



# Virginia Tech RSAP Summer 2019

Madrid | Granada | Tangier | Rabat | Casablanca

Each year, Solstice partners with a select number of universities to create one-of-a-kind, fully customizable study experiences around the world. With careful guidance from Solstice's team of American and international educators, Virginia Tech RSAP students will explore the unique, historical blend of cultures and industries across Spain and Morocco.

Solstice provides three core services: (1) assistance in developing your program itinerary; (2) comprehensive pre-departure support (see [www.studycli.org/rsapspainmorocco19](http://www.studycli.org/rsapspainmorocco19)); and (3) facilitation of all logistical provisions (e.g., domestic and international airfare, buses, hotel accommodations, restaurant recommendations and bookings, activity planning, and Solstice program leaders).

Please note that while the spirit of the below schedule will remain unchanged, certain aspects — in consultation with VT faculty leaders — are subject to be updated. Company and university visits are typically scheduled one to four months prior to program start date. As a result, our proposal may include a few placeholders for unspecified visits. Each will be specified in the months leading up to May 2019, and this process will be completed in close collaboration with Virginia Tech faculty leaders. Solstice maintains a strong track record of providing engaging and impactful company visits to both highly localized firms as well as multinational corporations. As always, please feel free to contact us anytime if you have questions, requests, and/or suggestions during the program planning and implementation process.

*Our team looks forward to welcoming Virginia Tech RSAP to Spain and Morocco in 2019!*

## May 19 - May 23: Madrid | Innovation in the Capital of Spain

### Day 1 | Sunday, May 19 (*Washington, DC to Madrid*)

Evening Fly from Washington, DC to Madrid, Spain

### Day 2 | Monday, May 20 (*Madrid*)

Morning Arrive in Madrid and transfer to our group's hotel  
*While traveling into Madrid, engage in a comprehensive orientation session to understand and conceptualize the journey ahead, and share program goals and expectations amongst your fellow travellers.*

Afternoon Embark on a walking and bus tour of downtown Madrid, enjoying small group lunches along the way; then tour the Royal Palace  
*Explore Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor, and the Royal Palace among other historic sites with the accompaniment of a local guide.*

Evening Group welcome dinner at a traditional restaurant nearby



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## Day 3 | Tuesday, May 21 (*Madrid*)

Morning	Attend a company visit at a local engineering firm
Noon	Group lunch nearby
Afternoon	Explore the world renowned Museo Nacional Del Prado museum
Evening	Enjoy small group dinners on your own

## Day 4 | Wednesday, May 22 (*Madrid*)

Morning	Visit a local university for cultural exchange followed by a group lunch <i>Tour the campus, attend a guest lecture covering some of Spain's most significant engineering projects, and have lunch with your local peers.</i>
Afternoon	Attend an engineering company site visit
Evening	Enjoy small group dinners on your own

## Day 5 | Thursday, May 23 (*Madrid*)

Morning	Company visit to a local engineering firm
Afternoon/Evening	Free time to explore on your own!

## May 24 - May 26: Granada | Adventure in the Andalucía Region

### Day 6 | Friday, May 24 (*Madrid to Granada, via Toledo*)

Morning	Check out and travel to Toledo (~1 hour); guided tour of the city architecture <i>Toledo was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO for its extensive monumental and cultural heritage. Toledo is known as the "Imperial City" for having been the main venue of the court of Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor, and as the "City of the Three Cultures" for the cultural influences of Christians, Muslims, and Jews reflected in its history.</i>
Afternoon	Small group lunches on your own. Engage in reflection while continuing on to Granada; check into your hotel
Evening	Group dinner followed by a traditional flamenco performance at a theater built into a cave!

### Day 7 | Saturday, May 25 (*Granada*)

Morning	Guided architecture-focused visit to La Alhambra and El Generalife <i>Completed towards the end of Muslim rule in Spain, the Alhambra palace and fortress complex is a reflection of the last centuries of Moorish culture. Become enchanted by its lush gardens, ornate carvings, and unique architecture.</i>
Afternoon	Group lunch then visit Mirador de San Nicolas for panoramic views of Granada
Evening	Enjoy small group dinners on your own



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## Day 8 | Sunday, May 26 (*Granada*)

Morning	Stroll through the winding medieval paths of the Albaicín and its markets
Afternoon/Evening	Free time to explore Granada and small group lunch and dinner on your own

## May 27 - May 28: Tangier | Morocco's Mediterranean Coast

### Day 9 | Monday, May 27 (*Granada to Tangier*)

Early Morning	Travel by bus to the port in Tarifa (~3 hours)
Late Morning	Ride a ferry across the Strait of Gibraltar to Morocco (~1 hour)
Afternoon	Check into your hotel; enjoy small group lunches during a walking tour of the Tangier Medina and Kasbah <i>Stroll through the meandering alleys of the Medina filled with shops, street vendors, and a myriad of colors and smells. Arrive at the Kasbah, the old citadel boasting beautiful views of the city and water.</i>
Evening	Traditional group dinner nearby

### Day 10 | Tuesday, May 28 (*Tangier*)

Morning	Company visit to an international engineering firm
Afternoon/Evening	Free time and enjoy small group dinners on your own

## May 29 - June 1: Rabat | Culture and Engineering in the Capital

### Day 11 | Wednesday, May 29 (*Tangier to Rabat*)

Morning	Relax on a bus ride to Rabat (~2.5 hours)
Early Afternoon	Group lunch; then take a guided tour Chellah, the ancient Roman ruins and scenic gardens of Rabat
Late Afternoon	Embark on a tour of the famous Hassan Tower mosque
Evening	Check into your hotel and enjoy small group dinners on your own

### Day 12 | Thursday, May 30 (*Day Trip to Casablanca*)

Early Morning	Bus ride to Casablanca (~1 hour)
Late Morning	Attend an engineering company visit
Afternoon	Group lunch; then take a guided tour of the famous Mosque of Hassan II <i>This is the largest mosque in Morocco, and was designed by the French architect Michel Pinseau. It is situated on a promontory looking out to the Atlantic Ocean, which can be seen through a gigantic glass floor with room for 25,000 worshippers.</i>
Evening	Return to Rabat; free time and small group dinners on your own



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## Day 13 | Friday, May 31 (*Rabat*)

Morning	Attend an engineering company visit
Afternoon	Free time
Evening	Enjoy a festive farewell group dinner, reflection, and traditional music!

## Day 14 | Saturday, June 1 (*Rabat to Washington, DC*)

All Day	Fly back to the USA
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*Please see the following page for additional information.*