



 **Commonwealth
Club Travel**

presents

PARADORES & POUÇADAS
HISTORIC LODGINGS OF SPAIN & PORTUGAL



May 5-19, 2014

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
The Commonwealth Club

Tour membership limited to 24 guests

PARADORES & POUSADAS

HISTORIC LODGINGS OF SPAIN & PORTUGAL

15 days from \$5,657 total price from San Francisco
(**\$4,995 air & land inclusive plus \$662 airline taxes and departure fees**)

You're invited on a distinctive small group journey through the Iberian Peninsula to the intimate lodgings of Spain's *paradores* and Portugal's *pousadas*: medieval monasteries, historic fortresses, and stately palaces, each reflecting the spirit of its region. We feel the spell of Iberia's rich Roman and Moorish past – and the pull of its vibrant contemporary life.



Monday, May 5: Depart U.S. for Lisbon, Portugal

Tuesday, May 6: Arrive Lisbon We arrive in the Portuguese capital early this afternoon. The remainder of the day is at leisure before dinner at our hotel. **D**

Wednesday, May 7: Lisbon/Queluz This morning we enjoy a Club travel standard: a briefing with U.S. Foreign Service staff. Then we embark on a city tour of Lisbon including the Jeronimos Monastery, a masterpiece of Manueline architecture; iconic Belem Tower; and the Monument to the Discoveries commemorating Portugal's storied explorers. Later we visit the National Palace of Queluz, the former residence of Portuguese royalty now used for state occasions. **B**

Thursday, May 8: Lisbon/Evora Leaving Lisbon this morning, we travel through the rolling hills of the agricultural Alentejo district, with its bountiful fields of wheat, fragrant vineyards, and stands of olive and cork trees. After stopping for lunch in the fortified hilltop town of Monsaraz (pop. 150), we arrive in Evora, capital of the Alentejo and site of our *pousada*, considered Portugal's finest. **B,L,D**

Friday, May 9: Evora Our morning walking tour of Evora introduces us to the many charms of this architectural gem — a university town, prosperous regional capital, and UNESCO World Heritage site thanks to the many relics of its Roman and Moorish heritage. The afternoon is at leisure. Tonight enjoy a traditional *Tuna* performance before dinner. **B,D**

Your Small Group Trip Highlights

Briefing by U.S. Foreign Service Staff ... National Palace of Queluz, Portugal ... Iconic tower of Belem ... Traditional Tuna performance in Evora ... Roman ruins at Merida ... Visit to Moorish Toledo ... Tour of Cordoba, a UNESCO World Heritage site ... Private excursion to a local olive farm ... Seville's renowned Cathedral ... Granada's Alhambra and Generalife Gardens ... Famed Prado Museum in Madrid

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Lisbon		
2-3	Lisbon	Tivoli Lisboa	Deluxe
4-5	Evora	Pousada dos Loios	First Class
6-8	Carmona	Parador de Carmona	First Class
9-10	Ronda	Parador de Ronda	First Class
11	Ubeda	Parador de Ubeda	First Class
12-14	Madrid	Wellington Hotel	Deluxe
15	Depart Madrid for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: Granada's Alhambra represents the pinnacle of Moorish rule in southern Spain.



Flower-bedecked Cordoba street

Saturday, May 10: Evora/Merida/Carmona

Today we travel east through countryside to the Spanish border town of Merida, boasting outstanding Roman ruins. There's time to explore and eat lunch on our own before we continue on to Carmona and our *parador*, a restored 14th-century Arab fortress. **B,D**

Sunday, May 11: Carmona/Seville Visit splendid Seville, Moorish capital of Spain's Andalusia region: the place that inspired Carmen and Don Giovanni; where fragrant orange trees and flower-bedecked balconies delight the senses; and home of the renowned Catédral, the world's largest Gothic building. After a tour that includes the palace and the Arab quarter, the afternoon is free to explore independently. We return to Carmona and dine at our *parador*. **B,D**

Monday, May 12: Carmona/Cordoba First the capital of Roman Spain, then of Moorish Spain, Cordoba features some of the country's most important monuments, including the Old Quarter built around the magnificent Mezquita mosque. After touring and free time to explore on our own, we return to our *parador* for dinner. **B,D**

Tuesday, May 13: Carmona/Ronda Leaving Carmona travel south to Ronda, one of Spain's oldest and most aristocratic towns. It's set high in the mountains with whitewashed houses clinging improbably to the edge of El Tajo Gorge — 500 feet deep and 300 feet wide.

Enjoy a special afternoon excursion to a local olive farm complete with a private tasting. **B,D**

Wednesday, May 14: Ronda After a brief walking tour, we are free to enjoy this charming and historic town on our own. Tonight we dine on regional specialties at our *parador*, Ronda's original town hall. **B,D**

Thursday, May 15: Ronda/Granada/Ubena Travel today to Granada, the former stronghold of Moorish Spain set in the foothills of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada. The city's undisputed highlight is the Alhambra, the extraordinary palace of Spain's last Moorish rulers. We visit

Post-Tour Extension: May 19-22, 2014

BARCELONA – ON YOUR OWN

4 days/3 nights for \$895 total price
Single Supplement: \$295

Enjoy this bustling seaport, Spain's cultural and commercial capital, with its medieval Gothic Quarter and popular Ramblas waterfront promenade.

Your Price Includes

- Air transportation Madrid/Barcelona inclusive of airline taxes and departure fees
- 3 nights' accommodations at Hotel Avenida Palace (Superior First Class)
- 3 meals: 3 breakfasts
- Transfers to/from airport

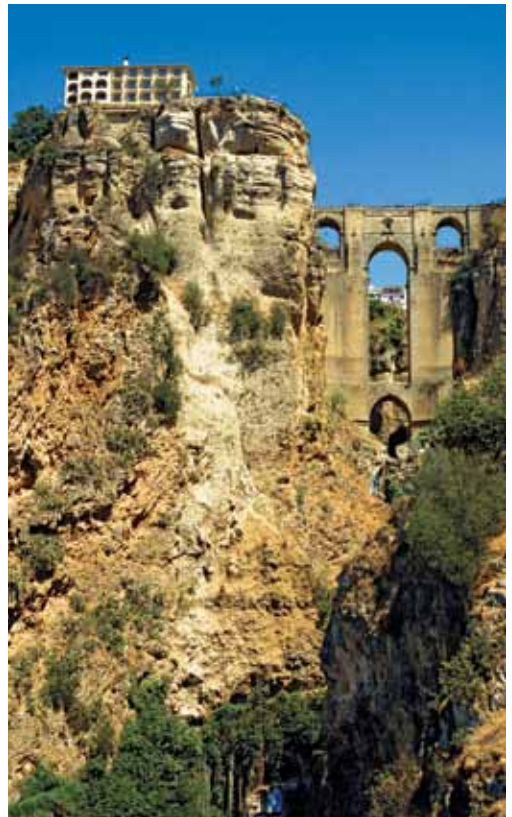
this splendid citadel as well as the Granadian-style Generalife, the palace's acclaimed gardens. Later we travel north to Ubeda and our next *parador*, a former palace dating to the 16th century. **B,D**

Friday, May 16: Ubeda/Toledo/Madrid A highlight is in store today as we visit Toledo, capital of medieval Spain. Declared a Spanish National Landmark, the city is little changed visually from its 16th-century days as a subject for the artist El Greco. After lunch on our own we see Toledo's most important sights, including the massive Gothic Cathedral begun in 1226 and not finished until 1493. Then we continue on to Madrid. Dinner tonight is on our own; perhaps to dine late as the *Madriñeos* do. **B**

Saturday, May 17: Madrid Our morning tour of this monumental and dignified capital city includes vast Plaza Mayor, in the heart of Old Madrid; the Moorish medieval district; and opulent 18th-century Palacio Real (Royal Palace), with its 2,800 rooms. Our tour ends at the Prado, one of the world's greatest museums, where we're free to explore on our own. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration in this cosmopolitan city. **B**

Sunday, May 18: Madrid A free day to enjoy the Spanish capital as we wish. Tonight we bid "*Adios*" to Spain and our fellow travelers at a farewell dinner at our hotel. **B,D**

Monday, May 19: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the airport this morning for our connecting flights to the U.S. **B**



Parador de Ronda atop El Tajo Gorge

Tour Departs: May 5, 2014

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$5,657
Philadelphia, Washington, DC	\$5,457
Boston, New York	\$5,257
Land only (transfers not included)	\$4,295

If you prefer a different departure city, please inquire at the time of booking. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees of \$662, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Single travelers please add \$1,295. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$3,995 per person (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking up hills or stairs, and on uneven or cobblestone streets. In addition, several small hotels do not have elevators. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy this tour to the fullest.

For information and reservations please contact the Commonwealth Club at 415-597-6720, or e-mail travel@commonwealthclub.org. www.commonwealthclub.org/travel

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights' accommodations: 5 nights in Deluxe hotels; 8 nights in First Class *paradores* and *pousadas*
- 24 meals: 13 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 10 dinners
- Regional wine with dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Services of a Commonwealth Club Host with a minimum of 15 guests
- Special private cultural and educational highlights
- Private motorcoach transportation including bottled water throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



Dear Members and Friends of the Commonwealth Club,

Join us as we experience the best of the Iberian Peninsula in Portugal and Spain. From Portugal's bustling capital, Lisbon, to cosmopolitan and sophisticated Madrid, your special two-week journey offers captivating sights, excellent cuisine and memorable experiences. The lodgings promise to be equally unforgettable, with deluxe accommodations in each country's capital, as well as distinctive inns known as *paradores* in Spain and *pousadas* throughout Portugal.

Begin in Lisbon, visiting the Jeronimos Monastery, Belem Tower, and the National Palace of Queluz. Move on to Portugal's Alentejo region, with its abundance of olive groves, vineyards and wheat fields, and overnight in one of Portugal's finest *pousadas*. Cross into Spain and visit the city of Merida, which boasts outstanding Roman ruins. Enjoy atmospheric *paradores* and discover the Andalusia region's many treasures: the UNESCO World Heritage site of Cordoba; Seville, known for its marvelous Moorish architecture; and Granada's extraordinary Alhambra palace and Generalife Gardens. Conclude your tour in Toledo, Spain's medieval capital, and Madrid, its present-day capital and home of the world-famous Prado Museum.

This departure is open to members and friends of The Commonwealth Club. Throughout the tour, we will enjoy exclusive educational highlights including a briefing by U.S. Foreign Service staff, a traditional Tuna performance in Evora, and a private excursion to a local olive farm. With space for only 24 guests in total, we expect this tour to fill quickly. Please call us today to reserve your place!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth

Kristina Nemeth
Director of Travel

COMMONWEALTH CLUB RESERVATION FORM: PARADORES & POUSADAS

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for ____ person/people on Paradores & Pousadas departing May 5, 2014. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure (or by January 30, 2014). Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and send to: Commonwealth Club Travel, 595 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. For reservations and information, call (415) 597-6720, or email travel@commonwealthclub.org. You may also fax your reservation to (415) 597-6729.

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Ph. (____) _____ Cell Ph. (____) _____

E-mail _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Post-Tour Extension: "Barcelona - On Your Own" Please sign me/us up

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Paradores & Pousadas, May 5-19, 2014, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Method of Payment

Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (or by January 30, 2014) and can be paid by check or credit card.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not included in tour price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; Cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.** If a guest makes any changes to their reservation within 94 and 30 days prior to departure to either their departure city and/or post-tour extension, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Responsibility

The liability of The Commonwealth Club, as a sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.** If you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs, you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase nonrefundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



595 Market Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Presorted
Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Odysseys
Unlimited, Inc.



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EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO SPAIN & PORTUGAL!

Guaranteed Small Group: Limited to 24 Guests

travel@commonwealthclub.org