Beauty and fashion, flamenco, Picasso and Goya, tapas and manchego. Revel in the glories of Spain with WUSF and General Manager JoAnn Urofsky on a tour to the stately capital Madrid and exciting Barcelona, with an optional extension to the gorgeous Mediterranean island of Mallorca. We will visit some of Spain’s incomparable museums: the Prado, Reina Sofia, and those dedicated to the great Spanish artists, Picasso and Miró. Excursions take us to the ancient towns of Toledo and Segovia, Philip II’s imposing palace, El Escorial, as well as the late home of Salvador Dalí at Figueras. And you will have an exciting evening of fiery flamenco!

On Mallorca, you will visit pretty villages overlooking the sea, lonely monasteries where a choir will sing for us, and a pianist will perform Chopin in the very cell in which he lived, and much more. Deluxe five-star accommodations throughout, astonishing art, delicious food and wine—Olé!
Saturday, October 12
Group flight on Delta departs Tampa (TPA) for Madrid with arrival the following day.

Sunday, October 13  **Bienvenidos!**
We arrive in Madrid, with its world class museums, wide and elegant boulevards, and the narrow, winding streets of the old quarter. Our home for the next five nights is the Hotel Villa Real, centrally located 5-star hotel adorned with ancient sculpture. Our gala **welcome dinner** in the old town is preceded by a **reception** at the hotel sipping cava, the Spanish bubbly.

Monday, October 14
**Old Madrid & the Amazing Prado**
After **breakfast (daily at all hotels)**, we set off to explore the old town of the capital, winding our way through the medieval streets surrounding the 17th century Plaza Mayor, the classical central square. **Lunch** is nearby. In the afternoon, we visit a world treasure, the Prado Museum, unrivaled for its old master paintings by the great Spanish artists Velasquez, Goya, and Zurbarán, as well as the Flemish surrealist Hieronymus Bosch.

Tuesday, October 15
**El Escorial & Segovia**
El Escorial was built at the foot of the Guadarrama Mountains by Philip II as a central point from which to rule his vast Bourbon empire, and completed in 1584. Then we travel to the pretty city of Segovia, further northwest, dominated by its spectacular Roman aqueduct, cathedral and fairytale castle, known as the Alcazar, and have **lunch** there. Evening free.

Wednesday, October 16
**Toledo: Spain’s Melting Pot**
Today we visit the ancient walled city of Toledo, built atop a steep hill bordered on three sides by the River Tagus, and long a prime example of Spain’s melting pot of Arab, Christian and Hebrew cultures. We’ll visit the Cathedral, and through the narrow, medieval streets, seek out masterpieces of Toledo’s longtime resident, the painter El Greco. **Lunch** is in the town center. Evening free.

Thursday, October 17
**Guernica & Flamenco!**
Madrid is also the site of the Reina Sofia, home of perhaps the most significant painting of the 20th century, Picasso’s “Guernica,” a searing commentary on the Spanish Civil War. **Lunch** follows our tour there. We climax our visit to the capital with the swirling dance, plangent voice, and beguiling guitar of **flamenco**, including **dinner**, at one of Madrid’s best **tablao**.

Friday, October 18
**Barcelona’s International Flair**
We bid adios to Madrid and board the high-speed AVE train to Barcelona (with a light **lunch** en route), one of the most exciting cites in Europe, the capital of the province of Catalonia. Upon arrival, we’ll check in to the five-star Grand Hotel Central near the Cathedral. After our expert local guide takes us for a walk to explore the Barri Gòtic, the ancient streets of the old Roman center, **dinner** is at a fine restaurant on the Plaça Reial (Royal Square).
Saturday, October 19
Modernism of Gaudí & Picasso
The great architect Antonio Gaudí set the design world on fire at the turn of the 20th century with his buildings of undulating forms, illusionistic exteriors, and surprising design in all media. We’ll visit three of his great works: the Park Güell, the fabulous church known as the Sagrada Familia, and the Casa Milà. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon, we tour the Museu Picasso featuring many early works of the master given to his adopted town. Evening free, but you have the option of a concert of guitars and dance at the magnificent Palau de la Musica.

Sunday, October 20
Dreams of Dalí!
The surrealist artist Salvador Dalí, with whom Floridians are familiar from the Dalí Museum in Saint Petersburg, declared that he wanted people visiting his Theatre-Museum in his home town of Figueres to “leave with the sensation of having had a theatrical dream.” The Theatre-Museum contains the single largest repository of the artist’s works from all periods of his career, and the artist is buried in a crypt below the theatre’s stage. Lunch is in the town center. Late afternoon return and evening free.

Monday, October 21
Miró and Els Quatre Gats
Our last full day in Barcelona is free except for an optional visit to the hill of Montjuïc overlooking Barcelona, the scene of the 1992 Olympic Games. There you can visit the Fundació Miró, to view a superb collection of painting and sculpture by Joan Miró, Catalonia’s most famous artist. The main tour climaxes with dinner in an historic restaurant where avant-garde artists congregated in early 20th-century Barcelona.

Itinerary is subject to change.
Meals in bold are included in the price of the tour.
Tuesday, October 22
Seductive Mallorca
The main part of the tour ends with the optional group flight back to Tampa. For those staying on, we fly direct to Palma de Mallorca, the principal city on the island of Mallorca. A wondrous place of lush vegetation and dizzying views of the Mediterranean, the island has been refuge and watering hole of the rich and famous for decades. After a brief stroll we head north to our home at the Gran Hotel de Sóller, in the pretty town of the same name. Dinner is at the hotel.

Wednesday, October 23
Sóller: Between the Mountains and the Sea
A relaxing day to unwind in Sóller. You may wish to take a walking tour of the town, and visit its magnificent botanical gardens, take a ride on the narrow-gauge railway through the mountains back to Palma, or hike along the coast. Later, the group Abeniara, performs festive folk music from around the Mediterranean, for us at the hotel. Lunch and dinner are on your own.

Thursday, October 24
Music of the Island
Mallorca’s spiritual center is the Monastery de Lluc over the mountains and then we travel on to the monastery of San Salvatore, famous for its paella, for lunch. Tenim Cantera, a small international choir, serenades us privately in the church. Time permitting, we’ll stop in the village of Petra, the home of Fra Junipero Serra, who founded a string of missions along the California coast using as his models churches in his native Mallorca. Your evening is free.

Friday, October 25
Robert Graves & Chopin
This morning, the quaint antique train of town takes us down to the tranquil Port de Sóller. In the afternoon, we’ll visit the beautiful town of Deià, the longtime home of poet and author Robert Graves (“I, Claudius”). Then it’s on to the town of Valldemossa, where in the winter of 1838 the composer Frederic Chopin and his lover French novelist George Sand (the pseudonym for Aurore Lucile Dupin) lived in the Carthusian monastery. After closing hours, the Mallorcan pianist Carlos Bonnin will play a program of Chopin and Spanish works exclusively for the group in Chopin’s own cell. Our farewell dinner is in Valldemossa.

Saturday, October 26 Adios!
Departure today with a flight back to the mainland from Palma to Barcelona and then a flight on to Tampa.

Itinerary is subject to change.
Meals in bold are included in the price of the tour.

Tour Registration

Tour Cost: $5,190 per person, ground only, double occupancy, ground only; Extension: $1,900.
Single supplement $1,145; Extension: $255.
Optional group flight: $1,235, economy on Delta Airlines.
Deposit: $1,000 per person first come, first served, due upon registration.
Tax-deductible contribution to WUSF: $500.
Balance Deadline: Friday, September 13, 2019. After that date, call for availability.
Contact: The Grand Tour to reserve your place on the tour with a credit card deposit, or send a check made payable to The Grand Tour for the deposit amount to: WUSF Spain Tour, The Grand Tour, PO Box 274, Peterborough, NH 03458. Registration materials can be downloaded from www.wusf.org or wsmr.org.
Questions? Contact The Grand Tour at 800-727-2995 / info@thegrandtour.com or Scott Nolan of WUSF at 813-974-8677 / snolan@wusf.org.

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