

# EXPERIENCE SPAIN



## LA CULTURA DE LA COSTA BLANCA

**Travel. Explore. Learn.**

The Costa Blanca, or White Coast, region of Spain is internationally renowned for its architectural wonders, history, art and cultures, gastronomy and wines, and abundant natural resources. Join the University of New Mexico's Latin American and Iberian Institute on a journey to explore Spain's Costa Blanca. Learn about the history and culture of this Mediterranean area as we travel the region and tour historical and contemporary landmarks. Faculty from the Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche will provide lectures focused on the built and natural environment, foods, fine arts, and intangible cultural richness of the area. We'll concentrate on Elche, the city surrounding the university, which is home to two UNESCO landmarks, and also take time to explore and visit nearby destinations such as Barcelona and Valencia - two cities with international reputations for their extensive, fascinating histories and engaging present-day activities.

**AUGUST 8-16, 2014**

## MEDITERRANEAN COASTLINE OF SPAIN



La Dama de Elche | 4th Century B.C.





## ITINERARY

### Saturday

- Guided visit of Barcelona

### Sunday

- Travel and guided visit of Valencia

### Monday

- Travel to Elche for welcome ceremony at the Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche
- Guided visit of Elche, including Roman ruins and El Palmeral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

### Tuesday

- Presentation: "Enology (science of wine) of Valencia Region"
- Visit vineyards and wine cellar; enjoy wine tasting
- Attend evening performance of sacred lyric medieval drama Misteri d'Elx, a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity

### Wednesday

- Presentation: "Culture and History of Valencia Region"
- Guided visit of Alicante
- Evening fireworks from the roof of Altavix Hall on the Elche campus

### Thursday

- Presentation: "Gastronomy of Valencia Region"
- Visit street market in Elche
- Take a boat trip through the Santa Pola Bay

### Friday

- Guided visit of Altea
- Lecture: "History of Spanish Painting and Fine Arts"
- Guided visit to Castell de Guadalest (traditional mountain village)

### Deadlines

- April 25, 2014: \$500 non-refundable deposit due along with completed application, and copy of passport.

### Information Session

- Tuesday April 15, 2014 at 6:00pm at the Latin American & Iberian Institute, 801 Yale Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131.



**COST: \$1,995**

(does not include airfare)

## LA COSTA BLANCA

The Costa Blanca, otherwise known as the Mediterranean coastline of Spain, is a premiere tourist destination in Europe. Its remarkable built and natural environment creates stunning extremes -- inland sand dunes and palm groves contrast with pristine beaches and windy bays; bustling cities complement small, traditional villages; and throughout it all, centuries-old architecture pairs with contemporary buildings.

The gastronomy of the region is equally impressive. Its famous rice dishes, fresh seafood, and local fruits and vegetables, pair with the region's varied wines. The so-called Mediterranean diet is refreshing and generally pleasing.

Elche, in particular, is a rich node of history, art, and culture. The city's historical architecture alludes to the intertwined legacies of the region's Iberian, Roman, and Arab influences and it is home to two separate UNESCO designations -- El Palmeral and the Misteri d'Elx -- one a World Heritage Site and the other a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Spain's Costa Blanca is a memorable destination for any traveler, but uniquely so for those interested in submersing themselves in complex cultural history and prestigious gastronomy.

## MORE INFORMATION

Visit <http://laih.unm.edu/abroad> or, for more information, contact:

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