

# Paradores & Pousadas Historic Lodgings of Spain & Portugal

**15 days for \$5,874 total price from Washington, DC**

**(\$5,195 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)**

*You're invited on a distinctive small group journey through the Iberian Peninsula to the intimate lodgings of Spain's paradores and Portugal's pousadas: medieval monasteries, historic fortresses, and stately palaces, each reflecting the spirit of its region. We feel the spell of Iberia's rich Roman and Moorish past – and the pull of its vibrant contemporary life.*



We spend the afternoon of Day 11 exploring the Alhambra, considered a pinnacle of Islamic architecture.



### Physical Activity Level



**Moderate**

Refer to page 5 for more information.

### Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Lisbon		
2-3	Lisbon	Corinthia Hotel Lisbon	Deluxe
4-5	Evora	Pousada de Estremoz	Sup. First Class
6-8	Carmona	Parador de Carmona	First Class
9-10	Ronda	Parador de Ronda	First Class
11	Ubeda	Parador de Ubeda	First Class
12-14	Madrid	Wellington Hotel	Deluxe
15	Depart Madrid for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

#### Day 1: Depart U.S. for Lisbon, Portugal

**Day 2: Arrive Lisbon** We arrive in the Portuguese capital and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times vary, we have no group activities planned during the day. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner. *D*

**Day 3: Lisbon/Queluz** This morning's city tour includes the Jeronimos Monastery, a masterpiece of Manueline architecture; iconic Belem Tower; and the Monument to the Discoveries commemorating Portugal's storied explorers. Then we visit the National Palace of Queluz, the former residence of Portuguese royalty now used for state occasions. After returning to Lisbon, the remainder of the day is at leisure to explore as we wish. *B*

**Day 4: Lisbon/Evora** This morning, we travel through the rolling hills of the agricultural Alentejo district, with its bountiful fields of wheat, fragrant vineyards, and stands of olive and cork trees. We stop for lunch outside hilltop Monsaraz, then sample Alentejo wines at a local winery. Late afternoon we arrive in Evora, capital of the Alentejo and site of our *pousada*, considered Portugal's finest. *B,L,D*

**Day 5: Evora** Our morning walking tour of Evora introduces us to the many charms of this architectural

gem – a university town, prosperous regional capital, and UNESCO site thanks to the many relics of its Roman and Moorish heritage. This afternoon is at leisure to enjoy this "Golden Age" city as we wish. *B,D*

**Day 6: Evora/Merida, Spain/Carmona** Today we travel east through countryside peppered with the ruins of fortresses and castles to the Spanish border town of Merida. Once the capital of ancient Lusitania (Latin for the kingdoms of Spain and Portugal), Merida boasts outstanding Roman ruins. There's time to explore and eat lunch on our own before we continue on to Carmona and our *parador*, a restored 14<sup>th</sup>-century Arab fortress. *B,D*

**Day 7: Carmona/Seville** This morning we visit splendid Seville, Moorish capital of Spain's Andalusia region and city of beauty and romance. This is the place that inspired *Carmen* and *Don Giovanni*; where fragrant orange trees and flower-bedecked balconies delight the senses; and home of the renowned Cathedral, the world's largest Gothic building. After a tour that includes the Alcazar palace and the Arab quarter, the afternoon is free to explore independently. We return to Carmona late afternoon and dine at our *parador* this evening. *B,D*

**Day 8: Carmona/Cordoba** Today's visit to this cultural gem promises to be special indeed. First the capital of Roman Spain, then of Moorish Spain, Cordoba features some of the country's most important monuments, including the Old Quarter built around the magnificent Mezquita mosque. It was here that the Moors ruled from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries and fostered a culture of learning and religious harmony known the world over. Cordoba also is home to Andalusia's only synagogue to survive the expulsion of Spain's Jews in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. After touring these and other highlights we have free time to explore on our own. Late this afternoon we return to our *parador*, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

**Day 9: Carmona/Ronda** Leaving Carmona this morning we travel south to tiny Ronda, one of Spain's oldest and most aristocratic towns. It's set high in the mountains with whitewashed houses clinging improbably to the edge of El Tajo Gorge – 500 feet deep and 300 feet wide. *B,D*



Lisbon's Monument to the Discoveries

**Day 10: Ronda** This morning we take a walking tour of Ronda. We return to our *parador*, Ronda's original town hall, for a special *tapas* lunch then the rest of the day is free for independent exploration. *B,L*

**Day 11: Ronda/Granada/Ubada** Continuing our journey, we travel today to Granada,

the former stronghold of Moorish Spain set in the foothills of the snowcapped Sierra Nevada. The city's undisputed highlight is the Alhambra, the extraordinary palace of Spain's last Moorish rulers. Sprawled



IT IS NOT THE SAME  
TO TALK OF BULLS AS  
TO BE IN THE BULLRING.”

– SPANISH PROVERB

across a hilltop above the Darro River, the Alhambra commands breathtaking views of the city below, as we see on our afternoon tour of this splendid citadel. We also visit the Granadian-style Generalife, the palace's acclaimed gardens. Late afternoon we travel north to Ubada and our next *parador*, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

**Day 12: Ubada/Toledo/Madrid** A highlight is in store today as we visit Toledo, capital of medieval Spain. Declared a Spanish National Landmark, the city is little changed visually from its 16<sup>th</sup>-century days as a subject for the artist El Greco. Toledo boasts an incomparable hilltop setting overlooking the Castilian plains and surrounded on three sides by the Tagus River. After lunch on our own we see Toledo's most important sights on our guided tour, including the massive Gothic Cathedral begun in 1226 and not finished until 1493. Then we continue on to Madrid, arriving late afternoon. Dinner tonight is on our own; perhaps to dine late as the *Madrileños* do. *B*

**Day 13: Madrid** Our morning tour of this monumental and dignified capital city includes vast Plaza Mayor, in the heart of Old Madrid; the Moorish medieval district; and opulent 18<sup>th</sup>-century Palacio Real (Royal Palace), with its 2,800 rooms. Then we sample some of Madrid's specialties over a lunch of *tapas*. Our tour ends at the Prado, one of the world's greatest museums, displaying treasures by Spanish masters Goya, El Greco, and Velazquez. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration in this most cosmopolitan city. Well known for its “foodie” culture, Madrid offers a bounty of restaurants for dinner on our own tonight. *B,L*

**Day 14: Madrid** Today is at leisure to enjoy the Spanish capital as we wish. Tonight we bid “*Adios*” to Spain and our fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

**Day 15: Depart for U.S.** We transfer to the airport this morning for our connecting flights to the U.S. *B*



Seville's colorful Plaza de España

Post-Tour Extension

April 17-20, 2025

Barcelona – On Your Own

4 days/3 nights for \$995 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

Enjoy this bustling seaport, Spain's cultural and commercial capital, with its medieval Gothic Quarter and popular Ramblas waterfront promenade.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Madrid/Barcelona, inclusive of airline taxes and fees
- 3 nights' accommodations at Hotel Avenida Palace (Superior First Class)
- 3 meals: 3 breakfasts
- Transfers to/from airport

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights' accommodations: 5 nights in Deluxe hotels; 8 nights in Superior First Class and First Class *paradores* and *pousadas*
- 25 meals: 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 9 dinners
- Regional wine with dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: April 3, 2025

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Boston, New York \$5,574

Chicago, Washington, DC \$5,874

Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia \$5,974

Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa \$6,074

Land Only (transfers not included) \$4,795

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$679, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,795 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

*Important Information About Your Tour*

# General Terms and Conditions

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve a tour with Odysseys Unlimited. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal.

## Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2025, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

## Gratuities

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

## Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only

package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

## Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

## Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

*For all tours (except as noted)*

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	25% of tour price
64-45 days:	50% of tour price
44-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

## *For Africa's Wildlife*

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

### Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

### Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

### Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. **Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.**

### Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov)), as well as for our international travel partners: **your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender.** In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

### Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit [www.dhs.gov/real-id](http://www.dhs.gov/real-id) or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

### Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. **You must be able to**

**get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: [www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health](http://www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health).

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

### **Travel Protection Plan**

Odysseys Unlimited makes available an optional Travel Protection Plan that is available for purchase until your final payment. We strongly recommend that you protect yourself and your investment in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your tour. Your Plan payment is fully refundable if you cancel outside of the final payment due date. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for “Pre-Existing Conditions” will be waived if you purchase this plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit/payment for your trip and are medically able to travel at the time the plan is purchased. Information on this Travel Protection Plan will be included with your tour confirmation package. To review full plan details please visit [www.tripmate.com/wpGR350](http://www.tripmate.com/wpGR350).

### **Air Transportation**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. Airline upgrades at additional cost may be available on request for the round-trip trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific portion of your flights. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your**

**international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour “Land Only” is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

### **Responsibility**

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

**VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.**



### RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, please call **Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

*If you prefer*, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**

**Attn: Special Interest Groups  
One Newton Place  
275 Washington Street, Suite 300  
Newton, MA 02458**

Tour Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up

I/We would like to request \_\_\_\_\_ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/We request an air upgrade to \_\_\_\_\_

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_ I request a single room (limited availability)