



**Best-Day**  
*Adventures*

A division of Ayelet Tours

Open to All Adults

**Ayelet** TOURS  
*THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!*

# Best-Day Adventures & Beyond **PORTUGAL & SPAIN**

## A Tapestry of Cultural Wonders & Jewish Heritage



March 2 - 11, 2026  
*Optional Barcelona extension*  
March 11 - 15, 2026



Itinerary subject to change.

800.237.1517 | [www.ayelet.com](http://www.ayelet.com) | [ayelet@ayelet.com](mailto:ayelet@ayelet.com)

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Experience the best of Portugal and Spain on this unforgettable adventure! Explore Porto's charming streets, Tomar's medieval wonders and Lisbon's vibrant neighborhoods, including its historic Jewish quarter. In Spain, marvel at Granada's breathtaking Alhambra, soak in Seville's flamenco energy and wander through Córdoba's historic Jewish Quarter and stunning Mezquita. Along the way, savor incredible cuisine, rich traditions and breathtaking landscapes.

Extend your adventure to Barcelona, where Gaudí's masterpieces, the Montjuïc viewpoint—once home to a medieval Jewish cemetery—and the city's ancient synagogue await, along with a visit to Girona's remarkably preserved Jewish quarter. Don't miss your chance to explore these incredible destinations!

### Physical Activity Scale



**Accessibility note:** Please note that the tour will involve a number of walking tours and participants should be in adequate physical condition. Walking levels will generally be easy-moderate and while plenty of shade and breaks are incorporated, full participation may require periods of standing or walking along even, uneven and occasionally hilly terrain that could include steps, inclines and cobblestone surfaces. Participants with physical limitations should take this into account.

## DAY 1

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026  
DEPARTURE

- We depart the United States on our overnight flights to Portugal.

## DAY 2

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026  
WELCOME TO PORTUGAL!

- We arrive in the captivating city of **Porto**, one of the oldest and most fascinating cities in Europe. For those who arrive early, join your tour leaders for a **short walking tour**, exploring some historical spots in the area. This will be a great introduction to Porto, offering a glimpse of its rich history while also providing practical information to help you navigate the city.
- **Happy Purim!** This evening, we gather for a **group orientation** and shared Purim experience, followed by a festive traditional **Portuguese dinner**.

### Overnight in Porto (D)



## DAY 3

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026  
EXPLORING PORTO

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are moderate with some cobblestone and some hilly areas. Participants should be comfortable walking for up to an hour at a time without scheduled breaks.*

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We'll start our day exploring Porto's highlights with a panoramic drive past architectural landmarks like **Casa da Música** and **Castelo do Queijo**; coastal forts protecting the city. We'll reach **Foz**, Porto's scenic coastline, renowned for its grand historic homes and oceanfront promenades. We'll follow the **Douro River**, passing the fishermen's district before diving deeper into Porto's history. At **Clérigos Church**, we'll begin our walking tour, admiring the **Lello Bookstore**—one of the world's most beautiful, often linked to J.K. Rowling's time in Porto and *Harry Potter*, as well as the city's famous **twin churches**, and a **former prison** tied to a renowned Portuguese novel. We'll then head to the **cathedral**, where a downhill walk leads us through **São Bento Station**, famed for its 20,000 azulejo tiles and the vibrant **street art of Rua das Flores**.
- Along the riverfront, we enjoy some free time for lunch followed by a chance to unwind with a **scenic boat ride along the Douro River**, famous for stunning views, historic bridges and traditional "**Rabelo**" boats that once transported port wine from the Douro Valley.
- Finally, we'll visit one of Porto's top wine producers for a **Port wine tasting**, where you can experience the rich and aromatic flavors of this fortified wine, deeply rooted in the city's culture and tradition.
- This evening, enjoy dinner on own or choose to "follow the leader."

### Overnight in Porto (B)

## DAY 4

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026  
COIMBRA & TOMAR

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are moderate with some cobblestone and hilly areas.*

Porto – Coimbra: (77 miles, around 1h40m)  
Coimbra – Tomar (47 miles, 1h15m)

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- After breakfast, we will check out and drive south to **Coimbra**, the third-largest city in Portugal and the birthplace of six Portuguese kings. Our first stop will be the **University of Coimbra**, one of the oldest universities in Europe, with a history spanning over seven centuries. Here, students traditionally dress in black capes adorned with ribbons in various hues, a custom dating back to the university's founding in 1290.
- We continue to the **town center**, passing through picturesque and romantic streets filled with charming stairways, courtyards and medieval arches. Along the way, we will also view the facade of Coimbra's **medieval cathedral**, which is considered one of the finest examples of Romanesque architecture in Portugal.
- Arriving at the commercial heart of the city, enjoy some free time for lunch and shopping on your own.
- We continue to **Tomar** to visit the **Museum Abraão Zacuto**, located in a synagogue originally built in 1460. This rare example of a medieval Jewish temple showcases pre-Renaissance Portuguese art. The **Tomar Synagogue** is the only fully preserved synagogue from this period in Portugal, built in the mid-15th century to serve the religious needs of the local Jewish community, reflecting their financial resources and prosperity. The idea of converting this medieval synagogue into the **Abraham Zacuto Luso-Jewish Museum** originated in 1939.
- After checking into our hotel, we will gather once again for a local **dinner**, giving us the opportunity to savor the region's flavors and cuisine. This meal will provide a perfect ending to our day, allowing us to enjoy traditional dishes and share our experiences from the day's visits.

### Overnight in Tomar (B, D)



## DAY 5

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026  
TOMAR - BELÉM - LISBON

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone and mild inclines.*

Tomar – Lisbon: 85 miles, 2hr drive

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- After breakfast, we head towards Lisbon, beginning our touring in **Belém**, the monumental district celebrating Portugal's Age of Discovery. Our first stop is **Belém Tower**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the 16th century to defend the city. Nearby, we visit the **Monument to the Discoveries**, honoring Portugal's greatest explorers with its striking ship-like design.
- After some free time for lunch in this charming district, we continue to the **Jerónimos Monastery**, an architectural masterpiece symbolizing Portugal's wealth and power, and the final resting place of Vasco da Gama.
- Upon arrival in **Lisbon**, we visit **Shaare Tikvah Synagogue**, the city's main Jewish place of worship. Built in 1904, it was the first synagogue established after centuries of religious restrictions. Designed discreetly due to lingering antisemitic laws, it remains a vital symbol of resilience and Sephardic heritage in Lisbon today.
- Tonight, we enjoy a delicious **Portuguese dinner** while immersing ourselves in the soulful melodies of **Fado**. After the heartfelt performance, we take a scenic drive through Lisbon's beautifully illuminated streets before returning to our hotel.

**Overnight in Lisbon (B, D)**

## DAY 6

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026  
SINTRA - JEWISH LISBON

*Please note that this morning's tour will involve mostly downhill and stairs with some upstairs and inclines. No elevators available. Some cobblestones and unpaved paths on tour route. Participants should be comfortable walking for up to an hour at a time without scheduled breaks.*

Lisbon – Sintra: 21 miles, 50min

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we explore **Sintra**, Lord Byron's "Glorious Eden" and a former royal retreat. Our tour features **Pena Palace**, a fairy-tale 19th-century masterpiece blending Moorish and Manueline styles, perched atop the mountains with breathtaking ocean views. Afterward, we enjoy free time in the **Village Historical Center** before returning to Lisbon.
- After time for lunch on own, we delve into the city's rich Jewish heritage, highlighting the vibrant community of intellectuals, mathematicians, and cabalists during the Renaissance. We'll learn about the **Jewish Quarter** and significant sites, including synagogues that played a vital role in preserving Jewish culture and traditions. We'll also explore Lisbon's complex history during World War II, when it became a refuge for Jews fleeing the Holocaust.
- After our insightful walking tour, we have the afternoon to relax.
- Tonight, we return to **Shaare Tikvah** for **Shabbat services** and optional Shabbat dinner (extra cost) or dinner on our own.

**Overnight in Lisbon (B)**



## DAY 7

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026  
LISBON - EVORA - SEVILLE

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone and mild inclines.*

Lisbon – Évora: 83 miles, 1h45m  
Évora – Seville: 203 miles, 3h30m

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- After breakfast, we'll check out of our hotel and drive through the scenic **Alentejo region**, known for its vast cork forests, vineyards and olive groves. Along the way, our guide will provide insight into the cork industry, wine and olive oil production, and the history of the Inquisition in Portugal.
- Upon arrival, we'll embark on a **walking tour of Évora**, a cultural hub for over 2,000 years where medieval streets and architectural gems transport us to another era.
- We'll visit the Roman-era **Diana Temple**, the **Inquisition Court**, and the **House of the Inquisitor**, where we'll learn about the Jewish community's legacy. At the main plaza, we'll see a memorial honoring Inquisition victims before visiting a remarkable chapel adorned with human bones, now a museum.
- We enjoy time on our own for lunch before continuing to **Seville, Spain**.
- Upon arrival in the late afternoon, we check into our hotel.
- After a short refresh, we experience Andalusia's vibrant culture with a **Flamenco show and dinner**. In an intimate "tablao," passionate dancers, soulful singers and rhythmic guitarists bring this UNESCO-recognized art form to life as we savor a **traditional Andalusian meal**.

### Overnight in Seville (B, D)

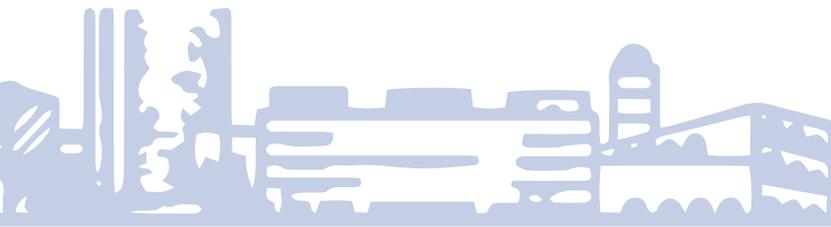
## DAY 8

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026  
TASTY SEVILLE

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate.*

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we head off to explore this dynamic city. We visit the stunning **Plaza de España** and the fragrant gardens of **Maria Luisa Park**.
- Next, we discover the charming **Barrio Santa Cruz**, the former **Jewish Quarter**, with its winding cobblestone streets, and tour the **Cathedral of Seville**, the largest Gothic cathedral and legendary burial site of Christopher Columbus.
- In the afternoon, we'll dive into local cuisine with a **food tour in the Triana district**, known as the birthplace of flamenco dancers and bullfighters and a hub for Seville's ceramic industry. Triana is celebrated for its authentic tapas spots and rich heritage.
- Later, we return to the hotel for some free time and dinner on our own, or choose to "follow the leader."

### Overnight in Seville (B, L)



## DAY 9

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026  
SEVILLE - CORDOBA - GRANADA

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone.*

Seville – Cordoba: 88 miles 1h40m  
Cordoba – Granada: 124 miles, 2h

- Breakfast and check out of our hotel.
- We depart for **Córdoba**, a historic city founded by the Romans and later a thriving cultural and intellectual hub under Moorish rule. Once the capital of Islamic Spain, Córdoba became a center of learning, philosophy and architecture, leaving behind a rich legacy.
- Upon arrival, we'll visit the **Mezquita de Córdoba**, one of the world's largest mosques, later transformed into a magnificent cathedral in the 16th century. A walking tour will take us through the **ancient Jewish Quarter**, a maze of narrow streets, flower-filled courtyards and charming squares, with a stop to view the **14th-century Synagogue on Calle de los Judíos**.
- Following the tour, we'll enjoy a delicious **Sephardic lunch** in the Jewish Quarter.
- After, we continue on with **scenic drive to Granada**, soaking in the picturesque Andalusian landscapes.
- After checking into our hotel, we have time to relax and refresh before a night out for dinner on own, or choose to "follow the leader."

**Overnight in Granada (B, L)**

## DAY 10

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026  
GRANADA

*This 1.5-mile tour involves mostly declines, stairs (up and down) and some inclines. It is not suitable for those with walking challenges. Participants should be comfortable walking for up to an hour.*

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Today's exploration of Moorish Granada is highlighted by a visit to the enchanting 13th-century **Alhambra Palace**, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of Spain's most treasured landmarks. Perched gracefully atop **Assabica Hill**, this former royal palace and fortress of the Moorish sultans is a masterpiece of delicate arabesques, tranquil courtyards and elegant archways, evoking the romance and splendor of Al-Andalus.
- Next, we stroll through the ornate **Nasrid Palaces**, admire the serene beauty of the **Generalife Gardens** and take in breathtaking views of Granada and the **Sierra Nevada Mountains** from its ancient walls.
- After a morning immersed in history and beauty, we return to the city center for a leisurely afternoon. Take some time for yourself to wander through the charming **Albaicín district**, with its winding cobblestone streets and whitewashed houses, visit the magnificent **Granada Cathedral**, the final resting place of Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand, or simply relax at a local café, savoring the moment over a cup of coffee.
- In the evening, we'll come together once more for a memorable **farewell dinner**, celebrating our time in southern Spain.

**Overnight in Granada (B, D)**



## DAY 11

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026  
GRANADA - HOME  
...OR CONTINUE TO BARCELONA

Granada – Airport: (20 miles, 40min)

- After breakfast at our hotel, we conclude this memorable journey and transfer to the airport for flights home or onward travel to vibrant **Barcelona** for the optional extension.

## DAY 11

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026  
BARCELONA EXTENSION BEGINS

- Upon arrival in Barcelona, we transfer to our centrally located well-appointed hotel. The evening is ours to explore, with recommendations to stroll through the vibrant streets of Las Ramblas or relax at the hotel.
- Dinner on own or choose to “follow the leader.”

**Overnight in Barcelona (B)**

## DAY 12

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026  
PANORAMIC BARCELONA  
& JEWISH HERITAGE

*Please note that today’s tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone.*

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- We enjoy a **panoramic city tour**, visiting iconic sites such as the grand **Plaça d’Espanya**, known for its impressive fountains and vibrant atmosphere, the breathtaking **Montjuïc viewpoint**, which offers stunning vistas of the city and the harbor, and the elegant **Passeig de Gràcia**, lined with modernist architecture and high-end boutiques.
- Later this morning, we embark on a guided walking tour of **Jewish Barcelona** and explore the medieval **El Call quarter** with its narrow, winding streets and the historic **ancient Synagogue**.
- After free time for lunch on own, we round out our touring today with an exclusive visit to the stunning, UNESCO-listed **Palau de la Música Catalana**, where we marvel at its intricate mosaics and vibrant stained glass.
- This afternoon, we have free time to explore **Mercado de La Boquería**, stroll along lively **Las Ramblas**, or shop at nearby boutiques. Relax and refresh before dinner on our own or choose to “follow the leader.”

**Overnight in Barcelona (B)**



Join our  
Barcelona  
Extension

## DAY 13

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026  
GIRONA AND BESALÚ/  
WELCOMING SHABBAT

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with lots of cobblestone.*

Barcelona – Girona: (60 miles, 1h15min)

Girona – Besalú: (20 miles, 35min)

Besalú – Barcelona: (55 miles, 1h15min)

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- Our morning starts with a journey north to the picturesque city of **Girona**, where we visit the historic **Jewish Quarter**, characterized by its narrow, winding streets and medieval architecture that tell stories of the past. We also explore the **Jewish Museum**, which offers fascinating insights into the Jewish community's rich history and culture in this area.
- After lunch on our own, we visit **Besalú**, an exceptionally preserved medieval town renowned for its idyllic stone bridge and charming cobblestone streets, rich in Jewish heritage.
- After, we transfer back to Barcelona for the afternoon.
- Tonight, we come together for **Shabbat at Bet Shalom**, participating in meaningful local traditions, followed by a delightful **Shabbat dinner** at a local restaurant.

**Overnight in Barcelona (B, D)**



## DAY 14

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026  
GAUDI'S MASTERPIECES

*Please note that today's tour will involve walking levels that are easy-moderate with some cobblestone and mild grades.*

- Breakfast at our hotel.
- This morning, we embark on a guided visit to the iconic **La Sagrada Familia**, a breathtaking basilica renowned for its intricate facades and towering spires that pierce the Barcelona skyline.
- Afterward, we enjoy a stroll through **Park Güell**, a colorful public park designed by Antoni Gaudí, famous for its vibrant mosaics, whimsical structures and stunning views of the city.
- The afternoon is free to enjoy lunch and to take in the vibe of this remarkable city for one last time. Suggestions include taking a walk along the beach, visiting the **Labyrinth Park of Horta**, hidden neoclassical garden with a fun hedge maze, exploring the **Picasso Museum** to admire the works of the legendary artist or enjoying a refreshing rooftop cocktail with panoramic views of the city.
- We conclude our day (and our tour) with a **farewell dinner** at a fine restaurant, where we celebrate our time together with exquisite cuisine and great company.

**Overnight in Barcelona (B, D)**

## DAY 15

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026  
DEPARTURE

- Breakfast and check out of at our hotel then transfer to the airport for our departure home.

***THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!***

*\*Itinerary subject to change*

