

Spain 2024 Trip Report

Day 1

23 students and 3 staff arrived at school at 1.10am in the morning to prepare for the trip to Spain. After a bag check, we were on our way by 1.45am



After checking in at Manchester Airport terminal 1, students could explore the airport and buy snacks and drinks (or get a breakfast!)



At 6.30, we'd boarded our EasyJet flight to Barcelona from Gate 24 and took off from a murky Manchester



After landing at Barcelona, one lucky student (and member of staff) got a flight deck visit



A few hours later, we reached our hotel, the Hotel Marinada



The first item on our itinerary was a boat ride to Cambrils to explore the small town. This involved a walk along the beach front of Salou, with a stop off at the famous Salou sign. There was a bit of rain in the air!



We arrived at the port to board our own private boat with a capacity of 150 passengers, but today we only had 26 passengers aboard.



The views of the coast were stunning



We took a short shoreline walk up the coast of Cambrils, stopping for the obligatory McDonald's (the first of many) while it rained, before heading back to the boat



The boat ride back gave equally stunning views



Once back on dry land the weather improved for the walk back to the hotel



After the evening meal, the night's entertainment was Airedale's very own, taking on the karaoke machine! At 11pm, that's the end of a very busy first day!



Day 2

Lots done today – students were up and ready for breakfast at 8am ready for a 9am departure to FC Barcelona's Camp Nou



Stop 1: We took the immersive tour of FC Barcelona



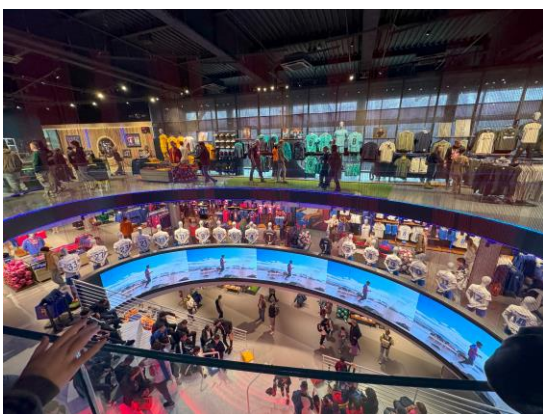
There was plenty of memorabilia from the 1950s onwards, including the Champions League trophies.



The main part of the tour was being able to see the new stadium being built from the specially made viewpoint



Last part of the Barcelona stop was a visit to the shop



Then we boarded the coach and set off for stop number 2: Park Guell



There were some stunning views of the coast of Barcelona



Stop 3: This was a very quick stop to get up close to La Sagrada Familia; it is the largest unfinished Catholic church in the world, with construction starting in 1882



Final stop on our tour of Barcelona was the visit to Las Ramblas. We walked through the market stalls to buy souvenirs



Whilst at Las Ramblas, we had to make another obligatory stop at McDonald's and Burger King at the top of Las Ramblas



On the way back to the hotel, we visited St Peter's school for a friendly game of netball against another British School



Back at the hotel at 8pm and the buffet was open



The night's entertainment included a disco, letting students boogie through the night until 11.15pm with classics like the Macarena!



Day 3

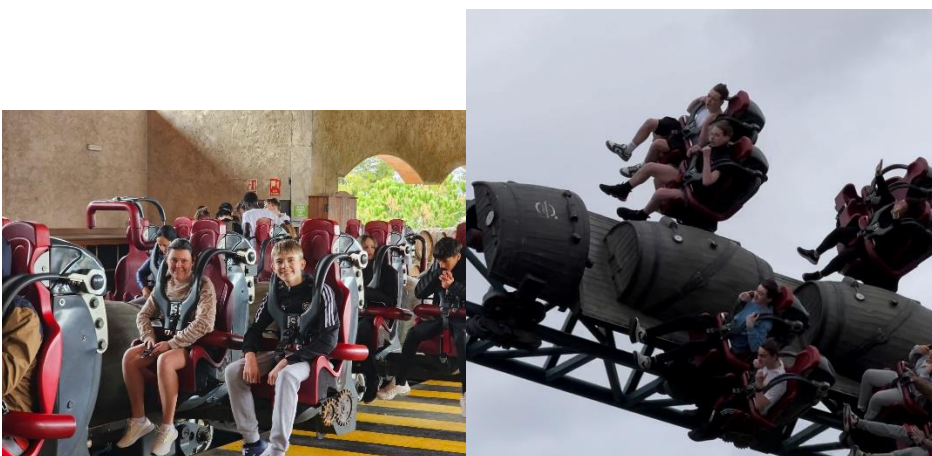
Another 8am breakfast buffet for a long day at PortAventura. We leave the hotel at 9.30am.



Some students wait with Mr Miller while others queue for Furius Baco



2 hours later, our students come flying around Furius Baco



The group now split into two, with major thrill seekers and more tame rides. Mr Grandidge takes students on Shambala



It's a very quick queue



Then onto Dragon Kahn



On the other side of the park, Miss Holdsworth had taken others on more relaxing rides





Both groups rejoined at then end of the day for a few spins around the Grand Canyon Rapids



At 4pm, it was back to the hotel for time in the pool. We don't think students realised the pools are not heated as they quickly regretted their decision. The staff took a moment to have a well-earned, non-alcoholic, drink



The sun quickly disappeared and the students retreated inside as the cloud descended upon us.



At 7.30pm we had our last buffet evening meal at the hotel's restaurant followed by a night's entertainment of a Spanish singer



Day 4

A final breakfast at 8am followed by room inspections at 9am and get out by 10.30am



We're out the hotel by 10.30 to back to the beach front



The first stop is souvenir shopping around the corner – it has an eclectic mix of souvenirs!



We then go for a walk along the beachfront. The weather is glorious



Halfway along the front we stop off for our lunch. No prizes for guessing the location chosen!



We stop off for a quick photo with the Salou sign once again in this brilliant weather



One more photo together on the beach front.



We take a short trip on the beach



On the way back to the hotel we stop off at the final few stops. The Spanish crisp Takis seems to be going down a treat



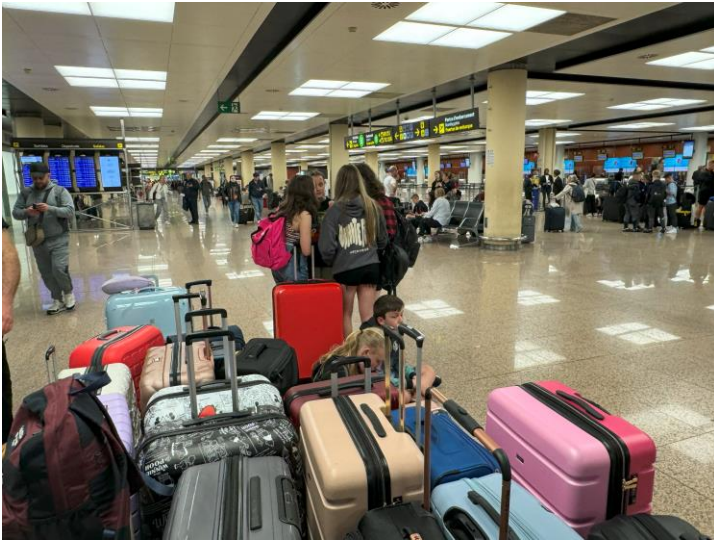
Back to the hotel for the last part of packing before the flight back and we go to meet our coach at 4.30pm



On the road again back to the airport



We arrive early at the airport and can't check-in until 6.40 pm, so students take this opportunity to buy their evening meals before going through security



Through security and the last stop to get something to eat or snacks for the plane ride home



9.10pm Spanish time, the aircraft is loaded, pushed back and we're thundering down the runway one last time before turning out over the coast of Barcelona before heading North back home



10pm UK time, we landed in a dreary Manchester but we were through baggage and security very quickly



We arrive back at school just a few minutes after 12am, concluding another very successful Airedale Academy international trip!

Thank you to all the staff and students who took part in the trip.