PRINTABLE ITINERARY

Suggested Itinerary: 3 Days of Hidden Gems in Spain

From our guide **Top 10 Best Hidden Gems in Spain**. Print it or save it to your phone.



Day 1: Castile from Madrid

Head north from Madrid to Pedraza in the morning, walk the square and castle area, and have lunch in the village. In the afternoon, continue to Segovia or return to Madrid. If you prefer a longer trip, overnight in Pedraza.

Day 2: Andalusian Renaissance

Base yourself near Jaén or Granada. Spend the morning in Baeza, then drive a short distance to Úbeda for lunch and an afternoon in the Plaza Vázquez de Molina. In the evening, try a tapas bar and local olive oil. For more ideas on what to order across the south, see our guide to the best places to eat in Seville.

Day 3: Coast and white village

Travel to Nerja and spend the morning in Frigiliana's old quarter. Return to the coast for a beach afternoon. If you would rather head north, swap this for Cudillero on the Asturian coast, with the viewpoints in the morning and seafood by the harbour at lunch.

The 10 places at a glance

1. Albarracín

How to get there: By car from Teruel, around half an hour. Public transport is limited, so check local bus options before you go.
How long to spend: A half day for the old town, or an overnight stay to enjoy the evenings.
Best time to go: Spring or early autumn for hiking, or clear nights for stargazing.
Tip: Wear flat, grippy shoes, as the old streets are steep and uneven.
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2. Cudillero

How to get there: By car from Avilés in roughly half an hour, or by narrow-gauge train to Villademar station and then a taxi or local bus. Check Renfe and ALSA timetables.
How long to spend: Two to three hours, or longer if you walk the viewpoint route.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn for fewer crowds.
Tip: Park at the edge of the village and walk in, as the lanes are narrow and steep.
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3. Besalú

How to get there: By car from Girona in about half an hour, or by regional bus with a change if needed. Check timetables.
How long to spend: Two to three hours, longer if you add the volcanic park.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, early in the day.
Tip: Ask the tourist office about guided visits to the mikveh and the monastery interior.
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4. Úbeda and Baeza

How to get there: By car from Jaén or Granada, or by bus to Úbeda and a short local bus or taxi to Baeza. Check timetables before you go.
How long to spend: A full day for both, or half a day for Úbeda alone.
Best time to go: Spring and autumn, as summers are very hot.
Tip: Start in Baeza in the morning and finish in Úbeda, where the evening light suits the main square.
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5. Pedraza

How to get there: By car from Madrid in roughly an hour and a half, or combine with Segovia by bus and taxi.
How long to spend: Two to three hours, or a night.
Best time to go: Weekdays in spring or autumn.
Tip: Check the castle's seasonal opening days before you set out.
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6. Laguardia

How to get there: By car from Vitoria-Gasteiz or Logroño, about three quarters of an hour. Public transport is limited, so check local bus services.
How long to spend: Half a day for the town and one cellar visit.
Best time to go: Autumn during the grape harvest, or spring.
Tip: Book cellar tours in advance and confirm languages on the winery website.
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7. Guadalupe

How to get there: By car from Cáceres or Trujillo, roughly an hour and a half. Public transport is limited.
How long to spend: Half a day.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, when it is mild.
Tip: Buy your guided tour ticket early in the day, and check current languages and times before you travel.
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8. Aínsa

How to get there: By car from Huesca or Barbastro, or by bus. Check timetables, which can be limited.
How long to spend: Two to three hours, or overnight if combining with Ordesa.
Best time to go: Late spring to early autumn.
Tip: Park outside the walls to avoid the narrow, cobbled lanes.
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9. Frigiliana

How to get there: By bus from Nerja, which is a short ride, or by car. Check current timetables.
How long to spend: Two to three hours.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, early in the morning.
Tip: Wear comfortable shoes with grip, as the lanes are steep.
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10. La Alberca

How to get there: By car from Salamanca in about an hour. Public transport is limited.
How long to spend: A half day, or a night to explore the park.
Best time to go: Spring and autumn, as winters can be cold.
Tip: Bring layers, as the village sits high in the mountains.
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Getting Around Spain's Hidden Gems

Most of these places are best reached by **hire car**, as rural bus services are limited and run less often at weekends. Spain's long-distance trains and buses connect the main cities, so a common approach is to take a train to a regional hub, such as Teruel, Girona, Jaén, Salamanca or Cáceres, and hire a car from there. Check operator timetables on Renfe before you travel. Roads in mountain areas can be slow, so allow extra time, and avoid driving after wine tastings.

Opening times, prices and transport change often, so check with each venue or operator before you go. For the full guide, photos and FAQs, see https://toptravelinsider.com/top-10-best-hidden-gems-in-spain/.