

LAND JOURNEY



Barcelona

Art, Culture & People

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Stroll through this **vibrant seaside city** along leafy boulevards filled with architectural treasures.
- ▶ Marvel at the incredibly inventive details of **Antoni Gaudí's masterpieces**, named a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- ▶ Admire a remarkable collection of **Pablo Picasso's artwork** from his formative years.
- ▶ Learn how to prepare **traditional Catalán dishes** during a special hands-on cooking session.
- ▶ Sip a refreshing glass of sparkling cava in the **scenic Penedès wine region**.
- ▶ Explore **Montserrat**, a ninth-century monastery tucked into a mountainside.



Interior detail of La Sagrada Família

Delight in Barcelona's world-renowned architecture, artistic heritage and lauded cuisine. This seven-night journey immerses you in the city's culture, allowing you to experience the multifaceted local lifestyle. Don an apron in a Catalonian kitchen, stroll through Parc Güell, sample cava, Spain's sparkling wine, at a family-owned winery in the countryside, and more!

ACTIVE TRAVEL for CULTURAL EXPLORERS

 This program is moderately paced with a good balance of included activities and excursions and time to explore on your own. Travelers should be physically fit, able to walk distances of up to 3 miles, exit and enter trains quickly and navigate stairs, hills and uneven terrain.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart for Barcelona, Spain.✈

Day 2 | Barcelona, Spain

Transfer✈ to the Renaissance Barcelona Hotel.

Enrichment: The History of Catalonia and Barcelona. Gain insights about Catalonia, one of Spain's most independent-minded regions.

Tonight, meet and socialize with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 3 | Barcelona

Discovery: Walking Tour of Gothic Quarter.

Stroll through the atmospheric Barri Gòtic, where medieval Barcelona flourished. Visit Plaça St. Jaume, where civic leaders have run the city since Roman times. Continue to the Plaça del Rei, the historic powerhouse of medieval Catalonia. See the Gothic Cathedral of Barcelona and the Roman walls that defined the perimeter of their colony, Barcino.

Discovery: Barcelona Cook and Taste. Roll up your sleeves and learn how to make Catalán cuisine, including classic appetizers and delicious paella. Then enjoy the wonderful food you've prepared!

Free Time: Venture off to see more of Barcelona.

Day 4 | Barcelona

Enrichment: Modernism and the Architecture of Gaudí. Antoni Gaudí is one of the most famous figures of Catalán culture and world architecture. A local expert discusses how Gaudí's love of God and nature inspired his creations.

Discovery: Gaudí's Barcelona. Seven Gaudí buildings in and around Barcelona, recognized



together as a UNESCO World Heritage site, attest to his architectural contributions. Visit Parc Güell, a captivating public park with colorful, undulating mosaic benches, shady trees and Mediterranean views. Then head to La Sagrada Família, and appreciate his bold use of light, color and form to create a sense of spirituality and grandeur.

Free Time: Your afternoon is at leisure.

This evening, savor a delectable dinner at an elegant restaurant in the Eixample district.

Day 5 | Barcelona

Free Time: Spend your day at leisure. You can also choose to join today's Elective Activity.

ELECTIVE | Girona and Dalí's Figueres.

Journey to the town of Girona, built by the Romans 2,000 years ago. It became an important Catalonian town during the Middle Ages. On a walking tour, discover the Call, the medieval maze of narrow streets that was home to the town's Jewish community. Travel to Figueres, the hometown of surrealist artist Salvador Dalí. Visit the Dalí Theater-Museum, designed by the artist himself. The colorful building topped with giant eggs is as whimsical and dramatic as the artwork inside.

Day 6 | Barcelona

Discovery: Barcelona – Through the Eyes of Picasso. Pablo Picasso drew creative inspiration from the city and embraced its progressive attitudes about art. Visit the Picasso Museum to see one of the largest collections of his early works. Follow in his footsteps as you explore the neighborhood where he and other artists congregated. Then tour El Born, Barcelona's medieval jousting grounds. See Santa Maria del Mar, a 14th-century church built in the Gothic style of Catalonia.

Free Time: Craft your own plans this afternoon.

Day 7 | Montserrat | Penedès Wine Region

Discovery: The Monastery of Montserrat and Penedès Wine Region. Visit the ninth-century Benedictine monastery of Montserrat, built along a sandstone mountain and surrounded by towering



pillar formations. Explore the monastery grounds and basilica, and see the statue of the Virgin of Montserrat, the patroness of Catalonia. Later, admire the pretty scenery of the Penedès wine region, known for cava, a sparkling wine.

Discovery: Cava in the Countryside. At a family-owned winery, relax over a country-style lunch, complemented by a tasting of their refreshing cava.

Day 8 | Barcelona

Enrichment: Contemporary Catalonia. Many Catalonians think of their region as a separate nation from Spain. Learn about their continued efforts for greater independence.

Free Time: Spend your final day exploring on your own. In the seaside neighborhood of Barceloneta, take a leisurely stroll along the lively waterfront, or hop aboard the port cable car for a pleasant ride up the Montjuic hillside. The Montjuic area is known for its acclaimed museums.

Tonight, celebrate your time together in this alluring city at a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.✈

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

(with baggage handling)
– 7 nights in Barcelona, Spain, at the first-class Renaissance Barcelona Hotel.

Extensive Meal Program

– 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
– Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
-  **ELECTIVE** activities to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

 **ACTIVE TRAVEL**
for **CULTURAL EXPLORERS**



DEPARTURES & PRICING

September 28 – October 6, 2019

Full Price	\$3,245
Special Savings	\$250
Special Price	\$2,995*

*Special Price valid if booked by date on the address panel. VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$995 (limited availability).

Note: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Walking is required on many excursions.

✈ Flights and transfers provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

 Electives available at an additional cost.