



From Barcelona to the Costa del Sol

Ms. Heather Velasco and Ms. Enitza Calderon

Tour Includes

Departure Date

March 11, 2023

Overnights

Barcelona 3 • Seville 2 • Costa del Sol 2

Accommodations

Accommodations in centrally-located three-star or four-star hotels. Rooming on a triple basis. Double rooms: \$280 per person.

Transportation

Round-trip transportation on scheduled airline. Deluxe touring motorcoach.

Meals

All breakfasts. All dinners. Paella dinner on Day 3. Tapas dinner on Day 6.

Tour Director

Services of a specially-trained **passports** Tour Director throughout.

Travel Protection

passports provides and pays for a Post-Departure Travel Protection Plan that provides coverage for Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Baggage Loss or Delay, Medical Expense and Evacuation and more.

Investment

\$3969

Program Cost \$4069

-\$100 Early Enrollment Discount

Total \$3969

Early Enrollment Discount expires September 15, 2022. Final payment is due 11/21/2022 or, with E-Z Pay, 2/9/2023. Tour cost is based on a group size of 20 participants. Departure from Jacksonville, FL. Adults 24 years or older are automatically charged for double rooms. With doubles, total price is \$4,249.

For More Information

1 Visit our website
passports.com/enroll

2 Enter Tour ID
HVELASCO2023

From Barcelona to the Costa del Sol

Departs: March 11, 2023



Days 1-2: Home - Barcelona

Arrival transfer

Day 3: Barcelona

Barcelona City Sightseeing: Local Guide, Montjuïc Hill, Visit to Parc Güell

Visit to the Sagrada Família Basilica

Visit to Casa Milà

Paella dinner

Day 4: Barcelona

Excursion to Figueres: Dali Theater-Museum in Figueres

Day 5: Barcelona - Seville

Departure transfer, AVE train to Córdoba, Arrival transfer

Guided walking tour in Córdoba: Visit to the Mezquita

Day 6: Seville

Half-day city sightseeing: Local Guide, Visit to Seville Cathedral (view Christopher Columbus' tomb) and the Giralda Tower

Tapas dinner

Flamenco show

Day 7: Seville - Costa del Sol

Visit to the Alhambra Palace, Visit to the Generalife Gardens

Day 8: Costa del Sol

Excursion to Gibraltar: Cable car ride, Apes' Den and St. Michael's Cave

Day 9: Departure

To enroll or view full text itinerary, point your camera here:



Detailed Itinerary

Days 1-2: Arrival in Barcelona

Arrival in Barcelona

A dream materializes as your wide-bodied jet thunders off the airstrip, Europe-bound! Watch the sun rise up to meet your airplane, after a short night. Spain glides by beneath your airplane in shades of sienna. Land in Barcelona, the vibrant capital city of Catalonia and one of the world's cities at the forefront of commerce, fashion, technology, cuisine and the arts.

Get set to discover the vibrant capital city of the ancient kingdom of Catalonia. Note its elegant 19th-century boulevards, parks and fountains.

Day 3: Barcelona City Sightseeing, Sagrada Familia Basilica, Casa Milà, Paella dinner

Barcelona City Sightseeing

A tour will introduce landmarks such as the wide avenues called *Las Ramblas*, the medieval Gothic Quarter around the cathedral, Modernist landmarks such as the Basilica of the *Sagrada Família*, and *Plaça de Catalunya*, the lively heart of Catalonia's capital city.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of the region, will accompany your group.

Montjuïc Hill

You'll go up Montjuïc Hill for a panoramic view of the city, the colorful harbor district, and the Mediterranean coast.

Visit to Parc Güell

Enjoy a visit to Gaudí's most colorful creations on exhibit in *Parc Güell*, notably the mosaic-decorated pavilions and the cavernous Room of a Hundred Columns.

Visit to the Sagrada Familia Basilica

Visit the extraordinary-looking basilica whose construction was planned in the 1870s. Antonio Gaudí worked for more than forty years to create a unique and huge sanctuary still far from completion. The *Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família* combines elements of Gothic architecture and the tenets of the *Modernista* movement associated with Gaudí.

Visit to Casa Milà

An audioguided tour will introduce this apartment building designed by Antonio Gaudí in 1906. Also called *La Pedrera*, it's known for its curves and fantastic rooftop and is one of Barcelona's best-known UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Paella dinner

This evening, enjoy a traditional *paella* dinner. This typically Spanish dish offers a flavorful combination of rice cooked with spices, and sautéed Mediterranean vegetables, usually served with either chicken or seafood.

Saturday 3/11 - Sunday 3/12

Home - Barcelona

Arrival transfer

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight: Barcelona

Monday 3/13

Barcelona

Barcelona City Sightseeing: Local Guide, Montjuïc Hill, Visit to Parc Güell

Visit to the Sagrada Família Basilica

Visit to Casa Milà

Paella dinner

Meals included: Breakfast, Paella dinner

Overnight: Barcelona

Tuesday 3/14

Barcelona

Excursion to Figueres: Dali Theater-Museum in Figueres

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Barcelona

Wednesday 3/15

Barcelona - Seville

Departure transfer, AVE train to Córdoba,
Arrival transfer

Guided walking tour in Córdoba: Visit to the Mezquita

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Seville

Day 4: Excursion to Figueres

Excursion to Figueres

Travel across the rolling hills of Catalonia on your way to Figueres, the hometown of the world's best-known Surrealist artist, Salvador Felipe Jacinto Dalí y Domenech.

Dali Theater-Museum in Figueres

Visit the Dali Theater-Museum, a fantastic building with an egg-crowned roof and tower. Its captivating exhibits include masterpieces by the artist, and curiosities from his private collection, such as the Mae West Room and the Rainy Cadillac.

Day 5: Train to Córdoba, Córdoba Guided Walking Tour, Travel to Seville

Train to Córdoba

Today there's the excitement of an *Alta Velocidad* train (no clickety-clacks on these smooth rails) from Barcelona all the way to Córdoba. Time flies aboard the slick cars which, inside, look and feel like an airplane.

Your destination is Córdoba, which was once as prominent as Baghdad in the Islamic world. At that time, Córdoba's cultural life was centered around its 70 libraries, with the Caliph's library alone holding 400,000 volumes! Throughout the ages exceptional scholars have blossomed here, including Seneca, the Roman author/statesman, and the medieval philosophers Maimónides and Averroës.

Guided walking tour in Córdoba

Discover the historic center, with the Jewish Quarter(*Judería*). See the statue of Maimónides, *Calle Judíos*, and the *Sinagoga* that dates back to 1315,; it's the only Andalusian synagogue to have survived the 1492 eExpulsion of the Jews.

Visit to the Mezquita

Cross the *Patio de los Naranjos*, where orange blossoms bloom in the spring. Enter the Great Mosque, in the heart of which a large Roman Catholic Cathedral was built after the Reconquest by the Christian Kings.

Marvel at the *Mezquita*'s forest of "candy cane" arches adorned with precious stones, at its ceiling of carved cedar and 4,000 bronze and copper lamps. View the *Mihrab* shrine, where the Koran was kept.

Travel to Seville

Depart for the Guadalquivir River valley, where fertile farms and vineyards enliven the scenery; your destination is Don Juan's *Sevilla*, one of the prettiest cities in Andalusia.

Thursday 3/16

Seville

Half-day city sightseeing: Local Guide, Visit to Seville Cathedral (view Christopher Columbus' tomb) and the Giralda Tower

Tapas dinner

Flamenco show

Meals included: Breakfast, Tapas dinner
Overnight: Seville

Day 6: Seville City Sightseeing, Tapas Dinner, Flamenco Show

Half-day city sightseeing

Get acquainted with *Sevilla* on a tour of the city. You'll stop for photos at the *Plaza de España* and explore on foot the well-preserved *Barrio de Santa Cruz*, a picturesque maze of alleys and patios which once was the Jewish quarter. You will see the ancient minaret called the *Giralda*, the *Parque María Luisa*, the famous tobacco factory where Bizet's Carmen worked and the crenelated tower called the *Torre del Oro*, which was built in the 13th century to protect the port.

A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Seville, will accompany your group.

Visit to Seville Cathedral (view Christopher Columbus' tomb) and the Giralda Tower

A visit is included to the great Gothic cathedral, where you will see the flamboyant monument to Columbus, and the tomb of Ferdinand III: its trilingual inscription in Arabic, Hebrew and Castilian symbolizes this 13th-century king's vision of his kingdom as the home of all three faiths.

Then, climb the *Giralda*, a former minaret that stands near the cathedral. Instead of stairs, this tower was designed with an interior ramp which makes the climb almost effortless. From the top, visitors have a great overview of the cathedral's roof and buttresses.

Tapas dinner

For dinner this evening, you'll experience *tapas*, the delightful and varied snack-like servings, which are a specialty of Spain. There's something to please every taste!

Flamenco show

This evening, enjoy traditional entertainment, *flamenco*! The poet Federico García Lorca called it "the most gigantic creation of the Spanish people." You will long remember its complex and insistent rhythms, castanets, guitars and clacking heels as a highlight of your trip to Spain.

Day 7: Granada, Costa del Sol

Travel to the Costa del Sol, via Granada,

Board your coach for a drive to the last stronghold of the Moors: Granada.

Visit *Medina al-Ambra*, the "Red City" better known now as the Alhambra, which was the palace of the Moorish rulers. Its beauty inspired Washington Irving's *Tales of the Alhambra*.

In its Nasrid Palaces, you will see extraordinary stucco ornamentation and intricate tilework, particularly in the Golden Room. The Alhambra also illustrates the mingling of cultures in Islamic Spain: notice the Christian shell motif used to decorate an alcove in the Courtyard of Myrtles and the Star of David found in a room off the Courtyard of Lions.

You will also tour the gardens created for the Sultan and exquisitely maintained ever since.

As you cross the Sierra Nevada Mountains, you'll understand why it took the Spanish so long to capture the city from the well-entrenched Moors.

A welcome puff of fresh sea breeze announces your arrival on the fabulous *Costa del Sol*. Enjoy the friendly, relaxed lifestyle of the Mediterranean in this region which averages 320 days of sunshine a year!

Friday 3/17

Seville - Costa del Sol

Visit to the Alhambra Palace, Visit to the Generalife Gardens

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Costa del Sol

Saturday 3/18

Costa del Sol

Excursion to Gibraltar: Cable car ride, Apes' Den and St. Michael's Cave

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Costa del Sol

Sunday 3/19

Departure

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8: Excursion to Gibraltar

Excursion to Gibraltar

Today's excursion takes you south along the coast to the tiny British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar, an island-outpost measuring 2-1/2 square miles and accessible directly from Spain only recently.

Gibraltar

Stroll through the town's narrow lanes, which zigzag up sharp slopes, and discover this unique corner of Europe..

Cable car ride, Apes' Den and St. Michael's Cave

A cable car ride takes you to the summit of the Rock, which was regarded in antiquity's as one of the two Pillars of Hercules, set between Europe and Africa.

On top of the Rock, you will see the O'Hara Battery, the monument called The Pillars of Hercules, and the Apes' Den, home to the famous (and mischievous!) Barbary Apes.

Your ticket allows entrance to St. Michael's Cave, where you will find underground chambers adorned with stalagmites and stalactites.

You may also visit the Great Siege Tunnels, dug during the siege of 1779-1783, when Spain and France tried, in vain, to take Gibraltar from the British.

Day 9: Departure

¡Adios España! Málaga's airport recedes and you're 500 miles closer to home for every hour in the air. You'll be back! For now, race the sun westward and arrive home later today, eager to share your discoveries with family and friends.

Cost Breakdown

Itinerary	From Barcelona to the Costa del Sol
Departing	March 11, 2023
Departure City	Jacksonville, FL
Rooming	Triples
Program Cost	\$4,069
	-\$100 Early Enrollment Discount for enrollments before 9/15/2022
Total Cost	\$3,969
Monthly Payment	\$662 with \$0 deposit
Standard Final Payment Deadline	11/21/2022
E-Z Pay Final Payment Deadline	02/09/2023
Available Add-ons not included in price	Double rooms: \$280 per person - 7 @ \$40 per night (mandatory for adults 24 years and older)