

A PILGRIMAGE TO
WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011
MADRID, SPAIN
DESIGNED AND OPERATED BY CLUB EUROPA



The *Cathedral* in Segovia, the last Gothic cathedral built in Spain, consecrated in 1768

Day 1 Overnight transatlantic flight from the United States to Spain
Aug 12 (inflight meals)
Fri

Day 2 **ARRIVAL MADRID > SEGOVIA / AVILA Area**
Aug 13 Arrival at Madrid Barajas Airport MAD
Sat Services of multilingual CLUB EUROPA escort commence with meet and greet
(Time will be allowed at the airport to exchange money)
Private deluxe motorcoach for drive to SEGOVIA / AVILA (60 miles / 1.5 hours)
In case of early arrival: a light lunch snack (soft drink, croissant, sandwich) will be included
Orientation meeting with escort
Check-in at hotel, time to relax and unwind
Dinner at hotel or local restaurant (included)
Overnight / SEGOVIA – AVILA Area

Day 3 **SEGOVIA and AVILA**

Aug 14 Breakfast at hotel

Sun

TIME FOR ATTENDANCE OF SUNDAY MASS WILL BE ALLOWED

After breakfast: sightseeing in Segovia with local, licensed guide

Segovia is Spain and Castile at its best - twisting alleyways, the highest concentration of Romanesque churches in all of Europe, pedestrian streets where no cars are allowed, the aroma of roast suckling pig around every corner - all surrounded by the city's medieval wall which itself is bordered by two rivers and an extensive green-belt park with miles of shaded walks. On the north-west extreme of the wall is the famous Alcazar castle, source of inspiration to Walt Disney, and where Queen Isabel promised Columbus the financial backing he needed to discover America. On the south-east extreme is the world renowned Roman Aqueduct, the largest and best preserved of its kind anywhere, which served as the mintmark on all coins struck in the city from 1455 to 1864. The tallest building in Segovia is still the 16th-century cathedral, a prominent landmark as one approaches from any direction.

Lunch in Segovia is on own

After lunch: long distance coach for drive to AVILA (40 miles / 1 hrs)

Upon arrival: sightseeing in Avila with local, licensed guide

A unique feature of Avila are its medieval walls, almost intact and forming an impressive monument, rectangular in shape, with a perimeter of almost two miles, some over seven feet high and six feet wide. The walls are reinforced by stout turrets at intervals of roughly nine feet, ninety of them altogether, and the most important of them is the one called "Cimorro" or Cathedral apse. It has nine gates, each of them open between strong turrets, among which the most monumental are the ones called the 'Gates of San Vicente and the Alcázar' Inside the South Wall, on Calle Dama, the *Convento de Santa Teresa* was founded in the 17th century on the site of the saint's birthplace. Teresa's famous written account of an ecstatic vision in which an angel pierced her heart would influence many baroque artists, most famously the Italian sculptor Giovanni Bernini.

The Cathedral, Romanesque and Gothic, is both a church *and* a fortress built into the city's defensive enclosure. The Church of San Pedro is one of the finest examples of the Romanesque style, the evolution of which culminates in the Basilica of San Vicente, a monument representative of the transition to the Gothic, between the 12th and 14th centuries.

The *Virgin of la Soterraña* is venerated in the crypt.

Return to hotel in the early evening

Dinner at hotel or local restaurant (included)

Overnight / SEGOVIA – AVILA Area



St Teresa of Avila

(Painting by Peter Paul Rubens, 1615)

St. Teresa of Jesus was born on March 28th 1515 in Avila. After her parents she was called Ceped. When she was 14 years of age her mother died and her father placed her with the Augustine Sisters for education. She entered the Carmelite convent in 1536, but at first suffered a bout of sicknesses and interior struggles. In 1557 she decided to rule out anything from her life, that would withdraw her from the Lord in any way. She started a life of deep interior prayer. At that time she was longing for the return to the original rules with severe seclusion. After establishing the first reformed Carmelite Convent in 1562, she formed further such convents. When she met St. John of the Cross, she suggested to start reforming the monasteries. Her writings became a school of deep prayer. She died on October 4, 1582. In 1622 she was beatified and in 1970 together with St. Catherine of Siena declared a 'Doctor of the Church'.

Day 4 **SEGOVIA > MADRID**

Aug 15

Mon

Breakfast at hotel

After breakfast: departure for Madrid

En route: stop at *El Escorial*, in the Guadarrama Mountains, 40 miles northwest of Madrid

Entrance fee to the *Monasterio de San Lorenzo de El Escorial* is included

Lunch is on own

Continuation to Madrid – check-in at hotel

Dinner at hotel or local restaurant (included)

Overnight / MADRID



El Escorial

El Escorial, or by its full name *Monasterio de San Lorenzo del Escorial*, is one of the most impressive buildings in Spain. It was built by Felipe II, to celebrate his victory over the French in 1557.

San Lorenzo de El Escorial, 32 miles from Madrid by road and 3,000 ft. above sea level, is one of the former royal residences and in this case owes its universal fame to the famous Monastery which was built in there by King Felipe II. The renowned Monastery of San Lorenzo el Real gives an overall impression of grandeur and austerity that has never been equaled. Its design is the work of Juan Bautista from Toledo and of Juan de Herrera. On the façade of the Basilica, there are the statues of six kings of Judah (Josaphat, Hezequah, David, Solomon, Josiah and Manasseh), which were carried out by the sculptor from Toledo, Juan Bautista Monegro, who also created the main entrance to San Lorenzo.

Not content with building the "eighth wonder of the world", the King took over large tracts of land in its surroundings to build the Royal Woods of San Lorenzo, in the clearings of which magnificent buildings were constructed. Afterwards, during the reign of Carlos III, the "Casita del Príncipe" was built, which is a marvelous casino-cum-museum, as well as the House of the "Infante", which lies in a splendid place. The reconstruction of the Theatre of El Coliseo of Carlos III, one of the oldest stages in Europe, has given new life to the cultural trends in the city.

A few miles from El Escorial, in a wild valley of the Guadarrama Sierra, on top of the ridge called La Nava, sits the monument of La Santa Cruz del Valle de los Caídos (Holy Cross of the Valley of the Fallen), whose the silhouette is an unmistakable granite cross, 450 ft high and 46m long at the cross piece. It was built as a mausoleum for the soldiers who fell during the Civil War.

Day 5 **MADRID**

Aug 16

Tue

Breakfast at hotel

This is REGISTRATION DAY for World Youth Day

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD "package"

Overnight / MADRID

Day 6 MADRID

Aug 17 Breakfast at hotel

Wed

The day is dedicated to World Youth Day activities

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD “package”

Overnight / MADRID

Day 7 MADRID

Aug 18 Breakfast at hotel

Thu

The day is dedicated to World Youth Day activities

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD “package”

Overnight / MADRID

Day 8 MADRID

Aug 19 Breakfast at hotel

Fri

The day is dedicated to World Youth Day activities

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD “package”

Overnight / MADRID



Madrid: Inside the Cathedral *Nuestra Señora de la Almudena*

The site on which Almudena Cathedral now stands was originally occupied by Madrid's first mosque, then by a church dedicated to one of Madrid's patron saints, Santa María de la Almudena.

In 1868, Madrid received permission from the archbishop of Toledo to construct a new church dedicated to the Virgin of Almudena. Construction began in 1883 based on a Neo-Gothic design. The first part to be completed was the crypt, which today still retains the 16th-century image of Madrid's patroness the Virgen de la Almudena.

Construction on the cathedral progressed slowly and came to a complete halt during the civil war of the 1930s. The process was picked up again in 1944, when a new architect introduced a Neoclassical style that would match the Royal Palace next door. Almudena Cathedral was completed in 1993 and consecrated by Pope John Paul II that same year; a statue of the pope in front of the cathedral commemorates the occasion.

Day 9 MADRID

Aug 20

Sat

Breakfast at hotel

The day is dedicated to World Youth Day activities

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD “package”

Overnight / MADRID

Day 10 MADRID

Aug 21

Sun

Breakfast at hotel

This is the day of FINAL MASS with the Holy Father

Lunch is on own

Dinner is on own or comes with your WYD “package”

Overnight / MADRID

Day 11 RETURN TO THE U.S.

Aug 22

Mon

Breakfast at hotel (in case of early departure this may not be a ‘full’ breakfast)

Services of private motorcoach for transfer from hotel to Madrid Barajas Airport

Club Europa assistant for transfer and check-in

Return flight to the United States (inflight meals)



Pope Benedikt XVI greets the crowd in St Peter’s Square after being elected by the conclave of cardinals on April 19, 2005

INCLUDED ARE :

- ☞ **NINE overnights at (superior) tourist class hotels**
twin, double or triple occupancy, all rooms with private facilities
Brochures and / or websites of the hotels will be presented at least one year prior to travel
- ☞ **Three dinners**
- ☞ **All breakfasts**
- ☞ **Services of multilingual CLUB EUROPA escort from arrival in Europe through arrival at Madrid hotel**
- ☞ **Deluxe motorcoach transportation from arrival in Europe through arrival at Madrid, hotel, and for airport transfer on departure day**
- ☞ **Sightseeing with local, licensed, English speaking guides as noted in the itinerary**
- ☞ **Entrance fees as noted in the itinerary**
- ☞ **Both airport transfers**
- ☞ **All applicable local taxes**
- ☞ **Gratuities to local guides and coach drivers**
- ☞ **ONE person FREE of charge**



NOT INCLUDED ARE :

- ☞ **Drinks with dinners**
- ☞ **Luggage handling at hotels / airports (not included for cost savings)**
- ☞ **Expenses of personal nature such as passport, laundry, souvenirs, insurance, etc...**
- ☞ **Airport transfers in the United States**
- ☞ **Gratuities to escort :**
(EU 3.00 per person per day for the escort is standard)

There are no visa requirements for U.S. citizens visiting Spain.



However, you need a valid passport !

RATES :

Per person, LAND ONLY, based on twin / double or triple occupancy
ONE person FREE of charge, LAND ONLY

Minimum 20 paying participants + 1 free: \$ 1,850.-

Minimum 25 paying participants + 1 free: \$ 1,750.-

Minimum 30 paying participants + 1 free: \$ 1,690.-

Minimum 35 paying participants + 1 free: \$ 1,630.-

Minimum 40 paying participants + 1 free: \$ 1,580.-

The single supplement is \$ 490.00

PLEASE NOTE :

The above rates are based on prices, tariffs and exchange rates valid in June 2009.

**Airlines quote group fares 330 days in advance, therefore the above
is a proposal for “land only”.**

Reliable airfares will be available in mid-September 2010.

It is impossible to anticipate an exchange rate two years in advance. Although we have tried to anticipate prices, fees, admissions etc for 2011, the above rates need to be taken as approximate amounts – they may need to be adjusted in summer / fall 2010.

Upon receipt of your verbal consent to the itinerary and rates, we will send you our contract, which contains payment deadlines/ deposits, refund policy etc.

Please BE FLEXIBLE when you plan your pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2011:

**The flight situation will be extremely tight, especially if everybody wants to
return home on Monday, August 22.**

**There is no guarantee that space on the flights for these exact dates will be available;
be prepared to add a night or to do the pre-tour (Segovia / Avila) AFTER World Youth Day.**