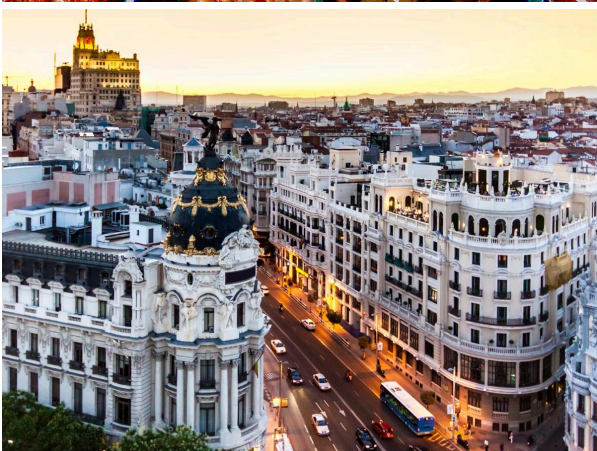
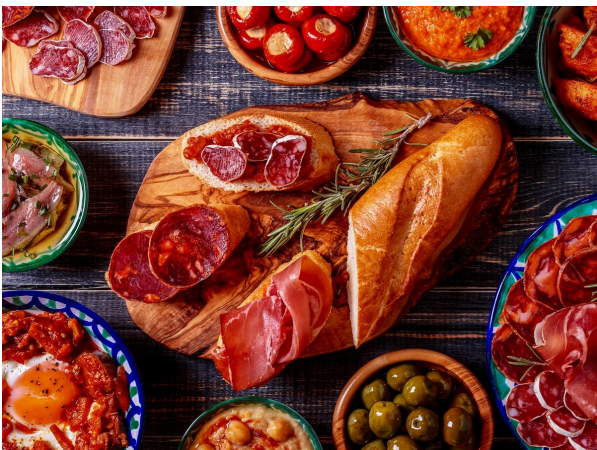




Madrid and Barcelona

Group Organizer: Ms. Ivette Bravo-Rivera

Tour Includes

Departure Date

June 20, 2024

Overnights

Madrid 3 • Barcelona 3

Accommodations

Accommodations in centrally-located three-star or four-star hotels. Rooming on a triple basis. Double rooms: \$240 per person.

Transportation

Round-trip transportation on scheduled airline.

Meals

All breakfasts. All dinners.

Tour Director

Services of a specially-trained **passports** Tour Director throughout. Tipping is included in the Program Cost.

Travel Protection

passports provides and pays for a Post-Departure Travel Protection Plan that provides coverage for Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Baggage Loss or Delay, Medical Expense and Evacuation and more.

Investment

\$3573
\$275 / month

Program Cost \$3723
-\$150 Early Enrollment Discount
Total \$3573

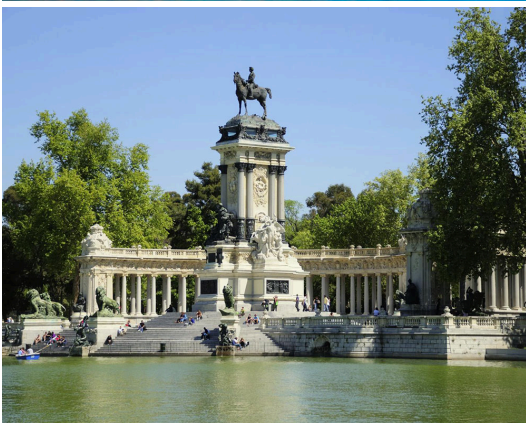
Monthly payments are based on the E-Z Pay payment schedule with \$0 deposit. Early Enrollment Discount expires June 15, 2023. Final payment is due 3/2/2024 or, with E-Z Pay, 5/21/2024. Tour cost is based on a combined group size of 35 participants. Departure from Orlando, FL. Adults 24 years or older are automatically charged for double rooms. With doubles, total price is \$3,813.

For More Information

- 1 Visit our website
passports.com
- 2 Enter Tour ID
IBRAVO-RIVERA2024-3

Madrid and Barcelona

Departs: June 20, 2024



Days 1-2: Home - Madrid

Arrival transfer

Day 3: Madrid

Half-day city sightseeing: Guide, Visit to the Prado Museum, Prado headset

Excursion to Toledo: Guided walking tour in Toledo, Visit to Toledo Cathedral, Visit to the Church of *Santo Tomé* (El Greco's painting), Visit to a historic synagogue

Optional Flamenco dinner and show

Day 4: Madrid

Excursion to El Escorial and the Valley of the Fallen: Visit to the Royal Monastery of El Escorial, Visit to the Valley of the Fallen

Day 5: Madrid - Barcelona

Departure transfer, AVE train Madrid-Barcelona, Arrival transfer

Day 6: Barcelona

Barcelona City Sightseeing: Local Guide, Visit to Parc Güell

Visit to the Sagrada Família Basilica

Day 7: Barcelona

Optional Excursion to Montserrat: Round trip on the Montserrat Funicular, Visit to the Basilica of Montserrat

Day 8: Departure

Departure transfer

To enroll or view full text itinerary, point your camera here:



Detailed Itinerary

Thursday 6/20 - Friday 6/21

Home - Madrid

Arrival transfer

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight: Madrid

Saturday 6/22

Madrid

Half-day city sightseeing: Guide, Visit to the Prado Museum, Prado headset

Excursion to Toledo: Guided walking tour in Toledo, Visit to Toledo Cathedral, Visit to the Church of *Santo Tomé* (El Greco's painting), Visit to a historic synagogue

Optional Flamenco dinner and show

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Optional: Flamenco dinner and show

Overnight: Madrid

Days 1-2: Arrival in Madrid

A dream comes true as your wide-bodied jet thunders off the airstrip, Europe-bound! Watch the sun rise up to meet your airplane, after a short night. Spain glides by beneath your airplane, in shades of sienna, as you head towards Madrid's Barajas Airport.

Get settled in your *madrileño* hotel and explore your surroundings.

Stroll in the Plaza Mayor, the heart of the Old City.

For lunch, why not duck into a sidewalk *mesón* for a *sopa de pescado* or some *calamares*?

Day 3: Madrid City Sightseeing, Excursion to Toledo, Optional Flamenco Dinner and Show

On a tour of the city, you will be introduced to the sights and the city grand squares: *Plaza Mayor*, *Puerta del Sol*, *Plaza de España* with the Cervantes Monument, *Gran Vía*, *Calle Alcalá*, *Plaza de Colón*, and *Plaza de Cibeles* with its fountains.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Madrid and its surroundings, will accompany your group.

Visit to the Prado Museum

View world-famous paintings by El Greco, Goya, and Velázquez, and much, much more, at the magnificent *Museo del Prado*.

Excursion to Toledo

Toledo is surrounded on three sides by the Río Tajo, which has cut a deep gorge out of the encircling mountains. Christianity, Judaism and Islam coexist on the tiny streets of this ancient city, which was once the capital of Spain. Indeed, the entire panorama of Spanish history is embodied in its churches, synagogues, Moorish mosques and fortifications.

Guided walking tour in Toledo

Your guided walking tour starts at the main square, *Plaza de Zocodover*.

Visit to Toledo Cathedral

Visit one of the most impressive Spanish cathedrals, completed in 1492, after nearly 300 years. Its treasury contains an impressive display of gold and silver vessels and alabaster sculpture.

Visit to the Church of Santo Tomé (El Greco's painting)

Visit the Church of St. Thomas to view El Greco's *Burial of the Count of Orgaz*, a fresco commissioned in honor of a Spanish nobleman who was known for his generosity and charitable deeds.

Visit to a historic synagogue

Enjoy a visit to one of the city's two remaining medieval synagogues.

Optional Flamenco dinner and show

Tonight, enjoy dinner and an evening of traditional entertainment, *flamenco*! The poet Federico García Lorca called it "the most gigantic creation of the Spanish people." You will long remember its complex and insistent rhythms, castanets, guitars and clacking heels as the highlight of your trip to Spain.

Sunday 6/23

Madrid

Excursion to El Escorial and the Valley of the Fallen: Visit to the Royal Monastery of El Escorial, Visit to the Valley of the Fallen

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Madrid

Day 4: Excursion to El Escorial and the Valley of the Fallen, Madrid

Excursion to El Escorial and the Valley of the Fallen

Set out for the wooded slopes of Mt. Abantos, watershed of the Guadarrama River, where Spanish royalty retreated from the summer heat and from the bustle of the capital city.

Visit to the Royal Monastery of El Escorial

At the palatial religious retreat of King Philip II, *El Escorial*, you will see the Royal Pantheon where the kings are buried, the Crypt of the Royal Children, the Apartments of King Philip, the Basilica with Titian's fresco depicting the martyrdom of St. Lawrence, and the lavish library, which contains 40,000 rare manuscripts, including the diary of St. Teresa of Ávila.

Visit to the Valley of the Fallen

Stop at the *Valle de los Caídos*, a wooded belvedere nestled in the Guadarrama Mountains that features the world's largest monumental cross. It's also the site of an underground basilica that General Franco ordered carved inside a hill of solid granite by prisoners of war from the Republican side. It once housed his tomb but was removed to avoid public veneration of his dictatorship. Make your way across the vast esplanade for a panoramic view of valleys and mountains.

A well-educated and specially-trained local guide will accompany your group.

Free time in Madrid

The afternoon is unscheduled.

Why not stroll through Retiro Park. Once royalty's playground, *El Parque del Retiro* now opens its gardens and recreational areas to the public. You may be tempted by a row boat ride on the lake (you row!), or by a solar boat ride (you relax!).

You may want to check out the elegant *El Corte Inglés* department store at the Puerta del Sol.

Day 5: Train to Barcelona

A *Alta Velocidad* train takes you at high speed across the semi-deserts of northern Spain and the plains of Castile on your way to the palm-fringed Mediterranean shores.

Enjoy a free evening in this Mediterranean town of parks and fountains.

Day 6: Barcelona City Sightseeing, Sagrada Familia Basilica

A tour will introduce landmarks such as the wide avenues called *Las Ramblas*, the medieval Gothic Quarter around the cathedral, Modernist landmarks such as the Basilica of the *Sagrada Família*, and *Plaça de Catalunya*, the lively heart of Catalonia's capital city.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of the region, will accompany your group.

Visit to Parc Güell

Enjoy a visit to Gaudí's most colorful creations on exhibit in *Parc Güell*, notably the mosaic-decorated pavilions and the cavernous Room of a Hundred Columns.

Monday 6/24

Madrid - Barcelona

Departure transfer, AVE train Madrid-Barcelona, Arrival transfer

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Barcelona

Tuesday 6/25

Barcelona

Barcelona City Sightseeing: Local Guide, Visit to Parc Güell

Visit to the Sagrada Familia Basilica

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Barcelona

Wednesday 6/26

Barcelona

Optional Excursion to Montserrat: Round trip on the Montserrat Funicular, Visit to the Basilica of Montserrat

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Barcelona

Thursday 6/27

Departure

Departure transfer

Meals included: Breakfast

Visit to the Sagrada Familia Basilica

Visit the extraordinary-looking basilica whose construction was planned in the 1870s. Antonio Gaudí worked for more than forty years to create a unique and huge sanctuary still far from completion. The *Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia* combines elements of Gothic architecture and the tenets of the *Modernista* movement associated with Gaudí.

Day 7: Optional Excursion to Montserrat, Barcelona

Optional Excursion to Montserrat

Enjoy a visit to Catalonia's holiest place, the Monastery of Montserrat, located amidst the serrated peaks of the Montserrat mountain range. Montserrat has served as a place of pilgrimage since the 12th century. After being destroyed by the French in 1811, the monastery complex was rebuilt and repopulated in 1844 and now includes quaint shops and cafés.

Round trip on the Montserrat Funicular

Enjoy a funicular ride for the last leg up the mountain, which affords stupendous views stretching from the Pyrénées Mountains to the Mediterranean Sea.

Visit to the Basilica of Montserrat

You will enter the Basilica to view *La Moreneta* (Black Virgin). This revered statue, said to have been carved out of wood by St. Luke around 50 AD, has been on the mountain since it was rediscovered in 880 AD after being hidden from the Moors.

Free time in Barcelona

The afternoon is unscheduled.

You may want to stroll down *Las Ramblas* to the Columbus Monument, which marks the spot where the explorer stepped ashore in 1493 after his voyage of discovery. Nearby is *Port Vell*, the harbor area where you'll find one of Europe's largest aquariums.

You may take a walk to the trendy part of town known as *Poblenou*, where former warehouses now house the studios of artists and photographers. A palm tree-lined boardwalk leads all the way to the sea.

Day 8: Departure

¡Adios España! Barcelona's airport recedes, and you're 500 miles closer to home with each hour in the air. You'll be back! For now, race the sun westward, arriving home later today, eager to share your experiences with family and friends.

Cost Breakdown

Itinerary	Madrid and Barcelona
Departing	June 20, 2024
Departure City	Orlando, FL
Rooming	Triples
Program Cost	\$3,723
	-\$150 Early Enrollment Discount for enrollments before 6/15/2023
Total Cost	\$3,573
Monthly Payment	\$275 with \$0 deposit
Standard Final Payment Deadline	03/02/2024
E-Z Pay Final Payment Deadline	05/21/2024
Available Add-ons not included in price	Flamenco dinner and show: \$99 Excursion to Montserrat: \$85 Double rooms: \$240 per person - 6 @ \$40 per night (mandatory for adults 24 years and older)