

PAUL MERCHANTS

Spanish Treasures and Lisbon **IBERIAN PANORAMA** 11 Nights 12 Days

Starting From
1130 €
Per Person

Departure Dates

June 2022- **14, 21, 28.** July 2022- **12, 19, 26.** August 2022- **09, 16, 23.**
September 2022- **13, 27.** October 2022- **11, 25.** November 2022- **08, 22.**
December 2022- **13, 27.** January 2023- **10, 24.** February 2023- **14, 28.**
March 2023- **14, 28.**

- First Class Hotels Conveniently Located to City Centre.

SPANISH TREASURES AND LISBON

01 TUE. Madrid, Arrival

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Evening transport to the Gran Via district. Indian dinner included. Welcome to Madrid! Upon arrival at the airport, we shall be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Free time. You will receive information about the start of the circuit during the afternoon, or you can check the informative panels in the hotel reception area. Towards the end of the day, we provide transfers to the Egyptian Debod temple, Plaza de Espana and Gran Via; a vibrant district. Indian dinner included.

02 WED. Madrid

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Madrid city tour. Visit to the Plaza de Toros de las Ventas bullring. Stroll through the Retiro Park. Lunch included. This morning experience the city on a guided tour, which showcases the city's vibrant centre, the beautiful Plaza Mayor (Main Square), its broad and magnificent avenues, its many fountains and a walking tour of the beautiful Retiro Park, enhanced by the lake and Crystal Palace. Our tour includes a visit to see inside the Plaza de Toros de las Ventas, a fine-looking building. Here we learn about the tradition of "corridas" in the Bullfighting Museum. Vegetarian or Indian lunch is included. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon. At sunset we provide transfers to the Plaza de Oriente in the historic centre of Madrid, opposite the Royal Palace. Return to hotel.

03 THU. Madrid - Zaragoza - Poblet - Montserrat - Barcelona

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Monastery of Poblet, rack train to Montserrat.

In the morning we leave for Aragon over the lands of Castile. In ZARAGOZA we stop briefly to see the Pilar Basilica. We continue to the Monastery of Poblet, surrounded by its walls in a beautiful site that is one of the best-preserved medieval monasteries in the world (entrance and guided tour included). We then proceed to the Monastery of Montserrat where you will go up the mountain on a rack train to see its fantastic scenery. Following this we will continue to BARCELONA, arriving in the late-afternoon. Note: In the winter months, from November to March, due to the shorter days, we will not visit the Monastery of Poblet in order to reach Montserrat in the daylight.

04 FRI. Barcelona

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Barcelona city tour. "Spanish Village" visit and evening transfer to Las Ramblas district. Indian dinner included. 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 Gaudi. 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, Indian dinner included. Return to hotel.

05 SAT. Barcelona- Peniscola- Valencia.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Visit Peniscola, a beautiful walled town combined with a castle on the sea. Sightseeing of Valencia. Evening transfer. Dinner included. We travel south along the Mediterranean. A special stop is made at PENISCOLA, 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. Afterwards we travel to VALENCIA, time for lunch. In the afternoon, with a local guide we will include a visit to the third largest Spanish city that mixes the modern with the historical. We will know its historic centre, the fish market, the cathedral and also the avantgarde City of Arts and Sciences, the most important modern tourist site in the city. Evening transfer to the Plaza de Toros. In this area an Indian or vegetarian dinner will be included. Return to hotel.

06 SUN. Valencia - Alicante - Caravaca de la Cruz - Granada

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Tourist train in Caravaca. Today we continue to ALICANTE. We will take a walk in this charming city by the sea. After lunch make 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 five holy cities. Its church holds a relic of Christ's Cross. We will also take a train ride up to explore its historic area. After this we will carry on along scenic roads to Andalusia. We finish the day in GRANADA.

07 MON. Granada

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Visit to the Alhambra. Evening transfer. Dinner included. 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 Albaicin 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. Dinner included (vegetarian or Indian) Tonight you have the option to attend a flamenco dance show and the traditional neighbourhood 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 Alcizares will be included in Seville (which have similar architecture and features).

08 TUE. Granada - Malaga - Marbella - Ronda - Seville

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Costa del Sol and the Andalusian village of Ronda. Departing from Granada and travelling towards the Costa del Sol, we will arrive in MALAGA and explore 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. Stopping in PUERTO BANUS, Marbella, a pretty resort known as a playground for Europe's rich and famous. In the afternoon we will continue through the hills until we reach RONDA, a very beautiful white town with its large gorge that divides it in two. Continuing to SEVILLE, arriving in the late afternoon.

09 WED. Seville

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Guided visit with local expert in Seville. Boat trip along the river Guadalquivir. Evening transfer to the historic city centre. Dinner included. 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 neighbourhoods of Santa Cruz and Triana and the beautiful Plaza de Espana. (note: If the group is fewer than fifteen travellers, it can be arranged in both Spanish and English). After the tour, we will include a boat trip along the river Guadalquivir, enjoying the panoramic views from the boat. Enjoy leisure time straight afterwards. At the end of the afternoon, we will go to the historic city centre area (Calle Alfonso XII). Dinner, Indian or vegetarian Included.

10 THU. Seville - Jerez de los Caballeros- Monsaraz - Evora - Lisbon

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: A scenic stage with walled border villages. Evora Chapel of bones. We leave Seville on a stage of scenic beauty; amidst hills and olive trees we enter Extremadura. JEREZ DE LOS CABALLEROS, a stop in this town that belonged to the Knights Templar and where Vasco Nunez de Balboa was born. We enter Portugal. MONSARAZ, one of the most picturesque villages in Portugal, with its walls, castle, white streets full of flowers and great views. We continue to the city EVORA, declared a World Heritage Site, with its white streets, its Renaissance palaces and its cathedral. Time for lunch. We will visit the impressive Chapel of Bones (admission included), built with 5000 skeletons! LISBON, arrival at the end of the day.

11 FRI. Lisbon

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Visit Lisbon. Transfer to Restauradores Square. Dinner included. 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 neighbourhoods, 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 the beautiful Jeronimos Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The afternoon is free so that you can explore this great city independently. At the end of the afternoon, we include transportation to Restauradores Square, full of atmosphere with its bars and cafes from where we suggest you take the "Elevador da Gloria" that brings you to the Upper district and its viewpoint. Indian or vegetarian dinner included.

12 SAT. Lisbon

After breakfast, end of our services.

IBERIAN PANORAMA

12 SAT. Lisbon - Fatima - Madrid

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS: Fatima Shrine. Lunch included. Today we travel to the north of Portugal and visit FATIMA, an important sanctuary (a pilgrimage site). 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. Continuing to MADRID, arriving at the end of the day. End of our services. Check the time of your flight in case you need an additional night.