



# GO Madrid Activity Guide



# Welcome Weekend

The first weekend of the program is designed to help students connect with each other, the program city and our staff. Students will participate in orientation, a guided city tour, welcome party and a group activity. This gives students the chance to enjoy highlights of their new home while settling in before classes begin. The next three weekends allow students free time to further explore the program city or travel to other cities.





# **City Tour + Orientation**

The day after arrival, students will have an orientation, which will cover safety tips, cultural norms, and program expectations, ensuring students feel prepared to explore their new home. Next, all students will go on a guided tour of the historic city. Our staff will also point out essential spots like markets and cafes to get you comfortable with our neighborhood in your first few days.

# **Royal Palace Tour**

The Royal Palace of Madrid, Spain's largest palace, boasts stunning Baroque and Classical architecture. It features opulent interiors, historical artifacts, lush gardens, and breathtaking views of Madrid's skyline.









# Program Activities

Explore your program city and connect with other students through our weekly optional activities. These included activities are students' favorites every year. We recommend not missing a single one!

- 1. You must pre-register for your preferred activities (you may sign up for just 1 or all).
- 2. They are typically held on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings to avoid weekend + class conflicts.
- 3. Keep in mind that a cancellation fee may apply if you register but choose not to participate, deducted from your Accommodations/Vendor Accountability fund.



# **Day Trip to Toledo**

Perched on a hill overlooking the Tagus River, Toledo features stunning medieval architecture, including the Toledo Cathedral and Alcázar fortress. The city's narrow cobblestone streets and artisan shops, famous for steelwork and damascene jewelry, transport visitors to another era. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Toledo offers a unique blend of history, art, and culture. Students will have the opportunity to explore, grab dinner before going to an epic lookout point for sunset and photos.







# **Spanish Cooking Class**

In this cooking class, you'll work as a group with your peers to dive into the food culture of Madrid. Paella is one of the most well-known dishes in Spanish cuisine. It is a delicious mix of rice, vegetables, seafood and more. Click here for more visuals!







### Flamenco Show & Dinner

This is a must in Madrid! You will have dinner and watch the passionate dancers, intricate guitar melodies, and soulful singing. Experience this mesmerizing art form in an intimate setting, showcasing the vibrant energy and cultural richness of Spain's traditional music and dance.









## **Garden Picnic**

Join us in El Retiro Park for a fun evening in the gardens. We will have food, explore the stunning lake, iconic monuments, and the enchanting Crystal Palace, offering a perfect escape for relaxation, recreation, and cultural exploration.





All of these activities are planned and provided to you already, all YOU have to do is say YES! Please claim your spot by opting into these activities on the forms in your student portal.