



# **College Study Tours: Spain (Lisbon, Seville & Madrid) 2018**



- ◆ **Day 1: Fly to Portugal**—Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Lisbon.
- ◆ **Day 2: Lisbon**
  - **Arrive in Lisbon:** Built around the winding River Tagus, the Atlantic port of Lisbon was conquered from the Moors in 1147 and later set forth intrepid seafaring discoverers such as Vasco de Gama. Take a tram up and down the narrow cobbled streets of Lisbon's seven hills or admire the magnificent government square of Praça do Comércio.
  - **Walking tour of Lisbon:** Experience Old World atmosphere as you stroll Lisbon's age-old Moorish Alfama district. Many of the cities surviving historical buildings are located in the district, including 16th century aristocratic palaces and churches. Later, enjoy dinner with your group.
- ◆ **Day 3: Lisbon**
  - **Sightseeing tour of Lisbon:** Recall the Age of Discovery at Padrão dos Descobrimentos and the Torre de Belém. It was from here that many navigators set sail, including Bartolomeu Dias, who sailed around the southern tip of Africa.
  - **Visit the Castelo de São Jorge:** Discover the medieval castle where the early kings of Portugal once resided. Explore its grounds while you enjoy breathtaking views of the city below.
  - **Visit the Mosteiro dos Jerónimos:** Further relive the days when Portugal was a great trading empire as you visit the Mosteiro dos Jerónimos, a monastery built by King Manuel to honor the country's great voyagers.
  - **Free time:** Soak up Lisbon's electric mix of medieval and modern by hopping on a vintage tram or strolling its seemingly ancient neighborhoods.
  - **Sintra and Cascais (optional):** Visit Sintra, a historic town that houses two royal palaces as well as a ruined castle. Then, head to Cascais, a charming coastal town that has been a holiday destination since the 19th century.
- ◆ **Day 4: Seville**
  - **Travel to Seville:** Journey to the city of bullfights, flamenco, and Don Juan.
  - **Sightseeing tour of Évora:** A walled town since Roman times, Évora is Moorish in character with alleys cut by arches and brilliant whitewashed houses decorated with colorful *azulejos*, or tiles. Its town center, the Praca de Giraldo, has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
  - **Walking tour of Seville:** Explore Seville on a walking tour. Round out your evening with a delicious paella dinner.
- ◆ **Day 5: Seville**
  - **Sightseeing tour of Seville:** Follow narrow, twisting alleys through the Barrio de Santa Cruz. Pass by Maria Luisa Park to admire the mosaics and fountains of Plaza de España, centerpiece of the 1929 Ibero-American Fair. At the Plaza de Toros you can imagine the spectacle of a traditional Spanish bullfight.
  - **Visit Alcázar Palace:** Stand in awe of Seville's Alcázar Palace, an architectural wonder originally founded as a fort for the governors of Seville in 913. The palace has been expanded and reconstructed many times during its 11 centuries of existence, and was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
  - **Seville Cathedral:** Visit the third-largest church in the world, a grand, Gothic structure that took over a century to build.
- ◆ **Day 6: Madrid**
  - **Travel to Madrid:** Board Spain's high speed, energy efficient AVE train to Madrid, the capital and largest city in Spain.

- **Walking tour of Madrid:** Wander through the Puerta del Sol, the heart of the Spanish capital. At Plaza Mayor, you'll learn about this grand square's history of bullfights, royal weddings, and public executions.
- **Visit the Prado Museum:** Explore the home of an astonishing 3,000 paintings collected by Spanish royalty. This massive building is constantly expanding in order to accommodate its catalogue of Velazquez and Goya. It also boasts fine pieces by El Greco, Botticelli, and many Flemish artists.
- ◆ **Day 7: Madrid**
  - **Sightseeing tour of Madrid:** Take in the sights of Madrid as you travel the length of the city's main artery. At La Estación de Atocha, aided in design by Gustave Eiffel, peer into the water-lily pond flanking the tropical garden. Next stop brings you to the Egyptian Templo de Debod, a gift from the Egyptian government.
  - **Visit Palacio Real:** Built by King Philip, this palace was once the seat of the most powerful court in the world. It was here that Spain officially joined the European Community in 1986. Marvel at the splendid marble staircase, the golden Throne Room, and the priceless frescoes and chandeliers.
  - **Free time:** Enjoy getting to know Madrid however you see fit.
- ◆ **Day 8: Madrid**
  - **Free day in Madrid:** The day is yours to explore the city at your own pace.
  - **Guided excursion to Toledo (optional):** *Crammed onto a rocky plateau, Toledo reveals a history of astounding religious tolerance. The fusion of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian influences manifests itself on the corner of every cobbled street. Tour the ostentatious Gothic cathedral, view El Greco's The Burial of Count Orgaz, and visit the synagogue of Santa Maria la Blanca, as well as a local damascene workshop.*
  - **Tapas dinner:** Tonight, enjoy a traditional tapas dinner with your group.
- ◆ **Day 9: Depart for home**
  - Your Tour Director assists with check-in for your return flight home.

### (Optional) 2-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

- ◆ **Day 9: Barcelona**
  - **Travel by AVE to Barcelona:** Board the AVE train to Barcelona, the country's second-largest city. As the capital of fiercely nationalistic Cataluña, Barcelona was the hotbed of resistance under the rule of General Franco and celebrates its unique identity through its language, its increasingly influential government, and on the global stage as host to the unforgettable 1992 Olympic Games.
  - **Walking tour of Barcelona:** On your walking tour of Las Ramblas, stretch your legs and take this iconic part of the city at your own pace. Flower vendors and street performers greet you as you make your way through this tree-lined thoroughfare. Tonight, share dinner with your group and enjoy local flavors and specialties.
- ◆ **Day 10: Barcelona**
  - **Sightseeing tour of Barcelona:** See why Barcelona is an art lover's haven, and the perfect home for masters like Miró, Picasso, and Dalí. Admire avant-garde gems in open-air plazas. Snap photos of the twisting spires of La Sagrada Familia and the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc.
  - **Park Güell:** On your visit to Park Güell, marvel at Gaudí's landscaped greenery and playful Modernist mosaics.
  - **Free time:** Spend your evening exploring Barcelona on your own.
- ◆ **Day 11: Depart for home**
  - ◆ Transfer to the airport and check in for your return flight home.
  - ◆ For the most recent itinerary and a full list of everything included in your program, visit [www.efcst.com/lisma](http://www.efcst.com/lisma)