Ultimate Barcelona

6 days

Tour Description

Beaches, baths, artists and wine encompass this tour of Barcelona's best. Explore Spain's history of surrealism on a visit to the Sagrada Familia and the Salvador Dali Museum. Explore Roman archeological sites at Tarragona and the Arabian baths at Girona. Savor sparkling wine at the Penedes Valley wine region as you contemplate what a wonderful time you are having in Spain.

Highlights

❖ **Barcelona city sightseeing including Sagrada Familia**
❖ **Explore the Montserrat & Sant Miquel del Fai Monasteries**
❖ **Investigate the Roman ruins of Tarragona**
❖ **Wine & cava tasting in the Penedes Valley wine region**
❖ **Stroll through Girona's Arabian baths and Jewish quarter**
❖ **Experience the Salvador Dali Museum in Figueres**

Sample Tour Itinerary

Barcelona – 5 nights

Day 1: Arrive Barcelona

After arriving this morning at Barcelona's airport you will be met by your experienced guide. On the way to the hotel enjoy a panoramic tour of Barcelona' main attractions with a stop to visit the Sagrada Familia. Your tour concludes at the hotel where after checking in you are free for the balance of the afternoon. Tonight we will gather for a welcome dinner.

Day 2:

You'll start the day heading inland to the Monastery of Sant Miquel del Fai. The 15th century priory house was erected on a cliff. The Romanic church, built in the 10th century, is built entirely within one of the many caves in the region. After leaving Sant Miquel del Fai you will explore the back roads of Catalonia on your way to the Montserrat Aerial Tram for the short journey up to the Benedictine monastery nestled in the crags of Montserrat Mountain. Perched 4,055 feet above the valley floor this architectural and religious wonder offers sweeping views of the Catalan lowlands.

Your return trip will start with a ride down the mountain on the Montserrat Rack Railway through the scenic national park to Monistrol de Montserrat where you will transfer to a motor coach for the return trip to your hotel in Barcelona.

Day 3:

Today's tour starts with a journey down the coast to the famous beach community of Sitges for a brief tour before continuing on to Tarragona. Upon arrival in Tarragona you will visit many of the Roman archaeological sites that form the Archaeological Ensemble of Tarracco UNESCO World Heritage Site, including the walls, Forum, palace and amphitheater.

Your return to Barcelona this afternoon will be by way of the Penedes Valley wine region where you will visit Codorníu Winery for a guided tour of their facilities. The winery is housed in a historic and architecturally significant complex designed specifically for the production and ageing of cava. Enjoy tasting a selection of their award winning sparkling wines before heading back to your hotel in Barcelona.

Day 4:
This morning we head north through the Catalonian countryside to the city of Girona. Upon arrival in the medieval walled town of Girona you will enjoy a guided walk through the Jewish quarter and the Arabian baths. There will be free time to grab lunch before continuing further north to Figueres where we will visit the Salvador Dali Museum. Salvador Dali was one of the world's most famous surrealist artists. The museum, a piece of art itself, is home to many of Dali's famous works. After our museum visit we return to Barcelona.

Day 5:
Today you are free to explore this amazing city, visit the shops, or perhaps you may wish to stroll in the streets of the Spanish Village and visit the Bullfighters museum. An optional tour to visit the Picasso Museum can also be arranged. Reconvene this evening for a Catalan farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 6:
Your trip concludes with a transfer to Barcelona International Airport to catch your flight home.

INCLUSIONS

- o   Accommodations: Barcelona 5 nights
- o   Meals: Continental breakfast daily, lunch and dinner as noted in itinerary
- o   Ground transportation via air conditioned luxury coach
- o   English speaking assistants and guides
- o   Admission tickets as outlined in the itinerary