Language and Culture in Spain

To appreciate Spanish, it helps to fall in love with Spain. Accessible to all levels of Spanish learners, this interactive tour adds context to the vocabulary and gives you plenty of time to practice with native speakers. Explore Madrid’s central market, dance along to a flamenco show in Toledo, and connect with locals during a city-wide scavenger hunt in Barcelona.
Help middle school students find their place in the world

Travel fuels curiosity, offers fresh perspectives, and gives students the opportunity to discover life beyond their backyards. Our middle school tours are specially-designed, with hands-on activities in exciting destinations that are popular with students aged 11-15. And with our 50+ years of experience, we know just how to keep students excited to learn more about the world, themselves, and their place in the world.

What to expect on our middle school tours

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES
Our tours offer the perfect balance of cultural exploration and experiential activities.

AMAZING DESTINATIONS
Take your students just about anywhere. Many middle school teachers especially love traveling to England, Italy, Spain, France, and Panama.

24/7 TOUR DIRECTOR
Your expert Tour Director not only knows the ins and outs of each location you visit, but also how to keep students this age active and engaged. They are with your group 24/7, and are trained to respond to every type of situation.

YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES
Full-time Tour Director; sightseeing tours; entrance fees for Royal Palace, Prado, cooking class, Toledo Cathedral, Church of Santo Tomé, St. Mary’s Synagogue, flamenco show, La Sagrada Familia, Park Güell, cultural workshop; round-trip flights; 7 overnight stays in hotels; breakfast and dinner daily.

“Middle schoolers have the capacity to think globally. The sooner we can give them that experience, the more likely they are to change the world.”

Nathan W., Eighth Grade Teacher and Group Leader

Visit Toledo, the former Spanish capital where Muslims, Jews, and Christians peacefully coexisted for centuries.
Day 1: Fly overnight to Spain

Day 2: Madrid
Welcome to Spain’s vibrant capital city. Begin your adventure with a walking tour of la Puerta del Sol, the bustling square where the country’s radial network of roads begin, and Plaza Mayor, a regally beautiful central square designed and constructed during Philip III’s reign.

Day 3: Madrid
This morning, practice your conversational Spanish in an interactive language workshop focused on Spanish history and culture. Step inside the world of Spanish kings and queens during a guided tour of Spain’s official royal residence, el Palacio Real. And at Spain’s national art museum, the Prado, admire the vast array of European artwork.

Day 4: Madrid
Test your food-related Spanish vocabulary before visiting Madrid’s central produce market, overflowing with fresh fruit, vegetables, seafood, sausages, cheeses, and meats (including the finest Jabugo ham). While here, interact with local vendors during a market challenge and sample traditional Spanish foods along the way. Then try your hand at preparing an authentic Spanish dinner during a hands-on cooking class.

Day 5: Madrid | Toledo
Take a day trip to the ancient city of Toledo. On a tour with an expert local guide, you’ll see St. Mary’s Synagogue, the Church of Santo Tomé, and the Toledo Cathedral. Experience the soul of Spain as you observe a traditional flamenco performance. Born of Indian, Moorish, Arabian, and gypsy influences, flamenco dance is a passionate display of intricate heel-work and clapping.

Day 6: Madrid | Barcelona
Travel by AVE, Spain’s high-speed train, to Barcelona this morning. Stretch your legs on a walking tour of the city, starting at the mile-long pedestrian boulevard of Las Ramblas. From there, amble over to the oldest part of the city, Barrio Gótico, with many buildings dating back to medieval times.

Day 7: Barcelona
Channel master painters during an interactive art-focused language lesson. Take an expert-led tour of Park Güell, a beautiful public garden designed by one of Spain’s most renowned architects, Antoni Gaudí. Step inside La Sagrada Familia, Gaudí’s cathedral masterpiece. Marvel at the intricate façade and mosaics—or climb one of the many towers for a spectacular view of the city. Tonight, interact with locals over a homemade meal.

Day 8: Barcelona
Learn more about daily life in Spain during a conversational Spanish lesson today. Interact with locals during a city-wide scavenger hunt. Participate in a cultural exchange activity with locals. Whether it’s a trivia night, a pickup soccer game, a student-guided walking tour, or a community project, you’ll experience life in Barcelona firsthand.

Day 9: Depart for home
The world leader in international education

For over 50 years, EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence.

SAFETY
We’re committed to your safety. With 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

AFFORDABILITY
We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

INSIGHT
We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.