

PORTUGAL & SPAIN

Discover the diverse cultures of the Iberian Peninsula. Visit Portugal's capital city of Lisbon and coastal towns like Albufeira and Faro. In Spain, journey through the Moorish cities of Andalucía on your way to the modern cultural capital, Madrid.

Why Brightspark?

Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

Our Tour Directors

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

Quality, Custom Tours

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

Industry Experience

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline and comprehensive travel insurance options, we've got you covered at home and abroad.



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Day 1: Board your flight to Portugal.

Day 2: Lisbon

- Meet your Tour Director at **Lisbon International Airport**.
- Board your private motor coach and depart on a guided tour of the capital city. Explore the **Alfama district** with its Moorish heritage, the newer **Baixa** with its many squares, or the more popular **Bairro Alto**. Sights include **Belém Tower** and the **Jerónimos Monastery**, UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Visit **Castelo de São Jorge**, a hilltop fortification that overlooks Lisbon's historic center.
- Take a sailing tour on the **Tagus River** and see **Lisbon** from a different perspective.

Day 3: Albufeira

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Albufeira**.
- Enjoy free time for lunch in the coastal town – consider a traditional seafood dish from a local restaurant.
- After lunch, embark on a **Caves and Coastline cruise** from Albufeira to Benagil along Portugal's southern coast. Take note of the stunning rock formations and caves before taking a relaxing swim in the Atlantic Ocean.

Day 4: Faro

- Board your private motor coach for a day trip to **Faro**.
- Depart on a guided tour of the capital of Algarve. Your journey will take you to **Vila Adentro**, a fortified sector of the city dating back to Roman and Moorish times.
- Enjoy free time on the sandy shores at **Praia de Faro** before returning to Albufeira for dinner.

Day 5: Sevilla

- Board your private motor coach and depart to **Sevilla**.
- Embark upon a guided tour of Sevilla. Climb **La Giralda**, the Gothic cathedral's historic bell-tower and another UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Discover the **Real Alcázar**, a prime example of Andalusian and Mediterranean history and culture. Its intricately designed walls and gardens were built for the King Peter of Castile on the site of a Muslim fortress. The complex dates back to the 10th century, and it is still used by the Spanish Royal Family as its official residence in Sevilla.
- Stroll through **Santa Cruz** – the city's Jewish quarter is a maze of streets and patios lined with orange trees.
- Visit Sevilla's **Plaza de España**, built for the 1929 Ibero-American exposition (you might recognize it from *Star Wars: Episode II*).

Day 6: Córdoba

- Take a day trip to **Córdoba** and discover the city's unique culture and architecture.
- Explore the **Mosque-Cathedral** near the city's Jewish Quarter. The Great Mosque's iconic double arches were an architectural innovation when it was built over 1200 years ago. The building now serves as a Catholic cathedral, illustrating the city's two millennia of history blending Catholic, Muslim, and Jewish influences.
- Visit the **Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos**, a medieval fortress with beautiful gardens near the Guadalquivir River. Climb up the tower for a skyline view of the city.

Day 7: Gibraltar

- Board your private motor coach for a day trip to **Gibraltar**, a small plot of British territory on the Iberian Peninsula. Your guided tour will include the **Rock of Gibraltar**, where you may come across its famous macaque monkeys!
- Explore **St. Michael's Cave**, located almost 1000 feet above sea level. Its perfect acoustics make it a prime location for concerts and events.
- Stroll through **La Alameda Gardens**, originally a recreational site for British soldiers stationed nearby. The botanic gardens were renovated in the 1970s, and aside from local and international flora, the site now includes a zoo.

Day 8: Madrid

- Depart from **Sevilla-Santa Justa** station on a high-speed train toward **Madrid-Puerta de Atocha** train station.
- Take a walking tour of the Spanish capital. Discover **Cibeles Square** and its famous fountain, **Gran Vía**, **Plaza Mayor** and **Plaza de España**, and the lively **Puerta del Sol** district.
- Visit the world-famous **Museo del Prado**, housing one of the finest collections of European art, including major works by Raphael, Goya, and El Greco.

Day 9: Madrid

- Step into luxury with a guided tour of the **Royal Palace**. This ornate rococo building has over 2,000 opulently decorated rooms.
- Enjoy free time to explore **Madrid**. Visit sites you learned about on yesterday's tour, such as the **Gran Vía**, **Cibeles Square**, **Plaza de España**, or lively **Puerta del Sol**.
- Score the winning goal with a behind-the-scenes tour of **Estadio Santiago Bernabéu**, home of Real Madrid.

Day 10: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

