



MESMERISING MOROCCO, THE FORGOTTEN NORTHERN SPAIN & PORTUGAL WITH COUNTRY ROADS & FOODIE HEAVEN FRANCE

15TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Highlights: Madrid –Morocco - Lisbon – Porto – Santiago to Northern Spain – Bordeaux and Loire Valley ending in Paris.

Enjoy an in-depth portrait of the local people, their cultural heritage and their multifaceted countries; this trip includes adventuring in Santiago, Santander to San Sebastián.

Leafy vineyards, majestic mountains combined with great food and wine, make for an engaging 'Tour de France.' Enjoy a guided tour of France's best 18th century architecture. The facades of the quaysides, the Grand Théâtre, Triangle d'Or and magnificent Esplanade des Quinconces all contributed to Bordeaux earning inclusion on UNESCO's World Heritage list.





Discover the scenic delights and delicious cuisine of this forgotten part of Spain. Experience the passion, creativity and romance of Spain and Portugal, as you witness fiery flamenco performances, marvel at Gaudi's dreamy architecture and appreciate enchanting citrus-scented squares. Along the way, take in the diversity of architectural styles - ranging from contemporary to Moorish - and taste some of the region's most iconic dishes, including paella. We'll introduce you to local historians, chefs and musicians, as you travel in luxurious comfort and stay in the heart of each spectacular destination.



Morocco is a colourful mix of Islamic, Arabic and African influences. Spain and France have left their marks too. Journey to Morocco to experience a culture and cuisine that is at the crossroads of civilization, blending the most delectable Arabic, Berber, French and Spanish influences. You'll head from vibrant Casablanca to the charming fishing town of Essaouira, relax in a tiny Berber village in the High Atlas mountains, and finally, explore extraordinary Marrakech, the most African of Morocco's cities.



TOP HIGHLIGHTS

- **Bordeaux:** Your Local Expert will show you the quayside facades, Grand Théâtre, Triangle d'Or and magnificent Esplanade des Quinconces.
- **Amboise:** See the Royal Château beside the Loire River.
- **Paris:** See the many attractions Paris has to offer such as the Eiffel Tower, the River Seine and its romantic bridges, the obelisk in the centre of the Place de la Concorde and enjoy a drive along the Champs-Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe.
- **Santiago de Compostela:** The Romanesque interior of the cathedral is magnificent. Let a Local Expert take you through the Gateway of Glory to witness the final stage of one of the world's most ancient pilgrimages.
- **Santiago de Compostela:** Enjoy an guided tour of the Old Town.
- **Oviedo:** Led by your Local Expert, see 1,000-year-old wall paintings in some of Europe's oldest churches. Admire the incredible altarpiece, one of the finest in Europe, when you visit the Cathedral of the Holy Saviour.
- **Picos de Europa National Park:** Venture into this magnificent national park to admire the stunning picturesque scenery and rocky trails.
- **Picos de Europa National Park:** Visit the holy cave of Covadonga and see the tomb of Pelayo who is celebrated for winning the Battle of Covadonga against the Muslim Moors in 722 and later became the first King of Asturias.
- **Santillana del Mar:** Step back in time when you visit this perfectly preserved and 'most beautiful village in Spain.'
- **Bilbao:** See the spectacular modern Guggenheim Museum designed by Frank Gehry and sites of this Basque region gem during your orientation with your Travel Director.
- **Getaria:** See the rock known as El Ratón, or the mouse.
- **San Sebastián:** Led by your Local Expert, enjoy a guided walking tour of the Old Quarter including Plaza de la Constitucion.
- **San Sebastián:** Ascend Monte Igueldo to marvel at the views of the town and La Concha Bay.



- **Porto** Visit the wine stores and enjoy a port tasting experience
- **Lisbon:** Explore with your Local Expert, from the Lower Town, beneath the hilltop Bairro Alto to the Terreiro do Paco. Visit the Belém Quarter to see the Monument to the Discoveries and the ancient Belém Tower.
- **Lisbon:** Visit the Jerónimos Monastery with its beautiful Manueline architecture, reflecting Portugal's trade over the centuries and UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Fes:** Led by your Local Expert, wander the maze of streets that make up the ancient Medina. Pass one of the world's oldest university's and see the hidden courtyards, mosques and workshop and continue through the souks, an array of vendors selling food, clothes, leather goods and beautiful lights.
- **Fes:** Learn about the traditional craft of carpet making, gaining an insight to the designs the and the difference in materials.
- **Marrakesh:** Your Local Expert guides you past Jemaa el-Fnaa Square with its intriguing characters and through the seemingly entangled streets of the Medina with its many souks. See the protruding Koutoubia Minaret.
- **Marrakesh:** Built around a lovely inner-garden, explore the Bahia Palace with a Local Expert and see glimpses of a Moroccan kingdom's former opulence.
- **Rabat:** Led by your Local Expert, see the Royal Palace and Hassan Tower.





YOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Tue 15 Sep 2020 **Arrive Paris**

Welcome to Paris. On arrival, you will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel. Later, meet the rest of your group and your Travel Director for a welcome drink and dinner.

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Hotel: Paris – 2 nights

Day 2: Wed 16 Sep 2020 **Paris Sightseeing**

During your time in Paris, see the Eiffel Tower, facades of the Louvre and the banks of the River Seine, with its many romantic bridges. See the Place de la Concorde and drive along the Champs Elysees to the Arc de Triomphe. This evening is free for you to explore at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast



Day 3: Thu 17 Sep 2020 **Paris – Tours**

Venture into the Loire valley today and experience an introduction to the splendour of French court life with a visit to Château de Chenonceau. A jewel of the French Renaissance, set on elegant arches spanning the River Cher. This was home to Diane de Poitiers, mistress of King Henri II, until she was evicted by the vengeful Queen, Catherine de Medici. Join a Local Expert to admire the sumptuous decor, intricate ceilings and lavish artworks before free time in the formal gardens, where roses and clipped lavender are laid out in typical French style. Taste the wines of the region near Amboise with a wine tasting before continuing to Tours for the evening.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Hotel: Tours – 1 night



Day 4: Fri 18 Sep 2020 Tours – Bordeaux

This morning, walk with a Local Expert around this University town. Then continue towards Bordeaux.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Hotel: Bordeaux 2 nights

Day 5: Sat 19 Sep 2020 Bordeaux touring

Tour around, lunch in a winery and wine tasting today.
Today is dedicated to exploring this picturesque part of France. We visit a winery to taste the distinctive wines of the region and also lunch in the heart of Bordeaux.

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch



Day 6: Sun 20 Sep 2020 Bordeaux – San Sebastian

Enjoy the scenery today as we travel through the Natural Park region and into the Basque region. Make a stop in the French village of Biarritz, summer residence of Napoleon III with its sophisticated spa resort. After free time for lunch continue to nearby St. Jean the Luz, jewel of the Basque Country. With a Local Expert, visit the church where Louis XIV "The Sun King" married the Spanish princess Maria Teresa.



Then cross the border into Spain to our destination, San Sebastian. This evening dinner at a seafood restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Hotel: San Sebastian – 3 nights

Day 7: Mon 21 Sep 2020 San Sebastian and Pinxtos

Admire the beauty of San Sebastian with a Local Expert. Walk through the Old Quarter to see the Plaza de la Constitucion. Head to Monte Egueldo for breath taking view of the town and La Concha Bay. Next we split into small groups for a Pinxtos tour to sample some of the regional delicacies. This evening is free.

Meals: Breakfast and Pinxtos

Day 8: Tue 22 Sep 2020 San Sebastian free time

Enjoy a day at leisure to stroll along San Sebastian's boardwalk and just relax.

Meals: Breakfast



Day 9: Wed 23 Sep 2020 San Sebastian – Santander

Admire the views as you drive along part of the Costa Vasca and pause in getaria to see El Raton, the mouse-shaped rock. Then onto Bilbao and admire the striking architecture of the Guggenheim Museum. Continue to the beach resort of Santander

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Hotel: Santander – 1 night

Day 10: Thu 24 Sep 2020 Santander – Oviedo

Travel to Santillana del Mar, arguably the most beautiful village in Spain. Next visit the holy cave of Covadonga, a shrine to palayo before travelling into Picos de Europa, a national park with spectacular scenery. Then its onto our base for the night, Oviedo.

Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Hotel: Oviedo – 1 night



Day 11: Fri 25 Sep 2020 Oviedo – Santiago De Compostela

With a Local Expert see the 9th Century churches and visit the Cathedral of the Holy savior in Plaza Alfonso II. Admire the incredible alter piece, one of the finest in Europe. Then a short drive brings you to the Bay of Biscay and the delightful city of Gijon. Here we enjoy a traditional lunch before travelling along the Green Coast of Asturias, and then south to Santiago de Compostela.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Hotel: Santiago de Compostela – 2 nights



Day 12: Sat 26 Sep 2020 Santiago De Compostela

With a Local Expert, visit Plazo do Obradoiro to admire the cathedral façade festooned with architectural frills. Venture inside, passing the Gateway of Glory. The faithful may choose to pass behind the high alter to touch the giant 13th Century gilded effigy of St James and wander the Way of St James. Relax during your free time to explore the narrow streets and old squares of the city.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 13: Sun 27 Sep 2020 To Porto

Continue south today through scenic countryside and the Spanish cities of Pordovedra known for its well-preserved old town and nearby Vigo. We have a last taste of Spain here before crossing the border into Portugal and Porto, port wine capital of the world. Visit the Vila Nova de Gaia wine stores that house the famous wines and walk along corridors of casks. Get to know your tawnys and vintages during a tasting.

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Hotel: Porto – 2 nights

Day 14: Mon 28 Sep 2020 Porto Sightseeing

With a full day free to enjoy at your own pace, why not take a stroll to admire the multi-coloured houses and iconic bridges?

Perhaps embark on a relaxing Douro River cruise?

Meals: Breakfast



Day 15: Tue 29 Sep 2020 Porto – Lisbon

Head south for a visit to miraculous Fatima. See the Basilica or visits the Chapel of the Apparitions, which commemorates the appearance of the Virgin Mary to three young shepherds in 1917. Journey next to the fortified town of Obidos and walk inside the walls, exploring the narrow, medieval streets with houses covered with flowers. Your travels continue to the Portuguese capital Lisbon.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Lisbon – 2 nights

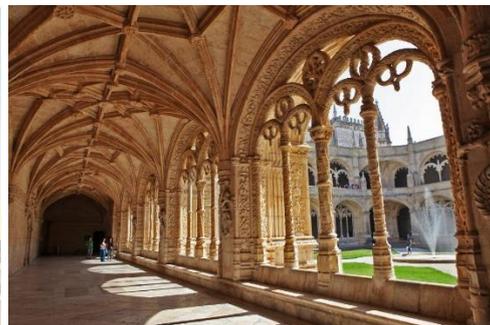
Day 16: Wed 30 Sep 2020 Lisbon Sightseeing

Sightseeing with a Local Expert takes you along the spacious avenues of the Lower Town and beneath the hilltop Bairro Alto to the Terreiro do Paco, the finest square in the city. Visit the belem quarter from here the sailing ships once set forth to discover unknown lands, See the traditional bakery that has managed to hold onto the secret recips of Portugal’s finest pastry for almost 200 years and enjoy a taste of the famous Pastéis de belem.

View the monument to the Discoveries and the more ancient Belem Tower. Then visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Jeronimo’s Monument with its beautiful Manueline architecture. The rest of the day is at leisure.

This evening we will enjoy a special dinner to Farewell our time in Europe before heading to Morocco.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner



Day 17: Thu 01 Oct 2020 Lisbon – Fly to Casablanca

This morning transfer to the airport and join your flight to Morocco departing at 9:35am.

On arrival at 11am, you are met by your coach and local guide. You will enjoy a brief orientation of Casablanca before heading to our accommodation in Rabat. After settling in, we head out to a local restaurant to get our first taste of Morocco. Sightseeing with a Local Expert in Rabat this afternoon before dining at a local restaurant.

(Note: flight has been included in costings but may be subject to change at time of booking with rate of exchange)

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Hotel: Golden Tulip Farah Hotel Rabat – 1 night



Day 18: Fri 02 Oct 2020 Meknes – Fes

Travel to Meknes, one of the kingdom's great imperial cities dating back to the 11th century; its surroundings have remained unchanged for centuries. Stand before the Bab el-Mansour, the monumental entrance to the imperial city and focal point of Place El-Hedim before continuing to Fes. You'll be delighted with your superb Moroccan Dinner and show.

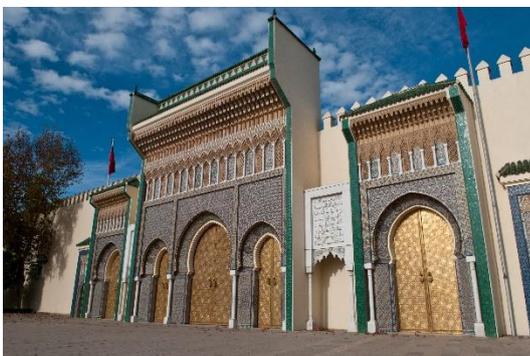
Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Hotel: Marriott Hotel Jnan Palace Fes or similar – 2 night



Day 19: Sat 03 Oct 2020 Fes Sightseeing

Led by your Local Expert, wander the maze of streets that make up the ancient Medina. Pass one of the world's oldest universities and see the hidden courtyards, mosques and workshops. Visit the Royal Palace, and then continue through the souks where an array of vendors sell food, clothes, leather goods and beautiful lights. There's free time to then explore on your own



Day 20: Sun 04 Oct 2020 Fes - Marrakesh

See the middle of the Atlas mountains and mud walled villages as you journey to Marrakech.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Hotel: Le Meridien N'Fis Hotel Marrakesh or similar – 2 nights



Day 21: Mon 05 Oct 2020 Marrakesh Sightseeing

An exploration with your Local Expert will show you the Medina with its many souks and the Koutoubia Minaret dominating the skyline. Visit the intricately decorated Palais Bahia, intended to be the greatest palace of its time when it was built in the late 19th Century.

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner



Day 22: Tue 06 Oct 2020 Marrakesh – Casablanca

After a relaxed start, journey to the west coast of Africa to reach Casablanca. On an orientation, see the Hassan II Mosque, the largest mosque in the country, and the chic seaside strip known as the Corniche, lined with trendy restaurants and cafes. This evening join a lively Celebration dinner at Rick's café and discover if Humphrey Bogart did say "play it again Sam."

Meals: Breakfast and Celebration Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Grand Mogador City Centre Casablanca or similar – 1 night



Day 23: Wed 07 Oct 2020 Tour ends

Your tour ends after breakfast with a transfer to the airport.

Meals: Breakfast

*Please note - The itinerary and hotels are subject to change should circumstances dictate.

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

Accommodation

22 Nights accommodation based on twin share in superior 4 star hotels. Hotels quoted are to be used as a guide only and are subject to availability and change at the time of booking. If the quoted hotel is unavailable, we will secure another hotel in the same category as similar as possible.

Sightseeing & Meals

All included as per the itinerary.

There are many highlight Lunch and Dinners as well as Wine tastings included on tour.

Travel Director

Services of a professional English speaking Travel Director throughout.
Sing Australia Leadership with singing opportunities throughout the tour
Local expert guides where required and as noted on the itinerary.

Service Charges

Tips to restaurants where a meal is included in the itinerary
Service charges and local taxes on services provided on tour.

Transportation

Flight from Lisbon to Casablanca on the 1st of October in economy included
Transportation by luxury air conditioned Coach in France, Spain and Portugal. (Day 1 – 16)
Day 17 - 23 in Morocco (subject to conditions). A local Coach will be used for Transfer to airport on day 17.
Arrival and departure transfers are based on one group arrival and one group departure transfer.
Should members of the group require transfers outside these times, they will have to make their own transport arrangements.

Porterage

One piece of luggage per person, in and out of hotels included on tour.

Gratuities (Tips)

Gratuities to Travel Director, Coach driver and local guides has already been included for your convenience.

NOT INCLUDED: Travel Insurance, Optional Experience, International flights and items of a personal nature whilst on tour.

Tour Cost and Further Details

Total Tour/Land Cost: \$10,885 per person Australian Dollars (based on twin share) Excludes international flights

*please note that this an approximate cost and is subject to change, should minimum numbers not be met or for reasons outside our control if there is a large fluctuation in currency exchange or the itinerary needs to be amended

Single Supplement: \$2555

Deposit: A non refundable deposit of AUD \$2500 is required at the time of booking no later than **Monday 30th September 2019**

Final Payment:

Due to Sing Australia by Friday 5th June 2020

Airfare Payment: Payment for the group airfare will be advised in due course when group numbers are finalised Any changes to airfares once booked do incur costs.

GROUP AIRFARES: A special group airfare will be arranged for you from major capital cities (Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Sydney) Other cities may incur an additional charge. Details will be advised in due course with times and airline details.

*Flying into Paris and departing from Casablanca

*If you are arranging your own airfare you will need to make your way to the start of the tour and transfers to and from the airport will not be included.

PRE OR POST TOUR EXTENTIONS: Please contact Alycia at Travelust, should you wish to add days before or after your tour or for any special amendments. alycia@travelust.com.au

INSURANCE: Insurance is required to travel on this tour. A special group rate has been organized and further details will be provided by Alycia at Travelust on request and by providing your date of birth. Policy prices vary according to age and if you have any pre existing medical conditions. Please contact her for details on alycia@travelust.com.au
Note that if you arrange your own travel insurance, assistance with any claims will not be provided and may incur a charge for any paperwork required to be completed by Travelust.

VISAS: A visa is not required for travel within France, Spain, Portugal or Morocco for up to 90 days for Australian passport holders. For all other passport holders, please check your requirements. It is each individual's responsibility to ensure that they meet visa and passport requirements.

PASSPORTS: Must have at least 6 months validity from the date of travel and 2 free blank passport pages

Terms & Conditions

Price: The advertised price is in Australian dollars and includes security & local taxes as per the itinerary. The price based on minimum passenger numbers and may increase if minimum numbers are not met. Sing Australia would advise in this instance of any changes.

Cancellation Fees:

Deposit is non refundable (unless tour is cancelled due to minimum numbers not met)

Prior to the 5th of June 2020 loss of deposit

From 5th of June 2020 to departure: 100% of total tour cost

Cancellation fees for airfares vary, depending on airlines and their individual conditions. These are not included in the above cancellation fees

Amendments: A fee of \$100 may apply to any change made to your booking once confirmed

Refunds: No refund is available if cancellations occur after the tour has commenced or in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised.

Itinerary Changes & Tour Cancellation: Travelust and Sing Australia reserves the right to vary itineraries should circumstances dictate, as well as cancel or reschedule any tour departure in accordance with operating requirements, or circumstances beyond its control. The advertised tours require minimum numbers to depart. Should these not be met Travelust and Sing Australia reserves the right to cancel arrangements.

Hotels listed are to be used as a guide only, and are subject to availability unless otherwise stipulated. Travelust and Sing Australia reserve the right to alter or deviate from the tour itinerary, inclusions or hotels should circumstances dictate. Coach use is subject to Driver Regulations.

Baggage Allowance & Porterage: Porterage of one suitcase per person is included in the tour price for arrival & departure from hotels in Europe. Due to limited coach capacity the sum of the length, width & depth of the case should not exceed 160cm (63 inches), and weight should not exceed 20kg (44 Lbs). Charges may be levied in the event these limits are exceeded & the promise to transport you may be invalidated.

What's Not Included: Passports and applicable visa fees, laundry, phone calls, items of a personal nature, beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed on the itinerary, tips and gratuities to the Tour Director, coaches drivers and local city guides, excess baggage, optional excursions and travel insurance. Please note that travel insurance is a requirement of this tour.

Documentation: Will be sent out approximately 3 weeks prior to departure electronically. (Physical tickets are not required and no longer exist for flights – everything is electronic)

Disclaimer

In case of sudden price increases or surcharges levied by suppliers such as, but not limited to, fuel surcharges, government tax increases or other unforeseen price increases, Sing Australia and Travelust reserves the right to alter the price quoted in this document or the conditions mentioned. Travelust also reserves the right to change any arrangement (including tours, programs, prices and services) in the best interest of its Client, with or without prior notice.

Booking Terms and Conditions: These conditions incorporate the basis upon which bookings are accepted the Sing Australia member and Travelust. By making a booking you are agreeing to these terms & conditions. These must be studied prior to making the commitment of paying the deposit as they must be referred to. Additional terms and conditions may be applicable to group bookings and will be advised as they become known