



Itinerary

Madrid & Barcelona featuring the AVE High-Speed Train

Oct 17, 2019 - Oct 24, 2019

Pre Night: NH Madrid Principe de Vergara



Would you like to begin your vacation with an additional Hotel in Madrid?

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Delve into two of the grandest cities in Spain. You will have plenty of time to explore, get to know their charms and savour the atmosphere of each of these magnificent cities.

Day 2: Madrid, Spain - Tour Begins



Welcome to Madrid! Spain's dynamic capital possesses a modern infrastructure which has preserved the look and feel of many of its historic neighbourhoods. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers at a welcome dinner.

Hotel

Nh Madrid Principe De Vergara
Madrid

Culinary

Dinner

Day 3: Choice of Prado Museum or Hapsburg Madrid Walking Tour



It's your choice! Join a local expert who introduces you to Madrid's architectural treasures on a panoramic tour before exploring the priceless masterpieces of Madrid's Prado Museum,* home to the world's finest collection of art by masters such as Velazquez and Goya -OR- take a walking tour of Madrid featuring sites of the Hapsburg era; discover the Puerta Del Sol, Plaza Mayor and the famous Andalusian tavern "La Torre del Oro;" Mercado San Miguel, the last remaining market constructed in forged iron; Arco de los Cuchilleros (the Arch of the Knifemakers); and Plaza de la Villa with its historic Baroque and Mudéjar-style buildings. The remainder of your day is at leisure.

Hotel

Nh Madrid Principe De Vergara
Madrid

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 4: Madrid - Toledo - Madrid



Enjoy the morning at leisure to explore the intricacies of Madrid. This afternoon we visit Toledo, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the capital of medieval Spain until 1560. Visit a local damascene artist to see the hands-on crafting of inlaid metals into jewellery and other products emblematic of Toledo. A comprehensive walking tour** highlights the magnificent Gothic cathedral and the 13th-century synagogue, a testament to Toledo's Jewish heritage. We'll also stop at the Church of Santo Tome to view El Greco's masterpiece painting, The Burial of Count Orgaz. Enjoy free time in the old town before returning to Madrid for some time at leisure. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a locally-inspired dinner.

Hotel

Nh Madrid Principe De Vergara
Madrid

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 5: Madrid - AVE High Speed Train - Barcelona



Sit back, relax and enjoy the picturesque landscapes of Leon, Castilla and Catalunya as you travel via high-speed train*** to Spain's modern city of culture and architecture, Barcelona. Get acquainted with one of the liveliest cities in all of Europe on a locally guided tour. Discover Parc Güell, one of the most impressive public parks in the world and one of Antoni Gaudí's masterpieces, where he let loose his imagination with amazing buildings, sculptures and tile work. Next, explore the most popular monument in Spain, Gaudí's unfinished masterpiece La Sagrada Familia, still under construction after more than 100 years. Later, see the Columbus Monument, Parc de Montjuic, and several UNESCO World Heritage sites linked to Gaudí including the unconventional Casa Mila building and Batllo House.

Hotel

H10 Casanova
Barcelona

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 6: Barcelona



It's your choice! Take one of two locally guided walking tours. You may choose to begin by visiting the 14th-century basilica of Santa Maria del Mar, created in pure Catalan Gothic style, followed by a leisurely paced walking tour of Barcelona's historic Gothic Quarter, a beautifully preserved neighbourhood with medieval squares set inside a labyrinth of streets leading to the 13th-century La Seu Cathedral -OR- meet the locals while exploring La Boqueria, Barcelona's largest and oldest open-air market, portions of which date back to the Middle Ages; then head to Las Ramblas Boulevard, the most famous pedestrian street in Barcelona; discover famous landmarks such as Gran Teatre del Liceu, Plaza Real, Palau de la Virreina, before visiting one of Antoni Gaudí's architectural treasures – Güell Palace. Enjoy some free time this afternoon or take an optional excursion to Montserrat, a spectacular mountaintop monastery. Tonight, venture to the city's gourmet quarter where the best Catalan cuisine is right at your fingertips during a paella culinary workshop with locally-acclaimed chefs!

Hotel

H10 Casanova
Barcelona

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 7: Barcelona



Enjoy a day at leisure to create your own adventure in this fascinating city. You may choose an optional excursion to Figueres and the famed Dalí Theatre-Museum* for insight into the surrealist world of Salvador Dalí. This evening, toast the end of a memorable trip while enjoying the flavours of regional cuisine.

Hotel

H10 Casanova
Barcelona

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 8: Barcelona - Tour Ends



Your tour comes to a close today.