Madrid
International Training Tour
We are committed to ensuring every new Group Leader is fully prepared to lead an EF Educational Tour with their students. Our training tour program includes online, classroom, and experiential learning components, which are facilitated by EF staff, EF Tour Directors, and Global Education Ambassadors from across the United States. The combination of a simulated tour experience and classroom learnings will provide Group Leaders with all the tools, practice, and knowledge necessary to be confident and organized when they travel with their own students.

Day 1
Fly overnight to Spain

Day 2
Arrive in Madrid: “Bienvenidos,” and welcome to Madrid. At the airport, you will be greeted by your Tour Director and EF staff, who will remain with you for the duration of the tour. Your hotel will likely not be ready for check-in, so you will head right into the city.

Walking tour of Madrid: Meet at the Puerta del Sol (where Madrileños once battled Napoleon) for your walking tour of Madrid. Then, walk through one of the nine arched gateways leading to the Plaza Mayor, the renaissance hub of the city. Plus, see the restaurant immortalized by Hemingway in “The Sun Also Rises.”

Visit the Prado Museum: Explore the Prado, which houses an astonishing 3,000 paintings collected by Spanish royalty. This massive building boasts an impressive catalogue of works by artists such as Velazquez, Goya, and Botticelli.

Welcome dinner: Become acquainted with your colleagues, experienced EF Group Leaders, and EF staff as you enjoy a typical on-tour meal.

Day 3
Training seminar one: This collaborative session offers the opportunity to hear from EF staff and experienced Group Leaders about the on-tour experience with EF. In a panel discussion, we will review best practices surrounding safety, group management, student engagement, and various Group Leader responsibilities on tour. You’ll also learn about on-tour reflection exercises, which can be brought back to your classroom.

Guided sightseeing of Madrid: Your local guide introduces you to the sights of Madrid on a panoramic tour of the city, which includes a visit to the Palacio Real.

Free evening in Madrid: Tonight, explore the city and enjoy dinner with other educators.

Key learnings:
• Discuss safety on tour as it applies to your role as a Group Leader, as well as EF’s approach to safety
• Gain a better understanding of EF’s worldwide presence
• Hear from experienced Group Leaders on how to facilitate tipping local guides, bus drivers, and your Tour Director on tour
• Learn how to safely move as a large group in a major city
• Collaborate with experienced Group Leaders on how to best maximize student engagement during long bus transfers
• Learn how to best set expectations and provide structure during free time on tour

Day 4
Training seminar two: During this session, collaborate with new and experienced Group Leaders on different ways to ensure your students have positive physical journeys while traveling, but also meaningful personal growth. Discuss a range of important pre-tour topics, such as curricular alignment, successful recruiting strategies, student-driven learning, building your travel team, and creating a global education plan.

Guided excursion to Toledo: Embark on a journey to the former Spanish capital of Toledo, where Muslims, Jews, and Christians once peacefully coexisted. Notice the influence of all three cultures as you tour the 12th-century St. Mary’s Synagogue. You’ll also visit the cathedral that dominates Toledo’s skyline before continuing to the Church of Santo Tome. Then, make a final stop at a local damascene workshop, an intricate Muslim craft originated in Damascus and made famous in Toledo.

EVERYTHING YOU GET

- Full-time Tour Director with EF Staff
- Sightseeing to select attractions
- Entrances to select attractions
- Round-trip flights on major carriers
- Hotel accommodations
- Comfortable motorcoach
- Breakfast daily and additional meals as specified
- Training seminar with EF and experienced Group Leaders
- 25 Professional Development hours

Not included: Global Travel Protection; activities during free time; customary gratuities for your Tour Director, bus driver and local guides

"The tour was absolutely amazing and prepared me to travel with students. No other preparation would ever have been able to do that.

Neisha U., Ohio"
Flamenco evening: Flamenco is a unique art form combining guitar-playing, singing, chanting, dancing, and hand-clapping. There are two main types of songs in flamenco: one lively and cheerful (cante chico) and the other sad and haunting (cante jondo).

Farewell dinner: Reflect on what you’ve learned in Madrid at tonight’s farewell dinner.

Key learnings:
• Practice engaging your students in reflection exercises to connect on-tour learning with classroom lessons
• Collaborate with fellow educators and staff on EF’s learning outcomes
• Understand how to best prepare yourself and your group for departure meetings
• Learn creative ways to generate student excitement and promote your tour
• Discuss best practices on how to build a sustainable travel program in your community

Day 5
Your Tour Director will facilitate your transport to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary subject to change. Accommodations and flight details to be announced approximately 14 days prior to departure.