# Travel Sisters Network presents... Spain's Classics

with Optional 4-Night Barcelona and Costa Brava Post Tour Extension

October 18 – 29, 2024



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SPECIALISTS IN THE ART OF TRAVEL



12 Days • 16 Meals: 10 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 4 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Madrid, The Prado Museum, Toledo, Cordoba, La Mezquita, Seville, Choice on Tour: Walking Tour of Santa Cruz Quarter or Boat Ride on the Guadalguivir River, Flamenco Show, Granada, The Alhambra, Valencia, Paella Experience, Barcelona, La Sagrada Familia

## **ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Riu Plaza Espana, Madrid
Days 5, 6	NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas, Seville
Day 7	Barcelo Carmen Granada , Granada
Days 8, 9	AC Hotel Valencia, Valencia
Days 10, 11	Catalonia Plaza Catalunya , Barcelona
	On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

# VIRTUOSO EXCLUSIVE

**AMENILY** PER PERSON

\$100 credit toward Economy Air or Premium Economy / \$250 credit toward Business-Class Air \$100 credit toward tour add-ons (anything beyond land package and waiver; including pre/post nights, pre/post tour extensions, optional excursions, etc.)

\*These are combinable with any other offer in market. \*If land only and no pre/post or option purchase, the \$100 does not get credited towards anything else. **Day 1: Friday, October 18, 2024 Overnight Flight** You are on your way to a colorful and cultural adventure featuring the best of Spain.

**Day 2: Saturday, October 19, 2024 Madrid, Spain - Tour Begins** Welcome to Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers and enjoy a welcome dinner. *(D)* 

**Day 3: Sunday, October 20, 2024 Madrid** During a locally guided panoramic tour of Madrid's historic center, see iconic sites such as the Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor, where events have been held since the 17th century. Join a local expert to explore the priceless masterpieces of the Prado Museum, which opened in 1819 and boasts the world's finest collection of art by masters such as Velazquez and Goya. Tonight, you might choose to experience Madrid like a local with a metro ride, a walking tour and dinner with traditional entertainment at a local restaurant. *(B)* 

**Day 4: Monday, October 21, 2024 Madrid - Toledo -Madrid** Travel to the hilly town of Toledo (UNESCO), the capital of medieval Spain until 1560. Embark on a comprehensive tour, highlighting the magnificent Gothic cathedral. Then, visit the Church of Santo Tome and view El Greco's masterpiece painting, *The Burial of Count Orgaz*, before returning to Madrid. *(B)* 

**Day 5: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 Madrid - Cordoba -Seville** Travel to the extraordinary Moorish city of Cordoba by the AVE high-speed train to reduce travel time and allow you to enjoy more free time in Cordoba. Embark on a walking tour of Cordoba's well-preserved and historical old Jewish Quarter. Then visit *La Mezquita* (UNESCO), an 8th-century mosque that was converted into the city's cathedral in the 16th century. End your day in Seville, considered to be Spain's "cultural capital" with dinner at a local restaurant. *(B, D)* 

**Day 6: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 Seville** Embark on a panoramic tour before arriving at the iconic Plaza de España. Then decide on how you see Seville because **it's your choice!** Walk the charming and quaint Santa Cruz Quarter with an expert guide, admiring the orange trees and white-washed houses **-OR-** see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River, drifting by timeworn bridges and towers. Later, visit the Seville Cathedral\* (UNESCO) – the largest gothic church in the world – and see Columbus' tomb and the Giralda Bell Tower. End the afternoon with a *tapas* lunch at a local *taberna*. This evening, enjoy an authentic flamenco show (UNESCO) featuring Seville's top performers. (*B*, *L*)

**Day 7: Thursday, October 24, 2024 Seville - Granada** Travel to Granada, the last great capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Upon arrival, join a local expert for a tour of the world-famous Alhambra\*\* (UNESCO), a stone fortress overlooking the entire city and serving as a mesmerizing example of Islamic architecture. This evening, a guided *tapas* tour on foot is on the menu! (*B*, *D*)

**Day 8: Friday, October 25, 2024 Granada - Valencia** Travel through Spain's amazing landscape on your way to the Mediterranean coast. Pass by rolling hills dotted with picturesque olive and orange groves before arriving in the city



# Per Person Rates<sup>\*</sup>: Double \$4,298; Single \$5,198; Triple \$4,248

Included in Price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$399 per person, Hotel Transfers

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

of Valencia. A treasure trove of Roman and Arabic architecture, Valencia is Spain's third largest city melding historic and modern culture. (B)

Day 9: Saturday, October 26, 2024 Valencia - Albufera - Valencia On a panoramic tour of Valencia, see the City of Arts and Sciences – an ultramodern educational institution. Explore the city's old town on foot, discovering the history with a local expert. View the ornate towers before wandering through the bustling central market, where you'll shop side-by-side with the locals. Travel to Albufera, the area where paella first originated. Enjoy a boat ride on the canals surrounding the rice field plantations. Visit a traditional fisherman's home, known as a *barraca*, and enjoy a paella-making demonstration and an authentic paella lunch. (B, L)

## Day 10: Sunday, October 27, 2024 Valencia - Barcelona

Travel to Barcelona, one of Europe's most beautiful and exciting cities. The afternoon is at leisure to explore

Barcelona's fascinating boulevards including the famous Las Ramblas, dotted with colorful bird and flower stalls. *(B)* 

**Day 11: Monday, October 28, 2024 Barcelona** Embark on a panoramic tour of Barcelona, showcasing the Columbus Monument, Parc de Montjuic, and Antoni Gaudi's Batllo House and Casa Mila building (UNESCO). A local expert will accompany you on a visit to the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia\*\*\* (UNESCO), considered to be the most famous of Gaudi's works. Work on the basilica began in 1882, and it is scheduled to be completed in 2026 on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death. As the day draws to a close, enjoy a farewell dinner celebrating the end of your trip to Spain. (*B, D*)

**Day 12: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 Barcelona - Tour Ends** Return home with memories of a beautiful land and a diverse cultural heritage or begin your Costa Brava post-trip extension. *(B)* 

## Experience It! The Flamenco

"El cante," "el baile," and "la guitarra." Combine the three into one romantic tour de force, and you have the essence of the flamenco...the song, the dance and the guitar. The flamenco's roots began in southern Spain as a 17th-century art form created by Andalusian gypsies. Similar to the blues that originated in America's Deep South, the "cante," or song, was a way for the gypsies to express their sorrow and repression. They sang their lyrics in the dark mines where they worked, using verse to help ease each other's personal grief. As the 18th century approached, the gypsies gained more legal rights and many were able to purchase musical instruments. Soon the "guitarra," or guitar, was added to their repertoire. The "baile," or dance, quickly followed — and like any great art form, the flamenco took off. Soon performances in more mainstream venues like local cafés and dance halls combined with old-fashioned commercialism to make the flamenco the national dance of Spain.

# **EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH**

Optional 5 Days 4-Night Barcelona and Costa Brava Post Tour Extension Per Person Rates: \$1,199.00 USD double, \$1,599.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1221388

### PLEASE NOTE:

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about

passports and visa requirements. IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://www.etiasvisa.com/

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Boat experiences on this tour are weather dependent and may be cancelled within 24 hours and without replacement.

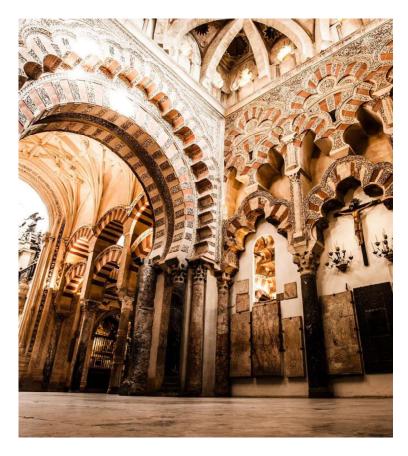
\*The Seville Cathedral requires that visitors adhere to dress codes where open toe shoes, shorts, bare shoulders and hats are not allowed.

\*\*Alhambra tickets are not guaranteed and subject to availability per Spanish Governing Authority. On the occasion that tickets are not available, you will visit another top Spanish attraction and your group leader or travel agent will be notified. Complete passport information is required 120 days prior to departure to book tickets to the Alhambra. If passport information is incomplete or inaccurate within 120 days prior to your tour departure, there is a strong possibility that we will be unable to confirm entrance tickets. You will be subject to any additional charges incurred from failing to provide passport information within the designated time frame.

\*\*\*On the rare occasion that the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona is not available, you will instead visit another top Spanish attraction. The order of inclusions on this day may change based on the timing of the Sagrada Familia tickets.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.



Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights should arrive prior to 3:00 p.m.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$748 per person (which includes the cancellation waiver and insurance) is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of April 12, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by August 20, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until April 19, 2024.

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