

# SPECTACULAR SPAIN & PICTURESQUE PORTUGAL

April 22-May 5, 2024

Explore the highlights of the spectacular cities of Spain, from the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia in Barcelona and the world-famous Prado Museum in Madrid to the magnificent Alhambra in Granada and the colossal Seville Cathedral. Spain's rich history and vibrant culture filled with art, architecture, flamenco, and culinary delights combined with a three-night stay in Portugal's Algarve region makes for an unforgettable experience!

Space is limited.  
**Register  
today!**







Generalife



Cordoba

## DAY 1 MONDAY, APRIL 22

## FLIGHT TO BARCELONA

Today we will transfer to the Minneapolis airport for our overnight flight to **Barcelona, Spain**.

## DAY 2 TUESDAY, APRIL 23

## BARCELONA, SPAIN

(Dinner)

Welcome to **Barcelona**, a city full of life, color, and history! Upon arrival we will embark on a **panoramic city tour** on the way to our hotel. Our guide will show us the city's most iconic landmarks and tell fascinating stories of their past and present as we navigate through the bustling streets. The tour will come to an end at the centrally located **Hotel 4 Barcelona** where we'll settle in and freshen up for dinner.

## DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

## BARCELONA, SPAIN

(Breakfast)

Enjoy breakfast before a **full day of exploring Barcelona**. This capital city of Catalonia has long been a hub of creativity, innovation, and artistic expression. From the iconic works of Antoni Gaudí to the captivating performances of flamenco dancers, it truly embodies the essence of Catalan culture. Our tour will introduce us to the medieval streets of the Gothic Quarter; the famous pedestrian-only boulevard, Las Ramblas; and Passeig de Gracia, regarded as the most expensive street in the country. Included is a stop at the awe-inspiring **La Sagrada Familia**. With an extensive network of extraordinary pillars soaring toward the ceiling to create a massive image of a tree, windows that give the effect of filtered sunlight through forest branches, swelling spires, and minimal use of straight lines, there is an undeniable fascination with this masterpiece! Then we'll have the opportunity to stroll through **Park Güell** to enjoy panoramic views of the city and admire Gaudí's signature colorful mosaics. After an amazing day of sightseeing, dinner is on your own this evening.

## DAY 4 THURSDAY, APRIL 25

## ZARAGOZA, SPAIN

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Our adventure today will take us to **Zaragoza**, where remnants of the city's rule by the Romans, Goths, Moors, Aragonese, and Catholic Monarchs over the course of its more than 2,000-year history are still visible today. The city is most known for the baroque **Basilica de Nuestra Señora del Pilar**. The cathedral has many intriguing stories and is filled with art and ornate sculptures. We'll visit the imposing basilica as we tour the city before settling into the **Hotel Eurostars Zaragoza** and gathering for a delicious dinner together.

## DAY 5 FRIDAY, APRIL 26

## MADRID, SPAIN

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Following breakfast we will travel to **Madrid** with plenty of scenic beauty along the way. Here, a **panoramic overview tour** will acquaint us with Spain's capital city. Our day will come to an end with dinner and a two-night stay at **Hotel Porcel Avant**.

## DAY 6 SATURDAY, APRIL 27

## MADRID, SPAIN

(Breakfast)

Today is a day of **sightseeing in Madrid**, known for world-class galleries and museums, fantastic shopping, and impressive architecture. Our guide will highlight several of the city's popular sites, including **Plaza de Espana**, a large square featuring a monument to Miguel de Cervantes, and **Puerta del Sol**, home to several statues and fountains along with the zero-kilometer marker from where all roads in Spain are referenced. We'll see the beautiful city hall building often compared to a wedding cake with its snowy white facade and numerous towers on the **Plaza de Cibeles**. Located next to the stunning Plaza de Oriente is the **Palacio Real**, the largest royal palace in Europe. Boasting 1,450,000 square feet and 3,418 rooms, it is almost double the size of Buckingham Palace! We will walk the halls of this grand palace and then explore the **Prado Museum**, one of the world's most iconic and important art museums. The vast collection of masterpieces by Velazquez, Goya, El Greco, Rembrandt, and others is astonishing! We'll end our day with dinner on our own.

## DAY 7 SUNDAY, APRIL 28

## GRANADA, SPAIN

(Breakfast)

We bid farewell to Madrid after breakfast this morning and continue our journey to the hidden gem of **Jaén**, a city in southern Spain known for its olive oil production and fortresses. The city has an ancient and fascinating history with winding streets and medieval castles. Our tour of the city will take us to Plaza Santa Maria to visit the splendid Renaissance-style **Jaén Cathedral**, home to a copy of the Holy Veil said to have been used by Saint Veronica to wash Christ's face. Many fascinating stories and magnificent views of the city await as we stroll through the halls of the cathedral! Relax and enjoy this afternoon's drive through Spain's Andalusia region to **Granada** in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains where our accommodations at **Gran Hotel Luna de Granada** for the next two nights await. Grab dinner and one of the countless restaurants located within easy walking distance of the hotel.



#### DAY 8 MONDAY, APRIL 29

#### GRANADA, SPAIN

(Breakfast, Dinner)

An exciting day of touring awaits us today in Granada, a city known for its delicious tapas and architectural wonders such as the **Alhambra**. Built as a “paradise on Earth” by thirteenth-century caliphs, the palace ranks among the world's finest examples of Moorish architecture. Our visit here (*subject to availability*) will introduce us to the incredible history and architecture of this monumental complex, including the Nasrid palaces where the royal family lived. We'll admire the intricately carved stonework and the complex geometric designs of the numerous courtyards, labyrinthine hallways, and elegant gardens before heading across the valley to walk through the serene **Generalife**. These beautiful Arab gardens are a magnificent combination of Moorish architecture, water features, flower beds, and large topiaries built as a private retreat for rulers and the elite. The afternoon is at your leisure to explore Granada's Old Town. A very special evening awaits us in the **caves of Sacromonte**, Granada's old Gypsy neighborhood. Families from all over Spain would gather in these large caves to dance and sing. We'll be immersed in this colorful tradition with **dinner and an outstanding flamenco show**.

#### DAY 9 TUESDAY, APRIL 30

#### SEVILLE, SPAIN

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Our day will begin with breakfast before we depart for the historic city of **Cordoba**. Founded by the Romans and later conquered by the Visigoths, Muslims, and Christians, this city is one of the most cultured and refined cities of medieval Europe. Here we will visit **La Mezquita de Cordoba**, a masterpiece of architecture and art that reveals its nearly 1,200-year history as an early Christian church, a Moorish mosque, and a Roman Catholic cathedral. Its candy-striped walls and decorative details are astonishing! We'll also marvel at the maze of cobbled streets and hidden gems as we stroll through the **old Jewish Quarter** before heading to the beautiful city of **Seville** for dinner and a two-night stay at **Hotel Silken Al-Andalus Palace**.

#### DAY 10 WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

#### SEVILLE, SPAIN

(Breakfast)

Embrace the magnificent monuments and baroque facades that dominate the city as our day's touring takes us to the **Seville Cathedral** where Christopher Columbus is buried. Be sure to notice the Giralda Tower, the cathedral's bell tower originally built as a mosque's minaret. Our tour will then take us past Plaza de Espana and the magnificent gardens of Maria Luisa Park decorated with ceramic-tiled benches, fountains, pools, statues, and monuments on our way to the royal palace Alcazar. We'll end our exploration with a stroll through the romantic **Barrio Santa Cruz**, a colorful old quarter of Seville with winding cobbled streets, whitewashed houses, and eye-catching floral accents. Enjoy dinner at your leisure this evening.

#### DAY 11 THURSDAY, MAY 2

#### ALBUFEIRA, PORTUGAL

(Breakfast, Dinner)

Today we will journey to the Algarve region in the southernmost part of Portugal for a short **city tour of Faro** before we make our way to **Albufeira** to check in to **Hotel Vila Galé Atlântico** for the next three nights. The Algarve is known for its amazing coastline and beautiful beaches and will be a spectacular backdrop for our next few days of touring! Dinner will be enjoyed together at the hotel.

#### DAY 12 FRIDAY, MAY 3

#### ALBUFEIRA, PORTUGAL

(Breakfast)

A day's touring in the Algarve region of Portugal promises an unforgettable adventure, blending rich history, breathtaking landscapes, and sun-kissed beaches. Starting in **Lagos**, a charming coastal town, we'll stroll through cobbled streets lined with colorful buildings and marvel at the historic city walls. Next up is **Sagres**, an ancient port town with a sense of rugged beauty. Here, we will visit the imposing **Sagres Fortress**, offering panoramic views of the wild Atlantic coastline. As the day unfolds, our next stop is **Cabo de São Vicente** at the southwesternmost point of Europe, where one of the most powerful working lighthouses in Portugal towers above the cliffs and can be seen from sixty miles out at sea. After an exciting day, grab dinner at one of the nearby restaurants that piques your interest!

#### DAY 13 SATURDAY, MAY 4

#### ALBUFEIRA, PORTUGAL

(Breakfast, Dinner)

The day is yours to do as you wish. Simply enjoy the hotel amenities or get out and explore! Take in some jaw-dropping views during a walk along the limestone cliffs, listen to the sound of the waves at one of the gorgeous beaches, or shop for colorful Portuguese ceramics and azulejo tiles, the famous blue and white glazed ceramic tiles that decorate the city. A final dinner together will be enjoyed this evening.

#### DAY 14 SUNDAY, MAY 5

#### HOME

(Breakfast)

Following breakfast we will transfer to the airport in Lisbon for our flight home.





## INCLUSIONS

- Round-Trip Airport Transfers
- Round-Trip Air to Barcelona & Return From Lisbon (air allowance of \$1,300)
- Private Motorcoach Transportation
- 12 Nights' Accommodations
- 19 Meals (12 Breakfasts, 7 Dinners)
- Admission to Attractions as Stated on Itinerary
- Porter Service of One Bag Per Person at Hotels Where Available
- Taxes & Gratuities for Included Services
- Audio Listeners
- Professional Tour Manager

*Not included in the price of this tour: meals other than those listed on the itinerary, beverages other than tea/coffee/water with included meals, items of a personal nature/souvenirs, phone calls and faxes from hotels, travel protection plan, passport fees, visa fees (if applicable), current baggage fees at the airport as assessed by the airline, fees related to any COVID-19 requirements for this destination, and any service not listed in the above inclusions.*

### Activity Level: Moderate

In order to participate in this tour, **you must:**

- Be able to walk/stand 3-4 hours at a time at an easy pace in all weather conditions
- Be able to regularly maneuver stairs, inclines, and uneven surfaces without assistance

**DOCUMENTATION:** Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport through November 5, 2024, to participate. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Holders of non-U.S. passports have different entry requirements. Please NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding. **Effective 2024 (Expected): All travelers to the Schengen zone of Europe will need to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver.**

**OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN:** Connect Club recommends that you purchase a Travel Protection Plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected so you can relax and enjoy your trip. Participants may purchase this coverage from the provider of your choice. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan, 360° Group Premier provided by Travel Insurance Services, that helps provide coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, trip delay, baggage loss, theft or damage, medical expense and emergency evacuation coverage, and more. For more information, please see the product flyer included with this brochure. If you would like to purchase the offered plan, please check the applicable box on the registration form. Please Note: The plan cannot be purchased after final payment. To view/download the Policy, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, go to: <https://policy.travelexinsurance.com/GPB-0521>. To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Travel Insurance with any existing life, health, home, and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker. Travel Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is offered on behalf of and under the direction of Travel Insurance Services. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276.7D4

**CANCELLATION:** Full refund of all monies is made if cancellation is received in writing to Star Destinations prior to final payment, less the non-refundable 3% credit card transaction fee (if a credit card is used). A 100% fee is charged if the cancellation occurs between final payment and departure. If the reason for cancellation is due to a medical or other reason that is covered by Travel Protection, you may be eligible for reimbursement for such fees from your Travel Protection Plan provider.

**TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** You must advise Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) at the time of registration of any disability requiring special attention. SDI will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of travelers. The Americans with Disabilities Act is applicable only in the U.S., and accommodations outside the U.S. may be more limited. Travelers requiring assistance are required to be accompanied by a companion who is capable of, and totally responsible for, providing the assistance. Neither SDI personnel nor its suppliers may lift or physically assist with travelers' special needs including, but not limited to, walking, dining, or other routine activities. Travelers thinking they may need assistance should call SDI to determine what accommodations may reasonably be provided. Arrangements at an additional cost are the financial responsibility of the traveler.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Star Destinations, Inc. (SDI) acts as an agent for suppliers such as airlines, hotels or activities to provide you with the travel services and accommodations. Although great care is taken in choosing suppliers, we are unable to control them and therefore cannot be held responsible or liable for their acts or omissions. Should a contracted supplier be unable to perform required services, SDI reserves the right to substitute advertised services with similar services. SDI is not responsible for any claims, losses, damages, costs or expenses arising out of injury, accident or death, damage, loss, trip delay or delay of baggage, or other inconvenience resulting from mechanical breakdowns, fire, theft, civil disturbances, government actions, weather, and other factors beyond our control. In the case of a pandemic or worldwide disturbance that interrupts or cancels your planned tour, SDI will do everything possible to retrieve any refundable components of your tour but cannot be held responsible for any non-refundable portions of the tour. In addition, SDI reserves the right to vary the tour price advertised or printed to cover any increase in air fare, volatile fuel prices, government taxes and charges, exchange rate fluctuations, or other tour-related tariffs or newly announced travel costs. The price of this tour is based on the EUR/USD exchange rate of \$1.10 as of 7/25/23. In the current travel environment, pricing may be increased due to unexpected requirements for health and safety of tour members. Due to infectious diseases, including COVID-19, destination areas may implement restrictions and requirements that may add additional costs beyond our control. Be aware that any public interaction carries a risk of exposure to infectious diseases. Travelers assume personal risk upon tour registration, and SDI cannot be held responsible in the event of infectious disease exposure. If you request a variation or change to your booking, SDI may choose to accept or reject that request. If accepted, you are responsible for any fees associated with it. If the minimum number of passengers required to operate the tour is not met, SDI reserves the right to cancel the tour.

It is the sole discretion of SDI to refuse transport to any passenger, or require any passenger to leave the tour, if it is reasonably believed that the passenger (1) is dangerous to others or to himself or herself; (2) is engaged in, or is threatening to engage in behavior that may adversely affect the safety, security, enjoyment, or well-being of other passengers, including behavior that is disruptive, verbally or physically abusive, obnoxious, harassing, or obscene; or (3) has failed or refused to follow SDI's rules and procedures or the instructions of its representatives. In the event a passenger is removed, such passenger may be left at any location without any liability to SDI or its representatives. SDI shall not be required to refund any portion of the price paid by any passenger who is removed, nor shall SDI be responsible for any further expenses incurred by the passenger. SDI shall be entitled to recover from the passenger any costs or expenses incurred by SDI or its representatives in the removal of the passenger or the exercise or enforcement of this clause.

## TOUR PRICING\*

**\$6,145 per person, Double Occupancy**  
**\$7,099 per person, Single Occupancy**

\*Tour cost subject to 3% credit card transaction fee

## OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

**Connect Club RECOMMENDS all travelers purchase a Travel Protection Plan. For your convenience, we offer a Travel Protection Plan provided by Travel Insurance Services:**

**\$644 per person, double; \$736 per person, single**  
 (Payment may be sent with your deposit or with final payment to Connect Club)

Travel Protection Plan may be purchased any time before or with final payment.

To view state specific fraud warnings, visit: <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning>. Travel Insurance Services Inc. ("Travel Insurance") maintains an updated list of alerts and financial defaults on its website available at <https://www.travelexinsurance.com/customer-service/travel-alerts/travel-supplier>.

Visit <https://travelexinsurance.com/docs/ny-phn-covid-19-comp> to view a special notice for NY residents regarding coverage related to COVID-19. Travel Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276.716

**A \$500 deposit per person is required with your registration form in order to reserve your spot.**

**FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE:**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**

**To register online, visit:**

[www.stardestinations.com/travel-clubs](http://www.stardestinations.com/travel-clubs)

Password: CSBConnect

For further information or questions, please contact:

**Rhonda Mart, Connect Club Coordinator**

**(712) 792-4346 ext. 209**

**connect@csbcarroll.com**

