



Customized program developed for:
Mississippi State University
Spain
March 8 -17, 2024



 **Generation**
Study Abroad
COMMITMENT PARTNER



OFFICIAL NAME: Kingdom of Spain

CAPITAL: Madrid

TOP LANGUAGES:
Spanish, Basque, Catalan, Galician

MAJOR INDUSTRIES:
Tourism, automobiles, agriculture, energy, textiles, food and beverages, metals, chemicals

SPOTLIGHT ON SPAIN

Spain attracts visitors with a passion for life that is contagious. This spirit manifests itself today through the brilliant architecture, the pounding rhythms of flamenco, and the allure of an afternoon siesta. While life hasn't always been easy in Spain, it has emerged from crises both ancient and modern. In the 16th and 17th centuries, the Spanish Empire ruled over broad regions of Europe and the New World, thriving under the rule of the Hapsburgs during a period known as the Golden Age. When this power waned, Spain entered a darker period, mired in turmoil, civil war, and the dictatorship of Francisco Franco. It wasn't until Franco's death in 1975 that Spain truly joined the modern international community.

Spain continues to have positive economic growth following a prolonged recession stemming from the 2008 global financial crisis. Economic activity surpassed its pre-crisis peak in 2017 largely due to increased private consumption. Favorable financial conditions and strong job creation continue to support the private domestic demand, though unemployment remains high. Strong export growth, driven by increasing labor productivity and an internal devaluation, was significant in bringing Spain's current account into surplus and increased interest from foreign investors. The European Commission criticized Spain's 2016 budget for easing austerity measures and for its alleged overly optimistic growth and deficit projections. Recent projections anticipate the economy to grow and the continuation of job creation.



TOPICS TO EXPLORE

LITERATURE – Explore Spain's literary master: walk in the footsteps of Cervantes, Miguel de Unamuno, Federico Garcia Lorca, and even Ernest Hemingway, visiting sites that inspired their characters.

ART & ARCHITECTURE – From museums to street murals, the art of Spain is deeply ingrained in culture. Visit works of Goya, Velasquez, and other masters in the Prado. Learn about Picasso's life and work. Wander the sites designed by Antonin Gaudí in Barcelona. Trek through Toledo, Salamanca, or the southern regions where Islamic influence is strong.

WINE & CUISINE – Food and wine are central to the Spanish way of life. The Spanish style of small plate or "tapas" is well known, but there is much more to experience and taste at a late dinner in Spain! Taste your way through regions of Spanish cuisine and study the techniques, tools, history, and business of eating and drinking.

BY THE NUMBERS

1.76 TRILLION | EST 2017
GDP (USD PPP)

48.9 MILLION | POPULATION

505,370 KM² | TOTAL AREA

130 CONNECTIONS

2,300 MEETINGS PLANNED
IN THE REGION

Your customized itinerary

Psychology in Spain

The following itinerary is a working document and is subject to change (revised 6/8/2023).

March 8 | Program Begins

Friday

- Flight departs for Madrid – *Arranged by participants*

March 9 | Madrid

Saturday

Madrid Accommodations

[Hotel NH Zubano](#) or similar (1 of 2)

Welcome to Madrid! This European political, economic, and cultural center draws visitors in with a passion for life that is contagious. Whether it's the brilliant art, pounding rhythms of flamenco, or the pace of modern business at one of its many headquarters, Madrid has an energy that is not just Spanish, but uniquely Madrileño.

- At the most common arrival time of all participants, transfer to your accommodations – *Local staff and private transportation included. Suggested arrival time is before 12 pm*
- Check-in to your accommodations or store luggage if check-in is unavailable.
- In the afternoon, enjoy a city tour – *Local staff included and private transportation is included*
- Participate in a brief **Health and Safety Orientation** – *Orientation will be on the city tour*

Madrid Walking Tour

Let's begin the trip with a walking tour of Habsburg Madrid, known to Spaniards as Madrid de los Austrias, and which includes the Puerta del Sol, the Royal Palace, Plaza de Oriente, Plaza de la Villa, Plaza Mayor, and some of the city's oldest streets – *guided, no entrances included, whisper headsets included*

- Free evening with dinner on own

March 10 | Seville

Sunday

Meals Included

Breakfast

Seville Accommodations

[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) or similar (1 of 6)

- Check out of hotel
- Meet local staff in lobby and board coach and depart for Seville (approximate 8 hour coach with stop for lunch)
- Break for lunch on own

Welcome to Seville! This Andalusian capital city is intensely vibrant and steeped in both ancient and modern history. Experience an authentic flamenco show at a tablao in the heart of the city – this is the birthplace of the fiery dance, after all. Don't miss Seville's dramatic monuments – the Giralda tower, the Cathedral and the Alcázar.

- Check-in to hotel
- Free afternoon with dinner on own

March 11 | Seville

Monday

Meals Included

Breakfast

Lunch

Seville Accommodations

[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) or similar (2 of 6)

- Meet your WorldStrides local staff and walk to class
- WorldStrides staff will accompany you on your first day or class to ensure everyone knows the route and is able to get situated
- Class (1 hour of classroom space and AV included)
- Following class, walk as a group to your **Paella Lunch**
- Following lunch, continue on for your guided walking tours on foot

City Orientation Tour (WorldStrides led)

Learn how to get around this Andalusian capital built on the banks of the Guadalquivir River, while appreciating its historical significance. On this tour, you'll learn how to make your way to the hotel and study center - *no entrances included*

Plaza de España

The Plaza de España is a spectacle of light and majesty. Framed in the María Luisa Park, this plaza was designed by the great Seville architect Anibal González as an emblematic space for the 1929 Ibero-American Expo – *guided, no entrances required, whisper headsets included*

University of Seville

the Old Tobacco Factory, now the seat of the Universidad de Sevilla, is a stone building constructed during the 18th century and housed the very first tobacco factory established in Europe. It is one of the most splendid examples of industrial architecture during the ancient Regime – *guided, no entrances required, whisper headsets included*

- Continue to the Barrio de Santa Cruz

Barrio de Santa Cruz

On this guided tour of Barrio Santa Cruz, you will see the Patio de Banderas (public square located outside the Reales Alcazares), tour the medieval Judería (Jewish Quarter), see the statue of Don Juan Tenorio, and see the ruins of a Roman aqueduct all while listening to tales and legends of the plazas and streets - *guided, no entrances required, whisper headsets included.*

- Return to accommodation on your own via public transportation.
- Dinner on own. Remainder of the evening is free.

March 12 | Seville

Tuesday

Meals Included

Breakfast

Seville Accommodations

[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) or similar (3 of 6)

- Walk to class on your own
- Class (1 hour of classroom space and AV included)
- Following class, free time for lunch on own
- Meet WorldStrides local staff and your guide and depart on foot.

The Real Alcázar de Sevilla

The Real Alcázar de Sevilla served as a royal palace for Moorish kings who occupied Spain and is known for its breathtaking palaces, gardens and walls – *guided, entrance included, whisper headsets included*

The Cathedral

Enjoy a tour of the Cathedral of Seville. Known for being the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, the Seville Cathedral (Catedral de Santa Maria de la Sede) and its bell tower (La Giralda) took over a century to build and serves as the burial site of Christopher Columbus and his son – *guided, entrance included, whisper headsets included*

- Return to your accommodation via public transportation. Enjoy a free evening with dinner on own.

March 13 | Day trip to Cordoba

Wednesday

Meals Included
Breakfast

Seville Accommodations
[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) (4 of 6)

- Make your way to today’s engagements –*Full day local staff and private transportation included.*

Cordoba Walking Tour

Cordoba was once home to populations of Romans, Muslims, Christians and Jews, often in overlapping combinations. Each of these groups left visible imprints upon the city, and students will be able to identify their respective influences. Undoubtedly the most striking example of a culture’s imprint upon Cordoba is the gigantic Mosque, which testifies to the importance of this city during the Muslim era and is so huge as to make the Christian cathedral housed within its walls appear as almost an afterthought – *guided, entrance fees to Cathedral-Mosque and Synagogue and headsets included*

- Break for lunch on own
- Free time to explore Cordoba
- Return to Seville and enjoy the remainder of the evening free with dinner

March 14 | Seville

Thursday

Meals Included
Breakfast

Seville Accommodations
[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) or similar (5 of 6)

- Meet in the hotel meeting space for class

Guest Lecture

*Arranged by WorldStrides Custom Programs
2 hours of classroom space and AV included*

- Free time for lunch on own
- Meet your WorldStrides local staff and board your coach for Italica

Italica Roman Ruins

The Roman amphitheatre of Italica is a ruined Roman amphitheatre situated in the Roman settlement of Italica, present-day Santiponce, in Andalusia, Spain - *guided, entrance included, headset included*

Setas de Seville

Setas de Sevilla or Las Setas, initially titled Metropol Parasol, is a wooden structure located at La Encarnación square in the old quarter of Seville, Spain. It was designed by the German architect Jürgen Mayer and completed in April 2011 - *entrance to Setas viewpoint included, self-guided*

- Return to your hotel

March 15 | Seville

Friday

Meals Included
Breakfast

Seville Accommodations
[Hotel NH Sevilla Plaza de Armas](#) or similar (6 of 6)

- Walk to class on your own
- Class (1 hour of classroom space and AV included)
- Free afternoon with lunch on own
- In the evening, meet in the hotel lobby and walk to the flamenco show

Flamenco

Watch a Flamenco performance and appreciate the traditional Spanish folk music and dance that originated in the Andalucía region around 500 years ago! – *admission included*

- Return to hotel

March 16 | Madrid

Saturday

Meals Included

Breakfast

Dinner

Madrid Accommodations

[Hotel NH Zubano](#) or similar (1 of 2)

- Check out of hotel
- Board coach and transfer to Madrid
- Check-in to hotel
- In the evening, walk to dinner
- **Farewell Dinner**
- Return to hotel

March 17 | Madrid

Sunday

Meals Included

Breakfast

- Check out of your accommodations.
- At the most common departure time of all participants, transfer to the airport – *Local staff and private transportation included.*
- Flights return home – *Arranged by participant*