Portugal & Spain

Experience the vibrant tapestry of Portugal and Spain in just 14 days! Begin in Lisbon with a welcome dinner featuring authentic cuisine. Explore historic landmarks like the National Tiles Museum and enchanting villages like Sintra. Travel through picturesque landscapes to discover medieval castles, wine regions, and iconic cities like Porto and Madrid.

Immerse yourself in culture, cuisine, and centuries of history on this memorable journey.



SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY ONE -

Arrive in Lisbon, Portugal, and check-in to your local hotel.

The remainer of your afternoon is free to explore the area, rest after traveling, and take advantage of the hotel's amenities.

This evening, meet up with your group for an included Welcome Dinner at a favorite restaurant serving authentic regional cuisine.

DAY TWO -

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel each day.

Embark on a City Tour of Lisbon, one of the oldest capitals of Europe. Lisbon is a city of pastel colors and cobblestone streets, of vistas, and monuments.

Visit the National Tiles Museum, set in the former Madre de Deus Convent, and one of the most important Portuguese museums with a collection dating back to the 15th century.

This afternoon, proceed to the medieval village of Sintra, former Royal summer residence and inspiration for numerous princes, artists, writers, and poets, such as Lord Byron who named it "the Garden of Eden".

Return to Lisbon for an included dinner before returning to your hotel.

DAY THREE -

Check out of your hotel this morning.

Depart towards Óbidos and stop at a medieval village surrounded by the walls of its castle & white limed houses. Enjoy a Tour & Tasting of "Ginjinha" (cherry liqueur) in a chocolate cup.

Your journey continues with visits to Nazaré, a picturesque & colorful fishing town, the most traditional in Portugal, followed by a stop in Alcobaça to visit its

Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Upon arrival an included dinner this evening will serve fresh, authentic cuisine, prior to checking in to your local hotel.

DAY FOUR -

Check out of your hotel and depart for Coimbra, housing the oldest university of Portugal. Visit the main buildings of the Old University, such as the Manueline style chapel with its 18th century organ, the Senate Room, (Sala dos Capelos), the main room of the University, and the impressive Library, one of the most beautiful in the world.

Proceed to Aveiro, also known as "the Venice of Portugal", with its crossed canals throughout, giving the city a unique character.

Enjoy a small Boat Cruise in a moliceiro, before continuing to Porto, the capital of the north, to check-in to your local hotel and where a delicious dinner included awaits your arrival.

DAY FIVE -

Today, explore Porto, the 2nd city in Portugal. Built on the right bank of the Douro, Porto offers the contrasts of a city both ancient and modern. Explore city highlights including: the old Ribeira District, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the Baroque Churches.

Visit the S. Bento Train Station, with its magnificent azulejos (tiles), evoking the traditional life in the north of Portugal.

Enjoy a Mini Cruise on the Douro River, allowing you to discover the city and its bridges from a different perspective.

A tour in Porto would never be complete without a visit to a Port Wine Cellar on the bank of River Douro, in Gaia, and learn about its production, storage methods, and all the secrets making this nectar one of the most appreciated in the world.

A delicious dinner is included this evening at a popular restaurant.

DAY SIX -

Embark on a Day Tour to the Douro Valley, the first wine region in the world to be demarcated.

Discover the small village of Pinhão on the banks of the Douro. Its charming railway station is renowned for the beauty of its *azulejos* (tiles panels).





540-869-1864







SAMPLE ITINERARY continued...

DAY SIX (continued) -

Revel in the view from the water, on a Boat Trip at the heart of the Douro Wine Region.

Visit one of the typical "quintas" (wine-estate), where Port and Douro wines are produced and enjoy an included lunch while exploring the quinta.

Return to Porto for an included dinner.

DAY SEVEN-

Check out of your hotel and depart for Tomar this morning.

Tomar is the former seat of the order of the Knights Templar. It is a city of great charm for its artistic and cultural wealth, whose greatest expression is in the Convent of Christ, one of the chief works of the Portuguese Renaissance.

Enjoy a delicious dinner included before checking in at your Tomar hotel and relaxing at your leisure.

DAY EIGHT-

Embark on a day of City Touring!

Visit Fátima, one of the most important Catholic shrines in the world. Every year, it welcomes millions of pilgrims from all over the world.

Discover the Little Chapel & the Basilica do Rosário, before enjoying an included dinner where you'll savor a host of regional favorites.

DAY NINE-

Check out of your hotel this morning and depart for Alentejo, known for its slow way of life.

Visit the medieval, walled village of Marvão featuring an impressive view from the top of its hill.

Discover Castelo de Vide, typical village of Alentejo, with small white houses, winding streets, flowers, and an important Jewish heritage.

Continue to Caceres, Spain for an amazing dinner included followed by checking in to your local hotel.

DAY TEN-

Check out of your hotel this morning and depart for Madrid.

Upon arrival, check-in to your local hotel before an included dinner at a popular location known for its exceptional cuisine.

DAY ELEVEN -

Embark on a Guided Panoramic Tour of Madrid, covering the principal monuments: Calle Mayor, Plaza Mayor, Plaza de la Villa, the Royal Palace, the Cibeles Fountain, the Neptune Fountain and the Puerta de Alcalá, Gran Vía, Paseo de la Castellana, Barrio Salamanca, & Plaza de Castilla, as well as the commercial and financial areas of Modern Madrid.

To end the visit, walk by the neighboring Parque del Retiro, one of the most famous and beautiful parks in the city. Retiro is full of hidden gems, like the small crystal palace, the lake with little boats, and other secret spots.

Enjoy a dinner prior to seeing a live Flamenco Show!

DAY TWELVE -

This morning, depart for Toledo, one of the oldest towns in Europe and a beautiful city-museum declared as UNESCO's World Heritage site. Toledo is also known as the "City of the Three Cultures", since Christians, Muslims, and Jews all lived there together. It has a great artistic beauty and buildings from almost all periods in history, Arabian, Gothic, Mudejar, Renaissance, and Baroque style.

With a local Guide, visit the inside of the famous Primate Cathedral of Toledo, a magnificent sample of flamboyant Gothic style. Walk through the old Jewish quarter with its narrow streets.

Return to Madrid for dinner included.

DAY THIRTEEN -

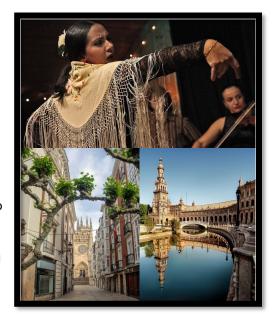
Begin this morning with a visit to Avila, the city of Kings and of Saints, birthplace of St. Theresa of Avila. Visit the Monastery of the Carmelites, where you can visit the cell where Santa Teresa lived and see the relics of Teresa and San Juan de la Cruz.

Embark on a Guided Tour of the ancient city of Avila, whose architecture and culture have remained the same for many centuries.

Return to Madrid for a Farewell Dinner included and the rest of your day at your leisure.

DAY FOURTEEN -

Check out of your hotel this morning and transfer to the airport for your return flight home.





540-869-1864