

From the cobbled streets of Toledo to the arabesque Alhambra and Manueline Lisbon, this well planned itinerary highlights the culture, art and landscapes of these two 'amazing' countries.



Spain's most pleasant public space - the Plaza de España and adjoining Maria Luisa Park in Seville

Amazing Spain & Portugal

TOUR PACE

A popular, well paced tour of Spain and Portugal with two night stays in the cities of Seville and Lisbon, allowing plenty of time for in-depth sightseeing. Other driving days are comfortable, interspersed with sightseeing en route.

HOTELS

Hotels on this tour are mostly modern, and comfortable with first class facilities. They are centrally located, close to amenities and shops, except for the scenically located and comfortable Marriott Lisbon, which has splendid views.

DAY 1 – MADRID AT LEISURE. Welcome to Madrid, Europe's highest capital, occupying the very centre of the Iberian Peninsula. Your *airport transfers* depart from Madrid Airport to the tour hotel at 09:00, 11:00, 13:30 & 16:00 hours. The rest of the day is at leisure to begin to get to know this stylish city. Tonight, enjoy a *Welcome Drink* with your Tour Director. Hotel: Melia Galgos.

DAY 2 – MADRID – TOLEDO – GRANADA. Set off southwards this morning to the *city of Toledo, situated high above the River Tagus, and famous for its burnished steel swords, which have been crafted here for centuries. Walk through the cobbled streets to the great Gothic Cathedral and visit the Church of Santo Tomé, housing El Greco's famous painting, 'The Burial of the Count of Orgaz'.* Continue on through the dry plains of Don Quixote's La Mancha, before crossing the Sierra Nevada to reach *Granada, capital of the Moorish Kingdom of Spain till the Moors' defeat in 1492.* Hotel: Saray. (BB,D)

DAY 3 – GRANADA – SEVILLE. 'There is no pain in life so cruel as to be blind in Granada', cries the inscription on the walls of the Alhambra. *Bathed in morning light, the Alhambra Palace awaits: a fantasy of stone cut lace, arabesque gardens and fountains, built as a citadel by the Moors in the 13th century. You also visit the exotic water gardens of the Generalife, the royal summer residence.* Relax here in the sunshine, and enjoy the fine views over the town and its three verdant hills before embarking on a scenic drive to *Seville.* Hotel: Melia Lebreros. (BB)

DAY 4 – SEVILLE SIGHTSEEING. Your *guided sightseeing tour* of Seville reveals the city in all its glory! *Enter the immense 15C Cathedral, to see the final resting place of Christopher Columbus.* Back outside, see the fabulous *Alcazar* and slender *Giralda Tower.* Soak up the atmosphere in the fashionable *Santa Cruz Quarter,* with its flower decked wrought iron balconies. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight, why not enjoy dinner and a flamenco show? (BB)

DAY 5 – SEVILLE – LISBON. Bid 'adiós' to Seville and head for the green slopes of the Sierra Morena. After crossing the Portuguese border, continue through the infinite horizons of the Alentejo Plateau. Once over the amazing *Tagus Bridge,* you arrive in *Lisbon, historic capital of Portugal - according to the poet Camoes, "the princess of the world...before whom even the ocean bows!"* Tonight, *there are a selection of local restaurants to choose from for your Dine-around evening.* Hotel: Marriott. (BB,DA)

DAY 6 – LISBON SIGHTSEEING. A *panoramic guided tour* takes you along the spacious avenues of the Lower Town and beneath the hilltop Bairro Alto to the Terreiro do Paco, finest square in the city. Visit the Belem Quarter from where sailing ships set forth to discover unknown lands. See the modern *Monument to the Discoveries* and the more ancient *Belem Tower,* a masterpiece of Manueline style. It was erected to protect *Jeronimo's Monastery* which you visit next. *Take some time to admire the fabulous double tiered cloisters.* Then you are at leisure. Perhaps join a tour to the beautiful town of Sintra which was the summer residence of the Kings of Portugal? (BB)

DAY 7 – LISBON – FATIMA – SALAMANCA. Drive into the green hills north of Lisbon to visit *Fatima* the most celebrated place of pilgrimage in Portugal. *Visit the Basilica* commemorating the appearance of the Virgin Mary

to three children in 1917. Then cross the border back into Spain and continue to *Salamanca,* famous for its golden stone buildings. During your stay see the handsome arcades of the *Plaza Mayor,* and *Puente Romano* bridge across the River Tormes - 15 of its 26 arches still date from the time of the ancient Romans! Hotel: Alameda Palace. (BB,D)

DAY 8 – SALAMANCA – AVILA – MADRID. Cross the rock strewn hills of La Morana, towards the city of *Avila,* still entirely enclosed within *11th century walls,* and unique in Europe. Walk awhile within the ancient city, before returning to *Madrid* for a *sightseeing tour.* Here, your *local guide* introduces you to the *statue of Cervantes* in the *Plaza de España,* the *Royal Palace, Cibeles Fountain* and *Parliament.* *This evening, bid farewell to your new found friends with a lively highlight Dinner at a local restaurant.* Hotel: Melia Galgos. (BB,HD)

DAY 9 – DEPART MADRID. After breakfast, the airport shuttle service from the tour hotel arrives Madrid Airport at 07.00, 09.00 & 11.00 hours. (BB)

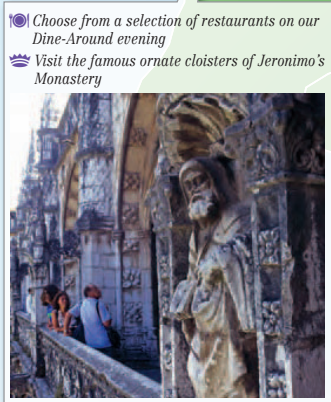
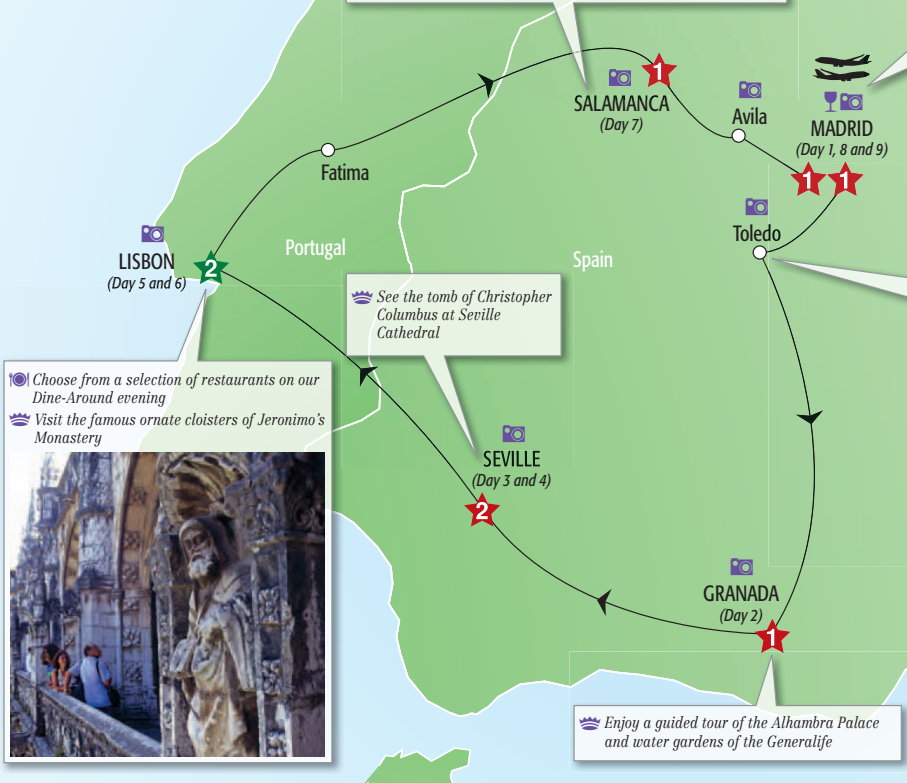
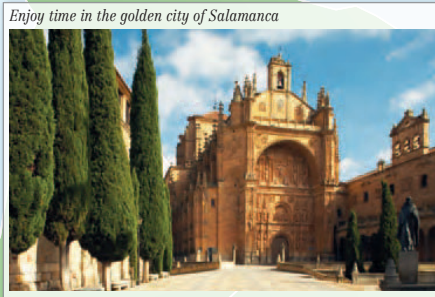


Lisbon's Belem Tower



The fire and passion of Spain's national dance – the Flamenco.

- Key**
- PREMIUM HIGHLIGHTS
 - PERSONAL INSIGHTS
 - DINE-AROUND & HIGHLIGHT DINNERS
 - WELCOME DRINK
 - GUIDED SIGHTSEEING OR ORIENTATION TOUR
 - CENTRAL HOTELS + NIGHTS
 - SCENIC HOTELS + NIGHTS



Enjoy a guided tour of the Alhambra Palace and water gardens of the Generalife

- Included Premium Highlights**
- Visit the unique city of Toledo, to admire the Cathedral, and to view El Greco's famous painting in the chapel of Santo Tomé
 - Visit the elaborately carved courtyards and golden mosaics of the Alhambra Palace in Granada
 - Visit the tomb of Christopher Columbus in Seville's Gothic Cathedral
 - Visit Jeronimo's Monastery, a masterpiece of Manueline art
- Included Personal Insights**
- Learn about the former capital of Toledo - where four religions meet
- Included Other Excursions & Sights**
- See the Alcazar, Giralda Tower & Santa Cruz Quarter in Seville
 - Tour the spacious avenues and elegant squares of Lisbon
 - Visit the Monument to the Discoveries & Belem Tower in Lisbon
 - Visit the great Basilica in Fatima
 - See the Plaza Mayor and Puente Romano bridge in Salamanca
 - Visit the unique walled town of Avila
 - See the Puerta del Sol, Gran Via, Royal Palace and Cibeles Fountain in Madrid
- Included First Class Services**
- Escorted by a professional Tour Director
 - Headsets for all guided visits and walking tours
 - Luxury air-conditioned 40 seat coach with extended leg room and on-board restroom
 - First Class hotels with all service charges, taxes and portage
 - Insight Traveller document wallet, Welcome on Tour book and information pack
 - Airport arrival and departure transfers at scheduled times on Day 1 and Day 9.
(Should your flights not coincide with these arrival and departure transfers, please make your own way to/from the airport or see page 58 to purchase a transfer)
- Included Quality Dining**
- There is a selection of local restaurants on your Dine-Around evening in Lisbon (DA)
 - Highlight Dinner in Madrid at a local restaurant (HD)
 - 8 buffet breakfasts (BB), 2 three course table d'hôte dinners, or buffets, plus tea or coffee (D)
 - Departures on tour for Christmas & New Year's Eve, enjoy a festive celebration dinner

TOUR CODE: W300 **Save up to US\$180 p.p. - see reductions below**

Starts	Ends	Twin Share	Single Supp.	Triple Room	Starts	Ends	Twin Share	Single Supp.	Triple Room
Madrid	Madrid	p.p.	Option	Reduction	Madrid	Madrid	p.p.	Option	Reduction
Sat 05 Nov	Sun 13 Nov	\$1835	\$485	\$40	Sat 21 Jan	Sun 29 Jan	\$1835	\$485	\$40
Sat 12 Nov	Sun 20 Nov	\$1835	\$485	\$40	Sat 11 Feb	Sun 19 Feb	\$1835	\$485	\$40
Sat 26 Nov	Sun 04 Dec	\$1835	\$485	\$40	Sat 25 Feb	Sun 04 Mar	\$1835	\$485	\$40
Sat 03 Dec	Sun 11 Dec	\$1835	\$485	\$40	Sat 03 Mar	Sun 11 Mar	\$1850	\$485	\$40
◇ Mon 19 Dec	Tue 27 Dec	\$1885	\$485	\$40	Sat 10 Mar	Sun 18 Mar	\$1850	\$485	\$40
◇ Tue 27 Dec	Wed 04 Jan	\$1950	\$485	\$40	Sat 17 Mar	Sun 25 Mar	\$1850	\$485	\$40
2012:					Sat 24 Mar	Sun 01 Apr	\$1850	\$485	\$40
Sat 07 Jan	Sun 15 Jan	\$1835	\$485	\$40	Sat 31 Mar	Sun 08 Apr	\$1850	\$485	\$40

Extra Accommodation

Per person, per night	Twin	Single	Triple
Melia Galgos, Madrid	\$115	\$167	\$111

Festive Highlights

- ◇ Xmas/New Year's Eve festive celebration dinner included

Notes

All prices are in US dollars.

Reductions

- SAVE \$180 per person with Young Traveller Discount
- SAVE up to \$98 per person with 2nd Tour Discount
- SAVE up to \$98 per person with Frequent Traveller Discount
- Early Payment Discount** 10 months 6 months
- SAVE per person \$135 \$90

For additional information regarding Insight's great Savings & Discounts, please see page 8.

DEF **Definite Departures (DEF)**
These are regularly updated and listed on our website www.insightvacations.com (see page 8 for details).

Dine-Around, Highlight Dinners & Included Sightseeing are worth approximately US\$462

For news, views & info visit the 'Insight Travel Forum' at www.insightvacations.com