

TREASURES OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL WITH BRENDA GOODEN

Featuring - Fátima, Barcelona, Lisbon, Madrid, Porto

17 Apr, 2024 - 29 Apr, 2024

DURATION	GROUP SIZE	AIRPORT	PRICE STARTING FROM
11 Nights / 13 Days	10 People	LAND ONLY	Twin Sharing Price - \$ 2,849.00 Single Supplement Price - \$ 999.00

OVERVIEW

Embark on a remarkable journey through the Iberian Peninsula with our unforgettable tour, exploring the vibrant cities and enchanting landscapes. Begin your adventure in the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona, where the whimsical architecture of Antoni Gaudí, the bustling streets of La Rambla, and the historic Gothic Quarter await your exploration. Marvel at the breathtaking Sagrada Família and indulge in the culinary delights of Catalan cuisine. Continue to the heart of Spain, Madrid, where the royal palaces, world-class museums like the Prado, and the lively Puerta del Sol will immerse you in Spanish culture. Savor traditional tapas and experience the passionate art of Flamenco. Journey to the spiritual sanctuary of Fátima, a place of pilgrimage and devotion. Explore the sacred grounds and immerse yourself in the serene atmosphere of this Catholic center. Venture into Portugal and discover the picturesque city of Porto, famous for its historic Ribeira district and iconic Douro River. Sample world-renowned Port wine in the cellars of Vila Nova de Gaia and soak in the old-world charm of this coastal gem. Explore the breathtaking Douro Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where terraced vineyards produce some of the world's finest wines. Cruise along the Douro River and savor the stunning landscapes that surround you. Conclude your journey in Lisbon, Portugal's captivating capital. Stroll through the winding streets of Alfama, visit the historic Belém Tower and Jerónimos Monastery, and experience the emotive music of Fado.

ACCOMMODATION

CITY	HOTEL NAME	NO. OF NIGHTS
Barcelona	Hotel America Barcelona	3 Nights
Madrid	Hotel Emperador	3 Nights
Porto	The Editory House Ribeira Porto	2 Nights
Lisbon	Hotel Marques de Pombal	2 Nights



TOUR PRICE INCLUSIONS

- ◆ 11 Nights' Accommodation in listed hotels or similar based on DBL / TWN sharing basis
- ◆ Daily Breakfast
- ◆ 2 Lunches in local restaurants (Nazaré and Coimbra)
- ◆ 1 Lunch and wine tasting in Douro
- ◆ Fado show with dinner in Lisbon
- ◆ Entrance fees to attractions as per the itinerary
- ◆ Custard tart tasting (Pastéis de Nata) and Port wine tasting in Lisbon
- ◆ Douro cruise in Pinhão (2hrs);
- ◆ Transport in Private vehicles
- ◆ Services of English-speaking driver/ guide for all transfers and sightseeing
- ◆ All local applicable taxes

TOUR PRICE EXCLUSIONS

- ◆ International airfare
- ◆ All other meals, other sightseeing or Services
- ◆ Gratuities for meals, tourist guides, drivers
- ◆ Visa Fees, Travel Insurance
- ◆ Porterage
- ◆ Personal expenses such as alcoholic and other beverages, telephone calls, and laundry
- ◆ Any other services or Items not mentioned above as included.
- ◆ Local city taxes if applicable to be paid directly at hotels upon check out.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 DEPARTURE USA/CANADA

Prepare yourself! You are leaving today for Barcelona to start your unbelievable Iberian journey.

DAY 2 Barcelona Arrival [-/-/-]

Upon arrival in Barcelona, claim your bags and proceed towards the arrival hall. Our representative will meet you and assist you with your transfer to the hotel. (Standard check-in time is 3:00 pm)

Spend the rest of the evening at leisure

Overnight in Barcelona

DAY 3 Barcelona - Sightseeing [B/-/-]

Meet your guide and hop aboard your vehicle to begin a captivating panoramic tour of Barcelona. Our journey will lead us through the city's highlights, including Ciutadella Park, Villa Olímpica, the Olympic Port, and the inviting shores of Barceloneta Beach. We'll then ascend Montjuic Mountain, a location closely associated with the 1992 Olympic Games, where you'll be treated to breathtaking vistas of Barcelona from the cable car. Our tour culminates at the MNAC viewpoint, known for offering some of the city's most splendid panoramic views. On our way back, our bus will traverse Paseo de Gracia, a pivotal street in Barcelona, affording you glimpses of the renowned Gaudí-designed buildings like Casa Batlló and La Pedrera.

Continuing our exploration, we'll delve into Barcelona's most iconic attraction: the Sagrada Família. Accompanied by a knowledgeable local guide, you'll gain insight into the history and significance of this architectural marvel. Prepare to be astounded by its breathtaking interior, which is replete with symbolism inspired by the natural world. As you roam freely within the nave, your guide's commentary, delivered through your headset, will unravel the intricacies of Gaudí's masterpiece. Witness the seamless fusion of architecture and spirituality as you absorb every minute detail. Stroll around the exterior facades, where the extraordinary level of detail will leave you in awe.

Later on, our tour takes you on a leisurely walking exploration of Barcelona's Born and Gothic Quarter. We'll meander through some of the city's most historically significant streets en route to the Barcelona Cathedral. During the guided tour, you'll have the chance to appreciate the intricate details adorning the facades of various buildings. As we traverse the labyrinthine streets of the old city, hidden treasures and stunning medieval sites will be unveiled, each with its own historical importance. Discover the secrets of the Born neighborhood as your guide leads you through its charming alleyways. On our way back to the bus, pause to admire the magnificent Gothic church of Santa Maria del Mar.

We'll then reboard our vehicle and proceed to the renowned Park Güell, nestled in the elevated part of the city. Here, on a guided tour of the park, you'll come to understand why it stands as one of Gaudí's most iconic works. Experience the full spectrum of Gaudí's remarkable talents and his organic design philosophy, which permeates the entire park. Did you know that Park Güell is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

Our journey continues with a short ride to the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Masterpiece. While exploring the exterior of this architectural gem, your guide will provide insights into the site's history and the architectural concepts conceived by Lluís Domènech i Montaner.

Overnight in Barcelona

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4 Barcelona - Day free at leisure [B/-/-]

Enjoy a day of leisure in Barcelona, where you have the freedom to explore and indulge in the city's treasures at your own pace. Whether you choose to wander through the charming streets of the Gothic Quarter, relax on the sandy shores of Barceloneta Beach, or savor delicious Catalan cuisine at a local tapas restaurant, this day is yours to shape as you wish.

Take your time to discover the magic of this enchanting city on your terms or pre-book one of our suggested add-ons.

Add-on - **Montserrat Tour from Barcelona - USD**

Meet your guide and board your vehicle to reach the captivating Montserrat mountain. The mountain's unique shape has led to its name, which translates to "serrated mountain" in Catalan. This natural and cultural treasure was declared a National Park in 1987 to protect its beautiful landscapes. Accompanied by a local guide, explore the Monastery and learn about its history and architectural style. The Monastery is home to a community of 80 monks who follow the rule of Saint Benedict. Admire the Gothic and Renaissance features of the basilica and sanctuary. Discover the tale of the miraculous apparition of the Black Madonna and Child in the Santa Cova cave, which is believed to have happened in the 9th century. You will also have the opportunity to visit the Church of the monastery to see the wood carving of La Moreneta, the popular name for the Black Madonna. Apart from the main area, Montserrat also has many small churches and trails that you can explore at your leisure. After the guided tour, you will have free time to sample the finest liquors, purchase locally-made delicacies, or visit the audio-visual exhibition. Visit the basilica when the Boys' Choir performs. This choir is one of the oldest in Europe, and they sing every weekday at 1:00 pm. This option also provides skip-the-line access to La Moreneta, the Black Madonna.

Overnight in Barcelona

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 5 Barcelona - Madrid [B/-/-]

Following a hearty breakfast, it's time to complete the check-out process and prepare for the next leg of your journey. You will be transferred to the train station, where you'll catch your train bound for Madrid. The scenic train ride promises to be a delightful part of your adventure, providing you with glimpses of Spain's picturesque landscapes as you travel from one vibrant city to another. Upon arrival in Madrid, you will be transferred to your hotel. Once you've checked in, you'll have the choice to either relax and unwind in the comfort of your accommodations or embark on a spontaneous exploration of Madrid's bustling streets.

Overnight in Madrid

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6 Madrid - Sightseeing [B/-/-]

Commence your day with a guided tour of Madrid, allowing you to soak in the city's splendor from the comfort of your vehicle. Be sure to have your camera or smartphone ready to capture the unforgettable moments! Our journey commences as we depart from Plaza de Oriente and proceed towards the magnificent Puerta de Toledo, an architectural gem from the Napoleonic era. Along the way, we'll cross the city's oldest bridge, treating you to splendid vistas of the Royal Palace and the Almudena Cathedral nestled along the banks of the Manzanares River. Our route will lead us past Mayor Street, Puerta del Sol Square, and the charming Las Cortes Quarter, where you can admire the exquisite architecture of Old Madrid before reaching the enchanting Las Letras Quarter.

During the tour, your eyes will also be captivated by the Cibeles Fountain, a gathering spot for jubilant Real Madrid fans celebrating their team's victories, as well as the iconic Puerta de Alcalá, one of the city's historic gateways. To conclude this scenic journey, we'll travel along Paseo de la Castellana Street, offering you a glimpse of the renowned Santiago Bernabéu stadium before reaching the vibrant Colon Square.

No visit to Madrid would be complete without an exploration of the Prado Museum. Accompanied by your knowledgeable guide, you'll embark on an enlightening journey through the museum's hallowed halls, where you'll encounter masterpieces by European artists such as el Bosco, el Greco, Velazquez, Goya, and Rubens. Additionally, you'll gain insights into the original purpose of this remarkable building and discover why it now houses one of the world's most esteemed art collections, boasting over 1,000 paintings spanning four centuries.

Following this enriching museum experience, your guide will arrange for your return to your hotel. With the afternoon at your disposal, you'll have the freedom to explore Madrid's myriad wonders at your own pace. Delve into the local cuisine, visit other cultural institutions, or embrace the city's vibrant nightlife. Madrid offers an array of options to suit your interests and preferences. For personalized recommendations on nighttime activities and points of interest, feel free to consult your hotel staff or local guides who can provide

valuable insights into the city's nocturnal allure.

Overnight in Madrid

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7 Madrid - Day free at leisure [B/-/-]

You will have the entire day free to spend at your leisure in Madrid. This is a great opportunity to explore the city on your own terms and at your own pace. You can visit famous landmarks such as the Royal Palace of Madrid, or the Retiro Park. Alternatively, you can wander through the streets of Madrid, explore local markets, or try some traditional Spanish cuisine in one of the many restaurants in the city. Whatever you decide to do, make the most of your free day in Madrid and enjoy everything this beautiful city has to offer or pre-book one of our suggested add-ons

Add-ons - Full-day Toledo tour from Madrid -

Relax and enjoy the scenery on the way to the city. Take in the scenic view during your journey to the city and then join a local guide on a walking tour of the Historic City of Toledo, recognized as a World Heritage City since 1986. This former capital of Spain is a perfect blend of Arab, Jewish, and Christian cultures. Your guide will help you learn about its fascinating heritage and how the coexistence of these cultures over the centuries influenced its current architectural style.

Walk around the San Juan de los Reyes Monastery courtyard cloisters and observe the royal coats of arms. This building, which was sponsored by Queen Elizabeth from Castilla, became a royal mausoleum and is the most significant construction built by the Catholic Monarchs. After the visit, you'll head to the Synagogue of Santa Maria la Blanca, which was initially built as a synagogue but was expropriated and turned into a Church 211 years later. It is now a fantastic museum of Mudejar (Arabic) style, and you'll have the chance to visit it. You'll also have the opportunity to admire the world-famous painting by el Greco - The Burial of the Count of Orgaz - at the Church of Santo Tomé. Did you know El Greco himself lived in this beautiful city? After that, you'll visit the ancient mosque "Cristo de la Luz."

Enjoy lunch on your own -after lunch, meet your guide again for a guided visit to the Cathedral of Toledo. It is considered one of the most important Gothic

Cathedrals in Spain, and you'll have the chance to admire the stained glass windows decorating the naves and discover the history of this great monument. You'll also see more than ten paintings by El Greco and wander around the location while listening to your guide. At the end of the visit, you'll take the bus and enjoy a brief panoramic tour of Toledo. The bus will stop at the "Mirador del Valle" viewpoint, where you can take the best panoramic photos of Toledo.

Overnight in Madrid

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8 Madrid - Salamanca - Porto [B/L/-]

Today we bid farewell to Madrid and set our course for the captivating Castilla-León region. Our first destination is the enchanting city of Salamanca, where we'll grant you the freedom to explore its beautiful historic center at your leisure. Here, you'll embark on a delightful walking tour through the city, allowing you to absorb the fascinating amalgamation of architectural styles that define its character. It's no wonder that Salamanca holds the prestigious status of being a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and during your visit, you'll quickly understand why.

As you traverse the historic streets of Salamanca, you'll be greeted by a panorama of architectural wonders, each narrating a unique tale of the city's rich history. From the intricately adorned plazas to the splendid facades of its historic buildings, Salamanca presents a visual feast for the senses.

In the afternoon, our journey continues as we venture across the border into the charming country of Portugal. Our destination for the next two nights is the picturesque city of Porto, renowned for its rich cultural heritage, historic architecture, and scenic beauty. Porto promises to captivate your heart with its unique character and warm hospitality.

Get ready for an unforgettable exploration of Porto's treasures, from its historic neighborhoods to its vibrant cultural scene. Your adventure in Portugal begins here, where you'll discover the essence of this captivating country and create lasting memories in the charming city of Porto.

Overnight in Porto

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 9 Porto - Douro Valley - Porto [B/L/-]

After breakfast, travel to Douro Valley. Along the way, you explore the breathtaking Douro Valley Wine Region, a famous UNESCO Heritage Site recognized as the best river destination of Europe. The tour starts in the historical city of Amarante where you see the impressive Bridge and the Sao Goncalo Church. Afterward, you make a stop in Regua, the center of the Port wine region. As a highlight of the tour, you are taken to a wine tasting at Quinta Do Seixo from Sandeman, renowned for its amazing view from the top of the mountain to the vineyards. Here you are treated to a wine tasting and lunch

Then continue to Pinhão and admire the scenery with free time to explore the lovely village independently. Perhaps stroll to the Pinhão train station to view its blue-and-white tile murals depicting the scenic countryside and swathes of vineyards that make up the Douro landscape.

Enjoy a 2-hour traditional Rabelo boat tour on a very quiet breathtaking stretch of the Douro river. Navigate a unique river, in the heart of the oldest demarcated wine region of the world which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will start this adventure from Pinhao, pass under the Eiffel iron bridge going upstream to the Tua area where you will turn around to make the return journey. Along the way, see hills of terraced vineyards with no national roads or traffic in sight. Although you will do the same stretch up and down, it will appear different, as it is seen from two different points of view, and also because there is so much to see in this stunning region of the world.

Post cruise relax on your return drive to Porto, arriving at your hotel in the evening.

Overnight in Porto

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 10 PORTO - COIMBRA - FATIMA [B/-/-]

Our journey will take us away from the vibrant streets of Porto as we venture southward towards Coímbra, a

charming and picturesque Portuguese town that beckons with its unique cultural allure. Coímbra is renowned for its deep-rooted musical tradition, notably the soul-stirring and melancholic melodies of fado, which resonate through its cobbled streets and historic alleys. As we stroll through this enchanting town, we'll immerse ourselves in the evocative tunes of fado, an experience that captures the essence of Portuguese culture and storytelling.

From Coímbra, our expedition will continue, leading us to the serene and spiritual sanctuary of Fátima. This sacred site holds a prominent place in the hearts of millions of pilgrims worldwide, as it stands as one of the most significant Catholic centers of worship in southern Europe. Here, the faithful gather to pay homage, seeking solace and spiritual connection in the tranquil surroundings of this revered sanctuary. Our visit to Fátima promises to be a deeply moving and contemplative experience, allowing us to witness the profound devotion and spirituality that permeate the atmosphere. As the day draws to a close, we will find our rest in the hallowed grounds of Fátima, spending the night in this sacred town. Surrounded by an aura of devotion and history, we will have the opportunity to reflect on our journey so far, soaking in the rich tapestry of Portuguese culture and spirituality that has unfolded before us.

Our last stop The last stop of this day full of emotion, Cape Saint. Vincent, Europe's last piece of land into the Atlantic, and known for many years as the end of world. Discover the fantastic rock formations and caves that surround it.

Arrive in the late evening in Fatima and check in.

Overnight in Fatima

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11 FATIMA - BATALHA - NAZARE - ALCOBACA - LISBON [B/L/-]

After breakfast, we take a heartfelt leave of the sacred town of Fátima, deeply moved by the spiritual tranquility it bestowed upon us. Our expedition continues with a palpable sense of excitement as we chart our course toward Batalha, a town that gleams brightly within the historical fabric of Portugal. Batalha's distinction lies in its awe-inspiring Manueline monastery, a true masterpiece that seamlessly weaves

elements of Gothic and Renaissance architecture. As we draw near to this architectural marvel, we have the privilege of delving into its intricate details, while absorbing the rich tapestry of history that envelops it—a testament to the nation's profound artistic and cultural heritage.

Our journey then leads us further south, where we encounter the enchanting fishing village of Nazaré, a place that could easily grace the front of a postcard. This coastal gem oozes charm at every twist and turn, with its cobblestone streets gently meandering down to the seafront. Along the azure waters, colorful fishing vessels sway gracefully, creating a scene of unparalleled beauty. The picturesque vistas of Nazaré etch themselves into our memories, leaving an indelible mark.

Continuing our exploration, we make our way to Alcobaça, a town steeped in Medieval lore and crowned by majestic monuments. Here, you'll be enthralled by the grandeur of the Alcobaça Monastery, an esteemed UNESCO World Heritage Site. Within its hallowed walls, stories of centuries past come alive, beckoning you to step back in time and immerse yourself in the captivating history that surrounds you.

We will arrive in Lisbon in the evening. Upon arrival check in and relax

Overnight in Lisbon

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

DAY 12 Lisbon - Sightseeing [B/-/D]

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel. Today will be the best introduction to Lisbon. You will enjoy the magnificent views from the city of the seven hills with a panoramic tour of the city center. We will pass by the downtown (Baixa) to admire the most important squares of Lisbon such as the monumental Trade

Square (Praça do Comércio); Rossio Square, the heart of Lisbon, and the symbolic Restauradores Square. We will visit Belém quarter where you will find the most beautiful and historical monuments from the 15th and 16th centuries.

A brief stop at the Belém Tower (Torre de Belém) - World Heritage by UNESCO, a point of departure of some of the Portuguese maritime explorations; and on the Monument to the Discoveries (Padrão dos Descobrimentos), built to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the “death “of Prince Henry the Navigator. It’s not possible to come to Lisbon without tasting the most well-kept secret of Portuguese pastries, the Pastéis de Belem. Everything started in 1837 in a small bakery, and you’ll have the chance to try one (it's included in the price).

Then we visit the church of S. Jerome Monastery (Mosteiro dos Jerónimos) - World Heritage by UNESCO - a masterpiece of the “Manueline” style.

Return to hotel. Afternoon at Leisure

Evening finish your night in a traditional restaurant to appreciate a delightful dinner accompanied by the sound of the well-known - Fado Music, considered as the heart of the national culture. Enjoy a live Fado show during the dinner, and feel the essence of Fado and the beauty of the songs that go along with the Portuguese guitar!

Overnight in Lisbon

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

DAY 13 Lisbon Departure [B/-/-]

This is the last day of your amazing tour to Portugal! . After breakfast and check-out you'll be transferred to Lisbon airport for your flight home. We wish you a safe flight and hope to work on your future trips!

Payment Policy

Deposit: US\$ 300 per person [Non-refundable / Non-transferrable]

Deposit date : 30th Oct 2023

50% Deposit: 24th Nov 2023

Full Balance: 18th January 2024

(Once the deposit is paid, the travelers can then pay any amount on any date. Travelers to ensure that the payment deadlines are met as above)

Insurance Details

We encourage everyone who books a VOYAGES HUB TOURS package, regardless of age or tour choice, to obtain a travel protection plan. While you intend to take that once-in-a-lifetime trip, illness, family emergencies, and other factors can derail your best-laid plans.

VOYAGES HUB TOURS has partnered with [Trip Mate](#) for U.S. residents to offer a Travel Protection Plan, which includes insurance benefits and non-insurance travel assistance services. This plan includes trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency medical evacuation and repatriation, accident and sickness medical expenses (COVID-19 is covered the same as any other sickness), baggage and personal effects baggage delay, and travel delay coverage. It also includes non-insurance travel assistance services provided by Generali Global Assistance's 24-hour, 365 days a year.

[Please click here for a free quote or buy Online](#)

Cancellation Policy

- ◆ From the date of booking to 145 days before departure: \$300 per person Non-Refundable / Non-transferable Deposit + interruption insurance cost (if purchased)
- ◆ 144-90 days before departure: 50% of the tour price per person
- ◆ 89 days or fewer before departure: **No refund is available.**

Note:

A person becoming single because of the roommate's cancellation must pay the single supplement

All payment cut-off dates are firm, and missing deadlines without approved extensions will result in cancellations without refunds being offered.

PLEASE NOTE

Voyages Hub reserves the right to levy a surcharge commensurate to the fuel increase at the time of operation of this movement.



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