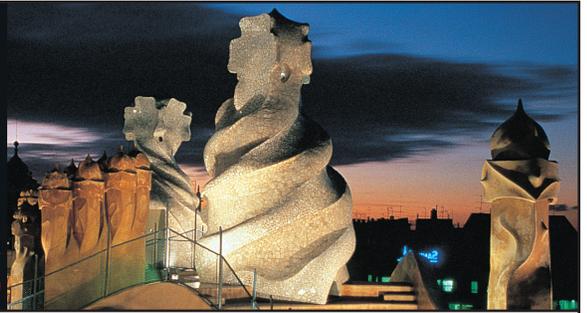


SMP

MAY 27
JUNE 5
2011

SPRING TOUR

THE WONDERS OF BARCELONA & MADRID



MAY 27, FRIDAY: EN ROUTE

Overnight flights from USA to Barcelona

MAY 28, SATURDAY: BARCELONA

Group arrival in Barcelona and meeting by English speaking guide and private motorcoach. Barcelona is one of Europe's most cosmopolitan and beautiful cities. En route to the hotel there will be a panoramic tour to familiarize you with the city. Free time to relax, freshen up or engage in a little exploration. In the evening, there will be a **Welcome Party** featuring the delicious "tapas" for which Spain is justly proud. Numerous "courses" will be offered, accompanied by several different vintages of good Spanish wines, finishing with the local "cava" (sparkling wine). Accommodations at the 4* boutique style Hotel Roger de Lluria, or similar.



MAY 29, SUNDAY: BARCELONA

Breakfast and free morning. This afternoon's tour (with an English speaking expert local guide) will feature the famous and somewhat bizarre architecture of the famous "modernist" architect Antonio Gaudi, including his still unfinished Holy Family Basilica, his noted apartment buildings (Casa Mila, La Pedrera) and the amazingly fanciful Parque Guell.

MAY 30, MONDAY: BARCELONA

Breakfast. Today's exciting full day excursion with English speaking guide will include the medieval university city of Girona, with its huge cathedral and beautifully restored old Jewish quarter, as well as the remarkable Salvador Dali Museum in Figueres. Enjoy a delicious lunch in the spectacular cliff top Parador of Aiguablava, overlooking the rugged Costa Brava and the Mediterranean. Return to Barcelona in the late afternoon or early evening.

MAY 31, TUESDAY: BARCELONA

Breakfast. Free day for shopping or exploring on your own. Perhaps visit the Picasso Museum or take a stroll along the famous Ramblas, where stalls sell books, flowers and caged birds, along with other items.



JUNE 1, WEDNESDAY: BARCELONA-MADRID

Breakfast. Transfer to the train station for a midday AVE bullet train to Madrid. Portorage of one suitcase per person will be provided from the motorcoach to RENFE (Spain Rail) customer service, which provides assistance with luggage for travelers needing assistance onto and off the train. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel, perhaps the fantastic and elegant 4* Catalonia Las Cortes, near the Prado Museum and Plaza Santa Ana (famous for restaurants and nightlife). In the evening, an English speaking guide will arrive to



take the group "tasca hopping", as they take a leisurely stroll through old Madrid (Plaza Santa Ana, Plaza Mayor, etc), enjoying tapas and wine in several atmospheric old taverns.

JUNE 2, THURSDAY: MADRID

Breakfast and free morning. Afternoon panoramic (main plazas, fountains) tour of Madrid, including an escorted tour with English speaking guide, of the famous Prado Art Museum.

JUNE 3, FRIDAY: MADRID

Breakfast. Morning escorted tour to Toledo, ancient former capital city of Spain, visiting the magnificent cathedral and some art treasures (such as the masterpiece painting by El Greco, as well as a historical synagogue building). Shopping time for the acclaimed damascene handicrafts, and the delicious almond marzipan candy. Return to Madrid for a free afternoon.

JUNE 4, SATURDAY: MADRID

Breakfast. Free day for exploration or perhaps visiting some of the other famous art museums like the Thyssen-Bornemisza or the Reina Sofia (Picasso's "Guernika"). In the evening a **Farewell Flamenco Dinner Show** with wine, showcasing the traditional costumes, virtuoso guitar music and fiery singing and dancing.

JUNE 5, SUNDAY: EN ROUTE

Breakfast. Transfer to the airport for flights home, arriving later the same day.

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