



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of SMITH COLLEGE

Spain: Barcelona, San Sebastian, and Bilbao

March 8-19, 2007

DETAILED PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

Day One – March 8

Depart the U.S. gateway for the trans-Atlantic flight to Barcelona, Spain.

Day Two – March 9

Arrive Barcelona and transfer to the deluxe, four-star Cristal Palace Hotel. The balance of the day is free to unpack and relax.

7:30 pm - Meet fellow Alumnae travellers this evening for a Welcome Reception and Buffet Dinner with local wine.

Day Three – March 10

7:00 am to 8:00 am - A full breakfast will be served each morning while in Spain.

8-9:00 am ... Educational Focus: *The History of Catalonia and Barcelona*

9:30 am to 2:00 pm - Excursion: After the lecture, depart the hotel for a sightseeing overview of the many delights of Barcelona. As you drive through this fascinating port city, see the Paseo de Gracia the Champs Elysees of Barcelona, Las Ramblas and view Barcelona's gothic as well as modern architecture. Lunch will be enjoyed at a typical Catalan bodega.

Dinner will be at leisure in the hotel.

Day Four – March 11

8-9:00 am ... Educational Focus: *The Architecture of Gaudi*

9:30 am to 2:00 pm - Excursion: After the lecture, depart the hotel to explore the work of Antoni Gaudí. Gaudí left his influence in the city of Barcelona with many examples of his modernist architectural style. See Gaudí's most important works

including the famed Basilica of the Holy Family. Started in 1882, construction continues to this day! Lunch will be served during the tour.

Dinner will be at leisure in the hotel.

Day Five – March 12

The day is free for independent sightseeing and shopping.

Lunch and dinner will be at the hotel.

Day Six – March 13

9:00 am to 2:00 pm ... Excursion to Montserrat: This morning leave Barcelona and motor to the Penedes wine region home of the Cava ... the sparkling wine of Catalonia. Visit the winery famous for its miles of underground wine cellars; the largest in the world. Enjoy a lunch of Spanish specialties “tapas” accompanied by local wine. After lunch, continue to the mountain monastery of Montserrat founded in 880 AD. Visit the Basilica of Montserrat with its priceless art and statuary. Attend a performance of the Escolania or boys choir, the first in Europe. Return to Barcelona.

This evening dinner will be served in the hotel.

Day Seven – March 14

8:00 am to 4:00 pm ... Tour from Barcelona to San Sebastian. After a hearty breakfast, depart the hotel for the drive from Barcelona to San Sebastian. This full-day excursion travels through the picturesque countryside of Spain. A stop will be made in Zaragoza for lunch at a typical regional restaurant. Continue the drive after lunch for the town of San Sebastian in northern Spain on the Bay of Biscay. Upon arrival in San Sebastian, check-in at the Hotel Costa Vasca.

This evening, dinner will be at leisure in the hotel.

Day Eight – March 15

8-9:00 am ... Educational Focus: *A History of Northern Spain*

9:00 am to 2:30 pm Tour of San Sebastian. This morning depart the hotel after the lecture for an excursion of the seaside town of San Sebastian. See the Cathedral of the Buen Pastor, the Town Hall, and the Palace and gardens of Miramar. Enjoy a stroll through the Old Quarter with its museums, squares and rustic architecture. After lunch on tour, return to the hotel where the balance of the day will be at leisure.

Dinner will be at leisure at the hotel.

Day Nine – March 16

8-9:00 am ... Educational Focus: *The Romance of Hemingway and Spain*

9:00 am – 5:00 pm ... Excursion: This morning, depart for Pamplona. Visit the San Lorenzo Church and the chapel of San Fermin and the Navarro Museum. World-famous for the “running of the bulls” in July of each year, Pamplona is an icon of Spanish history and culture made famous by Ernest Hemingway in the “Sun Also Rises”. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant.

Dinner will be at leisure in the hotel.

Day Ten – March 17

8:00 am to 4:00 pm ... Excursion to the Guggenheim: *Bilbao and The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum*. One of the highlights of a visit to this part of Spain is the visit to Bilbao and the world renowned Guggenheim Museum ... designed by the American architect, Frank Gehry. After a tour of the city, enjoy a guided tour of the museum seeing the modern works of Kandinsky, Picasso, Kooning, Rothko and many others.

Lunch will be served during the excursion. Return to San Sebastian in time for dinner at the hotel.

Dinner will be at leisure at the hotel.

Day Eleven – March 18

The day will be at leisure for independent activities

Lunch and dinner will be at the hotel.

Day Twelve – March 19

This morning after breakfast, depart the hotel for Bilbao airport and trans-Atlantic flights to the U.S.