



Tour: **SPECTACULAR SPAIN**
Destination: Madrid & Barcelona, Spain
Specialization: Blended Education - History, Arts & Culture
Itinerary: 8-days / 7-nights total trip

SPECTACULAR SPAIN - MADRID & BARCELONA					
Day	Morning	Afternoon		Evening	
1	Travel overnight to Madrid, Spain via air				
2	Arrive Madrid; transfer & check into hotel	Welcome, Safety & Orientation; Rest & Relaxation	Old Town Madrid Tapas Walking Tour	Paella Cooking Class & Dinner	
3	Madrid City Tour: History, Legends, Culture & Architecture	Casa Paras' Flamenco Master Class	Madrid Fresh Market Walking Tour	Villa Rosa Flamenco Show & Andalusia Dinner	
4	El Escorial Monastery	Coach/Train to Barcelona		Dinner	Los Ramblas Walk
5	Barcelona Hop-On/Off City Tour			Dinner	Team Building Challenge
6	La Sagrada Família	Museu Futbol Club Barcelona: Camp Nou Experience	Món St Benet & the Alicia Foundation	Dinner & Free Time	
7	Picasso Museum	Museu de la Xocolata - Guided Tour & Tasting	Poble Espanyol with Private Tour	Farewell Dinner	Fonts de Montjuic Fountain Show
8	Depart Barcelona for Home				



As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an 'example' of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



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Spain

– so rich in culture, so vibrant in color, the people so warm and inviting. In Spain, you'll find unique monuments, outstanding museums and masterpieces of universal art. You can stroll through cities so rich in history that you will be transported to past times and experience an exciting array of cultural traditions. Here, the energy beats with a strong heart. From historical treasures to the art of Flamenco, from Spanish legends to incredible cuisine, let us introduce you to the Spain we love.

Starting in Madrid, we'll explore the amazing culture and art that envelopes Spain's capital city. Known as the host to true Flamenco, Madrid is vibrant with passion. We'll learn about markets, paella cooking and dive into Flamenco to understand this beautiful artform of music and dance. Get ready to stomp your feet to the rhythm as it thrives in your soul.

In Barcelona, we'll see the magnificent sites. From Los Ramblas to La Sagrada Familia, the Medieval Gothic Quarter to the Picasso Museum and the stunning Montjuic Fountains, this city is bursting with grand displays of the rich history and the spirit of its people. Come and experience Spectacular Spain!



Day 1

Meals in flight

Most groups will depart with an overnight flight to Madrid, Spain. Get settled in and get ready to wake-up in stunning Spain!

Day 2

Meals available during flight; Tapas Tour, dinner Cooking Class

Hello Spain! Arrive in Madrid today and transfer to your hotel to get checked in. Enjoy a bit of downtime to rest and relax this morning if possible, and then reconvene for our Welcome, Safety & Orientation Meeting. In the afternoon, get your walking shoes on because we're hitting the streets to taste our way through Madrid with a **Tapas Tour!**

Madrid Tapas Walking Tour - The focal point of Spanish cuisine has always been its fresh and local produce, resulting in each region of the country having its own assortment of toothsome specialties. To sample the nation's vast array of flavors, you need to do what the locals call "tapear" - going for tapas. On this 2-hour tapas tour of Madrid, tapeando is precisely what you'll do – in the company of an expert guide. The experience begins with your guide telling you



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everything about the origin and history of tapas in the various regions of Spain. They will take you back in time and explain how King Alfonso had the brilliant idea of forcing bars to give away small portions of food with every drink. Tapas include classic homemade paella, marinated fish, patatas bravas, jamón Ibérico, cheese, and pan con tomate. One round of tapas tasting at each spot is free, but you can pay for anything else you would like to enjoy separately. The guides will gladly recommend further tapas places to try while you are in Madrid. You will learn the secrets of tapas and Spanish culture, and by the end of the night, you will have met some new foodie friends, learned how to explore and order tapas for yourself during the rest of your trip, and discovered some of the oldest and most traditional districts of Madrid.

In the evening, we will celebrate the fine art of Spanish cuisine with a **cooking workshop** taught by a professional chef. Learn to prepare and then enjoy some incredible Spanish favorites while discovering the key role of Madrid in the country's gastronomic trends.

Paella Cooking Class - Our class starts visiting the Antón Martín market near the school to buy the groceries we will need to cook our menu. We'll buy vegetables, seafood, and perhaps ham, olives, cheese, pastry... the offering and coloring of this traditional way of shopping for daily supplies is endless. Back in the school, you'll have to apply yourself to prepare your starter: gazpacho, that is a refreshing tomato-based chilled soup. Later, you will get down to work to make your own paella, the most international Spanish dish, based on rice, seafood and chicken. Along the preparation, the chef will tell its story including its origins and its place in Spanish culture as well as handy tips that help you make a paella to be proud of. After cooking you will be able to sit down and enjoy your creations as your meal, and to share your experience with your fellow cooks. All lessons are in English and no cooking experience is required.



Afterwards we'll head back to the hotel for some much needed rest!

Day 3

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Good morning Madrid! After breakfast at our hotel, we will embark on a guided tour to learn all about Madrid – it's history, legends, cultures, art and architecture. Afterwards, we'll jump into a Flamenco Class and then a lovely market tour. Tonight's highlight is the world renown Villa Rosa Flamenco Show!

Madrid City Tour - Spain, at the crossroads of Europe and Africa, serves up a zesty blend of both cultures. Bordering France and a stone's throw from Morocco, Spain is a spicy mix of European sophistication and North African passion. Madrid, capital of the country for the last 400 years and seat of the kings of Spain, houses national museums in buildings that only a monarch could produce, along with grand fountains and vistas. Madrid is a city of great Spanish and Moorish history. Madrid, from the Moorish name Majrit, began as an obscure fort for the magnificent Moorish city of Toledo. One of the few major capitals of the world not situated at some natural crossroads of transportation or commerce, the location was deliberately chosen precisely



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because of its obscurity and the protection this afforded. Madrid's wandering streets, fascinating landscape, busy, boisterous markets, exciting food and fascinating people make this city an incredible adventure!



Next, get some energy going because we're going to learn first-hand about **Flamenco with a private class**. Blended in dance, guitar and vocals, this unique expressionism will set your soul afire!

Flamenco Class - Flamenco is the most famous Spanish dance allowing you to experience a true connection to the Spanish culture. The dance originated in the 18th century in Andalusia, a region in southern Spain. Andalucía at that time was a cultural mix of Christians, Jews, Muslims and Gypsies. As a result of this mixture, Flamenco was born and is an important part of the heritage and cultural richness of Andalusia. While in the class, the first thing you'll realize is that the word "Flamenco" is actually a term that describes the type of music (toque), song (cante), dance (baile) and handclaps (palmas). Your Flamenco Professor will show you that flamenco is a dance to be felt and that must be danced with your soul (duende). Dancing with your soul makes it a passionate and complex dance. In addition to learning the precise steps, you will become a dancer who is able to communicate with their body, as professionals tell a story with their dance.



Madrid's Fresh Market Tour - Explore the largest food market in Spain with a walking tour. Accompanied by your guide, set out to discover the variety of foods offered. You'll enjoy food and drink tastings during your visit to the sprawling market. Learn Spanish culinary secrets as you peruse stalls laden with fresh vegetables, seafood, ham, olives, spices and more — the building blocks for Spanish and Mediterranean cuisine. After the tour, stay and shop for delicious olives, fresh bread, cheeses, hams, spices and other incredible products to take home.

This evening we're in for a real treat!

Tablao Flamenco Villa Rosa - Villa Rosa is a lot more than just a place where you can enjoy excellent live flamenco in Madrid. It is the cradle that flies the flag for the promotion and spread of flamenco art and culture, sharing it with people who arrive from all over the world. It is a scenario that enhances Madrid nights with renowned dancers, guitarists and singers, offering a unique Andalusian experience in the capital of Spain. In Villa Rosa you will also find gastronomical diversity inspired by the most representative dishes of Spanish culture and, especially, in the gourmet delights of Andalusia. Without a doubt, Villa Rosa is more than a Tablao



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Flamenco, it is a locale which has kept alive the passion and magic of flamenco with its spectacles, gastronomy, artists and all the people who make it possible day by day by keeping the Flamenco flame burning.



This sanctuary of **Madrid flamenco** first opened as a “tablaó” in the spring of 1911. At that time the greats of the flamenco scene met here with famous characters to enjoy beautiful and endless nights. Champagne, fino sherry, palmas, heels, flamenco dresses, bullfighting debates, guitar riffs and husky singers’ voices produced wonderful nights and dawns for frequent visitors such as Lola Flores, Imperio Argentina, Juanito Valderrama y Dominguín, Ava Gardner and Earnest Hemingway. Even the Monarchy was aware of Villa Rosa’s prestige and it was regularly visited by King Alfonso XIII, accompanied by businessmen, politicians and artists. Such greats as Jonatan Miró, Manuel Liñán, Adrián Santana, Pablo Fraile, and more have all played a vital role in Villa Rosa.

Day 4

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Hello Madrid! We’ll pack up and check out of our hotel early this morning before heading out to visit the **El Escorial Monastery**.

El Escorial Monastery - The Royal Site of San Lorenzo de El Escorial is the historical residence of the King of Spain, in the town of San Lorenzo de El Escorial, about 28 miles northwest of the Spanish capital, Madrid. It is one of the Spanish royal sites and functions as a monastery, basilica, royal palace, pantheon, library, museum, university, school and hospital. El Escorial comprises two architectural complexes of great historical and cultural significance: the royal monastery itself and La Granjilla de La Fresneda, a royal hunting lodge and monastic retreat about five kilometers away. These sites have a dual nature; that is to say, during the 16th and 17th centuries, they were places in which the power of the Spanish monarchy and the ecclesiastical predominance of the Roman Catholic religion in Spain found a common architectural manifestation. El Escorial was, at once, a monastery and a Spanish royal palace. Originally a property of the Hieronymite monks, it has become a monastery of the Order of Saint Augustine. In 1984, UNESCO declared The Royal Seat of San Lorenzo of El Escorial a World Heritage Site.



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After our tour, we'll head to Barcelona so sit back and soak up some of the beautiful Spanish countryside. After checking into our Barcelona hotel we're enjoy a local dinner and a stroll on Las Ramblas down to the Columbus Monument at Port Vell.

Barcelona... Barcelona seems to find its way into most people's hearts, and for good reason! With a vibrant food scene, awesome cosmopolitan feel, relaxed pace of life, breathtaking architecture, fantastic gastronomy, great Mediterranean weather, stunning beaches, some of the best seafood in all of Europe and arguably the best nightlife in Europe, what place could be more perfect than Barcelona?

This beachside city's bustling art scene and bohemian vibe make it a compelling place to put down some roots and stay for a bit. The streets of Barcelona are lined with unbelievable works of architecture, from Gothic churches to Antoni Gaudí's surreal buildings. As the second largest city in Spain, Barcelona is one of the most popular destinations in the world with a little bit of something to please everyone. It's a city steeped in history dating back to Roman times containing both the authentically historic and the wildly bizarre. From the scenic trails of the colorful Park Güell to the romantic narrow alleys of Barri Gòtic; from the beachside clubs to the city's dozens of sacred churches and architectural marvels, this city by the sea seems to attract all types with an almost overwhelming variety of things to do. Barcelona's energy is infectious, its historic streets intoxicating, and its people full of life.



This evening, we'll take a stroll down Barcelona's most famous boulevard, **La Ramblas**, down to the **Columbus Monument at Port Vell**.



Day 5

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Good morning Barcelona! Today we will take in the sights of beautiful Barcelona.



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Barcelona City Sightseeing Hop-On/Off Bus (or similar) - The best way to see Barcelona! The tour covers 3 routes to explore everything from the most medieval to the most modern atmospheres in Barcelona across 40 stops. Enjoy being overwhelmed by the view of Antoni Gaudi's most outstanding works of art, admire the medieval architecture of the Gothic Quarter and the architectural splendor and modern luxury brands in Passeig de Gracia. Highlights include:



- Tour bus with 360-degree panoramic views of Barcelona's top sights
- Multilingual audio guides in 16 different languages featuring native speakers & free Wi-fi on-board
- More than €200 in discounts to enjoy Barcelona's best attractions, sights & shopping opportunities
- Access to 3-bus tour routes & 40 stops across Barcelona

This evening, we'll have dinner and then enjoy a **team building challenge** in the heart of Barcelona.



The Game – Barcelona - Set in the Old Gothic Quarter of Barcelona, this is a fun, educational and interactive experience. The Game is a hands-on group activity, like a treasure hunt, with a theme, challenges and a final prize. The aim is that each one of the participants learns about the city with a smile on their face. After meeting your game Director, it begins! Groups split into teams where they must use all their senses and follow the clues to arrive at locations where challenges will take place. They will have to work together as a group to successfully complete the challenge and get the clue to the next location. The first group to complete the 5 challenges and return to the meeting point will be entitled to proceed to the final challenge, where the “sixth” sense will be needed. The groups must all be back in 90-minutes exactly. Prizes are awarded to the winning team! (Games maybe changed up based on availability)

Day 6

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Rise and shine Spain! After breakfast, you'll set off on adventures!

La Sagrada Família - The Expiatory Church of La Sagrada Família is perhaps Gaudí's best known work and one on which he worked almost all his life. La Sagrada Família is the most popular attraction in Barcelona, attracting nearly 2.8 million visitors each year. It is a large and intricate basilica designed by Antoni Gaudi. Construction began in 1882 and continues to this day. The building is predicted to be completed within the next 30 years. Students will be captivated by the design elements and the religious symbolism built into all the spaces of the church. Groups will enjoy a self-guided visit with 1 tower access.

Museu Futbol Club Barcelona: Camp Nou Experience - Enjoy the excitement of discovering the different spaces in the Camp Nou and the Museum which reveal so much about the values of effort, respect, ambition, teamwork and humility. FC Barcelona football club museum has sporting artifacts dating back 100 years. Tours include access to the museum and the pitch areas, plus a guided tour of the changing rooms, press rooms, VIP lounge, and observance of the pitch at ground level. You'll also get a chance to sit on the player benches and see what it's like to sit in the best seats of the stadium. Minimum of 20 students; approximately 1.5-hours.



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Món St Benet & the Alicia Foundation - In this medieval visit, your students will be immersed in the life of a monastery, in which voices, everyday noises and images from the past emerge between the walls of this thousand-year-old monastery, converting this tour into a truly unique experience. The monastery includes the church, the cloister, the wine cellar and the cells in the Montserrat gallery enabling us to see what life was really like for the monastery community.

After our exciting day, we will have dinner and then some time for rest and relaxation.

Day 7

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Good morning Barcelona! It is our last full day in stunning Spain so we will get started in the morning with one of the greatest artists of all time as we explore the Picasso Museum.

Picasso Museum - The "Museu Picasso" welcomes student groups from around the world visiting Barcelona, offering them the chance to enjoy a visit to the museum with docents. Housing one of the most extensive collections of artworks by the 20th-century Spanish artist Pablo Picasso, the Picasso Museum is Barcelona's most visited art collection and home to more than 4,000 works by the incomparable Picasso. It's housed inside five Gothic mansions.



Next – we'll learn a bit about the world's favorite food, chocolate!



Museum of Chocolate - The Chocolate Museum is a "delicious" museum which wants us to travel through the history of this excellent product, since its origins as a spicy drink to its delight as a French sweet. Chocolate has always been seen with different purposes: as a medicinal element, an aphrodisiac product, a nutritional value and element located between a legend and reality. At the Museum of Chocolate, we'll explore the origin of cocoa, the chocolate manufacturing process and the Catalan traditions. In our tasting, we'll learn how to distinguish the different varieties of chocolate, developing all our senses as we delve into the great world of chocolate.

In the late afternoon we'll travel to Poble Espanyol. From there we'll have our farewell dinner and then watch the amazing lights of the Fonts de Montjuic Fountain Show.

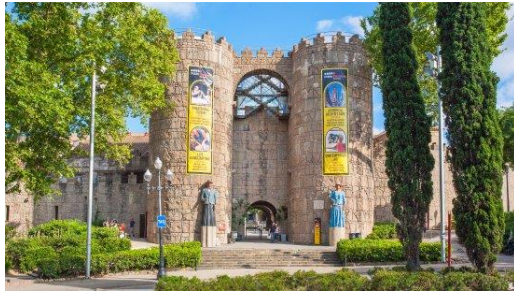
Poble Espanyol with Private Tour - Located in one of the most emblematic areas of Barcelona, very near the Montjuic Fountains, Poble Espanyol reveals the diversity of Spain in a pleasant and peaceful stroll. Come and enjoy the architecture, the traditions, the art and the soul of a whole country. Poble Espanyol features a walled-village and open-air architectural museum with 117 buildings in the village replicating 15 of the autonomous regions in Spain. The village is also home to crafts demonstrations, shows, shops and restaurants.



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Fonts de Montjuïc Fountain Show - The magic fountain is a spectacular display of color, light, motion, music and water acrobatics - if you mix these elements together in just the right combinations, you end up with pure magic! The magic fountain is a "must see" when you come to Barcelona.

Day 8

Breakfast included (dependent upon flight times)

Rise and shine Barcelona! After breakfast, it's off to the airport. We're hoping that you are inspired and taking home wonderful memories that will last a lifetime! If you would like to add in any last-minute stops, simply enquire with your Ambassador who will make sure you are set up for success.



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Spectacular Spain

Minimum Booking Numbers:

20 students

What's Included:

Roundtrip international flights
6-nights' accommodation: 2-nights in Madrid + 4-nights in Barcelona
Spain airport transfers & group transportation to activities shown
Breakfasts and dinners daily
Old Town Madrid Tapas Walking Tour
Madrid City Tour – History, Legends, Culture & Architecture
Tablao Flamenco Show at Villa Rosa
Flamenco Master Class
Madrid Fresh Market Walking Tour
Paella Cooking Class
El Escorial Monastery
Las Ramblas & Port Veil excursion
Barcelona Hop On/Off City Tour
Barcelona Team Building Challenge
La Sagrada with Self-Guided Tour
Museu Futbol Club Barcelona experience
Món St Benet & the Alicia Foundation
Picasso Museum
Museum of Chocolate with Guided Tour & Tasting
Poble Espanyol
Fonts de Montjuic Fountain Show
Personal Tour Director
24-hour emergency cover

What's Not Included:

Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)
Airline baggage fees (paid direct to airlines at check-in)
Transfers to/from home airport
Lunches, snacks and beverages other than at meal times
Cost of visas, full or collective passports
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
Sightseeing / Entertainment Options not shown in Itinerary
Hotel incidental deposits & bills – meals, mini-bar items, recreation, purchases billed to room, etc.
Any gratuities – drivers, hotel services, Tour Director, local guides

As always, our staff are always available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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