



Spain

May 15 – 24, 2019

Spain is a fascinating country to explore, bursting with historic treasures, architectural wonders, dramatic scenery, and charismatic cities.

Our journey begins in the golden metropolis of Madrid where we find medieval mansions, royal palaces, and a plethora of artistic masterpieces including Picasso's Guernica, Spain's most famous artwork. From Madrid we'll travel out to Toledo, dramatically sited at the top of gorge overlooking the river; a place where we find Roman roots, Gothic cathedrals, Sephardic synagogues crammed into the dense historical centre.

A fast train takes us south to Andalucia, a cultural melting pot of Christian and Moorish influences with ancient mosques transformed into churches, richly decorated palaces, and a cuisine infused with North African flavours. We'll visit the highlights in the beautiful cities of Seville, Cordoba, and Granada, ending our trip in the Mediterranean seaside town of Malaga.

Don't miss this Life Institute trip to Spain in the company of fellow Life Institute members and friends.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

WorldwideQuest
EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL SINCE 1970



Alcázar of Seville courtyard

TOUR LEADER

Olivier Courteaux received his B.A. in history, M.A. in war and conflicts studies and Ph.D. in contemporary international relations from the University of Paris-Sorbonne. A regular public speaker and commentator for various TV networks, he is the author of a number of books in the field of international relations including *Canada Between Vichy and Free France, 1940-1945*, (2013) and *Quatre Journées qui ébranlèrent le Québec* on Charles de Gaulle's famous 1967 "Vive le Québec Libre", (2017). His current book project, *The Empress Eugenie at Suez, 1869: France and Egypt during the Second Empire*, looks at the diplomatic relations leading to the inauguration of the Suez Canal. Olivier has recently taught a course on the subject of Spain which will guide the tour.

Detailed Itinerary

Wednesday, May 15: Arrive Madrid

Arrive in Madrid, where a local representative provides a transfer to our hotel in the heart of the city. Enjoy a guided tour of the city to see Plaza Mayor, Plaza de la Villa, Puerta de Alcalá, Gran Vía, Paseo de la Castellana, and Barrio Salamanca. Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

Overnight: Hotel Ganivet, Madrid

Meals: Dinner

Thursday, May 16: Madrid

Tour the Royal Palace to admire its lavish halls, banqueting rooms, and throne room. This afternoon travel by private coach to Toledo, a melting pot of Christians, Arabs, and Jews for centuries. See the medieval castle, the synagogue, and the 13th century cathedral.

Overnight: Hotel Ganivet, Madrid

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Friday, May 17: Madrid

Experience the grandeur of Spain at the Baroque El Escorial monastery, the Spanish monarchs' historical residence. Back in the city, admire Picasso's Guernica at the Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid's premier collection of contemporary art.

Overnight: Hotel Ganivet, Madrid

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Saturday, May 18: Seville

Board the fast AVE train (2'38") from Madrid to Seville this morning. Get to know the city on a guided walking tour this afternoon, exploring the mix of splendid Mudejar palaces, baroque churches, and winding medieval lanes.

Overnight: Eurostars Regina, Seville

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



El Escorial monastery



Seville's Cathedral

Sunday, May 19: Seville

Tour the immense, awe-inspiring Cathedral, the world's largest Gothic Cathedral, built over the remains of the city's mosque. Highlights include the mighty bell tower and the tomb of Christopher Columbus. Visit the Real Alcazar, the UNESCO-listed palace complex, a magnificent marriage of Christian and Mudejar architecture. The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the city.

Overnight: Eurostars Regina, Seville

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Monday, May 20: Cordoba

This morning travel by private coach through the scenic countryside to Cordoba. Visit the mesmerising Mezquita, one of the world's greatest Islamic buildings and a symbol of the vibrant culture that flourished when Cordoba was the capital of Islamic Spain. Wander the winding, stone-paved lanes of the medieval city to discover the pretty piazzas.

Overnight: Eurostars Maimonides, Cordoba

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Tuesday, May 21: Drive to Granada

This morning travel by private coach from Cordoba to Granada, the last stronghold of the Spanish Moors. Explore the city centre in a guided walking tour this afternoon and visit the Capilla Real to see the monumental marble tombs within the Gothic mausoleum.

Overnight: Macia Condor, Granada

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Wednesday, May 22: Granada

Set against the scenic backdrop of the Sierra Nevadas, the fortified palace complex of Granada is one of Spain's most spectacular sights. Visit the showpiece places and the gorgeous Generalife gardens with our guide. The afternoon is at leisure to continue your visit of the Alhambra or to explore the streets of the historic Albayzin neighbourhood.

Overnight: Macia Condor, Granada

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Thursday, May 23: Malaga

Travel by private coach to Malaga on the Mediterranean Sea. Malaga is Picasso's birthplace; visit the Museum with over 200 works donated by the artist's family, the Moorish Alcazaba palace and the historic city centre.

Overnight: Zenit Malaga, Malaga

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Friday, May 24: Depart Malaga

Transfer to Malaga Airport for departure flights.

Note: The itinerary and accommodation is subject to change. Weather changes, logistical arrangements, or local events may require changes in the published itinerary.



Paella



Spanish salami,
sausage and ham



Deep fried
anchovies



TOUR DETAILS

Tour Cost (per person): C\$3895

Based on a minimum of 20 participants.

Single Supplement: C\$1295

*We would be happy to try to match you with a suitable roommate. If we are unable to, the single supplement will apply.
This will be collected at 90 days prior to departure.*

What's Included:

- Airport transfers for passengers arriving and departing as per the group itinerary
- Accommodation based on double occupancy in hotels listed or similar
- Breakfast daily, 3 Lunches, 5 Dinners
- Coffee/Tea, Water, with lunches and dinners
- Train travel from Madrid to Seville in economy class
- Internal transportation by air-conditioned private coach
- Sightseeing with qualified English-speaking guides
- All activities
- All entrance fees

Madrid: Royal Palace, El Escorial, Reina Sofia Museum

Toledo: Alcazar, Cathedral, Synagogue

Seville: Cathedral and Alcazar

Cordoba: Mosque and Alcazar

Granada: Royal Chapel, Alhambra, Generalife Gardens

Malaga: Cathedral, Picasso Museum

- Gratuities for escort, local guides, drivers, hotel and group meals
- Taxes
- Fully escorted by Worldwide Quest Travel Director

Not Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from your home to join the tour
- Meals other than those mentioned above
- Fuel surcharges, if applicable
- Excess baggage charges
- Items of a personal nature
- Travel insurance
- Additional arrangements required due to any emergency or other situation
- Any item not mentioned in "tour cost includes" above

Payment Details:

A non-refundable deposit of C\$500 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. A second payment of C\$1000 per person is due six months prior to departure. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Joining Instructions

This tour begins with our briefing and welcome dinner at 6PM on May 15th. Please ensure that you arrive in Madrid by 4PM to join the group. All travellers arriving on the start date of the tour will be met on arrival and transferred to the group hotel. This transfer is included in the cost of the tour. When you book the designated pre-trip accommodation with Worldwide Quest, your transfer from the airport to our group hotel on arrival is included. If you are making your own pre-trip arrangements, this transfer can be provided at additional cost. The tour concludes with a single complimentary group transfer from the hotel to the airport on May 24th. Please contact us to verify timing of this transfer prior to making any flight arrangements.

Level of Activity: Moderate

A good level of fitness is important for this trip. You must be comfortable walking on uneven terrain and irregular paving for at least two hours at a stretch. Should you have any questions about your ability to join this tour, please be in touch.

Accommodation

Hotels have been selected for city-centre locations and ease of exploration in the heart of the city. Please note that guestrooms in Spain may be smaller than North American hotels. All rooms have private bathrooms.

Transportation

We will be travelling in a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle driven by a professional driver. This tour includes one journey by high-speed train.

Weather

We expect a sunny skies with average daytime temperatures between 20°C and 25°C and overnight lows of about 13°C.

Travel Documents

A passport is required for this trip. Please ensure it is valid for at least 6 months beyond your scheduled return home.

Travel advice

Before booking, please refer to the Canadian government website to obtain travel advice for the destination(s) you are visiting: www.travel.gc.ca



ADDITIONAL INFO

Terms and Conditions

For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, the current brochure or our website. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario - License # 2667946).

Cancellation Policy

All payments are non-refundable, however you may transfer your initial deposit for any land tour to another tour 90 days or more prior to your scheduled departure date. Your second payment and your final payment are non-refundable and non-transferable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. The tour price is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credits will be given for services not used. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing.

Travel Insurance

We urge you to ensure that you have adequate cancellation and medical insurance in place, should an unexpected event cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip or should the tour not be operable per our terms and conditions. We will offer you Manulife insurance coverage. Medical insurance including emergency medical evacuation coverage is mandatory on all our tours.

HOW TO BOOK

For any questions and to reserve your spot, please contact Worldwide Quest at:

travel@worldwidequest.com
1-800-387-1483

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