

# Inspired Expeditions

The UC Santa Cruz Travel Program for the Curious

## Paradores & Pousadas

Historic Lodgings of Spain & Portugal

May 19-June 2, 2025

**15 days for \$6,374 total price from San Francisco**

(\$5,695 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)



TRAVEL+  
LEISURE  
WORLD'S  
BEST  
HONOREE

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

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for  
Alumni & Friends of UC Santa Cruz



Dear UC Santa Cruz Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to travel with us on an exclusive 15-day small group journey to discover the best of the Iberian Peninsula. Enjoy captivating sights, excellent cuisine, and memorable experiences while traveling overland from Lisbon to Madrid.

Begin with an exploration of Lisbon, including the iconic Belém Tower and the National Palace of Queluz. Next, visit the Alentejo region, staying in one of Portugal's finest *pousadas* in charming Evora – a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Crossing into Spain, see Mérida, with its outstanding Roman ruins. Enjoy visits to Seville, Cordoba, and Granada's extraordinary Alhambra and Generalife Gardens. Explore Toledo, Spain's medieval capital, before your journey ends in sophisticated Madrid. Those wishing to visit Spain's bustling cultural and commercial center can opt in to a 4-day/3-night post-tour to Barcelona.

Space is limited to only 24 guests, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Nichole Silva (Stevenson '95)  
Director, Strategic Travel and Experiences

**THE UC SANTA CRUZ INSPIRED EXPEDITIONS RESERVATION FORM:  
PARADORES & POUSADAS**

To reserve your place on tour, please call UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions at 831-459-3689 or e-mail [ietravel@ucsc.edu](mailto:ietravel@ucsc.edu). Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Inspired Expeditions representative.

**If you prefer**, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to UC Santa Cruz's Inspired Expeditions 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: **UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions**  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**PARADORES & POUSADAS • MAY 19-JUNE 2, 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

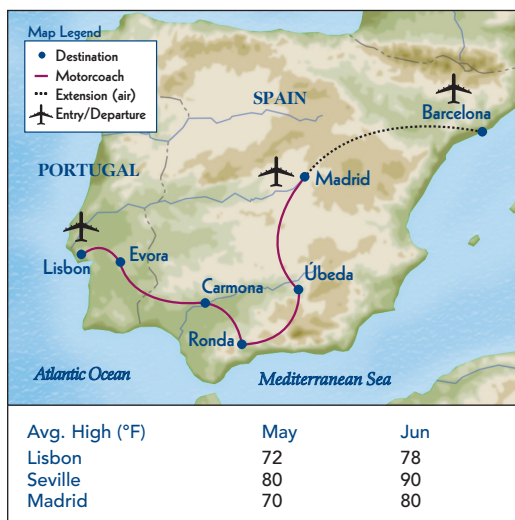
# Paradores & Pousadas

## Historic Lodgings of Spain & Portugal

**15 days for \$6,374 total price from San Francisco**

**(\$5,695 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)**

*You're invited on a distinctive small group journey through the Iberian Peninsula to the intimate lodgings of Spain's paradores and Portugal's pousadas: medieval monasteries, historic fortresses, and stately palaces, each reflecting the spirit of its region. We feel the spell of Iberia's rich Roman and Moorish past – and the pull of its vibrant contemporary life.*



### 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/Queluz** After our morning visit to Jeronimos Monastery, Belem Tower, and the Monument to the Discoveries, we return to the city center for a guided walk around Figueira Square, the center of the Baixa district, the vibrant heart of Lisbon. The tour ends at the bottom of the Alfama District and we have a free afternoon to continue exploring the old town area on our own. The steep streets of Alfama, one of Lisbon's oldest areas, are lined with many shops and cafes. The historic no. 28 tram winds through Alfama on its way up to 11th-century Sao Jorge Castle. Views from the top of Alfama stretch over the city to the River Tagus. *B*

**Day 4: Lisbon/Evora** Leaving Lisbon this morning, we travel through the rolling hills of the agricultural Alentejo district, with its bountiful fields of wheat, fragrant vineyards, and stands of olive and cork trees. After stopping for lunch in the fortified hilltop town of Monsaraz (pop. 150), late afternoon we arrive in Evora, capital of the Alentejo and site of our *pousada*, considered Portugal's finest. *B,L,D*

**Day 5: Evora** Our morning walking tour of Evora introduces us to the many charms of this architectural gem – a university town, prosperous regional capital, and UNESCO site thanks to the many relics of its Roman and Moorish heritage. The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy this "Golden Age" city as we wish. *B,D*

**Day 6: Evora/Mérida, Spain/Carmona** Today we travel east through countryside peppered with the ruins of fortresses and castles to the Spanish border town of Mérida. Once the capital of ancient Lusitania (Latin for the kingdoms of Spain and Portugal), Mérida boasts outstanding Roman ruins. There's time to explore and eat lunch on our own before we continue on to Carmona and our *parador*, a restored 14th-century Arab fortress. *B,D*

### 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; 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	Evora	Pousada dos Loios	First Class
6-8	Carmona	Parador de Carmona	First Class
9-10	Ronda	Parador de Ronda	First Class
11	Úbeda	Parador de Úbeda	First Class
12-14	Madrid	Wellington Hotel	Deluxe
15	Depart Madrid for U.S.		

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



We see iconic Belém Tower, the most photographed monument in Portugal, on Day 3.

**Day 7: Carmona/Seville** This morning we visit splendid Seville, Moorish capital of Spain's Andalusia region and city of beauty and romance. This is the place that inspired *Carmen* and *Don Giovanni*; where fragrant orange trees and flower-bedecked balconies delight the senses; and home of the renowned Catédral, the world's largest Gothic building. After a tour that includes the Alcazar palace and the Arab quarter, the afternoon is free to explore independently. We return to Carmona late afternoon and dine at our *parador* this evening. *B,D*

**Day 8: Carmona/Cordoba** Today's visit to this cultural gem promises to be special indeed. First the capital of Roman Spain, then of Moorish Spain, Cordoba features some of the country's most important monuments, including the Old Quarter built around the magnificent Mezquita mosque. It was here that the Moors ruled from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries and fostered a culture of learning and religious harmony known the world over. Cordoba also is home to Andalusia's only synagogue to survive the expulsion of Spain's Jews in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. After touring these and other highlights we have free time to explore on our own. Late this afternoon we return to our *parador*, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

**Day 9: Carmona/Ronda** Leaving Carmona this morning we travel south to tiny Ronda, one of Spain's oldest and most aristocratic towns. It's set high in the mountains with whitewashed houses clinging improbably to the edge of El Tajo Gorge – 500 feet deep and 300 feet wide. *B,D*

**Day 10: Ronda** This morning we take a walking tour of Ronda. We return to our *parador*, Ronda's original town hall, for a special *tapas* lunch, then the rest of the day is free for independent exploration. *B,L*

**Day 11: Ronda/Granada/Úbeda** Continuing our journey, we travel today to Granada, the former stronghold of Moorish Spain set in the foothills of the snowcapped Sierra Nevada. The city's undisputed highlight is the Alhambra, the extraordinary palace of Spain's last Moorish rulers. Sprawled across a hilltop above the Darro River, the Alhambra commands breathtaking views of the city below, as we see on our afternoon tour of this splendid citadel. We also visit the Granadian-style Generalife, the palace's acclaimed gardens. Late afternoon we travel north to Úbeda and our next *parador*, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

## Post-Tour Extension

June 2-5, 2025

### Barcelona – On Your Own

4 days/3 nights for \$995 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

*Enjoy this bustling seaport, Spain's cultural and commercial capital, with its medieval Gothic Quarter and popular Ramblas waterfront promenade.*

### Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Madrid/Barcelona, inclusive of airline taxes and fees
- 3 nights' accommodations at Hotel Avenida Palace (Superior First Class)
- 3 meals: 3 breakfasts
- Transfers to/from airport



IT'S THE SAME  
THE WORLD OVER.”

– SPANISH PROVERB

**Day 12: Úbeda/Toledo/Madrid** A highlight is in store today as we visit Toledo, capital of medieval Spain. Declared a Spanish National Landmark, the city is little changed visually from its 16<sup>th</sup>-century days as a subject for the artist El Greco. Toledo boasts an incomparable hilltop setting overlooking the Castilian plains and is surrounded on three sides by the Tagus River. After lunch on our own, we see Toledo's most important sights on our guided tour, including the massive Gothic Cathedral. Then we continue on to Madrid, arriving late afternoon. Dinner tonight is on our own. *B*

**Day 13: Madrid** Our morning tour of this monumental and dignified capital city includes vast Plaza Mayor; the Moorish medieval district; and opulent



Lisbon's Monument to the Discoveries

18<sup>th</sup>-century Palacio Real (Royal Palace). Then we sample some of Madrid's specialties over a lunch of *tapas*. Our tour ends at the Prado, one of the world's greatest museums, displaying treasures by Spanish masters Goya, El Greco, and Velazquez. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration.

Well known for its “foodie” culture, Madrid offers a bounty of restaurants for dinner on our own tonight. *B,L*

**Day 14: Madrid** A free day to enjoy the Spanish capital as we wish. Tonight we bid “*Adios*” to Spain and our fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

**Day 15: Depart for U.S.** We transfer to the airport this morning for our connecting flight to the U.S. *B*

## Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights' accommodations: 5 nights in Deluxe hotels; 8 nights in First Class *paradores* and *pousadas*
- 25 meals: 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 9 dinners
- Regional wine with 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



We tour the Alhambra on Day 11.

## Tour Departs: May 19, 2025

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

Boston, New York	\$5,874
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$6,174
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$6,274
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$6,374
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,095

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 \$1,395. 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 Inspired Expeditions at **831-459-3689**, or e-mail [ietravel@ucsc.edu](mailto:ietravel@ucsc.edu)

## 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, My Odyssey.

**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; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); 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 refund; 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.**

**Responsibility:** The liability of UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions, 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. UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. 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. UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions 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 lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but reserves 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 us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve 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, UC Santa Cruz Inspired Expeditions 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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1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE  
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TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL!

*Guaranteed Small Group:  
Limited to 24 Guests*