



Grand Tour Of Spain & Solar Eclipse in Valencia

14 days | 16 days with Barcelona extension | Aug 02 2026—Aug 15 2026

Spain's charismatic locals and cosmopolitan cities shine on this tour, which takes you from the museums of Madrid to the sugary sands of the Costa del Sol. Barcelona and Seville compete for the title of cultural capital, both boasting incredible art and architecture. Andalusia is a showcase of mosques, churches, and Moorish castles, and the foodie paradise of Valencia beckons with its inventive culinary and art scenes. Extend your trip to get even better acquainted with Barcelona.



Your tour package includes

- 12 nights in handpicked hotels
- 12 breakfasts
- 5 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 food tasting
- 7 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 train ride

Included highlights

- Prado Museum
- Olive oil tasting
- Córdoba
- Seville Cathedral
- Ronda
- Costa del Sol
- Alhambra
- Cave district of Guadix
- La Sagrada Família

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with some hills.

For more information, contact

<https://groups.goaheadtours.com/tours/grand-tour-of-spain-solar-eclipse-in-valencia> | 516-967-8447

Grand Tour Of Spain & Solar Eclipse in Valencia

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Madrid today.

Madrid → 3 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Madrid

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Spain! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner, served with beer or wine.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Get an insider's view of Madrid, where the legacy of the Habsburgs and Bourbons meets the fiery spirit of the Spanish people. Join your Tour Director and trace Madrid's path from a small medieval town to a 16th-century powerhouse.

- View the Royal Palace, Spain's largest royal residence and a Baroque stunner complete with grand facades and sprawling gardens.
- Pass by the Temple of Debod, a reassembled temple from ancient Egypt, given as a gift to Spain in recognition for the country's aid in saving the Abu Simbel temples from destruction. Madrid's skyline unfolds from this vantage point, a serene oasis amidst the city.
- View the city's many squares, including Plaza Colon and Plaza de Neptuno. You're in for a treat, with enormous fountains and quaint cafes offering prime people-watching opportunities.
- Explore the Prado, a world-class art museum that began as the private collection of the Spanish monarchy and contains works by Goya, Velázquez, Rubens, and Bosch.

Nightlife in Madrid starts late and goes well into the early hours. To experience it like a local, hit the streets for the classic 10pm dinner or join us earlier for an optional excursion through Plaza Mayor for our take on a Spanish night out. You'll explore the city by the evening light—and enjoy a little traditional tuna music in one of the city's oldest restaurants.

+ Traditional Spanish Evening

Day 4: Free day in Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Interested in ticking another UNESCO World Heritage Site off your list? Join our optional trip to Toledo—a multifaceted town revered for its swordsmithing and known as the City of Three Cultures for the way Christians, Jews, and Muslims peacefully coexisted there in the Middle Ages. Otherwise, spend your free day in Madrid checking out the lively streets of La Latina or the trendy boutiques of Malasana—two of the city's beloved neighborhoods.

+ Toledo

Seville → 2 nights

Day 5: Seville via Cordoba & olive oil farm

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner

Ride a high-speed train to Cordoba, an ancient town that was once home to 700 mosques, 900 public baths, and 70 libraries. Then, discover some of the flavors and history of Andalusia.

- Enter the Mezquita-Catedral de Cordoba, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the eighth century as a mosque and then converted into a cathedral during the Reconquista. See its stunning arches, intricate mosaics, and peaceful courtyard.
- Join a local guide for a tour of an olive oil farm's groves, mill, and cellar to learn about the delicate process of olive harvesting.
- Sample the unexpected flavor combination of orange-infused olive oil drizzled over a scoop of chocolate gelato. (Don't worry: You'll have time to shop for tasty souvenirs to bring home!)

Then, continue to Seville and sit down for an included dinner, served with beer or wine.

Please note: Porterage is not included on train transfers. You should be comfortable lifting and carrying all luggage over steps, onto platforms, and into storage.

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Seville

Included meals: breakfast

Uncover the beauty of Seville—Andalusia's capital city—on a guided sightseeing tour of its historic churches and Moorish buildings.

- View the tiled pavilion of the Plaza de España—a massive, semi-circular brick structure built in the Renaissance and Neo-Moorish styles for the 1929 Ibero-American Exhibition.
- Pass the whitewashed homes of the Barrio de Santa Cruz, a popular neighborhood known for its cobblestone streets, narrow alleys, and tiled benches.
- Enter Seville Cathedral, one of the largest Gothic churches in the world. Awesome in scale, this 16th-century architectural marvel also contains artworks by Goya and Murillo, as well as an enormous and richly decorated central altarpiece.
- Check out the Giralda. Originally a minaret from a mosque that once stood on the site of Seville Cathedral, it was converted into a bell tower and offers panoramic views of the city.

Tonight, treat yourself to an optional excursion to watch a heart-stopping, soul-stirring flamenco show. This expressive art form combines flamboyant singing, dancing, and clapping—it's even been recognized by UNESCO as one of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

If you'd like to spend your free evening on your own, you can continue exploring the picturesque buildings and elegant patios of the Barrio de Santa Cruz.

Please note: Travelers should have their passport information confirmed at least 30 days prior to departure to ensure we can secure tickets for entrance to the Seville Cathedral.

+ Traditional Seville Flamenco Show

Costa del Sol → 2 nights

Day 7: Costa del Sol via Ronda

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Make your way to the beaches of the Costa del Sol, a 90-mile stretch that sees more than 300 days of sunshine annually. Fill your lungs with the briny breeze of the Mediterranean Sea as you stop to explore the famous cliffside town of Ronda with a local guide.

- Admire the town's picturesque white

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buildings and pass the Plaza de Toros, which was constructed in the late 1700s. This ring plays an important part in Spanish bullfighting history and houses a museum dedicated to its place in Andalusian culture.

- View the staggering Puente Nuevo, an 18th-century bridge that spans the steep Tajo gorge. It splits the city of Ronda in two, rising 400 feet above the Guadalevin River.
- Walk by the Moorish-influenced Palacio de Mondragón and enter Casa Don Bosco, a historic home sited on the edge of Ronda's gorge with epic views of the valley.

Continue to the Costa del Sol and sit down for an included dinner, served with beer or wine.

Day 8: Free day on Costa del Sol

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day on the beaches of the Costa del Sol. Crystal-clear waters and sandy shores beckon you to swim, snorkel, or lounge the day away before retiring to a chiringuito, or beach bar. It's the perfect place to satisfy a seafood craving via a hearty paella or espeto de sardinas—sardines grilled on a skewer. If you'd like, join us for an optional excursion to the edge of the world—at least from this vantage point—to Gibraltar. Panoramic views, sometimes all the way to Africa, are interrupted only by migratory birds enjoying a rest on the Rock of Gibraltar.

+ A Day in Gibraltar

Granada → 1 night

Day 9: Sightseeing tour of the Alhambra

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Take a guided tour of the UNESCO-recognized Alhambra—the Moorish sultans' last stronghold in Spain. The massive fortress complex is an important relic of Islamic rule in the region—it fell to the Catholic Monarchs, Ferdinand II and Isabella I, in 1492—and that history is evident in Granada's architecture, culture, and traditions.

- Walk along the Promenade of the Cypress Trees to view the Generalife, the former gardens and summer palace of Spain's Nasrid rulers.
- View the uniquely curved, Roman-style courtyard inside the Palace of Charles V, another holdover from the Nasrid dynasty.
- Admire the blend of Western art and Islamic

design as you stroll through courtyards bursting with myrtle bushes, roses, orange trees, and aromatic herbs—all planted to remain colorful and fragrant throughout the year.

- Enter the Nasrid Palaces and see the Mexuar, the hall where the Sultan would meet with his council and subjects. Look for quintessential Moorish elements like stucco work, geometric patterns, and ornamented vaulting in the stalactite-like ceiling.
- See where the royal family lived during visits to Comares Palace and the Court of the Lions.

Sit down for an included dinner this evening, served with beer or wine.

Please note: Today's order of activities is subject to change. Travelers should have their passport information confirmed at least 90 days prior to departure to ensure we can secure tickets for entrance to the Alhambra.

Valencia → 2 nights

Day 10: Valencia via Guadix

Included meals: breakfast

On the way to Valencia, stop in the cave district of the city of Guadix, where residents chose to live underground. (Here, homes carved into soft hillsides have been inhabited for centuries.) The town was used as a backdrop in films like "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" and "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."

Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Valencia

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

Discover Valencia on a guided sightseeing tour. Spain's third-largest city is a bold blend of old and new, combining striking futuristic architecture and massive Gothic cathedrals with promenade-lined beaches.

- Pass the City of Arts and Sciences, a symbol of Spain's reverence for modernist design. Renowned architect Santiago Calatrava's avant-garde complex houses a science museum, aquarium, and an opera house.
- See the Torres de Serranos—part of the dozen gates that formed Valencia's city walls—and the National Museum of Ceramics on a drive through the El Carmen neighborhood. The museum's exterior is a decadent mix of architectural influences you'll want to get a good look at.

- Admire the UNESCO-listed Lonja de la Seda, former site of the city's silk exchange, as you walk through the Old Town to Plaza de la Virgen.
- Gaze upon the unique architecture of Valencia Cathedral. You'll recognize Gothic, Baroque, and Romanesque influences, but the church's draw lies in its claim of housing the Holy Grail.
- Stop for a tasting of the decadent beverage known as horchata. Valencian horchata, unlike its Mexican counterpart, is made of tiger nuts, water, and sugar. Drink it ice-cold for a refreshing summer treat.

Enjoy free time to get to know Valencia on your own—perhaps grabbing a dish of the city's famous paella—or take a leisurely stroll through the Turia Garden, a lush park that runs through the heart of the city.

Barcelona → 2 nights

Day 12: Transfer to Barcelona

Included meals: breakfast

Travel along the Mediterranean coast as you make your way to Barcelona, catching glimpses of the sea's aquamarine waters as you go. Settle into your hotel room and rest up for tomorrow's awe- and art-filled day in the Catalan capital.

Day 13: Sightseeing tour of Barcelona

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

You don't have to be an architecture fan to enjoy Barcelona, but you may just leave as one by the end of the day. Roman ruins, Gothic drama, and soaring odes to modernism fill the city with unparalleled landmarks, many of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

- Immerse yourself in the awe-inspiring beauty of La Sagrada Familia, a testament to Antoni Gaudí's brilliance. Inside, marvel at the intricate details and stained glass that bathe the space in confetti-like bursts of color.
- Drive along Passeig de Gracia, where you'll encounter Gaudí's "House of Bones" (Casa Batlló) and the sculptural Casa Milà. Feel the pulse of the city as you traverse Barcelona and see how architectural modernism interacts with everyday life.
- Venture to Montjuïc, the hill overlooking Barcelona and site of the 1992 Olympic Games. At the Mirador de l'Alcalde, breathe in panoramic views of the city, the harbor, and beyond, perfumed by a Mediterranean breeze and the surrounding gardens.

- Pass through the grandeur of the Placa d'Espanya, a hub of Catalan culture. Look for a pair of towers, inspired by the campaniles of Venice, and a classically styled fountain at the center of it all.

If you'd like to keep stoking your love for Gaudí, join our optional excursion to Park Güell this afternoon. Your eyes will joyfully bounce from colorful mosaics to the tops of quixotic residential rooftops. Savor every tiny detail in the stonework—you never know what surprises you'll uncover when you take your time.

If you'd prefer to wind through Barcelona on your own, go for some rest and relaxation at Barceloneta Beach, where you can take a leisurely stroll on the boardwalk and—if it's warm—dip your toes in the Mediterranean.

Later tonight, celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner, served with beer or wine.

Please Note: Some departures, especially in peak seasons, will enter Modernista Recinte St Pao instead of La Sagrada Familia due to limited ticket availability.

+ Park Güell & La Pedrera

Flight Home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue exploring Barcelona for a few more days, either at your leisure or with curated excursions to the city's Gothic Quarter and nearby Monserrat.

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Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: <https://groups.goaheadtours.com/tours/grand-tour-of-spain-solar-eclipse-in-valencia> | 516-967-8447

Day 3: Traditional Spanish Evening

From \$119.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)
Start the evening with a stroll through the Plaza Mayor and learn about the square's history from your Tour Director. On your way to dinner, walk through the illuminated streets of Madrid, taking in the local neighborhood ambiance in the evening light. Then, enjoy conversation, camaraderie, and live music at one of the oldest restaurants in the city. Between traditional Castilian courses, you'll be entertained by tuna music, an artistic tradition with its roots in Spain's universities.

Day 4: Toledo

From \$105.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (8 hours, departure time varies)
Today, discover Toledo, the cliff-top settlement often referred to as La Ciudad Imperial ("The Imperial City"). Upon arrival, you'll have some free time to explore. Later in the afternoon, you'll kick off a guided tour at Toledo Cathedral: a massive Gothic structure possessing a treasure trove of stained glass windows and golden artifacts. Gaze upon its sacristy, containing masterpieces by the likes of Van Dyck, El Greco, Rubens, and Titian. After exploring the labyrinth of medieval alleyways in the heart of the city, you'll visit the Church of Santo Tomé—a former mosque, dating to the 12th century, graced by one of El Greco's finest works, "The Burial of the Count of Orgaz." End your day with a stop at Santa María la Blanca, a museum housed in one of the oldest synagogues in Europe. Please note: This tour involves some walking over uneven terrain. Also, depending on the day of the week, the sites you visit may change.

Day 6: Traditional Seville Flamenco Show

From \$79.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (3 hours, departs in the evening)
Tonight, get a taste of old Seville during a live flamenco show. Flamenco is a unique and colorful Andalusian art form that combines guitar playing, singing, clapping, and dancing, and this excursion is sure to be one of the highlights of your Spanish journey. Sip an included drink as you watch the authentic performance, which allows expressive lyrics, moving instrumentals, and passionate dancing. After discovering why UNESCO has declared flamenco to be one of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity, enjoy free time to explore the vibrant Santa Cruz neighborhood.

Day 8: A Day in Gibraltar

From \$155.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (8 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)
Make your way along the Costa del Sol to Gibraltar, a pocket of British culture in the Mediterranean. This overseas territory of Great Britain is most famously home to the iconic Rock of Gibraltar. Today, you'll get a close-up look during a visit to the Gibraltar Nature Reserve, established in 1993 to protect native wildlife. Here, get to know the resident population of semi-wild

Barbary macaques while keeping an eye out for the many species of migratory birds that use the rock as a resting place. Then, take in sweeping views of the ocean (and Africa on a clear day) as you journey to sites such as St. Michael's Cave, Spur Battery, and Europa Point Lighthouse. End with an included lunch and pint at a local pub and some free time in town before transferring back to Costa del Sol. Please note: As Gibraltar is a territory of the United Kingdom, you must show your passport to enter. Make sure you have yours with you before this excursion departs.

Day 13: Park Güell & La Pedrera

From \$115.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (4 hours, departure time varies)
On today's excursion, discover the magnificent works of Antoni Gaudí, the famed Spanish architect known for his bold, distinct designs. Casa Milà is the first stop. Take a guided tour of this building, popularly known as "La Pedrera," which was built between 1906 and 1912. Everything about it is visually unique, from its wave-like stone structure to the grandly designed roof. Next, you'll head to Park Güell, also designed by Gaudí. Your guide will lead you through the park, which contains stunning buildings, intricate stonework, and colorful mosaics. At the top of the park, marvel at the brilliant views of Barcelona.

Extension excursion options

Day 14: Picasso & Gothic Barcelona

From \$95.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (4 hours, departs in the morning)
On today's immersive excursion, you'll join a local guide to stroll through one of Barcelona's most intriguing sections: the Gothic Quarter, or Barri Gòtic. This area is home to some of the city's most impressive landmarks. Walk past the massive Barcelona Cathedral, which is commonly referred to as La Seu, and is named after the city's patron saint. Then, admire King Square, discover the artsy El Born neighborhood, and walk by the Basilica of Santa Maria del Mar before stepping inside the iconic Picasso Museum. This institution houses an extraordinary collection of work by artist Pablo Picasso, and you'll learn more about his life and art during your visit.

Day 15: Montserrat

From \$109.00 . Visit the link above for pricing info. (4.5 hours, departure time varies)
Journey to the ninth-century Santa María de Montserrat Abbey, which inspired the composer Richard Wagner as he wrote Parsifal. Ride a high-flying cable car up the mountain and enjoy magnificent views of the Llobregat River Valley and—if the skies are clear—the Pyrenees. A local guide will lead the way to the secluded Santa María de Montserrat Abbey, where you may have a chance to see La Moreneta, Catalonia's miraculous and beloved statue of the Virgin of Montserrat. Take some time to explore the monastery before descending the

mountain by bus and driving back to Barcelona. Please note: Due to the ever-changing schedule of church activities, a viewing of the statue of La Moreneta can't be guaranteed.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. Go Ahead Tours accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at <https://www.goaheadtours.com/about/terms>.