



SPAIN-PORTUGAL-MOROCCO

Day: 1

Location: ARRIVE IN MADRID-SPAIN

Description: Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free to start exploring lively Madrid.

Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers.

Day: 2

Location: MADRID

Description: Spaniards say the Spanish capital, situated 2,180 feet above sea level, is the nearest thing to Heaven. It's certainly worth making the most of today by joining the included guided sightseeing tour: a full panoramic drive by way of the Avenida Mayor, Puerta del Sol, Parliament Square, and a picture stop outside the Royal Palace. The optional trip to Toledo is most rewarding, too. The splendid setting of this old walled city above the Tagus was made famous in El Greco's painting, and even now it's like a great open-air museum of Spanish history and art.

Day: 3

Location: MADRID-AVILA-SALAMANCA-COIMBRA-PORTUGAL

Description: Visit ancient fortified Avila with its many towers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Continue to Salamanca and make sure you spend some time wandering around PLAZA MAYOR, the grandest square in Spain. Cross the frontier to Guarda, the highest town in Portugal. From here, descend to the valleys of the Serra da Estrela to Coimbra.

Day: 4

Location: COIMBRA-FÁTIMA-OBIDOS-LISBON

Description: Enjoy an orientation tour of Coimbra, celebrated for its beauty and ancient university.

Later, travel southwards to visit the SANCTUARY of Fátima, one of Europe's most celebrated Marian shrines. Continue to fortified Obidos, one of the most picturesque towns in Portugal, before reaching Lisbon for two overnights.

Day: 5

Location: LISBON

Description: Henry the Navigator made Lisbon the 15th-century "Mistress of the Seas." On the

included guided tour, see his monument, the Belem Tower, the Moorish Citadel, and the impressive Black Horse Square. Spend the afternoon at leisure—maybe in the Alfama's tile-decorated streets, or take an optional excursion to coastal Estoril and Cascais.

Day: 6

Location: LISBON-SEVILLE-SPAIN

Description: From the rolling plains of the Alentejo with its woodlands of cork and eucalyptus trees, head southwards all the way to the brilliant light of Andalusia. Admire its neat, white-painted villages and sun-drenched plantations of olives, figs, and almonds while traveling towards magnificent Seville.

Day: 7

Location: SEVILLE

Description: Enjoy an included sightseeing tour of the city's main highlights, such as the cathedral, Alcázar, and Plaza d'España. Afternoon at leisure.

Day: 8

Location: SEVILLE-FERRY TO MOROCCO-RABAT

Description: Drive through Spain's pretty sherry wine region and head south to the coast. Here, you will embark the FERRY and cruise across the Strait of Gibraltar to Morocco on the African continent. Travel along what was once the infamous Barbary Coast, then continue the drive south to Rabat, one of Morocco's imperial cities.

Day: 9

Location: RABAT-CASABLANCA-MARRAKESH

Description: Today starts with an included guided city sightseeing tour of the country's lively capital, including a visit to CHELLAH GARDENS and CASBAH DES OUDAIAS. Later, reach Morocco's westernmost city: Casablanca. Enjoy an orientation drive in this modern city and see the illustrious Hassan II Mosque—perched dramatically on a platform over the Atlantic Ocean. One of the largest mosques in the world, its minaret soars 689 feet into the sky and part of the mosque's floor is made of glass so worshippers can kneel directly over the ocean's waters. Continue on to the "red" oasis city of Marrakesh.

Day: 10

Location: MARRAKESH

Description: The highlight of this morning is included city sightseeing that will make you feel like you've been whisked back in time. Founded in the 9th century, Marrakesh remains a tapestry of ramparts, mosques, palaces, gardens, and vibrant public squares and souks (markets)—where buying and selling and a carnival of entertainment and fascinations occur daily. An optional excursion this evening is the perfect end to the day.

Day: 11

Location: MARRAKESH-FEZ

Description: Today, travel through the fragrant cedar forests of the Middle Atlas mountains, where a number of peaks soar above 13,000 feet in elevation. This range is home to the endangered Barbary ape, as well as wild boar and polecats. On your way north to Fez, enjoy glimpses of North African village life reminiscent of Beau Geste.

Day: 12

Location: FEZ

Description: Ancient Fez is a city of outstanding scenic beauty. Visit the MEDINA during included sightseeing this morning, and enjoy the maze of narrow streets through the colorful bazaars and exotic atmosphere. The madrasas, fondouks, palaces, residences, mosques, and fountains dating back to the 13th century are now UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In the afternoon, explore further on your own.

Day: 13

Location: FEZ-FERRY CROSSING TO SPAIN-COSTA DEL SOL

Description: Today, an early departure takes you north for the FERRY back to mainland Spain to the Costa del Sol (Coast of the Sun).

Day: 14

Location: COSTA DEL SOL-GRANADA

Description: Drive along the Costa del Sol and head to Granada in the heart of Andalusia. On the agenda: an included guided visit of the ALHAMBRA COMPLEX, a lavish palace and fortress built by Moorish kings. With construction dating back to 889 AD, you'll marvel at its architectural Moorish beauty and magnificent gardens. Enjoy free time to explore Granada at leisure.

Day: 15

Location: GRANADA-MADRID

Description: Travel through the very heart of Don Quixote's La Mancha, famed for its castle and windmills. Before arriving in Madrid, visit a local wine cellar and taste some of the locally produced wines.

Day: 16

Location: DEPARTURE-MADRID

Description: Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.