

## Madrid, Toledo and Segovia, Spain during Christmas THE WOMEN'S TRAVEL GROUP

6 Days: Madrid

#### **Tour Overview**

Madrid is not asleep over Christmas; it is one of the most festive, foodie, fun and filled cities over the holidays. As on all our tours, we can extend this trip to suit your extra days. This trip can be an extension of our Portugal trip or a stand alone as a Christmas getaway. Our hotel is a 10 minute walk from *Plaza Mayor* with its Mercado de Navidad. Known for markets, Madrid's Christmas market goes back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The trip includes most major meals; save your money for Christmas bargains: Spain has some of the lower pricing in the EU and is famous for leather goods, shoes, espadrilles, food gifts, pottery.

As this is a holiday tour, we show you the most in our short time but avoid exhaustive days and dinners. Transfers will be provided optionally.

### Day 1 - Dec 22, 2022 (Thursday): Arrival Madrid, Christmas market and evening Tapas tour. Accommodation: Hotel Emperador - Club Premium rooms (5 Nights)

In the afternoon we will visit Madrid's Christmas market before the evening's guided Tapas experience commences. After a brief introduction to the city and its tapas credentials by our guide, we'll head towards the first of many food tastings. Ideally, come with an empty stomach. Tapas are appetizers, may be cold or hot. Tapas have evolved in a full course meal.

Meals Included: Tapas Experience – 3 hours

## Day 2 - Dec 23, 2022 (Friday): Madrid Highlights and Royal Palace Guided tour - Skip the line

Today we will be introduced to Madrid. A fully-guided panoramic tour sharing the origins of Spain's fascinating capital city through its architecture is followed by a visit to Madrid's foremost palace. Built on the site of the former Palace of the Hapsburgs, the Royal Palace was the official residence of the Spanish monarchy from 1765 to 1931. This official visit includes the State Rooms, Charles III's Chambers, Museums, the Royal Chapel and the Chambers of Isabel II. We'll have some free time after the tour for shopping and a quick rest. In the afternoon time to refresh before we meet for dinner in a local restaurant.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner



#### Day 3 – Dec 24, 2022 (Saturday): Excursion to Toledo

After a leisurely breakfast we depart on a fantastic excursion to Toledo. Our guide will share insights into the imperial city, a UNESCO World Heritage site that dazzles the visitor. Our sightseeing starts in the Square of Zocover, the heart of the city. We will have about three and a half hours to visit Toledo and enjoy the cultural legacy of Arabs, Jews and Christians who lived together for centuries. Visit the the admirable Cathedral of Toledo, the Jewish quarter, a true cultural labyrinth, the Alcázar of Toledo and other monuments. Time travel it truly is, between alleys, palatial mansions, churches, mosques, synagogues. Late afternoon return to Madrid. Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner in Madrid

#### Day 4 - Dec 25 2022 (Sunday): Excursion to Segovia

Merry Christmas and another exciting excursion awaits us: we start the Tour of Segovia under the majestic Aqueduct of Segovia, a legacy of Roman engineering and an icon that represents this beautiful city. From the Aqueduct, we will visit the medieval Real Street to enjoy the views from the Viewpoint of Canaleja. We continue to the Plaza Mayor and the spectacular Cathedral and from there to the Alcázar of Segovia, that was the fortified residence of the Kings of Spain; a singular castle whose appearance inspired the Palaces of Disney tales.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Christmas Dinner upon return to Madrid



#### Day 5 - Dec 26 2022 (Monday): Madrid - Museo del Prado and Reina Sofía

Today discover the essence of two of the most visited museums in Madrid: the Prado Museum and the Reina Sofía Museum. Do not miss out on this fascinating art collection at the most visited museum in Spain, the Prado Museum. It includes works by great masters such as El Greco, Murillo, Zurbarán, Ribera, Sorolla, Goya and Velázquez in one of the most prestigious art galleries in the world. Amongst the great jewels, some of the most famous paintings are "Las Meninas", "The Garden of Delights", "Saturn devouring a son" and "La Maja desnuda".

The Reina Sofía Museum also boasts an important art collection with pieces from the late nineteenth and the twentieth century among them Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí. The museum is located in an old hospital building with impressive vaulted hallways.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

#### Day 6 - Dec 27 2022 (Tuesday): Madrid - Home

Transfer to the airport his morning for your flight home. 8AM departure.

Meals Included: Breakfast

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Post Tour Madrid This trip coordinates with Portugal which precedes it. It can also be done as a stand alone experience.

# Minimum 6 Travelers \$ 2,153 Per Person Sharing Single Supplement - \$ 582

#### Included:

- Services by private transportation & private guide
- Accommodations check in time (3.00pm) until regular check out time (12.00 noon).
- Meals included per itinerary
- Porterage Hotel
- · Water on excursions
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Transfer on Day 6 to the airport.

#### Not included:

- Air or train ticket and airport taxes, if any
- Gratuities for guides and/or drivers. We send you a tipping sheet with recommendations.
- Porterage at Airport
- Incidentals at the hotel such as: laundry, telephone calls, etc.
- Any item not mentioned in the itinerary