

San Sebastian and Lisbon

From £1,249 per person // 10 days



Travel to Portugal by train from the UK, stopping off at the city of San Sebastian with its sweeping urban beaches and Michelin-starred restaurants before continuing across Northern Spain to Portugal and enjoying three days in historic Lisbon. Return via historic Merida and Barcelona.

The Essentials

- London to Northern Spain by train
- San Sebastian – a foodie's paradise
- Lisbon – trams, fado music and pastel de nata
- Return via historic Merida and buzzing Barcelona

Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Upgrade hotels and rail journeys
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours

What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 9 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, flight documentation and hotel vouchers
- All credit card surcharges and prompt delivery of your travel documents to your home

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - London To San Sebastian

Start your rail journey to Spain and Portugal with a morning Eurostar from London (or Ebbsfleet) to Paris. Cross to the Gare du Nord and board a high speed TGV down through Bordeaux and Biarritz to Hendaye, close to the Spanish border. Here you'll need to purchase a ticket locally for the service which will take you through Basque countryside to San Sebastian, known in the Basque language as Donostia. On arrival in San Sebastian, check in for a 2 night stay at the Zinema7 Hotel (or similar). TMR RECOMMENDS: If you would like to break your journey to San Sebastian (which takes a full day from London), we can add an overnight stay in Bordeaux or Biarritz to your holiday plans.



Days 2 & 3 - San Sebastian

San Sebastian is a beautiful resort town on the Bay of Biscay. It's famous for its sweeping city beaches and its cuisine. The city boasts the second highest number of Michelin stars in the world, after Kyoto in Japan. Spend a full day here relaxing, catching some rays on the La Concha or Ondarreta Beaches or, if you're feeling energetic, take a walk up to the top of Monte Igeldo for spectacular views (there's also a funicular if you want to take the easy route). In the evening, head for one of the city's famous pintxo bars (basque tapas) for a delicious meal.



Day 4 - San Sebastian To Vigo

You have another morning to explore San Sebastian before heading to the station for your onward journey. This will take you into the heart of the autonomous Basque Community and to its capital, Vitoria/Gasteiz. From here, continue towards the coast and arrive late in the evening into Vigo, around 30 miles from the Portuguese border. Here, check in for an overnight stay at the NH Collection Vigo (or similar).



Day 5 - Vigo To Lisbon

Enjoy a free morning in Vigo today. This is the largest city in Galicia, looking out over the Atlantic Ocean. You might like to take a stroll around the Casco Vello (old centre) or even enjoy some time on the beach if the weather is fine. This afternoon, make your way back to the station and catch a train south, across the Portuguese border to Porto. Change here (or choose to stop for a couple of nights if you have the time) and catch a train to Lisbon. On arrival, check in for a 3-night stay at the Lisboa Prata Hotel (or similar).



Days 6 & 7 - Lisbon

Enjoy two full days at leisure in the Portuguese capital. Lisbon is one of the oldest cities in the world and enjoys one of the warmest climates in Europe, particularly during the winter season. You can get around on foot, or use the historic trams to ascend one of the city's seven hills. Don't miss the views from the commanding Castello de Sao Jorge or the stunning, UNESCO World Heritage listed Jeronimos Monastery and Belem Tower, both fine examples of Portuguese Manueline architecture.



Day 8 - Lisbon To Merida

It's an early start today as you make your way back to the station and board an InterCity service to Entroncamento. Here, change onto a Portuguese regional service which will take you back into Spain via Badajoz, and into the Roman city of Merida. Here, check in for an overnight stay at the Parador de Merida (or similar). You arrive in the mid-afternoon and have the evening here, but we'd recommend an extra night to explore this fascinating city if you have the time. Merida was founded as a Roman colony in 25BC and has some amazing Roman remains.



Day 9 - Merida To Barcelona

After breakfast this morning, head back to the station and catch a train up to Spanish capital Madrid. Change here onto a high-speed AVE service to Barcelona and check in for an overnight stay at the Barcelo Sants Hotel (or similar), conveniently located for the station.



Day 10 - Barcelona To London

This morning, at the end of your exciting holiday, catch a direct TGV service from Barcelona Sants which will whisk you through Catalonia and France up to Paris. Here, an easy connection brings you to the Gare du Nord for your return Eurostar to London.

Pricing

From £1,249 per person

Low season (November-March) from £1,249pp

High season (April-October) from £1,449pp

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.