

American Celebration of Music in Spain

Tour #4 (7 nights / 9 days)

Day 1

Depart for Spain

Depart via scheduled air service to Barcelona, Spain

Day 2

Barcelona

(D)

Arrive in Barcelona

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via panoramic tour of Barcelona's highlights including the Gothic Quarter, Plaça del Rei, Roman City, Plaça Reial, Port Vell, etc

Take a guided tour to Montjuïc (the Mountain of the Jews) for a great view overlooking the city. Visit the Poble Espanyol (Spanish village), built for the 1929 exhibition to illustrate regional styles in Spanish architecture

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner, and overnight

Barcelona was originally founded by the Phoenicians. Although it belongs to Spain, it is the capital of Catalonia, and is a more dynamic city than ever, hosting the 1992 World Olympic Games. It is a large industrial center with a very busy port; it's also a university town, and important cultural center with an opera house and many museums, theaters and concert halls

Day 3

Barcelona

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour includes the Eixample Quarter, location of many of Barcelona's best Modernista buildings. Travel down the Passeig de Gràcia, a luxurious street adorned with elegant wrought iron street lamps which contains the finest examples of Modernist architecture in Barcelona. Then visit La Sagrada Família, Europe's most unconventional church, yet uncompleted

Lunch, on own

Afternoon clinic or school exchange

Evening dinner, and overnight

Day 4

Montserrat / Barcelona

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day sightseeing to Montserrat to visit the monastery. The monastery, with its church and the various subsidiary buildings, is a little city on its own.

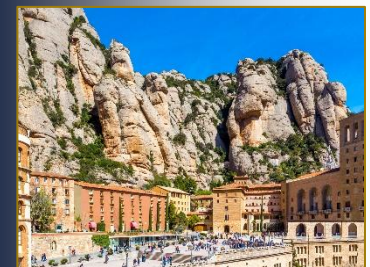
The monastery complex proper is reached by way of the Plaza de la Cruz (Catalan Plaça de la Creu), which is flanked by a restaurant, souvenir shops, a post office, payphones and a bureau de change. Hear Escolania, one of Europe's oldest boys choir sing the 11am Mass in the monastery

Lunch, on own

Return to Barcelona

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain

Evening dinner, and overnight



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Day 5**Tarragona / Valencia****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to Tarragona. Sightseeing in Tarragona includes visits to the, Archeological Promenade and Amphitheatre. Also see the Roman Mosaics. Set in a cliff over the beach, this ancient amphitheatre was the site where gladiators and wild beasts fought until death for the amusement of the crowds

Lunch, on own

Continue to Valencia for dinner, and overnight

Valencia, lies close to the Mediterranean on the right bank of the Río Turia. Described in an ancient saying as "a piece of heaven fallen to earth," Valencia is a typically southern town with its bustling streets and the brightly colored azulejo domes of its many churches. The climate is unusually mild and predominantly dry. During the Civil War, in 1936-37, it was the seat of the Republican government, and it was the last Republican stronghold to fall to Franco on March 30, 1939, two days after Madrid



Day 6**Valencia****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a half day guided sightseeing tour of Valencia. See the Palacio de la Generalidad and Lonja (Silk Exchange). Northwest of the Cathedral, in Calle de Caballeros, stands the Palacio de la Generalidad, built between 1510 and 1579 to house the parliament of the kingdom of Valencia and now occupied by the Diputación Provincial

Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain

Evening dinner, and overnight



Day 7**Valencia / Madrid****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to Madrid

Lunch on own

A guided tour of Madrid includes seeing Plaza Mayor (site of tournaments, bullfights and Inquisition trials), Plaza de España, Retiro Park, Royal Palace and entrance to the Prado Museum which hosts one of the finest art collections in the world including important Spanish paintings, classical statues purchased from Italy, medieval religious treasures and even some Romanesque frescoes

Evening dinner, and overnight

Madrid, Europe's highest-lying capital, stands in the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama, right in the center of the Iberian Peninsula. It is a very hospitable city, known for the quality of its light and climate. Madrid became the capital of Spain in the 16th century when Spain ruled a vast empire. Its attractions include three internationally famous art galleries, a royal palace, grand public squares and many museums filled with the treasures of Spain's history



Day 8**Madrid****(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning time at leisure in Madrid

Enjoy a guided tour including a visit of the magnificent Cathedral (with the El Greco paintings and other valuable relics) and the Church of St. Tomé (El Greco's *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz*)



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Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain

Return to Madrid for Farewell Dinner, and overnight

Day 9

Depart for home

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out

Transfer to the Madrid Airport for the return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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