# Brightspark

# **MADRID & ANDALUCIA**

Witness a melding of cultures as Christian, Jewish, and Muslim influences come alive from Madrid to the south of Spain. Explore the Alhambra in Granada, La Giralda in Sevilla, and the iconic arches in Córdoba's Mosque-Cathedral.

# 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.

by WorldStrides

# 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.

# brightsparktravel.com **f** in **O**

# Brightspark

# SAMPLE ITINERARY

# SPAIN: MADRID & ANDALUCIA

# Day 1: Board your flight to Spain.

### Day 2: Madrid

- Meet your Tour Director at Madrid Barajas International Airport.
- Board your private motor coach and check into your hotel.
- 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**.

# Day 3: Madrid

- 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.
- Enjoy free time on the Gran Vía, a paradise for shoppers!

# Day 4: Toledo & Córdoba

- Board your private motor coach and travel to Toledo.
- Led by a local guide, discover this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Popular stops include the **Gothic cathedral** and the **Iglesia de Santo Tomé**, which features one of El Grego's masterpieces.
- After lunch, board your private motor coach and travel to the Andalusian city of **Córdoba**.
- Upon arrival, check into your hotel for dinner.

### Day 5: Córdoba

- Discover Córdoba with a local guide who will highlight the city's unique culture and architecture.
- Your tour will be capped off by a visit to 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.
- Travel to nearby Sevilla and settle into your hotel for dinner.

### Day 6: Sevilla

- Embark upon a guided tour of Sevilla. Climb La Giralda, the Gothic cathedral's historic bell-tower and another UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 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*).
- Take an excursion to Gerena, where you'll get a guided tour of a bull stable and a behind-the-scenes experience of one of the country's main cultural traditions.

# Day 7: Ronda

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Ronda**, one of Andalucía's hidden gems. Your local guide will lead you on a walking tour of the old Roman city's breathtaking architecture and charming squares.
- Experience local gastronomy with a guided tour of a **jamón serrano factory**!

# Day 8: Granada

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Granada**, a city strongly influenced by Moorish and Gypsy cultures.
- Explore the expansive Alhambra and its Generalife gardens. The palace and fortress complex is Spain's most significant and recognizable example of Islamic architecture. A UNESCO World Heritage site, it also holds a special place in world history: after the Catholic monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella gained control of Spain in 1492, they held royal court at the Alhambra. This is where Christopher Columbus gained their endorsement for his expedition to the Indies!

• Enjoy free time in Granada before dinner at the hotel.

Day 9: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

# MADRID TOLEDO

