

## GREAT IBERIAN ROUTE / 12 DAYS

Guaranteed weekly Departure, rates in EUR

Cost per pax on Twin sharing – EUR 1230/- plus plus

Cost per pax on Single sharing – EUR 1680/- plus plus

### Day 01 TUE. Arrival Madrid

**Todays Highlights : Evening transport to the Gran Vía district.**

Welcome to Madrid! Upon arrival at the airport, we shall be waiting to **transfer** you to your hotel.

Check the informative panels in the hotel reception area for the welcome meeting with your guide and fellow travellers to receive information about the circuit. Towards the end of the day, we provide transfers to the Egyptian **Debod temple, Plaza de España and Gran Via**; a vibrant district where you can dine at your preferred restaurant: Indian, Chinese, Spanish and Middle Eastern are some of the options.

### Day 02 WED. Madrid

**Todays Highlights : Madrid city tour. Stroll through the Retiro Park. Visit to the Plaza de Toros de las Ventas bullring. Night transfer**

The day starts about 08.30 hrs with a **comprehensive tour** through the centre of Madrid including Paseo del Prado, Cibeles, Neptuno, the Gate of Alcalá, Gran Via, Plaza de Colón and Plaza Mayor. Visit to Retiro Park, an oasis in the city centre, where we will see the lake and the Glass Palace. **Admission to Las Ventas Bullring** included. This is one of the most famous bullrings in the world where we will learn about the tradition of “corridas” in the Bullfighting Museum. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon.



At sunset we provide a **transfer to Plaza de Oriente**, opposite the Royal Palace, an elegant and bustling area with many restaurants serving different exquisite cuisines (Indian, Middle Eastern, Muslim, Spanish, International) in which to enjoy a pleasant dinner. Return to hotel.

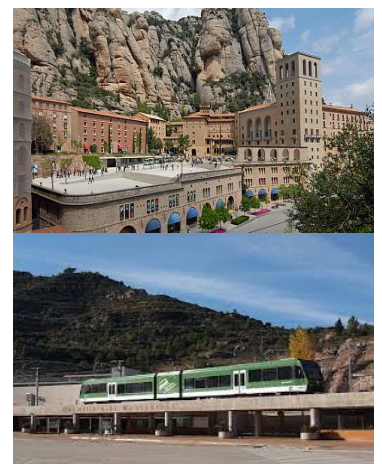
### Day 03 THU. Madrid - Zaragoza - Poblet - Montserrat – Barcelona

**Todays Highlights : Basilica del Pilar. Visit to a medieval monastery. Ride on a rack train.**

We depart early in the morning from Madrid. Heading towards Aragón, we pause our journey in **ZARAGOZA**. Our guide will join the group to Basílica del Pilar. Afterwards the group will have free time to visit this impressive sanctuary and enjoy the city centre.

Later, we make our way to Cataluña to the **Monastery of Poblet**, surrounded by walls in a beautiful setting, this is one of the best preserved medieval monasteries in the world (**entrance and guided tour included**). We then go on to the **Monastery of Montserrat** where we include a **ride on the rack train** for the fantastic views this gives.

Continuation to **BARCELONA**, arrival in the late afternoon.



**Important note:** in the winter months, from November to March (both included), due to the shorter days, the Monastery of Poblet will not be visited (so that we can reach Montserrat in the daylight)

## Day 04 FRI. Barcelona

**Todays Highlights: Barcelona city tour. “Spanish Village” visit and evening transfer to Las Ramblas district.**

Today we will get to know Barcelona, an impressive city right on the Mediterranean Sea. Our visit includes an informative **city tour** with a local expert (note: If the group has fewer than fifteen people, explanations can be given by our guide.) We also visit the city’s historic central area with its Gothic neighbourhood dating back to the Middle Ages. We will visit the area where the Olympic Games took place. It will be possible to see and photograph La Sagrada Familia basilica; the masterpiece designed by the architect Gaudí. Subsequently, we include the **entry ticket to “Poble Espanyol”** (meaning “Spanish Village”). This open air architectural museum is situated in one of the most emblematic areas of Barcelona. Be delighted by the best Spanish craftsmanship and discover the architectural styles, traditions and folklore of the different communities in Spain. Free time to explore the city on your own. In the evening we provide **transfer to Las Ramblas and Plaza Catalunya** area, where you can select from a great variety of restaurants (including Indian, Chinese, Halal, International and regional Spanish cuisine). Return to hotel.



## Day 05 SAT. Barcelona - Peñíscola – Valencia

**Todays Highlights : Visit Peñíscola, a beautiful walled town combined with a castle on the sea. Discover Valencia’s City of Arts and Sciences. Evening transfers.**

We travel south along the Mediterranean. A special stop is made at **Peñíscola**, a small walled town on the shores of the sea. After a short introduction given by our guide, you can make your way through the town, discovering the fishing port, the castle and the beach. Time for a walk and lunch. Afterwards we travel to **Valencia**, the third largest Spanish city, where we will see the City of Arts and Sciences, the most important modern tourist site in the city of Valencia. Next, we walk through the historic centre of the city, and our guide will accompany us to the Cathedral.



**Evening transfer to the Plaza de Toros.** In this area you will have time to dine in line with your preferences (Spanish, Indian, international, etc.). Return to hotel.

## Day 06 SUN. Valencia - Alicante - Caravaca de la Cruz – Granada

**Todays Highlights : Tourist train in Caravaca.**

We continue through the community of Valencia. **ALICANTE.** Time to stroll in this active and very pleasant city by the sea. After lunch we go on our way to the Murcia region, where we will see **CARAVACA DE LA CRUZ**. A town considered by the Catholic Church as one of the 5 holy cities, its church holds a relic of Christ’s Cross. We include a ride up to the historic area on the **tourist train**. After this we will carry on along an attractive scenic road to **ANDALUSIA**. Arrival at the end of the day in **GRANADA**.



## Day 07 MON. Granada

**Todays Highlights: Visit to the Alhambra. Night transfer.**

A full day in **GRANADA** and **tour (including entrance and local guide) of the immense Alhambra Palace and its beautiful Generalife gardens** built in Arab times. Time for lunch. Free afternoon to see the Cathedral with the sepulchre of the Catholic Kings.

Later, enjoy an **evening transfer to the Albaicín of Granada**, a World Heritage site



along with the Alhambra, where you can enjoy dinner in a restaurant in the narrow winding streets of this captivating Medieval Moorish quarter. Tonight you have the option to attend a flamenco dance show and the traditional neighborhood of Sacramonte.

**Note:** in the Alhambra complex, the Nazari palaces allow a limited number of people in at a time. Sometimes your visit may be in the afternoon, depending on the timetables in which we are allowed in. In the highly improbable case of not being able to visit this area of the Alhambra, a visit to the Alcázares will be included in Seville (which have similar architecture and features).

#### **Day 08 TUE. Granada - Malaga - Marbella - Ronda – Seville**

**Todays Highlights :** we will see the beautiful Andalusian village of Ronda.

We leave Granada and travel towards the Costa del Sol. **MALAGA**, arrival and time for a stroll in the historic centre with its cathedral and the Picasso Museum. After this we will continue along the coastal motorway with beautiful views of the Mediterranean. **PUERTO BANUS**, in Marbella, a pretty high level recreational port. Time for lunch. In the afternoon we will continue through the hills and their stories of bandoliers until we come to **RONDA**, a very beautiful white town with its large gorge that divides it in two. Continuation to **SEVILLE**. Arrival at the end of the afternoon.



#### **Day 09 WED. Seville**

**Todays Highlights :** Guided visit with local expert in Seville. Night transfer to the historic city centre.

After breakfast, a local expert guides you through a **scenic visit of Seville** featuring the Cathedral and its famous Giralda, the banks of the Guadalquivir River, popular neighborhoods of Santa Cruz and Triana and the beautiful Plaza de España. (Note: If the group is fewer than fifteen travellers, it can be arranged in both Spanish and English). Enjoy leisure time straight afterwards. At the end of the afternoon, we will go to the **historic city centre area** (Calle Alfonso XII) where many different restaurants can be found. You can choose your favorite cuisine: Indian, Halal, Chinese, Spanish, International, and so on.



#### **Day 10 THU. Seville - Rabida Monastery - Mertola - Evora – Lisbon**

**TODAYS HIGHLIGHTS :** Entrance in the Carabelas Museum were Christopher Columbus started his voyage to America. Chapel of the bones in Evora.

We leave Seville and in the province of Huelva, we travel to **PALOS DE LA FRONTERA**. We include entrance to the **Carabelas Museum**; this is where Columbus set sail on 3 August 1492 for America. We will see the **Rabida Monastery**, declared a World Heritage site, a Franciscan monastery strongly linked to the history of the discovery (entrance included).



After this we will travel to Portugal. **MERTOLA**, a stop in this ancient Muslim city, its present church was a mosque, and time for lunch. After this, through white villages we come to **EVORA** city declared a World Heritage site with its wide streets, its Renaissance policies and its cathedral, we will **include the entrance** to the impressive **Chapel of Bones**, built with 5000 skeletons! **LISBON**, arrival at the end of the day.



## Day 11 FRI. Lisbon

**Todays Highlights : Visit Lisbon. We taste the “pastel de Belem” (Belem cake). Evening transfer.**

In the morning we have a **sightseeing tour** with a local guide (note: Explanations may be given by our guide if the group has fewer than twelve people). We visit traditional neighborhoods, which take in the Belem district, which is the birthplace of the great Portuguese navigators who sailed the oceans in the Fifteenth Century. We shall look round the Monument to the Discoveries, Belem Tower, and enter to the beautiful **Jeronimos Monastery**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the Belem neighbourhood, we invite all our travellers to try a “Belem cake”, an exquisite local delicacy. The afternoon is free so that you can explore this great city independently.



**We include night transportation to Restauradores Square**, full of atmosphere with its bars and cafes from where we suggest you to take the “Elevador da Gloria” that brings you to the Upper district and its viewpoint.

## Day 12 SAT. Lisbon - Fatima – Madrid

**Todays Highlights: Fatima Shrine.**

We travel to the north of Portugal and visit **FATIMA**, an important sanctuary. We will continue on our way through the green lands of the centre, passing into **Spain**, and over grasslands we cross the North of Extremadura. **Lunch included** en route in a regional food restaurant. Continuation to **MADRID**. Arrival at the end of the day.

End of our services.



**Price Includes General Services:**

**seat in coach basis:** Travel by bus with English speaking guide and breakfast buffet.

**Includes arrival transfer**

**City tour in :** Madrid, Poblet, Barcelona, Granada, Seville, Seville, Lisbon.

**Evening Transfer:** Debod Temple and Plaza de Espana/Gran Via in Madrid, Plaza de Oriente in Madrid, Ramblas and Plaza de Catalunya in Barcelona, Bullring square in Valencia, Albaicin in Granada, Historic center of Seville, Praça dos Restauradores in Lisbon.

**Ticket admission:** Plaza de Toros de las Ventas in Madrid, Poblet Monastery, Poble Espanyol in Barcelona, Alhambra Palace in Granada, La Rabida Monastery and Caravel Museum, Chapel of Bones in Evora.

**Train:** Montserrat, Caravaca de la Cruz.

**1 Lunch or Dinner Included in:** Fatima.

**Expected Hotels or Similar**

LOCATION	4 STAR
MADRID	HOTEL PRAGA MADRID 4* NH MADRID VENTAS 4* HOTEL ELBA MADRID ALCALA 4* CLARIDGE HOTEL 4* HOTEL SILKEN PUERTA DE MADRID 4*
BARCELONA	RENAISSANCE BARCELONA FIRA 4* AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT SOM 4* PORTA FIRA 4* FIRA CONGRESS 4* BARCELONA AIRPORT HOTEL 4* NOVOTEL ST JOAN DESPI 4* HESPERIA ST JOAN DESPI 4*
VALENCIA	SERCOTEL SOROLLA PALACE 4* EUROSTAR REY DON JAIME 4*
GRANADA	HOTEL SANTOS SARAY 4* SERCOTEL GRAN LUNA 4* LEONARDO HOTEL 4*
SEVILLE	NOVOTEL SEVILLA MARQUES DEL NERVION 4* RIBERA DE TRIANA 4* SILKEN AL ANDALUS 4* HILTON GARDEN INN SEVILLA 4* TRH ALCORA 4*
LISBON	SANA METROPOLITAN 4* NOVOTEL LISBOA 4* VILA GALE OPERA 4* VIP EXECUTIVE ENTRECAMPOS 4* VIP GRAND LISBOA 5*