

## 19 Days | Spain, Portugal & Morocco | With Flights

Barcelona - Peniscola - Valencia - Alicante - Granada - Rabat - Casablanca - Marrakech - Erfoud - Fes - Tangier - Seville - Lisbon - Madrid - and more...

From **\$6,999 ★** pp twin share



Return International Economy Class Airfares to Barcelona & from Madrid 17 Nights Accommodation with Daily Breakfast

Discover the BEST of these 3 Countries with LOTS of Optional Activites!

# Travel**dream**

## **Description**







## -THIS DEAL IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE/SOLD OUT-

THIS IS A LIMITED DEAL! Only available until SOLD OUT!

Early Bird Special - Payment Required in FULL

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Spain, Morocco, and Portugal, seamlessly connecting the vibrant cultures and rich histories of these enchanting destinations.

Settle into the comfort of dedicated coaches as you traverse from Europe to Africa and back, crossing the iconic Strait of Gibraltar by ferry. Luxuriate in carefully selected premium accommodations, awakening each day to indulgent breakfasts and savoring two special dinners.

Guided by knowledgeable English-speaking experts, immerse yourself in captivating experiences, from exploring Granada's opulent UNESCO-listed Alhambra to navigating the bustling medinas of Morocco and soaking in the charm of Lisbon. Along the sun-kissed Andalusian coast, marvel at breathtaking landscapes and uncover hidden gems alongside popular landmarks.

Indulge in the delights of this premium tour, offering a perfect blend of included highlights and leisure time. With flights included from Australia, or



the option to join the tour independently, embark on a seamless adventure through the heart of the Iberian Peninsula and beyond.

## Read our latest Travel Blogs at 'Wake Up Here'

Highlights include strolling through Barcelona's gothic quarter, discovering the fairytale setting of Peñíscola, and exploring the ancient port city of Alicante. Marvel at the architectural wonders of the Alhambra Palace in Granada and sail across the Strait of Gibraltar towards the storied lands of Africa. Wander through historic Rabat, admire the majestic Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, and get lost in the labyrinthine alleys of Marrakech.

Pause at the cinematic backdrop of Ait Benhaddou, soak in the desert oasis of Erfoud, and traverse the car-free medieval maze of Fes. In Seville, delight in guided tours of magnificent Mudejar palaces, while Lisbon beckons with its cobblestone streets and ancient ruins. Finally, in Madrid, opt for extra time to bask in the city's splendor, perhaps lounging by the serene waters of Retiro Park.

Embark on this extraordinary journey, where each moment is an invitation to discover the timeless allure of Spain, Morocco, and Portugal.

# Travel**dream**





## **Itinerary**

Day 1

#### Australia X Barcelona, Spain

Today you will check in and board your flight bound for Spain! Enjoy the services of your flight as you head towards Europe.

Meals: Inflight Menu

Day 2

#### Barcelona, Spain

Bienvenidos! Welcome to Spain... Make your own way to your hotel. If needed, we can help you arrange a private airport arrival transfer - simply let us know at the time of booking. Your adventure begins with a welcome meeting at 6pm. Please confirm this time by asking hotel reception or checking for a note in the hotel lobby.

There may be some free time before your welcome meeting to get your bearings in Barcelona, the Catalan capital known for its art and architecture. *Please note: If you are going to be late to the welcome meeting, kindly inform hotel reception.* 

The easiest and most convenient way to make your way to the starting point hotel is by taxi. An official airport taxi rank is located outside the luggage collection area. A taxi ride will typically cost EUR 50-60 per car. Alternatively, we can assist you pre-arrange an arrival transfer. If you have pre- arranged an arrival transfer through us, your driver will be waiting for you at the arrival hall.

Hotel check-in time is at 3PM. If arriving prior to this, you will be able to leave your luggage with hotel reception and explore your surroundings until check-in becomes available. The hotel may grant early check-in, however this is strictly subject to availability and at the hotel's discretion.

Meals: None

Accommodation: Hotel Exe Cristal Palace or similar

Day 3

## Barcelona, Spain

Start the day with a walking tour of the charming Gothic Quarter, Barcelona's historic central area dating back to the Middle Ages. The rest of the day is free for you to keep exploring this attractive city with a beach vibe and proud Catalan identity. You'll find plenty of art, cuisine and architecture to get excited about. The city was the home of celebrated architect Antoni Gaudi, an icon of Catalan Modernism who revolutionised Spanish architecture. Modernist landmarks, like his grand Sagrada Familia church, are dotted around the city. Seven of Gaudi's properties are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Visit renowned museums, like the Barcelona City History Museum to see ancient excavated relics.



Gaudi's celebrated, grand La Sagrada Familia cathedral is a must- visit, with its intricate mosaics inside and distinctive sky-piercing spires. You can climb to the top of these spires for panoramic views over the city.

Stroll the pedestrian-friendly boulevard of Las Ramblas, ideal for people watching. It's home to souvenir shops, street artists, cafes and folk Sardana dancers. Starting at the PlaÁa de Catalunya and running for 1.2km down to Mirador de Colom, this famous stretch is dotted with cafes and kiosks, and jam-packed with people from morning to night.

Barcelona is also renowned for its exquisite and varied gastronomy. Enjoy a steamy cortado in a sidewalk cafe. Of course, tapas are a must – nibble on these bite-sized appetisers around the bar like a local.

#### OPTIONAL TOUR - LA SAGRADA FAMILIA (AUDIO-GUIDED)

The Holy Family building proposes one of the most exciting experiences possible today, integrating us in the vision of a genius, Antoni Gaudì, capable of imagining at the beginning of the 20th century a building that incorporated the viewer in the process of Divine Creation, and made for almost 150 years, successive generations were involved in his dream. Something different, impossible to find anywhere else, a living element that evolves as it is concluded, together with the feelings of those who visit it and know it in depth. A monumental complex impossible to compare: a complex architectural project, a world heritage site, on whose exterior stand out its 18 towers with more than 100 meters high; its three thematic facades where Life, Death and Glory are represented by innumerable statues and symbologies based on nature and the Gospels; an interior space that allows the spiritual communion of those who enter, transferred by Gaudì to a Mediterranean forest in which the light filters with different tonalities through its stained glass windows, bathing the inclined columns branched like trees.

- This is an audio-guided tour. You will have your own audio guide headset to tour atyour own pace.
- Starts:To be confirmed on tour with your Tour Guide
- Duration: approx. 2-3 hours
- Transport: Make your own way. The site is approximately 2.6km from Plaza de Catalunya and it's accessible by Metro (Sagrada Famila station) or taxi.
- Please note the start and duration times advised are subject to change depending on the traffic, weather and tourism conditions on the day. Your Tour Guide will provide you with appropriate expectations while you are on tour.

#### OPTIONAL TOUR - BARCELONA TAPAS TOUR

Spend the night like a local discovering Barcelona's favourite tapas. During this tour you will visit a number of establishments who pride themselves on this casual cuisine. Immerse yourself in Spanish culture as you visit four separate venues for Catalan tapas and wine (or soft drink, if you prefer).

- Starts: To be confirmed on tour with your Tour Guide
- Duration: approx 2- 3 hours
- Meeting point and transport: Make your own way to the front of the Arts Centre Santa Monica, rambla de Santa Monica. This site is accessible by Metro Line L3, Station "Drassanes" or taxi.

Meals: Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Exe Cristal Palace or similar



#### Barcelona Peniscola Valencia

We'll head south along the spectacular Mediterranean coast to València today. On the way, we'll stop in the fortified city of Peñiscola, joined to the mainland by a very thin stretch of land. It's a beautiful setting here for you to wander, with a fairytale castle, steep narrow streets and rugged mountains. Spend the night in ValĒncia, a laid-back port city along the Mediterranean. The old capital of the kingdom of ValĒncia is home to beautiful churches, beaches and it has the important distinction of being home to paella, surely the most famous Spanish dish!

Depending on traffic, we'll arrive late afternoon. You may wish to take a taxi downtown (approximately EUR 8) and stroll past its beautiful churches and historic buildings. Don't forget to try a paella valenciana before heading back to your hotel!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Eurostars Acteon or similar

## Day 5

#### Valencia 🖨 Alicante 🖨 Granada

Be ready for a long but exhilarating day as we journey to sunny, enchanting Andalusia today, nestled on the southern tip of Spain's Iberian Peninsula. This is a region of enormous history and heritage, being occupied by the Romans, the Moors and finally Christians. It's the home of passionate flamenco, not just a famous dance, but a genuine Spanish art form. It's known for bullfighting, beautiful beaches, great food and dreamy landscapes, with charming whitewashed villages. Think Mediterranean coastline, bright sun and perfect blue skies.

Our first stop is at Alicante, with some free time to explore. Perhaps take the funicular up Santa Barbara Castle for some sweeping views of the Mediterranean coastline, or simply stretch your legs on a walk along the beach. At night we'll arrive in Granada, at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The last stronghold of the Moorish Kingdoms up to 1492, the city is packed with Moorish architecture, great tapas bars and loads of natural beauty.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Sercotel Gran Hotel Luna De Granada or similar



#### Granada 🖨 Alhambra 🖨 Granada

It's time to explore the famous Alhambra and Generalife Gardens. Given the vastness of this sprawling complex, this involves approximately three hours walking – don't forget your walking shoes! Your transfer will take you to La Alhambra for you to complete this visit on an audio-guided tour.

The Alhambra is contemporary history of Granada's Arab past. Its buildings, towers, palaces, patios and gardens make this palace and fortress complex one of the most visited monuments in Spain. It towers over Granada's historic Arabic quarter. Within the fortress you'll find exquisite palaces and serene pathways weaving through amazing gardens and courtyards. The detail is next level – sumptuous interiors, beautiful Islamic geometric patterns, exquisitely carved wood, incredible ornamental features. First built by the Moors as a fortress during the Muslim rule of Spain, the complex is testament to their decadent lifestyle.

The rest of the day is free for you to see more of Granada at your own pace. The city is home to a huge number of tapas bars – what better way to pass the time?

Walk around the Albaicìn (the old Arab Quarter), a labyrinth of crooked alleys, fountains, plazas and whitewashed houses. Visit the Alcaiceria, the big bazaar in the centre of the city that was the original Moorish silk market, and peruse craftworks on sale like ceramics, marquetry and leather goods. Climb the steep streets up to the popular viewpoint Mirador de San Nicolas for sunset views over the Alhambra, the jewel in Granada's crown.

After a long day sightseeing, you may want to consider a visit to one of the best preserved hammam in Spain: Hammam Al Andalus. Bookings are essential and your tour leader can assist you to book on the day. Options range from EUR 32 for bathing to EUR 77 for bathing and a 30-minute relaxing massage

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Sercotel Gran Hotel Luna De Granada or similar



## Granada 🖨 Algeciras 🏯 Asilah 🖨 Rabat

It's an 8AM start this morning, with a transfer to Algeciras to board the ferry to Morocco. Accompanied by your European guide, you'll sail from Europe to Africa, crossing the Strait of Gibraltar.

Upon arrival, meet your Moroccan guide and journey by bus along the coast. We'll stop in Asilah, a small city on the northwest tip of the Atlantic coast. The city is a living art gallery, thanks to its renowned month-long art festival every summer, where artists paint wall murals throughout the medina. You'll have free time to explore.

We'll then head to Rabat for the night, diplomatic and administrative capital.

Please note: Keep your passport ready as you will pass international border controls in both Morocco and Spain. During the ferry transfer, it is essential to be aware that travellers are responsible for carrying their own luggage for a significant distance. This includes navigating through immigration building halls, using stairs (not escalators), and tackling steep staircases on the ferry itself.

Please ensure that your luggage is packed in a way that allows you to carry it comfortably and unassisted throughout the journey.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Belere Hôtel or similar



#### Rabat 🖨 Casablanca 🖨 Marrakech

The morning, your tour leader will help you explore Rabat's main highlights: the Mausoleum of Mohammed V, a striking masterpiece of modern Moroccan architecture and the Kasbah of the Udayas, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Royal Palace, the official residence of the King of Morocco, is another of the city's beautiful landmarks.

We'll then set off for romantic Casablanca. This busy port city is famous for its art deco buildings and the modern-day masterpiece, the Hassan II Mosque, the largest mosque in Africa (entrance not included). It took more than seven years to build this impressive site. Decorated with intricate tiles – more than 10,000 m2 of zellige was used – beautiful carvings and an unusual glass floor, allowing worshippers to feel like they're praying directly over the ocean. This huge building is part on land and part on sea.

Afterwards, we'll continue to ancient, exotic Marrakech – a feast for the senses. Be enticed by the alluring scents and brilliant colours of the spice markets, the sounds of the musicians, the rich folds of carpets, delectable foods, acrobats and perfumed gardens. Marrakech won't disappoint – it's eclectic, beautiful and a modern fusion of Moroccan and international culture.

Depending on arrival time, once you've settled into your hotel, we'll head to the old medina to catch a glimpse of this bustling destination at night.

#### OPTIONAL TOUR - GUIDED TOUR OF RABAT OLD MEDINA

Embark on the tour by strolling through the bustling medina and vibrant souks. Explore the charming walled quarter, the Kasbah des Oudaias, where you'll enjoy an included mint tea in a little treasure of a cafÈ overlooking the ocean and Bou Regreg river. As you continue your exploration, delve deeper into the region's rich history and architecture by visiting the Mausoleum of Mohammed V and gazing at the impressive minaret of the Mosque of Hassan II.

- Starts: approx. 9AM
- Duration: approx 2.5 3 hours
- Meeting point is to be coordinated and confirmed with the tour guide whilst on tour.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Dellarosa Hotel or similar



#### Marrakech

After breakfast, meet your local guide and set off for a morning tour of the old medina, through the bustling souks that are the lifeblood flowing through the city.

A medina is the historic heart of a city. Shops, restaurants, markets and homes line the twisting and turning streets. This is the trading centre of the city and the sights, sounds and fragrant smells are almost overwhelming. The walls surrounding the medina, made of a distinct orange-red clay and chalk, were built in the 12th century. We'll stop by Koutoubia Mosque; its famous minaret is the prototype for others of its kind around the world, including La Giralda in Seville. The mosque is surrounded by beautiful gardens.

Walk back through the streets of the old medina to the famous Djemaa el-Fna, the main square of Marrakech in the heart of the medina. It's big and frantic, with scores of people shopping, eating, getting henna tattoos and watching snake charmers. Packed with locals and tourists alike, it's certainly memorable.

The rest of the day is free to explore further or shop in the bazaar. No doubt you're becoming familiar with Moroccan delicacies, like aromatic tajines, couscous and the street food favourite pastilla. Moroccan food is as exciting as you'd imagine – spicy, full-flavoured and often boasting a mix of contrasting textures and flavours. You'll find street vendors and waiters at restaurants all eager – almost too eager – to win your custom. Make like a local and sip sweet mint tea at a cafe as you watch the world go by.

#### OPTIONAL TOUR - COOKING CLASS AT LA MAISON ARABE

Today enjoy a cooking class at the legendary restaurant at La Maison Arabe where you will use modern equipment found in everyday kitchens. At the end of the workshop, dine on the meal you have prepared. At a typical half-day workshop, one learns to prepare an appetizer and a main dish, or a main dish and dessert. The workshops are conducted by a dada (traditional Moroccan cook) or a chef.

- Starts: approx: 3PM
- Duration: approx: 3 hours
- Please note the start and duration times outlined are subject to change based on factors beyond our control such as traffic and weather conditions.
- Your Tour Guide will confirm operation times whilst on-tour and can answer any further questions.

Meals: Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Dellarosa Hotel or similar



#### Marrakech 🖨 Dades

We'll begin our journey to the Sahara along mountain roads today, crossing over Morocco's highest pass, Tizi n'Tichka (2,260 metres), to arrive at the ancient ksar of Ait Benhaddou – you may recognise this from Game of Thrones. Centuries ago, this was an important stop for caravans carrying salt across the Sahara. Today, this UNESCO World Heritage Site remains as a striking example of southern Morocco architecture. We'll take a walking tour of its grand kasbah, a fine example of clay architecture.

Then, a drive out to Ouarzazate reveals dramatic landscapes where productions like Lawrence of Arabia, The Sheltering Sky and Black Hawk Down were filmed. This charming village, once an old military enclave, is now home to two movie studios. We'll stop for the night in the Dadès Valley.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Hôtel Xaluca Dades or Similar

## Day 11

#### Dades 🖨 Erfoud

This morning we'll leave for Todra Gorge, a massive trench rising over 250 metres to form a dramatic and spectacular natural sight.

We'll continue to Erfoud, a city known as the desert gate given its location on the edge of the Sahara.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Accommodation: Hotel Chergui or similar

## Day 12

## Erfoud A Midelt A Fes

After breakfast, we'll journey to Midelt, a market town originally built as a base for mining in the area. It's the perfect spot to break up the journey back from the Sahara. Surrounded by natural wonders, like imposing Mount Ayachi looming over the town, it's a refreshing place to take a breath and relax.

Then it's onto the living museum of Fes. The well-preserved medieval labyrinth of Fes is the country's cultural capital, surely the spiritual heart of Morocco. You'll have free time here – perhaps a chance to explore the old city, stop by one of the city's famous tanneries, or see the oldest university in the world.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Les Merinides or similar



## Fes 🖨 Tangier

This morning, your guide will take you on a tour of the beautiful imperial city of Fes. We'll see the grand seven golden gates of the impressive royal palace and the walled old Jewish Quarter. You'll see the distinctive, ornate city gate, Bab Bou Jeloud. This iconic blue gate is the entrance to the old medina, where you'll take a walking tour. Walk in the narrow maze-like streets of the city passing artisans at work, vendors selling leather and oils, and locals gathering to eat, shop and pray. The winding paths – no cars allowed, instead you'll see donkeys – seem to go on forever in this 540-acre medina.

Later in the afternoon we'll set off for the coastal town of Tangier, Europe's gateway to Africa. Being just a short boat ride from Spain, it boasts an interesting mix of African and European influences. When you arrive in Tangier, the rest of the day is yours. Its medina, a star attraction, is everything you'd expect – lively, with the typical narrow, labyrinthe-like alleyways of shops, teahouses and homes. A great place to people-watch is the Grand Socco, a large square at the main entrance of the medina and a popular meeting place.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Grand Mogador or similar

## Day 14

## Tangier ... Algeciras ... Seville

You'll be transferred to the port to meet your European guide and board your ferry back to Spain. On arrival in Algeciras, you'll be taken to Seville, capital of Andalusia. This bustling port is known for being a joyous town; famous for oranges, tapas and flamenco. Seville is another Andalusian city that has roots linked to North Africa as seen through its architecture and cuisine. But it is flamenco for which Seville is truly famous. Originating as an expression of oppression by the region's gypsy population, this area is the birthplace of the guitar, first designed for use in flamenco music. Today, the town is still the world capital of flamenco.

Please note: Keep your passport ready as you will pass international border controls in both Morocco and Spain. During the ferry transfer, it is essential to be aware that travelers are responsible for carrying their own luggage for a significant distance. This includes navigating through immigration building halls, using stairs (not escalators), and tackling steep staircases on the ferry itself. Please ensure that your luggage is packed in a way that allows you to carry it comfortably and unassisted throughout the journey.

Meals: Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Exe Sevilla or similar



#### Seville

After breakfast, enjoy a guided orientation tour in the irresistible city of Seville. Seville is home to the country's best Fiestas and the site of some well-known scenes in big films. Afterwards, perhaps visit the city's colossal Gothic cathedral and its famous Giralda, or bell tower. The Seville Cathedral is the third largest church in the world as well as the largest Gothic church and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is also the final burial place of Christopher Columbus. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure further discovering this enchanting city.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Exe Sevilla or similar

Day 16

#### Seville 🖨 Lisbon

We'll set off for Portugal today. On the way, we'll stop in MErtola and Beja (time permitting).

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: SANA Metropolitan or similar



#### Lisbon

This morning we will set out on a morning orientation tour of charismatic Lisbon. We'll visit traditional neighbourhoods and take in the Belem district, a relaxed area on the Tagus River known for its fresh seafood restaurants and colourful houses. We invite all our travellers to try a "Belem cake", an exquisite local delicacy. This area is the birthplace of the great Portuguese navigators who sailed the oceans in the Fifteenth Century. Along our tour we will see Belem Tower and the beautiful Jeronimos Monastery, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. The afternoon following our guided tour is free for you to relax or explore this great city independently.

#### OPTIONAL TOUR - SUNSET FADO AND DINNER TOUR

Get ready for a night of tasty Portuguese food, tipples, and tunes on this Lisbon tour. You'll discover the city as dusk falls, heading out alongside locals for dinner and drinks, and taking in a dramatic Fado performance that will leave you mesmerised all night long.

- To join this activity, you will need to make your way to Central Lisbon by 7pm (subject to change time and location to be confirmed by your Tour Leader).
- A taxi to the starting location costs approximately €10 to €15 each way.
- Start time approx: 7:00pmFinish time approx: 11:00pm

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: SANA Metropolitan or similar

## Day 18

#### Lisbon A Madrid

It's a long day of travel to Madrid, Spain's elegant capital. On the way we'll stop in MÈrida, with its imposing Roman theatre taking us back to the Roman Empire. Did you know it still operates after 2,000 years, hosting festivals in summer?

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: EXE Plaza Hotel or similar

## Day 19

#### Madrid **X** Australia

Enjoy one last delicious breakfast this morning, before your adventure comes to an end after checking out of your hotel and you make your own way to the airport. Check-out time is generally from 10AM-12PM. You can leave your luggage at hotel reception or ask the hotel if you would like to extend your check-out time. This service is subject to availability and will likely come at an additional cost.

Meals: Breakfast and Inflight Menu



## **Inclusions & Exclusions**

#### **Inclusions**

- Return International Economy Class Airfares to Barcelona & from Madrid
- Fly from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane or Perth (ask for other cities)
- 17 nights in premium hand picked hotels
- Standard twin share hotel rooms with private en-suite facilities
- 17 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Dedicated, comfortable coach transportation
- Cross the Strait of Gibraltar by ferry
- Professional English-speaking tour leader in all 3 countries
- Guided walking tours for a personal introduction to historic sights
- All entrance fees to the sites listed in the itinerary

Travelling on your own? Why not join the Traveldream Solo Travellers Facebook group where you can interact with other travellers.

#### **Exclusions**

- Visas (if required)
- Airport transfers
- Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary
- Optional tours & activities
- Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi access etc
- Gratuities for guides, representatives & drivers
- Travel insurance

Want to stay earlier/later: Please contact our friendly Customer Service team about extending your trip and add ons! There is a fee of \$300 pp for any extensions and possible airfare differences to be collected.

Single Supplement: There is a single supplement on this program of \$2000 available on check out

**Group Size:** Average group size of 40

**Travel Insurance:** We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click HERE.