SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

SUN, NOV 10

Your morning tour of Santiago de Compostela, the capital city of Galicia, will include the magnificent 12th century Romanesque and Baroque cathedral housing the remains of St. James, patron saint of Spain. You will also see the various buildings of the University, one of Europe's oldest. The balance of the day is at leisure.

(B)

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA/SALAMANCA

MON, NOV 11

Today you will travel through the provinces of Galicia, journeying through wild and mountainous countryside with undulating farmlands to the old university town of Salamanca for overnight. (B,D)

SALAMANCA/AVILA/MADRID

TUE, NOV 12

Depart today for the walled city of Avila, birthplace of St. Theresa and where the Order of Carmelites was founded. See the cathedral and St. Vincent's Basilica and then on to Segovia, famous for its Alcazar and a still functioning Roman aqueduct. Cross the rugged Sierra de Guadarrama on the way to Madrid, the capital city of Spain.

(B)

MADRID

WED, NOV 13

This morning you will see the white-trimmed 2,800-room Royal Palace and the exquisite gardens that surround it, the Puerta del Sol, Cervantes Memorial, the Plaza de Espana, the acacia-lined Castellana, and the Avenida Jose Antonio. Then visit the Prado Museum, housing a collection of masterpieces by Spain's artists Velazquez, Goya and El Greco. Your afternoon is at leisure for shopping or exploring on your own.

(B)

MADRID/LOURDES

THU, NOV 14

Today you head northeast through the quaint scenery of the mountainous Spanish countryside. Then cross the border into France to the shrine city of Lourdes where between February 11th and July 16th, 1858, the Virgin Mary appeared in the Grotto of Massabielle to the poor shepherd girl, Bernadette, a total of 18 times. Scratching the ground as instructed by Mary, Bernadette saw a miraculous spring well up where none had existed before. (B,D)

LOURDES

FRI, NOV 15

This morning you visit the Grotto of Apparitions, Rosary Basilica, Basilica of St. Pius X and Way of the Cross over the Hillside. There will be plenty of time for Mass, prayers for healing and personal reflection.

(B,D)

LOURDES/BUFFALO

SAT, NOV 16

Your pilgrimage is over as you drive to the airport in time for your return flight back to the United States, arriving Buffalo the same day.

(B)

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