## TRIP START DATES

2023 2024 APR | 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 JAN | 20 MAY | 06, 13, 20, 27 FEB | 10, 24 JUN | 03, 10, 17, 24 MAR | 02, 09, 16, 23, 30 JUL | 01, 08, 15, 22 APR | 06, 13, 20, 27 AUG | 05, 19, 26 MAY | 04, 11, 18, 25 SEP | 02, 09, 16, 23, 30 JUN | 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 OCT | 07, 14, 21, 28 JUL | 06, 13, 20 NOV | 11, 18, 25 AUG | 03, 17, 24, 31 DEC | 20, 27, 30 SEP | 07, 14, 21, 28

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, visit insightvacations.com/amazingspain

OCT | 05, 12, 19, 26

Combine this trip withNorthern Spain to create Grand Spain & Portugal .

REGIONAL JOURNEY
ACTIVITY LEVEL: LEISURELY

9 DAYS 2 COUNTRIES 11 MEALS 14 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

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GUEST REVIEW \*\*\*\*

## MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Seville: The Cristina Heeren Foundation aims to promote the teaching and conservation of flamenco and is a beneficiary of a TreadRight Foundation grant. Meet the students, learn some basic flamenco steps, and watch them perform an emotional show.

## **INSIGHT EXPERIENCES**

Granada: Visit the famous Alhambra Palace and Generalife Gardens. While others wait in line, you'll be exploring accompanied by a Local Expert, keen to share insights into this Moorish landmark.

Visit a Damascene workshop in Toledo.

## **INSIGHT CHOICE**

Seville: Choose to walk through the old Jewish quarter with a Local Expert.

Alternatively, join a panoramic tour of the city.

## **AUTHENTIC DINING**

Welcome Dinner in Madrid • Taste Pastéis de Belém in Lisbon • Celebration Dinner in Madrid.

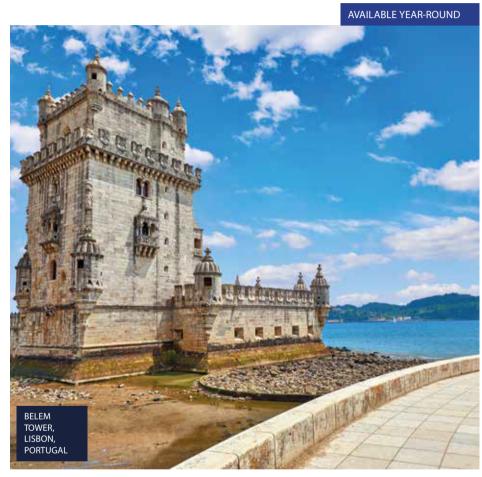
#### TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Visit Capela dos Ossos in Evora • Jerónimos Monastery • Fátima Basilica.

City tours of Madrid, Toledo, Seville and Lisbon, all with Local Experts.

# AMAZING SPAIN & PORTUGAL

"Guests really love to meet our Local Expert Carlos in Toledo. His passion for his hometown is the perfect introduction to Spain." – Daniel. Travel Director









## DAY 1 WELCOME TO MADRID

Your airport transfer departs Madrid airport for your hotel at 09:00, 11:30, 13:30 or 16:00.

While in Madrid, explore the elegant boulevards, expansive parks and varied architectural styles.

At 18:30, join your Travel Director for your Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant. (DW)

Hotel Riu Plaza España, Madrid.

## DAY 2 THE OLD CAPITAL OF TOLEDO AND ON TO GRANADA

Venture south to meet a master artisan in a Damascene workshop for a personal insight into this ancient craft, handed down by the Moors centuries ago.

Continue to the fascinating city of Toledo, situated high above the River Tagus. This was Spain's capital during the golden era, where Arab, Jewish and Christian cultures flourished side-by-side through the Middle Ages. Walk within the city walls, through the narrow cobbled streets, led by your Local Expert. Visit the Church of Santo Tomé, housing El Greco's famous painting, 'The Burial of the Count of Orgaz.'

Your journey continues to Granada. (B) (DW)

Vincci Albayzín, Granada.

## DAY 3 THE ALHAMBRA PALACE AND SEVILLE, CITY OF CARMEN

'Give him alms, woman, because there is nothing sadder in life than being blind in Granada,' proclaims the inscription on the walls of the Alhambra.

Bathed in the morning light, the Alhambra Palace awaits - a fantasy of arabesque gardens, fountains and stone cut like lace. Explore with your Local Expert before visiting the exotic water gardens of the Generalife, the summer residence of the Spanish royals.

Take a moment to relax in the sunshine as you enjoy the fine views over the town and its three verdant hills before continuing to Seville.

Visit the Seville Cathedral, the burial place of Christopher Columbus.

Explore the city with Insight Choice. Choose to embark on a walk through the old Jewish quarter. Alternatively, enjoy a drive with panoramic views(B)

Catalonia Giralda Hotel, Seville.

## DAY 4 FREE TIME AND FLAMENCO IN SEVILLE

Relaxed Start. This day is yours to completely relax or continue exploring this fascinating city. Perhaps join an Optional Experience to Córdoba and visit the magnificent Mezquita, an 8th century mosque with a Christian cathedral built inside it?

Visit the Cristina Heeren Foundation, a private flamenco dance school and beneficiary of a TreadRight Foundation grant, for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER \* Experience. Put your rhythm to the test during a dance lesson, before witnessing emotions come to life in a flamenco performance. (B)

## DAY 5 ÉVORA AND ONTO LISBON

Relaxed Start. Continue to the lively university town of Évora.

Visit the fascinating Capela dos Ossos, a chapel decorated with human bones, before making your way to Lisbon. (B)

Turim Saldanha Hotel, Lisbon.

## DAY 6 LISBON AND THE AGE OF THE DISCOVERIES

Relaxed Start. During your stay, a guided orientation of the city with your Local Expert takes you along the avenues of the Lower Town and beneath the hilltop Bairro Alto to the Terreiro do Paco, the finest square in the city.

Visit the Belém Quarter and enjoy a taste of Pastéis de Belém from the patisserie that has been using the same, secret recipe for almost 200 years. View the Monument to the Discoveries and the historic Belém Tower. This fortress was originally set in the middle of the river, but is now left high and dry on the riverbank. Visit the 500-year-old Jerónimos Church with its beautiful Manueline architecture, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. With the afternoon at your leisure, perhaps join an Optional Experience to the beautiful Portuguese Riviera? (B)

## DAY 7 HOLY FÁTIMA AND SALAMANCA

Relaxed Start. Travel into the green hills north of Lisbon to visit Fátima, the most celebrated place of pilgrimage in Portugal. Visit the chapel commemorating the appearance of the Virgin Mary to three children in 1917.

Cross the border and continue to Salamanca to see its golden stone buildings, the handsome arcades of the Plaza Mayor and the Puente Romano. (B)

Hotel Alameda Palace, Salamanca.

### DAY 8 ÁVILA AND MADRID

Travel to Ávila to walk within the ancient city, still entirely enclosed within 11th century walls. Return to Madrid to explore more of the capital with your Local Expert.

At a local restaurant, join your Travel Director and newfound friends for a lively Celebration Dinner. **(B)** (DW)

Melia Madrid Serrano/Melia Madrid Princesa.

#### DAY 9 FAREWELL MADRID

After breakfast, transfers arrive at Madrid airport at 07:00, 09:00 and 11:00. (B)





TOP RATED HIGHTLIGHT Walk within the city walls with your Local Expert.(Photo by @Concept\_by\_kym, Day 3, Granada)





TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT Take a chance to see Plaza de España during your time in Seville. (Photo by @Travelling\_insighttim, Day 3, Seville)



Use the camera on your smart phone to view the full details of this trip on our website.

#### KEY IJoin/Leav

₹ Join/Leave Options

☐ UNESCO Heritage Site

1 Central Hotels + Nights

Place Visited

Optional Place Visited

# CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travellers.

