



BARCELONA, NORTHERN SPAIN & PORTUGAL JOURNEYS

(TOUR CODE: 15592)

STARTS AND ENDS

Barcelona to
Madrid

TRAVEL PERIODS

14 Jun 26 - 16 May 27

EXPERIENCE

Group Journeys
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Escorted Group Tour

Discover the best of Spain and Portugal on a 17-day journey from Barcelona to Madrid. Explore vibrant cities, scenic coastlines, and UNESCO treasures while savouring regional cuisine.

Highlights

- **Guaranteed Departures**
- Small group of maximum **24 People**
- Marvel at iconic landmarks including the **Sagrada Familia** and enjoy a **scenic catamaran sail**
- Discover **Bilbao's Guggenheim** and **savour pintxos in San Sebastián**
- Explore picturesque **Santander, Covadonga, and Santiago de Compostela's sacred sites**
- Cruise the **Douro River**, taste **Port wine**, and experience a **fado dinner in Porto**
- Wander **Lisbon and Madrid's** historic quarters, grand boulevards, and royal landmarks before a farewell feast

Embark on a captivating 17-day journey through the cultural heart of the Iberian Peninsula, from the vibrant streets of Barcelona to the historic charm of Madrid. Discover Northern Spain's scenic coastline, artistic treasures, and culinary delights, before crossing into Portugal's enchanting cities of Porto, Coimbra, and Lisbon. Along the way, admire architectural masterpieces, UNESCO World Heritage sites, and authentic regional flavours. This immersive adventure offers the perfect blend of history, art, gastronomy, and breathtaking landscapes across Spain and Portugal.



GUARANTEED
DEPARTURES



VARIED GROUP
SIZES



SUSTAINABLE
TRAVEL



ENGLISH-ONLY
EXPERT GUIDES



HANDPICKED
CENTRAL HOTELS



AUTHENTIC
EXPERIENCES



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 16-night accommodation in 4-star hotels
- Transportation by luxury coach
- Catamaran sailing experience in Barcelona
- Douro River Cruise and Port wine tasting in Porto
- Cruise along the Aveiro estuary in a typical moliceiro
- Daily Breakfast
- Dinner and cider tasting in a traditional cider house in Oviedo
- Pintxos dinner in Bilbao
- Mussels and wine tasting during a Rías Baixas cruise
- Seafood dinner at a local restaurant in Lisbon
- Chocolate & churros tasting in Madrid
- Fado show and dinner in Porto
- Local guides in Barcelona, Madrid, Bilbao, Santiago, Porto and Lisbon
- Entrance fees included for: Sagrada Familia and Santiago Cathedral
- English-Speaking Only Tour Director throughout the journey

ITINERARY

Day **1**

Barcelona

Arrival at the airport and transfer to your hotel. Join your travel director for your **welcome dinner** at a local restaurant and enjoy the opportunity to get to know your fellow travellers over a delightful evening of good food and wine.

Overnight stay in Barcelona at **Hotel Catalonia Plaza** or similar.

**We recommend you to select flights that arrive no later than 5 PM so you can enjoy the itinerary from the beginning.*

Dinner



Day 2

Barcelona

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning city tour of **Barcelona**. Drive along the main avenues with its impressive Gaudi modernist buildings such as **La Pedrera and Casa Batlló**. The **Montjuïc Park** with spectacular views of the city and harbour, **Olympic Ring, Monument to Columbus** and the **Olympic Port**. Visit the most important landmark in the city of Barcelona, **Sagrada Família**.

Continue to **Port Vell** to board a catamaran and sail along the beautiful coastline of Barcelona. Upon arrival, the crew will welcome you on board with music, a **courtesy drink and a typical local tapa** to start the experience in a Mediterranean style. You can sit in the shaded aft seats to feel the sea breeze, or lie on the forward nets in the sun to tan and be closer to the sea. This experience is the ideal complement to get to know Barcelona from all perspectives

The afternoon is for you to keep on discovering this city.

Overnight stay in Barcelona at **Hotel Catalonia Plaza** or similar.

Breakfast



Breakfast at the hotel. Departure southwest along an industrial and agricultural area with certain relevance within Europe. Arrive to **Zaragoza**, capital city of Aragón, within the banks of **Ebro River**, the most copious within the Iberian Peninsula.

Free time to see the impressive **Baroque architecture** of the **Basilic Temple of Our Lady Pilar**. Continue to **Pamplona**, internationally famous for its annual **San Fermín festival**, a city rich in history, with roots dating back to Roman times, and offers a variety of cultural and architectural attractions, including its medieval old town and the Gothic-style Cathedral. Depart to **Bilbao**.

Overnight stay in Bilbao at **Radisson Collection** or similar.

Breakfast



SAN FERMIN FESTIVAL

Breakfast at the hotel. Take 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 marvelous 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 marvelous 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.

Overnight stay in Bilbao at **Radisson Collection** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



CITY VIEWS FROM MOUNT IGUELDO

Day **5** Bilbao Castro Urdiales Santander

Breakfast at hotel. Bound for **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**.

Overnight stay in Santdaner at **Hotel Santander** or similar.

Breakfast



SANTANDER BAY

Day **6** Santander Santillana del Mar Covadonga Oviedo

Breakfast at hotel. Depart to **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 of its 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.

Overnight stay in Oveido at **Hotel Silken Monumental Naranco** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **7**

Oviedo Mondoñedo Lugo Santiago de Compostela

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound 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 holly land**, declared World Heritage, as it is the most important centre of **Christian Pilgrimages** in Spain as the end of the Camino de Santiago.

Overnight stay in Santiago de Compostela at **Hotel Exe Peregrino** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 8 Santiago de Compostela

Breakfast at the 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.

Overnight stay in Santiago de Compostela at **Hotel Exe Peregrino** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 9 Santiago de Compostela Rias Bajas Porto

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart towards one of the most marvelous areas of **Galicia**, **the Rias Bajas** (Spanish Fjords). Continue to the **Ria de Arosa**, where will do a cruise, with tasting of the typical wines and mussels.

Bound for 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.

Overnight stay in Porto at **Hotel Vila Galé** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **10** Porto

Breakfast at the hotel. Take 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.

Overnight stay in Porto at **Hotel Vila Galé** or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **11** Porto

Breakfast at the hotel. Day at leisure.

Tonight, you will have the opportunity to share a **typical fado show with dinner** with your fellow travellers

Overnight stay in Porto at **Hotel Vila Galé** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **12** Porto Aveiro Coimbra

After breakfast, we depart to **Aveiro**, known for its picturesque canals, which have earned it the nickname “The Venice of Portugal”. We will **enjoy a ride on a moliceiro**, a traditional colorful boat used for navigating the canals of Aveiro, before heading to Coimbra. We will meet the local guide for a tour of Coimbra, a historic city known for its prestigious university (one of the oldest in Europe), charming medieval streets, and beautiful riverfront.

Overnight stay in Coimbra at **Hotel Coimbra Aeminium** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **13** Coimbra Batalha Nazare Lisbon

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the **Batalha Monastery**, a masterpiece of Gothic and Manueline style considered a World Heritage place by UNESCO. Continue to the picturesque fishing town of **Nazaré** and time at leisure. Then, we continue to Lisbon.

In **Lisbon**, we will cross the **Tagus River to Cacilhas** and enjoy a **dinner at a local restaurant** featuring seafood.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at **VIP Executive Art's Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



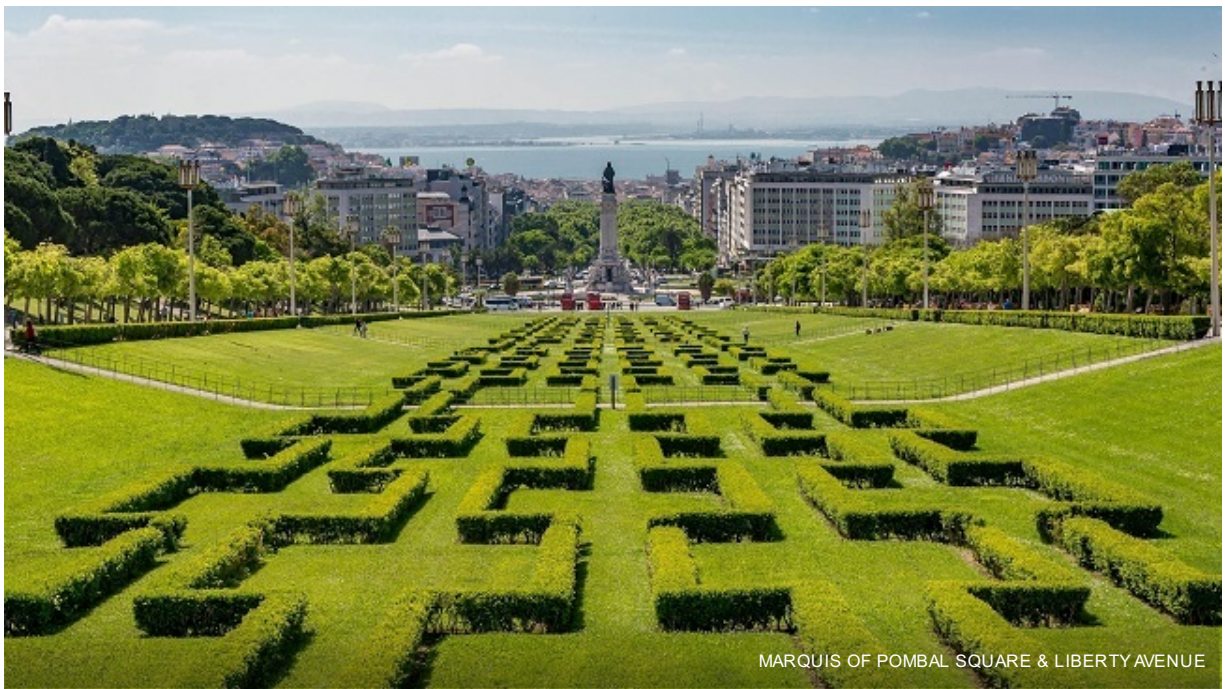
Day 14 Lisbon

After breakfast, join a morning city sightseeing of the ancient **Olissipo**. Drive through its main squares and avenues, **Belem Tower, Jeronimos Monastery, 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 color housing the genuine "tabernas". Rest of the day at leisure to enjoy this magnificent city.

Overnight stay in Lisbon at **VIP Executive Art's Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



MARQUIS OF POMBAL SQUARE & LIBERTY AVENUE

Day **15** Lisbon Merida Madrid

Breakfast at the hotel. Bound for Andalusian soils, back in Spain, we drive to **Merida**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its wellpreserved Roman ruins, including the **Roman Theatre and Amphitheatre**. Explore its rich historical heritage before continuing to Cordoba, once the capital of the Caliphate.

Overnight in Madrid at **The Westin Madrid Cuzco** or similar.

Breakfast



AMPITHEATRE IN MERIDA

Day **16** Madrid

Breakfast at the hotel. Discover the beauties of the city with a **guided city tour** with your local expert: **Barrio de la Morería, the Hapsburgs District, 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**, as well as commercial and

financial areas of **Modern Madrid**, and the **Santiago Bernabéu Football Stadium**. During the visit, we will taste the typical chocolate with churros, the most Madrid-style snack.

Afternoon at leisure to continue exploring the wonders that the city has to offer. In the evening, join your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner

Overnight in Madrid at **The Westin Madrid Cuzco** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day 17 Madrid

After breakfast at the hotel transfer to the airport.

End of services.

Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza

Barcelona

The Catalonia Barcelona Plaza hotel is located in Barcelona next to Plaza España and the facilities of the Fira de Barcelona and Montjuïc. With 347 rooms, an ideal place to stay on a business trip or a few days off. The panoramic terrace has a swimming pool and a large chill-out area with bar service and offers incomparable views of Plaza España and the Magic Fountains of Montjuïc, as well as most of the rooms. The Catalonia Barcelona Plaza hotel has 3 restaurants, an aesthetic and beauty center with treatments and massages, 13 meeting rooms equipped with the latest technology, free Wi-Fi, parking in the same building and excellent connections with all public transport.



Radisson Collection Bilbao

Bilbao

Experience the five-star Radisson Collection Hotel, Gran Vía Bilbao, featuring 137 elegantly designed rooms and suites that seamlessly combine modern sophistication with exceptional service. Immerse yourself in the vibrant artistic culture of the city and visit renowned Bilbao landmarks, including the iconic Guggenheim Museum.

Enjoy an unforgettable evening at the speakeasy rooftop bar, beautifully decorated with vertical gardens, colorful parasols, and stunning views of Bilbao. For a distinctive dining experience, savor the harmonious blend of flavor, texture, and aesthetics at the Eneko Basque Bilbao Restaurant by Eneko Atxa.



Hotel Santemar

Santander

The hotel is ideally located two minutes from the kilometer-long fine sand beach El Sardinero and very close to La Magdalena, the former residence of Alfonso XIII. Its location is privileged for visitors who need accommodation close to the Santander Conference and Exhibition Center and the Magdalena Palace, the venue for the UIMP summer courses and the main venue for most of the congresses held in the city. The rooms at the Hotel Santemar have been carefully designed to offer you the ultimate in comfort and relaxation.



Hotel Silken Monumental Naranco

Oviedo

This 4-star hotel offers excellent facilities and a prime location just a 10-minute walk from Oviedo's old town, making it ideal for both business and leisure travellers. One of the few in the city with a swimming pool, it provides modern comforts and spacious areas for guests to relax and explore Asturias.



Hotel Exe Peregrino

Santiago de Compostela

Located in Santiago's peaceful Santa Marta neighbourhood, this welcoming hotel offers a relaxing stay just 15 minutes from the historic old town and near the city's Intermodal Station. With bright, wood-accented rooms, expansive gardens, a panoramic terrace, and an outdoor pool, it provides an ideal retreat for travellers on the Portuguese Way. Guests can also enjoy a generous breakfast buffet, a fitness studio, on-site parking, and a restaurant serving fine local cuisine.



Hotel Vila Galé Porto

Porto

Vila Galé Porto is centrally located, a 10-minute walk from Rua de Santa Catarina and 100 metres from Campo 24 de Agosto metro. Built in 1999 and renovated in 2015, it features cinema-inspired décor, rooms for all needs, two restaurants, bars, event spaces, and a rooftop spa with pool, jacuzzi, gym, and city views. Guests can easily explore the Ribeira, Port Wine Cellars, Casa da Música, Serralves Museum, and landmarks like Aliados, Sé Cathedral, Clérigos Tower, and Palácio da Bolsa.



Hotel Coimbra Aeminium Meliá

Coimbra

Located in a quiet area near the university hospital and Coimbra city centre, Hotel Coimbra Aeminium Affiliated by Meliá offers comfortable rooms and a varied buffet breakfast. Close to the historic old town, University of Coimbra, Botanical Gardens, and Celas Convent, it's an ideal base to explore the city's museums, convents, and vibrant student atmosphere.



VIP Executive Art's Hotel

Lisbon

The VIP Executive Art's Hotel combines modern design with calming, neutral décor, offering a peaceful retreat in the heart of a bustling city. Focused on guest comfort, it provides well-designed rooms, excellent service, dining, and facilities, creating a relaxing environment that balances city energy with tranquility.



The Westin Madrid Cuzco

Madrid

The new Westin Madrid Cuzco, set on the prestigious Paseo de la Castellana just five minutes from Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, offers 287 elegant rooms and suites, including a new two-bedroom concept. Enjoy the signature Westin Heavenly Bed, free Wi-Fi, a modern gym, a lavish breakfast buffet with show cooking, a stylish bar, and a fine dining restaurant. With six versatile meeting spaces and excellent transport links via Cuzco Metro and Chamartín Station, it's ideal for both business and leisure stays in Madrid.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Every departure is guaranteed with at least 8 guests. If we can't run the Small Group Journey, you'll still enjoy the same itinerary and dates on the regular coach tour, plus a discount.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package

IN PARTNERSHIP

