



# Total Solar Eclipse: Northern Spain and Portugal

Featuring **Michael Strauss**, Chair, Department of Astrophysical Sciences  
Including visits to Madrid, León, and Porto

August 6–15, 2026

**Join your fellow Tigers** to experience the Total Solar Eclipse of 2026 as it sweeps across the Iberian Peninsula. Our hand-picked viewing location aligns with the eclipse's path of totality, plunging us into total eclipse darkness for one minute and forty seconds. With 2026 marking the peak solar activity in the Sun's eleven year cycle, the extent of the elusive solar corona may be at its stunning best.

The program begins in the Spanish capital of Madrid. Explore the city's elegant squares, Plaza Mayor, and historic district; visit the Royal Observatory and Madrid Planetarium; and indulge in local tapas and a flamenco show. Continue via Segovia, home to an iconic ancient Roman aqueduct, to the beautiful city of León, our base for the eclipse festivities. View the Total Solar Eclipse, ending with a marvelous sunset view of the moon's "last bite" of the sun, from the comfort of the Leyenda del Paramo Winery. This evening, witness the peak night of the Perseid meteor shower, the strongest of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, during a stargazing experience amid the dark skies of our rural location. Conclude the adventure in Porto, Portugal, one of the oldest cities in Europe, wandering the UNESCO-designated historic center, palace, and market.



## ITINERARY

August 6–7	Home / Madrid, Spain
August 8	Madrid
August 9	Madrid
August 10	Madrid / León
August 11	León
August 12	León / Eclipse Day!
August 13	León / Porto, Portugal
August 14	Porto
August 15	Porto / Home

A deposit of \$2,000 per person is required to reserve a place on this program. See page 3 of this flyer for complete payment terms.

Please note: Ideal weather conditions and cloud conditions for viewing the eclipse can change and are not guaranteed.

Click [here](#) to reserve your space directly. For questions, email [journeys@princeton.edu](mailto:journeys@princeton.edu) or call (609) 258-8686.

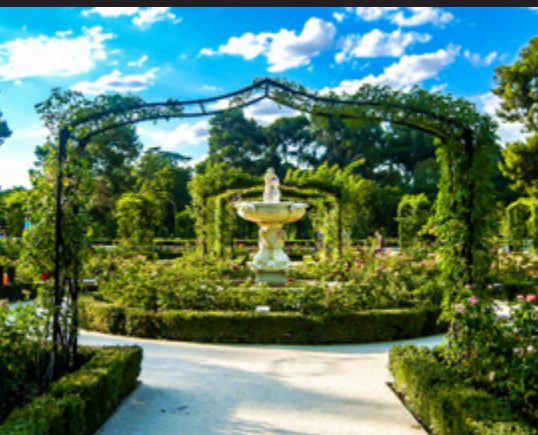
## HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness the August 12, 2026 Total Solar Eclipse from Leyenda del Paramo winery, one of the best possible vantage points as the shadow sweeps across the Iberian Peninsula, followed by a spectacular sunset celebration complete with stargazing.
- Encounter the beauty of Madrid's elegant squares and tree-lined Paseo del Prado, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and visit the Royal Observatory of Madrid and the Madrid Planetarium.
- Stay three nights in the beautiful city of León, combining stunning historical architecture with an irresistible energy as an important stop on the Camino de Santiago.
- Finish your journey in Porto, Portugal, one of the oldest European city centers, also proclaimed a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## STUDY LEADER



Michael Strauss joined the Astrophysics faculty at Princeton in 1995; he is now the chair of the department. He and his colleagues carry out surveys of the sky, mapping the cosmos to catalog the myriad of stars, galaxies, asteroids and quasars to answer fundamental questions about the universe. He is particularly interested in the evolution, properties, and large-scale distribution of galaxies. He and his colleagues have discovered some of the most distant quasars known, which we are seeing at a time when the universe was 5% of its present age. He teaches a variety of courses, from introductory astronomy for non-majors to graduate-level cosmology. He is co-author, with Neil deGrasse Tyson, J. Richard Gott, and Bob Vanderbei of the best-selling books, *Welcome to the Universe: An Astrophysical Tour*, and its companion, *Welcome to the Universe in 3D* (Princeton University Press). This will be Strauss' third time as a Princeton Journeys Study Leader. It will also be his third time seeing a total solar eclipse. As an astronomer, he thought he knew what to expect during his first eclipse in August 2017, but was completely awed and blown away by the spectacle.



# Total Solar Eclipse: Northern Spain and Portugal

August 6–15, 2026

### PROGRAM RATES:

Per person, sharing accommodations ..... \$9,990  
Single supplement ..... \$2,990

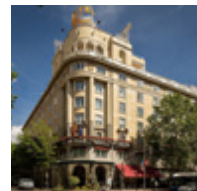
To reserve directly, visit:

<https://dub.sh/2026-TSE-PJ>

Or scan this code with your phone/tablet:

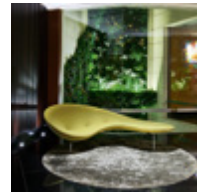


## ACCOMMODATIONS



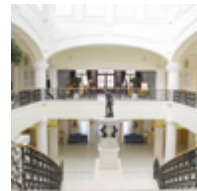
### Hotel Wellington, Madrid

Located in the heart of one of the most sought-after areas of Madrid, the 5-star Wellington Hotel & Spa Madrid is also one of the most historic hotels in the Spanish capital.



### My Palace Hotel, León

The centrally located My Palace Hotel is adjacent to the medieval old town, near the riverside park, and within walking distance of some of the city's top restaurants.



### The Yeatman, Porto

One of the city's finest hotels, The Yeatman is situated on a hillside overlooking the river and the historic city center, steps away from the famous Port wine headquarters, and features a tranquil spa and Michelin-starred restaurant.

### PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE:

All accommodations and meals as outlined in the itinerary, including eight 4- and 5-star hotel nights • All ground transportation within program itinerary • All excursions as specified in the itinerary • Educational program by lecturer and local experts • Entrance fees, hotel taxes, and gratuities to housekeeping, porters, escorts, drivers, and guides • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners • Water on motorcoaches • Group airport transfers on group arrival and departure days • Baggage handling • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout the program

Click [here](#) to reserve your space directly. For questions, email [journeys@princeton.edu](mailto:journeys@princeton.edu) or call (609) 258-8686.

# Total Solar Eclipse of 2026 in Spain

August 6–15, 2026

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare  
· Private airport transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days  
· Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour  
· Passport/visa expenses  
· Medical expenses and immunizations  
· Airline baggage charges  
· Travel and trip-cancellation insurance  
· Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted  
· Telephone, fax, internet, laundry, room service, and other items of a personal nature

### AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

### GROUP SIZE

This Princeton exclusive program can accommodate up to 39 participants.

### A NOTE ABOUT RATES

Program rates are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

Insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

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## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation.

### RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

To reserve your space directly on the web please visit [this link](#). For questions or to reserve by phone, call Princeton Journeys at (609) 258-8686. You may also email [journeys@princeton.edu](mailto:journeys@princeton.edu). A deposit of \$2,000 per person is required upon registration. Interim payment due August 6, 2025 (one year prior to departure): \$4,000 per person. Final payment due April 8, 2026 (120 days prior to departure): Balance of trip cost. Deposits and subsequent payments may be made by check, wire transfer or credit card (credit card payments will incur a processing fee of 2%).

### CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by Princeton Journeys. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 14 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Interim payment of \$4,000 per person is 100% nonrefundable. For cancellations received after the interim payment deadline of August 6, 2025: all payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. NOTE: Neither Princeton Journeys nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

### HEALTH

All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for

passage, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants.

### ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Criterion Travel (the tour operator). Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the tour operator reserves the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant. In the unlikely event that this program cannot be operated for any reason, the refund of all payments received shall release Princeton Journeys and the tour operator from any liability. The study leader named in this trip information is confirmed at the time of publication. If the study leader must cancel, we will attempt to provide, but cannot guarantee, a suitable replacement.

### DISCLAIMER

Princeton University is pleased to facilitate travel opportunities for its Alumni and Friends through Princeton Journeys. Princeton Journeys works with tour operators to make available interesting and enriching travel opportunities for the Princeton family. Please note that neither Princeton University nor Princeton Journeys conducts tours, nor does either act as an agent for guests interested in tours. Princeton Journeys acts as a facilitator with tour operators, and tour participants contract directly with tour operators to make arrangements for completing travel. Princeton Journeys encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the tour operator's cancellation and refund policies, and also to investigate available services such as trip cancellation insurance. The University is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses or additional expenses resulting from travel. Complete program terms can be found here: [alumni.princeton.edu/connect/princeton-journeys/termsandconditions](http://alumni.princeton.edu/connect/princeton-journeys/termsandconditions).

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