



VANDERBILT
Alumni Association

HISTORIES OF SPAIN
From al-Andalus
to Almodóvar

September 9 - 19, 2025

Itinerary

DAY 1 Tuesday, September 9

U.S. / Madrid

Depart your home city for an overnight flight to Madrid.
(MEALS ALOFT)

DAY 2 Wednesday, September 10

Arrive Madrid

Arrive in Madrid, and transfer to our hotel. This evening, gather for an orientation followed by our welcome dinner. HOTEL WELLINGTON or similar (D)

DAY 3 Thursday, September 11

Madrid & Prado Museum

This morning we delve into the heart of Madrid, one of the world's most vibrant capital cities. A city tour takes us to iconic sites including Alcalá Gate, Retiro Park, Neptuno Square, and Gran Vía Street. We'll enjoy a guided visit to the renowned Prado Museum, home to some of the world's most important artworks by Spanish masters such as El Greco, Velázquez and Goya. Learn about the fascinating history of the original building, and how it was transformed into a leading art museum. Following lunch, enjoy some free time to relax at the hotel, or continue your exploration of this vibrant city on your own.

HOTEL WELLINGTON or similar (B, L)

DAY 4 Friday, September 12

Toledo

Step back in time with a visit to the enchanting city of Toledo, also known as the "city of three cultures." Here, Christian, Muslim and Jewish communities peacefully coexisted for centuries, leaving behind a wealth of artistic and cultural

GREAT MOSQUE/MEZQUITA, CÓRDOBA



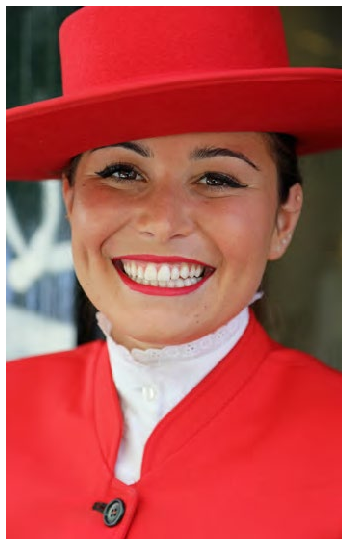
legacies that make it one of the most unique cities in the world. As we explore the winding streets of the old quarter, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, we'll see beautiful examples of Mudéjar (Christian-Muslim) architecture blending various cultural and period elements and visit the Cathedral, the Jewish Quarter, Santa María la Blanca Synagogue and Santo Tomé Church. HOTEL WELLINGTON or similar (B, L)

DAY 5 Saturday, September 13

Madrid

Embark on a walking tour through the winding streets of Madrid's historic city center, where we'll discover some of the most emblematic places in the city, including Plaza de la Villa, Plaza Mayor, Puerta del Sol, and Plaza de Oriente. We'll visit the Palacio Real, the largest royal palace in western Europe measuring 1,450,000 square feet and made up of 3,418 rooms. As the official residence of the royal family, it plays host to





TOP: PAINTED TILE. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: GENERALIFE GARDENS, GRANADA; SPANISH WOMAN; PLAZA MAYOR, MADRID.

some of the most important state receptions and ceremonies of the Crown. A tour of the interior transports you to a world of opulence and grandeur, with exquisite architectural details and rooms filled with musical instruments, including several Stradivarius violins, beautiful collections of porcelain, and paintings by such artists as Goya, Caravaggio and Velázquez. Enjoy a tapas-style lunch before enjoying the remainder of the day at leisure. HOTEL WELLINGTON or similar (B, L)

DAY 6 Sunday, September 14 **Madrid / Granada (Breakfast & Dinner)**

Your morning is free to relax or explore on your own. This afternoon, we'll take a train to Granada. After checking in to our hotel, you'll have some leisure time before gathering for dinner at a local restaurant. HOTEL VILLA ONIRIA or similar (B, D)

DAY 7 Monday, September 15 **Granada**

Today we will explore the Alhambra complex, Spain's most captivating attraction and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This hilltop fortress-palace of the Nasrid kings, the last Muslim rulers in Spain, is a true masterpiece of art and architecture. Admire the intricate designs, delicate details, and exquisite beauty of this unique building, which represents the pinnacle of Islamic creativity. Our tour will take us through

the lush harem gardens and fountains of the Generalife, the summer palace of the Sultans, with breathtaking views of the Sierra Nevada and the city of Granada below. We'll continue to the Albayzín quarter of Granada for a brief walking tour of this picturesque, historic neighborhood with views of the Alhambra. This afternoon, visit the Royal Chapel, where Ferdinand and Isabella are buried, to behold the culmination of Spanish art and architecture. HOTEL VILLA ONIRIA or similar (B, L)

DAY 8 Tuesday, September 16 **Granada / Córdoba / Seville**

This morning we'll depart for Córdoba by bus. Founded by the Romans, Córdoba became a port of great importance used for shipping Spanish oil, wine, and wheat back to Ancient Rome. However, its greatest legacy came in the 8th century as the capital of the kingdom of El-Andalus, when construction began on the magnificent Great Mosque, or "Mezquita." On our visit to the Mezquita, we'll admire the stunning architectural features including a forest of horseshoe arches, intricate mosaics, and unique blend of Islamic and Christian influences. Continue to the historic quarter of Córdoba, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for lunch at a local restaurant before driving to Seville.

HOTEL HOSPES CASAS DEL REY DE BAEZA or similar (B, L)

DAY 9 Wednesday, September 17

Seville

MORNING LECTURE: SEVILLA: GATEWAY TO THE NEW WORLD.

Depart on a tour of Seville, a charming city with a rich heritage, situated on the banks of the Guadalquivir River. We'll visit the Real Alcázar, a royal palace from the 14th century displaying one of the greatest examples of Mudéjar (Christian-Muslim) architecture. We'll see the General Archive of the Indies, which houses archival documents illustrating the history of the Spanish Empire in the Americas and Asia. We'll also visit the magnificent Santa Maria de la Sede, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, built on the site of a 12-century mosque of which only the minaret, known as the Giralda, remains. We'll complete our tour with a stroll through Seville's historical Jewish quarter, following the labyrinth of narrow streets and alleyways dating back to the 13th century. This evening, enjoy dinner and a lively flamenco show. HOTEL HOSPES CASAS DEL REY DE BAEZA or similar (B, D)

DAY 10 Thursday, September 18

Seville / Cádiz / Seville

Today we'll enjoy a taste of southern Spain's countryside with a day trip to Cádiz, located on a slender peninsula along the Andalusian coastline. As the oldest city in

Western Europe, its storied history permeates every street and plaza, where ancient Roman ruins coexist harmoniously with Islamic influences and Baroque architecture. This vibrant city invites exploration, and we will have the opportunity to discover the city's most beautiful corners and revel in the endless coastal vistas. Return to Seville and gather for a farewell dinner.

HOTEL HOSPES CASAS DEL REY DE BAEZA or similar (B, L, D)

DAY 11 Friday, September 19

Depart Seville

Transfer to the airport for flights back to the U.S.

PRICING

Land Program Costs (per person)

Double Occupancy \$7,495
Single Occupancy \$8,985

Segovia Pre-Tour Extension (per person)

Double Occupancy Approx \$1,100
Single Occupancy Approx \$1,590

(Price of the extension is based on a minimum of 12 passengers.)

Barcelona Post-Tour Extension (per person)

Double Occupancy Approx \$2,100
Single Occupancy Approx \$2,650

(Price of the extension is based on a minimum of 12 passengers, and does not include train/airfare to Barcelona.)



Post-Tour Extension to Barcelona September 19–22, 2025

Visit Barcelona, one of the most beautiful and vibrant cities of Spain known as the capital of Catalan Art Nouveau. Barcelona is home to masterpieces by Catalonia's most famous architect, Antonio Gaudí, one of the greatest innovators of his time and creator of many of the city's UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Extension includes panoramic walking tour, including the

Picasso Museum, the elegant Paseo de Gracia and visits to Gaudí's Casa Batlló, La Pedrera, Parque Guell, and the spectacular Sagrada Familia basilica. Visit the city's Gothic Quarter and explore the Central Market, also known as La Boquería. In addition, enjoy a free day in Barcelona to explore this colorful cosmopolitan city on your own. Extension includes 3 nights at the 4-star

Gallery Hotel located in the heart of Barcelona, next to Paseo de Gracia; breakfast every day, arrival and departure transfers, walking tour of Barcelona; full day tour of Barcelona by private vehicle; entrance fees; guidance by English-speaking local guide; one lunch and farewell dinner at a local restaurant by the seaside. **Airline ticket / train ticket to Barcelona is not included and will be quoted separately.**



COLUMNS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: HOTEL WELLINGTON, MADRID; HOTEL VILLA ONIRIA, GRANADA; HOTEL HOSPES CASAS DEL REY DE BAEZA, SEVILLE

PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail or fax your pre-registration form and deposit information to: Royal Adventures, 9 Crow Canyon Ct., Suite 205, San Ramon, CA 94583. Fax 925-855-1909.

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person), plus \$200 per person for the optional Segovia extension and/or \$200 per person for the optional Barcelona extension (if applicable). This secures our space on the Histories of Spain program from September 9 -19, 2025. Please mail a check or alternatively charge my deposit to: AMEX VISA MasterCard Discover

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Security code _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Double 1 Bed Double 2 Separate Beds Single (limited availability)

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS:

I/We would like to join the Optional Pre-Tour Extension to Segovia
 I/We would like to join the Optional Post-Tour Extension to Barcelona

I/We understand that I will be contacted once the final pdf brochure for the tour is available online. I will be given the opportunity to cancel within 10 days of the date of notification in writing, without penalty. I also understand that billing and a complete confirmation packet, including information about optional trip insurance and travel protection, will follow once I convert this preliminary registration into a confirmed booking which will be subject to the cancellation terms and responsibility clause and other terms stated in the brochure. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign the terms of the brochure and a separate liability release.

Passport Name _____ Date of birth _____ Gender _____ Class Yr. _____

Passport Name _____ Date of birth _____ Gender _____ Class Yr. _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: Home () _____ Cell () _____ E-mail _____

Sponsored by the Vanderbilt Alumni Association. Call 615-322-3673 for details.

Pre-Tour Extension to Segovia and Ávila September 7 - 10, 2025

Spend 2 nights in Madrid ahead of the start of the Main program to visit Segovia and Ávila in Castilla to what is known as the “Heart of Spain”. Your afternoon and evening will be at leisure on the day of arrival in Madrid. The following day, embark on a full day tour to Segovia including entrance fees to the Alcázar and Cathedral, including a visit to nearby Ávila. Return to Madrid for an overnight, and join the main program the following day.

Extension includes 2 nights at a 4-star hotel in Madrid, arrival transfer from Madrid airport to hotel, private transportation, English-speaking local guide, breakfasts, lunch at a local restaurant with beverages, and audio guides during the tour. The pre-trip extension price is based on a minimum of 12 participants.

BOTTOM: Toledo

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