

AAA Reading-Berks Group Travel presents...

Exploring Iberia: Southern Spain to Coastal Portugal

with Optional 3-Night Madrid Pre Tour Extension

May 4 – 16, 2025



Upgrade to **Elite Airfare!** see inside for details



For more information contact
AAA Reading-Berks
610-374-5600



Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

13 Days • 18 Meals: 11 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Málaga, Choice on Tour: Málaga Alcazaba or Picasso Museum, White Villages of Andalusia, The Alhambra, Ronda, Cordoba, La Mezquita, Home-Hosted Meal, Seville Cathedral, Choice on Tour: Historic Santa Cruz Walking Tour or Seville Horse & Carriage Ride, Estremoz, Portuguese Riviera, Lisbon, Sintra, Quinta da Regaleira

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 5	NH Malaga , Malaga
Days 6, 7	H10 Palacio Colomera, Cordoba
Days 8, 9	H10 Casa de la Plata, Seville
Days 10 – 12	Vila Gale Collections Palacio dos Arcos , Lisbon

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

**AAA Members receive
an additional \$50 off
per person!**

Day 1: Sunday, May 4, 2025 Overnight Flight Enjoy a true taste of the Iberian Peninsula. Your tour begins with an overnight flight.

Day 2: Monday, May 5, 2025 Málaga, Spain - Tour Begins Welcome to Málaga, a city known for its Andalusian lifestyle and birthplace of artist Pablo Picasso. This evening, join your fellow travelers and your Tour Manager for a welcome reception.

Day 3: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 Málaga Discover the port city of Málaga with a local guide. Walk through the colorful market stalls and learn about the history and culture of this seaside community. Meet a local from the Sepulcro Brotherhood to learn about the importance of the religious brotherhoods to the local culture. Then, stop at a local *bodega* bar to sample some tapas. Then **it's your choice!** Venture into the Alcazaba and get to know the fortified palace with a local guide **-OR-** enter the Picasso Museum, where you'll see paintings by this iconic artist who called Málaga his first home. (B, D)

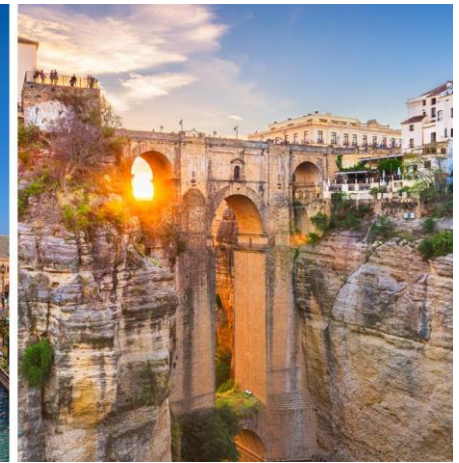
Day 4: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 Málaga - Granada - Málaga Today travel to Granada, the last capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Spend the morning with a local expert visiting the Alhambra, a UNESCO World Heritage site that's known as one of the Wonders of the Muslim World. After your extensive morning walk at this centuries-old palace and fortress complex, enjoy some free time in Granada for lunch on your own. Later, return to your hotel to spend the evening as you please. (B)

Day 5: Thursday, May 8, 2025 Málaga - Frigiliana - Nerja - Málaga Journey to the picturesque white villages of Andalusia. Frigiliana, considered to be one of the most beautiful villages in the region, will make you feel as though you have stepped back in time. Take in its whitewashed houses and historical sites while walking through the narrow cobblestone streets. Travel to the town of Nerja and explore its famous caves, home to one of the world's largest stalactites. In Nerja, visit the *Balcón de Europa*, a balcony in the center of town with stunning views of the sea. Return to Málaga where you can choose to join your Tour Manager on a sunset marina stroll with a sweet surprise — the perfect way to say goodbye to Málaga. (B)

Day 6: Friday, May 9, 2025 Málaga - Ronda - Cordoba Next stop: Ronda, a historic town perched upon a cliff in Andalusia. Explore the Old Town full of twisting narrow streets, the 18th-century *Puente Nuevo* (New Bridge) over the El Tajo gorge, and La Alameda Park with its panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. During your walking tour, get the local perspective about the often-debated topic of bullfighting in this city rich with history surrounding these contests. Complete your tour of Ronda and be welcomed into a local's home for a home-hosted lunch. Arrive in Cordoba and end your day with dinner at a local restaurant alongside your fellow travelers. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Saturday, May 10, 2025 Cordoba Begin your day immersing yourself in the culture of Cordoba when you admire the rows of patios* filled with colorful flowers and plants. Meet with a local to discuss the tradition and importance of these bountiful displays. Later, tour the magnificent Mezquita (UNESCO). Originally built as a mosque, it was converted into the city's cathedral when the Christians conquered the region in 1236. (B)

Day 8: Sunday, May 11, 2025 Cordoba - Seville Your taste of local culture continues today, rather literally. Head to an award-winning olive grove and learn about this family-owned business. Try their unique olive oil during lunch before departing for Seville, Spain's "cultural capital." Once you arrive, get acquainted with Seville on a panoramic city tour featuring the famous Bull Ring, Torre de Oro, Plaza de Espana, and Maria Luisa Park. This evening, take in sweeping views of Seville from atop the *Mirador Setas* viewpoint.



Per Person Rates*:

Double \$6,499; Single \$7,699; Triple \$6,449

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Philadelphia Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$479 per person

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,590; Business Class \$4,190

- * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by AAA Vacations®. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

After you've worked up your appetite, you'll sit down to dinner at a trendy local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 9: Monday, May 12, 2025 Seville In Seville, it's your choice!

Take a walking tour of the quaint Santa Cruz Quarter with its cascading bright flowers, whitewashed buildings and winding streets **-OR-** take a horse and carriage ride through Plaza de España and Maria Luisa Park – one of the loveliest parks in all of Europe. Then, discover the magnificent Seville Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the largest gothic cathedral in the world. View the ornate architecture of the cathedral and see Christopher Columbus' tomb. Later this afternoon, during an **Impact Moment**, participate in a flamenco lesson at Fundacion Cristina Heeren de Arte Flamenco. This is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the art of flamenco in Spain and internationally. After your lesson, enjoy a traditional flamenco performance. (B)

Day 10: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 Seville - Estremoz, Portugal - Portuguese Riviera Say *adios* to Spain and travel through the Portuguese countryside to Estremoz – a historic town whose marble

can be found in Portuguese monuments throughout the country. After a lunch full of local flavor, continue on to the Portuguese Riviera, the picturesque region situated along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy an evening at leisure to do as you please. (B, L)

Day 11: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Portuguese Riviera - Lisbon - Portuguese Riviera *Olá Lisboa!* It's time to get to know Europe's second oldest capital city. Start in Belem, home to many of Lisbon's most iconic sites. After viewing the impressive Jeronimos Monastery (UNESCO) facade, embark on a unique panoramic city tour. Hop on to one of Lisbon's iconic trams taking you through the postcard-worthy streets of the hilly city. Return to your hotel and enjoy the rest of the day to explore independently. This evening, you may choose to join an optional experience to see local artists perform traditional *Fado* music (UNESCO). (B)

Day 12: Thursday, May 15, 2025 Portuguese Riviera - Sintra - Portuguese Riviera Head to the town of Sintra (UNESCO), a favorite summer residence of Portuguese kings for six centuries. Explore the Quinta da Regaleira, a 20th-century palace with an

Experience It! The White Villages of Andalusia

An enchanting world of Moorish charm awaits visitors who travel off the beaten path to the picturesque white villages, also known as *Pueblos Blancos*, of Andalusia. These small, quiet hilltop villages are distinguished by their simple whitewashed houses. Most are situated in what were once strategic mountain defensive spots, often spectacular sites chosen not for aesthetic reasons, but for their logistical roles in the centuries-long Muslim-Christian conflict that culminated in the fall of Granada in 1492. These sleepy towns with few tourists provide many opportunities to experience the essence of Spanish life.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Madrid Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,199.00 USD double, \$1,399.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
gateway.memberchoicevacations.com/link/1246342

elaborate gothic façade and beautiful gardens. Then stop at a local bakery and indulge in a local pastry before enjoying some time on your own to discover this storybook town. Tonight, toast to a wonderful trip with your fellow travelers during a farewell dinner featuring savory Portuguese favorites. (B, D)

Day 13: Friday, May 16, 2025 Portuguese Riviera - Tour Ends
This cultural deep dive into Spain and Portugal comes to a close today. (B)

PLEASE NOTE:

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Travel with just 16-24 guests on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Our air passengers will depart from Lisbon, Portugal, airport. Our transfers will depart from the Portuguese Riviera to Lisbon airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.



Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Due to local festivities, the order of your included visits in Cordoba may change.

Dinners in Portugal and Spain are not typically served before 7:30 p.m. and most times are served at 8:00 p.m. based on local custom and when restaurants open.

*The rows of patios will not be available during the summer, from July 1st to September 15th. For the rest of the season, expect long lines.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of September 28, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 05, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until October 05, 2024.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**For important reservation information visit
gateway.memberchoicevacations.com/link/1246342.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.**

Extend your vacation with

Optional 5 Days 3-Night Madrid Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,199.00 USD double, \$1,399.00 USD single, land only

4 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner

Day 1: Overnight Flight

Your tour begins with an overnight flight to Madrid.

Day 2: Madrid, Spain - Tour Begins

Welcome to Madrid, Spain's lively capital and largest city. Meet your Tour Manager and gather with your fellow travelers and enjoy a welcome dinner. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 3: Madrid

Start the day exploring the city with your Tour Manager. During the walking tour of Madrid's historic center, see iconic sites such as the Puerta del Sol and Plaza Mayor, where events have been held since the 17th century. After lunch on your own, visit the Prado Museum. Then, you are free to explore the city on your own using your metro card. Tonight, you might choose to experience Madrid like a local with a metro ride and a walking tour followed by dinner with traditional entertainment at a local restaurant. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 4: Madrid

Today the day is yours to explore this magnificent city, discovering Madrid's elegant boulevards and rich culture. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 5: Madrid - Málaga

Board your train* to Málaga where you will join your fellow travelers for your main tour. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices.

Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Triple and child accommodations are not available.

*Guests are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the train.