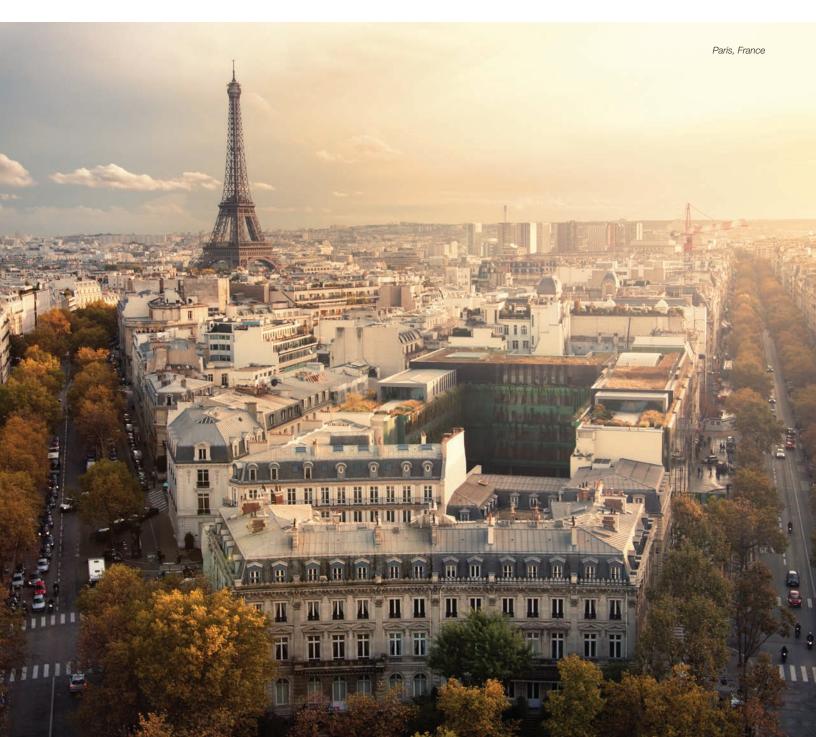


# From Hola to Bonjour

JUNE 2014 | 10 days | Spain | France





### From Hola to Bonjour

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Start in Spain, finish in France—exploring the many sides of these two European powers in between. Madrid is classic Spain—the Palacio Real was once the seat of the most powerful court in the world—while Toledo and Salamanca offer insight into a range of outside cultural influences. Barcelona's highlights, meanwhile, double as world-renowned feats of creativity, with Gaudi's La Sagrada Familia foremost among them. In France, Carcassonne's fortress walls connect the city to its medieval past, but Paris's offering is perhaps even more impressive, with the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedra, the Eiffel Tower and more.

#### Everything you get:

- Round-trip flights
- Full-time Tour Director
- Comfortable motorcoach; High-speed train; Night train
- 7 overnight stayss in hotels with private bathrooms; 1 night couchette accommodations
- European breakfast and dinner daily
- 7 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides; 2 walking tours led by your Tour Director
- Entrance to: Palacio Real; Toledo Cathedral; Mary's Synagogue; Church of Santo Tomé; Parque Guell; Louvre; Versailles; Notre Dame Cathedral; Eiffel Tower

#### Day 1: Fly overnight to Spain

#### Day 2: Madrid

 Meet your Tour Director at the airport
Take a walking tour of Madrid: Puerta del Sol; Plaza Mayor; "Sobrino de Botin"

#### Day 3: Toledo | Madrid

- Take a guided tour of Madrid: Palacio Real
- Take a guided excursion to Toledo: St. Mary's Synagogue; Toledo Cathedral; Church of Santo Tomé; Damascene workshop

#### Day 4: Salamanca | Madrid

- Take a guided excursion to Salamanca: Casa de los Conchas; Old Cathedral; New Cathedral
- Enjoy free time in Madrid

#### Day 5: Madrid | Barcelona

- Travel by high-speed train to Barcelona
- Take a walking tour of Barcelona: Las Ramblas; Gran Teatro de Liceu; Café de l'Opera; La Boqueria

#### Day 6: Barcelona | Carcassonne

- Take a guided tour of Barcelona: La Sagrada Familia; Barrio Gótico; Parque Guell; Montjuïc Hill
- Travel to Carcassonne

#### Day 7: Carcassonne | Night train

- Take a guided tour of Carcassonne
- Board a night train to Paris

#### Day 8: Paris

- Arrive in ParisTake a guided tour of the Louvre
- Enjoy free time on Champs-Élysées
- Take a river cruise on the Seine

#### Day 9: Versailles | Paris

- Take a guided excursion to Versailles
- Visit Notre Dame Cathedral
- Ascend the Eiffel Tower

#### Day 10: Depart for home

#### Madrid

Travel back to Spain's Golden Age in Madrid, Europe's highest capital at 2,100 feet above sea level. Your walking tour takes you to the Puerta del Sol, the heart of this Spanish capital. At nearby Plaza Mayor, you'll learn about this grand square's history of bullfights, royal weddings, public executions and *autos de fe*, the infamous processions of the condemned during the Spanish Inquisition. You'll also see the restaurant immortalized by Hemingway in *The Sun Also Rises*. Later, with a local guide, you'll visit the extravagant Palacio Real for a taste of royal Madrid. Wander the fabulous interior of this palace, which contains more than 2,000 rooms decked in epic frescoes, delicate wares and finely woven rugs.



Palacio Real Madrid, Spain



#### **Barcelona**

In Catalonia, see why Barcelona is an art lover's dream city and the place where masters like Miró, Picasso and Dalí flourished. Flower vendors and street performers greet you on your walking tour of the tree-lined Las Ramblas, the city's main thoroughfare. You'll pass the thrice-burned-down Gran Teatro de Liceu and nostalgic Café de l'Opera along the way. On a sightseeing tour, snap photos of the twisting spires of La Sagrada Familia before marveling at the landscaped greenery and playful Modernist mosaics of Parque Guell. From atop Montjuïc Hill, home of the Magic Fountain of Montjuïc, you'll enjoy panoramic views of the harbor below.

Parque Guell Barcelona, Spain

#### Paris

Bonjour, Paris! Sightseeing in the City of Light begins at the Louvre, which houses one of the world's great art collections. Beneath I.M. Pei's iconic glass pyramid, you'll see treasures like the *Venus de Milo* and *Mona Lisa*. Later, get a taste of Parisian style as you ride down the elegant Champs-Élysées, and then take the city by night on a Seine river cruise. At Notre Dame Cathedral, French history and architectural innovation are on permanent display. Admire its sculptured façade, stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings before heading for the iconic Eiffel Tower. Here, you'll ascend Paris's tallest structure for breathtaking views of the city.



**Louvre** Paris, France

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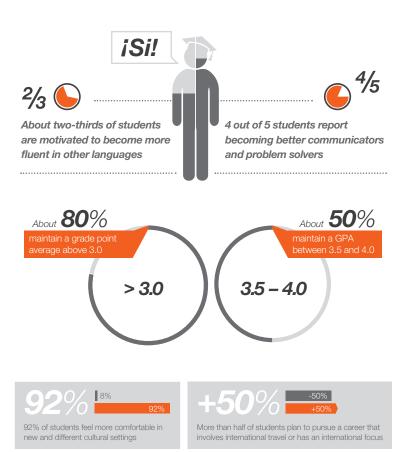
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