

# The Manuscript Society

presents

## THE BIBLIOGRAPHIC AND MANUSCRIPT TREASURES OF SPAIN

23 October – 30 October, 2016

**Sunday, October 23.** *Arrival in Madrid*

Independent transfer to Palace Hotel (<http://www.westinpalacemadrid.com/>)  
Plaza de las Cortes, 7, Madrid, 28014, Spain  
Phone: (34)91-3608000

Known for its hospitality since 1912, the iconic Palace hotel is conveniently located in the center of Madrid, in the “Triangle of Art,” within walking distance of the city’s most prestigious museums - Prado, Thyssen and Reina Sofia museums, among others.

8 pm **Welcome reception at the Palace Hotel**

**Monday, October 24.**

Breakfast at Palace Hotel (included)

9 am – 11 am **Treasures of Spain**, a half-day symposium designed specifically for tour participants focusing repositories that we will visit during our visit. The presenters include Guadalupe Fernández Morente and Esther González Pérez, of the Fundación Nao Victoria (<http://www.fundacionnaovictoria.org/>)

Following our symposium we will travel by mini-bus to the **Royal Palace of Madrid** (<http://www.patrimonionacional.es/en/real-sitio/palacios/8280>)

Though used only for state ceremonies, this is the official residence of the Spanish Royal Family in Madrid. A royal residence has been on this site since the 9<sup>th</sup>-century. The 16<sup>th</sup>-century palace was destroyed by fire in 1734. The current palace was designed by Italian architects and constructed over a 17 period (1738-1755). With more than 3400 rooms and 1,450,000 square feet, it is the largest palace in Europe. Carlos III of Spain was the first monarch to occupy it (1764). It is known for its wealth of art, with paintings by Caravaggio, Velázquez and Goya and frescoes by Tiepolo and Mengs. After a visit to the Palace and we will visit the **Royal Library** (<http://www.realbiblioteca.es/>) with its magnificent collection of early imprints and manuscripts.

Next, we will then visit **the Palacio de Liria, the residence of the Dukes of Alba**. Built in 1770, it is the residence of the Dukes of Alba, one of Europe’s most titled families. The palace treasures include Fra

Angelico, Titian, El Greco, Goya, Murillo, Zurbarán, Rembrandt, Rubens, Reynolds, and Renoir. The library boasts more than 9,000 books and manuscript documents such as the last will of King Philip II of Spain and letters by Christopher Columbus.

Lunch and dinner on your own.

### ***Tuesday, October 25.***

Breakfast at Palace Hotel (included)

We begin by taking a short walk to the **Naval Museum** ([http://www.armada.mde.es/ArmadaPortal/page/Portal/ArmadaEspañola/ciencia\\_museo/prefLang\\_es](http://www.armada.mde.es/ArmadaPortal/page/Portal/ArmadaEspañola/ciencia_museo/prefLang_es)) Documenting Spanish naval history from the 15<sup>th</sup>-century to the present, it is noted for its collection of maps, paintings, navigation instruments. Among the museum and adjacent research center's treasures is the map of Juan de la Cosa, the earliest preserved map of the Americas. Made by the only eyewitness to Columbus' voyages and dated 1500, it is the earliest undisputed map of the world after the discovery of the Americas.

Established by Royal decree in 1744, **the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando** was once headed by Francisco Goya. Divided into sections devoted to painting, architecture, sculpture, music and new forms of visual images, the academy is comprised of 50 lifetime members. The school attached to the academy has produced such notables as Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dalé and Oscar de la Renta.

Lunch will be at the **Casino de Madrid**, established as a meeting place for nobility in the 1830s, the fabulous architecture of this private club is equaled by its legendary reputation for culinary delights. Coat and tie required. (<http://limeyg.blogspot.com/2012/06/another-long-lunch-la-terrazza-del.html>)

After lunch, we will visit the **Monastery de Descalzas Reales** (Monastery of the "Barefoot Royals"). ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convent\\_of\\_Las\\_Descalzas\\_Reales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convent_of_Las_Descalzas_Reales); <http://www.patrimonionacional.es/real-sitio/palacios/6095>). A royal monastery established by the Hapsburgs, it was once the richest monastery in Europe. As a result of the members of the nobility that entered the convent, it possesses an unequalled art collection. In 1960, a special dispensation was granted by the Vatican allowing these treasures to be seen by the public. Still a functioning monastery, visits are limited. Here we will have a chance to see tapestries designed by Rubens and works of art by Titian in the building for which they were created.

Dinner on your own.

### ***Wednesday, 26 October.***

Breakfast at Palace Hotel (included)

Today, we visit one of the world's great libraries, both in terms of architecture and bibliographic rarities. The **Escorial** is a vast compound comprised of a royal palace, church, royal burial place, college and a monastery. A creation of Philip II, the Spanish architect Juan Bautista De Toledo was engaged to undertake the vast project of El Escorial. Previously, Toledo had spent a large portion of his life working on St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It took 21 years (1561-1583) to construct the vast building. The library is

a reflection of Philip II. Not only did he donate his personal collection of documents, but he also sought to acquire the great works of Western European humanism. The library was designed by Juan de Herrera. With more than 40,000 volumes, the library is 177 feet long, 30 feet wide and 32 feet high. The exquisite ceiling frescoes depict the liberal arts: Rhetoric, Dialectic, Music, Grammar, Arithmetic, Geometry and Astronomy. For additional information on the library, please consult: <http://rbme.patrimonionacional.es/>.

Works are in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic, Arabic, Italian, French and Spanish. It includes over 1800 Arabic titles. As it was not subject to the Inquisition, many works that were banned and subsequently destroyed, are present in the library. It boasts a large cartographic collection, important illuminated manuscripts, and over 150 mathematical instruments.

Lunch (included) will be in **La Granja Parador**, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century palace constructed by Carlos III for the use of his children.

A short walk from the restaurant is **La Granja de San Ildefonso** (<http://www.patrimonionacional.es/en/real-sitio/palacios/8287>). Built by Felipe V, the grandson of France's Louis XIV, it was designed to reflect the French and Spanish baroque and remind Felipe V of his childhood days spent at Versailles. Known for its dazzling rooms, the well preserved period decoration and exquisite paintings, it is surrounded by magnificent gardens.

Dinner on your own

### ***Thursday, October 27.***

Breakfast at Palace Hotel (included)

We begin our day with a tour to nearby **Toledo and the Hospital Tavera**, a division of the Spanish national archives devoted to the archives of the noble families. Considered the first classical building in Castile, it was built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century as a hospital and as a pantheon for the hospital's founder, Cardinal Juan Pardo Tavera. One of the outstanding archives of the nobility housed in this archive is that of the Medinaceli family, which covers more than 1,000 years of the family history.

After lunch at the **Restaurant El Cardenal** (<http://www.restaurantedelcardenal.es/en/>), we will return to Madrid and go directly to the Atocha train station. We will board a high speed train (AVE) and travel to Seville.

For the comfort of participants, our luggage will be transported separately to Seville and await us at our hotel. Our hotel in Seville will be the prestigious Alfonso XIII. Built for King Alfonso XIII of Spain to entertain his guests at the 1929 Ibero-American Exposition, it is next to the Reales Alcázares, the Cathedral, and the Archive of the Indies.

Dinner on your own

Hotel Alfonso XIII  
San Fernando 2, Seville, 41004, Spain  
Phone: (+34) 954 917 000

## ***Friday, 28 October.***

Breakfast at Alfonso XIII (included)

**Real Alcazar** We begin our day with a tour of the **Real Alcázar**, the royal palace in Seville, Spain, originally developed by Moorish Muslim kings. Known for its beauty, it is a prime example of mudéjar architecture. The upper levels of the Alcázar are still used by the royal family as their official Seville residence. It is the oldest royal palace still in use in Europe. We will enjoy a special tour of the private chapel of Fernando and Isabella, which is within the living area of the Spanish royal family.

**Archivo General de Indias** Next, we will visit the **Archives of the Indies**. Situated in a 16<sup>th</sup>-century building, the Archive of the Indies is home to the records of the Spanish empire. Created by Royal decree in 1785, it was designed to unite the various archives in one location for the ease of scholars. It was part of an effort of the Spanish Enlightenment to encourage historians to write the history of Spain's colonies. The archives are particularly rich, containing maps of the Spanish overseas possessions and plans of New World cities, the journals of Christopher Columbus, and the official document of Pope Alexander VI that, in the wake of Christopher Columbus' pivotal journey, divided the world between Spain and Portugal. It has more than 43,000 volumes of manuscripts.

**Biblioteca Colombina** is the creation of Fernando Columbus, the son of Christopher Columbus, the library contains incunabula and rare works on the discovery of America and manuscripts of Christopher Columbus himself.

Enjoying a sizeable income from his father's New World fortunes, Fernando devoted his adult life to creating this library. He annotated every book that he acquired, stating where he purchased it and the amount paid. His passion was books published in the early days of printing. The library contains more than 1,194 incunabula (books printed prior to 1500). Additionally, he inherited Columbus' personal library. While he made provisions for the library in his will, it was contested and has been cared for since then by the Cathedral of Seville.

Lunch and Dinner on your own.

## ***Saturday, 29 October.***

Breakfast at Hotel Alfonso XIII (included)

Our last day in Spain will be a visit to **the Portocarrero Palace and its beautiful botanical gardens**. A wonderful summary of Spanish history, its origins date to the Roman period. Beginning in the eleventh century, it served as a Moorish palace and finally in the sixteenth century began its life as a Spanish palace. After lunch (included) we will return to Seville for a relaxing afternoon

**Our farewell dinner will be in the Hotel Alfonso XIII**

## ***Sunday, October 30.***

Breakfast at Hotel Alfonso XIII (included)

## Tour information

Hotels: Palace Hotel (Madrid), Hotel Alfonso XIII (Seville)

**Price per person, double occupancy:** \$4,300 (includes \$500 tax-deductible donation to The Manuscripts Society; **single supplement:** \$1,250

Included: 7 nights in hotels; all breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner and 1 reception; all travel outlined in the tour schedule; entrance fees for outlined activities; professional tour escorts; and gratuities.

Not included: airfare, taxis, extra beverages, alcohol, laundry, phone calls, and personal costs not specified in the tour package.

**Additional Days:** Both the Palace and Alfonso XIII will apply same rate for rooms, before October 23rd and after the 30<sup>th</sup>, please contact the Manuscript Society office with precise dates to confirm availability.

### Deposits and refunds:

Deposit: \$2,150 (per person) is due upon registration (by June 25).

Final payment is due by August 10, 2016.

Reservations may be made by credit card or by check, payable to The Manuscripts Society.

A full refund, minus a \$200 processing fee, will be made for cancellations received on or before July 1.

Cancellations made from July 2 to August 1, will forfeit full deposit and 50% of the remaining fees; August 2 to September 9, full deposit and 86% of remaining fees; from September 10 to October 23, 2016, full deposit and 100% of remaining fees. All cancellations must be made in writing and addressed to: The Manuscripts Society; 14003 Rampart Ct.; Baton Rouge, La. 70810. Travel insurance is recommended.

# Registration Form

October 23-30, 2016 - Spain Trip

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Room preference: \_\_\_ smoking; \_\_\_ non-smoking.

Hotel floor preference: \_\_\_ low floor; \_\_\_ high floor.

(All efforts will be made to fulfill requests, but they cannot be guaranteed.)

Please enclose a deposit of \$2150 per person. \_\_\_\_\_ check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ credit card charge

*Final payment is due by August 10, 2016.*

If you wish to charge your reservation to accredit card, please complete:

Visa    MasterCard    AmEx

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Health information (due by September 1, 2016)

Dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Walking difficulties \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Spain Study Tour  
The Manuscript Society  
14003 Rampart Court  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

For more information: please call: Shirley Sands at the Manuscript Society 225-247-6356

Valid passport required for Spain. Must be valid for entire intended period of stay. For further questions please consult: <http://madrid.usembassy.gov/citizen-services/information-for-travelers/traveling-to-spain.html>. Please consult with your airline concerning any airline-specific passport requirement for Spain.

#### Liability Clause

The Manuscript Society and Valme Parias Events and Communications, their officers, directors, and staff do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for this tour, including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, bus, taxi, or other transportation companies, local ground, visa processing services, providers, or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, The Manuscript Society and Valme Parias Events and Communications are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity, or of any third part. Without limitation, The Manuscript Society and Valme Parias Events and Communications are not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property, death, delay or inconvenience with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal, terrorist, or threatened terrorist activities of any kind, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, structural or other defective conditions in lodging facilities (or in any heating, plumbing, electrical, or structural problem therein), mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely, dangers associated with animals, sanitary problems, food poisoning, epidemics, or the threat of disease thereof, disease, lack of access to or quality of medical care, difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency, or for any other cause beyond the direct control of the Manuscript Society and Valeme Parias Events and Communicatinos. Participant assumes all risk. Valme Parias Events and Communications reserves the right to decline to accept any traveler on the tour if that person's presence is likely to be detrimental to the enjoyment of the tour by others or for failure to abide by Manuscript Society regulations and/or the directions of the Tour Director. Travelers who have been removed from the tour waive the right to a refund of any part of the fee. Valme Parias Events and Communications may send the traveler home at the traveler's expense. Your payment of your deposit shall constitute agreement to the above. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 paying participants and on the exchange rate as of February 22, 2016.

Signed as a sealed instrument:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_