

SPAIN OPTIONAL TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

(For A-O Trips Website)

The following optional tours are available exclusively to A-O Trips participants for purchase through Gavel International.

A-O Trips Exclusive Optional Tours purchased in advance will be charged in US Dollars at the time of booking. (The charge will appear on your credit card statement as A-O Trips)

To guarantee your participation in the exclusive optional tours, we suggest you register ASAP as some tours may sell out quickly and will no longer be available.

All reservations should be made at least **31 days** in advance of the date on which you depart for Spain. If the minimum number of participants for a tour is not met, the tour will be cancelled, and you will be notified and refunded for the tour. While we will try to accommodate late reservations, all tours are based on availability.

You may cancel or change your selections up to **31 days prior** to your group departure. At **30 days prior** to your group departure, tours will be **NON-REFUNDABLE**. (You can transfer your tour to someone else within the same group but please communicate this to the A-O Trips Travel Desk at Gavel International.)

You will receive an immediate confirmation via email of your purchase once it is completed. If you do not receive this confirmation, the booking process is not completed, so you will need to submit your tour purchase again. Please contact the A-O Trips Travel Desk at Gavel International if you need assistance purchasing optional tours.

Optional tours are subject to cancellation if minimum numbers to operate the tour are not met. If tours are cancelled, a full refund will be credited to your credit card, and you will be notified via email.

Please note that tour times are subject to change.

All tips and gratuities are included. Additional tips and gratuities are not necessary but can be given at your own discretion.

MADRID OPTIONAL TOURS

THE PRADO MUSEUM: A JOURNEY THROUGH ARTISTIC GENIUS – AVAILABLE DAY 2 AND DAY 3

Step into a world where the masters of European art come to life. The Prado Museum, one of the world's premier art institutions, invites you to lose yourself in a collection spanning centuries—from the haunting realism of Goya to the mesmerizing elegance of Velázquez's *Las Meninas*. With expert guides illuminating the stories behind each canvas, this experience is a must for anyone with a passion for beauty, history, or the power of human creativity.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen

INCLUSIONS: Inside guided tour of Prado Museum, local guide(s), headsets for each guest.

EXCLUSIONS: No lunch provided.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: This tour is not recommended for those with mobility issues. Walking for 3 hours is required. Photographs are not allowed inside the museum.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild – Moderate (walking to/from the hotel/museum is required)

PRICE: USD \$57.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 / MAXIMUM 20

Day 2 tentative timing: 3 hours: 30 min each way walking to the museum and 2-hour museum visit

2:00 PM	Departure walking from the hotel to the Prado Museum
2:30 PM	Entrance for visit
4:30 PM	Departure back to the hotel
5:00 PM	Arrival to the hotel

Day 3 tentative timing: 3 hours: 30 min each way walking to the museum and 2-hour museum visit

10:00 AM	Departure walking from the hotel to the Prado Museum
10:30 AM	Entrance for visit
12:30 PM	Departure back to the hotel
1:00 PM	Arrival to the hotel



RETIRO PARK BIKE TOUR: PEDAL THROUGH MADRID'S GREEN JEWEL – AVAILABLE DAY 2 AND DAY 3

Glide through the leafy avenues and tranquil corners of Parque del Retiro on a relaxed bike ride through one of Madrid's most enchanting spaces. Pass shimmering lakes, rose gardens, and whimsical architecture like the Crystal Palace as you soak in the city's vibrant yet serene atmosphere. A refreshing and active way to see Madrid from a new perspective.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Rental bikes, local guide(s).

EXCLUSIONS: No lunch provided.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Must know how to ride a bike, some walking is required. A signed waiver is required for this activity.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild – Moderate (walking to/from the hotel/park is required, biking is on flat ground and is not strenuous)

PRICE: USD \$98 per person

MINIMUM 15 / MAXIMUM 30



Day 2 tentative timing: 2 hours

3:30 PM Departure walking to the Retiro Park

3:45 PM Arrival at the bicycles, start biking around Retiro Park

5:15 PM End of the tour and walking back to the hotel

5:30 PM Arrival at the hotel



Day 3 tentative timing: 2 hours

9:30 AM Departure walking to the Retiro Park

9:45 AM Arrival at the bicycles, start biking around Retiro Park

11:15 AM End of the tour and walking back to the hotel

11:30 AM Arrival at the hotel

MADRID FOOD AND WINE WALKING TOUR: A CULINARY STROLL THROUGH TRADITION – AVAILABLE DAY 2 AND DAY 3

Immerse in the culture of Madrid with this flavorful walking tour. From churros and chocolate at the world-famous San Ginés café to savory calamari sandwiches and a selection of wine and vermouth, every bite tells a story. Along the way, stroll through bustling markets and local gems with a knowledgeable guide who brings each dish—and neighborhood—to life.



WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Walking tour with approximately six stops to include tastings of local delicacies and drinks. Includes wine at two stops, local guide(s), headsets for each guest. *Local delicacies may vary by tour. Some examples include: Vermouth, Spanish Omelet, Gilda (spicy skewer of olives and anchovies), calamari sandwich (1/2 sandwich pp) with a drink, ham & cheese croquettes, nougat store, churros and chocolate and stop at saffron shop.*

EXCLUSIONS: No lunch provided

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Guest with food allergies will need to let us know well in advance.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild – Moderate (walking is required on this tour, some surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline)

PRICE: USD \$134.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 / **MAXIMUM** 30 (2 guides, 1 every 15 people)

Day 2 tentative timing: 2 hours

3:30 PM Departure from the hotel walking

5:30 PM End of Tour – option of walking back to the hotel or time to explore the city center on their own

Day 3 tentative timing: 2 hours

12:30 PM Departure from the hotel walking

2:30 PM End of Tour – option of walking back to the hotel or time to explore the city center on their own

TOLEDO DAY TRIP: SPAIN’S TIMELESS HILLTOP TREASURE – AVAILABLE DAY 3

Step into the past with a full-day excursion to the ancient walled city of Toledo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site perched above the Tagus River. Explore its Gothic cathedral, wander the winding streets of the Jewish Quarter, and admire sweeping views of the countryside. With its mix of Christian, Jewish, and Muslim influences, Toledo is a cultural mosaic that captures Spain’s enduring spirit.



WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Round trip transportation to/from Toledo, local guide(s), 1 bottle of water, and headsets for each guest.

EXCLUSIONS: Lunch is not included

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Please be respectful in the cathedral and wear clothing that covers the shoulders. This tour is not recommended for those who have mobility challenges.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate (guests must take escalators up to the village, there is a lot of walking that is required in Toledo, some surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline.)

PRICE: USD \$152.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 per bus / **MAXIMUM** 60

Tentative timing: 7 hours and 15 minutes

10:00 AM Depart hotel

10:45 AM Rest stop at Galan

11:15 AM Arrive in Toledo – panoramic tour

11:45 AM Arrive at the stairs – take Escalators up

12:00 PM Visit Cathedral and walk through town

1:15 PM Walk to Zocodover Plaza for time at leisure

Free Time for Shopping and lunch

4:00 PM Meet at the meeting point

4:15 PM Departure from Toledo

5:15 PM Arrival back at hotel



BARCELONA OPTIONAL TOURS

GAUDI'S BARCELONA: PARK GÜELL AND ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS – AVAILABLE DAY 6 AND DAY 7

Immerse yourself in the fantastical world of Antoni Gaudí, who is renowned for his innovative, whimsical architecture that influenced the modern art movement and forever changed the character of Barcelona. The tour begins with a scenic drive along Passeig de Gràcia, flanked by the curvaceous facades of Casa Batlló and La Pedrera. Then, explore the dreamlike mosaics and whimsical structures of Park Güell, where vibrant colors and organic forms mirror the creative heartbeat of Barcelona.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip transportation, local guide(s), headsets for each guest, entrance tickets to Park Güell.

EXCLUSIONS: No lunch provided.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: This tour is not recommended for those with mobility challenges.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild – Moderate (walking inside the park is required, some surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline)

PRICE: USD \$85.00 per person

MINIMUM 40 PER BUS / **MAXIMUM** 40



Tentative timing: 3 hours

- 1:00 PM Departure and orientation through the Paseo de Gracia with Modernist houses as introduction to the Art Nouveau period
- 2:00 PM Arrive at the park, walk through its spaces and have free time to explore on your own.
- 3:30 PM Departure back to the hotel
- 4:00 PM Arrival at Hotel



MONTSERRAT MONASTERY: SPIRITUAL MAJESTY AMONG THE PEAKS – AVAILABLE DAY 6

Cradled in the cliffs of Catalonia, the Monastery of Montserrat offers breathtaking views and deep spiritual resonance. Visit the famous Black Madonna, explore the ornate basilica, and listen (on select days) to the hauntingly beautiful boys' choir. This half-day excursion is a serene and soul-stirring escape into Spain's sacred heart.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip transportation, local guide(s), headsets for each guest, visit to the sanctuary and viewing of the Black Madonna and the children's choir (choir is NOT available on Saturday and Sunday).

EXCLUSIONS: Lunch is on own.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Please be respectful in the sanctuary and wear clothing that covers the shoulders (or pack an extra layer or scarf to cover the shoulders). This tour also requires a transfer up the mountain on curved roads which may cause some car sickness for those who are prone to motion sickness.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate (walking in Montserrat is required, most surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline)

PRICE: USD \$175.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 PER BUS/ **MAXIMUM** 60

Tentative timing: 5 hours

10:30 AM	Departure
11:00 AM	Arrival at the rail track
11:45 AM	Arrival at the Abbey and start of the visit
1:00 PM	Boy's Choir (Mon-Fri Only)
1:25 PM	Free time for Lunch
2:45 PM	Departure back to Barcelona
3:30 PM	Arrival at hotel



CODORNIU CELLARS AND CAVA TASTING: BUBBLES AND HERITAGE – AVAILABLE DAY 6 AND DAY 7;

Note on group 1 – only available on Day 6; on group 9 and 11 – only available on Day 7

Uncork the secrets of Catalonia's cava country with a guided tour of Codorníu, one of Spain's most iconic sparkling wine producers. Journey underground through atmospheric cellars lined with millions of aging bottles, then enjoy a tasting of their finest blends paired with local cuisine that perfectly complements the cava's effervescent flavors.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip transportation, local guide(s), headsets for each guest, group lunch, cava (sparkling wine) tasting

EXCLUSIONS: N/A

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Not recommended for those who are claustrophobic as there is an included tour in the underground wine cellars.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild - Moderate (some walking in Codorniu is required, some surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline, steps are required into the cellar)

PRICE: USD \$287.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 PER BUS / **MAXIMUM** 60

Tentative timing: 5 hours

10:30 AM	Departure
11:15 AM	Arrival and visit with tasting
12:30 PM	End of the visit and time at the shop
12:45 PM	Lunch at La Torre de Codorniu
2:30 PM	Departure back to the hotel
3:30 PM	Arrival at hotel



SEASIDE SITGES: A COASTAL DAY OF LEISURE – AVAILABLE DAY 7; Note: on group 9 and 11 will be available Day 6 and Day 7

The charming town of Sitges is a Mediterranean gem known for its vibrant culture, sandy beaches, and artful spirit. From chic fashion to handcrafted treasures, Sitges is a shopper's paradise waiting to be explored. Enjoy free time to wander cobbled streets, explore galleries, savor local cuisine, or simply bask by the sea. A perfect blend of sun, style, and spontaneity.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, and sunscreen.

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip transportation, local guide(s), headsets for each guest.

EXCLUSIONS: No lunch provided.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: N/A

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild – Moderate (walking in Sitges is required, some surfaces will be uneven and may be at an incline)

PRICE: USD \$131.00 per person

MINIMUM 20 PER BUS / **MAXIMUM** 80

Tentative timing: 4 hours and 45 minutes

10:30 AM	Departure
11:00 AM	Arrival and brief scenic overlook
11:15 AM	Stop at the parking and walk to the city center
Free time at Leisure and lunch on own	
2:30 PM	Meet to walk back to the bus
2:45 PM	Departure back to Barcelona
3:15 PM	Arrive at the hotel



HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE: A SUNRISE TO REMEMBER – AVAILABLE DAY 6

Soar above the Catalan countryside at dawn for a breathtaking hot air balloon adventure. Watch the balloon come to life, then drift into the sky where rolling hills, vineyards, and quaint villages unfold below. Toast to the experience with a glass of cava after landing—a truly once-in-a-lifetime way to see Spain.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING: Comfortable shoes, jacket, and a scarf.

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip transportation, local guide(s), flying in a balloon.

EXCLUSIONS: Lunch is not included.

RESTRICTIONS/NOTES: Not recommended for those who are afraid of heights.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Mild - (some standing is required)

PRICE: USD \$455.00 per person

MINIMUM 12 / MAXIMUM 20

Tentative timing: 5 hours

- 6:15 AM Depart hotel
- 7:00 AM Arrival and participation in inflating the balloon
- 8:00 AM Start flying
- 9:15 AM Approx. landing and glass of cava
- 10:00 AM Transfer back to Barcelona
- 11:00 AM Arrival at hotel

Timing is subject to change depending on wind and other weather conditions.

