



SPARTAN PATHWAYS TRAVEL

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Across Spain and Portugal

with Paradores & Pousadas

April 1-17, 2025

17 days for \$6,574 total price from Detroit
(\$5,895 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.

A Special Small Group Tour for
Alumni and Friends of MSU



Dear Spartans,

Take part in this special 17-day small group journey to an alluring and delightful corner of the world. In a small group, discover the charm, romance and enduring traditions of Portugal and Northern Spain, while staying in intimate and historic *paradores* and *pousadas*.

Your travels begin in Europe’s second-oldest capital, Lisbon, and continue to the birthplace of port wine, Oporto. Crossing into northern Spain, visit beautiful Santiago de Compostela, the last stop on the renowned Way of St. James pilgrimage route. From there, continue through “Green Spain” to elegant Santander and historic León, revitalized Bilbao and the storied Basque Country. After absorbing the Pyrenees’ scenery, conclude your explorations in vibrant Barcelona. For those wishing to spend more time in this world-class city, an optional 3-day/2-night post-tour extension is available.

We are pleased to share this departure with alumni and friends from the University of Nebraska. Space is limited to 24 guests total, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Reserve today!

Go Green!

Regina Cross
Director, Spartan Pathways Travel Program
MSU Alumni Office
(888) 697-2863

THE MSU RESERVATION FORM: ACROSS SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. (toll-free) 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

ACROSS SPAIN AND PORTUGAL • APRIL 1-17, 2025

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____
Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____
I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)
Post-Tour “Barcelona – On Your Own” Extension: Please sign me/us up

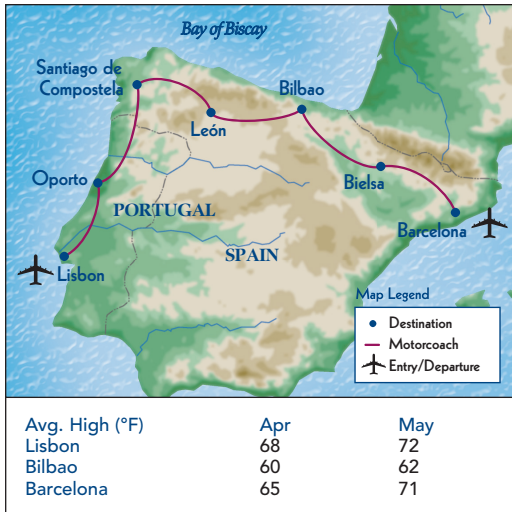
Tour membership limited to 24 guests

Across Spain and Portugal

with Paradores & Pousadas

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Fortified cities and tiny fishing villages, rugged Atlantic coastline and commanding Pyrenees peaks, iconic shrines to both religion and fine art, and intimate lodgings in historic paradores and pousadas – it all awaits on this singular small group journey from Lisbon across the north of Spain, ending in vibrant Barcelona.



Physical Activity Level

3 **Moderate**

Walk 2-4 miles per day, often uphill, on uneven terrain, or cobblestones; occasional long walks from motorcoach drop-off to sights and hotels; steep grades while walking in Lisbon and Oporto; several long days of travel via motorcoach

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Lisbon		
2-3	Lisbon	Corinthia Hotel Lisbon	Deluxe
4-5	Oporto	Pestana Palacio do Freixo	First Class
6-7	Santiago de Compostela	Parador de Santiago de Compostela	First Class
8	León	Parador de Leon	First Class
9-11	Bilbao	Melia Bilbao	Sup. First Class
12-13	Bielsa	Parador de Bielsa	First Class
14-16	Barcelona	El Avenida Palace Hotel	Sup. First Class
17	Depart Barcelona for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Lisbon, Portugal

Day 2: Arrive Lisbon We arrive in the Portuguese capital and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times vary, we have no group activities planned during the day. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner. *D*

Day 3: Lisbon A morning tour introduces us to the city on the River Tagus; the afternoon is free for independent exploration. *B*

Day 4: Lisbon/Oporto Leaving Lisbon we head north, stopping in the small fortified town of Obidos and in the seaside village of Nazare. Mid-afternoon we reach our *pousada* in lovely Oporto, Portugal's second largest city and a UNESCO site. *B,D*

Day 5: Oporto Highlights of our city tour include the historic city center, Baroque Clerigos Church, and the sophisticated Foz oceanfront district. Then we enjoy an hour-long cruise on the Douro River. Our tour ends with a visit to a port lodge for a tasting of the fortified wine exclusive to the region. *B,D*

Day 6: Oporto/Santiago de Compostela, Spain En route to Santiago, we stop in the old Galician town of Pontevedra. We continue on to Santiago, capital of Spain's northwest Galicia region, arriving mid-afternoon at our *parador*, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

Day 7: Santiago de Compostela Last stop on the celebrated pilgrimage route of the Way of St. James (*Camino de Santiago*) and presumed repository of the remains of St. James the Apostle, Santiago de Compostela also ranks among Spain's most beautiful and visited cities. We discover this important cultural and educational capital on today's tour, featuring the Cathedral housing the silver crypt believed to hold the remains of St. James. From here we enter Plaza de Obradoiro, the monumental square surrounded by Santiago's most important buildings. This afternoon is free for independent exploration in this eminently walkable and lovely UNESCO World Heritage city with historic buildings lining its winding, narrow streets. *B,D*

Day 8: Santiago/León Leaving Santiago this morning, we travel east to vibrant León, another stop on the

Cover photo: Santiago's 11th-century cathedral is the last stop on the pilgrimage route of the Way of St. James.



We visit the coastal city of Oporto on Days 4 & 5.

Way of St. James pilgrimage route and known for its religious festivals and Easter Week processions. Upon arrival, we encounter the city's impressive historical and architectural heritage as we visit the 13th-century León Cathedral, one of Spain's most beautiful with its sculpture-covered façade and impressive stained glass windows; and Casa Botines, a Modernist structure by architect Antoni Gaudí. We reach our hotel early this evening and dine there tonight. *B,D*

Day 9: León/Bilbao Today we stop in the elegant port city and Cantabrian capital of Santander for a tour and lunch. Then we travel on to Bilbao, the industrial port city almost magically transformed by the construction of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao in 1997. *B,L*

Day 10: Bilbao This morning's tour begins in Bilbao's medieval Old City, with a charming mix of narrow cobblestone streets and inviting squares. We see the Catedral de Santiago (c. 1379), once a stop on the pilgrimage route; monumental Plaza Nueva; and busy seaside La Ribera market. Then we take a guided tour of the Guggenheim and its contemporary art collection. Designed by architect Frank Gehry, the jaw-dropping structure of limestone, titanium, and glass has drawn acclaim, attention, and visitors to this popular, revitalized city. Our last stop is Bilbao's Fine Arts Museum, with a rich collection of Spanish and Basque artworks. *B,D*

Day 11: Bilbao/Basque Country A day-long excursion begins with a poignant stop: Gernika (Guernica), heart of the Basque region and the town razed by Nazi bombing in 1937 during the Spanish Civil War that was immortalized in the namesake painting by Picasso. Then we pass through a countryside historically home to the Basque people of Spain's Atlantic Coast and

western Pyrenees. At the seaside village of Bakio, we follow a coastal road of wild beauty to the islet of San Juan de Gaztelugatxe, with its hermitage to St. John the Baptist. We stop in the key fishing town of Bermeo then continue on to the medieval fishing village of Mundaka, where we enjoy magnificent views of the Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve of streams and a salt marsh surrounded by sheer cliffs. *B,L*

Day 12: Bilbao/Pamplona/Bielsa We travel today to the Pyrenees town of Bielsa, stopping en route in fabled Pamplona, known for its annual Running of the Bulls tradition. *B,D*

Day 13: Bielsa Fresh mountain air and stunning scenery are on tap as we visit Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Touring by coach and on foot, we see the limestone Pyrenees chain with its lush valleys. *B,D*

Post-Tour Extension

April 17-19, 2025

Barcelona – On Your Own

3 days/2 nights for \$395 total price

Single Supplement: \$295

Discover more of this lively, spirited city.

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at El Avenida Palace Hotel (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport



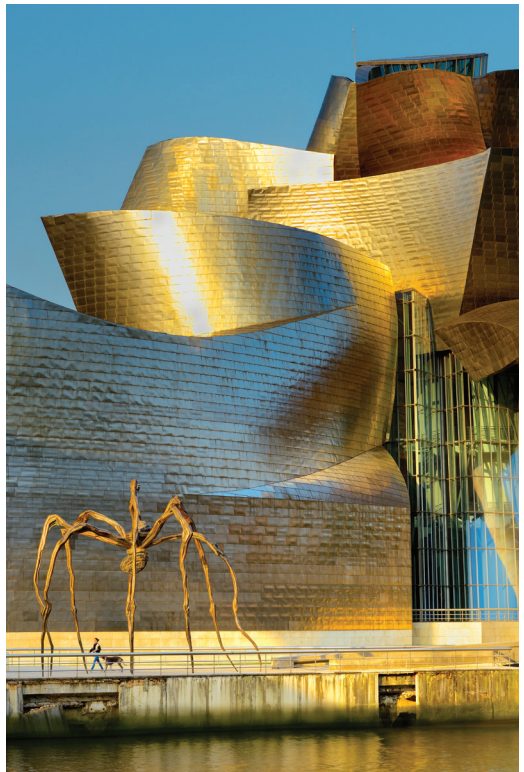
TWO GREAT TALKERS WILL
NOT TRAVEL FAR TOGETHER.”

– SPANISH PROVERB

Day 14: Bielsa/Barcelona We travel today by coach to the world-class city of Barcelona, arriving mid-afternoon. After a brief orientation walking tour, we are free for dinner on our own in this most gastronomic of cities. *B*

Day 15: Barcelona This morning’s city tour features Barri Gòtic (Gothic Quarter), a maze of medieval streets; and Las Ramblas, the tree-lined pedestrian mall that attracts locals and visitors alike, day and night. We pay homage to Barcelona’s native son, flamboyant artist Antoni Gaudí, visiting his fanciful Parc Guell and landmark Sagrada Família cathedral. Following a *tapas* lunch, the remainder of the day is free for independent exploration. *B,L*

Day 16: Barcelona Our Gaudí tour continues this morning at Casa Mila, whose curving stone face inspired the nickname “La Pedrera” (stone quarry). Now housing a cultural center, Casa Mila is a UNESCO site. This afternoon is at leisure; tonight



Bilbao’s iconic Guggenheim Museum

we bid *adiós!* to Spain, and to our fellow travelers, at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 17: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the airport this morning for our connecting flights to the U.S. *B*



We spend two nights in the Pyrenees.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 15 nights’ accommodations: 8 nights in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels; 7 nights in First Class *paradores* and *pousadas*
- 28 meals: 15 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: April 1, 2025

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$6,174
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$6,474
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$6,574
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$6,674
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,395

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$679, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,595. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,795 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade prices are in addition to the costs above.

For more information and reservations, please call call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, MyOdyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Insurance: We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be included with your email confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Office.

Responsibility: The liability of the MSU Alumni Office, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The MSU Alumni Office and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line(s), and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

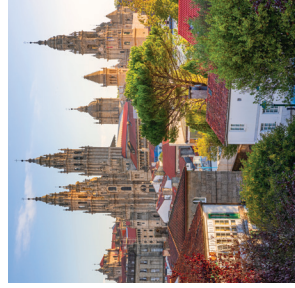
Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail Odysseys Unlimited to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the MSU Alumni Office and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation - Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



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Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824-2005

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JOIN MSU ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
ON A SPECIAL TOUR TO
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*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guest*