





Spain & Portugal

 **Tour Length:** 28 Days

 **Tour Departs:** 9 September 2027

This exceptional journey weaves through the rich history, vibrant culture, and breathtaking landscapes of Portugal and Spain. From Lisbon's iconic Belem Tower and the fairytale palaces of Sintra to the passion of Seville's flamenco and the grandeur of Granada's Alhambra, every stop is a highlight. Indulge in wine tastings in Yecla, soak up the energy of Barcelona, and glide by high-speed train into Madrid for a royal capital experience with excursions to Toledo, Segovia, and El Escorial.

The adventure continues through the Basque Country and northern Spain, exploring San Sebastian, Bilbao's Guggenheim, and the dramatic scenery of Picos de Europa. Follow the coastal road to Santiago de Compostela, before crossing into Portugal's Porto, where port wine, river cruising, and a memorable farewell dinner await.

Highlights

- Spain - Madrid, Toledo, Beachside San Sebastian and Santander, Bilbao and the Frank Gehry designed contemporary Guggenheim Museum. Picos de Europa National Park, Santiago de Compostela – final stop in the Camino Pilgrimage trail, Seville, Granada including Moorish Alhambra Palace, Barcelona
- Portugal - World Heritage listed Porto, Vila Real and Mateus Palace, Sintra & Cascais, Lisbon

Tour Costs Per Person

Per Person Share Twin/Double Room

\$25,750

Per Person Single Room

\$6,250

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Tour Costs

Inclusions

- Economy Class air travel ex Auckland (additional cost to upgrade to Premium Economy & Business Class available on request)
- Prepaid government and airport taxes, security and fuel surcharges
- Superior Grade hotel accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- First Class air-conditioned coach transportation for all touring
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Services of a tour director and local guides for touring and sightseeing
- Tips to local guides and coach drivers
- Airport and government security taxes
- Baggage handling of one suitcase per person – where possible
- Fully Escorted by a Maher Tours Leader

Exclusions

- Any meals and sightseeing tours not specifically mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel insurance – advice and assistance offered
- Items of a personal nature such as room service, drinks, laundry, telephone calls etc

Booking Conditions

- Initial Deposit due at time of booking: NZD\$3,000 per person
- Second Deposit due Wednesday 10 March 2027: NZD\$3,000
- Final Payment due Friday 25 June 2027: Balance

To register for this tour please contact us at 0800 500 518 or tours@mahertours.co.nz

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Tour Itinerary

28 Days

Day 1 | Auckland – Dubai

THURSDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

Late this afternoon, we report to the airport and join the flight to Dubai.

Day 2 | Dubai

FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

We arrive in Dubai early this morning and after clearing Customs and Immigration formalities, we are met and transferred to our hotel for a two-night stay. There is time to rest up after the flight until mid-afternoon where we meet up to enjoy a visit to the Museum of the Future. One of Dubai's most famous landmarks, the museum takes pride of place along the city's superhighway, Sheikh Zayed Road. Founded by the Dubai Future Foundation and launched on 22 February 2022, the museum explores how society could evolve in the coming decades using science and technology. Termed a 'living museum', it incorporates elements of traditional exhibitions, immersive theatre and themed attractions, so visitors can look beyond the present and towards the future's limitless possibilities. Visitors have the chance to engage with this game-changing technology. Each floor of the museum is designed like an expansive, interactive movie set, brought to life by expert storytellers, technologists and visionary artists. Early afternoon, we return to the hotel to relax. The remainder of the day is at leisure, until we meet up again for dinner this evening.

Day 3 | Dubai- Lisbon

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER (B)

Enjoy a relaxing morning, before we make our way to the airport around lunchtime. We join our early afternoon flight to Lisbon, Portugal's capital, where we are met and transferred to our hotel for a two-night stay.

Day 4 | Lisbon

SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Our guided tour of Lisbon takes us to the historic district of Belem and the Belem Tower, the traditional starting and ending point of Portuguese voyages of discovery. We will view (from the outside) the magnificent church of San Jeronimos built in the early 16th century as a celebration of Portugal's territorial expansion and an expression of a unique national style. Later in the day we visit magnificent Sintra and Cascais. This evening we enjoy a dinner featuring traditional Portuguese cuisine.

Day 5 | Lisbon - Seville

MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today we head back to Spain, travelling via Faro to Seville for a two night stay. On our way to Faro we visit a small tile factory in a typical Portuguese town of Azeitao to learn about this typical Portuguese handcraft.

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Day 6 | Seville

TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

We enjoy a guided tour of Seville in the morning followed by a free afternoon. You'll see Plaza de España and Parque Maria Luisa, Barrio de Santa Cruz and the famous Alcazar. This evening we get together for a flamenco show including dinner.

Day 7 | Seville – Ronda - Granada

WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

En route to Granada today, we stop in stop in Zahara de la Sierra to visit an Olive Grove and indulge in some tastings of the local products. We stop in the charming town of Ronda for a short visit before we continue on to Granada for a two-night stay.

Day 8 | Granada

THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER (B)

We have a full day exploring Granada - the Cathedral, Royal Chapel and Granada's amazing parks and gardens. The highlight of today's tour will be a guided tour through the world famous Alhambra – a palace and fortress that was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

Day 9 | Granada – Valencia

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER (B,L)

Today we travel to Valencia. Enroute, we stop in the area of Yecla that is earning popularity recently due to their wines made of Monastrell grape. We stop at the winery to have lunch and a wine tasting. Later, we continue to Valencia for a two-night stay.

Day 10 | Valencia

SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today is yours at leisure, to enjoy this beautiful city.

Day 11 | Valencia – Barcelona

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

This morning we travel to Barcelona stopping on the way to visit the ancient Roman city of Tarragona.

Day 12 | Barcelona

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER (B)

We enjoy a sightseeing tour of Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia and one of Spain's most spectacular and vibrant cities. Our tour includes the Gothic Quarter with its magnificent Cathedral and also Gaudi's Segrada Familia including an inside visit. We also visit Park Guell. After some time for lunch, we take a stroll through Olympic Port, home of the 2024 America's Cup.

Day 13 | Barcelona

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today is free for independent exploration, shopping or relaxation. Tonight, we dine together in the Ramblas district.

Day 14 | Barcelona – Madrid

WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Mid-morning, we join the high-speed train to Madrid (approx. 3hrs), arriving early afternoon. On arrival, we are met and transferred to our hotel for check in and time at leisure, until we meet to enjoy dinner together at a local restaurant this evening.

Day 15 | Madrid

THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

This morning we enjoy a guided tour of the city, down the tree lined avenues to see the Puerta del Sol, Gran Via, Pasco de La Castellana, Royal Palace, Park Retiro, Cibeles Fountain and the Cervantes Monument in Plaza de Espana. The afternoon is at leisure before we meet up for dinner this evening.

Day 16 | Madrid – Toledo Excursion

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER (B)

Today we spend the day in Toledo. Enjoy a guided tour through the old town where you will see churches, mosques, synagogues and houses are heaped upon one another in a haphazard, cobblestoned spiral.

Day 17 | Madrid – El Escorial, Segovia Excursion

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER (B,L)

Today's excursion takes us to El Escorial Monastery followed by a visit to the Valley Of The Fallen Monument erected in memory of the millions who died in the Spanish Civil War. We learn about Spain's intriguing history shaped by church, monarchy and 20th century conflict. Later we visit Segovia, strategically sited on a rocky ridge, it is deeply and haughtily Castilian, with a panoply of squares and mansions from its days of Golden Age grandeur, when it was a royal resort and a base for the Cortes (parliament).

Day 18 | Madrid – San Sebastian

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

After breakfast, we commence our journey north to San Sebastian. After settling in to our hotel we have free time to explore or to relax before we enjoy dinner together at a traditional Basque restaurant.

Day 19 | San Sebastian

MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER (B)

This morning's orientation tour will show us the old town – Plaza de Constitucion, San Vicente Church, Basilica of Santa Maria and San Telmo museum. Free time to further explore – perhaps visit Bahia de la Concha beach or find a shady café for some people watching.

Day 20 | San Sebastian – Bilbao - Santander

TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today we travel the short distance to Bilbao, Spain's northern city for art and culture. Following an orientation tour of the city we then visit the famous Frank Gehry designed Guggenheim Museum. Later, we continue our journey to Santander, capital of the Cantabrian region.

Day 21 | Santander - Oviedo

WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER (B)

A full day of touring as we drive through scenic Picos de Europa National Park stopping in the alpine village of Covadonga, continuing on to the coastal city of Gijon followed by our final destination – Oviedo. The old quarter of Oviedo is pedestrianised with squares and narrow streets, perfect for exploring and enjoying an al fresco dinner.

Day 22 | Santiago de Compostela

THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today we take the coastal route stopping to visit the Galician town of Betanzos before continuing on to A Coruna – consisting of a modern port on one side of the city and a beach resort on the other. Look out for the distinctive glass-fronted galleries of the sea-facing buildings, rising six storeys high along the Avenida da Marina in front of the port. They were originally designed so local residents, whose lives were intertwined with the ocean, could watch the activity of the harbour in shelter. We continue on to Santiago de Compostela for a two-night stay.

Day 23 | Santiago de Compostela

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER (B)

We have a full day to explore Santiago de Compostela – a world famous pilgrim town and the final destination of the Camino de Santiago – a pilgrim route that starts on the border of France. Our local guide will show us the sights in the morning with free time in the afternoon.

Day 24 | Santiago de Compostela – Porto

SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER (B,D)

Today we travel to Porto via the coastal city of Vigo. We arrive mid-afternoon and check in at our hotel for an overnight stay. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening.

Day 25 | Porto

SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER (B,D)

Today we enjoy an orientation tour of Portugal's second-largest city, and the one that gave the country (and port wine) its name. Porto is the perfect blend of classic vibes and modern energy. Stroll the winding cobblestone streets and take in 18th-century townhouses alongside chic shops and restaurants. Mid-morning, we join a typical "Rabelo" boat and sail along the banks of Porto and Vila Nova de Gaia in a typical and discover the beauty of the Douro River. After, we will visit Graham's 1890 Lodge with a guided tour and port wine tasting before enjoying some free time before our farewell dinner together this evening.

Day 26 | Porto – Lisbon - Dubai

MONDAY 4 OCTOBER (B)

After breakfast, we check out of our hotel and make our way to Porto airport for the short flight to Lisbon. We connect with our early afternoon flight to Dubai, arriving just after midnight on 05 October. We have reserved rooms at the hotel located inside Dubai International Airport, so we can get some rest prior to joining the flight through to Auckland.

Day 27 | Dubai - Auckland

TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER (B,D)

We make our way to our departure gate. Our flight departs Dubai at 10.00am.

Day 28 | Arrive Auckland

WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER (B)

Arrival time in Auckland is mid-morning.



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