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## **Ultimate Spain & Portugal**

21 days, Lisbon to Madrid

Trip code ESLM

## What's included

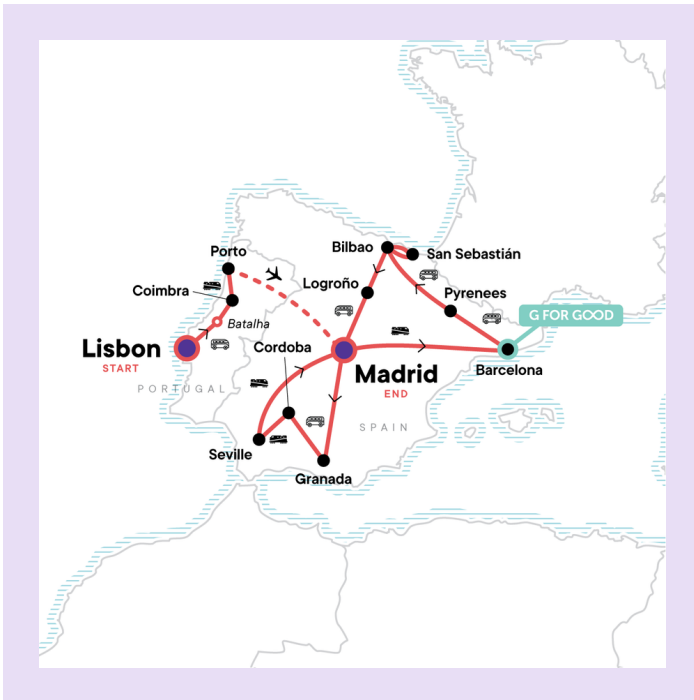
- Your G for Good Moment: Mescladis Paella Cooking Class and Dinner, Barcelona
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Hands-On Moment: Port Wine Cellar Visit, Porto
- Your Discover Moment: Barcelona
- Your Foodie Moment: Rioja Region Wine Tasting, Logroño
- Orientation walks in Lisbon, Porto, Madrid, Granada and Barcelona
- Batalha gothic monastery entrance and visit
- Albaicin quarter visit
- Alhambra guided tour
- Mezquita Mosque and Jewish quarter visit in Cordoba
- Flamenco show performance
- "Casa rural" stay with traditional meals (Pyrenees)
- San Sebastian day trip
- Internal flight (Porto to Madrid)
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2022 and onwards

# Itinerary



## Itinerary Notes

Due to revised regulations for Alhambra's ticketing system, your passport information must be provided to G Adventures at least 60 days prior to departure in order to guarantee your guided tour of the Alhambra. See "Important notes" under Tour Details for more information. Visits to the Alhambra may vary and take place on Day 9 or 10, depending on ticket availability, special events or holidays in Spain. For Christmas and New Year's departures: Your itinerary over these holiday periods may include some variations depending on holiday closures. Alternative arrangements will be provided.

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Lisbon

Arrive at any time.

If visiting the historic district of Belém is on your bucket list, we recommend arriving early on this day to explore its major sites like the Jerónimos Monastery and Belém Tower. Most attractions in Belém are closed on Mondays.

If you'd like to independently explore Lisbon before your tour begins, consider booking pre-tour accommodation with us. Please speak to a G Adventures representative about booking accommodations in Lisbon before Day 1 of this itinerary.



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.



### Optional Activities - Day 1

Sao Jorge Castle

Lisbon

15EUR

Climb up to this Moorish castle for a wander around the impressive grounds on a guided tour, and a great view over Lisbon and Tagus River.

Santa Justa Lift

Lisbon

6EUR

Take a ride up 147ft from the lowest to highest points of Portugal. Sit back and enjoy the views.

Alfama District Visit

Lisbon

Free

1h-2h

Explore Lisbon's past in Alfama, one of the city's oldest quarters. Wander along narrow medieval streets lined with typical tile-covered façades and take a step back in time; the area largely survived the great earthquake of 1755, and still retains much of its original layout. Listen for Portugal's traditional music, fado, gracing the streets at night.

Visit to Mercado da Ribeira Market (aka Time Out Market)

Lisbon

Take a wander through this traditional food market, Lisbon's main market since 1892. The stalls selling fresh produce are open between 6am and 2pm.

Rossio Square

Lisbon

Free

Stop in this lively square to get a taste of the local hustle and bustle.

Belém District Visit

Lisbon

Free-10EUR

1h-2h30m

Discover Belém, a western suburb that's linked to Portugal's Golden Age of Discoveries – it was the site where famous navigators once set sail to discover the world. While there, take some time to tour nearby must-see attractions: the Jerónimos Monastery, Belém Tower, the Tropical Botanical Garden, and the Berardo Museum of contemporary art. Please note: most attractions in Belém are closed on Mondays.

Belém Tower

Lisbon

8EUR

Take a trip to the coastline to see this charming fort, built to protect Lisbon from raiders invading from the sea. Climb up the tower for great views of the ocean and surrounding city.

Day 2

## Lisbon

Enjoy a CEO-led orientation walk of Lisbon. The rest of the day is free for exploration. In the evening enjoy a Fado performance and traditional Portuguese dinner in one of Lisbon's oldest neighbourhoods.

Opt to take a day trip into the foothills of the surrounding mountains to Sintra. Get lost in the city's winding streets lined with pastel coloured houses, palaces, majestic gardens and lush forests. It doesn't get more postcard-worthy than this.

Opt to pre-book a spot on the Eats, Street Art and Undiscovered Lisbon tour during your free time in Lisbon.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Lisbon Orientation Walk

Lisbon

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Fado Night with Traditional Portuguese Meal

Lisbon

2h

Sit down to a traditional meal and lend your ears to the sound of a performance by Portuguese folk music artists.



### Optional Activities - Day 2

Alfama District Visit

Lisbon

Free

1h-2h

Explore Lisbon's past in Alfama, one of the city's oldest quarters. Wander along narrow medieval streets lined with typical tile-covered façades and take a step back in time; the area largely survived the great earthquake of 1755, and still retains much of its original layout. Listen for Portugal's traditional music, fado, gracing the streets at night.

Santa Justa Lift

Lisbon

6EUR

Take a ride up 147ft from the lowest to highest points of Portugal. Sit back and enjoy the views.

Lisbon Food Tour

Lisbon

Explore the undiscovered side of Lisbon most tourists don't venture out to see. Still very central, this area of Lisbon is rich in culture and history and hosts some of the best restaurants Lisbon has to offer. Wander up and down the tile-filled streets with us in two local neighborhoods – Baixa, which translates to “downtown” followed by Mouraria, which is the old Muslim neighborhood. Our food tour takes you away from the tourist traps to the traditional and trending restaurants that are loved and frequented by the locals of Lisbon. Explore and really get to know the city through its amazing food and drinks. Not only will you try typical Portuguese food and drinks, but you'll also learn about the international influences in Lisbon and discover some beautiful street art. Get away from the crowds and join us for an unforgettable day of eating, drinking, making new friends, and – above all – having fun!

Visit to Mercado da Ribeira Market (aka Time Out Market)

Lisbon

Take a wander through this traditional food market, Lisbon's main market since 1892. The stalls selling fresh produce are open between 6am and 2pm.

Rossio Square

Lisbon

Free

Stop in this lively square to get a taste of the local hustle and bustle.

Sao Jorge Castle

Lisbon

15EUR

Climb up to this Moorish castle for a wander around the impressive grounds on a guided tour, and a great view over Lisbon and Tagus River.

Visit to Sintra

Lisbon

Take a break from reality to visit the fairytale-like town of Sintra. Get lost exploring the colourful manors, medieval palaces, and lush gardens of this UNESCO World Heritage site.

Day 3

## Lisbon/Coimbra

Leave Lisbon behind and head north to the small hill town of Batalha, best known for its ornate gothic monastery built to commemorate Portugal's victory in the infamous battle of Aljubarrota. Visit the historic Monastery of Batalha with free time to wander the grounds. Continue to the medieval capital of Portugal, Coimbra.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Lisbon - Coimbra

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Monastery of Batalha Visit

Batalha

Visit the Bathala Monastery built to commemorate the victory of the Portuguese over the Castilians at the battle of Aljubarrota in 1385. The elaborate, Gothic-style architecture of this UNESCO site is considered to be one of the masterpieces of the region.

Free Time

Batalha

Take time to wander around the jaw-droppingly gorgeous monastery, or get out and explore the surrounding area.

Day 4

## Coimbra

Enjoy a free day to explore Coimbra. Opt to visit the famous Coimbra University, a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2013 (and also the inspiration for Harry Potter's Hogwarts). Explore the winding streets and the riverfront filled with restaurants and bars, or opt for a day trip to the nearby coastal town of Aveiro or the pilgrimage sites of Fátima.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Coimbra

Get out and explore.

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### Optional Activities - Day 4

Joanina Library

Coimbra

Located in Coimbra University, the Joanina Library (Biblioteca Joanina) is a must see and one of the most ornate libraries in the world with its breathtaking frescoes, intricate carvings and gold-leaf touches.

University of Coimbra Visit

Coimbra

Portugal's most prestigious university, the University of Coimbra is a must see landmark. Explore the World Heritage Site as you enter through the Porta Férra, the old entrance to the citadel of Coimbra constructed in the 10th century. Walk through the campus along mosaic cobblestone paths, explore its botanical gardens and Chapel of S. Miguel and opt to visit the ornate Joanina Library.

Fátima Visit

Fátima

Fátima is known as a place where the Virgin Mary allegedly appeared in front of three local children in 1917. Stroll through the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fátima, an astounding complex of churches and shrines in this rural Portuguese town that millions of pilgrims travel to every year. From Coimbra, direct buses run with approx. 1 hour travel time.

Aveiro Visit

Aveiro

A popular local getaway, Aveiro is known for its eye-catching Art Nouveau architecture and colourful boats (called moliceiro) that cruise through the city's canals. Dubbed the "Venice of Portugal", a moliceiro ride costs around 8-10€ person and is a lovely way to see this coastal town, approx. 1 hour from Coimbra by public transport.

Conimbriga Ruins

Coimbra

8EUR

1h-2h

Take a visit to the best preserved Roman ruins in Portugal.

Day 5

## Coimbra/Porto

Continue to the historic and vibrant coastal town of Porto in the morning, and take an orientation walk upon arrival.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Local Train

Coimbra - Porto

1h30m

120km

Climb aboard, take your seat, and get around like the locals do.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Day 6

## Porto

Free day to explore Porto. Opt to take a cruise down the Douro River, or explore the city which gained UNESCO World Heritage designation in 1996. In the evening enjoy a visit to the port wine cellars and a tasting.

Head down Allies Avenue to see the French-inspired buildings. Bargain at the Bolhão Market. Wander the city's World Heritage-listed Ribeira district, visit São Francisco church, the palatial former 19th-century stock market Palácio de Bolsa or head to the Clerigos Tower for a panoramic view of the city.

In the evening, become an Port wine connoisseur with a visit to the cellars and a port wine tasting.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Porto

Take it all in.

#### ACTIVITY

Finish off the day with a tour of the cellars of the region's famed export - Port wine. Learn about the art of Port making and the processes that render its rich taste. Indulge in a tasting and raise a glass to a day well spent. Saúde!



### Optional Activities - Day 6

Ribeira Square

Porto

Free

Take some time to walk around this charming square and get in with the local hustle and bustle.

Porto Cathedral

Porto

Free

The Porto Cathedral (called Sé do Porto in Portuguese) is a National Monument and one of the city's most recognizable landmarks. Adorned with high ceilings, an exquisite courtyard and light-filled cloisters, the Sé has held deep religious and cultural significance for the people of Lisbon for centuries.

Porto Ribeira Cruise

Porto

20EUR

1h-2h

Board a boat down Portugal's Douro River, or "river of gold". Float along this ancient route used for centuries as a port wine shipper's route.

Sao Bento Railway Station

Porto

Free

The blue painted tiles on the inside of São Bento railway station makes it one of the most beautiful train stations in the world. See for yourself.

Clerigos Church and Tower

Porto

8-6EUR

1h-2h

Built by the same architect who constructed the Porto Cathedral, the Clérigos Church and Tower is a beautiful Baroque landmark in its own right. Opt to climb over 200 steps to the top of the bell tower for a panoramic view of the city and the Duoro River.

Lello Bookstore

Porto

8EUR

Take a wander around this incredible, and beautifully ornate bookstore built in 1906.

Palacio da Bolsa

Porto

12EUR

30m-1h

Join a half-hour guided tour of this neoclassical monument.

Day 7

## Porto/Madrid

Catch a flight to Madrid and spend the rest of the day exploring the city at your own pace.

Kindly note there is a 20kg luggage weight restriction on this internal flight. Please make sure to plan your packing with this in mind.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Plane

Porto - Madrid

1h15m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Free Time

Madrid

Lively, passionate Madrid is a treasure trove of art and architecture, with its royal palaces and works by masters including Goya, Picasso, and Dalí. Be sure to take in some tapas. Madrid is one of the richest culinary capitals of Europe, and showcases food from all over Spain.



### Optional Activities - Day 7

Plaza Mayor Visit

Madrid

Free

15m-30m

Enjoy some spectacular people watching with a visit to the Plaza Mayor, the true heart of the city. Enjoy a coffee in one of the plaza's many cafes and watch the world go by.

Royal Palace (Palacio Real) Visit

Madrid

12EUR

1h-2h

See how kings and queens live, with a visit to the Palacio Real, the official (and uninhabited) palace of the King of Spain. Wander the rooms to take in some of the most elaborately decorated and furnished rooms you'll ever see.

## Museo Nacional Del Prado Visit

Madrid

15EUR

30m-1h

Take in some culture with a trip to the Museo del Prado, one of the greatest art galleries in the world, and a definite highlight of any Madrid trip. Be inspired by its collections and exhibitions: the museum's main emphasis is 15th to 19th century Spanish, Flemish, and Italian art, but there is plenty of Goya and a wealth of paintings by Diego Velázquez.

Day 8

## Madrid

Take a brief orientation walk with your CEO, then enjoy a full day to explore this bustling capital. Discover Plaza Mayor or opt to visit the famous Royal Palace. Indulge in delicious Spanish tapas or get your art fix at the Prado Museum.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Orientation With CEO

Madrid

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Free Time

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### Optional Activities - Day 8

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12EUR

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See how kings and queens live, with a visit to the Palacio Real, the official (and uninhabited) palace of the King of Spain. Wander the rooms to take in some of the most elaborately decorated and furnished rooms you'll ever see.

Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

Madrid

13EUR

1h-2h

The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum displays an overview of art from the 13th century to the late 20th century.

Reina Sofia Museum

Madrid

12EUR

2h-3h

The Reina Sofia is Spain's national museum of 20th-century art, and currently boasts an art collection of over 21,000 works.

Museo Nacional Del Prado Visit

Madrid

15EUR

30m-1h

Take in some culture with a trip to the Museo del Prado, one of the greatest art galleries in the world, and a definite highlight of any Madrid trip. Be inspired by its collections and exhibitions: the museum's main emphasis is 15th to 19th century Spanish, Flemish, and Italian art, but there is plenty of Goya and a wealth of paintings by Diego Velázquez.

Plaza Mayor Visit

Madrid

Free

15m-30m

Enjoy some spectacular people watching with a visit to the Plaza Mayor, the true heart of the city. Enjoy a coffee in one of the plaza's many cafes and watch the world go by.

Day 9

## Madrid/Granada

Journey south to Granada. Upon arrival enjoy an orientation walk. Wander through the whitewashed historic quarter of the Albaicín; with its narrow lanes and fantastic views, it's a great place to watch the sunset.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Local Bus

Madrid - Granada

4h12m

420km

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Albaicín (El Albayzín) Visit

Granada

1h-2h

Wander through the historic quarter of the Albaicín. Try to head there for sunset. With its narrow lanes and fantastic views back to the Alhambra, visitors are rewarded with a spectacular colour-washed skyline when the sun goes down.

Day 10

## Granada

Enjoy a guided visit to the architectural masterpiece, the Alhambra. In the evening, opt to go for a stroll and check out the local tapas and wine bars.

After visiting the Alhambra, opt to take a wander through this historic city. In the evening, opt for a night on the town. Granada is filled with trendy tapas bars and has a lively music scene.

Due to regulations for Alhambra's ticketing system, your passport information must be provided to G Adventures at the time of booking in order to guarantee your guided tour of the Alhambra. See "Important notes" under Tour Details for more information.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Granada

Wander this charming city and sample their famous tapas.

Alhambra visit

Granada

2h-3h

Enjoy a guided visit of the Alhambra, one of the greatest accomplishments of Islamic art and architecture. Learn about Granada's reign as one of the region's most regal cities during the Muslim rule of Spain, which is captured in time within the Alhambra.



### Optional Activities - Day 10

Granada Cathedral (Cathedral of the Incarnation) Visit

Granada

5EUR

30m-1h

Be taken by the beauty of one of the largest cathedrals in Spain on this visit to the Cathedral of Granada. Tour its beautiful facades and interiors that house a grand altar and numerous chapels. Built by Queen Isabella, it is a masterpiece of Spanish-Renaissance style.

## Granada City Center and Tapas Gourmet Tour

Granada

3h-3h30m

Explore Granada beyond the Alhambra on a guided walking tour of its historic city centre, where centuries of Moorish influence, incredible architecture and a lively university town await visitors today. Immerse yourself further in Andalusian culture by enjoying some tapas (light bar snacks and appetizers) at bars where the locals hang out. Sample local fare and the region's excellent wine - this is one of the world's gastronomic capitals for a reason!

## Albaicín (El Albayzín) Visit

Granada

Free

1h-2h

Wander through the historic quarter of the Albaicin. Try to head there for sunset. With its narrow lanes and fantastic views back to the Alhambra, visitors are rewarded with a spectacular colour-washed skyline when the sun goes down.

Day 11

## Granada/Cordoba/Seville

Travel to Seville via picturesque Cordoba. Go for a stroll through the historic Jewish quarter and visit the iconic Mezquita de Cordoba (mosque). In the early evening, continue towards Seville and end your day with free time to get to know the city.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Granada - Seville

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Mezquita de Córdoba (Mosque) Visit

Córdoba

1h-2h

Be amazed by the diverse and stunning architecture of Córdoba's most famous monument, the extraordinary Mezquita. Built as a mosque in 785 by the Moors, the Mezquita was converted in the 16th century by the remarkable addition of a Christian cathedral inserted into the centre of the building.

Jewish Quarter (Juderia) Visit

Córdoba

1h-2h

Wander among narrow winding lanes, traditional houses, and charming cafés in Cordoba's historic medieval Jewish quarter. Discover one of Spain's three remaining synagogues.

Day 12

## Seville

Spend a day enjoying this city and its Moorish influence. Opt to explore the district of Santa Cruz, the Alcázar palace or the world's largest Gothic cathedral. In the early evening, end your day with a dramatic flamenco performance.

Take the time to see all this great city has to offer. Opt to explore the interiors and gardens of the Alcázar, a magnificent palace dating from Moorish times, or the true heart of Seville, the Santa Cruz quarter– a charming area with winding alleys, picturesque lime-washed houses, flowery patios, and small squares.

Seville is home to the world's largest gothic cathedral – climb the adjoining tower for great views of the city. Other attractions include the Museo Arqueológico, the Casa de Pilates and the Parque de María Luisa, which has a maze of paths, garden beds, pretty little patios, fountains, and shaded lawns.

Please note that if you wish to visit popular sites and want to avoid waiting in line, it is advisable to reserve tickets in advance. We recommend pre-arranging your visit to the Alcázar of Seville.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Seville

With heaps to see and do, get exploring.

Flamenco Show

Seville

2h-3h

Enjoy a flamenco performance in the city known for the energetic dance. Be swept away by the flamenco's passion, fire, and grit!



### Optional Activities - Day 12

### Santa Cruz Quarter Visit

Seville

Free

15m-45m

Visit the true heart of Seville, the Santa Cruz quarter. A charming area with winding alleys, picturesque lime-washed houses, flowery patios, and small squares, you can wander, shop, or just soak in the neighbourhood's quaint atmosphere while enjoying a refreshing drink (sangria, perhaps) at one of the local restaurants.

### La Giralda Visit

Seville

9EUR

1h-2h

Climb the tower known as La Giralda, adjacent to the world's largest Gothic cathedral, for spectacular views and a walk among historic walls. The 76m (249 ft) Giralda was constructed by the Moors as a mosque between 1184 and 1197. In 1568, after the reconquest, Christians fit the minaret with its bell tower.

### The Golden Tower (Torre del Oro)

Seville

3EUR

30m-45m

Dating to 1220, the Golden Tower is the last major building constructed by Seville's historic Muslim population.

### Casa de Pilatos

Seville

10-12EUR

1h30m-2h

Take a visit to marvel at one of the grandest mansions in Seville. The home is still inhabited by the Medinaceli family, but remains open to visitor tours during operating hours.

### Santa Paula Convent

Seville

2EUR

1h30m-2h

Take a visit to this beautiful historic convent. Established in 1475, this convent is still home to the Jerónimas nuns. Infrequent tours in Spanish are run here, but visitors are welcome to the modest museum displaying 16th-18th century ecclesiastical art and sculpture.

### Alcázar Palace Visit

Seville

13.50EUR

2h-3h

Explore the wonderful interiors and gardens of the Alcázar, a royal palace that was originally a Moorish fort. Arrive during the evening in the summer months (until mid-September) and enjoy a series of concerts in the beautiful setting of the Reales Alcázares.

Hop on the train and get comfortable on the journey north to Barcelona. Take an orientation walk, including visits to the Gothic Quarter and Las Ramblas. In the evening participate in a G Adventures supported paella cooking class, followed by a group dinner to round out the day.

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## Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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## Today's Activities

Train

Seville - Barcelona

6h

920km

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Orientation Walk

Barcelona

15m-45m

Enjoy an orientation walk along Las Ramblas and stop at the famous Boqueria market.

### ACTIVITY

Mescladis - Catalan for "Mixed Space" - is a migrant training kitchen and cafe in the heart of Barcelona featuring a unique feel that fuses old Catalan favourites and migrants' home recipes. With the help of migrant students, learn how to make paella with the resident chef, accompanied by a discussion that promotes social reflection - with the kitchen and food at the centre of it all. Then enjoy the fruits of your labour!

Get out and explore all that Barcelona has to offer, or choose to journey further afield to the surrounding beaches and countryside to get a true taste of Catalan life.

Today, new travellers may join you for the rest of the adventure. You are welcome to join them at a group meeting this evening, followed by an optional dinner.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Optional Activities - Day 14

Montjuïc Visit

Barcelona

5EUR

1h-1h30m

Climb to the top of Montjuïc hill for fantastic city views and a visit to a 17th-century fortress, once used as a prison and execution site.

Casa Batlló

Barcelona

25-30EUR

30m-45m

Deemed the crowning architectural work of Antoni Gaudí, Casa Batlló is a must-visit on anyone's trip to Barcelona.

Gothic Quarter Visit

Barcelona

Free

2h-3h

Uncover a different side of Barcelona. Visit the old Gothic Quarter with its maze of dark streets, historic cathedral, medieval buildings, bars, and cafés.

La Sagrada Família Visit

Barcelona

17-37EUR

1h-2h

Visit Gaudí's most famous life work, the cathedral of La Sagrada Família, an inspiring, yet, bizarre testament to the artist's unique vision.

La Barceloneta Visit

Barcelona

Free

30m-1h

Take a stroll on the boardwalk in the neighbourhood of La Barceloneta, an area known for its beaches and waterfront walkway. Visit local restaurants and nightclubs or check out the monuments while there.

Las Ramblas Visit

Barcelona

See and be seen on Las Ramblas, a large tree-lined pedestrian boulevard perfect for people watching and window shopping that ends at the harbourfront facing the Mediterranean Sea.

Parque Güell Visit

Barcelona

10EUR

2h-2h30m

Get away from it all with a visit to the imaginative Parque Guell. The fantastical works of Antoni Gaudí (1852-1926) are scattered throughout Barcelona, a grouping of these including Parque Guell, Casa Mila, and the Crypt of La Sagrada Familia were established as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984. Stroll the tree-lined paths and admire Gaudí's creative genius at play.

Day 15

## Barcelona/Pyrenees

Take the morning to explore beautiful Barcelona. Head to the Pyrenees region for 2 nights in a 'casa rural'. Enjoy home-cooked meals and hiking.

Explore a bit of Barcelona before an afternoon departure north. Travel to the Pyrenees by local bus and van to reach a 'casa rural', or converted farmhouse, near the town of Ainsa. Indulge in delicious local meals and time to explore the beautiful landscape.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Local Bus

Barcelona – Barbastro

2h30m-3h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Private Vehicle

Barbastro – Pyrenees

1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.



### Optional Activities - Day 15

Gothic Quarter Visit

Barcelona

Free

2h-3h

Uncover a different side of Barcelona. Visit the old Gothic Quarter with its maze of dark streets, historic cathedral, medieval buildings, bars, and cafés.

La Barceloneta Visit

Barcelona

Free

30m-1h

Take a stroll on the boardwalk in the neighbourhood of La Barceloneta, an area known for its beaches and waterfront walkway. Visit local restaurants and nightclubs or check out the monuments while there.

Parque Güell Visit

Barcelona

10EUR

2h-2h30m

Get away from it all with a visit to the imaginative Parque Guell. The fantastical works of Antoni Gaudí (1852-1926) are scattered throughout Barcelona, a grouping of these including Parque Guell, Casa

Mila, and the Crypt of La Sagrada Familia were established as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984. Stroll the tree-lined paths and admire Gaudi's creative genius at play.

Day 16

## Pyrenees

Enjoy the day in the scenic Pyrenees. Opt for some hikes in the area or head to Ainsa to explore. Spend another night in the 'casa rural'.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Pyrenees

Nature is calling – head out and explore.



### Optional Activities - Day 16

Hiking

Pyrenees

Free-20EUR

4h-6h

15-20km

Get your blood pumping and your legs moving in this scenic location. Enjoy spectacular views and varied landscapes exploring the Pyrenees area.

Day 17

## Pyrenees/Bilbao

Travel to Bilbao, the first stop in the unique Basque region of Spain. Arrive in the early afternoon. Opt to visit the stunning Guggenheim Museum, or climb the Mallona Stairs to Parque Etxebarria for beautiful views over the city.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Pyrenees - Bilbao

4h45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Bilbao

Get out and explore.



### Optional Activities - Day 17

Parque de Etxebarria Visit

Bilbao

Free

1h-1h30m

Climb the Mallona Stairs to Parque Etxebarria and be rewarded with beautiful views over Bilbao.

Basilica of Begoña Visit

Bilbao

Free

1h-2h

Take in the beauty of the Basilica of Begoña. It was built in the 1500s with a mix of Gothic architecture and a number of other styles.

Casco Viejo Visit

Bilbao

Free

1h-2h

Take some time to wander through Casco Viejo (Old Town), a medieval neighbourhood also known as Las Siete Calles (Seven Streets), that's considered the most colourful in Bilbao. Discover its many churches, shops, and taverns, and take the elevators to the areas at the top of the hill for further exploration.

Guggenheim Museum Visit

Bilbao

13EUR

1h-2h

Be sure to visit the Guggenheim Museum – it's a must-see, even if just to marvel at the outside of the building. See Frank Gehry's acclaimed work – he designed this titanium-clad twisting, curving, and angular building to much praise in the 1990s. Tour the building to take in its maritime theme, supposedly representing the ships along the docks of the city, with titanium squares acting as fish scales and the skylights inside designed to look like fish fins.

Take a day trip to San Sebastian. Opt to take a pintxos (tapas) tour and learn about the fascinating culture of the area. Return to Bilbao for the night.

The real treat in this part of the country is the eating. Basque cuisine is famous in Spain and around the world, with many believing this is the best food in the country. While San Sebastián didn't invent tapas, they are well-acknowledged to have perfected them. Wander through the streets before lunchtime or in the evening and check out what each bar has on offer.

Stop in each place for some wine or beer and sample their tapas (pintxos in Basque) selection. Move on to the next bar and repeat!

Delicious seafood abounds here as well. Looking for more than just pintxos? Head to the harbour and hole up in a traditional simple tavern. Don't leave San Sebastián without trying the famous jamon iberico.

The specialty drink in this area is called the Kalimotxo – half wine (usually red table wine) and half Coca Cola. Take some time to wander through the plazas, marvel at the buildings, and spot the art sprinkled throughout the city. And, as always, try the pintxos.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Today's Activities

Local Bus

Bilbao – San Sebastian

1h30m

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Free Time

San Sebastian

Explore all San Sebastián has to offer.

Local Bus

San Sebastian - Bilbao

1h30m

100km

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.



## Optional Activities - Day 18

Pintxos (Tapas) Experience

San Sebastian

100-150EUR

1h-2h

See (and taste) what all the fuss is about – Basque cuisine is famous worldwide, with many believing this is the best food in the country. Enjoy a delicious culinary experience on this pintxos (tapas) tour, and learn all about the different food of the area as you try different Pintxos bars.

Beach Visit with Surfing

San Sebastian

Grab your swimsuit and head to one of the beautiful beaches in San Sebastián for a fun-filled day on the beach. Try your hand at surfing, and see if you can catch some waves – Playa de Gros is a good place to give it a go. Surf lessons can be found for those new to the sport.

Monte Igueldo Visit

San Sebastian

2EUR

3h45m-3h

Gain a new perspective of the city with a trip up Monte Igueldo, the hill that overlooks San Sebastián. Opt to walk the hill or take a funicular for stunning panoramic views.

Cathedral of Buen Pastor

San Sebastian

Free

Named for the biblical Good Shepherd, San Sebastian's largest church rises above the town square. Step inside to admire its stained glass windows, towering naves and a magnificent organ, over 10 metres tall and made up of over 9,500 pipes.

San Sebastian Bicycle Tour

San Sebastian

40-60EUR

See this quaint city by bicycle.

Day 19

## Bilbao/Logroño

Travel to Logroño and enjoy an included wine tasting in the Rioja region.

With tons of churches, roman bridges, parks, plazas, and ancient buildings, there's no shortage of sights to be seen when wandering around this city.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Local Bus

Bilbao - Logroño

1h30m

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

#### ACTIVITY

Enjoy an included wine tasting at a local restaurant and indulge in the local specialties like Tempranillo. Try some pintxos with the local vintages for a true culinary delight.

Day 20

## Logroño/Madrid

Travel to Madrid and enjoy free time in this capital city.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Local Bus

Logroño - Madrid

3h30m-4h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Free Time

Madrid

Explore the capital city. Free time is yours to use any way you want!

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### Optional Activities - Day 20

Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

Madrid

13EUR

1h-2h

The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum displays an overview of art from the 13th century to the late 20th century.

Gran Vía Visit

Madrid

Free

1h-2h

Shop, stroll, and people watch on the capital's most exciting street, Gran Vía. Go early or late, the street stays awake all hours.

Reina Sofia Museum

Madrid

12EUR

2h-3h

The Reina Sofia is Spain's national museum of 20th-century art, and currently boasts an art collection of over 21,000 works.

Plaza Mayor Visit

Madrid

Free

15m-30m

Enjoy some spectacular people watching with a visit to the Plaza Mayor, the true heart of the city. Enjoy a coffee in one of the plaza's many cafes and watch the world go by.

### Royal Palace (Palacio Real) Visit

Madrid

12EUR

1h-2h

See how kings and queens live, with a visit to the Palacio Real, the official (and uninhabited) palace of the King of Spain. Wander the rooms to take in some of the most elaborately decorated and furnished rooms you'll ever see.

### Taurino Museum

Madrid

15-20EUR

1h-1h30m

Ever wanted to learn everything there is to know about the history of bullfighting in Spain? Here's your chance.

### Museo Nacional Del Prado Visit

Madrid

15EUR

30m-1h

Take in some culture with a trip to the Museo del Prado, one of the greatest art galleries in the world, and a definite highlight of any Madrid trip. Be inspired by its collections and exhibitions: the museum's main emphasis is 15th to 19th century Spanish, Flemish, and Italian art, but there is plenty of Goya and a wealth of paintings by Diego Velázquez.

Day 21

## Madrid

Depart at any time.

We recommend staying an extra day or two to fully experience all this lively city has to offer.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Optional Activities - Day 21

Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum

Madrid

13EUR

1h-2h

The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum displays an overview of art from the 13th century to the late 20th century.

Gran Vía Visit

Madrid

Free

1h-2h

Shop, stroll, and people watch on the capital's most exciting street, Gran Vía. Go early or late, the street stays awake all hours.

Reina Sofia Museum

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12EUR

2h-3h

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Plaza Mayor Visit

Madrid

Free

15m-30m

Enjoy some spectacular people watching with a visit to the Plaza Mayor, the true heart of the city. Enjoy a coffee in one of the plaza's many cafes and watch the world go by.

## What's included

- Your G for Good Moment: Mescladis Paella Cooking Class and Dinner, Barcelona
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Hands-On Moment: Port Wine Cellar Visit, Porto
- Your Discover Moment: Barcelona
- Your Foodie Moment: Rioja Region Wine Tasting, Logroño
- Orientation walks in Lisbon, Porto, Madrid, Granada and Barcelona
- Batalha gothic monastery entrance and visit
- Albaicin quarter visit
- Alhambra guided tour
- Mezquita Mosque and Jewish quarter visit in Cordoba
- Flamenco show performance
- "Casa rural" stay with traditional meals (Pyrenees)
- San Sebastian day trip
- Internal flight (Porto to Madrid)
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Explore Moorish palaces and great Iberian cities, capture photos of stunning countryside and age-old cathedrals, devour tapas at a local haunt, listen to fado music and learn to Flamenco dance, live like a local in a "casa rural" in the Pyrenees, experience the Basque way of life

## Itinerary Notes

Due to revised regulations for Alhambra's ticketing system, your passport information must be provided to G Adventures at least 60 days prior to departure in order to guarantee your guided tour of the Alhambra. See "Important notes" under Tour Details for more information. Visits to the Alhambra may vary and take place on Day 9 or 10, depending on ticket availability, special events or holidays in Spain.

For Christmas and New Year's departures: Your itinerary over these holiday periods may include some variations depending on holiday closures. Alternative arrangements will be provided.

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## Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Are there Itinerary notes?

Due to revised regulations for Alhambra's ticketing system, your passport information must be provided to G Adventures at least 60 days prior to departure in order to guarantee your guided tour of the Alhambra. See "Important notes" under Tour Details for more information. Visits to the Alhambra may vary and take place on Day 9 or 10, depending on ticket availability, special events or holidays in Spain.

For Christmas and New Year's departures: Your itinerary over these holiday periods may include some variations depending on holiday closures. Alternative arrangements will be provided.

# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

## 1. ALHAMBRA

Due to regulations for Alhambra's ticketing system, your passport information must be provided to G Adventures at the time of booking in order to guarantee your guided tour of the Alhambra.

If your booking for this trip is confirmed with less than 90 days prior to departure, we will do our best to secure a ticket for your guided Alhambra tour. However, please note that due to high demand for tickets, we are not able to guarantee this inclusion if your booking is confirmed within this time period. In the event we cannot secure a guided tour of the Alhambra for you, alternative options such as a self-guided visit of the Alhambra (with reduced access), or visits to the nearby districts of Albaicín and Sacramonte will be arranged.

Visits to the Alhambra in Granada may vary and take place on Day 9 or 10, depending on ticket availability, special events or holidays in Spain.

## 2. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

## 3. LOCAL GUIDES

It is important to note that in Europe, all guiding is based around local guides all of whom are licensed to work only in a particular city. As such, our leaders are able to provide orientation walks which will show you the layout of each town and city as well as the location of local services such as post offices and laundromats, but are unable to legally share historical facts and figures in public places.

## 4. LUGGAGE

In Europe it is very rare to find elevators in train stations, hotels or other public places. We use public transport on this trip, which means you will need to carry your luggage from platform to platform, in and out of trains and buses etc. and also possibly up several flights of stairs. You will also need to be able to stow your luggage safely on trains and buses. It is therefore essential that you pack light and bring luggage which is compact and lightweight, and which you can easily transport. The carrying of your luggage remains your responsibility at all times.

## 5. RESERVE TICKETS IN ADVANCE

Please note that if you wish to visit popular sites and want to avoid waiting in line for a long time (especially in high season May-September when it could be a question of hours!), it is advisable to reserve tickets in advance. There may be the possibility of arranging tickets on arrival on Day 1, with the help of your CEO, but availability cannot be guaranteed at such short notice. We recommend advanced ticket-purchase for the following sites and activities:

Barcelona:

La Sagrada Familia

Park Guell

Casa Battlo

Casa Mila

Madrid:

Prado Museum

Seville:

Alcazar Palace

#### 6. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## What is the group leader like?

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds. On this trip we include a local guide at the Alhambra in Granada

## How large will the group be?

Max 16, avg 12

## What meals are included in this trip?

20 breakfasts, 4 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. G Adventures understands the importance of breakfast to start your day, we strive to include a basic breakfast wherever possible. A typical breakfast may include toast, coffee and tea, however this may vary depending on the city. Should breakfast not be included, your CEO can suggest some local options.

Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. While trekking in remote regions etc. food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients.

For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Public bus, train, plane, walking.

## **What transportation will we take on this trip?**

Intercity transport on this trip will be mainly by public bus and train. The bus and train systems in Spain and Portugal are generally very good, most offer seat reservations, some buses have toilet facilities and others don't, but drivers often stop en route for service station breaks.

Please note that we use public transport such as metro and taxis to get to train and bus stations. It is important that you are able to carry your luggage comfortably and that it can be packed into a relatively small space.

Between transport and hotels you may be required to carry your luggage short distances (up to 15mins walk), occasionally the group will take taxis to and from hotels.

## **Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?**

Please be advised that any flights noted on the G Adventures Itinerary for this tour are included in the tour services provided. Flight tickets are provided by G Adventures during the tour. The date for this service will match the day of the itinerary, for which Day 1 is equal to the start date noted on the Invoice under Land Services: Tour. If flight information is required in advance for visa purposes, please contact G Adventures.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels (18 nts), casa rural (2 nts).

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops.

Please be aware that single room accommodations in European hotels are often smaller, and may not be to the same service level as double-occupancy rooms.

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

On this trip you can expect to stay in small family-run hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. You can expect to find clean, safe, simple accommodation in convenient locations.

Note that most accommodation in Europe does not have air conditioning units in rooms. Air conditioning is not routinely installed in European homes and workplaces. However, nearly all hotels will provide a standing or desk fan for your room on hot nights. If you do not already have one in your room, please ask your CEO to organize one for you with reception.

The address of the joining hotel in Lisbon is the following:

Hotel Dos Reis

Av. Alm. Reis 34, 1150-018 Lisboa

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

From Lisbon airport (LIS), you can reach the city centre in a few ways. You can take the Aerobus shuttle (Carris n. 91) directly to the city centre. Alternatively, take the metro (Aeroporto – Saldanha) or the bus (Terravision).

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - [Welcome Pickups](#)

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office London, United Kingdom

During Office hours (Weekdays, 9am-5:30pm Local Time)

+44 20 7243 9870

For absolute emergencies after office hours please contact: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. You must be prepared to carry your luggage up and down stairs, on and off transportation, and to hotels (max 15-20 mins.)

# What should be on my packing list?

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

**When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your CEO where the closest laundromat is. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected. Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

## What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?**

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are widely available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Western Europe. Check with your bank. You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies. Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of euros, travellers cheques and cards is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Do I need to pay a departure tax?**

Usually included in international air ticket, check with your air travel agent.

## **Should I be tipping on my trip?**

While conventions can vary from country to country, tipping is customary in Europe. A general rule is 10% of the bill for wait staff, and a smaller amount (€1 or €2) for other service providers.

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €30-€40 per person, per week can be used as a guideline.

# What activities are optional on this trip?

## Lisbon

- Sao Jorge Castle (15EUR per person)
- Santa Justa Lift (6EUR per person)
- Alfama District Visit (Free)
- Visit to Mercado da Ribeira Market (aka Time Out Market)
- Rossio Square (Free)
- Belém District Visit (Free-10EUR per person)
- Belém Tower (8EUR per person)
- Lisbon Food Tour
- Visit to Sintra

## Coimbra

- Joanina Library
- University of Coimbra Visit
- Conimbriga Ruins (8EUR per person)

## Fátima

- Fátima Visit

## Aveiro

- Aveiro Visit

## Porto

- Ribeira Square (Free)
- Porto Cathedral (Free)
- Porto Ribeira Cruise (20EUR per person)
- Sao Bento Railway Station (Free)
- Clerigos Church and Tower (8-6EUR per person)
- Lello Bookstore (8EUR per person)
- Palacio da Bolsa (12EUR per person)

## Madrid

- Plaza Mayor Visit (Free)
- Royal Palace (Palacio Real) Visit (12EUR per person)
- Museo Nacional Del Prado Visit (15EUR per person)
- Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum (13EUR per person)
- Reina Sofia Museum (12EUR per person)
- Gran Vía Visit (Free)
- Taurino Museum (15-20EUR per person)

## Granada

- Granada Cathedral (Cathedral of the Incarnation) Visit (5EUR per person)
- Granada City Center and Tapas Gourmet Tour
- Albaicín (El Albayzín) Visit (Free)

## Seville

- Santa Cruz Quarter Visit (Free)
- La Giralda Visit (9EUR per person)
- The Golden Tower (Torre del Oro) (3EUR per person)
- Casa de Pilatos (10-12EUR per person)
- Santa Paula Convent (2EUR per person)
- Alcázar Palace Visit (13.50EUR per person)

## Barcelona

- Montjuïc Visit (5EUR per person)
- Casa Batlló (25-30EUR per person)
- Gothic Quarter Visit (Free)
- La Sagrada Família Visit (17-37EUR per person)
- La Barceloneta Visit (Free)
- Las Ramblas Visit
- Parque Güell Visit (10EUR per person)

## Pyrenees

- Hiking (Free-20EUR per person)

## Bilbao

- Parque de Etxebarria Visit (Free)
- Casco Viejo Visit (Free)
- Guggenheim Museum Visit (13EUR per person)
- Basilica of Begoña Visit (Free)

## San Sebastian

- Pintxos (Tapas) Experience (100-150EUR per person)
- Beach Visit with Surfing
- Monte Igueldo Visit (2EUR per person)
- Cathedral of Buen Pastor (Free)
- San Sebastian Bicycle Tour (40-60EUR per person)

## Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

Always keep an eye on your belongings especially in major cities, bus and train terminals.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

When in churches or other places of religious worship travellers are expected to dress modestly, with shoulders and knees covered.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.