



Spain

Destination Guide

ARRIVING IN SPAIN

- 1) After deplaning, you will enter the Immigration line. Present your passport and answer any questions from the officer.
- 2) Claim all your checked bags and proceed through customs.
- 3) Check your travel documents for instructions for transportation to your hotel.

DURING YOUR STAY

TIPPING

Workers are paid a living wage in Spain and tipping is optional. If you do tip, 5-10% is normal.

CURRENCY

Spain uses the Euro. We recommend obtaining euros from your local bank before your trip. You can also exchange dollars for euros at the airport, large train stations, and banks. One Euro is made up of 100 cents, and there are eight different coins (1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents, and 1 and 2 Euros), and seven notes (5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 Euros).

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

If you find yourself in serious difficulty and need help, the number to call for emergencies in Spain is 112.

ELECTRICITY

Spain operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz. US appliances will need a power converter. If the device is a dual voltage device then you can simply use a Type C plug adapter.

TIME ZONE

CET (Central European Time) applies throughout Mainland Spain. The Canary Islands are one hour behind the mainland. Spain also adjusts the time for summer.

MEAL TIME

Breakfast is usually served between 7am and 12pm. Spaniards have drinks and tapas from 12pm to 2pm. Lunch is from 1pm to 4pm. Dinner is 8pm to 11:30pm.

SIESTA

Many parts of Spain have a midday break called Siesta. This happens from 2pm to 5pm. During this time, shops may close.

LANGUAGE

Spanish or Castilian is the official language shared by most regions. Some regions have co-official languages. Catalan, Valencian, Galician, and Basque are spoken in some regions.

USEFUL SPANISH WORDS

- Hola = Hello
- Hasta luego = See you later
- Sí = Yes
- No = No
- Gracias = Thank you
- Por favor = Please
- Ayuda = Help
- Calle = Street
- Dirección = Address
- Mapa / Plano = Map / Street plan
- Reserva = Booking / Reservation
- Cuenta = Account
- Taxi = Taxi
- Tren = Train
- Autobús = Bus
- Estación de autobuses / estación de trenes = Bus station / Railway station
- Aeropuerto = Airport
- Hospital = Hospital
- Emergencia = Emergency
- Restaurante = Restaurant
- Menú = Set meal
- Carta = Menu
- Alérgico = Allergic
- Vegetariano = Vegetarian
- Bebida = Drink
- Museo = Museum
- Horarios / Hora = Opening hours / Time
- Precio = Price
- Entrada = Ticket
- Comprar = Buy
- Efectivo = Cash
- Tarjeta de crédito = Credit card

RETURNING TO THE US

1) You may be given immigration forms to fill out during your flight. Keep a pen, your passports, travel documents, and receipts from anything you purchased during your trip easily accessible from your seat.

2) After deplaning, you will enter the Immigration Line. Have your passport and completed forms in hand, answer any questions from the officer. NOTE: Some airports no longer collect paper forms. They offer automated kiosks to collect immigration and customs information.

3) Go to the luggage carousel and claim all your checked bags.

4) Take all your belongings to the Customs line. You may be asked questions about what you are bringing back into the country, and your belongings may be subject to search.

5) For connecting flights or to reach the final airport exit, you may need to pass your checked luggage back to the airline. This is usually done at a counter outside of the Customs area.

6) DUTY FREE REMINDER: If you have to pass another security checkpoint before proceeding to the next gate or to the airport exit, you will not be able to carry your liquid duty-free purchases with you. These need to be placed in your checked bags before handing them over to the airline.