

Alexandria Singers

Mr. Bill Colosimo, Director

June, 2021

American Celebration of Music in

Spain

An exclusive concert series for performance ensembles



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity



An Exclusive Concert Series

Spain, a land of jeweled Moorish palaces, sun-drenched beaches, terraced vineyards, sleepy fishing villages, primeval corridas (bullfights) and sensuous flamenco has become the sophisticated playground of Europe, and a premier destination of art, music and literature lovers. The vitality and excitement of today's Spain have made it popular worldwide.

As the inheritors of a great and ancient civilization dating from before the Roman Empire, Spaniards live in a land as culturally rich as it is geographically varied, with wooded sierras, and plateaus, and sandy beaches. It is this exciting variety in landscape as well as in art, architecture, music, and cuisine that makes Spain one of the top countries in the world to visit.

The American Celebration of Music is a special annual performance-tour program, co-sponsored by local governments, music associations, community organizations, and tourist boards around the globe. In many countries this has developed into a prestigious, recognized, year-long concert-series festival. Recognition of this festival facilitates greater access to performance venues, official publicity, generally very successful concert arrangements, and the ability to touch local cultures in a way that may not be done through other affiliations. This equates to more meaningful musical and emotional experiences for participating performance ensembles.

Spanish cultural life has been reinvigorated, particularly in the years since the death of General Franco. The performing arts, once restricted by lack of facilities, have received major investments including new venues, regional arts centers and new

symphony orchestras. The country has produced many remarkable opera singers, including Montserrat Caballé, Alfredo Kraus, Plácido Domingo and José Carreras. Spain now boasts some of the world's greatest opera houses and concert halls.

Spain's music is the embodiment of rich cultural influences from church (Gregorian plainchant reached its pinnacle in Spain), Moorish culture, and Spain's diverse groups such as Catalans, Basques, Gallegos in the northeast to the quintessentially Spanish in Castile or Andalusia. Composers like Manuel de Falla, Isaac Albeniz, Fernando Sor, Tomás Luis de Victoria, Gabriel Balart, Oscar Espla and others have left their definite mark on the world canon of music literature.



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Alexandria Singers American Celebration of Music in Spain

Custom Tour #2 (6 nights/8 days)

Day 1

Depart for Spain

Depart via scheduled air service to Madrid, Spain

Day 2

Madrid

(D)

Arrive in Madrid

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via panoramic tour of Madrid's highlights including Plaza Mayor (site of tournaments, bullfights and Inquisition trials), Plaza de Cibeles, Plaza de España, etc

If time permits, take an introductory panoramic tour prior to hotel check-in
Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Madrid is a very hospitable city, known for the quality of its light and climate. Madrid became the capital of Spain in the 16th century when Spain ruled a vast empire. Its attractions include three internationally famous art galleries, a royal palace, grand public squares and many museums filled with treasures of Spain's history

Day 3

Madrid

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Today, we see many of Madrid's remarkable landmarks including Buen Retiro Park (founded in 1631), the immense Royal Palace and entrance to the Prado Museum which hosts one of the finest art collections in the world including important Spanish paintings, classical statues purchased from Italy, medieval religious treasures and even some Romanesque frescoes

Lunch, on own

Performance at Auditorio Municipal Francisco Rabal in Madrid as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain*

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 4

Madrid / Aranjuez

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day excursion to Aranjuez to visit the Palace (built in 1561 by King Philip II as a royal summer residence). Continue to Chinchon (made famous in *Around the World in 80 Days*) to see a typical Spanish village

Lunch, on own

Afternoon time at leisure

Evening dinner on own and overnight

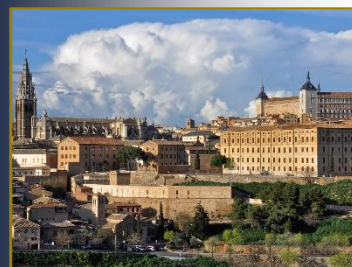
Day 5

Madrid / Toledo

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Full-day excursion to Toledo. Toledo is one of the great jewels of Spain! It stands out dramatically against the often luminously blue Castilian sky, a golden city rising from a granite eminence, encircled by a steep ravine filled by the green waters of the Tagus. This historic city is a notable place of pilgrimage. "Holy Toledo" isn't just a popular expression



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Enjoy a guided tour including a visit of the magnificent Cathedral (with the El Greco paintings and other valuable relics) and the Church of St. Tomé (El Greco's *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz*)

Lunch, on own

Return to Madrid for Flamenco Dinner and Dance show, and overnight

Day 6 **Madrid / El Escorial** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day excursion to El Escorial, the magnificent palace and monastery built by Phillip II. Visit the Royal Apartments and the Basilica

noon recital at El Escorial

A few miles away, view the Valley of the Fallen

Lunch, on own

Return to Madrid for afternoon at leisure

Performance at Teatro Municipal Buero Vallejo in Madrid as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain*

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 7 **Madrid / Avila / Segovia** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Full-day excursion to Avila and Segovia. Avila, the birthplace of St. Teresa, has city walls that are complete and form one of Europe's most striking examples of medieval fortifications. While here, we visit the Cathedral

Transfer to Segovia to see the famous Roman Aqueduct (still operating), the Old Town and visit the Alcázar

Lunch, on own

Return to Madrid

Shared Performance at Federico Garcia Lorca Theater in Madrid as part of the American Celebration of Music in Spain*

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 8 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Madrid's airport for the return flight

****Subject to confirmation***

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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Cost Estimates
ALEXANDRIA SINGERS

With Round-trip Airfare from: Washington D.C. Area Airport	<i>Airfare Season*</i>	<i>90-99 Paying</i>	<i>80-89 Paying</i>	<i>70-79 Paying</i>	<i>60-69 Paying</i>
TOUR #2 (6 nights/8 days) MADRID	High	\$3,579	\$3,649	\$3,750	\$3,871
Land Only (self-arranged air)		\$2,175	\$2,244	\$2,345	\$2,466

Travel season dates are generally as follows: Low (28-Oct – 13-Dec, 24-Dec – 31-Mar); Shoulder (23-Mar – 10-May); High (11-May – 27-Oct, 14-Dec – 23-Dec); **Travel seasons are subject to change without notice from the airline.*

All prices are per person and are based on the number of paying participants staying in double occupancy. Airline surcharges for weekend (Fri, Sat, or Sun) and holiday travel may apply.

The costs vary, depending upon the total number of paying participants sharing certain fixed overhead costs which include *chartered motorcoach, Tour Manager, guides, concert costs*, etc. Please consult the Cost Inclusions (located on the following page) which have been used as the basis for our offer.

These costs are based on having MCI handle the accounting and payment processing for each individual on tour. All tour prices quoted for transportation and land arrangements herein are based on rates (including foreign exchange rates) in effect at the date of this offer and are subject to change. Adjustments may be made if the exchange rate varies more than 5%.

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Cost Estimates
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COST INCLUSIONS

- **AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION:** Round-trip transportation by scheduled airline carrier. Air fares are subject to change pending space availability at the time of group booking.
 - Includes up to \$550 for U.S. Government airline taxes, fees, and estimated fuel surcharge.
- **COACH TRANSPORTATION:** Local modern deluxe motorcoach transportation within Europe upon arrival and available for the entire tour.
- **INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT TRANSPORTATION:** Additional instruments and/or equipment will be transported in the storage area underneath the motorcoach.
- **CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS:** All performance and workshops are professionally provided in superior venues with attention to technical details and effective publicity. All venues mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to confirmation.
- **ACCOMMODATIONS:** Hotel accommodations in superior tourist-class (3 & 4-star) hotels chosen for location, reputation, cleanliness, and service. The price is based on double occupancy, all rooms with private facilities. All hotels mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to availability at group rates at the time of booking. This offer is based on staying at the following accommodations, or similar:

Madrid: [*Hotel Rafael Atocha*](#)
- **MEALS:** Meals as noted in the Tour itinerary.
- **ENTRANCE FEES:** The following Entrance fees are included:
 - Madrid Prado Museum, Aranjuez Royal Palace, Toledo Cathedral, St. Thomas Church, Madrid El Escorial Monastery, Madrid Valley of the Fallen, Avila Cathedral, Segovia Alcazar
- **TOUR ITINERARIES:** Electronic versions of the tour itinerary are available listing hotel addresses, telephone and websites.
- **TOUR MANAGEMENT:** One full-time, multi-lingual Tour Manager will be on each motorcoach through the entire tour. MCI's European office staff is easily available 24 hours daily (even on weekends) to render assistance whenever needed.
- **EXCURSIONS:** Conducted by licensed, professional guides as outlined in the day-by-day Tour itinerary.
- **GRATUITIES:** Tips to hotel personnel (including meals) are included. Tips to tour manager(s), licensed guides, and motorcoach driver(s) are not included.
- **INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTING:** MCI will handle the accounting and payment processing for each individual on tour.
- **EACH PARTICIPANT RECEIVES:**
 - 1 Flight bag • 2 Luggage tags • 1 Souvenir Photo Video • 1 Souvenir T-shirt
- **TRAVEL NOTES:** Pre-departure Travel Notes are available to each participant containing useful information about travel preparation, destination information, useful packing and cultural conditioning suggestions.
- **LIABILITY INSURANCE:** \$3M MCI Tour Liability Insurance coverage.
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Individual insurance coverage is included in all MCI programs with MCI arranged airline transportation.

Summary of coverage:

• \$10,000 – Travel Accident	• \$1,000 – Medical Expense
• \$300 – Baggage Coverage	• \$600 – Trip Cancellation/Interruption/Delay

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COST EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Tips to Tour Manager(s), city guides and motorcoach driver(s).
- Instrument / equipment rental & cartage, if needed.
- Concert programs, if needed.
- Transportation to and from the departure airport.
- Drinks at dinners.
- Meals as noted in the Tour itinerary.
- Airline luggage fees, if applicable.
- Difference between current and actual costs for the airline taxes and the estimated fuel surcharge, if applicable.



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Payment & Cancellation Schedules
ALEXANDRIA SINGERS

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

\$200 per person (non-refundable)Due: February 15, 2020
\$200 per person (non-refundable)Due: May 15, 2020
15% per person, of total tour costsDue: August 15, 2020
20% per person, of total tour costsDue: November 15, 2020
25% per person, of total tour costsDue: February 15, 2021
Final Payment (remaining balance).....Due: May 1, 2021

Amount paid is % of the total tour cost, not the balance owed.

CANCELLATION SCHEDULE

\$200 per person (non-refundable)Penalty Begins: February 15, 2020
\$200 per person (non-refundable)Penalty Begins: May 15, 2020
10% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: September 15, 2020
25% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: December 15, 2020
50% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: March 1, 2021
100% per person, of total tour costsPenalty Begins: May 5, 2021

Amount penalized is % of the total tour cost, not % of what has already been paid.

Please note that the above payment and cancellation schedule is based on the initial deposit date as well as subsequent on-time payments and can be modified with your input and feedback.

This schedule is subject to change should any payment dates be missed.

Group payments made by organization check or cash-equivalent qualify for our lowest discounted prices. If you choose to have MCI handle the accounting and payment processing for any individuals on tour, a 3% accounting fee will be assessed on the full group.