

Touring with G.E.T.

VALENCIA



Valencia is Spain's 3rd largest city, and it is a magnificent place that is content to allow Madrid and Barcelona to grab the headlines while it goes on with being a wonderfully livable city. It was founded as a Roman colony in 138 BC and is famous as the home of rice dishes like *Paella*. Valencia is the capital of the autonomous community of Valencia with a population of approx. 800,000 (similar to Detroit). Its urban area has a population of about 1.7 to 2.5 million people. The Port of Valencia is the 5th busiest container port in Europe and the busiest container port on the Mediterranean Sea. It is mixed with an industrial area on the Costa del Azahar (Orange Blossom Coast). The large Ford Motor Factory lies in the suburb of Almussafes.



Hotel:

Our hotel will be the Barcelo' Valencia Hotel. It is a 4 star hotel situated right in the center of the City of Arts and Sciences (a world renowned place). It is located in one of the most modern and attractive areas of the city of Valencia. It has 187 rooms, 10 of them Jr. Suites. It boasts a U-Wellness Centre located on the 10th floor. Since we will only be here one night and our dinner is included tonight, we will be in and out of this nice hotel quickly.

Dining:

We will be treated tonight to a cooking demonstration with dinner and Sangria, which has its origin in Spain and Portugal. A law was put into place in 2014 protecting the name Sangria to be used only for that produced in Spain and Portugal. Paella is a Valencia rice dish with ancient roots. It features seafood, sausage, chicken and sometimes rabbit, hmmm. Authentic paella should be made over firewood. We will be shown how to cook this delicious dish and enjoy its great taste. Guest what? The Valencia orange was really hybridized in the neighborhood of Santa Clarita in Los Angeles County.

Weather:

Valencia has a subtropical Mediterranean climate with very mild winters and long warm to hot summers. The actual temperature the latter part of Oct. **2015** ranged from 71/47 to 67/59. With these 12-degree swings, a light sweater or jacket in the morning is advised.



Paella

Valencia

Things We Will See:

- A. Pensicola: Often called the “Gibraltar of Valencia.” Visit the castle where the movie *El Cid* was made (Charlton Heston 1961). Its elevation is 151 ft.
- B. City of Arts & Sciences: Some have described this museum as architecture straight from *Star Wars*. It is HUGE and was built over the drained river bed.
- C. City Gates of Serranos: its original purpose was to defend the city from attacks. But later on, it was also used for welcoming ambassadors and hosting royal weddings.



Spanish 101:

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| 1. ¡hola! | hello!, hi! |
| 2. ¡buenos días! | hello!, good morning! |
| 3. ¡buenas tardes! | hello!, good afternoon!; good evening! |
| 4. ¡buenas! | afternoon!; evening! |
| 5. ¿cómo estás? | how are you? (familiar form) |
| 6. ¿cómo está? | how are you? (formal) |
| 7. ¡gracias! | thanks!, thank you! |
| 8. por favor | please |
| 9. ¡porfa! | please! (<i>Informal</i>) |
| 10. ¡no, gracias! | no thank you! |
| 11. ¡sí, gracias! | yes please! |
| 12. ¿qué pasa? | what's happening? |