

IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING PLACES OF SPAIN

1. **Madrid:** capital and largest city
 - a. **El Prado:** a famous art museum
 - b. **The National Palace:** one of the largest and most luxurious palaces in Europe
 - c. **Puerta del Sol:** central plaza
(Near Madrid...)
 - d. **El Escorial:** a huge building containing a palace, monastery, library, and burial place for Spanish kings; commissioned by Philip II
 - e. **Valley of the Fallen:** an enormous cross-shaped monument in memory of the soldiers that died in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939)

2. **Barcelona**
 - a. second-largest city
 - b. Spain's largest seaport (located on the Mediterranean coast)
 - c. main industrial city
 - d. nearby is the famous monastery of **Montserrat**

3. **Seville**
 - a. Spain's most picturesque city
 - b. **Cathedral of Seville:** contains tomb of Columbus
 - c. **La Giralda:** a Moorish watchtower

4. **Valencia**
 - a. located in a rich agricultural region
 - b. "Garden Spot of Spain"

5. **Granada**
 - a. last city occupied by the Moors before it was recaptured by the Christians in 1492
 - b. **The Alhambra:** a famous Moorish palace

6. **Toledo**
 - a. original (old) capital
 - b. medieval, walled city
 - c. known for its metalwork and exquisite jewelry
 - d. home of the painter El Greco

7. **Salamanca:** has one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Europe

8. **Cordova**
 - a. Moorish capital and cultural center during 10th and 11th centuries
 - b. The mosque (Moslem place of worship) of Cordova is a popular tourist attraction

9. **Burgos:** home and burial place of El Cid

10. Bilbao

- a. seaport in the north
- b. mining and steel manufacturing city

11. Segovia

- a. an ancient Roman city
- b. has a 2,000 year old, Roman aqueduct (water bridge) which still carries water

IMPORTANT PAINTERS OF SPAIN

1. El Greco (1400's)

- a. Greek painter who lived in Toledo
- b. painted mostly religious themes
- c. elongated (stretched) figures
- d. often showed hands with middle fingers connected

2. Velazquez: (1600's) royal court painter

3. Goya: (late 1700's and early 1800's) attacked social and political injustices

4. Pablo Picasso: (1900's) "father of cubism", incorporates geometrical shapes

5. Savador Dalí: (1900's) "father of surrealism", dreamlike qualities