



# Spain & Portugal

*curated  
itineraries*

for your touring  
performance and  
budgetary goals

800 223 4664

[www.maestro-performance.com](http://www.maestro-performance.com)

## Sample Performance Tour Itinerary

*featuring Toledo, Cordoba, Granada, Seville,  
Cape Sagres, Lagos, Lisbon, and Sintra*

### *day 1 – Overnight flight*

Begin your 12-day performance tour through the Iberian Peninsula with this evening's overnight trans-Atlantic flight.

### *day 2 – Cordoba*

Arrive at Madrid-Barajas Airport, where your **full-time bilingual tour manager** will welcome you abroad. Explorations begin right away, as you board your private coach and transfer to Toledo. Upon arrival, a **local guide** will join you for a walking tour of Spain's old capital to introduce you to the beauties of this ancient city. For centuries Toledo was home to one culture with three religious traditions, where Christians, Jews, and Muslims lived in relative harmony. Included are visits to Toledo's magnificent **Cathedral**, the medieval **Sinagoga del Transito**, and El Greco's *The Burial of Count of Orgaz* at the **Santo Tome Chapel**. There is free time for lunch, before continuing to Cordoba, where you can settle into your hotel, relax, and enjoy **dinner**.

### *day 3 – Cordoba*

**Breakfast** is served at the hotel, and each morning for the remainder of your trip. The Andalusian town of Cordoba's glorious Moorish past is brought to life by your **local guide**. You will visit the massive former mosque; the famous and remarkably preserved **Mezquita** that dominates the old town. At its peak, it was the center of Western Islam and rivaled both Baghdad and Constantinople. The mosque was built on the site of a Roman Temple, and is now a cathedral. Additional highlights include the Jewish quarter "La Judería" to see the 14<sup>th</sup> century synagogue, and the Roman Bridge over the Guadalquivir River. There is free time for lunch to sample the region's fine tapas. This afternoon visit the ruins of **Medina Azahara**, a 10<sup>th</sup> century palace city built in the outskirts of Cordoba, by the first caliph of Al-Andalus, Abd ar-Rahman III. **Present an area concert this evening at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! There is the opportunity to make this an exchange and joint performance with a local ensemble. A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** **Dinner** is served at a local restaurant.

### *day 4 – Granada*

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Continue your journey today, as you leave behind Cordoba. You will arrive at another gem of Moorish heritage, Granada later this morning. North African Muslims crossed the Strait of Gibraltar in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, and quickly conquered the Iberian Peninsula while converting most of its inhabitants. The Moorish Empire was on decline for the two centuries that preceded 1492's Reconquista, when Christian forces defeated the Moors and forced them back into Africa. This victory helped lay the foundation for Spain's Golden Age, and today you will view the ornate **Capilla Real** tombs of Ferdinand and Isabella, who reigned over a period of exploration that led to the new Americas. There is also time to explore the reconstructed Alcaiceria, a colorful puzzle of shopping lanes offering a perfect

opportunity for souvenir shopping. This evening, enjoy **dinner, dancing lessons**, and a typical “zambra” flamenco show held inside a traditional cave venue in the Albaicín, Granada’s Moorish neighborhood.

## day 5 – Granada

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Begin your morning with a guided visit to the world-famous **Alhambra**, a sprawling palace and garden complex that is one of the greatest accomplishments of Islamic art and architecture. Your tour includes the fragrant **Generalife Gardens** on the grounds of a summer palace within. The last and most magnificent of all Moorish palaces in Spain, the Alhambra will leave you in awe. **Present an area concert this evening at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** Enjoy **dinner**.

## day 6 – Seville

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Depart Granada this morning, and journey to Seville, Spain’s most flamboyant and atmospheric city. A **local guide** will greet you upon arrival and lead your afternoon sightseeing tour. Beginning with the famous Plaza de España and its adjoining María Luisa’s Park, you will then see the immense **Cathedral of Seville**. The third-largest church in the world and burial place of Christopher Columbus, its “**La Giralda**” was originally a minaret and is now the Cathedral’s bell tower. This evening, your escort will take you for a walk along the narrow streets of the picturesque Santa Cruz Quarter. This former Jewish quarter is filled with charming squares, cafes, and gardens and is the perfect setting for **dinner** at a local restaurant.

## day 7 – Seville

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Begin the day with a morning **guided tour** of the **Alcazar** palace, the Sevilla home of the Spanish Royal Family for the past 500 years. Originally a Moorish fort that later become a royal palace, you will be impressed with its fabled tile work. Afterward, there is free time in Seville for exploration on your own, or with your tour manager. **Participate in the mass of a local church today, or present an area concert this evening at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** Enjoy **dinner**.

## day 8 – Lagos

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Your exploration of Portugal begins today as you travel south to the Algarve Coast. A visit to Cape Sagres allows for views of what was once thought to be the edge of the Earth, in the days before Columbus. Visit the **Fortress**, and its Wind Compass, and walk along the bluff’s paths revealing the distant Cape St. Vincent, and ending at what the Roman’s called Promontorium Sacrum. Settle into your rooms in the tranquil seaside fishing village of Lagos for the overnight. **Dinner** is served this evening at a local seafood restaurant.

## day 9 – Lisbon

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Relax and enjoy yourself this morning, during a **two-hour boat cruise** along the coast to see the distinctive and magnificent cliffs that surround the area. There is free time for lunch before departing for your final destination of Lisbon. Travel through the Alentejo countryside, and enter the city from the sweeping 25th of April Bridge—the largest suspension bridge in the world, and named for the Carnation Revolution of 1974 and Freedom Day. Check in to your hotel and enjoy a **dinner** of Portuguese specialties at a local restaurant.

## day 10 – Lisbon

**Breakfast** at the hotel. This morning’s sightseeing with **local guide** shows you the sights and monuments of Lisbon’s maritime empire, including stops at Belém Tower and the Monument to the Discoveries. See the Alfama district, Rossio Square, and visit **St. George’s Castle**, a Moorish castle overlooking the city from the millennium-old walls and commanding breathtaking views of Lisbon. **Explore the popular genre of Fado during this afternoon’s workshop with a local expert. Learn the traditional structure of Portugal’s national music treasure, along with its characteristic mournful tunes and lyrics.** This evening **dinner** is served at a local restaurant, and then you will attend a performance at one of the Fado houses in the Alfama, the oldest district of Lisbon.

## day 11 – Lisbon

**Breakfast** at the hotel. Portugal's rulers constructed extravagant palaces in the hills of the nearby Serra de Sintra, and this morning you will visit **Pena Palace** for a **guided tour** of this lavish construction of stone carvings and vivid color designed by King Fernando II. Afterward, enjoy free time in the village before returning to Lisbon. **Present an area concert finale this evening at a local venue custom selected for your ensemble! A warm-up rehearsal is provided prior to your performance.** This evening enjoy **dinner** at a local restaurant and celebrate your final evening in Europe!

## day 12 – Departure

A final **breakfast** is served at the hotel before transferring to the airport for your return flights home. Your tour manager will assist with airport check-in, and there is time for one last *adios* and *tchau*!

