

LA BUENA VIDA

SAVOR THE GOOD LIFE IN

SPAIN



Avanti[®]
Destinations



GETTING TO SPAIN

Visitors from the North America can travel to and from Spain with relative ease. Through a decent selection of direct flight options operated by popular carriers like Delta, United, and American Airlines, it is convenient to fly into Madrid or Barcelona from several major US cities including New York, Atlanta, Dallas, and Miami. For travelers who are flying from other countries within Europe like France or the UK, Spain's international airports enjoy excellent year-round connections with many countries.





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INTRODUCTION
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FROM FIESTAS TO FLAMENCO, SPAIN BECKONS...

Bordered by the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Pyrenees Mountains, Spain is a must-visit destination that delivers a potent blend of multi-cultural experiences, rich history, artistic excellence, heterogeneous landscapes, and top-notch cuisine — the result of which manages to elude simple definition primarily due to its staggering diversity. Not surprising really, since Spain perfectly encapsulates what a hot-blooded 'Mediterranean European' nation should be: exotic, historic, sophisticated, passionate, and irresistible!



Blessed with beautiful natural environments both inland and on the coast, Spain is filled with rolling plains, majestic mountain ranges, dramatic terrain, spectacular beaches, and idyllic countryside. Spain's fascinating past — informed by the legacy and heritage inherited from a blend of Greek, Roman, and Moorish influences — along with the Spanish penchant for living life to the fullest are big factors why the country will continue to draw travelers to its shores for many centuries to come. To put it simply, Spain has what it takes to make even the most casual traveler pack a bag and make a beeline towards the sunny embrace of España!





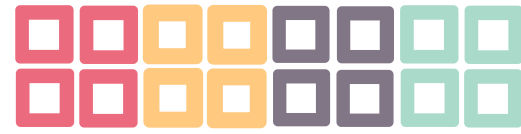
GETTING AROUND BY RAIL & SELF-DRIVE

Like the majority of high-ticket tourist draws in mainland Europe, rail is an essential transit option in Spain. The country's public transport system has several kinds of services, including world-leading high-speed trains and century-old suburban trams. Spain's almost 2,000-mile Alta Velocidad Española (AVE) network operated by Renfe allows passengers to move between major cities such as Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, Valencia, and Málaga quicker than they could fly.

Renfe's partnership with SNCF delivers direct high-speed connections to 21 cities between Spain and France. Travelers can experience a wide range of scenery, from the Iberian Peninsula to the French countryside without ever changing trains! But of course, travelers who wish to experience the fullest extent of the beauty of the Spanish landscape can rely on available self-drive options. Driving is a superb way to discover España's hidden gems at their own pace.



SEASONALITY



With its location in the European continent and proximity to the Mediterranean Sea, Spain's prevailing climate is pretty mild almost year-round — apart from the summer (June to August) when the average temperature significantly rises. The country typically enjoys around 320 days of sunshine every year. For most types of travelers, the best time to visit España is during the spring months (March to May) or during the fall season (September to November). These travel windows offer the best combination of fantastic weather, noticeably lighter tourist volume, competitive prices, and

a cornucopia of ongoing events and cultural activities to be enjoyed. For fans of sun-kissed beach adventures, it can be worth your while to brave the hot and dry atmosphere as well as the massive crowds of the peak travel season just to dip your toes in the glistening waters or to enjoy a glass of sangria while feeling the powdery sand on your feet. Do take note that during the off-season months between November to February, it's not unheard of to find establishments that have shortened business hours or even completely closed.



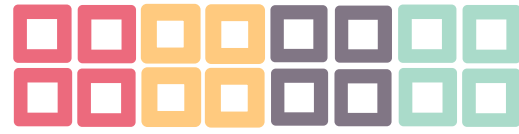


DELICIOUS CUISINE

It's a massive understatement to say that food and drink are national obsessions in Spain — commanding levels of fervor equal to or even greater than what is devoted to family or fútbol. The inherent love for good wine and flavorful food are a huge part of Spanish culture, as evidenced by the fact that restaurant hopping in pursuit of delicious tapas or casually enjoying a bottle of Rioja wine with friends are staples of a typical night out in Spain. But in classic Spanish

fashion, gastronomic exploits are done at a very relaxed pace — with leisurely afternoon siestas and notoriously late dinners being the norm. Although leaning heavily on traditional recipes that have been handed down through generations, Spanish cooking does not shy away from experimentation and innovation.

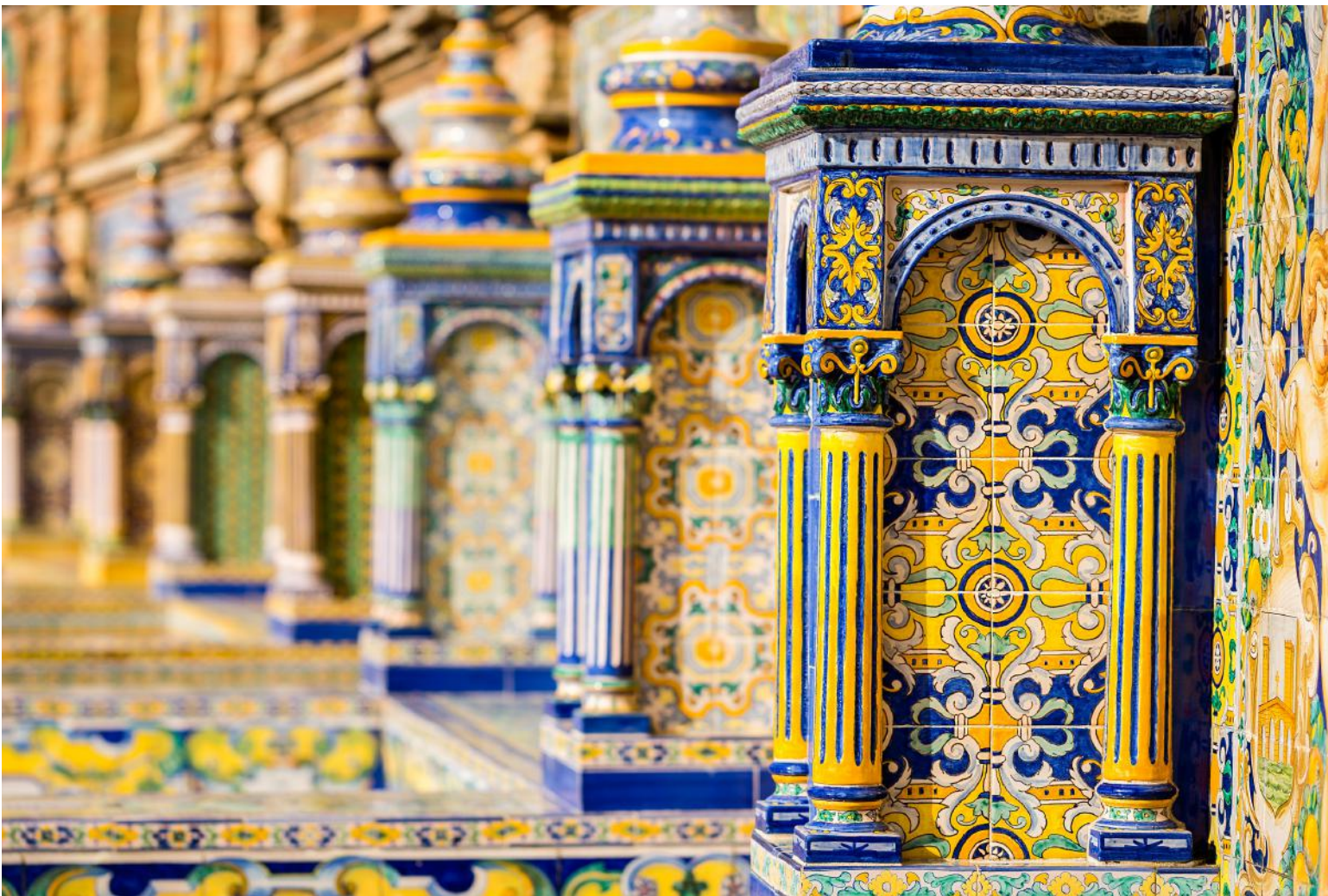




TIMELESS ART

From Baroque to Cubism to Surrealism, Spanish art rivals the best in the world. The masterworks found in Spain possess a timeless quality that manages to both inspire us and make us question what we know at the same time. A culture aficionado's paradise, Spain has the second most UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the world — popular attractions that contain a variety of influences that can be seen in everything from the striking architecture to the extensive museum

collections. Spain's past, littered with remnants from the Roman and Moorish occupations, has certainly molded its artistic future. What other country could produce numerous highly fastidious creatives such as Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and Antoni Gaudí? In Spain, grand monuments of history coexist alongside daring architectural creations and artworks that transcend time and fleeting fashions.





RECOMMENDED VACATIONS

BEST OF SPAIN

9 DAYS
8 NIGHTS

BARCELONA - MADRID - SEVILLE

Witness firsthand the fiery passion that the Spaniards have for life on this epic rail journey that takes you through some of Spain's most beloved cities. Start in colorful and eclectic Barcelona — a popular destination that is home to some of the country's most celebrated architectural works, innovative cuisine, and lively nightlife. Proceed to Madrid — Spain's capital city — where

renowned museums, unique neighborhoods, fascinating history, and mouth-watering food and drink options are sure to impress. End the trip in Andalucía's Seville — a romantic whitewashed city known for its authentic and flavorful tapas selections, expressive flamenco shows, and diverse mix of Moorish and Gothic architecture. Throughout this itinerary, you will be deliciously immersed in Spain's richly diverse culture.

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SPANISH HERITAGE

7 DAYS
6 NIGHTS

MADRID - TOLEDO - SEGOVIA

This spectacular self-drive journey takes you through notable destinations in central Spain, Castile-La Mancha, and Castile-León. Compressed into a single well-crafted itinerary, you'll get to visit prominent attractions, explore various UNESCO World Heritage Sites, take in stunning scenery, and learn about Spain's fascinating melting pot culture.

LEARN MORE!



CULTURE & TRADITION

9 DAYS
8 NIGHTS

MADRID - CORDOBA - SEVILLE - GRANADA

Combine the numerous cultural offerings of the Spanish capital with the popular attractions of three brilliant cities in the Andalucían region: Seville, Córdoba, and Granada. Hop aboard the train to embark on a scenic trip that stitches together historic sites, captivating traditions, unforgettable vistas, and more into one expertly curated vacation!

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RECOMMENDED HOTELS

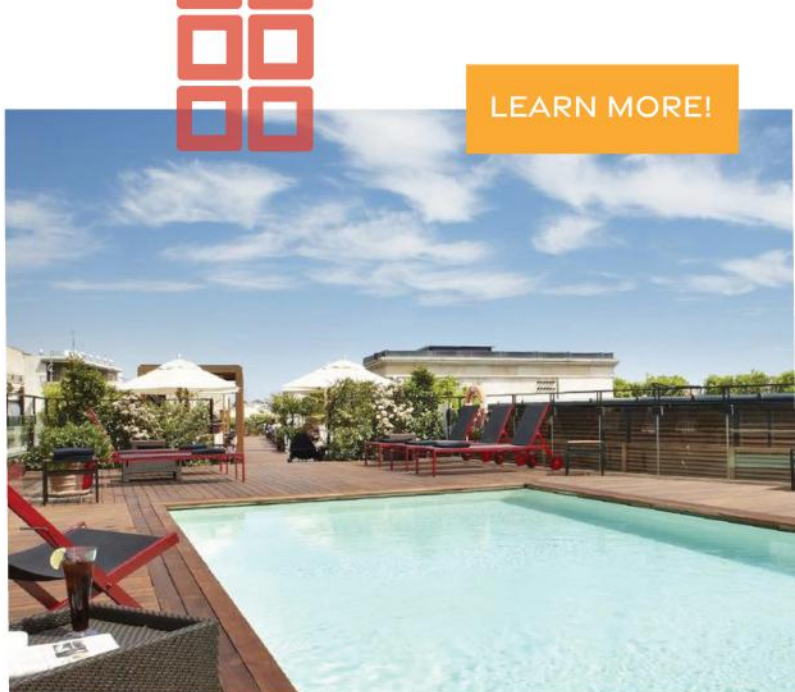
BARCELONA

Once the stomping grounds of artistic giants like Gaudí, Picasso, Miró, and Dalí, the beautiful seaside city of Barcelona is a cosmopolitan hotbed of architectural treasures, boundless culture and art, culinary bravura, passionate soccer fans, and vibrant nightlife. Home to world-famous attractions such as the magnificent Sagrada Família, the magical Park Güell, the bustling Mercado de La Boqueria, and the tree lined La Rambla, the captivating Catalan capital is an economic and cultural powerhouse that draws in millions of visitors annually.



HOTEL 1898

This luxurious and historic 19th-century accommodation is situated on the lively Las Rambla street in Barcelona's famed Gothic Quarter. Guests staying at the property are within walking distance of Rambla de les Flors — the famous flower-lined street — and have access to sweeping views of the city's beautiful skyline from the hotel's terrace.

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THE CORNER HOTEL

Located in the center of L'Eixample — one of Barcelona's most distinct traditional neighborhoods thanks to its geometrical grid pattern — this chic hotel is surrounded by the area's numerous restaurants, bars, shopping establishments, museums, and popular attractions like Casa Milà which was famously designed by Antoni Gaudí.

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HOTEL NERI

Set in the heart of the old Jewish Quarter, Hotel Neri is a chic boutique accommodation that is built inside two aristocratic structures — one of which is a medieval palace that dates to the 12th-century. The property is conveniently near Barcelona Cathedral and is just a short distance away from Las Ramblas, La Boqueria Market, and Museu Picasso.

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BARCELONA EXPERIENCES



TRADITIONAL PAELLA COOKING CLASS WITH MARKET VISIT

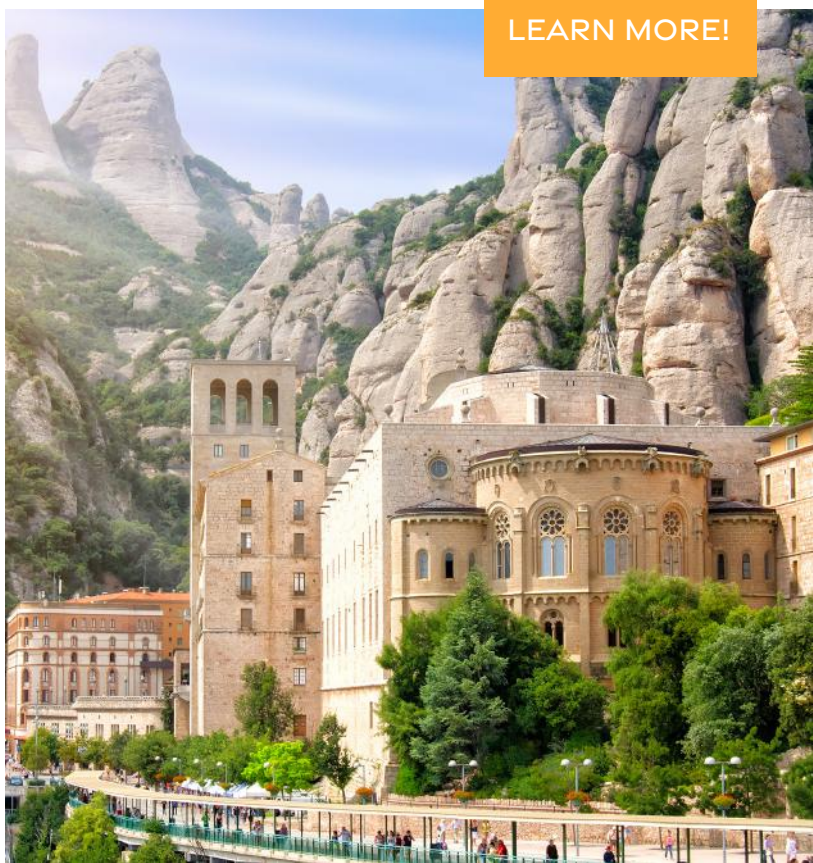
Experience an immersive cooking class where you'll get to roll up your sleeves and learn how to cook Paella — a very popular Spanish dish that's heavily associated with the region of Valencia. Begin with a visit to a local market to source some of the ingredients that you'll use. Learn more about Spanish cuisine while following the chef's instructions on creating this fragrant rice-based dish that's chock-full of spices, seafood, meat, and vegetables.

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MONTSERRAT & WINE CELLAR TOUR WITH LUNCH

Just a short drive from Barcelona, at an altitude of over 4,000 feet, lies Montserrat — a monument and a sanctuary that dates to the 12th-century. Named after the multi-peaked mountain range near Catalonia's cosmopolitan capital. Montserrat is home to the Royal Basilica. After admiring the Virgen Moreneta and exploring the monastery, head out to the Penedès wine region and the famed Cava route. Stop at a local winery for lunch and a wine tasting.



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HIGHLIGHTS TOUR OF BARCELONA WITH DRIVER & GUIDE

See the fantastic creations of Antoni Gaudí — one of the world's most famous architects — on a private tour of Barcelona. Stroll along the magical pathways and colorful mosaic benches of Park Güell where you can take in fabulous views of the Catalan capital and the Mediterranean Sea. Visit the iconic Sagrada Família — the basilica that Gaudí turned into his Gothic and Art Nouveau magnum opus, which is still being constructed to this day.



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RECOMMENDED HOTELS

MADRID

The metropolitan capital of Spain has long been a beacon and home to many prominent thinkers, writers, artists, movers, and shakers. To this day, Madrid remains a vibrant hub and patron for the arts — an established treasure trove of European masterpieces including renowned works by Goya, Velázquez, Picasso, Dalí, and more. Madrid is replete with cultural and historic attractions characterized by elegant boulevards and manicured green spaces. Madrid's culinary scene is a marriage of traditional hearty fare and forward-thinking innovation — must-try cuisine that features local ingredients and generational recipes that would satisfy even the pickiest palates.



HOTEL HI0 VILLA DE LA REINA

Just a brief walk away from Gran Vía metro station, this boutique accommodation housed within a restored early 20th-century building offers excellent proximity to Madrid's top attractions including Museo Nacional del Prado and Palacio Real de Madrid. The 4-star hotel features elegant rooms that combine classical touches with modern sensibilities.

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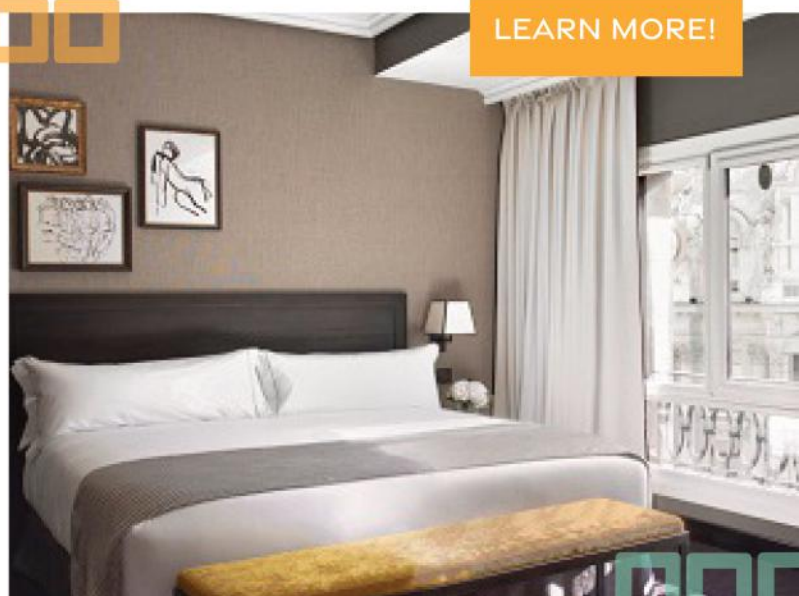
HOTEL PALACIO SAN MARTIN

Facing the Descalzas Reales Convent — one of the most significant monuments in Madrid — Hotel Palacio San Martin naturally exudes refined glamor that compliments its storied surroundings. The renovated 19th-century building is conveniently located near the Opera and Callao subway stops and features excellent amenities including a restaurant with a terrace.

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THE PRINCIPAL

Situated in a prime location in the historic city center, this upscale 5-star accommodation delivers one of Madrid's best views through its well-renowned rooftop establishments such as La Terraza and Ático. The Principal features elegant rooms decked with modern amenities and offers ideal proximity to the city's most popular attractions.

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MADRID EXPERIENCES



TOLEDO TOUR FROM MADRID

Once the ancient capital of Spain, the historic city of Toledo is now a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site that is known for its blend of medieval Arab, Christian, and Jewish culture. Rising above the plains of Castilla-La Mancha, the walled city has magnificent examples of Roman, Moorish, and Castilian architecture. Check out popular attractions like the city's Moorish-style gates, Plaza de Zocodover, and the Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF MADRID WITH DRIVER & GUIDE

Enjoy a guided tour of the highlights of Spain's capital city. Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the portico-lined Plaza Mayor before heading off to one of the best museums in the world: Museo del Prado. Marvel at the museum's impressive repository of European art, including paintings done by Spanish masters such as Goya and Velázquez. Proceed to the Royal Palace of Madrid where you can admire its many resplendent features.



TAPAS WALKING TOUR

It has been speculated that tapas can trace its beginnings back to the days when medieval kings held power over the Iberian Peninsula. Despite the numerous accounts of its origins, it's undeniable that the ritual of enjoying small snacks with drinks has long been an integral element of Spanish gastronomy. This guided tour lets you visit one of Madrid's oldest taverns to try authentic tapas while learning more about the local culinary history.





RECOMMENDED HOTELS

SEVILLE

The picturesque capital of Andalucía is famous for its wonderful tapas, intoxicating sangria, romantic atmosphere, and the captivating dance known as flamenco. Situated in a superb location, Seville carries a significant amount of cultural and architectural heritage which is evident throughout the city's streets. Wander through the Old Town and discover all the hidden treasures that this city has to offer. Notable attractions include the Gothic Catedral de Sevilla, Plaza de España, Mercado de Triana, and Real Alcázar de Sevilla—a stunning 18th-century Moorish palace.



HOSPES LAS CASAS DEL RAY DE BAEZA

Tucked away in the narrow corridors of Seville's Old Town lies this 4-star hotel built inside a charming 18th-century building with a tree-lined courtyard. Hospes Las Casas del Rey de Baeza features chic rooms, stone floors, balconies, and elegant décor. Amenities include a rooftop pool, a poolside tapas bar, and an Andalusian restaurant.



CASAS DE LA JUDERIA

Housed inside several traditional buildings connected by various passageways and patios, this elegant 4-star property is within walking distance of Catedral de Sevilla and the famous Royal Alcázar of Seville. The hotel features well-decorated rooms and offers amenities like a formal piano bar, an outdoor rooftop pool, and tranquil courtyards.



HIO CASA DE LA PLATA

This relatively new 4-star accommodation is ideally located in Seville's historic city center — surrounded by numerous shops and situated near popular attractions like the Royal Alcázar of Seville and Catedral de Sevilla. The hotel features elegant rooms with ornately tiled accent walls that were inspired by the city's stately homes.

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SEVILLE EXPERIENCES



WALKING TOUR WITH CATHEDRAL & ALCAZAR

Make your way through some of Seville's top attractions including Barrio de Santa Cruz, the Jewish Quarter, the Cathedral, and the famous Real Alcázar. During your trip to the Alcázar, saunter through the magnificent gardens which were famously depicted in the 5th season of Game of Thrones. Admire the intricate details of the Moorish architecture and the various garden elements such as the tiles, water channels, and fountains.

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HORSE CARRIAGE RIDE & RIVER CRUISE

Experience two fantastic methods of traveling from one Seville attraction to the next — by horse-drawn coach and then by boat! Hop aboard a traditional carriage and enjoy the smooth ride while checking out must-visit sites like the Palace of San Telmo and the Tower of Gold. Join one of the river cruises for a relaxing sightseeing tour and take in amazing views of the city while gliding along the River Guadalquivir.



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FLAMENCO & TAPAS DINNER EXPERIENCE

Combine one of Spain's most exciting kinetic art forms with the country's most prevalent culinary tradition into one unforgettable affair! Sample a variety of delectable tapas offerings at a Flamenco restaurant while watching dancers execute hypnotic rhythmic moves that evoke the fiery passion and vibrant energy of Andalucía's Romani subculture. This intoxicating confluence of food, drink, music, and dance is truly worth experiencing.



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