

# MADRID INCLUDED TOURS

## DAY 1 – GROUP WALKING TOUR- 1 hour

Embark on a captivating walking tour through the heart of Madrid, where you'll discover the city's most iconic and lively landmarks. Your adventure starts in the literary quarter of Barrio de las Letras, home to Plaza Santa Ana. This charming plaza, encircled by historic buildings, bustling cafés, unique boutiques, and the renowned Teatro Español, perfectly blends culture with local ambiance, offering an ideal setting to immerse yourself in the vibrant spirit of Madrid.

Next, we'll head to Puerta del Sol, the bustling epicenter of the city and one of Spain's most famous squares. Known as "Kilometer Zero," the starting point of the country's road network, this lively spot is home to the iconic clock tower—famous for ringing in the New Year—and the beloved statue of the Bear and the Strawberry Tree, a symbol of Madrid.

From there, we'll stroll toward Plaza Cibeles, a stunning roundabout dominated by the majestic Cibeles Fountain. We will walk along the Alcala, and walk past the Gran Via, which is known for shopping in the area. The Cibeles Fountain, a masterpiece featuring the goddess Cybele riding a chariot pulled by lions, is surrounded by grand architecture, including the Palacio de Cibeles, a breathtaking example of early 20th-century design. It's a perfect spot to admire Madrid's elegance and history.

The tour concludes at Neptuno, another striking square featuring the Fountain of Neptune, where the god of the sea reigns over the waters with his trident. Located near the Prado Museum and The Palace, a Luxury Collection hotel, Madrid, this area exudes sophistication and offers a serene contrast to the city's busier hubs.

This tour combines history, art, lifestyle, and the vibrant energy of Madrid and will make you discover the soul of the Spanish capital.

The Palace, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Madrid



Puerto de Alcala



Plaza de Cibeles



Paseo Prado



## DAY 2 – GROUP ROYAL PALACE PRIVATE TOUR AND WALKING TOUR OF THE OLD QUARTER

Start your tour by boarding the bus at The Palace, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Madrid. Head towards Plaza de Oriente, near the Royal Palace. Pause at Plaza de Oriente to admire the elegant square, surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens and statues of Spanish monarchs. Enjoy the view of the Royal Palace on one side and the Teatro Real on the other. Walk a short distance from Plaza de Oriente to the Royal Palace. Marvel at the grand exterior and the Plaza de la Armería. Take a private tour of the palace's opulent rooms and impressive collections. Next to the Royal Palace is the Almudena Cathedral. Spend some time appreciating the architecture of this magnificent cathedral (from outside). After visiting the Royal Palace and Almudena Cathedral, continue your walking tour through the promenade towards the Habsburg quarter (Madrid de los Austrias) to Calle Mayor and explore this historic area on foot.

Visit Plaza Mayor, the heart of old Madrid, surrounded by beautiful, arcaded buildings. Wander through the narrow streets, passing by significant landmarks like Plaza de la Villa and Casa de Cisneros. Walk to the Mercado de San Miguel, one of Madrid's most famous food markets. Take a brief stop here to sample traditional Spanish tapas or soak in the lively market atmosphere. After exploring the Habsburg quarter and Mercado de San Miguel, you will have free time to explore the area on your own or the guide will walk you back to The Palace, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Madrid, approximately a 20-minute walk.

### **TENTATIVE TIMING: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Note: This tour includes a walking tour from the Royal Palace to the Old Quarter, to Plaza Mayor, and to San Miguel Market (approximately 30 minutes walking), then walking back to hotel (approximately 20 minutes).

Note: You will need to go through a security screening at the Royal Palace. We suggest only bringing small backpacks or string bags. Food and beverage are only allowed in designated areas within the palace.

The Royal Palace







Almudena Cathedral (will see it from the plaza at the Royal Palace)

Plaza Mayor



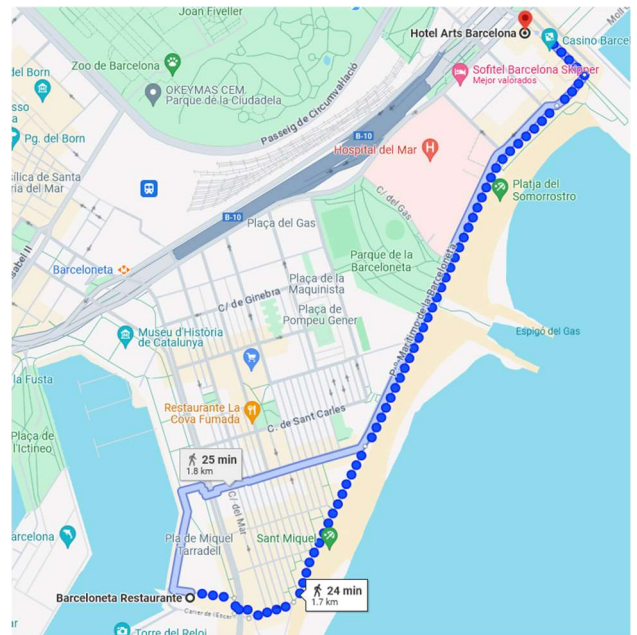
Casa de Cisneros

## BARCELONA INCLUDED TOURS

## DAY 4 – ORIENTATION WALKING TOUR FROM LUNCH TO HOTEL

Begin the tour at Restaurant Barceloneta, located near the waterfront of the Barceloneta neighborhood. From here, head toward Passeig de Joan de Borbó, a bustling street filled with cafés and restaurants. The avenue is lined with palm trees and offers views of the lively Barceloneta district. As you walk, enjoy the local atmosphere and the blend of traditional and modern architecture. Continue towards the Passeig Marítim, the beachfront promenade. As you walk along the edge of Barceloneta Beach, you'll feel the energy of one of Barcelona's most popular beaches. People relax on the sand, play beach volleyball, or enjoy drinks at the chiringuitos (beach bars). Take a few minutes to enjoy the fresh sea breeze and coastal views, with the sounds of the Mediterranean waves beside you. After your stroll along the beach, take a slight detour into the Parc de la Barceloneta, a small but peaceful green space just steps from the beach. This park offers a chance to escape the crowds and enjoy some shade under the trees. You'll see locals relaxing on benches, jogging, or walking their dogs. It's a perfect spot for a short break to take in the quieter side of Barceloneta.

Continue your tour along the promenade until you reach the famous Peix d'Or (Golden Fish), a huge sculpture designed by Frank Gehry for the 1992 Olympics. Its shimmering gold scales are a striking contrast to the blue sea, and the structure has become a symbol of the modern beachfront. This area leads to the Olympic Village, a stylish part of the city filled with contemporary architecture and a variety of restaurants and bars. Finish your tour at the iconic Hotel Arts, located right next to the Peix d'Or. This towering glass and steel hotel is one of the most luxurious in Barcelona, with breathtaking views of the sea and the city. As you arrive, you'll have completed a tour of Barcelona's maritime charm, beach culture, and modern architectural landmarks. (the walk is 30 min but with orientation max 1 hr.)



## **DAY 5 – GROUP CITY TOUR OF BARCELONA INCLUDING LUNCH AT CAN TRAVI NOU**

This group city tour of Barcelona will include a panoramic tour around Montjuïc Hill, a walking tour and free time in the El Born district (old town), a short walking tour around Sagrada Família with a view from outside the cathedral, a panoramic tour down Passeig de Gràcia and a group lunch at Can Travi Nou. The order of the tour will be different based on the coach you are on.

During the panoramic and picturesque drive around Montjuïc Hill, you'll see important landmarks such as the Magic Fountain, the Palau Nacional, and the Olympic Stadium. The coach will stop at a viewpoint where you can see the stunning views of Barcelona and the Mediterranean Sea, if time allows.

In El Born district (old town), you will discover the charm of El Born on a guided walking tour through its medieval streets, trendy boutiques, and historic landmarks. From the majestic Santa Maria del Mar to the lively Passeig del Born, immerse yourself in the cultural heart of Barcelona. You will have some free time here to explore for a short time. After lunch, you will have the option to be dropped off in this area if you want to spend some more time here.

You will have the opportunity to see the Sagrada Família from the OUTSIDE and hear about all of the stories embedded into the façade of the impressive temple. \*\*See note below regarding inside visits.

The panoramic tour continues to Passeig de Gràcia, one of Barcelona's most famous boulevards, about a 10-minute drive from the Sagrada Família. We'll drive slowly along Passeig de Gràcia, allowing you to view the stunning modernist architecture of Casa Batlló and Casa Milà (La Pedrera), both designed by Gaudí.

At the end of the tour the group will enjoy a lunch at the restaurant Can Travi Nou.

The coach will return you to Hotel Arts Barcelona after lunch or you can be dropped in Old Town (El Born district) on the way back to the hotel if you want to spend more time in that area for the rest of the day.

This group tour provides a comprehensive way of experiencing some of Barcelona's most iconic sights.

### **TENTATIVE TIMING: 9:45 am – 3:30 pm**

\*\*An inside visit of Sagrada Família is NOT included on this program. If you wish to tour the inside of the cathedral, we encourage you to book your tour as early as possible as tour times tend to sell out. Visit the official website of Sagrada Família for more information and tickets:

<https://sagradafamilia.org/en/home>.

Tickets can be purchased approximately two months before the visit.

Please note that there are numerous tour operators offering tours of this attraction. Please review their cancellation policies and reviews before booking with them.



Casa Batllo



La Pedrera



Passeig de Gracia



Sagrada Familia



Olympic Stadium

