



Day 1: Fly to Spain

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Madrid.

Day 2: Madrid

Arrive in Madrid: Welcome to Madrid, the capital city built along the Manzanares river. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to settle in and explore the city on your own.

Explore Madrid: Wander through the Puerta del Sol, the heart of the Spanish capital. At Plaza Mayor, you'll learn about this grand square's history of bullfights, royal weddings and public executions.

Visit the Prado: At this famed art museum, behold paintings like Velázquez's *Las Meninas* and Goya's paired canvases.

Day 3: Madrid

Archaeological visit: Reverte Coma Museum of Forensic Anthropology, Paleopathology & Criminology: Founded by Dr. José Manuel Reverte Coma, a world-renowned professor of forensic anthropology, the Reverte Coma Museum features thousands of archaeological treasures—including ancient instruments, shamanism and witchcraft tools and Egyptian funerary pieces.

Sightseeing tour of Madrid: Stand in the Plaza de Oriente, Madrid's largest square, outside of the Palacio Real (Royal Palace). Step inside to explore this magnificent palace, built by King Philip V. Once the seat of the most powerful court in the world, it was here that Spain officially joined the European Community in 1986. Marvel at the splendid marble staircase, the golden Throne Room and the incredible variety of priceless frescoes and chandeliers.

Day 4: Toledo | Madrid

Sightseeing tour of Toledo: Travel to the former Spanish capital of Toledo, where Muslims, Jews and Christians peacefully coexisted for centuries after the arrival of the Moors in the early 8th century. Visit the Cathedral of Toledo, a spectacular example of Gothic architecture, before continuing to the Church of Santo Tomé. Before stepping inside a city synagogue, view The Burial of Count Orgaz—one of El Greco's supreme achievements.

Archaeological visit, Museum of the Councils & Visigoth Culture: Located in the Church of San Roman in the Plaza San Roman, the Museum of the Councils & Visigoth Culture possesses a wealth of artifacts from the former capital of the Visigothic Kingdom of Toledo dating from the 6th century. Here you will see capitals of columns, reliefs, epigraphic pieces, paintings, documents and precious metalwork.

Archaeological visit, National Archaeological Museum: Return to Madrid and visit the National Archaeological Museum, established in 1867 by a Royal Decree of Isabella II. Unearth a wealth of prehistoric, Celtic, Iberian, Greek and Roman treasures, including the Treasure of Guarrazar.

Day 5: Barcelona

Travel to Madrid: Board a high-speed train in Madrid and travel to Barcelona.

Sightseeing tour of Barcelona: On your sightseeing tour, see why Barcelona is an art lover's dream city and the place where masters like Miró, Picasso and Dalí flourished. Admire avant-garde gems in open-air plazas, such as the Plaza de Catalunya and Plaza de España. Snap photos of the twisting spires of La Sagrada Família and the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc, which delights visitors with dazzling light and water shows. From atop Montjuïc Hill, enjoy panoramic views of the harbor below. Here you can also see the 1992 Olympic Stadium.

Explore Old Town: Cuitat Vella, or the Old Town, is comprised of four main areas: La Barceloneta, El Born, El Raval and Barri Gotic, or the Gothic Quarter. Here you will visit the City History Museum, which is home to archaeological excavations dating back to the birth of Barcelona in the 1st century B.C.

Day 6: Barcelona

📍 **Empúries:** Enjoy an optional excursion to the ruins of the ancient town of Empúries on the Mediterranean coast in Catalonia. Founded in 575 B.C. by Greek colonists on a small island at the mouth of the river Fluvià, the town was later occupied by the Romans before being abandoned in the Early Middle Ages. Archaeological remains include the Palaïopolis, the Neapolis and the Roman City.

Day 7: Zaragoza | Soria

Travel to Zaragoza: Travel to the city of Zaragoza, perched on the banks of the Ebro River. Here you will have free time to explore landmarks such as the Basílica del Pilar and the Aljafería Palace before continuing to the town of Soria.

Day 8: Numantia | Pamplona

Sightseeing tour of Numantia: Visit the ruins of Numantia, an ancient Celtiberian settlement located just north of Soria.

Sightseeing tour of Pamplona: Continue on to Pamplona, where you can walk the streets where the running of the bulls takes place. You'll also have the chance to visit the former bullring at the Plaza del Castillo. Built in 1847, this elegant tree-lined plaza now houses the autonomous provincial government. Marvel at Pamplona's striking cathedral, which has been standing tall since the 14th century. Inside, walk under the Gothic steepled archways.

Day 9: Navarre | Bilbao

Archaeological visit to the Museum of Navarre: Discover the art and history of Navarre from prehistoric times to the present day, including the 1st-century Roman mosaic of the Triumph of Bacchus, the Romanesque capitals of the ancient cathedral of Pamplona and the portrait of The Marquis of San Adrián painted by Goya. You will also see the artifacts storage unit.

Travel to Bilbao: Enjoy free time this afternoon in Navarre before continuing to the largest city in Basque Country, Bilbao, which is nestled at the foot of the Pyrenees.

Day 10: Bilbao

Archaeological visit to the Museum of Basque Archaeology, Ethnography and History: View collections that encompass the archaeology of the Vizcaya region and the ethnographic history of the Basque Country, illustrating the lifestyles of the Basques from their origins to the present day.

Lecture: Attend a discussion with local archaeologists.

Free time: You may choose to visit the Guggenheim Museum during a free afternoon.

Day 11: Depart for home

📍 3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Days 11-13: Navarre region

Archaeological field project: In the fertile Navarre region, participate in one of many on-site archaeology projects. Spend each full day gaining hands-on insight to the process of modern excavation, and evaluate your findings under the guidance of professionals.

Day 14: Depart for home