

LUXURY GOLD

Welcome to  
The New Golden Age of Travel

Spain & Portugal in Style



# Your Journey Map



## KEY

- |          |                         |  |                           |
|----------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | LUXURY GOLD HOTEL STAYS |  | INCLUDED FLIGHT           |
|          | PLACE VISITED           |  | TRAIN JOURNEY             |
|          | ROAD/CRUISE JOURNEY     |  | OPTIONAL FLIGHT/EXTENSION |

# Your Day by Day Experience

## DAY 1 Welcome to Barcelona



Bienvenida a Barcelona! You will be met and transferred to your elegant accommodation. Unpack for the next two nights and head up to the hotel's glamorous rooftop where you're treated to views across the city from the terrace bar or a heated infinity pool. Cool off with an easy swim before joining your Travel Concierge for your welcome tapas and dinner.

Included Dining: Dinner

Accommodation: Ohla Eixample Barcelona.

## DAY 2 Catalonia's Creative Capital

Barcelona's captivating architecture is yours to discover on your Spain and Portugal luxury tour. Pay a visit to Gaudi's imaginative Sagrada Família where mosaic spires pierce the sky like a giant crown and serve as symbol of Barcelona. Relax at your hotel pool or uncover more of Barcelona's whimsical sites on a stroll through Park Güell on Carmel Hill. Walk along its leafy paths, down the dramatic Dragon Stairway, and through Gaudi's Greek Theater designed for open-air shows.

Included Dining: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ohla Eixample Barcelona.



## DAY 3 Valencia and the Orange Blossom Coast



Follow the sunny Costa Dorada to La Galera where flowers spill from window boxes and locals welcome. Indulge in the gastronomic delights over lunch at the incredible Michelin-starred L'Antic Molí where local seafood and innovative seasonal dishes invite you to savor every bite. Satiated and eager to soak up coastal living, continue past orange groves to Valencia and check into a Valencian manor house turned hotel.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hospes Palau de La Mar, Valencia.



#### DAY 4 Granada and the Alhambra Palace

Travel to colorful Granada to live the good life. Join a Local Expert to experience the exquisite Alhambra Palace, a sprawling arabesque complex built by the Moors in the 13th century. First admire the hilltop fortress that has watched over Grenada before stepping inside its elegant grounds. As you stroll through the ornate buildings decorated with intricate Islamic designs and tilework, exotic gardens, tranquil pools and statue and fountain-filled patios, imagine the royal life of the Kings of Granada. Relaxed after an easy afternoon, check into your own decadent stay a renovated 19th century palace centrally located in Grenada.

Included Dining: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hospes Palacio de los Patos, Granada.



#### DAY 5 Córdoba and Seville



Journey through the silent sierras to Córdoba to take in views of the Old Roman Bridge. You'll feel as if you've stepped back 2000 years as you admire the 800-foot-long bridge's dramatic presence across the Guadalquivir River. Exquisite structures continue at the magnificent Mezquita, Córdoba's great Mosque-Cathedral and one of the greatest works of Islamic architecture. Join your Local Expert to stroll beneath a forest of delicate arches and pillars to the opulent Christian cathedral nestled within. Explore the Jewish Quarter before continuing to the stunning Andalusian capital of Seville. You'll wine and dine at an elegant restaurant.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Gran Meliá Colón, Seville.

#### DAY 6 Seville, the City of Carmen

Seville, the "Soul of Spain," lures you in with its artistic flair and tempting secrets as you join your Local Expert on a walk through the flower-decked squares of the Santa Cruz quarter. Soak in the city's creative masterpieces visiting the Fine Arts Museum or Seville Cathedral. At the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, you have the opportunity to see the tomb of Columbus and marvel at the intricate details within its 80 chapels. At the Fine Arts Museum, get up close to the haunting, evocative masterpieces of Sevillian Baroque and Spanish artists such as Murillo, Velásquez, and El Greco. Tonight, learn and join in with the locals visiting the Cristina Heeren Foundation flamenco dance school for a simple lesson in Seville's own expressive and powerful dance.

Included Dining: Breakfast

Accommodation: Gran Meliá Colón, Seville.



## DAY 7 The Flavors of Andalucía



Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds, smells, and – most temptingly – tastes of Andalusia on a morning market trip to Mercado de Abastos. Stroll amidst the stands filled with fruits, fish, sausages, and intimate bakeries, restaurants and bars before joining the local masters on a Spanish cooking experience. Learn the culinary secrets of some of the most popular dishes and enjoy your creations for lunch, along with a glass or two of refreshing sangria. Pair your gourmet cuisine with epic sightseeing, choosing to go on a romantic horse and carriage ride past some of the city's highlights. Or, indulge in a locally made cocktail.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Gran Meliá Colón, Seville.

## DAY 8 Across the Alentejo to Lisbon

Greet Portugal in the hilltop town of Serpa where the cobbled streets lined by olive trees, red-sloped roofs and white sun-baked houses extend a warm welcome. You have the privilege to hear from locals about how Serpa has implemented conservation programs to protect and re-introduce the Iberian Lynx, the world's most endangered feline. Sit down to a fresh, local lunch while you're treated to a performance of Cante Alentejano - a moving, traditional, polyphonic singing style telling tales of everyday life, love, and culture that has been recognized as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. With a song in your heart, continue to Lisbon and check into your elegant hotel located in a historic part of the city.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Pousada de Lisboa, Lisbon.



## DAY 9 Lisbon and the Age of Discoveries



Begin your day in Lisbon's seaside Belém Quarter where you'll view the Monument to the Discoveries and the 16th-century Belém Tower, the ceremonial gateway to the city, standing proudly in the crashing waves. Continue to the National Palace of Queluz to marvel at the architectural details with your Local Expert. Enjoy dinner in one of the local restaurants this evening.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Pousada de Lisboa, Lisbon.



## DAY 10 Forever Évora

Continue to the vibrant university city of Évora that blends a lively young atmosphere with some of the best-preserved architecture in Portugal. Experience the juxtaposition within this UNESCO World Heritage Site for yourself on a walking tour with a Local Expert pausing at some of Évora's iconic structures. Admire the hilltop Evora Cathedral displaying a variety of architectural styles including Gothic, Romanesque and Manueline. Then bask in the region's gastronomical delights at Herdade da Calada local winery where you'll explore the estate, learn about their winemaking process and have the privilege to sip on a selection of their tantalizing local wines well-known to the Portuguese but largely undiscovered further afield. In the evening, enjoy a delicious dinner with wine at the hotel restaurant.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Convento do Espinheiro, Évora.



## DAY 11 The Roman Ruins of Mérida and Madrid



Let your imagination wander as you make your way across patterned green and golden farmlands to the Spanish border to Mérida, famous for its extensive Roman ruins. On your visit to this well-preserved Roman Theater, you can almost hear the booming voices of jubilant actors in this arena where a variety of plays were once performed to delight the patrons of ancient Lusitania. From Roman ruins to a vibrant city, journey through the sunbaked landscapes of Extremadura to Madrid. As the city lights up, the evening is yours to stroll along Calle Serrano, Madrid's most famous and elegant shopping street, or relish in the cool breeze from your 5-star hotel's terrace lined with olive trees, cypresses and elegant fountains.

Included Dining: Breakfast

Accommodation: Gran Meliá Fénix, Madrid.

## DAY 12 Madrid of the Bourbons

The riches of Madrid are yours to uncover, beginning with a stroll among the city's historic sites with your Local Expert. Admire the statue of Madrid's own author Cervantes watching over the plaza before viewing the Cibeles Fountain that exhibits a rush of movement leaving you eager for sites to come. Curate your day joining an art historian at the Prado Museum, housing the world's richest and most comprehensive collection of Spanish paintings by artists such as Bosch, Titian and El Greco. Or, join a walking tour of the maze-like old town paired with an energizing sampling of churros, Spain's favorite sweet treat. Celebrate your travels over a final decadent dinner.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Gran Meliá Fénix, Madrid.



## DAY 13 Depart Madrid



After breakfast, bid farewell to your travel companions before your private transfer to Madrid Barajas Airport.

Included Dining: Breakfast