



Highlights of this comprehensive itinerary include exploring the Royal Palace in Madrid, an excursion out to the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama to visit the tombs of Spanish Monarchs at El Escorial, the view of Madrid from the dome of the Almudena Cathedral, a tour of Real Madrid’s Bernabeu Stadium, studying the works of Goya, Velázquez, Titian, Rubens, and Bosch at the Prado, and Picasso’s “Guernica” at the Reina Sofia. Our hotel, located at the heart of the city, is walking distance from the best flamenco, tapas, churros, paella, and jamón ibérico in Madrid.

From Madrid we travel north to explore the Basque Country from San Sebastian. This small, cosy and walkable city on the southern coast of the Bay of Biscay has one of the best in-city beaches in Europe, the best tapas in Spain (in other words the best in the world) and is close enough for a day trip to Bilbao to see the Guggenheim and the Seven Streets.

Day	City	Highlights
1	Airborne	Meet your Program Director at the airport for an overnight flight to Spain!
2	Madrid	Arrive in Madrid and navigate to the hotel using public transportation. Explore the city around Plaza Major and El Rastro, then tour the Palacio Real. Watch the sunset from Jardines de las Vistillas.
3	Madrid	Climb to the cupola of the Cathedral de la Almedena for a panoramic view of Madrid. Enjoy a professionally guided walking tour of the city, and then grab lunch at Mercado de San Miguel. Enjoy a late-afternoon visit to the Museo del Prado. Stroll to Parque de la Montaña along Gran Via to catch the sunset at Templo de Debod.
4	El Escorial	Travel to the foothills of the Sierra de Guadarrama to tour El Escorial, return to Madrid for a tour of Estadio Bernabeu home of the Real Madrid soccer team. See the works of Picasso and Dali at the Reina Sofia, then get ready for an evening of Flamenco!
5	San Sebastian	Early morning flight to the Basque Country. Take a ride on the Mount Igeldo Funicular and enjoy the view of the bay, take your shoes off for a stroll on the beach around Bahía de la Concha, then climb Mount Urgull to explore Chateau de la Mota and see the bay from the opposite side. Head into the old town for a Pintxos Bar Crawl.
6	Bilbao	Day trip to Bilbao! Learn about Urban Regeneration while walking along the Nervión to Mercado de la Ribera in the old town. Shopping and lunch while exploring Las Siete Calles then spend the afternoon at the Guggenheim.
7	San Sebastian	Spend the morning visiting the Mirimar Royal Palace, enjoy the exhibits chronicling the maritime history of San Sebastian and the Basque Country at the aquarium. Lunch/shopping followed by time on Zurriola Beach.
8	Airborne	Flight Home. ¡Adiós España!

