



MAY 10-18, 2025

with optional  
Barcelona Post-Tour

# FLAVORS OF THE SPANISH COAST

Orbridge

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join us on a nine-day journey to discover the diverse flavors and myriad historic treasures of the Spanish Coast. During this leisurely sojourn visit artisan shops, delight in tours and tastings at award-winning wineries and discover local fishing, farming and culinary techniques that have been used over generations. Embrace the region's unique charm as you learn about the history and culture that have shaped its Mediterranean seaside villages and friendly locals.

Each day features exclusive and authentic experiences with chefs, wine and olive oil producers, local vendors and extraordinary historic sights. Learn about and savor the great cuisine for which Spain is famous—in cooking classes, tastings and guided tours. Revel in Spain's celebrated art, architecture and history with visits to world-famous sites and cultural monuments.

Your home base during this adventure is the enchanting El Racó de Madremanya, a property that epitomizes rustic elegance and contemporary style. Meticulously restored medieval buildings made entirely of stone sit among a magnificent garden and welcoming common spaces.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly. To reserve, visit [vcu.orbridge.com](http://vcu.orbridge.com), call (866) 639-0079 or return the attached reservation form.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Bass  
Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations  
Virginia Commonwealth University

# Flavors of the Spanish Coast | Itinerary and Highlights (subject to change)

Day 1: EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

Day 2: ARRIVE IN BARCELONA, SPAIN | MADREMANYA Upon arrival an Orbridge representative will be waiting to assist with your transfer to the property. Take time to unpack and settle in before joining fellow travel companions for a welcome dinner. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (D)

Day 3: GIRONA Take a guided walking tour of Girona passing contemporary museums, galleries, churches, bars and restaurants, plus the Jewish Quarter. After lunch on your own, meet at Rocambolesc Gelateria for a treat. Late afternoon return to El Racó de Madremanya for a hands-on cooking class to learn the art of making paella—one of the region's most famous dishes. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,D)

Day 4: PÚBOL | FIGUERES | PALAU SATOR After breakfast set out for Púbol to tour Gala's Castle—a serene and secluded refuge Salvador Dalí gave to his beloved wife and muse, Gala. Continue to the Dalí Theatre-Museum for an inside visit. Next stop at the medieval town of Palau Sator for a brief walking tour, plus a visit to the museum Rural De Palau-Sator. Gather together for a lovely dinner at Mas Pou Restaurant before returning to the property. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,L,D)

Day 5: EL PORT DE LA SELVA | CADAQUÉS | CANTALLOPS See Sant Pere de Rodes, a 10th-century Benedictine monastery, and hear the legendary tales shrouding its origin. Stroll through Cadaqués before visiting Masia Serra Winery for a vineyard tour followed by dinner featuring a wine pairing. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,L,D)

Day 6: MONELLS | CALELLA DE PALAFRUGELL | ST. SEBASTIA (LLAFRANC) | PALAMOS Begin with a visit to the medieval town of Monells for a guided walk. Next drive to Palafrugell for a seaside walk between Calella de Palafrugell and Llafranc before lunch at El Far. This afternoon visit Museu de la Pesca to learn about the fishing industry's history and importance to the region. Continue to a local market to see a fish auction in action. Peruse the fresh seafood, including selections you will use in a hands-on cooking class to create dishes for tonight's dinner. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,L,D)

Day 7: LA BISBAL | EMPÚRIES | L'ESCALA Walk through the local market in La Bisbal, the capital of Catalan pottery. Continue to the ruins of Empúries to view part of the legacy left behind by Greek and Roman civilizations. Excavations began in 1908 and continue to this day. This evening relax and dine at Michelin-starred Massana in Girona. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,D)

Day 8: EMPORDÀ Following a leisurely morning, delight in a picnic lunch at the property. This afternoon set out for La Vinyeta, a family-run winery. Meet the owner and vintner to explore the grounds of verdant vineyards and olive trees. Tonight join fellow travel companions for a farewell dinner featuring an exciting Flamenco dance performance to celebrate your memorable time exploring the Spanish Coast. Overnight: El Racó de Madremanya (B,L,D)

Day 9: MADREMANYA | BARCELONA | DEPART FOR U.S. After breakfast transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)





## What's Included

- 7 nights luxury accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 7 dinners served with wine
- Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director and expert local guides
- All lessons, private tours and tastings, and unique small-group excursions noted on the 9-day itinerary
- Private motor coach transportation
- Luggage portage
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, porters and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times



**Activity Level:** Guests should be able to enjoy two hours or more of walking, be sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and walk up and down stairs without assistance. Historic city centers are usually more accessible by foot than vehicle. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled may be limited.

## Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host

Your Orbridge Travel Director will infuse your journey with an epicure's appreciation of food and wine, a local's knowledge and pride of place, and a travel aficionado's ability to gather the beauty of all senses to your discoveries in Spain.



**Orbridge**



## Accommodations *(subject to change)*

Originally a 17th-century farmhouse set in a medieval stone village, El Racó de Madremanya is a gorgeously restored property that features an enchanting warmth and sophistication which will surround you as you settle into your room. The boutique hotel's on-site proprietor, Ivan, departed the corporate world to refocus his energy towards the hospitality industry—his true passion. Welcoming guests as he would close friends, Ivan's charismatic personality sweetens the already congenial atmosphere.

Property amenities include lush gardens, fresh water pool, salt water pool, sitting room with library, complimentary Wi-Fi and fireplace.

Each room features a custom color theme and optional aromatherapy for a unique personality.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, TV with local channels, telephone, minibar, bathrobes and slippers, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hairdryer.*

**Standard I:** Charming and cozy room featuring stone floors and walls throughout, with a European queen bed. (172 sq.ft.)

**Standard II:** Romantic room featuring stone walls throughout and a terrace with garden and pool views. With a European queen bed. (215 sq.ft.)

**Superior:** Larger rooms located in the farmhouse featuring stone walls, unique features and views of the garden or medieval village corridors. With either a European queen bed or European king bed. (301-355 sq.ft.)

**Junior Suite:** Bright and spacious rooms located in the contemporary buildings with outdoor garden terraces and a variety of distinct features. With either a European queen bed or European king bed. (333-645 sq.ft.)

**Suite:** Large, desirable rooms with numerous unique aspects, featuring a separate living room (some with a fireplace), full bathroom with hydro-massage tub and shower, and terrace with easy pool and garden access. With a European king bed. (441-645 sq.ft.)

**Grand Suite:** Spectacular two-story suite featuring a ground floor bedroom, second floor living room with fireplace and TV, roomy bathroom with hydro-massage tub, and access to the terrace, private garden and private pool. With a European king bed. (753 sq.ft.)





## Optional Post-Tour Barcelona

Discover one of the oldest cities in Europe, one which boasts a marriage of contrasts—historic streets and buildings that have survived more than 2,000 years alongside unique architecture designed by Gaudí as recently as the early 1900s.

**Day 9: MADREMANYA | BARCELONA** After arriving in Barcelona set out on a panoramic visit of the city, passing by Paseo de Gracia and La Pedrera. As you absorb the lively atmosphere, explore the interesting examples of magnificent architecture, from 14th-century Gothic style to early 20th-century Modernism. Enjoy views from Montjuïc before arriving at today's featured highlight, an inside visit to La Sagrada Família—Barcelona's most visited attraction—where you'll have a guided tour inside the crown jewel of Antoni Gaudí's works.  
Overnight: Hotel 1898

**Day 10: BARCELONA | GOTHIC WALKING TOUR** Today enjoy a walking tour through the narrow streets of medieval Barcelona. Discover the elegant and inspiring Catalan Gothic architecture. From here, travel back to the Middle Ages visiting the Jewish Quarter and the El Born district. See popular locales, such as Plaça Reial (Royal Square) and its Fountain of the Three Graces, Carrer Ferran and Plaça del Pi. Also visit inside the Gothic Cathedral, and make a stop at the Santa Caterina Market. Finish with a walk through Moncada Street, passing the Picasso Museum toward the magnificent Santa Maria del Mar Church, one of the most beautiful in Barcelona.  
Overnight: Hotel 1898 (B)

**Day 11: BARCELONA** The day is yours to enjoy Barcelona at your leisure. Perhaps visit the Picasso Museum or take a pleasant stroll down Las Ramblas, Barcelona's most famous pedestrian boulevard. Venture to Parc Güell, a public park and municipal garden.  
Overnight: Hotel 1898 (B)

**Day 12: BARCELONA | DEPART FOR U.S.** After breakfast guests departing during the suggested times take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

## What's Included

- Private group transfer from Madremanya to Barcelona
- 3 nights at Hotel 1898 (or similar) with breakfast each morning
- A guided intimate visit of La Sagrada Família
- A guided panoramic tour of Barcelona's highlights
- A guided walking tour of the Gothic Quarter
- Luggage portorage
- Gratuities to local guide, driver and porters
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times



# FLAVORS OF THE SPANISH COAST

**MAY 10-18, 2025**

Barcelona Post-Tour: May 18-21, 2025

## Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: [vcu.orbridge.com](http://vcu.orbridge.com)

Phone: (866) 639-0079

Fax: (206) 452-5655

## Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 1376

Poulsbo, WA 98370

Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Standard I	<del>\$5,499</del>	\$4,995
Standard II	<del>\$5,999</del>	\$5,495
Superior	<del>\$6,499</del>	\$5,995
Junior Suite	<del>\$6,999</del>	\$6,495
Suite	<del>\$7,499</del>	\$6,995
Grand Suite	<del>\$8,499</del>	\$7,995
Single (Standard II)	<del>\$8,499</del>	\$7,995

Barcelona Post-Tour		
Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	<del>\$2,199</del>	\$1,995
Single	<del>\$2,899</del>	\$2,695

Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars.

## GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

Check    ACH (Automated Clearing House)    MasterCard/Visa    American Express    Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as printed on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:


Category Preference: 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at [terms.orbridge.com](http://terms.orbridge.com); and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. [Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green](http://Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green).

\*Special group rate; limited offer. Airfare not included. Single availability limited. \*\*A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.



VCU Alumni  
P.O. Box 843044  
Richmond, VA 23284-3044

# FLAVORS OF THE SPANISH COAST

MAY 10-18, 2025

Special Alumni Rate:

Save more than **\$1,000** per couple

**30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE**

**FREE EXPEDITION LIBRARY**  
AN EXCLUSIVE EARLY  
RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve by  
**August 23, 2024\*\***

## What Guests Are Saying...

Having been to many other areas of Spain, this program was a wonderful introduction to the Spanish Coast region—its culture, food and wine. As a lover of history and art, I enjoyed all things Dali as well as the historical sites.

~Riki W., Houston, TX

Very good balance of planned and free time. Excursions were fun and informative. Local guides augmented the experience and were great. Food and wine were wonderful — interesting, well prepared, plentiful and representative of the Spanish Coast. Our guide was the BEST: always available, informative and inviting.

~Harriet B., Moorestown, NJ

As advertised, we got the “Flavors” of the area, from food, wine, culture, history and architecture. We ended the trip feeling that we understood a bit about the region—not just that we had visited some sites.

~Keith T., San Carlos, CA

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 825  
SAN DIEGO, CA