

BARCELONA, SEVILLE & FRENCH RIVIERA

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

Day 1: Depart today on your flight to **Barcelona**.

Day 2: Arrive Barcelona. The history of Barcelona dates back to 218 B.C. when the Romans first developed the city walls, parts of which are still visible. Meet your guide for your city sightseeing tour. Visit Parc Guell.

Day 3: Discover the city. Start at Placa Catalunya. Radiating from the square are 4 great boulevards, Ramblas, Passeig de Gracia, Rambla de Catalunya, Avinguda Portal de L'Angel. Stop and shop El Cortes Ingeles department store. Discover the famous Las Ramblas, a tree lined boulevard with many of Barcelona's most interesting streets running off or parallel to this main artery. Stop at the fabulous Mercat de la Boqueria. In Catalunya, towns and cities have been founded around markets. The market originated as an open air market in front of the old city walls where fruit and vegetables from local towns and farms nearby would sell their products. The city's oldest buildings of historic and artistic interest are located in the Gothic Quarter. See inside the Catedral De Barcelona, the Palace of the Catalan Government, City Hall and the Great Royal Palace. Enjoy an evening paseo (walk).



Day 4: Guided visit **Sagrada Família**, the unfinished church begun by local architect **Antoni Gaudi**. Wander to the La Ribera neighborhood, an area that used to house the wealthier shippers and merchants. Streets are named after the shops that used to occupy them (ie The Carrer de L'Argenteria or Goldsmith Street). The Passeig del Born (formerly a jousting square) is popular for its fine restaurants and tapas bars. Museums that may be of interest today instead are the Chocolate Museum which tells the story of chocolate from the Aztecs to the Europeans and the Catalan Art Museum which houses a world class collection of the regions art. Enjoy a museum visit to the Picasso Museum, the best collection in the country of this artist who spent his formative years in Barcelona. Barcelona is crammed with shops and cafes The rest of the day is free to shop, sight-see according to your own schedule, and relax with a cappuccino at a local coffee shop. Tonight see Font Magica in its entire colorful splendor and water acrobatics.



Day 5: Full day voyage to **Cadaques**, a seaside resort made famous by Salvador Dali and his friends such as Picasso. The rocky coasts with its beautiful beaches and coves have been the source of inspiration for internationally famous painters and artists. Today visit Cadaques and **Dali's famous home**. **Figueres is the birthplace of Dali**. It is home to the Teatre- Museu a museum designed by Dali himself which you will visit.

Day 6: Transfer to **Seville**. Meet your guide who will escort you to the coach and continue on a sightseeing tour of this beautiful city. Seville is quintessentially Andalusia.

Day 7: Full day in Seville. The old town or centro historico once huddled inside city walls. Main highlights include the **Cathedral, the La Giralda Tower, the Alcazar**, and the winding streets of the Barrio de Santa Cruz. Don't miss the Torre Del Oro (Tower of Gold). Visit Sevilla's Cathedral, the third largest in Europe. See the pinkish square Giralda Tower. Formerly a Moorish minaret from which Muslims were called to prayer, it became the Cathedral Bell Tower after the Reconquista. Visit the Alcazar, originally a 10th century palace built for the governors of the Moors. Spend time in the once thriving Jewish Quarter, a tangled street plan with small plazas, tile covered patios, whitewashed houses with wrought iron lattice work usually draped with flowers. Today visit the **bullring, La Maestranza**. Tonight an authentic Flamenco show. This music and dance art form has its roots in the gypsy and Moorish cultures. After the show indulge in some hot churros and chocolate sauce as you stroll back to your hotel.



Day 8: Rhonda rests on its massive gorge that literally splits the town in half. Cliff hanging houses perch right along the edge and look like they will slide into the abyss at any moment. “New Town” called El Mercadillo began around 1500. The “Old Quarter” known as La Ciudad is a labyrinth of cramped streets and wrought iron balconies brimming with potted geraniums. Today full day excursion through the countryside of Andalusia and the town of Rhonda.

Day 9: Depart for **Nice**. Starting in the 18th century, many wealthy English people passed the winter in Nice, enjoying the panorama along the coast. Explore on foot or by bicycle the Promenade des Anglais. Visit the Hotel Negresco. Constructed in 1912 and in keeping with the conventions of the time, the Negresco opens on the side opposite the Mediterranean. Begin at Place Masséna, the 4 block section of the city referred to as the “Zone Pietonne”, or “Pedestrian Zone”. Fine selection of restaurants, cafés, small shops selling clothing, shoes and souvenirs.

Day 10: Full day of guided sightseeing of the **Cote D’Azur** region. The countryside, panoramic views and exclusive villas are breathtaking. Then on to **Saint Paul De Vence**, a picturesque and very touristy hilltop village which is home to a great many artists and writers. Return to the coast and visit **Cannes**, famous for the annual film festival and **Antibes**, Nice’s attractive but much less crowded neighbor. Antibes picture perfect Old Town with its cluster of red tiled roofs rises above the blue Mediterranean and is a lovely spot to browse.

Day 11: Uncover the secrets of Nice. Today Old Town is one of the delights of the Riviera. Starting at Cours Saleya, Nices market square since the middle ages, wander through the twisty streets of old town and enjoy the day shopping for some souvenirs. Or perhaps you prefer to stroll or bicycle the promenade again. You might even swim in the still chilly waters of the Mediterranean.

Day 12: Au revoir la belle France

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return airfare to Barcelona return from Nice
- One way flight Barcelona - Seville
- One way flight Seville – Nice
- Coach transfers
 - o Barcelona – return airport
 - o Seville - return airport
 - o Nice - return airport
 - o Full day visit to Cadaques and Figueres
 - o Full day visit to Ronda
 - o Full day visit to Cote D’Azur area
- Assistance upon arrival in Barcelona and Seville
- 10 nights accommodation with private facilities
- 10 breakfasts
- 5 dinners
- Guided tours
 - o Barcelona coach tour
 - o Seville walking tour
 - o Cote D’Azur
- Entrances
 - o Parc Guell
 - o Sagrada Familia
 - o Picasso Museum
 - o Cadaques Dali House
 - o Figueres Dali Museum
 - o Flamenco show
 - o Alcazar in Seville
 - o Seville Cathedral
 - o La Maestranza Bullring

