



Valesa Cultural Services
Spain · Portugal · Morocco

What's new in 2015?

The team: Since our opening in 1968, Valesa remains American owned and operated. All of our bilingual travel planners are seasoned experts arranging special interest and experiences in English. We truly understand our American clients' needs and boast more than 25 years serving Virtuoso agents.

The services: As always we provide tailor made and private services for our clients, and we specialize in top level arrangements for English speaking visitors, both individuals and groups. Exclusive to Virtuoso, we continue to improve and update our methodology, making ourselves even more accessible to our agents and visitors. Clients will soon be able to access their most updated itineraries online, and a new 800 number will make it more convenient for advisors to contact us during our office hours in Madrid. This in addition to our 24-hours 7-day cell phone coverage for all clients who are here in Spain, Portugal & Morocco.

Our most popular experiences:

***Food/Wine with** top local experts for tastings, classes, touring vineyards and wineries with premium tastings, visiting local food producers (hams, cheeses, chocolates, olive oil and more), cooking classes with local chefs, etc.



***Family activities** that include light active walking and biking tours, easy hiking, flamenco classes, making different local art techniques like tiles or fans or ceramics, horseback riding or visits to animal reserves to learn about Spanish horses and/or bulls on the range, and the best kid friendly guides too.

***Art and history**, our mainstay for clients who want top local specialists for in-depth touring and expert knowledge about the local cultures.



***Music**, see our latest partnership on the flip side. Valesa and CMC collaboration will assure the most close up and personal contact with local artists and the greatest exposure to the best music around the Iberian Peninsula.

VALESA CULTURAL SERVICES is pleased to announce joining forces with the Center for Music Connections (CMC), a non-profit association based in Porto, Portugal.

The CMC has an international mission to nurture cross-cultural understanding through music by meeting local musicians, vocalists, luthiers, writers, and other creative artists while visitors learn about traditional culture. Please check out the website for more information (www.cmclinks.org). The partnership between Valesa and the CMC will enhance client contact with local culture through more first hand experiences, while expanding on Valesa's already large cultural network in both Spain and Portugal.

We invite you to travel with us as we explore music and culture (yes, history and art and gastronomy along the way too), with Valesa's top local specialists throughout so visitors can learn and have fun to the maximum. Clients can learn about Spanish flamenco and guitar with classes and shows, attend an opera at one of the top opera houses in Spain and enjoy in-depth and personal introduction to the Portuguese fado and cante alentejano in Portugal, which are uniquely Portuguese music traditions that were added recently to the UNESCO's list of the world's intangible treasures.

Valesa Cultural Services (Onsite in Spain & Portugal since 1990, and Exclusive to Virtuoso) and the Center for Music Connection (CMC), both cultural organizations that share a passion for music, will happily design your tailormade music & culture tour wherever you need in Spain and Portugal.



Sample musical experiences to be included in your tailormade itinerary:

Lisbon. Visit the Fado Museum with leading ethnomusicologist for explanation of Fado, Dinner at local restaurant with show of Fado or of Alentejano singing, Meet a distinguished luthier with expertise in Portuguese guitars.

Northern Portugal. Private performance of Coimbra style Fado sung A Capella in a chapel, private performance in Alcobaça monastery

Madrid. Private lecture with Anthropologist/Flamenco Professor on the history and different genres of Flamenco, private flamenco dance class with live music from top local artists, visit behind the scenes at the Teatro Real, tickets to the opera.

Seville. Private flamenco classes for dancing or percussion, tickets to the opera.

Barcelona. Tickets to the opera, tickets to classical music concert at Palau de la Musica concert hall, attend flamenco performance.