

SPAIN MARKS

Since time immemorial, Spain has been a country of artists. From the anonymous painter who decorated the caves of Altamira over 14.000 years ago to the amazing creative genius of the avant-garde artist, Picasso, Dalí, Tápies and Miró. This is a land where forms and colours capture your eyes and your soul. Come and be captivated.

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Altamira Cave, Santillana del Mar, Cantabria

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Spain is not just a country: it's a way of life. A unique combination of history, art, nature and gastronomy. Come and immerse yourself in the sun, the spirit and the passion. When you leave you will be changed, body and soul.

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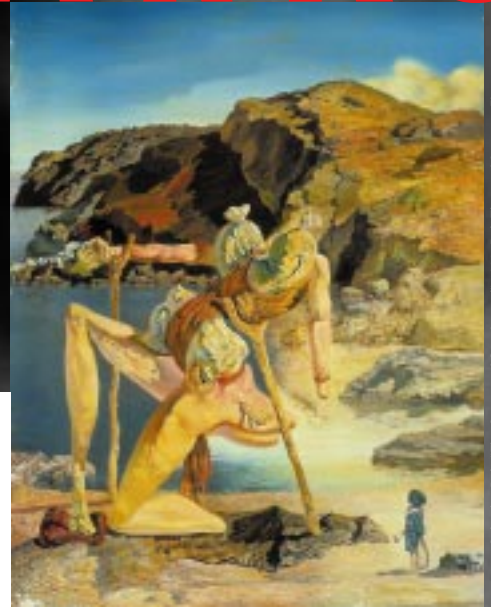


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It has been said that genius is catching. And Spain proves it. Goya, Dalí, Picasso and Miró: names from the past, creators of the avant-garde. Tápies, Chillida, Saura and Barceló - contemporary artists who keep the spirit alive. This is a country where you can truly feast your eyes and your soul on form and colour. So come along and be captivated.

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Salvador Dalí, "The Specter of Sex-Appal", 1932. Dalí Theater-Museum, Figueras.
© Salvador Dalí, Gala-Salvador Dalí Foundation, VEGAP, Madrid, 2002.



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Who ever said that Spain isn't green? With 241 top-class golf courses, the most experienced instructors and 300 days of sun a year, it's the best place to indulge your passion for golf. And you'll undoubtedly discover other passions as well: history, art, gastronomy ...

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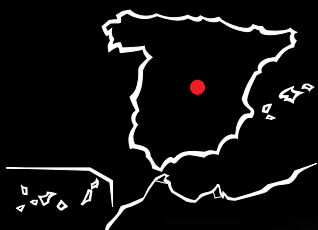


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Tablao Flamenco "El Corral de la Pacheca", Madrid



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Some cities in Spain aren't just Spanish: they belong to the whole world. Ávila, Cáceres, Córdoba, Cuenca, Salamanca, Santiago de Compostela, Segovia, Toledo and Alcalá de Henares have all been designated as historic and artistic World heritage sites by UNESCO. In these cities you can admire a wealth of different architectural styles, side by side in perfect harmony. Live out stories, legends and traditions that are preserved like treasures. Enjoy the authentic gastronomy and local crafts as others have done for centuries. Enter the city walls and walk into history.

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Acueduct of Segovia



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Two seas and one ocean. 4,800 miles of coastline. 445 blue flag beaches. 300 days of sun a year. And the best hotels in Europe. Come and immerse yourself in the sun, the nature and the joy of life. Your tan might fade but the experience will last forever.

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There's a Spanish road you may travel with your body and your soul. From the 10th century to the present day, pilgrims have been coming from all over the world to journey along the *Camino de Santiago*, a unique route taking in culture, nature and spirituality. Discover 116 towns and villages with more than 1,800 buildings of historical and artistic value and experience the hospitality of people you won't be able to forget. Come and be part of the miracle.

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Cross of the pilgrim, Roncesvalles, Navarra

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Learning Spanish outside Spain is like learning to swim out of water! A language is not just an endless list of grammatical rules. You need to learn about the culture, immerse yourself in the streets and mix with the people. In Spain you're in the birthplace of a language spoken by 330 million people -the language of Cervantes, Lorca and Pedro Almodóvar. When you leave you can never forget that España is written with an "ñ".

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Students at Alcalá de Henares University, Madrid

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There's a land in Spain that's so wild it challenges the sky. The Pirineo is a natural paradise where you'll find all kinds of adventure. Dare to scale incredible mountains, descend stunning gorges and traverse their rapids. Then catch your breath, discovering century-old villages with their rural charm and traditions intact.

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Come to a country where the *fiesta* takes over the streets. Be part of Spanish celebrations that are legendary throughout the world. Mix with the people and share their passion for life, until you almost forget where you're from.

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You don't have to be a "believer" to take part in the Easter celebrations in Spain. In Seville, Valladolid and many other towns and villages, the devotion and art will draw you in. You have to experience a *saeta* breaking the silence to appreciate its effect on your body and your soul. And you might just discover why in Spain, we call it The Passion.

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Macarena, Sevilla Easter



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Submerge yourself in the kingdom of water. Seawater breaking ferociously on the cliffs, alongside fishing ports and beaches of fine sand. Rainwater nourishing the fields and mountains, covering everything with a lustrous green. In Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria or the Basque Country, you don't have to choose between the sea and the mountains.

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Cudillero, Asturias

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Eating in Spain is so deliciously varied that to choose one dish means missing the exquisite pleasure of another. Perhaps with this in mind, several centuries ago the Spanish thought up *tapas* - small tasty morsels to be enjoyed among friends. All across Spain you will find bars and taverns where laughter mingles with the aroma of the famous Spanish *tortilla*, succulent prawns or sensational Iberian cured ham. To be washed down always with the splendid local wines. Enjoy yourself, with no regrets!

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Spain still has Roman roads, just like in ancient Roman *Hispania*. The *Ruta Via of the Plata* is an authentic *calzada* that winds its way from north to south, linking such majestic cities as Gijón, Astorga, Salamanca, Cáceres, Mérida and Seville. Travel this road and pass Roman bridges, arches and theatres. Go through ancient city walls and enter into mediaeval cities. Admire the best Roman, Gothic and Modern architecture. Gaze at mountains, valleys and ravines of spectacular beauty. Discover the heritage of a country that once was one of the most important parts of an ancient empire.

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Roman Arch, Caparra, Cáceres