

Spain

Seville, Madrid, Barcelona & Costa del Sol

May 3-14, 2014



SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Offered in conjunction with Go Ahead Tours

 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

This 12 - Day Trip Includes:

- Round-trip air transportation, airport transfers, and motorcoach transportation to the Detroit airport from SVSU.
- Ten nights accommodations in comfortable and well-located hotels. Three nights in Barcelona, three in Madrid, two in Seville and two on the Costa del Sol.
- Breakfast daily and 3 three-course dinners with beer or wine.
- High-speed AVE train transfers from Barcelona to Madrid and from Madrid to Cordoba. Private deluxe motorcoach transportation from Cordoba to Seville and from Seville to the Costa del Sol.
- All tours and admission fees as outlined in the trip itinerary.
- Pre-dinner approximately two weeks prior to departure.



Trip Sponsors

This educational travel experience is offered by the SVSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in conjunction with Go Ahead Tours. OLLI was established in 2001 as an educational resource for mid-Michigan residents who are 50 years of age or better. Founded in 1990, Go Ahead Tours offers over 85 itineraries to 60 countries across the globe. They are part of Education First, the world's largest private education company whose mission is "to break down the barriers of language, culture, and geography that divide us." Go Ahead was our travel partner for our successful tour to Tuscany last spring, and the Canadian Rockies this summer.

Our travel provider



Pre -Trip Dinner

We will offer a pre-trip dinner about two weeks prior to departure, which will feature traditional Spanish cuisine. You will receive your travel documents, and we will go over trip logistics. You will receive a specific date for the dinner in your confirmation letter.

About Our Lodging

In each city, we will be staying in four star hotels located in close proximity to the major attractions. The hotels that our provider uses for the majority of their tours include:

- Hotel Catalonia Diagonal Centro, Barcelona (3- nights)
- Hotel Catalonia Gran Via, Madrid (3- nights)
- Hotel Ribera de Triana, Seville (2- nights)
- H10 Andalucia Plaza, Costa del Sol (2- nights)

Optional Excursions

You will receive additional details about the optional excursions upon registration. You will be able to register for them closer to departure time.



Trip Itinerary

Day 1: Saturday, May 3

Depart SVSU via motorcoach for overnight flight from Detroit to Barcelona, the fiercely independent region of Catalonia.

Day 2: Sunday, May 4 (Barcelona)

After clearing customs, a Go Ahead representative will greet us and accompany us to our hotel. You'll have time to explore Barcelona on your own before an included dinner where you will learn more about the trip. **(D)**

Day 3: Monday, May 5 (Barcelona)

After breakfast, a local guide will lead us on a sightseeing tour of Barcelona, featuring a stop outside La Sagrada Família (Church of the Holy Family), Gaudí's unfinished masterpiece. As you travel through the city, enjoy panoramic views of the Columbus Monument, the 14th-century Barri Gòtic, and Montjuïc Hill, where the 1992 Summer Olympic Games took place. In the afternoon you may enjoy time on your own or join an optional tour, for an additional cost, to another Gaudi creation, the Parque Guell, a garden village nestled in the city. **(B)**

Day 4: Tuesday, May 6 (Barcelona)

After your included breakfast, spend the day exploring Barcelona on your own. You might enjoy the morning perusing the stalls at La Boqueria, or visit the city's remarkable Picasso Museum. Alternatively, you can join today's optional excursion to a ninth-century monastery in Montserrat, a location that inspired the composer Richard Wagner as he wrote Parsifal. In the evening, you may enjoy dinner on your own, or attend an optional Flamenco Dinner Show to experience the dramatic art of Flamenco dancing. Please note that both optional excursions have an additional charge. **(B)**

Day 5: Wednesday, May 7 (Madrid)

Following an included breakfast, we will transfer to Madrid by high-speed AVE train. Madrid is the lively political, and cultural capital of Spain. You will arrive in time to enjoy an included dinner **(B/D)**

Day 6: Thursday, May 8 (Madrid)

After breakfast, a local guide will lead today's tour through Madrid to the Prado, an extensive art museum that began as the private collection of the Spanish monarchy. You'll see such masterpieces as Velázquez's *Las Meninas* and Goya's *La maja desnuda*. Next stop is the Palacio Real (Royal Palace). Once the seat of the most powerful court in the world, it was here that Spain officially joined the European Union in 1986. This castle boasts more than 2,500 extravagant rooms, a marble staircase and the swords of El Cid. You may choose to have dinner on your own this evening, or for an additional cost, choose a traditional Spanish evening with live music at one of the oldest restaurants in the city which features traditional Castilian food. **(B)**

Day 7: Friday, May 9 (Madrid)

After an included breakfast, you might choose to enjoy the day at your leisure by visiting more of Madrid's museums, exploring its churches and parks, or sipping a cerveza at a sunny cafe in the Plaza Mayor. Or, for an additional charge, join an optional excursion to Toledo. This guided sightseeing tour brings you to the city's Gothic cathedral, the home of an exceptional collection of religious and secular treasures. **(B)**

Day 8: Saturday, May 10 (Seville)

After breakfast, we will transfer by high-speed AVE train to Córdoba, where you'll enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of its majestic Mezquita. Once the seat of the Caliphs, the Mezquita was built in the eighth century as a mosque and then converted into a cathedral during the Christian Reconquista of 1236. At one time, the city of Córdoba was home to 700 mosques, 900 public baths and 70 libraries. Your guided tour will show you the legacy of this city's traditions. In the afternoon, you'll transfer to Seville via motorcoach for an evening on your own. **(B)**

Day 9: Sunday, May 11 (Seville)

After breakfast, you will enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of beautiful Seville. Behold the intricately tiled pavilion of the Plaza de España before entering the opulent Alcazar, once home to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. You'll also visit Seville's impressive Gothic cathedral, one of the world's largest cathedrals, as well as the burial place of Columbus. Later, enjoy free time to explore on your own. We will meet in the evening to enjoy dinner together. **(B/D)**

Day 10: Monday, May 12 (Costa del Sol)

After breakfast, we transfer via motorcoach to the beaches of Costa del Sol. The balance of the day is free at leisure to explore, shop, or just lounge on the beach. The soul of the Costa del Sol is yours to discover in out-of-the-way tapas bars, tiny fishing villages and glamorous see-and-be-seen beaches. **(B)**

Day 11: Tuesday, May 13 (Costa del Sol)

After breakfast, enjoy a day at leisure, or join the optional full-day excursion to Morocco. Board a ferry from the Spanish port town of Algeciras and head south to Ceuta, a Spanish town on the Moroccan coast, where a local guide will provide you with a panoramic tour of the city. Next, embark on a walking tour of Tetuan, where you will visit the Plaza Hassan II, the Plaza del Pilar, the Barrio Judío (Jewish Quarter) and the Zoco, as well as the great wall and the medina (old town). This optional excursion includes lunch. **(B)**

Day 12: Wednesday, May 14

Sadly, today we say adios to Spain. After an included breakfast, our Go Ahead representative will escort us to the airport for our return flight home. You'll be transferred from the Detroit airport to SVSU via motorcoach. **(B)**



General Information

Activity Level

Go Ahead considers this an “active” vacation. You should be able to walk up to one mile at a time, and also be able to handle your own luggage at the airport, on the plane and on the train.

Weather Projection

Our weather will vary slightly as we head south. Average highs should be in the 70s and average lows in the fifties.

Information and Reservations

Call the SVSU-OLLI office at (989) 964-4475 for further information or to make your deposit. Our office is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Trip Insurance

You will be mailed information about the trip insurance that Go Ahead Tours offers upon registration. Or, you may purchase insurance on your own. Remember, insurance has to be purchased within 14 days of your deposit to cover pre-existing conditions.

Air Details

Our package includes round-trip air and fuel surcharges. It also includes estimated government imposed taxes and fees. Should the actual taxes and fees be substantially more than our estimate, we reserve the right to increase the amount of your final balance due.

Cancellation Fees

All cancellations must be made in writing to the OLLI office. If we can fill your space with someone from a waiting list prior to February 1, you will receive a full refund, less any name change charges imposed by the airlines. The following fees apply to everyone: 71+ days prior to departure, \$300; 70-46 days prior, \$450; 45-8 days prior, \$1,000; 7 or less days prior, 100%. We highly recommend trip insurance.

Three Ways to Register:

- Call (989)-964-4475
- Fax the registration form to (989)-964-2656
- Mail form with payment to:
OLLI of SVSU
7400 Bay Road
University Center, MI 48710

Spain: Seville, Madrid & Barcelona May 3-14, 2014 Registration

1. _____
Name *(exactly as it appears on your passport)*

Date of Birth _____ Citizenship _____

Passport # _____ Expiration Date _____

2. _____
Name *(exactly as it appears on your passport)*

Date of Birth _____ Citizenship _____

Passport # _____ Expiration Date _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Home Phone _____

Cell _____

Roommate's Phone Number _____

Trip Costs

- \$3,899* OLLI Members (double occupancy)
- \$3,959* Non-Members (double occupancy)
(Non-member fee includes OLLI membership)
- \$419 Single Supplement

Deposit & Payment Schedule

- \$450 will hold your spot.
- The final balance is due by February 1, 2014.

Payment Method

- Check (payable to SVSU) Amount Enclosed _____
- Visa MasterCard American Express
- Card Number _____
- Expiration Date _____
- Cardholder's Name _____

*This price is valid until 8/28/13. After that date, the price may increase. Your \$450 deposit locks in the lower rate. Past Go Ahead travelers will receive a discount.

How many Go Ahead Tours have you taken? ____