

**Bob & Ruth's**  
**Gluten-Free Dining & Travel Club**

*presents*

# Grand Tour of Spain & Portugal

## April 18 ~ May 2, 2014

*2 weeks visiting Barcelona, Zaragoza, San Sebastian, Bilbao & The Guggenheim Museum, Santiago de Compostela, Oporto, Fatima, Lisbon, Cascais, Merida, Madrid & more.*



Dear Fellow Traveler,

Ruth and I invite you to join our ongoing gluten-free adventures around the world. For many years, members have been asking for a tour of Spain and Portugal, two countries in Europe that we have never visited except as a port stop on Mediterranean cruises. Well, by popular demand, we are pleased to announce our first grand tour of the Iberian Peninsula.

We'll visit the major cities including Barcelona, Madrid and Lisbon, plus the exciting and richly historic sites including Santiago de Compostela, Oporto (world-famous port wine), the Estoril coast, Bilbao (with its dramatic Guggenheim Museum), colorful Merida, Madrid (home of "tapas" and other local culinary delights) and much more. We'll stay in 4- and 5-star Spanish and Portuguese hotels including an overnight in a beautiful parador, a typical Spanish inn, and travel by comfortable, air conditioned bus with our knowledgeable escort throughout. It will be a pioneering trip of a lifetime.

And, of course, THE FOOD. As on all our trips, we pay special attention to the safety, quality and variety of meals we will be served on tour. We have made arrangements for special gluten-free meals throughout the tour.

Sincerely,

*Bob & Ruth*

**Bob & Ruth's Gluten-Free Dining & Travel Club**, 205 Donerail Court, Havre de Grace, MD 21078  
(410)939-3218 • [info@bobandruths.com](mailto:info@bobandruths.com) • [www.bobandruths.com](http://www.bobandruths.com)

## ITINERARY

### **4/18, Fri Fly to Spain**

Early evening departure on your transatlantic flight to Barcelona. Dinner, movies, and breakfast on board (gluten-free inflight meals requested).

### **4/19, Sat Arrive Barcelona**

Afternoon arrival at Barcelona. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. It is suggested that you take advantage of the free time to get to know one of Europe's most cosmopolitan cities. Welcome paella dinner at a typical Catalan restaurant.

### **4/20, Sun Barcelona**

Barcelona is on the northeastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula, on the shores of the Mediterranean, and is well known for its dramatic architecture, parks and museums. This morning tour will visit the ancient Gothic Quarter with its magnificent cathedral. Stop to admire Gaudi's masterwork, the Basilica of the Sacred Family (Sagrada Familia). Continue to Montjuich Hill (site of the Olympic Stadium), to enjoy a spectacular view of Barcelona. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner at a local restaurant.

### **4/21, Mon Barcelona-Zaragoza- Bilbao**

Departure for old Aragon and into the proud city of Zaragoza. Pause downtown in the main plaza where you will have free time to visit the impressive Basilica of El Pilar. Continue on to the north coast and the beautiful Basque Country, arriving at San Sebastian, known as "the pearl of the Cantabric Sea". Enjoy some free time before continuing to the city of Bilbao. Dinner at your hotel.

### **4/22, Tue Bilbao-Santillana-Oviedo**

Panoramic tour of the city including a visit to the world-famous Guggenheim Museum. Travel to Cantabria and the medieval town of Santillana del Mar. Continue to los Picos de Europa, one of the most spectacular landscapes of Spain, then visit the historic shrine of Covadonga. Overnight in Oviedo. Dinner at your hotel.

### **4/23 Wed Oviedo-Ribadeo-A Coruna**

Drive along the dramatic northern coast to Ribadeo, in Galicia, and the Rias Altas to the village of Ortigueira before arriving in A Coruña. Dinner at your hotel.

### **4/24, Thu A Coruna-Santiago de Compostela**

City tour, then proceed to historic Santiago de Compostela for a guided tour of the old city including a visit to its beautiful Cathedral. Dinner at your hotel.

### **4/25, Fri Santiago de Compostela-Vigo-Oporto**

Departure toward the southern Galician coast and the city of Vigo, then crossing the Portuguese frontier to Guimaraes and Braga, historic cities of the north of Portugal. Enjoy some free time before continuing to Oporto, the richest city of northern Portugal, famous for its remarkable Port wines. Dinner at your hotel.

### **4/26, Sat Oporto**

Guided visit to a local winery. Balance of day at leisure. Dinner at a local restaurant.

### **4/27, Sun Oporto-Coimbra-Fatima-Lisbon**

Visit the quaint university city of Coimbra and then on to the revered shrine of Fatima. Continue to the charming medieval walled town of Obidos. Arrive in Lisbon in time for dinner.

### **4/28, Mon Lisbon**

Morning tour of the Portuguese capital on the Tagus River. Museums, castles, open air markets, funiculars, Fado music, and many diverse neighborhoods including the Moorish Alfama, site of the city's tallest hill, and 17th century Bairro Alto, with its hopping nightlife. Afternoon free. Dinner and cultural show at a local restaurant.

### **4/29, Tue Cascais**

Visit the charming nearby village of Sintra and the lovely seaside resort of Cascais. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner at local restaurant. Overnight in Cascais.

### **4/30, Wed Cascais-Merida-Madrid**

Departure for Merida. Admire the archaeological site with its impressive amphitheatre, then continue to Madrid in the early evening for an "Illuminated Madrid" drive through the bustling streets of the old city, ending at the impressive Plaza Mayor, an area known for some of the most typical restaurants and taverns, which serve the delicious tapas. Dinner at a local tapas restaurant.

### **5/1, Thu Madrid**

Your city tour will include highlights such as Puerta del Sol, the magnificent fountains of Neptune and Cibeles, the stately Alcala Gate, the busy Gran Via and the Plaza de España. Free afternoon to explore on your own, or visit the famous Prado Museum. Farewell dinner.

### **5/2, Fri Return Home**

After breakfast, bid farewell to Madrid and transfer to the airport for your flight to the USA, arriving this same day.

**Bob & Ruth's GRAND TOUR OF SPAIN & PORTUGAL 2014 Reservation Form** *please print*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (a photocopy of passport must accompany this form)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ (eve) \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ spaces departing from New York. Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to charge the airfare portion:  YES  NO  I/We will make our own flight arrangements (land only)

I/We enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (min \$800 p.p. deposit incl. Bob & Ruth administrative fee) payable to **Lotus Tours**. Lotus will invoice you for the second deposit and balance. If not a member of Bob & Ruth's, please enclose \$40 membership fee payable to Bob & Ruths.

***All this is included:***

- Round trip group airfare from New York
- Escorted Tour by Deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- 13 Nights accommodations in 4- and 5-star hotels and resorts and inns incl. a parador
- All Meals (Gluten-Free breakfast, lunch & dinner daily)
- Comprehensive sightseeing incl. entrance fees
- Airport Transfers in conjunction with group flight
- All hotel and restaurant taxes & service
- Portorage of 1 piece of luggage per person

**Tour prices incl. round-trip group economy airfare from New York via Iberia Airlines**

**\$5,488**

p.p. double occ.  
(plus tax, fuel and pfcs)

Single Supplement:

**\$1,195**

Land only price:

**\$4,759**

p.p. double occ.  
(arrive in Barcelona and depart from Madrid on your own)

*For reservations, information, contact Lotus Tours*  
(212)267-5414 Fax: (212)267-0940 info@lotustours.us



## Bob & Ruth's

Gluten-Free Dining & Travel Club

205 Donerail Court, Havre de Grace, MD 21078

# Grand Tour of Spain & Portugal April 18~May 2, 2014

## Terms & Conditions

**Air transportation:** scheduled IATA airline on round-trip group fare; special upgrades may be available.

**Accommodations:** incl. buffet breakfast daily, taxes and service charges.

**Meals:** gluten-free group meals, table d'hote basis.

**Transfers & sightseeing:** via air-conditioned coach with English speaking guides; all entrance fees incl. Airport transfers are in conjunction with group flights.

**Not Included:** passport fee; items not on the table d'hote menus; gratuities to escort, guides and drivers; purchases from the inroom minibar; fax, phone and email charges; laundry, dry cleaning & items of a purely personal nature.

**Deposits, payments:** an \$800 p.p. initial deposit at time of reservation; you will be invoiced for the 2nd deposit due Sep 18, 2013 and the balance due Jan 18, 2014. Initial deposit includes a \$150 Bob & Ruth administrative fee.

**Cancellation policy:** a full refund, less \$325 p.p. will be made for cancellations received more than 180 days prior to departure; between 180-120 days, a \$650 charge applies; between 120-90 days; a \$1,300 charge applies; within 90 days, the tour portion is not refundable; there may be a penalty on the airfare portion as well. Special programs, speakers, gluten-free food and other arrangements are made specifically for the group, subject to certain minimum participation, and not cancelable. Cancellation charges protect tour fares for other participants and help cover non-refundable tour and administrative expenses. Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Insurance application will be sent with your confirmation.

**Responsibility:** Bob & Ruth's Gluten-Free Dining & Travel Club, Lotus Tours, Ltd. and/or associated companies give notice that all tickets issued by them and all arrangements for accommodations, meals and transportation are made by them as agents for the tour participant upon the express condition that they shall not be held liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect of any vehicle or through the acts of any company or person engaged in conveying the passengers herewith, or of any hotel/ship proprietor or employees. Itineraries and fares may be affected by changes in air services of the various countries. The right is reserved to withdraw any feature announced in this program and to make such alterations in the itinerary as may be found desirable for the convenience and proper carrying out of the tour. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. Guest speakers subject to professional commitments.

Bob & Ruth's Gluten-Free Dining & Travel Club, Lotus Tours, and/or associated companies accept no responsibility for loss or additional expenses due to delays or changes in schedules, sickness, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes. All fares shown are based on tariffs and exchanges rates in effect at time of printing and subject to change. The carriers are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on their respective conveyances. The passenger ticket shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchaser or passenger.