

Top Ten Things to See and Do in Spain



**Where to Explore
and
What to Enjoy**

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So you've decided to visit Spain for your holiday vacation. You probably are wondering what possible things you can do to make the most of your Spanish vacation. Well, don't let that thing worry you. There is and there will always be a solution to that. Perhaps all you need to do is to make sure that you are ready to engage in all of the challenges that may come along the way. After all, Spain has a lot of wonderful things to offer you.

Spain is well-known throughout the world for its wonderful beaches, mountains, and a wide selection of culinary delights to suit every palate. Tourists from near and far away places have come to this place just to witness and enjoy everything Spanish and it's so nice to know that every visitor who comes to Spain goes home happy and contented.

Now, if you are one of those millions of people out there who wish to experience Spain at the most ultimate way possible, then I bet you would be happy to know that you've got the right page. Yes, many were asking about the most interesting things to see and do in Spain, and fortunately you're one of those who have come to the right place. I have mentioned actually below the top ten things to see and do in the Spanish region. You may have found several other resources stating the same things but in different order. Well, in this page, I have mentioned the most interesting things to do in Spain according to what I believe are ordered.

If you are planning to visit Spain and you want to know exactly what things you can enjoy during your visit to the country, then I found no reason for you not to read on.

#1: *Stomp Your Feet to the Flamenco Beat*

Heard about the Flamenco dancing? Well, that has been considered throughout the world as something Spanish. It has been practiced and performed by Spanish generations since the early days of civilization, and although several challenges have somehow tried Flamenco to go down from its throne, it has recently enjoyed a rushing popularity in today's modern Spanish society.

The Flamenco dancing, according to several reports and claims, is a traditional dance and song of the Gypsies. Its history is not that clear though, but many have said that it originated from the Gypsies, the Moorish, and the Andalucians, although several other roots are linked to its development.

The Flamenco dancing comes in three forms. The first is the so-called Cante or the song. The second is the Baile or the dance, and the third is the Guitarra or the playing of the guitar. The early flamencos are said to show purely vocals which are typically accompanied by the rhythmical clapping of the performer's hands, which they call in Spanish as "toque de palmas". However, as several influences were brought about by adoptions and performances, the original form developed.

Today, flamenco dancing in Spain is noted not only for the clapping of the performers' hands, but also for the graceful dancing and soothing voices of the singers. What's more interesting to know is that the flamenco dancing in Spain has embodied several kinds of music, including salsa, jazz, bossa nova, and a lot more.

Where to see it?

Flamenco dancing is now performed in Andalucia, Granada, Madrid, and even in Cordoba. But if you want to see the most interesting form, head to Andalucia, which is considered by most Spanish as the home of flamenco. The best chance for you to see the whole of it will be at the flamenco festivals which are annually

held in the province of Andalusia. The dance is typically staged during summer, spring, and early fall.

#2: *Sit or Stand in a Bar and Do Tapas!*

Tapas are one of the most specialized parts of the Spanish gastronomic delights. It is enjoyed in all bars throughout the country and Spanish love to eat it in the evening, either before or after they consume their evening meals. It is important to note though that tapas in Spain are not normally consumed as a main dish. So when visiting Spain, taste tapas but consider it as only snacks. You can eat it while enjoying a good cup or bottle of a drink.

The tapas in Spain are usually served at tascas, or bars specializing in tapas. They come in varying forms and sizes, as well as in price. But there are some tapas in Spain that are offered for free, so on one of your visits to Spanish bars, ask the waiters first about tapas and whether they're free or not.

The Spanish tapas come in small servings. They can be Spanish hams, cheeses and sausages, or anything. Yes, they come in variety and what you may commonly see in the tascas are those pickles placed on cocktail sticks, homely omelettes, or baby earthenware casseroles of sizzling dishes. It is for this variety actually that Spanish come and go, and then returns to enjoy tapas.

#3: *Watch or Run with the Bulls*

You probably have heard about running with the bulls in Spain as it is one of the most popular events in the whole Spanish region. Well, for long years, this event has been considered as one of the most dangerous festivals in Spain simply for the reason that many of those who ran with the bulls were injured. Worse is that many people have accidentally died.

Given that fact, it would be smarter to watch the bulls running than to run with them. But if you want to make the most of this thrilling spectacle, then you have the choice to run. If you do, just be careful.

Running with the bulls is a festival annually celebrated in Pamplona. It is held in the city during the San Fermin Festival and is considered as religious in origin. According to several stories, the running with the bulls came into popularity during the early festival of San Fermin when the bulls being used in the Spanish bullfighting were run by the drovers from the bulls' corral through the streets and into the pens where the bullfight happens. It became popular when people who have witnessed the first running realized that it was exciting to run with the bulls. So from it, the more challenging and daring event of running in front of the bulls came into being.

But when does the bull running in Pamplona occur? Well, it occurs at the moment the San Fermin Festival is held, just at noon on the 6th of July. The signal for the run is a firework display at the Town Hall of Pamplona at Plaza Consistorial.

#4: Cheer and Get Awed by the Bullfight

So you've joined the bull run. You also probably want to see the bullfight.

Bullfighting is in the first place one of the most celebrated events in Spain. Yes, the Spanish are known for this. What's nice to know is that the bullfighting in Spain is made available for gender and races to see. They are often held at some of the Spanish bullfighting arenas and although the event is a bit scary for the participants, many are still watching the game.

The bullfighting in Spain is originally said to be pagan. It was first developed as an expression of the passions and temperaments of the Iberians and Spain being part of the Iberian Peninsula have adopted it.

Many have attacked the event though for according to them, the bullfighting is so cruel, savage and bloody. However, for the game enthusiasts, the bullfight is a representation of death, catharsis and rebirth. It is this philosophy that makes the bullfighting in Spain alive despite of the many attacks made against it.

If the sport appeals to you, then there's nothing better you can do than to head for the plaza de toros in Spain. These bullrings are located just within the major Spanish cities like Madrid, Granada or Seville. Note that you need to obtain a ticket for you to enter and witness the event, and the ticket comes in two forms: the *sombra* (in the shade) or *sol* (in the sunny side). If you want to get out of the sun, then be ready to pay more for it. You can bring a friend with you or someone you know during the event, but if you are the type who wants to go alone, then you can do so. After all, it's a personal choice.

#5: *See the Masterpieces at Prado Museum*

Prado Museum is known throughout the city of Madrid as one of the most complete and spectacular Spanish museums available. It is housed in a neoclassical building in Madrid which history dates back to the year 1785 when the building was built and designed by Juan de Villanueva. The Prado is now deemed as the most valuable museum in the whole Spain.

The Prado Museum is the home of the largest collection of the Spanish artistic masterpieces. The arts of the 12th century to the 19th century are all displayed here, and among the masterpieces you can see at the center and corners of this museum are the works of arts masters such as Goya, Ribera, Velasquez, and El

Greco. There are also some works of the French, Flemish, German and Dutch artists.

So if you are interested to know more about the arts of Spain, then visit the Prado.

#6: *Head to Granada's Alhambra*

Spain has its own enchanting palaces, and Alhambra in Granada is just one of them.

The Alhambra is basically an extensive palace that houses a number of residential quarters with royal origin, as well as court complexes that feature bathrooms, mosques and official chambers. According to researches, the palace was built in the 13th century by a person named Ibn al-Ahmar who also happened to be the Nasrid dynasty founder.

The palace is known more for the number of portions that are worth seeing. Of the portions, the most well-known is the series of courtyards that are surrounded by spacious rooms. At these courtyards, you can see a varied repertoire of arches, columns, as well as domical forms. Aside from that, there are some combinations on its features that somehow make every visitor enchanted with the romantic imagination of the earlier centuries. For instance, the Lion Court in Alhambra Palace is considered by many Spanish and tourists as a physical representation of Paradise which was described in many of the Islamic poetries.

#7: *Experience Gaudi at Parc Guell*

Do you love to explore wonderful parks? If so, then see Gaudi's Parc Guell in Barcelona.

The Parc Guell is in the first place celebrated as one of the largest parks in Spain. It was designed by Antoni Gaudi, the world's most well-known artist. It was built from 1900 to 1914 and now houses a number of large buildings and sculptures that all feature Gaudi's style of broken tiles and curves.

The Parc Guell features a main gateway which presents two of the park's administrative pavilions that are made in stone. Also, it has stairways that are separated into figures, bringing you to the colonnade Hall where a massive column of about 86 that holds the big square can be found. Due to its huge size, the square in this park is now considered as one of the perfect hosts for cultural meetings.

#8: *Sway Your Way at Valderrama Golf Course*

Is golf your favorite sport? Well, there's no other wonderful place to go for an ultimate golfing in Spain than in Valderrama. It is actually considered throughout Europe as one of the top rated gold courses in Spain. Celebrities and royal families go here to enjoy one of the ultimate golfing experiences in Spain.

The Valderrama golf courses are said to be world class. They feature the most stunning views of the surroundings and the place is blessed with a good climate, making the courses worth playing.

Well, if you find Valderrama a bit out of reach, you have the right alternative – the Costa del Sol which features more than one course to suit every interest.

#9: *Stroll along Las Ramblas*

If you are in Barcelona, one of the best things you can do to enjoy your vacation is to stroll along Las Ramblas. Las Ramblas is basically considered as the heart and soul of the city of Barcelona. For what reason? Well, Ramblas features a number of attractions for the visitors to see, including Placa de Catalunya, Mercat de La Boqueria, Gran Theatre del Licey, Placa Reial, Monument to Christopher Columbus, and a lot more. All of these attractions are worth seeing, so spend some time walking on the routes of Las Ramblas during your visit to Spain.

#10: *Enjoy the Sun and, Sand at Costa del Sol*

Are you the type who enjoys the beach? The Costa del Sol can be your best option. Yes, this is considered as one of the most famous and overdeveloped line of beaches in the Iberian Peninsula. It is celebrated by tourists and locals alike simply for the reason that Costa del Sol has superb sand and the calmest waters of the Mediterranean. With that, don't be surprised when you a large number of people making the most of this string of wonderful beaches. It is here where you can see throngs of people enjoying the sunshine, the sand, and everything that the resorts have to offer.

Having read all that, I bet you are now excited to go for a Spanish vacation. Well, get ready as early as now and plan your trip to the best way possible. Just make sure not to miss all those wonderful things to do in Spain on your vacation list.

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