



## Choir Performance Tour to Spain

*Enjoy the opportunity to perform in unique historical venues ranging from majestic cathedrals to Montserrat ancient churches and monasteries while being immersed in the Spanish culture. Spain, as one of the most diverse European countries offers the chance to experience local music and traditions and to explore different cities: you will enjoy cosmopolitan cities such as Madrid - Spain's capital - and Barcelona - the Art Nouveau city open to the Mediterranean - as well as UNESCO World*

*Heritage cities like Toledo or the Marian city of Zaragoza. Spain, a country with a long musical tradition welcomes you with open arms.*

**Day 1 MADRID / Arrival:** Arrival in Madrid. A first glimpse of Spain's capital provided by a scenic tour will allow you to appreciate the dimension and beauty of this city as well as its vital points such as Paseo de la Castellana, Gran Vía, Alcalá Street and Plaza de España. Overnight in Madrid.

**Day 2 MADRID:** Today you will discover the Madrid of the Austrian Dynasty, a city that became the capital in 1561. Your visit will take you to the Royal Palace and next to it the Almudena Cathedral, a church started towards the end of the 19th century when Madrid received its first bishop. Your route continues to Plaza de Oriente and the Teatro Real, a Bourbon structure from the Post-Napoleonic period that, following its remodel, offers superb acoustics. From there, your path takes you to Calle Mayor, the Plaza de la Villa and the San Miguel Market, arriving at the Plaza Mayor, the prototype for so many other Castilian plazas of the 17th and later centuries. You will pass along Toledo Street until arriving to Puerta del Sol with its many recesses that evoke Spanish history of the last five hundred years. Evening performance in Madrid, f.e. in Basilica de San Miguel or Parish Nuestra Señora de Covadonga.

**Day 3 MADRID / Excursion TOLEDO:** Toledo was the capital of Spain under the Visigoths and continued to be when the Christians reclaimed the city. It is the enclave that best expresses the religious vatars of the Middle Ages. From the Visigoth period which emanated the idea of a united, independent and Catholic Iberian Peninsula, to the medieval cohabitation of three religions - the Cristo de la Luz Mosque, the Tránsito and Santa María la





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Blanca Synagogues, and the Cathedral - you arrive at the controversial Spanish Renaissance - the Santa Cruz Hospital and El Greco. Despite the overlapping of cultures, wandering the narrow streets of Toledo continues to evoke the Mediterranean and Semitic origin of so many Spanish cities. Performance in Toledo, f.e. in Cathedral Toledo or Santuario Diocesano de los Sagrados Corazones. Return to Madrid for overnight.

**Day 4 MADRID – ZARAGOZA:** This morning you will leave Madrid and continue to Aragón, discovering its capital Zaragoza. The city has important monuments including the Aljafería - the ancient palace of the Arab emir -, its Gothic Cathedral the Seo of San Salvador and the Basilica del Pilar, site of our Lady's appearance to apostle Santiago. Impromptu at La Basilica del Pilar. Overnight in Zaragoza.

**Day 5 ZARAGOZA – BARCELONA:** Travel to Barcelona. Your point of entry to Barcelona is the vast historical district. You will see one of the most beautiful examples of the Catalan Gothic style with the imposing Santa María del Mar church. From there you will head towards the Gothic quarter where you will see the Cathedral, the Palau de la Generalitat, the Town Hall, the small streets that lead to the Plaza Real. La Rambla, an area joining the statue of Columbus with the Plaza Catalunya, passing through the Boquería Market. Afterwards you will continue to the portside area, the Barceloneta, and the Olympic Village. Your ascent towards Montjuich will provide beautiful views of the city and sea. Next to the old castle, you will find the rest of the Olympic facilities. A panoramic view wraps up this portion of your visit as you now turn towards the Eixample, the mid 19th century extension of Barcelona, its structure is quite exemplary for its time. Overnight in Barcelona.

**Day 6 BARCELONA / Excursion MONTSERRAT:** Today you will travel to the heart of Catalonia, Montserrat, a peculiar geological formation, declared a natural park, picturesque from any angle. Here you will find the Marian Sanctuary of Montserrat with "La Moreneta". Possibility to witness the Escolania de Montserrat (Boys' choir) singing the Virolai. 10-minutes impromptu at the Abbey. Return to Barcelona for overnight.

**Day 7 BARCELONA:** Your visit begins on the grand avenues of the Eixample district with its modernist buildings - notably the homes on the Paseo de Gracia such as Lleó Morera, Amatller, Batlló and Milá - and you will arrive at the Sagrada Familia, masterpiece of architect Gaudí. The industrial Güell family commissioned many works from Gaudí, of which you will see the Güell Park. Performance in Barcelona, f.e. in Sagrada Familia or Cathedral Barcelona or Santa Maria del Mar. Overnight in Barcelona.

**Day 8 BARCELONA / Departure**

*All services are subject to availability at the time of booking.*

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