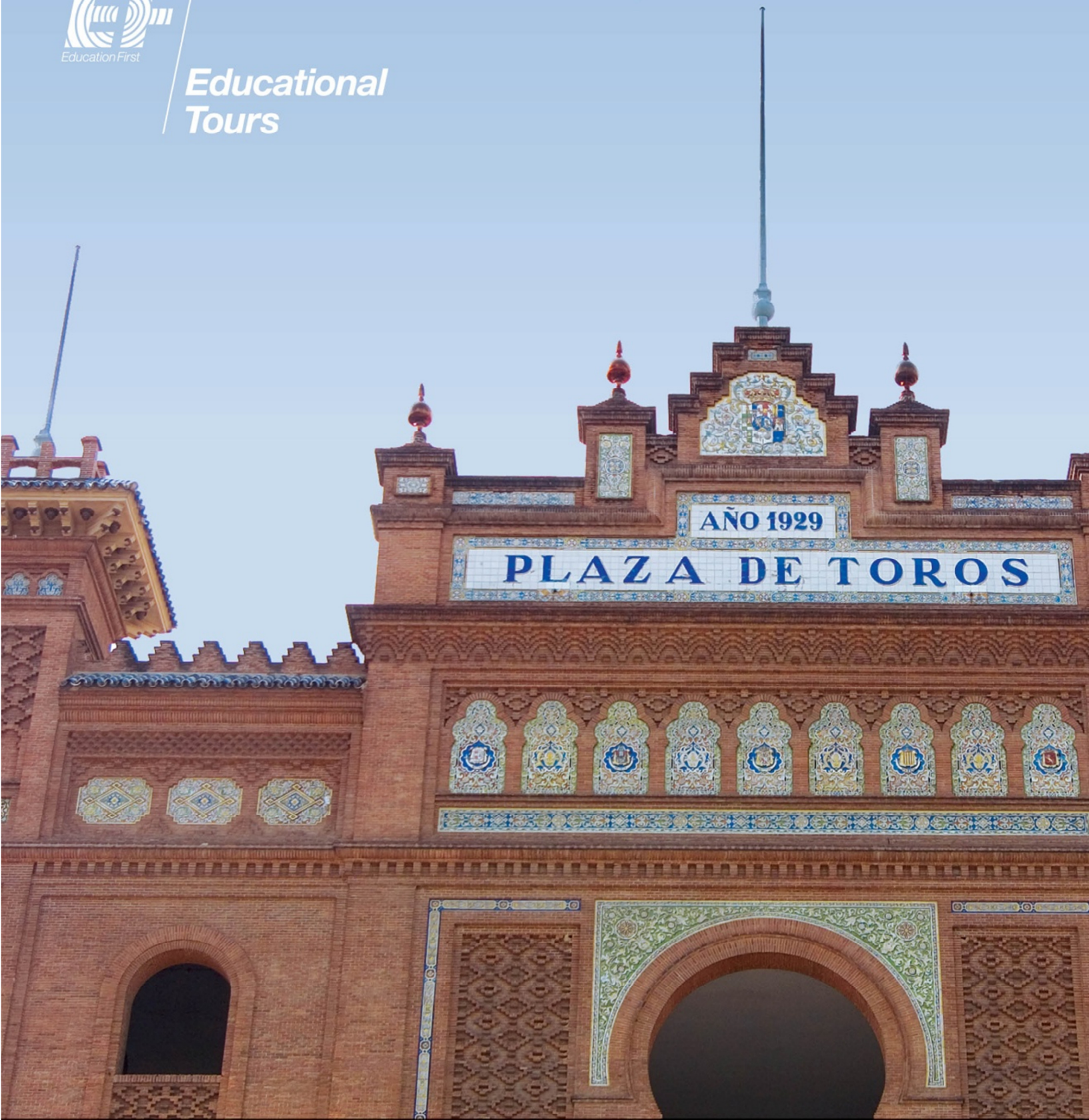




Education First

*Educational
Tours*



Bonjour Paris, Hola España!

Vicki Tavernese

Bonjour Paris, Hola España!

A private tour designed by Vicki Tavernese, in conjunction with EF Customized Tours

Requested departure date: Thursday, October 16, 2014

NOTE: Students must always be in their groups and will be supervised at all times.

Day 1	Thursday, October 16, 2014
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2 PM: Departure from Markville Secondary School by school bus to Lester B. Pearson International Airport

2:45 PM: Arrive at Lester B. Pearson International Airport

6 PM*: Board your overnight flight to Paris! (**time pending flight scheduling*)

Day 2	Friday, October 17, 2014
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10 AM*: Arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport (**pending flight arrival time*)
Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

11 AM: Meet your EF Tour Director and transfer from the airport to your hotel by coach bus

12 PM - 1 PM: Check into your hotel and freshen up

1 PM -2 PM: Lunch in your designated groups

2 PM - 3 PM: Walking Tour of Paris
Begin your walking tour at the Louvre and cross over the Seine river. On the left bank, watch the bouquinistes selling old books and postcards and catch glimpses of the Conciergerie and St. Chapelle from the Pont Neuf, the oldest bridge in the city. Continue through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris' most famous university, founded in 1253. The quarter was named for its inhabitants' native tongue; Latin was the official language until 1793. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made during a severe illness to build a church dedicated to Saint Geneviève if he survived. Your tour will end at Notre Dame Cathedral.

3 PM - 4 PM: Visit Notre Dame Cathedral
Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel The Hunchback of Notre Dame helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

4 PM - 7 PM: Visit the Louvre Museum

The Palais du Louvre, built to defend the city in the 13th century, now safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei's 1989 modernist glass pyramid. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Egypt, Greece, Italy and Asia such the statues of Venus de Milo and Nike of Samothrace, better known as Winged Victory. You'll also see some of the Louvre's most prized paintings by Renaissance and European masters, including Leonardo da Vinci's painting of the mysterious Mona Lisa.

7:30 PM - 9 PM: Dinner with your group

9 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

11 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Paris

Day 3

Saturday, October 18, 2014

7 AM: Wake Up Call

8 AM: Breakfast at the hotel

9 AM - 12 PM: Guided Sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your morning bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, and the École Militaire, where he graduated to Lieutenant. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XIV and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Then, head through the Quartier Latin where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University, and drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée D'Orsay, the Louvre and the Pont de Neuf, or 'new bridge', which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial, symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Lunch in your designated groups

2 PM - 3:30 PM: Walking Tour of Montmartre and Sacré-Coeur

Visit the spectacular Sacré-Coeur, a Catholic basilica built atop the Montmartre hill. From here enjoy some of the most breathtaking views of the City of Light before heading to the cafés and shops that line the small and quaint streets. Relax at the Place du Tertre and watch talented artists at work or choose to have your own portrait done. Montmartre was once home to many struggling artists, including Picasso, Monet, and Renoir.

4 PM - 6:30 PM: Group Leader supervised time on the Champs-Élysées

Continue on to the Champs-Élysées, one of Paris' hottest shopping districts. Your Tour Director will give you a short introduction to the area and then you will have time to explore this area in your designated groups.

7 PM - 8:30 PM: Dinner with your group

9 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

10:30 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Paris

Day 4

Sunday, October 19, 2014

7 AM: Wake Up Call

8 AM: Breakfast at the hotel

9 AM - 10 AM: Check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport

11 AM – 12 PM: Lunch in your designated groups at the airport

12 PM*: **Board a flight to Madrid** (**time pending flight scheduling*)

Journey to Madrid! At 2,100 feet, this is Europe's highest capital, a Mecca for art-lovers, the world-stage for bullfighting and home to the world's most famous soccer team! The city was elevated to capital status in 1561 at the instigation of Phillip II, and the lavishly opulent Palacio Real, built in 1738, is now an uninhabited but fascinating monument to Spain's much-revered monarchy.

2:30 PM: Land in Madrid, go through customs and transfer to your hotel

4 PM: Check into your hotel and freshen up

5 PM - 7 PM: Walking Tour of Madrid

Meet at the Puerta del Sol for your walking tour of Madrid. Here Madrileños once battled Napoleon. Then, walk through one of the nine arched gateways leading to the Plaza Mayor, the Renaissance hub of the city. This square has witnessed events ranging from bullfights to public festivals as well as the infamous autos de fe (procession of those condemned as heretics during the Spanish Inquisition). See the restaurant immortalized by Hemingway in *The Sun Also Rises*.

7:30 PM - 9 PM: Dinner with your group

9 PM - 10 PM: Group Leader arranged evening activity

10 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

11 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Madrid

Day 5

Monday, October 20, 2014

7 AM: Wake Up Call

8 AM: Breakfast at the hotel

9 AM - 12 PM: Guided Sightseeing of Madrid

Your local guide introduces you to the sights of Madrid on a panoramic tour of the city. Continue with a visit to the extravagant Palacio Real (Royal Palace), built by Bourbon King Philip V. Once the seat of the most powerful court in the world, it was here that Spain officially joined the European Community in 1986. The palace boasts more than 2,000 extravagant rooms, including one encased in porcelain. Marvel at the splendor of the marble staircase, the golden Throne Room, and the incredible collection of priceless frescoes and chandeliers.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Lunch in your designated groups

2 PM - 4:30 PM: Group Leader supervised activity

Become better acquainted with Madrid. Your Group Leader will decide whether you might visit museums, view the city's many monuments and churches, walk through outdoor plazas, or sample tapas at a café.

5 PM - 7 PM: Visit the Prado Museum

Explore the Museo del Prado which houses an astonishing 3,000 paintings collected by Spanish royalty. This massive building is constantly expanding in order to accommodate its impressive catalogue of Velazquez and Goya. It also boasts fine pieces by El Greco, Botticelli and many Flemish artists.

7:30 PM - 9PM: Dinner with your group

9 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

10:30 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Madrid

Day 6

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

6 AM: Wake Up Call

7 AM: Breakfast at the hotel

8 AM - 12:45 PM: Travel to Córdoba

11 AM - 11:30 AM: Lunch stop en route to Córdoba

1 PM - 2:15 PM: Guided Sightseeing of Córdoba

See the Patio de los Naranjos and visit the 8th-century Mezquita, formerly the largest mosque west of Mecca. As you walk past the Mezquita's 850 candy-cane columns, recall the days when Córdoba was one of the world's great centers of learning. At its height, Córdoba was home to 700 mosques, 900 public baths, and 70 libraries.

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM: Stop at an Olive Oil Factory

Learn about the history and production of olive oil at Carbonell's factory outside of Cordoba. The company was started by Antonio Carbonell in 1866 as a local brand, later won a contract to supply the English Admiralty and is now one of the most popular brands worldwide.

3 PM - 6 PM: Continue on to Granada

Journey to Granada, which was once the capital of Moorish Andalusia. It is now an architectural masterpiece and thriving university city. Strategically located between the foothills of the imposing, snowy-peaked Sierra Nevada and the beautiful Mediterranean coast, Granada boasts an eclectic cuisine of sweet Moorish desserts. It also boasts one of Europe's most romantic buildings, the exquisite Arabian palace of the Alhambra.

6 PM: Check into your hotel

8 PM - 9 PM: Dinner at the hotel with your group

10:30 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Granada

Day 7	Wednesday, October 22, 2014
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7 AM: Wake Up Call

8 AM: Breakfast at the hotel

9 AM -12 PM: Guided Sightseeing of Granada

Recall both The Arabian Nights and the works of Washington Irving as you tour Spain's most celebrated building: Granada's 14th-century Alhambra. See the exotic mosaics and richly ornamented courtyards of the country's last Moorish stronghold. Here Christopher Columbus discussed with the king his plans for sailing to India. Then walk in the footsteps of sultans as you tour the Generalife-a 14th-century palace surrounded by magnificent rose gardens-where they often spent their summers.

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Lunch in your designated groups

2 PM - 3:15 PM: Visit a Moorish Teahouse

Granada is heir to the Moorish tradition of the 'tetería' or tea room. The 'tetería' scene in Granada is a highly cultural experience, following the Arabic tradition of sipping exquisite aromatic herbal teas in an ambience mid-way between bohemian and luxurious. The décor, like the tea, has romantic and oriental flavors and is normally intimate, in cool, dimly lit rooms with low tables and chairs and scattered cushions in fabrics of rich Arabic colors.

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM: Walking Tour of the Albayzin

Your tour director will walk you around this Moorish area that looks over Granada. You will have time to stop in one of its fine tea rooms or shop at one of the many boutiques specializing in Northern African crafts.

5 PM - 7 PM: Group Leader supervised time in the Moroccan Quarter

7:30 PM - 9 PM: Dinner with your group

9:30 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

11 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Granada

Day 8**Thursday, October 23, 2014****7 AM: Wake Up Call****8 AM: Breakfast at the hotel****9 AM - 11 AM: Group Leader supervised time in Granada**

This morning, explore the Albayzin's narrow cobbled streets with your Group Leader. Granada's Moorish quarter, Albayzin's terraces and hidden nooks and crannies are overgrown with roses and wild Andalusian flowers. From here peruse the well-trodden Carrera del Darro along the river, a long-time favorite venue for artists ever since the 19th century Romantics, and now stuffed with dusty antique shops.

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Lunch in your designated groups**1 PM: Transfer to the Costa del Sol**

Travel through the whitewashed villages and olive groves of the stunning Andalusian sierras, to the cosmopolitan Costa del Sol. This blue-skied coast is a treasure trove of small covered fishing villages and family holiday resorts popular with seafood lovers, water sports enthusiasts and beach-goers alike.

3 PM: Check into your hotel and freshen up**4 PM - 7PM: Group Leader supervised walking tour on the Costa del Sol**

Soak up international culture on the sandy beaches of the Mediterranean as you explore the town in your designated groups with your leaders.

7:30 PM - 9 PM: Dinner at the hotel with your group**10 PM: Bed Check***Overnight in Costa Del Sol***Day 9****Friday, October 24, 2014****5 AM: Wake Up Call****6 AM: Breakfast at the hotel****6:45 AM - 8:15 AM: Transfer to Algeciras Harbour****9:15 AM: Fast ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar****10:15 AM: Arrive at Ceuta Harbour and transfer to the Moroccan border for customs****11 AM - 4:30 PM: Full day guided sightseeing excursion to Tetouan including lunch**

Ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar and enter a world of mosques, camels, snake charmers and bustling markets. You'll travel to Tetouan, a serene North African town whose culture and architecture reflect the area's Moorish past. See the Andalusian and Islamic-influenced architecture as a local guide leads you through the Medina. You'll also hear presentations at a carpet bazaar and a local spice shop.

6 PM: Fast ferry back to Algeciras

7 PM - 8:30 PM: Transfer back to the hotel

9 PM - 10 PM: Dinner at the hotel

10:30 PM: Bed Check

Overnight in Costa Del Sol

Day 10

Saturday, October 25, 2014

5:30 AM: Wake Up Call

6:30 AM - 7 AM: Transfer to Malaga airport (boxed breakfast en route to the airport)

10 AM*: **Board your return flight home** (**time pending flight scheduling*)
Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.ca/bc.