



NORTHERN SPAIN & GALICIA

SIB-Round trip 9 days/8 nights

Norther Spain is also known as Green Spain, a lush natural region stretching along the Atlantic coast including nearly all of Galicia, Asturias, and Cantabria, in addition to the northern parts of the Basque Country, as well as a small portion of Navarre. It is called green because its wet and temperate oceanic climate helps lush pastures and forests thrive, providing a landscape similar to that of Ireland, Great Britain, and the west coast of France. The climate and landscape are determined by the Atlantic Ocean winds whose moisture gets trapped by the mountains circumventing the Spanish Atlantic façade.

Our trip begins in Madrid with a city tour before we head north to San Sebastian at the coast of the Bay of Biscay, one of the most historically famous tourist destinations in Spain. Bilbao is also in our plans where you will see the best architectural feature of the 1990's, the Guggenheim Museum. This city has a significant importance in Green Spain due to its port activity, making it the second-most industrialized region of Spain, behind Barcelona. We continue to Cantabria and its capital Santander. Then, Asturias is the next province located at the "green Spain", we will visit Covadonga, situated at the Picos de Europa mountains and its pilgrimage site dedicated to Our Lady of Covadonga. Continue to Oviedo, the capital of Principality of Asturias. Don't miss the Sidra (cider) and participate on the ritual to drink it, which it will be poured from on high in order to incorporate air into the cider as it falls from the bottle to the glass. When you get your glass of cider it will be naturally fizzy.

Last autonomous community to visit is Galicia with its capital Santiago de Compostela. The city has its origin in the shrine of Saint James the Great, now the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, as the destination of the Way of St. James, a leading Catholic pilgrimage route since the 9th century. In 1985, the city's Old Town was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

DAY 1 (Tuesday) ARRIVAL IN MADRID

After your international flight to Spain and arrival at the International Airport in Madrid, reception and transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon, be part of a panoramic tour of Madrid by coach to see its exquisite Renaissance and Baroque-style buildings, become engrossed in Jose Bonaparte's architectural work of the 19th century, including the world-famous Prado Museum, visit the modern and contemporary avenues of Madrid and join a one-hour walking tour through the streets of the historic city center of Madrid. Back to the hotel and rest of the day at leisure for private activities or shopping. Overnight at selected hotel.

DAY 2 (Wednesday) MADRID – ZARAGOZA – SAN SEBASTIAN

Breakfast at the hotel. The tour start at your hotel where you will meet your guide and driver. Drive on a SIB-Autocar towards Zaragoza. Free time to visit the Basilica of Our Lady of The Pilar, patroness of Hispanity and stroll through the old streets of Zaragoza. In the afternoon we will continue to San Sebastian, it's one of the most famous tourist destinations where they hold the International Film Festival. Panoramic city tour of this marvel style bourgeois city, seeing the extraordinary landscape dominated by the bay and the magnificent La Concha beach. Registration at the hotel and free time for private activities. Go out and walk around. The city is quite small and cozy, featuring many fish restaurants, several beaches, tons of "pintxos" bars and a choice of designer clothes shops. "Pintxos" is the name of tapas in the Basque country with only one difference: while in Andalusia die tapas are free with your drink, you have to pay for your pintxos. Accommodation. (B)

DAY 3 (Thursday) SAN SEBASTIAN – BILBAO – CASTRO URDIALES – SANTANDER

Breakfast at hotel. We will approach Mount Igueldo, to contemplate the marvelous views of the city and then proceed towards Bilbao, the largest city in northern Spain. Panoramic drive in Bilbao and free time on the esplanade where the Guggenheim Museum is located in order to admire this modern architectural building. Although this is the most important landmark of the city, Bilbao's buildings display a variety of architectural styles, ranging from gothic, Art Deco, Art Nouveau,

PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

EUR 1.010.-

Surplus single room **EUR 230.-**

Surplus high season (Jul 1 – Oct 31) **EUR 90.-**

GROUP TOUR SET DEPARTURES 2021

04.05	11.05	18.05
25.05	01.06	08.06
15.06	22.06	06.07
13.07	20.07	27.07
03.08	10.08	17.07
24.08	31.08	07.09
14.09	21.09	28.09

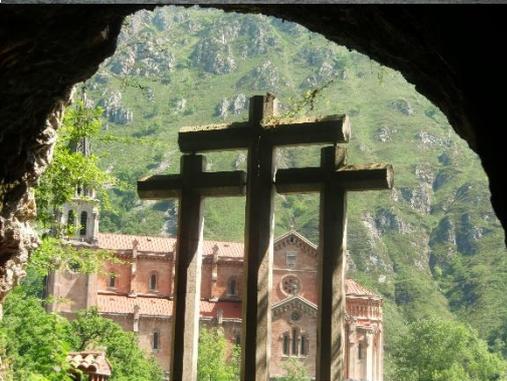
INCLUDED SERVICES

- Panoramic sightseeing tours of Madrid, San Sebastian, Bilbao and La Coruña
- Guided city tour of Santiago de Compostela
- Tour escort during the tour
- Air-conditioned deluxe motor-coach
- Accommodation and daily breakfast
- Travel insurance.

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic Flights
- Meals or other Tours not mentioned in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters





Neo-Gothic and contemporary architecture. The Old Town features many of the oldest buildings in the city, as the St. James' Cathedral or the Church of San Antón, included in the borough's coat of arms. Most of the Old Town is a pedestrian zone during the day. After the visit, we proceed to the old fishing village "Castro Urdiales". Free time. Departure to Santander, a port city located between the sea and the mountains, well known for its Sardinero Beach, one of the best-known beaches in Spain. Its most famous tourist attraction is the Magdalena Palace which was used as a summer getaway of Spanish royalty. Free time to stroll through this elegant city. Accommodation. **(B)**

DAY 4 (Friday) SANTANDER – SANTILLANA – COVADONGA – OVIEDO

Breakfast at hotel. Departure to Santillana, it's one of the most important historical artistic towns in Spain. It contains architectural treasures such as the Collegiate of Santa Juliana, a Jewel of the Romanesque Architecture in Cantabria. Continue to Covadonga, where you will have free time to see the Sanctuary and the Grotto where you will see the patroness of Asturias our Lady of Covadonga. In the afternoon, departure to Oviedo, the capital city of the Principality of Asturias. where you will see on a series of hills the beauty of Saint Maria de Naranco Church, Jewel of the pre Romanic Asturian architecture.

Free time to explore Oviedo, many of their streets in the "casco antiguo", the old part of Oviedo are pedestrian, where you will be able to see World Heritage sites like The Cathedral, a splendid example of gothic asturian architecture. Enjoy its Plaza Mayor, main square and get to one local restaurant offering Sidra (cider), the local beverage made out of apples with a big reputation all over Spain. And find the statue of Woody Allen to have a picture with this famous actor and movie director. Accommodation. **(B)**

DAY 5 (Saturday) OVIEDO – LUGO – A CORUÑA

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to the Galician region. Arrive to Lugo. Free time to be able to contemplate the Roman remains that still retains like its walls, declared World Heritage. Continuation to La Coruña. Brief panoramic drive through the main avenues of this fabulous town driving by the Marine Avenue to admire the elegance of this city with the typical Galician architecture of glass house galleries. Brief stop in one of the wonders of the world the oldest working lighthouse the "Tower of Hercules" dating back from the roman period. Afternoon at leisure where you can assist an optional tour to the Rias Altas. Overnight. **(B)**

DAY 6 (Sunday) LA CORUÑA – SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Breakfast at hotel. Departure to Santiago de Compostela declared World Heritage as it is one of the most important center of Christian Pilgrimages in Spain as the end of the Camino de Santiago route built during the Roman Empire. City tour where we will see the main square called Obradoiro and also the Cathedral (entrance included) dedicated to the Apostle Santiago. Balance of the day at leisure to explore the narrow cobblestone streets and get the feel of the student atmosphere. Accommodation. **(B)**

DAY 7 (Monday) SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA – RIAS BAJAS – LA TOJA – VIGO

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure towards one of the most marvelous areas of Galicia, the Rias Bajas (Spanish Fjords). Driving through this magnificent landscape we will arrive to La Toja Island, universally known for its spa. Free time and continue to the Ria de Arosa, passing through Pontevedra to arrive to Vigo, situated in the middle of the Rias Baixas. Accommodation. **(B)**

DAY 8 (Tuesday) VIGO – VIANA DO CASTELO – BRAGA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Portuguese border. Arrive to Viana do Castelo, city located between the mouth of the river Miño and Porto. Free time and continue to Braga. Accommodation. **(B)**

DAY 9 (Wednesday) BRAGA – SALAMANCA – MADRID

Breakfast. Departure to the Spanish border to arrive to Salamanca. Short stop and free time in this university city (World Heritage) of great architectural and artistic wealth. Continue to Madrid. END OF OUR SERVICES **(B)**

(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner