



Flavors of Spain

with Sunday Baroque host, Suzanne Bona

Madrid - Toledo - Segovia - Rioja and the Basque Region

June 3 - 13, 2025



Hola! You are cordially invited to join me, **Suzanne Bona**, for a delicious classical journey to Spain. It's always so hard to choose between Rioja and the Basque region so we decided to blend their delicious wines and rich cultures into one mouthwatering adventure. Join friends and fans of **Sunday Baroque** in the centuries-old debate over which of these regions produces the most delectable olive oil, the greatest art, and the most exquisite wine. On this journey you'll meander through

colorful markets, charming villages, world-class museums and lush vineyards as you experience, and taste, the delicious culinary and cultural heritage of España! In addition, you'll be treated to two classical music concerts and a lively evening of flamenco guitar! Space is limited for this Spain journey.

TRIP AT A GLANCE

- 3 Nights Madrid (with Toledo & Segovia)
- 2 Nights Salamanca, home to Spain's oldest university
- 2 Nights Burgos (Rioja wine region)
- 3 Nights San Sebastián & Bilbao (Spain's Basque region)



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JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Two world class classical concerts plus a lively evening of flamenco ✱ Wine tastings with the producers in Rioja ✱ Privately guided museum visits to the Prado and Reina Sofia museums in Madrid ✱ An insider's visit to the cutting-edge Guggenheim Museum of Bilbao ✱ Historic strolls through the medieval town centers of Toledo, Burgos and Segovia ✱ Travel with kindred spirits who share your passion for music, culture, food and wine

IT'S INCLUDED

- Sunday Baroque host, Suzanne Bona
- Ten nights in charming hotels and lodges (*all four-star hotels*)
- All breakfasts plus ten additional multi-course meals featuring regional specialties (*wine included*)
- Two classical music concerts plus an evening of flamenco!
**Concert details TBA in the spring of 2025*
- All admissions as mentioned in your Flavors of Spain itinerary
- Transportation by private air-conditioned motorcoach
- Gratuities for your driver and guide
- Numerous wine tastings in each region visited

TRIP FACTS

11 Days /10 Nights (*Land*)

\$5,795 Land Price per person, double occupancy room

\$1,795 Single Supplement (*waived if willing to share a room and a roommate is found*)

Trip begins in Madrid: June 3, 2025

Trip ends in San Sebastián: June 13, 2025

SAVE UP TO \$300

Earthbound and Sunday Baroque travel alumni save \$100

Pay your final balance by check and save \$100

Reserve by February 1, 2025 to save \$100



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Las Meninas, Velazquez, Prado Museum

Your Sunday Baroque Adventure Begins!

DAY 0: Depart the USA for Madrid, Spain!

You'll need to depart your home city one day early to arrive in Madrid in time. For a full range of ticket air options visit: <https://www.kayak.com/> Once you find your preferred routing, book directly with the airlines of your choice.

DAY 1: Tuesday, June 3 - Arrive in Spain's Capital City, Madrid!

Arrive in Madrid and transfer to your centrally located hotel. Meet your Sunday Baroque host, Suzanne Bona, and local guide for a walk through the historic center of Madrid. After enjoying a welcome glass of wine at a local bodega, we'll enjoy a stroll down medieval lanes to the Plaza Mayor and a restaurant for our Welcome-to-Spain dinner featuring regional dishes. *Sleep in Madrid (D)*

DAY 2: Wednesday, June 4 - The Prado Museum and Reina Sofia: From Velazquez to Picasso!

After breakfast, we'll walk to the Prado Museum for an in-depth look at the masterpieces of Goya, Velazquez and El Greco. For those who love modern art we've planned a visit to the impressive Reina Sofia Museum. Today the Reina Sofia houses masterpieces by Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali and Miro. This afternoon you may wish to visit the Royal Palace or stroll through the colorful bistro-lined streets of the Santa Ana neighborhood. This is a free evening to enjoy dinner in one of Madrid's many excellent restaurants. *Sleep in Madrid (B, D)*



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Spend a full day exploring Toledo!

DAY 3: Thursday, June 5 - An Outing to Towering Medieval Toledo

Perched high above a winding river, Toledo looms from a distance. Toledo's historic roots run deep. Once a Roman town, it was occupied by the Christian Visigoths in the 6th century. Later, in the 8th century, Muslim armies swept across Spain, and Toledo became a thriving commercial center where Jews, Christians and Muslims peacefully co-existed. Finally, after several hundred years Catholic forces returned again, turning this city into their Christian capital. Together, we'll take an in-depth look at Toledo's historic cathedral, El Greco's premier masterpiece *The Count of Orgaz*, and visit one of Spain's oldest and stunning synagogues, Santa Maria Blanca. The afternoon is yours to stroll Toledo's many cobblestone streets or visit the Alcazar. *Sleep in Madrid (B, L)*

DAY 4: Friday, June 6 - Madrid to Salamanca – via Segovia

Just one hour north of Madrid is the celebrated town of Segovia. Well known for its castle, cathedral and Roman aqueduct, Segovia is well worth exploring. In Segovia we'll have a feast on one of the region's most celebrated dishes ...roast suckling pig. (Vegetarian options available). After lunch there will be time to discover Segovia's many charms before heading two hours north to Salamanca. *Sleep in charming Salamanca (B, L)*



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Spend two nights in Burgos!

DAY 5: Saturday, June 7 - Discover Salamanca

Salamanca, a UNESCO World Heritage site, captivates visitors with its stunning Plaza Mayor, a vibrant square renowned for its intricate sandstone architecture that radiates warmth. The historic University of Salamanca, one of the oldest in the world, features an ornate façade and the whimsical Frog of Salamanca, believed to bring good luck to students. Strolling through the charming cobblestone streets, you'll encounter quaint shops and inviting cafés nestled in centuries-old buildings. The magnificent dual-cathedral complex showcases an awe-inspiring blend of Gothic and Baroque styles, each detail telling a story of the city's rich heritage. Don't miss the Casa de las Conchas, adorned with scallop shells, which houses a fascinating public library and a glimpse into the past. As twilight descends, the illuminated sandstone facades cast a magical glow over the Tormes River, making Salamanca a truly enchanting place to explore.

Today, there will be a morning tour of the city center followed by a multi-course lunch featuring regional specialties. *Sleep in Salamanca (B, L)*



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DAY 6: Sunday, June 8 - Discover Burgos, the city of El Cid

The cathedral of Burgos, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a masterpiece that's worth the trip. It had humble origins as a modest Romanesque church, but work began on a grander scale in 1221. Remarkably, within 40 years most of the French Gothic structure that you see today had been completed. The twin towers, which went up later in the 15th century, each represent 84m of richly decorated Gothic fantasy and they're surrounded by a sea of similarly intricate spires. Probably the most impressive of the portals is the Puerta del Sarmental, the main entrance for visitors, although the honor could also go to the Puerta de la Coronería, on the northwestern side, which shows Christ surrounded by the Evangelists.

And tucked away in the cathedral lies the body of El Cid. Few names resonate through Spanish history quite like El Cid, the 11th century soldier of fortune and adventurer whose story tells in microcosm the tumultuous years when Spain was divided into Muslim and Christian zones. El Cid has become a romantic, idealized figure of history, known for his unswerving loyalty and superhuman strength; his exploits captured the popular imagination as expressed in an anonymous 12th century epic poem and the 1961 film starring Charlton Heston and Sophia Loren.



El Cid (from the Arabic *sidi* for 'chief' or 'lord') was born Rodrigo Diaz in Vivar, a hamlet about 10km north of Burgos, in 1043. After the death of Ferdinand I, he entered into the murky world of royal succession which saw the king's five heirs squabbling over the throne and, ultimately, El Cid's banishment from Castilla in 1076. With few scruples as to whom he served, El Cid offered his services to a host of rulers, both Christian and Muslim. With each battle, he became ever more powerful and wealthy. Today you'll walk past his coffin as we tour the cathedral.

Enjoy lunch in Burgos and then take some time to explore this gem at your own relaxing pace. *Sleep in Burgos (B, L)*



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Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao

THE ROAD TO SANTIAGO

The **Way of St. James** (commonly known by its name in Spanish: El Camino de Santiago) is the name of any of the pilgrimage routes (most commonly the Camino Francés or French route) to the shrine of the apostle St. James the Great in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in northwestern Spain, where tradition says the remains of the saint are buried. The area around Burgos is one of the main stops en-route from the Pyrenees to Santiago so chances are you'll meet quite a few tired and happy pilgrims in this region.

DAY 7: Monday, June 9 - Wine Tasting and Sightseeing in Rioja

Set in the foothills of the Pyrenees close to the French border, La Rioja produces what most people have in mind when they think of Spanish wines. The region was making millions of gallons even during the regime of the ancient Romans, and it boasts quality-control laws promulgated by a local bishop in the 9th century.

This morning we'll head out to the countryside to discover some of the finer wines of Rioja - including tastings with the producers. Upon our return to Burgos you'll have time to stroll through the charming medieval streets. Why not stop in a charming café for a glass of vino and some tapas? *Sleep in Burgos (B, L)*



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DAY 8: Tuesday, June 10 - Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao

In Bilbao there is a different way of seeing the city's main museums and monuments: by boat. You will be able to see the following while you sail down the Nervión estuary for an hour: the impressive Guggenheim Bilbao Museum, Euskalduna Palace, Zubizuri Bridge, the Town Hall, Izozaki towers, Deusto University... all these are icons in a city that many describe as a laboratory of open-air architecture. Enjoy a private tour of the Guggenheim Museum and lunch.

Then, make your way to San Sebastián. *Sleep in San Sebastián (B, L)*

Day 9: Wednesday, June 11 - San Sebastián - Spain's Basque Country

San Sebastián, located in Spain's Basque Country, is renowned for its stunning beaches and vibrant culinary scene. The city's picturesque La Concha Bay is often considered one of the most beautiful urban beaches in Europe. San Sebastián is also famous for its pintxos, delicious small bites that reflect the region's rich culinary traditions. The historic Old Town, or Parte Vieja, buzzes with lively bars and restaurants, making it a perfect spot for food lovers. Cultural events, such as the San Sebastián International Film Festival, attract visitors from around the world. Additionally, the surrounding hills offer breathtaking views and hiking opportunities. With its unique blend of natural beauty, gastronomy, and culture, San Sebastián is a must-visit destination.

Sleep in San Sebastián (B, L)

DAY 10: Thursday, June 12 - Morning Funicular Railway

Enjoy a morning tour of the colorful town center. Then, we will hop the historic funicular railway which leads to a stunning viewpoint. Upon our return to the town center, we'll enjoy a wonderful farewell lunch. Then, the afternoon is yours. You may wish to soak up the sights, visit museums, beaches and explore the cobbled streets before meeting your guide and host for tapas and wine. Let's toast to a fabulous Sunday Baroque adventure! *Sleep in San Sebastián (B, L)*

DAY 10: Friday, June 13 - Your Sunday Baroque journey concludes after breakfast

Return home with a lifetime of delicious memories! *(B)*



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YOUR HOST - SUZANNE BONA

Suzanne Bona is the host and executive producer of *Sunday Baroque*, a syndicated weekly radio show of Baroque and early music. She originated the program in 1987 on WSHU Public Radio in her hometown of Fairfield, CT. *Sunday Baroque* has been distributed nationally since 1998, and is currently heard by approximately a half million listeners every week on 279 public radio stations and networks across the U.S., and across the world at www.SundayBaroque.org. Suzanne is also a classically trained flutist who earned her Bachelor of Music degree from The University of Connecticut. She continues to perform frequently as a soloist and chamber musician, and has especially enjoyed collaborating with some of her musically talented public radio colleagues in performances for listeners across the country. When she is not making radio, playing her flute, or traveling the world, Suzanne's hobbies include reading, running, cooking, and baking. She is also passionate about the cause of literacy, and has for decades been a volunteer tutor and board member for several organizations that advocate for literacy. Suzanne believes that travel, music and reading are among life's most transformational experiences.



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About Rioja & Catalonia Wine Regions & Dining Out



Meals and Dining Out: In Spain lunch is king. Spaniards enjoy large multi-course lunches and typically enjoy a lighter dinner at 10:00pm. Through the years we have noticed that American travelers, having just dined for 2 hours on a delicious hearty lunch, are in no mood to have a large dinner the same day. Therefore, the lion's share of meals will be beautiful traditional multi-course lunches. And we are guessing that by dinnertime a tapa and a glass of wine is all you'll be looking for.

Rioja: Rioja wines are normally a blend of various grape varieties, and can be either red (tinto), white (blanco) or rosé (rosado). La Rioja has a total of 57,000 hectares cultivated, yielding 250 million litres of wine annually, of which 85% is red. A distinct characteristic of Rioja wine is the effect of oak aging. First introduced in the early 18th century by Bordeaux influenced winemakers, the use of oak and the pronounced vanilla flavors in the wines has been a virtual trademark of the region though some modern winemakers are experimenting with making wines less influenced by oak.

Codorniu Cellars, Catalonia: The influence of the sun and the Mediterranean Sea makes the Penedés a privileged territory in which the Codorníu winery, declared national historical and artistic patrimony, stands out in 1976. This winery is owned by the oldest family business in Spain. This currently has more than 450 years of history. Discover the Cathedral of Cava and the other 2 modernist buildings designed by Puig i Cadafalch, enjoy the train ride through the underground cellars and taste their cava in an exciting journey to the origins of viticulture in our country.



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Know Before You Go!

Reservations and Deposits: A \$1000 per person deposit is needed to confirm your space on this journey. You can make a credit card deposit online or by phone. Deposits are refundable, minus a \$250 per person cancellation fee, for 60 days from the processing date or until 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. Final payment is also non-refundable, which is why we strongly urge guests to purchase travel insurance.

Not Included: International airline tickets, alcoholic beverages, room service and gratuities for hotel staff, travel insurance, meals not listed in brochure, and any activities or items not listed in your itinerary.

Physical Requirements: It is the responsibility of each guest to be aware of their physical abilities or limitations and to be in sufficient good health to undertake the trip. [Click here](#) to read “Is an Earthbound trip right for you?” or call the Earthbound office for more details.

Travel Insurance: Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information.

Events and Hosted Journeys: If a planned event is cancelled for any reason, another event will be included in its place. This is not cause for refund. Events are subject to change. Also, if a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents, and expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

Terms & Conditions: [Click here](#) to read the full terms and conditions.

RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS

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