

# Spain

**Continent:** Europe

**Languages Spoken:** Spanish (official), Catalan, Galician, Basque

**Population:** 47,000,000

**Currency:** Euro (EUR)

**Area:** 505,990

## Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Sagrada Familia', 'writeup': 'A large unfinished Roman Catholic basilica in Barcelona designed by architect Antoni Gaudí, known for its unique modernist architecture.'}
- {'name': 'Alhambra', 'writeup': 'A palace and fortress complex in Granada, showcasing Moorish architecture and rich Islamic art from the Nasrid dynasty.'}
- {'name': 'Prado Museum', 'writeup': 'One of the world's premier art museums located in Madrid, housing European art from the 12th to early 20th century.'}
- {'name': 'Park Güell', 'writeup': 'A public park in Barcelona featuring colorful mosaics and architectural elements designed by Antoni Gaudí.'}
- {'name': 'Plaza Mayor', 'writeup': 'A historic central square in Madrid, known for its symmetrical architecture and vibrant cultural events.'}

## Head of State / Government:

King Felipe VI

## Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'La Tomatina', 'writeup': 'An annual tomato-throwing festival held in Buñol, attracting participants worldwide for a playful food fight.'}
- {'name': 'Running of the Bulls', 'writeup': 'Part of the San Fermín festival in Pamplona, where participants run in front of bulls through the city streets.'}
- {'name': 'Fallas de Valencia', 'writeup': 'A traditional celebration in Valencia featuring large papier-mâché figures that are burned at the festival's end.'}
- {'name': 'Semana Santa', 'writeup': 'Holy Week processions held across Spain, featuring elaborate floats and religious ceremonies.'}
- {'name': 'Feria de Abril', 'writeup': 'A spring fair in Seville known for flamenco dancing, traditional costumes, and Andalusian culture.'}

## Food & Cuisine:

Spanish cuisine is diverse, featuring dishes like paella, tapas, gazpacho, and jamón ibérico. It emphasizes fresh ingredients, olive oil, and regional flavors.

## Brief History:

Spain has a rich history influenced by Romans, Visigoths, Moors, and Christian kingdoms. It became a global empire in the 15th and 16th centuries and transitioned to democracy after Franco's dictatorship ended in 1975.

## Important People:

- Miguel de Cervantes - Renowned writer, author of Don Quixote.
- Pablo Picasso - Influential 20th-century painter and sculptor.
- Salvador Dalí - Prominent surrealist artist.
- Queen Isabella I - Monarch who sponsored Columbus's 1492 voyage.
- Pedro Sánchez - Current Prime Minister of Spain.

**Current Conflicts:**

Spain faces internal political tensions related to Catalan independence movements but is not involved in any active armed conflicts.

**Youtube Links:**

- Spain Travel Guide - Top Things to Do & See
- History of Spain in 10 Minutes
- Spanish Culture and Traditions Explained
- Famous Spanish Foods You Must Try
- Exploring Barcelona: Architecture and Landmarks