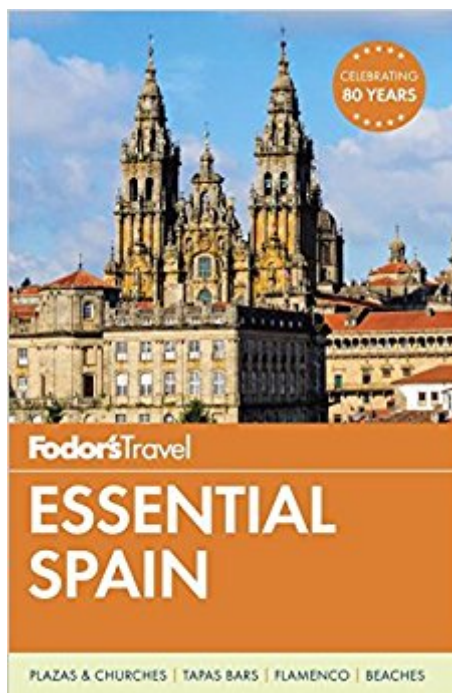


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# Fodor's Essential Spain (Full-color Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

Written by locals, Fodor's travel guides have been offering expert advice for all tastes and budgets for 80 years. Spain remains one of the world's most popular tourist destinations for its cutting-edge cuisine and superior wine, festivals like the running of the bulls in Pamplona, world-class museums like the Museo del Prado, amazing architecture, and more. In stunning full-color, Fodor's Essential Spain puts the best the country has to offer at your fingertips. This travel guide includes:

- Dozens of full-color maps plus a handy pullout map with essential information
- Hundreds of hotel and restaurant recommendations, with Fodor's Choice designating our top picks
- Multiple itineraries to explore the top attractions and what's off the beaten path
- In-depth breakout features on Gaudi's architecture, Spanish wine, tapas, flamenco, the Alhambra, Basque culture, El Camino de Santiago, and the Museo del Prado
- Coverage of Madrid; Toledo; Galicia and Asturias; The Basque Country, Navarra, and La Rioja; The Pyrenees; Barcelona; Catalonia, Valencia, and The Costa Blanca; Ibiza and the Balearic Islands; Andalusia

Planning to focus on Barcelona? Check out Fodor's travel guide to Barcelona.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Fodor's is pitched a few notches higher, aimed at a fairly discerning traveler with an appetite for background and the occasional surprise. The New York Times "The Fodor's guides are notable for their ratings of sights, restaurants, shops, accommodations and attractions. The Chicago Tribune "In terms of

comprehensiveness of coverage, the very accessible format, and the enthusiastic tone, this series remains one of the best on the market. Fodor's Booklist "Fodor's super-informative guidebooks are known for accuracy and attention to detail. Sacramento Bee "Fodor's can help you plan the perfect adventure. Arizona Republic

For over 80 years, Fodor's Travel has been a trusted resource offering expert travel advice for every stage of a traveler's trip. We hire local writers who know their destinations better than anyone else, allowing us to provide the best travel recommendations for all tastes and budget in over 7,500 worldwide destinations. Our books make it possible for every trip to be a trip of a lifetime.

It's a good guide book. Helps you get yourself acclimated the area, before your arrival. Has a simple no waterproof map inside. Offers suggestions for places to stay and eat.. Which I never use.. But gives you an idea what they call "inexpensive" or "expensive." Gives some good details on many different things. Especially if you've done a bunch of other research... It'll REALLY bring it all together for you.. But even if this is the only research you do.. It's a good guide.

I lived in Spain for two years and have visited several times. I am headed back there this Spring. I didn't think a travel guide would be useful to someone who has traveled to the country as many times as I have, but I was wrong. I always preferred Lonely Planet and DK Publish guides, because of their colorful layouts and "where the locals go" suggestions. I tend to be an off-the-beaten-path kinda of gal. I like to eat with the locals eat, visit lesser-known sites, and take the scenic route over the superhighways. I really appreciate that Fodor's offered many suggestions that appeal to my live like the locals nature. I was pleasantly surprised that this guide offered information about some of the off the beaten path places I have found around Spain. This guide is very thorough, offering travel tips, the history of different areas, and all the pertinent information needed to visit the attractions. As with most travel guides, I found the restaurant choices to be a bit pedestrian. I tend to avoid places recommended and guides because they are usually very touristy.\*\* I do wish they would print a coupon code to allow those who purchased the book the opportunity to download the Fodor's app for free.

This follows a familiar Fodor's pattern of aiming at the mid-level rather than the budget traveler. The maps are a plus, for as we know US phones may not work affordably or easily abroad, and I find it

good to have a physical layout I can see and hold independent of a screen. The colorful illustrations, especially given the content of Spain, are appealing and capture the sunny vibrancy of this nation. Although as of yet I remain an armchair visitor to a country I've read much about, consulting a compact travel guide is valuable. This is not so large that it contains much on smaller places, naturally. It's essential, so modeled for a hub of a major city or town around which side trips can be arranged. A helpful companion.

Fodor's is the gold standard for travel guides. This book on Spain is essential for planning a trip to Spain, and for maximising your time there with a strong itinerary. I appreciate the depth of the research that is gathered to develop everything from hotel and restaurant reviews, to museums and sightseeing locations. Fodor's has concentrated their coverage on many key areas of this beautiful country -- with many of the top tourist destinations included in the guide. If you are planning a trip to Spain, this book will be invaluable to you in making sure you have a great travel experience. Highly recommended.

This 800+ page comprehensive guide to Spain is arranged conventionally by cities and regions, with an introductory overview section of about 50 pages, which includes top sites and top experiences. Each geographical section begins with the important things, "Eating and drinking well in . . ." with descriptions of regional cuisines and suggested dishes to try. Some of the descriptions get quite detailed, so you have a clear idea of what is being offered, such as this paragraph on "Trinxat" from the Pyrenees: "The Catalan verb trinxar means to chop or shred, and trinxat is winter cabbage, previously softened by frost, chopped fine, and mixed with mashed potato and fatback or bacon. A quintessential high-altitude comfort food, trinxat plays the acidity of the cabbage against the saltiness of the pork, with the potato as the unifying element." Similar detail is given to shopping for everything from books to jewelry and antiques, painting a picture of a vibrant and affluent culture with a rich history. Cultural attractions include everything from the usual cathedrals to dens of Bohemianism, as at the Casa Marti in Barcelona. There is also plenty in here for those who prefer outdoor activities, and beachgoers. This is an excellent overview that can be used to plan a trip to Spain, and as a resource once you arrive.

Phenomenally interesting and useful guide for Spain. I usually like to consult either Lonely Planet and Fodor's for overseas travel. I was offered this volume to review and this is fantastic. Why? Enormous amounts of information. The book really made me informed as a armchair traveler.

However, for practical information, this book is exceptional as a resource. It breaks down the different regions of Spain and offers food, arts, history and traveling information in a well-produced book. Overall: Fantastic. Recommended.

This compact but very heavy book contains over 800 pages of information about traveling in Spain, including beautiful photos and good maps. It provides a detailed overview of travel in the country, with lots of information about hotels and restaurants as well as tourist sites. It is not an "off the beaten track" guide, nor does it have all the useful tips that I rely on Rick Steves guidebooks to provide. That said, I carefully read the section on Barcelona, where I recently spent a week, and I found things in this book that I wish I had known about while I was visiting. I think this book provides a pleasant way to help decide where in Spain to visit. If I actually go back to Spain, I will tear out the relevant pages so as not to have to lug the whole book.

Excellent guide, great resource, full color, itineraries, maps. One drawback - it is big and heavy, so it would not be convenient to carry around while in Spain. A lot of people tear out the pages by the cities they are visiting and carry just those pages around. This way you're not hauling around the whole book. Five stars.

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