



ECAA

Electrical Contractors
Association of Alberta

2024 Out of Country Convention April 2nd -18th 2024

Spain & Portugal

17 DAYS • 23 MEALS



Barcelona, Spain – Porto, Portugal
April 2nd – 18th, 2024 (17 Days / 16 Nights)
Depart Alberta: April 2nd, 2024 - Tour Begins April 3rd
Meals 23 (15 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 6 Dinners)

16 Nights: \$6479 /person

Double occupancy | CAD

Note: Based on 32 – 37 per coach

Overview...

Embark on an Iberian adventure as you take in medieval architecture, idyllic landscapes and delectable cuisine. Explore Lisbon, Europe's second oldest capital city. View Antonio Gaudí's architectural masterpieces, including La Sagrada Familia. Become part of an authentic "paella experience." Enjoy the fascinating art form that is Flamenco. Visit the exotic and expansive Alhambra Palace. Marvel at the timeless masterpieces at the Prado Museum. Visit the Jeronimos Monastery in Belém. Explore Spain and Portugal's culture and history set against a backdrop of sunny Mediterranean shores and grand mountain ranges, ending in the beautiful port city of Porto.



Day 1 (April 2nd, 2024)

Overnight Flight

You are on your way to a colorful cultural adventure featuring the best of Spain and Portugal.

NETWORK
Travel.ca

Day 2 (April 3rd, 2024)

Barcelona, Spain – Tour Begins

Welcome to Spain. Begin your journey in the vibrant city of Barcelona. Tonight, meet your fellow travelers and enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Meal: Welcome Dinner - **Hotel:** H10 Casanova



Day 3

Barcelona

Start your morning with a walk from your hotel to some of Barcelona's main sights, getting to experience this amazing city as it was meant to be explored - on foot. After some free time for lunch on your own, embark on a panoramic tour of Barcelona, showcasing the Columbus Monument, Parc de Montjuic, and Antoni Gaudi's Batllo House and Casa Mila building (UNESCO). A local expert will accompany you on a visit to the awe-inspiring La Sagrada Familia* (UNESCO), considered to be the most famous of Gaudi's work. Work on the basilica began in 1882, and it is scheduled to be completed in 2026 on the 100th anniversary of the architect's death.

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** H10 Casanova



Day 4

Barcelona - Peniscola - Valencia

Today, say goodbye to Barcelona! On your way to Valencia, stop in beautiful Peniscola where you will enjoy free time to explore on your own. Known as the "City in the Sea," this fortified town and its Knights Templar Castle dating back to the 13th century are a little hidden gem. End your day in Valencia, a treasure trove of Roman and Arabic architecture, surrounded by citrus groves. Perhaps you will join an optional tour that explores the myths and legends of Valencia.

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** Sh Valencia Palace



Day 5

Valencia - Albufera - Valencia

On a panoramic tour of Valencia, see the City of Arts and Sciences – an ultramodern educational institution. Explore the city's old town on foot, discovering the history with a local expert. View the ornate Serranos Towers before wandering through the bustling central market, where you'll shop side-by-side with the locals. Enjoy time on your own to explore as you wish. Travel to Albufera, the area where paella first originated. Enjoy a short boat ride on the canals surrounding the rice field plantations and later enjoy a paella-making demonstration and a delicious paella lunch.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch - **Hotel:** Sh Valencia Palace



Day 6

Valencia - Granada

Today you'll make your way to Granada, the last great capital of the Moors in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs in 1492. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner - **Hotel:** Catalonia Granada

Day 7

Granada - Seville

This morning, join a local expert for a tour of the world-famous Alhambra** (UNESCO,) a stone fortress overlooking the entire city and serving as a mesmerizing example of Islamic architecture. End your day in Seville, considered Spain's "cultural capital."

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Hotel: Barcelo Seville Renacimiento



Day 8

Seville

Decide how you see Seville because it's your choice! Walk the Santa Cruz Quarter with an expert guide, admiring the orange trees and white-washed houses before continuing to the Plaza de España -OR- see the city from a different perspective with a boat ride on the Guadalquivir River, drifting by timeworn bridges and towers. Later, visit the Seville Cathedral*** (UNESCO) – the largest gothic church in the world – and see Columbus' tomb and the Giralda Bell Tower. End the afternoon with a light tapas lunch, overlooking the cathedral. This evening, enjoy an authentic flamenco show (UNESCO) featuring Seville's most famous traditions. **Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch - **Hotel:** Barcelo Seville Renacimiento



Day 9

Seville - Cordoba - Madrid

Travel to the extraordinary Moorish city of Cordoba. Upon arrival, embark on a walking tour of La Mezquita (UNESCO), an 8th-century mosque that was converted into the city's cathedral in the 16th century. Continue your exploration of Cordoba in the city's well-preserved and historical Jewish Quarter. Then, board the AVE high-speed train to Spain's capital city, Madrid! Arrive in the late afternoon and enjoy some free time to rest or venture out and explore on your own. (Luggage will be transported by coach)

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** H10 Puerta De Alcalá

High Speed Train Experience

Cordoba - Madrid



Day 10

Madrid (2 Nights)



During a locally guided panoramic 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. Join a local expert to explore the priceless masterpieces of the Prado Museum, which opened in 1819 and boasts some of the world's finest collections of art by masters such as Velazquez and Goya. Your afternoon will be free to explore this fascinating city further.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner - **Hotel:** H10 Puerta De Alcalá

Day 11

Madrid - Toledo - Elvas, Portugal

Travel to Toledo (UNESCO), the capital of medieval Spain until 1560. Embark on a comprehensive tour, highlighting the magnificent Gothic cathedral. Then, visit the Church of Santo Tome and view El Greco's masterpiece painting, The Burial of Count Orgaz. Bid Spain adios and cross the border into Portugal, arriving in the off-the-beaten-path town of Elvas, a garrison town recognized as a World Heritage site.

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** Vila Gale Collection Elvas



Day 12

Elvas - Lisbon

After enjoying a relaxing morning in Elvas, make your way to Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. Spend your day uncovering legends of the country's past, including visits to Jeronimo's Monastery (UNESCO), the Monument to the Discoveries, and the Tower of Belém (UNESCO). Enjoy time in the evening to settle into your new home for the next 3 nights. **Meals:** Breakfast - **Hotel:** Altis Grand Hotel

Day 13

Lisbon

The day is yours! Discover the capital city on your own. Consider tasting the city's mouth-watering cuisine or taking the historic tram to the vibrant Alfama district. Perhaps you will go on an optional excursion to the Portuguese Riviera, visiting the picturesque towns of Cascais and Sintra.

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** Altis Grand Hotel



Day 14

Lisbon – Estoril Coast - Lisbon



Portugal's Riviera is known as the "playground of kings." Many historical and world leaders have chosen this resort area as their home, creating a sophisticated atmosphere. On this fascinating tour you will visit the charming village of Sintra, a UNESCO site, with its fairy-tale palaces. Later, a drive through Sintra's mountain range brings you to Cabo da Roca, the westernmost point in continental Europe. Travel along the rugged coastline, passing Guincho beach, a favorite spot for wind surfers, to cosmopolitan Cascais and its captivating bay, beautifully situated overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. On your return, travel along the coastline dotted with Moorish style forts and

castles to beautiful Estoril, known for its luxurious homes and famous casino and gardens.

Meal: Breakfast - **Hotel:** Altis Grand Hotel

Day 15

Lisbon - Porto

After breakfast you depart north to Porto, the city famous for its port wines. On the way make a short stop in Coimbra. Coimbra is known as the country's former capital, home to a medieval old town and the historic University of Coimbra built on the grounds of a former palace and one of the oldest on the planet. Upon arrival in Porto your day is yours to explore the many shops, cafes, restaurants and wine / port experiences along the riverfront.

Meals: Breakfast - **Hotel:** Turim Porto Hotel



Day 16

Porto

Get to know this captivating city with a walking tour led by a local expert. Take in the grandeur of Praça da Liberdade Square, Sao Bento Train Station and its iconic azulejo tiles, and a visit to the Palácio da Bolsa, the Stock Exchange Palace, to see the legendary "Arab Room." Meet a local chocolate maker at a family-run chocolatier store that has been in business for almost 100 years. Cross the Dom Luis I bridge into the neighboring city of Vila Nova de Gaia where we will visit a wine cellar for a tour and tasting. Take advantage of an afternoon at leisure – maybe heading into the Livraria Lello, considered to be one of the most beautiful bookstores in the world or visiting a local restaurant to try the famous local delicacy, the "francesinha" sandwich. Tonight, you'll find out why Porto is regarded as a culinary hotspot during dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast & Farewell Dinner - **Hotel:** Turim Porto Hotel



Day 17

Porto – Tour Ends

After breakfast you will be transported to the airport for your departure. Return home with memories of a beautiful land and a diverse cultural heritage. **Meal:** Breakfast

Private Tour Includes:

17 Days / 15 Nights accommodations 4 - 4.5 star
23 Meals: 15 Breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners
Welcome group dinner in Barcelona
Deluxe air-conditioned coach transportation / English speaking tour guide
High Speed Train experience from Cordoba to Madrid (luggage shipped via coach)
Round trip airport transfers in Barcelona and Porto
World UNESCO sites as per itinerary – entry fees / passes included
Boat ride in Valencia
Paella making demonstration with lunch
Seville: Choice of Santa Cruz Quarter Tour OR Boat Ride on the Guadalquivir River
Port Cellar tour / tasting in Porto
Farewell dinner in Porto
All taxes, baggage handling (1 bag per guest)
Fully escorted by Rick MacSwain - Network Travel

Tour Excludes:

International flights, insurance, meals not included in itinerary and gratuities.

Please Note:

International flights from Alberta are available at a negotiated group rate.

Hotels may be substituted for same or better quality depending on group size.

Passport & Visa: Passports must be valid up to three months beyond the travel date.

A visa is not required for Canadian Citizens. Proof of the Covid Vaccine is NOT required at time when this document was created.

**Pricing: \$6479 CAD per person based on double sharing
(32 – 37 guests per coach)**

Payment Schedule

1st Deposit: \$700 due at time of booking Non-Refundable

2nd Deposit: \$3000 due August 16th, 2023

Final Balance: January 10th, 2024

Contact Network Travel:

Jackie Abello E: JAbello@NetworkTravel.ca

P: 780-454-4933 ext.: 103 – Toll Free: 866-604-8714 ext.: 103



Optional Pre / Post Extensions

Pre and post deviations to any destination are possible. If you would like a few nights in Barcelona to relax prior to the tour or maybe extend your vacation to the tropical Portugal island of Madeira just off the coast of Morocco, West Africa. Other parts of Europe or Africa before or after the tour are also possible. Network Travel can assist and manage your flights to coincide with your itinerary.