

Space is limited. Sign up by February 1, 2025

*The Vesalius Trust*

# ART & ANATOMY TOUR OF SPAIN

October 7–17, 2025

*The Garden of Earthly Delights (detail) by Hieronymus Bosch (1490-1500) at the Prado Museum Madrid*



# Custom Itinerary

*This custom travel program has been created uniquely for the Vesalius Trust.*

**Tuesday, October 7**

## Departures from the USA

Depart the United States on independent flights to Madrid, Spain.

**Wednesday, October 8**

## Welcome to Madrid

Transfer independently from the Madrid-Barajas Airport (MAD) to the lovely four-star Hotel NH Collection Gran Vía, centrally located in the bustling Plaza Mayor, your base in Madrid for six nights. Gather in the late afternoon for a guided walking tour of Madrid's historic district surrounding the Plaza Mayor. Celebrate our first evening together and savor delicious Spanish food over a casual welcome dinner in a local restaurant.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Dinner)*

**Thursday, October 9**

## Thyssen-Bornemisza & Reina Sofía

Get a comprehensive overview of European and Spanish art at the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum. With almost 1,000 paintings by a vast array of artists, including Duccio, Dürer, Caravaggio, Van Gogh, and Hopper, the Thyssen's collection spans various styles ranging from Renaissance and Rococo to Romanticism and Pop. Enjoy a quick stop into the CaixaForum Madrid, a cultural center housed in an old electric power station building renovated by the Herzog & de Meuron Swiss architectural studio. It features an impressive vertical garden with 15,000 plants by the French botanist Patrick Blanc. After a relaxing lunch, enjoy a guided tour of the Reina Sofía Museum, Spain's national museum of 20th-century art containing excellent collections of Spain's two greatest 20th-century masters, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí, including Picasso's painting Guernica. Dine on Spanish cuisine at a popular restaurant within walking distance of the hotel.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Breakfast, Dinner)*

**Friday, October 10**

## Medical Conference at the Museum of Anatomy Javier Puerta

Devote today to the conference organized by Joanna Ebenstein, founder of the Morbid Anatomy Museum and author of *The Anatomical Venus*, held at the Museum of Anatomy Javier Puerta at the University of Madrid's Faculty of Medicine. The conference will include scholarly lectures and behind-the-scenes tours of the Faculty of Medicine's museums. See the university's exhibition that pays tribute to Santiago Ramón y Cajal, a Nobel prize-winning Spanish physician and scientist, who precisely illustrated the structure of the nervous system. Return to the hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Breakfast)*

**Saturday, October 11**

## Goya & the National Anthropology Museum

Enjoy another fabulous day exploring Madrid with the morning spent focusing on the turbulent life of Francisco Goya and his lasting mark on art. At the San Fernando Academy of Fine Arts, which today houses one of the most important collections of



Photos (from top):  
Plaza Mayor, Madrid (Yuni Martin);  
*Venus and Cupid* by Peter Paul Rubens (circa 1650)  
at the Musée Thyssen Bornemisza  
Anatomy Museum "Javier Puerta"

Goya's art, see the restored copper plates alongside the prints that he made from them. Next visit San Antonio de la Florida, a small church with beautiful frescoes by Goya adorning its ceiling and dome. Following lunch together, visit the National Anthropology Museum, located in a 19th-century building. The museum's collections consist of items from different world cultures and its exhibits establish the cultural similarities and differences that exist throughout the world. Enjoy an evening at leisure.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch)*

## Sunday, October 12

### Medieval Toledo & El Greco

Today is dedicated to touring Toledo, the famous "city of three cultures" and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which has maintained the exact same layout it had in the Middle Ages. Take a walking tour through Toledo's narrow cobblestone streets and visit the city's famous sights including the Museum of Santa Cruz, a 16th-century building that was originally an important hospital but converted to a museum of fine arts, archaeology, and industrial arts in the 19th century. Admire the museum's excellent selection of 16th- and 17th-century paintings from Toledo, including works by El Greco. After lunch together, visit the Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca built in the Mudéjar style in the 12th century, and the Church of St. Tomé with its famous masterpiece by El Greco. Visit the El Greco Museum, devoted to the work and life of El Greco, who spent much of his life in Toledo. Return to Madrid in the early evening.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch)*

## Monday, October 13

### Highlights of the Prado

Walk to the incomparable Prado Museum for an hour-long pre-opening tour of the museum to see collection highlights of one of the world's greatest art collections, focusing on the museum's extensive selection of Spanish masterpieces, including paintings by Velázquez, El Greco, and Goya. Then enjoy free time for a self-guided visit through the Prado's galleries. Enjoy free time for lunch and to explore the city on your own. Then join an afternoon visit to the Anatomical theatre of the 19th-century Medical School that is now the site of the College of Physicians of Madrid. The evening is at leisure.

*Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid (Breakfast, Lunch)*

## Tuesday, October 14

### Barcelona & Gaudí

Travel via high-speed train to Barcelona this morning (2.5 hours). Upon arrival, be introduced to the Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí's Barcelona. Start with a guided tour of Park Güell, designed by Gaudí for entrepreneur Eusebi Güell as a housing development for affluent Catalan families. While this aim was never achieved, the space is now a public park for the people of Barcelona and was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984. Continue to the beautiful Basilica of the Sagrada Família, a monumental church project assumed by Gaudí in 1883. Gaudí spent the last twelve years of his life working exclusively on this project but did not live to see its completion. Late this afternoon, check in at the four-star Hotel Colón, ideally located in the city's Gothic Quarter and within close walking distance to restaurants, shops, and Las Ramblas, the bustling pedestrian-only corridor. Sample delicious Catalan cuisine in a top restaurant.

*Hotel Colón, Barcelona (Breakfast, Dinner)*



Photos (from top): Castilla La Mancha, Toledo; Las Meninas (detail) by Diego Velázquez (1656) at the Prado; Sagrada Família, Barcelona

**Wednesday, October 15**

## Treasures of Barcelona's Gothic Quarter & the Anatomical Theater

Set out on a guided walking tour of Barcelona's central historic district, learning about the city's fascinating history and architecture through the centuries. Walk around Las Ramblas, the Gothic Quarter, and be astounded by the architecture of the Barcelona Cathedral and the Basílica of Santa Maria del Mar. Visit the Anatomical Theater of Barcelona (1764) located in the headquarters of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia. Following free time for lunch, visit the Picasso Museum, housing one of the most extensive collections of artworks by Picasso in the district that was his home in Barcelona. Enjoy an evening at leisure.

*Hotel Colón, Barcelona (Breakfast)*

**Thursday, October 16**

## Jewels of Montjuïc

Travel by motorcoach to Montjuïc, the historic mountain overlooking the port of Barcelona. Visit the National Museum of Catalan Art, a beautiful museum containing hundreds of works of Catalan art from the medieval age to the 19th century, with a brilliant 1990s redesign by architect Gae Aulenti that still feels fresh today. Have the option to stay in Montjuïc to see the Miró Foundation and/or Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Pavilion and return independently by cable car—or—return to the hotel for an independent afternoon. This evening, gather for a gourmet farewell dinner at one of Barcelona's best restaurants.

*Hotel Colón, Barcelona (Breakfast, Dinner)*

**Friday, October 17**

## Return to the United States

Transfer independently to the Barcelona-El Prat Airport (BCN).

*(Breakfast)*



Park Güell Entrance Confection (Andrew Moore)

## Accommodations

### Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid

The Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía is situated at the heart of one of Madrid's most famous thoroughfares, the Gran Vía, lined with shops, coffee houses, bookstores, restaurants, and a few legendary cocktail bars, a stone's throw from the Prado Museum. This charming four-star hotel, set in an early twentieth-century building, boasts a stunning carved stone façade with murals of Talavera tiles, ironwork on the balconies, an excellent restaurant, a bar with live performances, and a rooftop pool.



### Hotel Colón, Barcelona

The four-star Hotel Colón boasts an unbeatable location in the center of historic Barcelona, with unrivaled views of the Cathedral of Barcelona directly across the street. Over its more than 60 years of history, the hotel has hosted cultural and artistic luminaries such as Tennessee Williams, Sofía Loren, Ernest Hemingway, and Santiago Calatrava. Its most famous and loved guest was Joan Miró, who made the hotel his home in Barcelona during the '60s and the beginning of the '70s.



# The Vesalius Trust

# ART & ANATOMY TOUR of SPAIN

## October 7–17, 2025

### TOUR COST:

Land Package .....	\$5,995
Single Supplement .....	\$1,495

*\*Tour Price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 18 paying participants.*

**ACTIVITY LEVEL:** Moderate, good overall mobility required.

**DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT:** A deposit of \$1,000 per registrant is required to reserve space on the tour, of which \$500 is nonrefundable for ISDI's registration and planning fee unless the tour is cancelled due to low enrollment. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Final balance will be invoiced and is due on June 9, 2025 and must be paid by check, bank wire, or ACH transfer to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations are accepted after this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by check/wire/ACH transfer only.

**FLIGHTS:** Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by ISDI.

**TOUR INCLUSIONS:** 6 nights' accommodations at the Hotel Catalonia Gran Vía, Madrid; 3 nights' accommodations at the Hotel Colón, Barcelona; breakfast daily at the hotels, 3 lunches, 4 dinners, 2 glasses of wine or beer at included dinners; land transportation by private coach; reserved seat on high-speed train between Madrid and Barcelona; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; expert local guides; gratuities for local guides, drivers, and waitstaff at included meals; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

**TOUR EXCLUSIONS:** Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport portorage; airport transfers; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; entry or departure fees levied by local governments; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

**CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:** Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to ISDI and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by ISDI. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$500 per person regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before June 9, 2025: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between June 10 and August 21, 2025: full refund minus \$3,000 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI on or after August 22, 2025: no refund. Tour registration is non-transferable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not allowed. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour.

If the tour is canceled by ISDI due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be provided to you by ISDI upon receipt of your registration.

### FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

International Seminar Design, Inc.

Tel: 202-244-1448

Email: [info@isditravel.com](mailto:info@isditravel.com)

*The Vesalius Trust*  
**ART & ANATOMY TOUR of SPAIN**  
October 7-17, 2025

Enclosed is my credit card information or deposit by check made payable to International Seminar Design, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000 per person.

Full name for Participant 1		Full name for Participant 2	
Address			
City	State/Province	Zip	
Daytime Telephone		Cell Phone	
E-mail Address Participant 1		E-mail Address Participant 2	

**ROOMING OPTIONS:** (please select)

- Double Occupancy; I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_
  - We prefer separate beds
- Single Occupancy (\$1,495 single supplement)
  - I would like a roommate but will pay the single supplement if one cannot be found

**TOUR DOCUMENTS:**

ISDI will send all documents pertaining to the tour by email to the email address listed above.

- If you wish to receive hardcopy versions of the tour documents by post as well, please check this circle. Paper documents will not be sent to your home address unless this circle is checked.

**DEPOSIT (\$1,000 per person):**

- \_\_\_\_\_ # of persons \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed
- Visa
  - MasterCard
  - American Express
  - Check (*make check payable to International Seminar Design, Inc.*)

Card Number	Exp. (mm/yy)	
Name as it appears on card	CVV Security Code	Billing Zip Code

**EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN** (*registration invalid without signature*)

*By registering and paying the deposit for this tour program, the undersigned acknowledges that he/she has carefully read and understands all information contained in the tour brochure, recognizes and accepts any risks therein, and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions outlined above.*

Signature Participant 1 / Date	Signature Participant 2 / Date
--------------------------------	--------------------------------

**COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

International Seminar Design, Inc.  
5614 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite #295  
Washington, DC 20015-2604  
Email: info@isditravel.com  
Fax: (202) 244-1808

**FOR QUESTIONS:**

Call (202) 244-1448 or email info@isditravel.com