American Celebration of Music in Portugal & Spain

Standard Tour #3  (7 nights / 9 days)

Day 1
Depart via scheduled air service to Lisbon, Portugal

Day 2  Lisbon  (D)
Arrive in Lisbon
Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting chartered motorcoach
Enjoy a half-day guided tour of Lisbon including Eduardo VII Park (a formal, landscaped park with a magnificent vista of the entire city), Castelo de Sao Jorge (the castle in the heart of the city), the Sé (the main cathedral which was once a fortress), Belem Tower, and entrance to Jeronimos Monastery, including its Cloisters and its Igreja de Sta Maria de Belem
Late afternoon hotel check-in
Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Lisbon is one of Europe's most visually striking capitals, built on a series of hills with scenic vistas from every angle. The almost constant presence of sunshine and the River Tagus transforms the Portuguese capital into a mirror of a thousand colors - highlighting the city's unique architecture and beauty

Day 3  Lisbon  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
For choirs only: participate/sing in Mass at Jeronimos Monastery
Lunch on own
Afternoon excursion along the scenic 'Coast of the Sun'. Explore little fishing villages and white sand beaches on one of Europe's most westerly outreaches. Pass through Estoril. Continue to Cascais where highlights "Boca do Inferno" and the magnificent panorama of the Bay of Cascais and its coast. Continue along the coast, passing the famous Guincho beach, to Cabo da Roca (the most western point of Europe)
Return to Lisbon
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Portugal
Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4  Lisbon / Algarve / Seville  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Seville via the Algarve Region, known for its beaches, nature reserves, picturesque villages, and the vibrant colors of the landscape. Pass through Albufeira. Albufeira’s old town with its pretty cobbled streets lined with restaurants, cafes and shops is a great place to stroll. Albufeira’s waterfront contains sugar candy colored apartments and lovely sandy beaches
Lunch on own
Continue to Faro, full of “old world charm” especially in the old town.
Then it is off to Seville for dinner and overnight
Seville ranks as one of the world's great tourist centers. Don Juan romanced and Figaro barbered in Seville; today, gypsies still sing age-old ballads, flamenco dancers whirl to the melodies of the guitar and matadors tease rushing bulls.

Day 5  Seville  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
A morning guided tour of Seville includes Maria Luisa Park, Plaza de España, entrance to the Giralda and the Cathedral. Drive past the Torre del Oro (Gold Tower)
Lunch on own
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain
Evening dinner and overnight

Day 6  Seville / Cordoba / Granada  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Granada via Cordoba. A guided tour of Cordoba includes the Mezquita (Mosque) The Mosque was built in the 8th Century and by the 10th Century was one of Islam's most outstanding religious structures, second in size only to the Kaaba in Mecca
Lunch on own
Continue to Granada for dinner and overnight

Granada has everything: prestigious and exceedingly beautiful Moorish buildings, luminous skies and a luxuriantly green setting. It was built on three hills at the center of a wide plain that looks out to the snow capped Sierra Nevada on the horizon

Day 7  Granada  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
A morning guided tour of Granada includes entrance to the Alhambra (Red Castle) which includes the Nasrid Palace, exquisite gardens, Emperor Charles V's Palace etc. Also visit Generalife (summer palace of the kings of Granada)
Lunch on own
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain
Evening dinner and overnight

Day 8  Granada / Malaga  (B,D)
Breakfast at the hotel
Morning at leisure in Granada for sightseeing, shopping or other activities
Lunch on own
Afternoon excursion along the Costa del Sol. Discover a rich cultural heritage, fabulous beaches and coastal sites, and charming hinterland villages as we travel along the Costa del Sol. Visit Málaga, picturesquely situated at the foot of the Montes de Málaga amid luxuriant subtropical vegetation, is one of the oldest Mediterranean ports and a beautiful place in which to explore
Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight in Malaga

Day 9  Depart for home  (B)
Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Malaga’s airport for return flight
This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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