



# Treasures of Spain

9 or 11 DAYS

### Included in the program fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner daily
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director

### Not included in the program fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Personal Insurance
- Porterage
- Beverages and lunches
- Public transportation to free time activities

**Overnight stays:** Barcelona (2); Valencia (1); Granada (2); Madrid (2 or 4).

**Sightseeing tours led by an expert:** Barcelona; Granada; Madrid; Avila & Segovia; Toledo.

**Entrances included:** Park Guell; Fallas Ninot-Building Workshop; Alhambra; Granada City Challenge; Tea House; Royal Palace; Prado Museum; Segovia Alcazar; Toledo Cathedral; Santo Tome & Synagogue.

**Optional Excursions:** Flamenco Show.

Please note that the following is a sample timed itinerary for this EF tour with approximate addresses, activity durations, and transfer times. Exact timing may vary based on available flights, hotel location, scheduled activity bookings, traffic, etc. Your EF Tour Director is available to the group 24/7 while on tour. EF works with Group Leaders to ensure that travellers have a safe and memorable experience while on tour.

### Day 1: Fly overnight to Spain!

#### Day 2: Barcelona

### Morning: Arrive in Barcelona and meet your Tour Director at the airport

Welcome to Barcelona, an art lover's dream city and the place where masters like Miró, Picasso and Dalí flourished. As the capital of fiercely nationalistic Cataluña, Barcelona also celebrates unique identity through its language and increasingly influential government.

### 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Walking tour of Las Ramblas

Join your Tour Director on a walking tour that will introduce you to Barcelona. Together, you will walk down the dynamic Las Ramblas pedestrian street. Keep an eye out for colorful flower stalls, mime artists, local eateries and perhaps come upon the splendid La Boqueria food market.

5:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Barcelona

7:00pm: Group dinner at the hotel in Barcelona

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 3: Barcelona

6:00am: Wake-Up call 7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Barcelona

#### 10:00am: Guided sightseeing of Barcelona

Cette visite guidée par des experts vous fera découvrir la ville de Barcelone, vibrante et riche sur le plan culturel. Vous pénétrerez dans le parc Güell, œuvre fantastique de Gaudí, avec sa fontaine au lézard en mosaïque et l'un des bancs les plus longs du monde. Votre bus vous emmènera également devant La Sagrada Família, œuvre inachevée d'Antoni Gaudí, dont les flèches torsadées et les mosaïques colorées en ont fait un symbole incontournable de Barcelone. Ensuite, vous continuerez à travers le quartier de l'Eixample, en descendant le Paseig de Gràcia où vous verrez les maisons de Gaudi, La Pedrera et la Casa Batlló.

### 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Visit Park Guell

You'll also visit Park Guell, a World Heritage Site designed by Antoni Gaudí. The beautifully landscaped park is decorated with playful Modernist mosaics. Visit the Room of a Hundred Columns, a covered market with 84 pillars, and see the Casa-Museu, where Gaudí lived from 1906 to 1926.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Barcelona

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 4: Barcelona | Valencia

#### 6:00am: Wake-Up call 7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel

### 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Valencia

Continue past the abundant orange and lemon groves of the region nicknamed 'Spain's Orchard'. The Moors first irrigated Valencia's remarkably fertile land and even today it produces rice for its world-famous dish, paella. Famed for its gourmet cuisine, the undeniably hard-working festivalloving people of Valencia make up what has become Spain's third-largest city.

### 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 2:00pm: Walking tour of Valencia

Your tour director acquaints you with Valencia, known for its broad boulevards, bell towers, and colorful fiestas. According to legend, the town's cathedral became the home of the Holy Grail in the 15th century. Valencia boasts many beautiful historic monuments, including the Miguelete, the Cathedral, the Serrano's and Quart's Towers and the Lonja de la Seda.

### 3:00pm: Participate in a Fallas Ninot-Building Workshop (seasonal)

Learn about the Fallas festival and how the ninots (paper mache dolls) are built. Then, flex your creative muscles and make your own! You will create a ninot from scratch and then paint it before you take it home.

\*groups travelling between February 1 – March 31 will participate in a Paella cooking class.

### 5:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Valencia

7:00pm: Group dinner at the hotel in Valencia

### 9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

### Day 5: Valencia | Granada

#### 6:00am: Wake-Up call 7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Granada

Travel to Granada! Strategically located between the foothills of the imposing, snowy-peaked Sierra Nevada and the beautiful Mediterranean coast, Granada is an architectural masterpiece and thriving university city.

### 12:00pm: Stop for lunch at a service station on the way to Granada

4:00pm: Walking tour of the Albaicin

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Granada

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Granada

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

### Day 6: Granada

#### 6:00am: Wake-Up call 7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Granada

#### 10:00am: Guided visit of the Alhambra

Visit this magnificent complex that was originally built as a fortress in 889 and later converted into a royal palace in 1333 by Yusuf I, Sultan of Granada. Though it experienced long periods of disrepair, it was rediscovered and restored in the 19th century by European scholars. The theme of Alhambra is "paradise on earth," and the geometrical patterns typical of Muslim art are found in the arabesques and tiles throughout the palace. (*Please note the visit includes the Gardens of Generalife, the Summer Palace, Alcazaba Fortress, the Medina Arab baths, the Palace of Charles V and the Partal Palace.*)

### 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 2:00pm: Granada city challenge

After visiting the Alhambra, your local guide will lead you on a scavenger hunt throughout the city. Using maps, photographs and a list of challenges, you will scour the city for some of Granada's hidden treasures.

#### 4:00pm: Visit a Tea House

Take part in one of Granada's most honored traditions. Due to its strong North African and Arabian influence, tea drinking is an extremely popular form of relaxation and socialization for the people of Granada. Today, experience an authentic tea house in the heart of the city.

### 6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Granada

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Granada

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 7: Granada | Madrid

6:00am: Wake-Up call 7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Madrid

Travel to Madrid! At 2,100 feet, this is Europe's highest capital, a hub for art-lovers, and home to one of the world's most famous soccer teams.

### 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 2:00pm: Walking tour of Madrid

Your Tour Director will introduce you to Madrid during a walking tour. Together, you might see the impressive Puerta del Sol, stand in Madrid's historic Plaza Mayor or stroll down the chic and trendy Gran Via.

### 3:00pm: Supervised exploration time at Retiro Park

Enjoy time to make your own explorations of Retiro Park. Located very near the city center, this beautiful park has many sculptures, monuments and even a lake.

### 5:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Madrid

#### 7:30pm: Optional Activity - Madrid Flamenco Evening

The name itself evokes the emotions and traditions of Spain. Flamenco is a unique art form combining guitar playing, singing, chanting, dancing and handclapping. (Keep in mind that the guitar is a Spanish invention, dating back to the 1500's.) There are two main types of song: one lively and cheerful (*cante chico*) and the other sad and haunting (*cante jondo*).

\*if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones

#### 9:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 8: Madrid

6:00am: Wake-up call 7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central Madrid

#### 10:00am: Guided Sightseeing of Madrid

Your expert local guide will introduce you to Madrid, the capital and largest city in Spain. During your panoramic bus tour, see the Plaza Mayor and the Puerta del Sol. Get a taste of royal Madrid as you visit the extravagant Palacio Real.

### 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 2:00pm: Walking tour of Madrid

Your Tour Director will introduce you to Madrid during a walking tour. Together, you might see the impressive Puerta del Sol or stroll down the chic and trendy Gran Via.

### 4:00pm: Visit the Prado Museum

Explore the Museo del Prado which houses an astonishing 3,000 paintings collected by Spanish royalty. This massive building is constantly expanding in order to accommodate its impressive catalogue of Velazquez and Goya.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Madrid

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Madrid

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

#### Day 9: Depart for Home

#### 4:30am: Wake-Up Call

5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

### 6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at <u>www.eftours.ca/bc</u>.

# • For an additional cost add the following 2-day extension:

#### Day 9: Madrid

6:00am: Wake-up call 7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Avila and Segovia

10:00am: Guided sightseeing of Avila and Segovia

### 12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 1:30pm: Visit the Alcazar in Segovia

### 3:00pm: Walking tour of Avila

Stop in Ávila, famous as the birthplace of St. Teresa. Admire the town's remarkably wellpreserved city walls. Dating back to 1090, they are considered to be the finest surviving example of medieval fortification. Inside the walls see the looming cathedral displaying the transition from Romanesque to Gothic style. Outside the walls, visit the Monasterio de Encarnación, where St. Teresa lived for 30 years.

### 6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Madrid

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Madrid

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 10: Madrid

### 6:00am: Wake-up call 7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel 8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Toledo

#### 10:00am: Guided Sightseeing of Toledo

An expert local guide will introduce you to the former Spanish capital of Toledo, where Muslims, Jews and Christians once peacefully coexisted. As you walk through Toledo's old town, notice the influence of all three cultures. Enter into the 12thcentury St. Mary's Synagogue, and visit the cathedral that dominates Toledo's skyline. Then continue to the Church of Santo Tomé. You will also have the opportunity to learn about the intricate Muslim craft of damascene at a local workshop.

### 1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

### 3:00pm: Supervised exploration time in Madrid

Enjoy time to explore Madrid in small supervised groups. You may wish to visit one of Madrid's many museums, or stroll through one of its iconic neighborhoods, like trendy Malasaña or Barrio de Salamanca.

### 6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Madrid

8:00pm: Travel by private motorcoach to the hotel in Madrid

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

### Day 11: Depart for Home

#### 4:30am: Wake-Up Call 5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel 6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at <u>www.eftours.ca/bc</u>.



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