

Barcelona (2), San Sebastián (2), Burgos (1), Madrid (2)

## Highlights

- Barcelona City Tour
- · Sagrada Familia
- Las Ramblas Walking Tour
- Sitges and Tarragona Beach Day
- Pamplona
- Biarritz
- Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao
- Burgos Cathedral
- Segovia City Tour
- El Escorial
- Tapas Dinner
- Madrid City Tour
- Prado Museum

## **Options**

 Flamenco Performance **DAY 1** Fly through the night to the Olympic city of Barcelona, Spain.

DAY 2 BARCELONA Bon dia is Catalan for "good morning," and that is how your guide will greet you at the airport. See all the highlights on your guided Barcelona City Tour including Montjuic, site of the 1992 Olympic Games; the Gothic Quarter with its Roman walls; Parc Güell with its fantastic neo-Catalan villas; and visit to Gaudí's La Sagrada Família (Church of the Holy Family), left unfinished at his death in 1926. This evening your guide will take you on a Walking Tour along Las Ramblas, the magnificent mile-long walkway that cuts through the middle of the old city and leads down to the Columbus statue at the port.

**DAY 3 BARCELONA** Travel a short distance to two of the Costa Dorada's finest seaside resorts, Sitges and Tarragona. Spend the day on the golden sands of the Mediterranean enjoying the unique sun, sky and light that has been the source of inspiration for the creative genius of artists worldwide. Tarragona is a city rich in reminders of antiquity, its seafront rising in tiers up the cliffside and brilliant with flowers. Sitges is an attractive little port with two beaches and gleaming whitewashed houses. This ancient town has preserved its old traditions, and you'll go back in time while strolling down its historical streets.

**DAY 4 SAN SEBASTIAN** Transfer through the Basque country with a stop in Pamplona, scene of the running of the bulls in Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*. Arrive in the resort of San Sebastián, the Pearl of the Cantabrian Coast. Enjoy all the pleasures that the Bay of Biscay and its mild maritime climate have to offer.

**DAY 5 SAN SEBASTIAN** Cross over to France and spend the day in Biarritz, a Côte Basque resort renown for its beaches. The prosperity of this former fishing village was ensured in the 19th century it was discovered by European royalty. Enjoy a Biarritz Overview to see the area's splendid beaches, promenades and gardens.

**DAY 6 BURGOS** Visit the incredible Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, a fantasia of futuristic design containing works by the most prominent artists of the last forty years. Arrive in Burgos, the cradle of Castile and home of the famous mercenary leader known as El Cid. Visit the city's cathedral, founded in 1221 by Ferdinand III of Castile. Inside this third largest cathedral in Spain you will find numerous relics of El Cid.

**DAY 7 MADRID** Travel by way of Segovia, where you will visit the turreted Alcázar and see the old town with its impressive cathedral and the well preserved Roman ruins. Make a picture stop at El Escorial, a monastery and palace with 2673 windows and 1250 doors. Arrive in Madrid for a Tapas Dinner followed by a Walking Tour to the lively Plaza Major, the capital's main square.

**DAY 8 MADRID** On today's Madrid City Tour see the Plaza de España, the statue of Cervantes, the Royal Palace and other highlights. Later explore the palatial Prado Museum. Don't miss Spain's favorite painting, *Las Meninas* by Velázquez. *Option*: Thrill to the click of castanets and compelling rhythms of a colorful Flamenco show.

**DAY 9 DEPART** Board your flight home with superb memories of all you've seen in Spain.

