

# PALACES AND VILLAS OF SPAIN: MADRID AND SEVILLE

March 28–April 6, 2022

presented by The Historic New Orleans Collection



*El Escorial in Madrid*

In anticipation of The Collection’s forthcoming exhibition *Spanish New Orleans and the Caribbean* (opening in October 2022), our 2022 study tour will take us to Spain. The overarching theme of the tour will be great private residences and their collections in Madrid and Seville.

Our journey will take us through large museums such as the Prado and the Thyssen-Bornemisza. The Prado Museum, designed in 1785 as the Natural History Cabinet of Carlos III, came into existence in 1819 as the National Museum of Paintings and Sculptures. The collections represent the tastes of Spain’s 16th- and 17th-century monarchs, who sought to gather as many works as possible by their favorite artists. As a result, the Prado has been described as a “museum of painters.” Across the street, Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum is the result of a family of collectors. The museum is the result of the collector Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, who began assembling the collection in the 1920s. When the collection outgrew the family residence in Switzerland, offers were received from several countries to house it. In the end, Madrid’s 18th-century Villahermosa Palace was selected as the permanent home.

At the same time, our journey will focus on other, less-known but stunning residences that have been transformed into museums to showcase the collecting interests of their owners. Examples of such palaces are the Museo Cerralbo, which houses the art collections of Enrique de Aguilera y Gamboa, 17th Marquis of Cerralbo. Another example is the Lázaro Galdiano Museum, which houses the art collection of José Lázaro Galdiano and his wife,

Paula Florido, in their 1903 palace. By the time of his death in 1947, the collection of this Spanish financier, journalist, publisher, and art collector numbered over 12,000 objects.

Visits to selected private residences in Madrid and Seville will allow us to see highly prized examples of Islamic-influenced lusterware, Sevillian polychrome painted flat tiles, treasures of the royal factories of Buen Retiro (porcelain) and La Granja (glassware), and examples of the jeweler's art enriched by gold, silver, and precious stones from Spain's American colonies.

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## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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- Private early morning opening of the Prado, Thyssen-Bornemisza, and Cerralbo Museums in Madrid
- Openings of three beautiful private historic residences
- Exclusive tours of the most beautiful royal palaces of Madrid and Seville
- Private lunch on an estate in Córdoba
- Exclusive opening and private dinner in the Lebrija Palace in Seville

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## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

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**Madrid: Hotel Urban**—The five-star Hotel Urban is a luxury hotel located in the heart of the city's "Golden Triangle" of art formed by the Prado, the Thyssen-Bornemisza, and the Reina Sofía Museum. The hotel has an art deco style and contains a dazzling art collection. Unique pieces are on display in the hotel's Papua New Guinea Museum and in each of its rooms and common spaces. The hotel's restaurant, CEBO, is run by head chef Aurelio Morales, and was recently awarded its first Michelin star.

**Seville: Hotel Alfonso XIII**—Commissioned by the King of Spain to host international dignitaries during the 1929 Exhibition, the luxurious five-star Hotel Alfonso XIII is an iconic landmark that is centrally located in the historic center of Santa Cruz. The décor is innovative, and each room reflects Castilian, Moorish, or Andalusian design. The hotel features two restaurants: Restaurante San Fernando, which serves authentic Andalusian cuisine, and ENA by Carles Abellán, which specializes in Catalan and Andalusian dishes to share, tapas, cocktails, and wines.

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## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

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### DAY 1: Monday, March 28, 2022

#### ARRIVALS IN MADRID

*Hotel Urban, Madrid (Reception)*

- Independent arrival in Madrid.
- Private car transfers to the Hotel Urban upon request
- Welcome reception in the Hotel Urban's stunning Papua New Guinea Museum.

### DAY 2: Tuesday, March 29, 2022

#### MADRID

*Hotel Urban, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Visit the neoclassical **Palacio de Liria**, the private residence of the Dukes of Alba in Madrid. Tour the Palace's collections of art and trace the lineages through paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, engravings, documents, books, and decorative art pieces that are scattered throughout the palace and create a truly unique collection. Foremost are paintings by Goya, Velázquez, Murillo, Zurbarán, El Greco, Rubens, and Titian.
- Tour the **Royal Palace of El Pardo**. Carlos V built a palace on this site in the 17th century. Later beginning with Felipe V, it would serve as the court residence between January, February, and March, between Epiphany and Palm Sunday. Today, it serves as the site of official state functions and as the

residence of visiting heads of state. Known for its architectural beauty, it boasts tapestries based on works of Goya.

- Enjoy lunch at **Casino de Madrid**, a social club created in 1836 as a place outside of politics where members could congregate in peace.
- Tour the **Museo Cerralbo** to see the art and historical objects collections of Enrique de Aguilera y Gamboa, 17th Marquis of Cerralbo, who died in 1922.
- Independent afternoon and dinner.

### **DAY 3: Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

#### **MADRID**

*Hotel Urban, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Visit the **Prado Museum** before opening hours for an exclusive look at a few of the most important pieces in the collection.
- Continue to the **Royal Palace of Madrid**, the official residence of the Spanish Royal family in Madrid, although it is now only used for state ceremonies. Discover the beautiful art and history of the royal family in one of Europe's largest palaces.
- Enjoy lunch at the beautiful **Café de Oriente** by the Royal Palace.
- Visit the chapel of **San Antonio de la Florida**, declared a national monument in 1905 because of the incredible Goya frescoes commissioned by King Carlos IV. The frescoes were completed in a six-month period in 1798, and they portray miracles by Saint Anthony of Padua.
- Independent dinner.

### **DAY 4: Thursday, March 31, 2022**

#### **MADRID AND EL ESCORIAL**

*Hotel Urban, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- This morning, depart for the **Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum** for a before-hours look at a few rooms of one of the world's largest privately assembled art collections.
- Continue to the **Museo Lázaro Galdiano** for a private guided tour of the mansion of Lázaro Galdiano and its masterpieces, including works by Goya.
- Following lunch at a local restaurant, drive to the vast complex of the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo in the village of **El Escorial**. Called the eighth wonder of the world, the Escorial was conceived by King Felipe II between 1563 and 1584 as a royal palace conjoined with a monastery, seminary, and royal Pantheon, a burial site for Spanish kings and queens. Visit the Royal Library, which contains a collection of over 40,000 books and manuscripts covering topics from philosophy to politics to science to poetry, written in a multitude of different languages, including Latin, Greek, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, English, French, Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, and Chinese. Colorful frescoes adorn the ceilings and depict scenes from classical history.
- Return to Madrid for dinner at a private club near the Hotel Urban.

### **DAY 5: Friday, April 1, 2022**

#### **TOLEDO**

*Hotel Alfonso XIII (Breakfast, Lunch)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Portage and check out of the Hotel Urban.
- Depart the hotel for the ancient city of **Toledo**, known for its medieval Arab, Jewish, and Christian monuments. Stop for a beautiful view of the city and a Spanish coffee.
- Visit Toledo's imposing **Santa Iglesia First Cathedral of Toledo**, whose construction began in the 13th century. The cathedral has a total of seven chapels and contains several phenomenal works by El Greco.

- Continue to the **Church of Santo Tomé** for a look at *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz* by El Greco.
- Walk to the **Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca**, a striking example of the heritage of Arabs, Jews, and Christians. Its Moorish structure was used first as a synagogue, then as a church, and it is currently owned by the Catholic Church.
- Tapas lunch at **Restaurante Alfileritos**.
- Board the bus to return to Madrid and take a two-and-a-half hour late afternoon train to Seville in first-class seats.
- Check in to the Hotel Alfonso XIII and meet your luggage in your rooms.
- Independent evening.

#### **DAY 6: Saturday, April 2, 2022**

##### **CÓRDOBA**

*Hotel Alfonso XIII (Breakfast, Lunch)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Depart on a two-hour drive to Córdoba.
- Visit the **Great Mosque of Córdoba**, an incredibly impressive building that looks back on more than 1,000 years of history. It is most notable for its red and white arches that rest on 856 columns.
- Visit a **spectacular private home** and gardens of a prominent olive oil-producing family and enjoy lunch on their property.
- Return to Seville for an independent evening.

#### **DAY 7: Sunday, April 3, 2022**

##### **SEVILLE**

*Hotel Alfonso XIII (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Enjoy an early access tour of the **Royal Alcázar of Seville**, a royal palace and gardens built for the Christian king Pedro of Castile. Discover the palace's unique combination of Christian and Mudéjar architecture. Visit the royal apartments and chapel of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.
- Embark on a walking tour to see the imposing **Giralda tower**, the enormous **Seville Cathedral**, the Santa Cruz Quarter, and the site where Christopher Columbus is buried.
- Enjoy lunch in an Andalusian restaurant with beautiful views.
- Take a tour of the **Palace of Las Dueñas**, a private palace built in the 15th century in Renaissance style with Gothic and Moorish influences that is owned by the House of Alba.
- Gather for a gala dinner in the **Lebrija Palace**, a beautiful palace combining Moorish arches, Plateresque decoration, and Andalusian style.

## **DAY 8: Monday, April 4, 2022**

### **CÁDIZ**

*Hotel Alfonso XIII (Breakfast, Lunch)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Depart the hotel and drive to the **Amphitheatre of Itálica** to see incredible Roman ruins and a former venue for gladiator fights.
- Continue on a 90-minute drive to the ancient port city of **Cádiz**.
- The home of the Spanish Navy, Cádiz, one of the oldest cities in Europe, boomed in the 16th century as a base for exploration and trade.
- Enjoy lunch in a memorable setting.
- Take a walking tour of the old town to see the port, climb the iconic **Tavira watchtower** (the highest point in old town), and tour the **Cádiz Cathedral**, which features baroque and neoclassical elements. Discover the city's unique architecture that blends Spanish and Caribbean styles.
- Return to Seville for an independent evening.
- This evening, enjoy an optional flamenco performance.

## **DAY 9: Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

### **SEVILLE**

*Hotel Alfonso XIII (Breakfast, Dinner)*

- Buffet breakfast.
- Visit the **Library of Fernando Colón**, son of Christopher Columbus. Known for its collection of rare books, the great humanist Erasmus was one of the first scholars to use the library.
- Continue to the **Archivo General de Indias**, which is the repository of extremely valuable archival documents illustrating the history of the Spanish Empire in the Americas and the Philippines.
- Return to the hotel for a free afternoon to explore Seville.
- Enjoy a special farewell dinner in the Hotel Alfonso XIII.

## **DAY 10: Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

### **DEPARTURES**

*(Breakfast)*

- Take a group transfer (included) to the Seville Airport (SEV) for independent flights back to the US.

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## TOUR INFORMATION

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### Hotels

- Madrid: Hotel Urban, Carrera de S. Jerónimo, 34, 28014 Madrid, Spain / 011 34 917 87 77 70
- Seville: Hotel Alfonso XIII, Calle San Fernando, 2, 41004 Seville, Spain / 011 34 954 91 70 00

**Price per person, double occupancy:** \$8,200 (includes a \$450 tax deductible donation to THNOC); single supplement: \$1,800.

**Included:** 9 nights in hotel; all breakfasts, 1 reception, 7 lunches, and 3 dinners; all travel outlined in the tour schedule; entrance fees for outlined activities; professional tour escorts; and gratuities.

**Not included:** airfare, taxis, meals not included in the itinerary, extra beverages, alcohol, laundry, phone calls, and personal costs not specified in the tour package.

### OPTIONAL SERVICES

**Extra nights at the Hotel Urban (Madrid)**—If you would like to arrive up to 2 nights prior to the start of the tour (March 28), a special group rate of \$300 (superior double) and \$270 (superior single) will be available to participants until January 17, 2022, pending availability.

**Extra nights at the Alfonso XIII Hotel (Madrid)**—If you would like to extend your trip for up to 2 nights at the end of the tour (April 6), a special group rate of \$640 (deluxe king/twin double) and \$600 (deluxe queen single) will be available to participants until January 17, 2022, pending availability.

**Private car transfer**—Private car transfers from the Madrid Airport to the Hotel Urban are available for \$125 (1–6 passengers). Private car transfers from the Hotel Alfonso XIII to the Seville Airport are available for \$95 (for 1–2 passengers) and \$160 (3–6 passengers).

**Deposits and refunds:** A \$1,000 deposit is due with the completed registration form. A second deposit of \$3,000 is due by December 20, 2021. Final payment is due by January 17, 2022. Payment for optional services (single supplement, extra nights, private car transfers) is due by January 17, 2022. Reservations can be made by calling (504) 523-4662 (Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m.). Payments can be made by credit card or by check, payable to The Historic New Orleans Collection. All payments by check will be discounted by 3%.

### Cancellation policy

- Cancellations made on or before December 23, 2021, will forfeit the full \$1,000 deposit.
- Cancellations made between December 24, 2021, and February 11, 2022, will forfeit \$4,200 deposit.
- Cancellations made on or after February 12, 2022, will forfeit 100 percent of full amount.

All cancellations must be made in writing and addressed to Spain Study Tour, The Historic New Orleans Collection, 410 Chartres St., New Orleans, LA, 70130, or faxed to (504) 598-7168. Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

**Passports** are required for travel to Spain. Passports must be valid for at least 3 months after the intended date of departure. They must also have been issued within the past 10 years. For additional information, please call the Embassy of Spain at (202) 452-0100. Please be aware that airlines may have additional restrictions on passports near their expiration dates. Please consult your airline.

**Travel Insurance:** Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration.



*Plaza España in Seville*

### **Liability Clause**

The Historic New Orleans Collection (THNOC) and International Seminar Design Inc. (ISDI), their officers, directors, and staff do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for this tour, including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, bus, taxi, or other transportation companies, local ground, visa processing services, providers, or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, THNOC and ISDI are not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property, death, delay, or inconvenience in connection with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal, terrorist, or threatened terrorist activities of any kind, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, structural or defective conditions in lodging facilities (or in any heating, plumbing, electrical, or structural problems therein), mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely, dangers associated with animals, sanitary problems, food poisoning, epidemics, or the threat of disease thereof, disease, lack of access to or quality of medical care, difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency, or for any other cause beyond the direct control of THNOC and ISDI. Participants assume all risk. ISDI reserves the right to decline to accept any traveler on the tour if that person's presence is likely to be detrimental to the enjoyment of the tour by others or for failure to abide by THNOC's regulations and/or the directions of the Tour Director. Travelers who have been removed from the tour waive the right to a refund for any part of the fee. ISDI may send the traveler home at the traveler's expense. The payment of your deposit shall constitute agreement to the above. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 paying participants and on the exchange rate of November 3, 2021.

**Terms & Conditions: ISDI requires that all tour participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in the tour. Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.**

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## REGISTRATION

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Tour registration prior to November 22, 2021, is reserved for members of THNOC's Bienville Circle and Laussat Society.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on passport: \_\_\_\_\_

**A copy of your passport's identification page is due with final payment by January 17, 2022.**

Name as it should appear on name badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of arrival in Madrid: \_\_\_\_\_

Airline and flight number (for private car transfer only): \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel floor preference:     low floor     high floor     no preference

Bed preference:     double     king     two beds

(All efforts will be made to fulfill these requests, but they cannot be guaranteed.)

Health information (due by January 17, 2022):

Dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Walking difficulties: \_\_\_\_\_

**Price per person, double occupancy: \$8,200**

**Please enclose a deposit** of \$1,000 (per person) with your registration form.

**2<sup>nd</sup> deposit** of \$3,000 (per person) is **due by December 20, 2021.**

**Final payment** of \$4,200 (per person), plus single supplement (if applicable),  
and payment for optional services is **due by January 17, 2022.**



**REGISTRATION FEES**

QTY			SUBTOTAL
	Main Tour: Registration (per person, double occupancy)	x \$8,200	
	Main Tour: Single supplement	x \$1,800	

**OPTIONAL SERVICES**

	Extra nights at Hotel Urban, Madrid, double occupancy	Dates Requested:	x \$300	
	Extra nights at Hotel Urban, Madrid, single occupancy	Dates Requested:	x \$270	
	Extra nights at Alfonso XIII, Seville, double occupancy	Dates Requested:	x \$640	
	Extra nights at Alfonso XIII, Seville, single occupancy	Dates Requested:	x 600	
	Private car transfer (Madrid arrival), 1–6 passengers		x \$125	
	Private car transfer (Seville departure), 1–2 passengers		x \$95	
	Private car transfer (Seville departure), 3–6 passengers		x \$160	
<b>TOTAL:</b>				

**If you wish to charge your reservation to a credit card, please complete:**

Select one:  Visa  MasterCard  AmEx  Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Spain Study Tour  
The Historic New Orleans Collection  
410 Chartres St.  
New Orleans, LA 70130

**Fax to:** (504) 598-7168

**Email to:** [wrc@hnoc.org](mailto:wrc@hnoc.org)

For further information, please call (504) 523-4662.

*Registration is considered complete once both the Participant Tour Agreement and the initial deposit are received.*