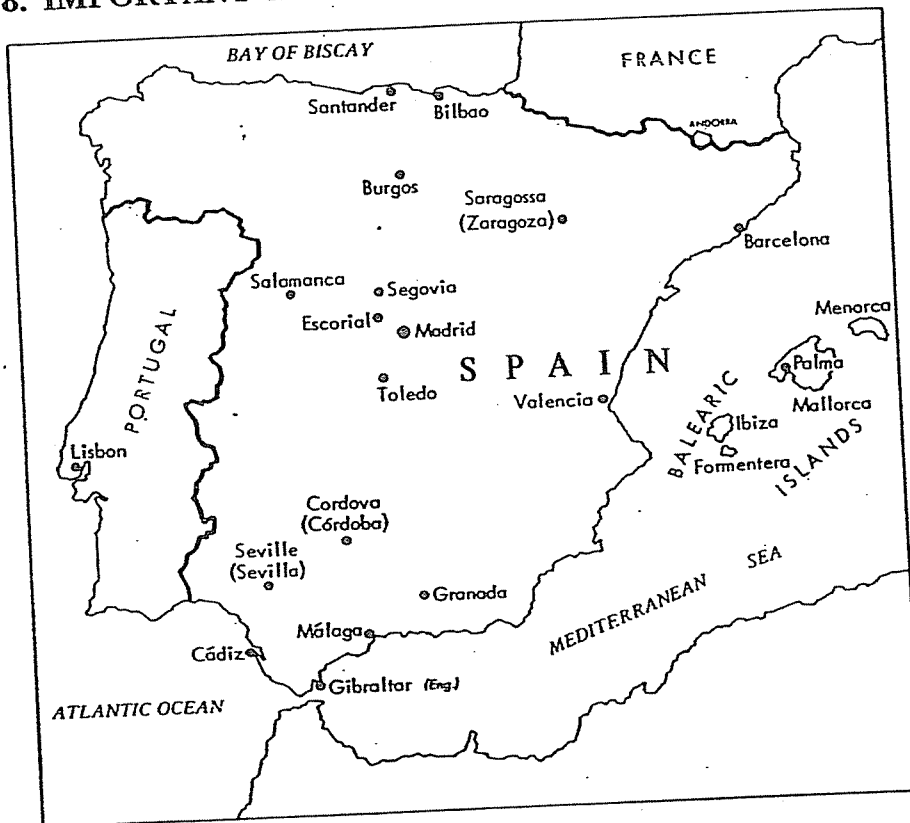


III

## 8. IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING PLACES IN SPAIN



1. **Madrid:** The capital and largest city in Spain (population about 4,000,000). In or near Madrid there are many interesting places to visit, among which are:
  - a. **El Prado:** A famous art museum, which contains many of the works of great Spanish painters.
  - b. **The National Palace (el Palacio Nacional):** One of the largest and most luxurious palaces in Europe.
  - c. **Puerta del Sol:** The central plaza of Madrid. Streets radiate from it in all directions, to all parts of the city.
  - d. **El Escorial:** Near Madrid. A huge building combining a palace, monastery, library and burial place for Spanish kings. It was built (1563–84) by order of Philip II.
  - e. **Valley of the Fallen (el Valle de los Caídos):** Near Madrid. An enormous monument in memory of the soldiers who died in the Spanish Civil War (1936–39).
2. **Barcelona:** The principal city of Catalonia and the second largest city in Spain (population about 2,000,000). It is Spain's largest seaport (Mediterranean Sea), and the main industrial city. Nearby is the famous monastery of **Montserrat**.
3. **Seville (Sevilla):** In Andalusia, on the Guadalquivir River. It is Spain's most picturesque city.
  - a. **The Cathedral of Seville** is the largest in Spain, and one of the largest in the world. It contains the tomb of Columbus.
  - b. **La Giralda:** The tower of the Seville cathedral. It is an admirable example of Moorish architecture.
4. **Valencia:** On the Mediterranean coast. It is in a rich agricultural region called the "garden spot of Spain." It is a leading export center for oranges and rice.

5. **Granada:** In the south. It is a picturesque city, the last Moorish possession in Spain, recaptured by the Christians in 1492. The **Alhambra**, a famous Moorish palace, attracts visitors from everywhere.
6. **Toledo:** In central Spain. A famous medieval city near Madrid, on the **Tajo** River. It is important in metalwork, especially fine steel and exquisite jewelry. It was the home of the painter **El Greco**, and contains many of his works.
7. **Salamanca:** The site of the **University of Salamanca**, the oldest university in Spain, and one of the oldest and greatest universities of Europe. It was established in the 13th century.
8. **Cordova (Córdoba):** On the **Guadalquivir** River. During the 10th and 11th centuries it was the Moorish capital of Spain, and one of the most important cultural centers of Europe. Its **mosque (mezquita)**—a Moslem place of worship) is an important tourist attraction.
9. **Burgos:** The home of **El Cid**, Spain's national hero. Its cathedral is one of the finest in Europe, and contains the tomb of **El Cid**.
10. **Bilbao:** In the north. An important seaport, and the most important mining and steel-manufacturing city in Spain.
11. **Segovia:** In central Spain. An ancient city, settled by the Romans. An ancient Roman aqueduct (which still stands) provided the city's water supply until 1958.

EXERCISES

A. *¿Sí o No?* If the statement is true, write *sí*; if it is false, correct it by changing the words in italics, writing the correct words in the blank.

1. Barcelona is an important seaport on the *Atlantic Ocean*. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The National Palace is in *Segovia*. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The largest cathedral in Spain is located in *Seville*. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Valencia and Bilbao are important *cities* of Spain. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Escorial was built by order of *Charles V*. \_\_\_\_\_
6. *Madrid* is located on the Guadalquivir River. \_\_\_\_\_
7. *Granada* was the last Moorish possession in Spain. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Toledo was the home of *El Greco*. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Cordova was an important cultural center in the *19th* century. \_\_\_\_\_
10. The aqueduct of *Segovia* is an important Roman monument. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Underline the word or expression that correctly completes each sentence.

1. A burial place for Spanish kings is located in the (cathedral of Burgos, Valley of the Fallen, Escorial).
2. The Alhambra is located in (Granada, Bilbao, Salamanca).
3. An important mining area of Spain is located near (Segovia, Madrid, Bilbao).
4. The Valley of the Fallen is near (Barcelona, Madrid, Burgos).
5. The mosque in (Córdoba, Cádiz, Toledo) is famous.

## Spanish First Year

6. The university of (Madrid, Salamanca, Toledo) is one of the oldest universities in Europe.
7. (Barcelona, Seville, Madrid) is the second largest city in Spain.
8. Valencia is famous for its (minerals, oranges, wines).
9. The (Prado, Giralda, Escorial) is a famous art museum in Madrid.
10. The population of Madrid is about (2,000,000; 4,000,000; 37,000,000).

C. To the left of each item in column *A*, write the letter of the matching item in column *B*.

<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>
----- 1. mosque	a. Madrid
----- 2. València	b. Alhambra
----- 3. La Giralda	c. the "garden of Spain"
----- 4. Granada	d. tower in Seville
----- 5. Puerta del Sol	e. Burgos
----- 6. el Cid	f. Moorish temple
----- 7. Toledo	g. steel-manufacturing center
----- 8. Montserrat	h. university
----- 9. Salamanca	i. medieval city
----- 10. Bilbao	j. Barcelona

D. Complete the following statements:

1. The cities of Seville and Cordova are located on the ----- River.
2. ----- is Spain's most picturesque city.
3. ----- is a monument to the soldiers who died in the Spanish Civil War.
4. The central plaza of Madrid is called -----
5. ----- was one of the most important cultural centers of Europe during the 10th century.
6. Many Spanish kings are buried in -----
7. ----- is the capital of Spain.
8. The most important industrial city of Spain is -----
9. Toledo is located on the ----- River.
10. Granada was captured from the Moors in the year -----