



TRIP CODE:

EESPBB-9

Topdecker, MEET EUROPE

Get lost in the vibrant cities, cultures and landscapes of Portugal, Spain and Morocco on this epic trip with oh-so-much flavour. As we make our way from buzzing Barcelona to metropolitan Madrid, we'll discover Spain's fascinating history while sampling delectable dishes and experiencing the fabulous fiesta spirit that's ingrained in this part of the Mediterranean. Add to that the magic of Morocco and the beachside havens of Portugal, and you've got yourself one tasty trip. Salud!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hostel Plus



Nights



Android/iPhone app
download info



This is a principal
package.

Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

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We really appreciate your decision to travel with us, and rest assured that the entire Topdeck team will be pulling out all the stops to make your trip an unforgettable one.

Now it's time to get excited and get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the crew at Topdeck Travel

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs, including where to meet, what to bring and what you can expect on your trip of a lifetime! Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can check off the lists or bring it with you when you travel.

Please do bear in mind though, some points should be taken as a guide only - after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary greatly from one person to the next so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much! However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

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PLEASE NOTE: We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Driving tour of Barcelona
- + Walking tour of Valencia
- + Guided tour of Fes
- + Guided tour of Volubilis
- + Visit the historic city of Meknes
- + Walking tour of Seville
- + Guided tour of Lisbon
- + Port tasting at a winery in Porto
- + Visit Sintra
- + Walking tour of Porto
- + Driving tour of Madrid

MORE INCLUSIONS

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- + Port tasting at a winery in Porto
- + Driving tour of Madrid
- + Guided tour of Salamanca
- + Visit the Valley of the Fallen
- + Orientation tour of Segovia
- + Orientation tour of San Sebastián
- + Visit Zaragoza

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Barcelona
Europe

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Barcelona
Europe

Trip currencies

- + Spain - EUR
- + Morocco -
- + Portugal - EUR

Your Itinerary



**AWESOME TRIP
LEADER**



DRIVER

DAY 1 | BARCELONA, SPAIN

Bienvenidos to the city of art nouveau, alluring accents and (most importantly) tapas. Meet and greet your fellow travellers before getting your bearings on a guided tour of bustling Barça, ticking off the likes of the Sagrada Família, the Columbus Monument and Las Ramblas. Then: fuel up for the notorious nightlife with a feast of local cuisine.



MEALS:

+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Driving tour of Barcelona

DAY 2 | BARCELONA TO VALENCIA

You've got a whole morning to spend in Barcelona, so jump at the chance to catch up on anything you might have missed yesterday. Later, we'll head to Valencia – with a pit stop at the Cava caves along the way. Lose yourself down the dark, narrow tunnels and spiralling staircases of these mazy structures.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Valencia



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Explore the Cava caves

DAY 3 | VALENCIA

We've cleared your schedule so you can spend a whole day exploring the birthplace of paella (and obviously dig into copious amounts of the local dish). Check out the Old Quarter for some serious throwback charm or just, you know, hit the beach. We won't judge. Later, there's an optional pub crawl to get involved in, so brace your beer-swilling arm.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Pub crawl

DAY 4 | VALENCIA TO GRANADA

Wake up to a scenic drive to Granada, the last Moorish city in Spain to fall to the Christians. Ready to discover why this is the hottest destination in Andalusia?



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

DAY 5 | GRANADA

First things first: take in the impressive Moorish architecture in the Albaycín district, which is set against the backdrop of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Cue an endless stream of Instagram-worthy pics! Treat yourself to some local cuisine for dinner. Tip: most places serve free tapas with your beverage. Win!



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

DAY 6 | GRANADA TO ASILAH, MOROCCO

Next up: the whitewashed wonder that is the seaside town of Asilah. This place oozes Greek island village vibes, and will no doubt impress with its burgeoning art scene and drool-worthy selection of tapas restaurants.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

DAY 7 | ASILAH TO FES

Today you'll discover why the oldest and largest medieval city in the world is better known for its food. Work up an appetite on our drive through the Moroccan landscape – we're going local for dinner again tonight. In other words: tagine.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

DAY 8 | FES

Tick off the Royal Palace, the Jewish neighbourhood, the UNESCO-listed medina and a leather tannery on a walking tour with a local guide. Then hunt down a hammam and lose yourself in a labyrinth of souks and cobblestone streets. Bring your bargaining pants and embrace the centuries-old tradition of paying what you want for things, not what you're told they cost. Afterwards, relax with some mint tea and congratulate yourself on your haggling prowess.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Guided tour of Fes

DAY 9 | FES

Spend the day checking out the Roman ruins of Volubilis, once the ruling centre of the Roman province of Mauritania. The ancient site dates back to 40 AD, which explains why the ville nouvelle, or 'new city' neighborhood of Fes bears its name – despite being 700 years old. Also on today's agenda: a visit to the World Heritage-listed city of Meknes.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Guided tour of Volubilis
- + Visit the historic city of Meknes

DAY 10 | FES TO SEVILLE, SPAIN

Leave the tagines for paella – we're off to Seville! Seville was founded 3,000 years ago by Hercules, and Sevillanos are extremely proud of their city. Lawrence of Arabia, Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones, Kingdom of Heaven and season five of Games of Thrones were all filmed or partly filmed here. When you look as good as Seville it's hard not to show off.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Seville

DAY 11 | SEVILLE

What will you do on your free day in Seville? Our suggestion: visit the Real Alcázar. This palace is the most stunning example of Mudéjar architecture found on the Iberian Peninsula. If you've got time, you could also take a wander around the Plaza de España and the Cathedral of Seville. Your date tonight: an optional hot and spicy flamenco show.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Flamenco show

DAY 12 | SEVILLE TO LISBON, PORTUGAL

Flirt with Spain's girl next door and discover why Lisbon is basically the San Francisco of Europe. Let the Jeronimos Monastery and the World Heritage-listed Belem Tower feed your daily dose of history. Then: a local meal will sustain a night of dancing in Bairro Alto. Oi!



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Guided tour of Lisbon

DAY 13 | LISBON

Time to get friendly with Portugal's capital city on foot. Check out the medieval maze that is Alfama, the oldest neighbourhood in Lisbon, or venture up to São Jorge Castle for epic views and a history lesson on Moorish culture. Afterwards, wind down in the Botanical Gardens. Did you know that this place was built by a Portuguese king who wanted one of every type of plant in the world? You do now! Sprawl out, have a picnic and get in touch with nature.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

DAY 14 | LISBON TO PORTO

If you think Porto has something to do with port wine, you're right. There's just enough time for a quick stop in Sintra to visit the Palácio Nacional da Pena and Vila Nova de Gaia.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit Sintra

DAY 15 | PORTO

First today, we'll take a look round Ribeira, Porto's famous old town, on a guided walking tour. Medieval streets, quirky alleyways and hand-painted azulejos culminate in a stunning port, complete with traditional fishing boats. UNESCO rates it and so should you. Then: rest your legs on an optional cruise down the Douro river. Did we mention there's also port tasting on the cards for today? Let's do this!



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Porto
+ Port tasting at a winery in Porto



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Boat cruise down the Douro River
+ Boat cruise down the Douro River

DAY 16 | PORTO TO MADRID, SPAIN

Today it's up and onwards to the old haunts of Picasso, Dalí, Miró and a whole bunch of other enviably creative artists from the ritzy 1920s. Get acquainted with the city on a driving tour, then gather with the crew for a tasty included dinner this evening.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Madrid
- + Guided tour of Salamanca

DAY 17 | MADRID

Another day to roam free! Check out the Royal Palace, home to one of Europe's oldest monarchies, then stroll through the expansive Plaza Mayor, get your art fix at the Prado Museum and make like a local at one of the buzzing bistros in Malasaña – an über trendy neighbourhood with a unique character and a provocative past. If all else fails, there's always an optional food tour to get on board with. Elasticated clothing recommended.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Food tour of Madrid

DAY 18 | MADRID TO SAN SEBASTIÁN

Next: San Sebastián. On the way, we'll swing by the Valley of the Fallen memorial and the city of Segovia – another World Heritage-listed gem. Let's just say dinner will be well deserved, you history buffs, you.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit the Valley of the Fallen
- + Orientation tour of Segovia
- + Orientation tour of San Sebastián

DAY 19 | SAN SEBASTIÁN

Wake up! Who needs the snooze button when you're in the beach paradise that is San Sebastián? Spend some time catching waves, or simply soak up the sun. Either way, you'll discover exactly why this Basque hotspot is known for its beaches - and, of course, it's infectious tapas culture. Pintxos, bite size snacks served on sticks (think olives, but bigger mouthfuls) are all the rage in this region. Head to Parte Vieja to eat yourself silly at the city's most popular pintxo bars.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner

DAY 20 | SAN SEBASTIÁN TO BARCELONA

Our first stop today is Zaragoza – then it's back to Barcelona for a final sangria. What better way to toast the end of another adventure? Salud!



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Zaragoza

DAY 21 | BARCELONA

Should you stay or should you go? Your call, but we're outta here after breakfast.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

Meals

Breakfasts are included every day (except on the first morning). Included meals will be a combination of those prepared by Topdeck On-Site Chefs, local restaurants and places in which we stay.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book, or make note of this in the Topdeck app when you check in (refer below). However, please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs, particularly in Eastern Europe. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu

Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app is **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**. With a range of cool features including a Currency Converter, Budget Planner, Check-In tool and Social Timeline (so your next #TravelEnvy post is never too far away) you can plan your trip like a pro.

Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

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Passenger safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

OTHER INFORMATION



THAT'S IT!