Família, Gaudí's famous masterwork-in-progress
- Drive along Passeig de Gràcia, past Gaudí's "House of Bones"
- Stop at Montjuïc, where the 1992 Olympic Games took place, and stroll through Mirador de l'Alcalde Park
- Pass Plaça d'Espanya

Celebrate your trip with your group at tonight's farewell dinner.

## **Flight Home**

#### Day 15: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures) Transfer to the airport for your flight home or

continue on to explore Basque Country.

## + Basque Country extension

If the next-level cuisine doesn't call you to northern Spain, the striking landscapes will. Journey to the Basque Country and join a local expert to discover the unique sites of Pamplona and Bilbao, from the Running of the Bulls route to the Frank Gehry-designed Guggenheim.

## **Basque Country** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 15: Basque Country via Pamplona

Included meals: breakfast

Board a train and travel through the Aragon and Navarra regions to Pamplona, which is located in Basque Country, and get to know the old city on a walking tour

- Pass Plaza de Toros and walk along the Running of the Bulls route
- Admire Pamplona Cathedral and Pamplona City Hall

After, continue on to your hotel in the Basque Country.

#### Day 16: Sightseeing tour of Bilbao

Included meals: breakfast

Set off on a guided sightseeing tour of Bilbao this morning.

- Admire the architecture in Bilbao's Old Quarter, known as Casco Viejo
- Enter the Gehry-designed Guggenheim Museum, a showplace of modern and contemporary art, and admire the unique architecture alongside a local guide

#### Day 17: Free day in the Basque Country

Included meals: breakfast Enjoy a free day in Basque Country or add an excursion. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your group.

+ A Day in San Sebastián

## **Flight Home**

#### Day 18: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the Bilbao airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.com/GPS | 1-800-597-0350** 

#### Day 3: Douro River Cruise & Port Wine Cellar Visit

\$89/\$99\* (3.5 hours, departs in the afternoon) Float along the beautiful Douro, the Iberian Peninsula's third-longest river. Take in scenes of Porto's vibrant waterfront and the historic city of Vila Nova de Gaia, home to the region's centuries-old port wine warehouses. As you cruise, you'll drift under five of the river's most iconic Old-World bridges, passing colorful hillside villas and traditional rabelos (flat-bottomed boats) along the way. Back on shore, pay a visit to one of Porto's most prestigious wine cellars. During the guided tour, learn about the long history of port wine, as well as the ins and outs of its production and warehousing. Then, sit down to taste three of the cellar's world-famous vintages.

#### Day 5: Lisbon Cooking Class & Dinner

\$129 (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included) Under the guidance of a professional chef, you'll cook a three-course meal featuring traditional Portuguese cuisine. Learn about the country's most famous foods and the flavors that make them unique to this corner of the world. Then, enjoy eating your meal for dinner alongside a glass of regional wine. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

#### Day 7: Seville Tapas & Wine Tasting Tour

\$105/\$115\* (4 hours, departure time varies) Head to central Seville and meet up with a local guide. You'll set off on a food-themed walking tour through the charming Triana neighborhood that will mix history, traditions, and gastronomy together along the way. As you stroll along the river, learn the history of tapas and about Andalusian gastronomy before entering your first tapas bar. From the history of Barrio, the birthplace of flamenco, to the beautiful ceramic tiles, you'll be sure to gain a new insight on this amazing city while you feast on delicious plates of tapas.

#### Day 9: Granada Flamenco Show

\$75/\$85\* (3 hours, departs in the evening) Flamenco is a unique and colorful Andalusian art form that combines guitar playing, singing, clapping, and dancing. UNESCO declared flamenco to be one of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity and tonight, you'll get a taste of this one-of-akind art form in the region where it was created. Make your way to a traditional cave dug into the hillsides where you'll sip an included drink as you watch the authentic performance, which allows expressive lyrics, moving instrumentals, and passionate dancing.

#### **Day 11: Traditional Spanish Evening**

\$119/\$129\* (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Start the evening with a stroll through Plaza Mayor. Your Tour Director will tell you about the history of the square, where you'll see locals and travelers alike. On your way to dinner, walk through the illuminated streets of Madrid, taking in the local neighborhood ambiance in the evening light. Then, enjoy conversation, camaraderie, and live music at one of the oldest restaurants in the city. Between traditional Castilian courses, you'll be entertained by tuno music, an artistic tradition with its roots in Spain's universities.

#### Day 12: Toledo

\$105/\$115\* (8 hours, departure time varies) Today, discover Toledo, the clifftop city often referred to as La Ciudad Imperial ("The Imperial City"). Upon arrival, you'll have some free time to explore. Later in the afternoon, you'll kick off a guided tour at Toledo Cathedral: a massive Gothic structure housing a treasure trove of stained glass windows and golden artifacts. Gaze upon its sacristy, containing masterpieces by the likes of Van Dyck, El Greco, Rubens, and Titian. After exploring the labyrinth of medieval alleyways in the heart of the city, you'll visit the Church of Santo Tomé-a former mosque, dating to the 12th century, graced by one of El Greco's finest works, "The Burial of the Count of Orgaz." End your day with a stop at Santa María la Blanca, a museum that ranks as one of the oldest synagogues in Europe. Please note: This tour involves some walking over uneven terrain. Also, depending on the day of the week, the sites you visit may change.

#### Day 13: Park Güell & La Pedrera

\$109/\$119\* (4 hours, departure time varies) On today's excursion, discover the magnificent works of Antoni Gaudí, the famed Spanish architect known for his bold, distinct designs. Casa Milà is the first stop. Take a guided tour of this building, popularly known as "La Pedrera," which was built by Gaudí between 1905 and 1910. Everything about the building is visually unique, from its wave-like stone structure to the grandly designed roof. Next, you'll head to Park Güell, also designed by Gaudí. Your guide will lead you through the park, which contains stunning buildings, intricate stonework, and colorful mosaics. At the top of the park, marvel at the brilliant views of Barcelona.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 17: A Day in San Sebastián

\$99/\$109\* (7 hours, departs in the morning) Spend the day in San Sebastian, the Basque Country's culinary capital. A local guide will lead a walking tour of the city, which is bordered by green mountains and an expansive bay. Visit picturesque Playa de la Concha and stroll through the town's Old Quarter. You'll walk through the bustling Plaza de la Constitución and pass by one of the many markets where locals go to buy fresh fish. Then, pop into a bar to try pintxos, Basquestyle tapas, paired with a locally produced white wine called txakoli. End the day by enjoying time to explore the city at your leisure.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms