

# **SPLENDID SPAIN**

# The University of Minnesota (UMRA)

October 13th - 25th, 2024

**Prepared for Cherie Hamilton** 



### **Tour features and inclusions:**

- Round-trip airfare from the New York area (varies by departure) including taxes, fees & fuel surcharges
- Ground transportation in air-conditioned motor coach
- High-speed AVE train ticket from Madrid to Seville
- Accommodations at first-class hotels
- 15 meals: 10 buffet breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 4 dinners
- Wine and mineral water with dinners
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours including admission fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Professional English-speaking Tour Director throughout

## **Highlights:**

- Madrid Walking & Bus Tour with Museo del Jamon
- Royal Palace (Madrid)
- Old Town Seville Walking Tour
- Guadalquivir River Cruise (Seville)
- Córdoba Tour with Mosque-Cathedral of Córdoba
- Olive Oil Grove with tapas dinner
- Alhambra Palace (Granada)
- Valencia Walking Tour with horchata tasting
- Peñíscola, Mediterranean village, with paella lunch
- Barcelona Walking & Bus Tour with vermouth tasting
- Sagrada Familia (Barcelona)
- La Rambla (Barcelona)

#### **Exclusions:**

- Airport departure tax
- Travel insurance TripMate travel insurance can be purchased through smarTours 6.4% premium
- Gratuities and personal expenses
- Excursions and meals not included in the program

# **Itinerary at a Glance**

- 2 nights in Madrid
- 2 nights in Seville
- 2 nights in Granada
- 1 night in Valencia
- 3 nights in Barcelona

**Pricing**: Pricing is based on estimated airfare out of NYC and subject to change until confirmation

Pricing Range:	16-20 +1	21-24 +1	25-30 +1
Double Occupancy:	\$4,399 pp	\$4,199 pp	\$3,999 pp
Single Supplement:	\$629 pp	\$629 pp	\$629 pp

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please note that we are currently holding **18 twin-bedded rooms and 30 air seats** for these dates. Should you anticipate needing more rooms and seats we can request more. Final rooming lists are due 100 days prior to departure. Final Payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that this preliminary quote will be valid for 15 days.

Flights: -- Flights are not yet in range & therefore pricing and schedule are based on estimated airfare.

<u>Date</u>	Flight#	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Arrival</u>
October 13, 2024	ТВА	NYC	MAD
October 25, 2024	ТВА	BCN	NYC

# **ACCOMMODATIONS**



Madrid: Hotel Catalonia Gran Via Madrid C/ Gran Vía, 9, 28013 Madrid, Spain

**Website** 



Seville: Hotel Macia Sevilla Kubb Plaza del Carmen Benítez, 3 41003 Seville Spain

Website



## **Granada: Hotel Tent**

Av. de la Constitución, 21, 18014 Granada, Spain

<u>Website</u>



# Valencia: Hotel Eurostars Acteon Valencia

Carrer de Vicente Beltrán Grimal, 2, 46023 València, Valencia, Spain

Website



# Barcelona: Hotel Gotico Barcelona

Carrer de Jaume I, 14, 08002 Barcelona, Spain

Website

## **ITINERARY**

# Flight:



## **Depart USA for Spain**

Your unforgettable adventure to Spain begins today as you board your flight to Madrid.

Day 1: October 13, 2024



#### **Arrive in Madrid**

Welcome to Madrid, Spain's grand capital and cultural heart! Travelers who purchased our air-inclusive package will be greeted at the airport and escorted to our hotel, where our Tour Director will lead a get-acquainted walk around the surrounding neighborhood. We'll enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure before meeting our Tour Director for a welcome cocktail, orientation, and dinner.

Meals: Dinner (D)

Day 2: October 14, 2024



## Madrid

Our morning features a guided tour of this splendid city. As we travel along Calle Gran Vía, Madrid's equivalent to New York City's Broadway, we'll marvel at the Opera district, Plaza de Colon, the monumental 18th-century Royal Palace (entrance included), Puerto del Sol Plaza and Plaza de España, Madrid's main square, where we'll see an imposing statue of Spain's literary giant, Miguel de Cervantes. We'll end at the enormous, impressive Prado Museum, which holds one of the world's top collections, including masterpieces by El Greco, Velázquez, and Goya. We'll also visit the famous Museo del Jamón, and enjoy a jamón tapa and a drink. The balance of the day is at leisure. Consider taking a foodie walking tour of the city's tapas scene (see optional tours). Or do what the Madrileños do and take el paseo (stroll) to the delightful Retiro Park and then stop at one of Madrid's excellent restaurants or tapas bars.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

Day 3: October 15, 2024



#### Madrid - Seville

Today we will take a high-speed train for Seville, the charming Moorish capital of Spain's Andalusia Region. On an included guided tour, we'll discover the passions of the city that create the backdrop for the great operas Carmen and Don Giovanni. Highlights include the Seville Cathedral, the biggest Gothic cathedral in the world, and the landmark Giralda Bell Tower, the remaining part of the mosque built by the Moors. Our tour winds through the narrow streets and plazas of the well-preserved Barrio Santa Cruz, the old Jewish Quarter, where we'll delight in the whitewashed buildings, quaint shops and colorful flowers. Later, we'll drive to the Plaza de España, passing the elegant Maria Luisa Park. Tonight, enjoy a local Tapas dinner with drinks.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (B,D)

Day 4: October 16, 2024



### Seville

Today, we'll experience the beauty of Seville as seen from the only major navigable river in Spain, the Guadalquivir. We'll get a complete perspective of both riversides, confronting the old part of town with the most modern one. Tonight, consider catching a performance of the expressive dance form—flamenco! See optional excursions for details.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

Day 5: October 17, 2024



# Seville - Cordoba - Granada

Today we'll visit Cordoba, one of Spain's cultural gems and home to some of the country's most impressive monuments. On our guided tour, we'll marvel at the Mezquita (Great Mosque) built in the 10th century during Cordona's glory days as the capital of Moorish Spain. The mosque was later converted to a cathedral, but the original architectural details are stunning. We'll also see the reconstructed Roman Bridge and the beautifully restored 14th-century synagogue that survived the expulsion of Spain's Jews. After our tour, we'll continue our journey to Granada, a former Moorish stronghold.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (B,D)

Day 6: October 18, 2024



#### Granada

Today we'll visit Granada's crown jewel, the Alhambra. Sprawled over a hilltop overlooking the city, the awe-inspiring Alhambra is an impressive castle and fortress with its romantic Generalife gardens. Later today we'll have free time to explore the city and the mystic Albaicin Quarter.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

Day 7: October 19, 2024



#### Granada - Valencia

We're sure to be captivated by the rolling terrain and groves of olives, almonds, lemons, and oranges on our way to Valencia, a city of great culture and beautiful gardens on the Mediterranean coast. On our guided tour this afternoon, we'll see architecture both ancient (Roman, Arabic, and the Gothic cathedral) and modern—or should we say futuristic? Renowned architect Santiago Calatrava designed the City of Arts and Science, an eye-popping "city within a city" that gives us a peek into what the future might look like.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

Day 8: October 20, 2024



#### Valencia - Peniscola - Barcelona

The next leg of our journey through splendid Spain hugs the coastline of Catalonia. We'll stop at Peñíscola, a pearl of the Mediterranean. The old town—crowned by a 14th-century castle-fortress that was once the home of Pope Benedict XIII—stands on an imposing rock that rises 64 meters above the azure seas and is connected to the mainland by a thin sandbar that waves wash over during storms, turning the town into an ephemeral island. We'll enjoy a delightful paella lunch before continuing to Barcelona where we'll settle into our centrally located hotel.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch (B,L)

Day 9: October 21, 2024



#### Barcelona

The capital of Catalonia, Barcelona mixes medieval charm with avant-garde style. We'll join a local expert for a fascinating tour that begins at the old harbor with a drive along Barcelona's iconic boulevard, Las Ramblas. We'll see the city's lively heart, Plaza Catalunya, and picturesque Plaza de España before taking off on foot to explore the charming Gothic Quarter, Barcelona's old city. Of course, a Barcelona tour isn't complete without admiring buildings designed by the celebrated Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí. We'll see one of his most famous works, the unfinished Sagrada Familia Basilica (admission included), which has been under construction since 1882! Before free time this afternoon, we will stop at a typical bodega in La Barceloneta Quarter to taste vermut, a typical and popular drink in Barcelona. The rest of the day is free to visit a museum or relax at an outdoor café independently.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

Day 10: October 22, 2024



#### Barcelona

Today you'll have a full day to explore vibrant Barcelona on your own. You could return to the enchanting Gothic Quarter and soak up its magical atmosphere of cafes, street musicians, and quaint shops. Seek out more of Gaudi's masterpieces in the city center or stroll along La Rambla, stopping at the colorful Boqueria Market for freshly squeezed juice, a snack, or more tapas! We'll gather this evening for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (B,D)

Day 11: October 23, 2024



## **Depart Barcelona**

Our tour comes to an end after breakfast. Transfer to the airport this morning for our return flight to the U.S.

Meals: Breakfast (B)

# **OPTIONAL TOURS**



# Flamenco Night Show with Dinner

Immerse yourself in Spanish culture by enjoying an authentic flamenco dance performance.

Note: Please note that transfers are not included. The performance is walking distance from the hotel.

\$72 USD per person - \*may be subject to increase for 2024



**Montserrat Abbey and Penedes Wine Area with Tasting** 

After driving through picturesque little villages, we'll arrive at the incomparable setting of craggy Montserrat, a mountain that rises 4,051 feet and offers amazing views of the area. The mountain gets its name from the rock formations which look like they have been sawed and sculpted - the result of thousands of years of wind and rain. Here we'll visit the Royal Basilica of Montserrat with its 12th-century carving of the Black Virgin. Admission ticket includes entrance to the Throne of Virgin, Basilica and the Audiovisual space. After some free time to explore independently, we'll continue to the Penedès wine region, a noteworthy wine-growing area in the Catalonia region of Spain. If you want to know what wine Penedès is most famous for, the answer is most definitely their Cava – or sparkling wine! We will visit a winery and have a tasting to finish this spectacular day!

\$125 USD per person - \*may be subject to increase for 2024

## **Payments and Cancellations:**

**Deposit:** \$300 per person in USD is due at the time of your reservation for any new reservation. The deposit is non-refundable.

A goodwill deposit of **\$1000** has been waived in lieu of having a min. Of 5 guests signed up for the trip within the first 10 days of opening for sale.

**Full Payment:** Due 90 days before departure. Failure to make final payment on time may result in automatic cancellation of reservation and loss of deposit.

Changes: Changes to the original group reservation will result in a \$199 change fee per person per change unless such fees are waived by smarTours. No changes are allowed within 90 days of departure.

**Cancellations:** If you cancel your Tour for any reason, any cash or credit refund you receive will be reduced by the applicable cancellation charges below, based upon the timing of your cancellation, unless such changes are waived by smarTours:

- Up to 90 days before departure: \$300 per person
- 89-60 days before departure: 50% of the cost per person
- 59-30 days before departure: 80% of the cost per person
- 29 days or fewer before departure: No refund is available
- All cancellations must be received in writing. If you book your Tour using credit, you will not be eligible to receive any refund amount in cash after a cancellation.

## **Terms & Conditions:**

## **General Terms & Conditions Applicable to Private Group Tours**

All reservations for tours ("**Tours**") booked through smarTours, LLC ("**smarTours**") are conditioned upon your acceptance without modification of all the terms, conditions, and notices set forth below (these "**Terms**"). Please read these Terms carefully. By booking your Tour reservation through smarTours and paying your initial non-refundable deposit payment, you agree that these Terms shall apply. smarTours reserves the right to modify, revise, add or remove portions of these Terms, including any pricing, deposit, payment and cancellation terms, at any time by providing notice to the Tour group leader (the "**Group Leader**") and Tour participants. Any such revisions will apply to Tours confirmed after the revised Terms are made available to the Group Leader.

**Pricing and Payments:** Non-refundable deposit payments are required to secure your reservation for your Tour unless waived by smarTours. To qualify for the discounted Tour pricing quoted in your group Tour offer, payment of the deposit payments and final payment must be made by eCheck or select credit card in U.S. dollars. Failure to submit the final payment on time may result in the cancellation of your reservation.

The cost of your Tour is contingent upon the Tour being booked by the minimum number of participants (20) specified by smarTours in the group Tour offer. The Tour price will increase if the minimum number of participants is not met or if the number of participants drops below the required minimum before the time of final payment due to cancellations. smarTours reserves the right to cancel a Tour, or make amendments to a Tour itinerary, due to low participation or enrollment.

In the event of any Extraordinary Circumstance, as defined below, your Tour costs may change without prior notice. "Extraordinary Circumstances" are any mechanical, technical, operational, climatic, sociopolitical or any other conditions beyond the control of smarTours or its Providers (as defined below), which necessitate any change in the Tour itinerary, including, but not limited to, any change in vendor, location, transportation or schedule. Extraordinary Circumstances may include, without limitation, acts of God, strikes, national or international political or social events or occurrences (including acts of war or

terrorism), or the material worsening or escalation thereof, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados, or other natural disasters, or infectious diseases, epidemics or pandemics, and related quarantines. Tour rates include only those items specifically identified in the Tour itinerary or Tour inclusions section and may not include: passport and visa fees, excess baggage charges, baggage, and personal insurance, gratuities, optional tours, optional upgrades, beverages, other personal items, and expenses. Certain foreign taxes and fees are not pre-collected and must be paid overseas by the customer.

**Promotional Codes/Discounts:** Promotional codes are not valid for private group Tour bookings and cannot be applied to reduce private group Tour prices.

Passports and Visas: For United States passport holders, to be eligible to participate in any international Tour, you must be in possession of a United States passport valid for at least 6 months after the date of travel and hold a valid visa wherever required. It is your responsibility to check with the appropriate consulates as to the visa requirements and obtain proper travel documents before the trip. Visa fees are not included in the quoted tour price. If you do not hold a passport from the United States, you are responsible for consulting with the appropriate authorities from your passport country of origin to check passport validity requirements and any applicable visa requirements for your Tour.

Air Transportation: Round-trip economy class airfare, from designated airports in the United States only, is included in the Tour price where indicated. Air schedules are subject to change by the applicable Provider without advance notice. smarTours is not responsible for any Liabilities of any kind caused by any such changes or resulting delays. On some Tours, add-on airfare from select cities in the United States may be offered for an additional fee. smarTours cannot guarantee the choice of domestic airline or the most direct routing. In the event that you must purchase a domestic flight to the airport from which the airfare for the Tour originates, you should allow at least a 3.5-hour layover to connect. Tour participants who do not allow sufficient time are responsible for arranging their own flights if the scheduled international flight is missed due to insufficient layover time. You will be responsible for booking and payment for any necessary accommodations in the event an overnight is required in the United States before departing for a Tour, or upon return from a Tour. smarTours is not involved in, or responsible for, crediting frequent flier miles. To receive frequent flier miles or other credit for the Tour, you must follow the rules of the applicable Provider and deal with them directly.

**Meals:** Meals will only be provided and included in the Tour price as specifically indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch D=Dinner). Beverages are not included unless the Tour itinerary expressly indicates otherwise.

**Tour Itinerary and Domestic Transportation:** Arrangements for the Tour itineraries, domestic transportation, and flights are solely at the discretion of the local smarTours Provider and are subject to change without notice.

**Use of content**: All content, images, logos, photos, and descriptions on smarTours' website and other materials are the sole property of smarTours, and any use of such content without smarTours' advanced written consent is prohibited. smarTours shall have the absolute and irrevocable right and permission to use, any photograph and/or video that is taken of any Tour participant, or in which any Tour participant may be included with others, to copyright the same in the name of smarTours or otherwise, to use, re-use, publish, and republish the same in whole or in part, individually or in conjunction with other photographs and video, and in conjunction with any printed matter, in any and all media now or hereafter known, and for any purpose whatsoever.

**smarTours Accessibility Statement:** smarTours' policy is to provide our clients with disabilities with an opportunity equal to that of our non-disabled clients to use the services and accommodations that we provide in the United States in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("**ADA**").

You are encouraged to report any special needs or other health concerns requiring special attention, including the use of any special equipment, to smarTours at the time your reservation is made. smarTours will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of clients. Clients and prospective clients should be aware, however, that the ADA is inapplicable outside of the United States, and services, accommodations, and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited.

Wheelchair or motorized scooter assistance or accessibility in international destinations cannot be guaranteed, and many Tours may not be wheelchair or motorized-scooter-accessible. If your trip is wheelchair-accessible and you require a wheelchair, you must provide your own small, collapsible wheelchair. We cannot accommodate service animals on most international trips. If you have a condition that requires any other special equipment or treatment, you must bring, and be responsible for, all necessary items related to your condition.

If you are unable to travel without assistance, you must be accompanied by an able companion who is capable of and is completely responsible for providing any needed assistance throughout the Tour. Neither smarTours personnel nor the personnel of any smarTours Provider may physically lift or assist participants into or out of transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call us to determine what assistance may reasonably be given. smarTours cannot provide special individual assistance with walking, dining or other routine activities or personal services to participants with special needs.

If you have any medical or other disabling condition, then you travel at your own risk.smarTours is not liable for any injury or damages you may suffer relating to any such condition, including as a result of any loss of medical equipment, lack of assistance with, or accommodation of, special needs and limited availability, or complete lack of availability, of necessary medical assistance or treatment.

Consumer Disclosure and Responsibility: smarTours is not an agent of any for the companies it represents, including, but not limited to, any travel agent, tour sponsor, tour operator, tour guide. transportation provider, land operator, airline, cruise line, railroad, common carrier, hotel, resort, restaurant or any other provider of transportation, lodging or services on any Tour (each, a "Provider"). You understand and acknowledge that the Tour and related travel to and around each destination involves inherent risks and dangers including risks related to exposure to contagious diseases, serious bodily injury, including temporary or permanent disability, paralysis and death, and property damage. By utilizing the services of smarTours and its Providers, you agree that smarTours shall not be responsible for any damages (including without limitation illness, bodily injury or death), losses, claims, demands, rights, actions, costs (including attorneys' fees and court costs) and liabilities, of whatever kind or nature (collectively, "Liabilities"), attributable to (a) any Extraordinary Circumstances and any related travel restrictions, (b) any equipment failure or defect or (c) any fault or default of any Provider. smarTours shall not be liable for any damage resulting directly or indirectly from delays, cancellation or changes in flights. In the event that it becomes necessary or advisable, for the comfort or wellbeing of Tour participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter any Tour itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to smarTours or the applicable Providers, and any additional expenses shall be borne by the participants. You will not be eligible for any refund or credit based on any voluntary or involuntary absence from any part of a Tour. smarTours and each Provider reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, for any reason or no reason, to refuse to allow any person to participate in any part of any Tour at any time and shall have no obligation to any such person for any Liability related to the exercise of such right. No transportation Provider shall be responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time participants are not aboard their aircraft and/or vessels. The passage contract in use by such Provider, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the Provider and the participants. Air transportation Providers shall not be liable for any Liabilities that may result by reason of a defect or through the act or omissions of any person or company performing or rendering services other than

carriage by air, as described in the Tour brochure. The services described in the Tour brochure, other than carriage by the identified air transportation Providers, are furnished by independent contractors who are not servants of or joint venture or partners with the air transportation Providers concerned.

smarTours reserves the right to cancel, suspend or reschedule any Tour, for any reason, including low participation or enrollment, prior to departure and shall not be held responsible for any Liabilities resulting from said cancellation, suspension or rescheduling. In the case of any Tour cancellation by smarTours, Tour participants may, in smarTour's discretion, be booked on a regular smarTours Tour departing around the same time as the canceled group Tour or may be offered a refund of the amount paid to smarTours through the date of such cancellation, unavoidable Provider fees and penalties, including, but to limited to, hotel and airline cancellation fees, **provided** that smarTours may, in its sole discretion, provide credit towards a future smarTours Tour in lieu of any cash refund. In the case of any Tour suspension or rescheduling by smarTours, Tour participants will be offered a credit in the amount paid to smarTours through the date of such suspension, less any unavoidable Provider fees and penalties, including, but not limited to, hotel and airline cancellation fees. smarTours shall not be responsible for any Liabilities arising as a result of any cancellation, suspension or rescheduling other than the applicable cash or credit refund. smarTours reserves the right to prohibit any person from traveling on any Tour.

**Credits:** Tour Credits must be redeemed within the time period specified by smarTours at the time of the issuance of the original credit. Unless otherwise specified, credits may not be transferred to any other person. Cash refunds are not available for any Tour booked using a credit. Instead, if you cancel a Tour booked using a credit then you will receive another credit in an amount, if any, equal to the previous credit balance less the applicable cancellation fee. Furthermore, any remaining credit balance must be used within the specified time period of the original credit. For example, if your credit must be redeemed by December 31, 2021, and you use it to book a new Tour scheduled for July 2021 and then you cancel the July 2021 Tour, your refund credit will be for the amount of the original credit reduced by the applicable cancellation fees and must be redeemed before December 31, 2021. Any Tour booked using credit will be subject to the terms and conditions applicable at the time the credit is used, which may differ from these Terms or the terms and conditions applicable at the time of your original Tour confirmation.

If you received a credit on account of a Tour that was suspended or canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic (a "COVID-19 Credit"), the Credit Memo that you received details the terms applicable to the redemption and use of your COVID-19 Credit. In the event of any ambiguity or conflict arising between these Terms and the terms set forth in your Credit Memo, to the extent of any such ambiguity or conflict, the terms set forth in your Credit Memo shall prevail.

**Dispute Resolution:** Any dispute arising from any Tour, itinerary, product or service provided by smarTours as well as any dispute arising under these terms and conditions will be governed by the laws of the State of New York, without regard to conflicts of laws principles, and will be resolved by binding arbitration, rather than in court, except that you may assert claims in small claims court if your claims qualify. The arbitration will be conducted by a mutually agreed-upon mediator under the applicable rules of the American Arbitration Association. Any dispute resolution proceedings will be conducted only on an individual basis and not in a class, consolidated or representative action. If for any reason a claim proceeds in court rather than in arbitration, then such claim shall be brought before the state or federal court located in New York, New York, and each of smarTours and you waive any right to a jury by trial.

If any of these Terms are deemed invalid, void, or unenforceable for any reason, the unenforceable portions of the revised provision shall be severable and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provision.

**Group Leader:** Any incentives offered for the Group Leader are assumed to be on a sharing basis and are contingent upon the Tour being booked by the minimum number of participants specified by smarTours in the group Tour offer. If the Tour is not booked by the minimum number of participants specified by smarTours in the group Tour offer, then the free Tour spot for the Group Leader and any other Group Leader incentives will be forfeited. If a single room is required for the Group Leader, the single room supplement is not waived and must be paid for. If smarTours cancels a Tour due to low participation or enrollment, any goodwill deposit paid by the Group Leader may be forfeited, in smarTours' sole discretion.

I affirm I have carefully reviewed all previous pages of this offer including, but not limited to, the offer inclusions, general terms and conditions, and payment schedule.

I understand any changes made to this offer may impact pricing. I also understand that making more than three changes to the offer as described in this document may result in an additional service fee.

By signing below I accept any and all conditions as set forth in this offer.

Name: Jorge Martinez Jr. Senior Manager - Private Groups
Signature:
Date:
Name: Cherie Hamilton University of Minnesota Retiree Association
Signature:
Date:

