



Spanish Country Guide

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Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions. Use common sense and look out for suspicious behaviour. There is a threat of terrorist attack in Spain. In August 2017, 16 people were killed and many injured in vehicle attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils. Terrorists are likely to continue planning attacks targeting Spain. Be alert in public places such as shopping areas, places of worship, sporting venues, public transport, other transport hubs, and places of mass gathering. See [Safety and security](#).

Petty crime is common, particularly in tourist areas and on public transport in large Spanish cities. Foreigners are also targeted by scams. See [Safety and security](#). Demonstrations and strikes affecting traffic and transport services can occur with little or no warning. Monitor local media, avoid demonstrations and be ready to adjust your travel plans as delays and cancellations are likely. Demonstrations can become violent. See [Safety and security](#). Spain experiences forest fires, especially in the Summer months and in rural areas. In the event of a fire monitor local media and follow instructions of local authorities (see [Natural disasters](#)).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Spain at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Tourist Entry Requirements

Spain forms part of the Schengen Area. Australian passport holders are usually allowed to enter the Schengen Area for tourism or business purposes for up to 90 days in any 180 day period without a visa. The countries which make up the Schengen Area are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Travellers to the Schengen Area are recommended to ensure their passport is valid for at least six months beyond their intended stay. Travellers are also recommended to be able to provide documentation confirming their accommodation arrangements, ability to financially maintain themselves and travel insurance covering their period of stay in the Schengen Area as well as tickets and entry documents for their onward destination. Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Spanish mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Spain without a visa.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Spain. Vaccination against hepatitis B should be considered by frequent travellers or those intending on a long stay.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Spain should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Spanish Representation in Australia

Embassy of Spain, Canberra	Consulate of Spain, Sydney	Consulate of Spain, Melbourne	Spain also maintains honorary consulates throughout Australia. However, the three posts previously outlined should first be contacted as honorary consulates offer limited services.
15 Arkana Street YARRALUMLA ACT 2600	Level 24, St Martin's Tower 31 Market Street SYDNEY NSW 2000	146a Elgin Street CARLTON VIC 3053	
Tel: (02) 6273 3555 Fax: (02) 6273 3918	Tel: (02) 9261 2433	Tel: (03) 9347 1966 Fax: (03) 9347 7330	

Web: www.exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/CANBERRA



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Time Differences between Spain and Australia

Spain is Greenwich Mean Time +1 hour (+2 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Central European Time (CET) or Central European Summer Time (CEST). Daylight saving is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Spain, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 7pm, Darwin 8:30pm, Brisbane 9pm, Adelaide 9:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 10pm.
Spain, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 6pm, Darwin, Adelaide 7:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 8pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Spain: +34

To Dial Australia Call:
00 61 <City> <Number>

Australian Reverse Charges Direct:
900 900 061
(Not available from pay or mobile phones).

Travelex Card Services:
900 998 907

Visa Global Assist:
900 948 966

MasterCard:
900 97 1231

American Express Travellers Cheques:
900 81 0029

Emergency Services:
112

The emergency services have Spanish speaking staff. In some tourist areas service is also provided in English, French and German. To avoid delay it may be best to seek the assistance of an Spanish speaker to call the emergency services.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Spanish Words and Phrases

Yes	-	Si	No	-	No
Thank you	-	Gracias	Please	-	Por favor
Hello	-	Hola	Goodbye	-	Adiós
Where is..?	-	Dónde está ...?	Airport	-	el aeropuerto
Train station	-	la estación del tren	Bus	-	el autobús
Police station	-	la estación de policía	Chemist	-	la farmacia
Cheers!	-	Salud!	Hospital	-	el hospital
Coffee	-	el café	Tea	-	el té
Juice	-	el jugo, el zumo	Water	-	el agua
Beer	-	la cerveza	Wine	-	el vino

Do you speak English?	-	Habla usted inglés?
Where is the bathroom?	-	Dónde está el baño?
Please bring the bill.	-	Me trae la cuenta por favor?
How much does this cost?	-	Cuál es el precio?, Cuánto cuesta?
Do you accept credit cards?	-	Aceptan tarjetas de crédito?

Australian Representation in Spain

Embassy of Australia, Spain
L 24, Torre Espacio Building
Paseo de la Castellana, 259D
28046 MADRID

Tel: (+34 91) 353 6600
Web: www.spain.embassy.gov.au

Consulate of Australia, Barcelona
Avinguda Diagonal,
433 Bis, Second Floor, Door 1
08036 BARCELONA

Tel: (+34 93) 362 3792

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Spain are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Madrid, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Spain and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering Spain from a non EU state:
Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages; as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.
Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco.
Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 for air and sea travellers, €300 for others and €150 for those under 15 years.

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:
Alcohol: 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages.
Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
Other Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Spain, Europe and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Spanish customs please visit www.ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/individuals, or for information regarding Australian customs please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical Socket type: European (type C).

Supply: Usually 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will not usually be required to use appliances designed for Australian use.

A socket converter is usually all that will be required for Australian appliances.

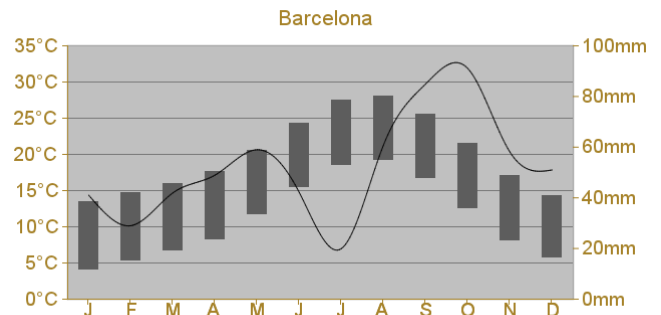
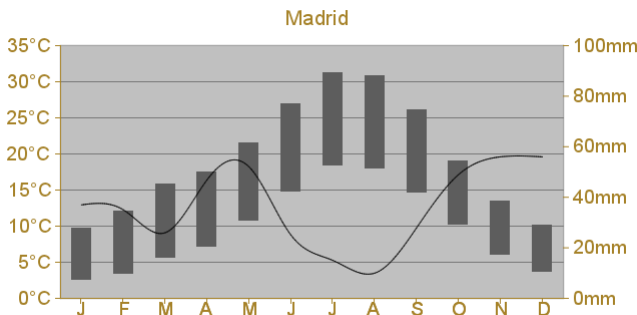


Spanish Public Holidays 2018

01 Jan:	New Year	12 Oct:	National Day
06 Jan:	Epiphany	01 Nov:	All Saint's Day
30 Mar:	Good Friday	06 Dec:	Constitution Day
01 May:	Labour Day	08 Dec:	Immaculate Conception
15 Aug:	Assumption	25-26 Dec:	Christmas

Spain celebrates numerous regional holidays and festivals which may replace the holidays listed above with their own dates.

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Spain



Source: Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia, Spain. For local forecasts please go to www.aemet.es or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Page 4 of 5 Spanish/Euro Currency Information and Cheat Sheet Exchange Rate Purchasing-Power Parity

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.63 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) = 1.58 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.61 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) will cost 1.65 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Euro in Spain and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing-power of the two currencies.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 3.76 Euro
 Big Mac Spain: €3.95 (EUR) = 6.26 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Spain is therefore 5% more expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.

€0.50 = \$0.82 AUD	€10 = \$16.47 AUD	€100 = \$164.73 AUD
€1 = \$1.65 AUD	€20 = \$32.95 AUD	€200 = \$329.47 AUD
€2 = \$3.29 AUD	€30 = \$49.42 AUD	€300 = \$494.20 AUD
€3 = \$4.94 AUD	€40 = \$65.89 AUD	€400 = \$658.94 AUD
€4 = \$6.59 AUD	€50 = \$82.37 AUD	€500 = \$823.67 AUD
€5 = \$8.24 AUD	€60 = \$98.84 AUD	€600 = \$988.40 AUD
€6 = \$9.88 AUD	€70 = \$115.31 AUD	€700 = \$1,153.14 AUD
€7 = \$11.53 AUD	€80 = \$131.79 AUD	€800 = \$1,317.87 AUD
€8 = \$13.18 AUD	€90 = \$148.26 AUD	€900 = \$1,482.61 AUD
€9 = \$14.83 AUD	€1,000 = \$1,647.34 AUD	

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Spain is the Euro, which is abbreviated using the symbol € (for example €100). The subunit of the Euro is the cent, of which there are 100 in every Euro. The following units of currency are the most common in Spain but other versions and denominations are also in circulation (including a purple €500 note and other nations' coins). Pictures are not to scale.





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About Spain

Full Name:	Reino de Espana (Kingdom of Spain).	Significant Dates:	
Independence:	1492 (unification of several kingdoms following the reconquest of the Iberian Peninsula).	206 BC	- Hispania becomes part of the Roman Empire.
Size:	505,370 sq km (60% the size of NSW).	711 AD	- Moorish Muslim armies from North Africa invade and control most of the Iberian Peninsula.
Population:	47 million (double the size of Australia). Madrid 5.7 million; Barcelona 5 million; Valencia 850,000; Seville 700,000.	722 - 1492	- Reconquest by Christian Kingdoms of Spain.
Religion:	Catholic 94%, other 6%.	1492	- Columbus arrives in the New World beginning a period of Spanish colonisation and conquest.
Language:	Spanish 74%, Catalan 17%, Galician 7%.	1588	- Britain defeats the Spanish Armada.
GDP Per Capita:	US\$30,100 (Australia US\$43,000).	1605	- Don Quixote (the first modern novel) is written.
		1898	- Spanish American War. Spain loses colonies in Cuba and The Philippines to the US.
		1936-39	- Spanish Civil War claims 500,000 lives.
		1939-75	- Spain ruled by dictator Francisco Franco.
		1975	- Monarchy restored, Juan Carlos crowned King.

