THE ADVANTAGES OF A PICTURE-PERFECT LOCATION

SPANISH FRAMES
Spain is the world’s 13th largest economy and an international leader in a wide range of sectors such as transportation engineering, finance, energy, textiles, and sports.

Spanish cuisine is famous around the globe and restaurants in Spain have repeatedly received Michelin stars and even been rated the best in the world by other international authorities. Health experts are unanimous in praising the benefits of the Mediterranean diet.

Spain is an inexhaustible source of interesting stories tucked away in monuments, historic neighborhoods, archeological sites, and landscapes and one of the greatest repositories of Western cultural heritage. It also has unique and enduring cultural ties with the Americas.

Artistic creation in all its forms is indelibly encoded into the DNA of Spain. Painting, architecture, music, design, fashion, and, of course, filmmaking form an integral part of its multifaceted identity. Proud and authentic, Spanish cultures have made scores of priceless contributions to world heritage over the centuries.

According to United Nations statistics, Spain is the 7th healthiest country in the world. Thanks to its excellent security services, it is also one of the safest countries in Europe.

The steady confluence of cultures on the Iberian Peninsula from the earliest of times and the forces of history have together forged a country extraordinarily rich in heritage and diversity. Spain is the third most representative country on UNESCO’s World Heritage list, with 45 sites in all. It is also one of the European Union’s richest reservoirs of biological diversity and a natural link between Europe and Africa for thousands of bird species that migrate between the two continents every year.

Spain celebrates life like no other place in the world. Nature has blessed it with a spectacular and varied landscape. History has endowed its cities with innumerable stories. And the sun has infused its people with a special character admired throughout the world. There’s no question about it: Spain is special.
Why are so many films shot in this country?

Spain has a long history of hosting international film productions. Samuel Bronston maintained a studio in Madrid in the early '60s where blockbusters such as *El Cid* and *Doctor Zhivago* came to life. These days, a rising number of foreign television, animation, and advertising projects are being carried out in Spain as well.

**A LONG INTERNATIONAL FILM TRADITION**

Government tax rebates and credits for foreign productions offered at the national, regional, and local level are very competitive, ranging from 20 up to 40%.

**GREAT TAX INCENTIVES**

The forces of history and nature have made Spain an unparalleled location for motion picture production. No other country offers the same level of geographic, cultural, and architectural diversity.

**AMAZING VARIETY OF LOCATIONS**

The long hours of sunlight and mild temperatures found in much of Spain year-round allow producers to plan accurate production schedules. However, with ten climate zones, the country offers seaside, misty, and snow-capped settings as well.

**A PERFECT CLIMATE**

Spain has the most extensive high-speed rail network in Europe, 48 airports that offer fast and easy connections with major cities across the world, and more than 110,000 miles of roads and motorways.

**TOTAL MOBILITY**

Spain’s tourism sector is fully equipped to satisfy the needs of every kind of incoming guest. Whether you refer to shoots and whatever your budget and specific requirements, Spain offers the right type of accommodation, dining, and catering facilities and services for any production team.

**TOP HOTEL AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES**

Spain produces and exports every kind of audiovisual content. The Spanish audiovisual industry maintains a consolidated presence in the official AUDIÓVISUAL FROM SPAIN stand at major international sector trade fairs. Spain is becoming an international reference in animation and cutting-edge film technologies. A Spaniard received a Scientific and Engineering Award from the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 2017.

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**A SOLID AUDIOVISUAL SECTOR**
BASIS:
• Expenses for creatives (with tax residence in Spain or any EU member state) up to €100,000 per person.
• Expenditure on technical industries and other suppliers.

REQUIREMENTS:
• Minimum expenditure of €1 million in Spain.
• Must not exceed €3 million per production.
• Deduction amount combined with other benefits must not exceed 50% of production costs.

NA TIONAL LEVEL
20% 40% 35%

REGIONAL LEVEL

G A N A Y L A N D I S

R E G I O N A L L E V E L

N A V A R R E

IN LOVE WITH SPAIN

These islands are beautiful.

THE CLIMATE IS PERFECT
and the people here are wonderful. I had no idea they were part of Spain.

SHIRLEY MACLAINE

We had some FABULOUS MOMENTS here and the people, were very friendly.

BRAD PITT

We couldn’t have accomplished all that we did if not for the HARD WORK and dedication of our Spanish crew.

TOM CRUISE

I WAS THRILLED TO WORK IN SPAIN, the team enjoyed it too, and we really appreciated the warm welcome we received.

STEVEN SPIELBERG

This is AN AMAZING PLACE. There are dreamers in the world, just come to look at these buildings.

GEORGE OGDEN

The secret behind production design for film is the team and we have OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL TALENT here in Spain.

SANDRA HERMIDA, production director.

A MONSTER CALLS

It is as if it was DESIGNED FOR US many years ago, we couldn’t have paid to build this.

D.B. WEISS, showrunner, GAME OF THRONES

The attraction of Spain for foreign film and television productions lies not only in the calibre of its internationally renowned professionals, unbeatable locations, natural conditions and wonderful climate, but also in a new tax framework that improves on the existing system of incentives for the cinema industry. Further information available at: www.audiovisualfromspain.com

Further information: miriam.fernandez@icex.es; coordinacion@spainfilmcommission.org

Rebates and credits for foreign films and TV series

NATIONAL LEVEL

20%

IN LOVE WITH SPAIN

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Spain's rich history is a tapestry of cultures and landscapes that weave together a variety of stories. From the ancient Roman legions to the modern-day landscapes of contemporary Spain, each era has left its mark on the country's architecture, art, and society. This timeline offers a chronological overview of Spain's history, highlighting significant events and developments that have shaped the nation's identity:

1. **Prehistoric Sites**
   - Prior to human settlement, Spain was inhabited by prehistoric peoples whose remains and artifacts offer insights into early life on the Iberian Peninsula.

2. **Roman Hispania**
   - The Roman Empire's expansion to Spain was marked by the conquest of the Iberian Peninsula, leading to the establishment of legions and cities that shaped the region's cultural landscape.

3. **The Confluence of Cultures**
   - The interaction between Romans and Iberians resulted in a unique blend of cultures, where Roman influences coexisted with indigenous traditions.

4. **Barbarian Thrones**
   - The fall of the Western Roman Empire led to the rise of various thriving kingdoms across the Iberian Peninsula, each leaving a distinct cultural legacy.

5. **Islamic Spain**
   - The Muslim occupation of Spain brought a new era of intellectual and artistic flourishing, as well as the introduction of cultural elements from the Islamic world.

6. **The Winds of Colonialism**
   - The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries were marked by Spain's rise as a major colonial power, shaping the destinies of many other regions.

7. **Baroque Drama**
   - This period saw the emergence of Spanish drama, with major contributions from writers and playwrights who left a lasting impact on world literature.

8. **Enlightened Despotism**
   - Following the decline of the Spanish Empire, there was a period of enlightened rule that sought to modernize the country and improve governance.

9. **The Age of Goya**
   - Francisco de Goya, a key figure in Spanish Romanticism, created iconic works that reflected the political and social changes of his time.

10. **Modern Times**
    - The twentieth century witnessed significant shifts in Spain, including the rise of democracy, the civil war, and the transition to a modern European state.

11. **Traces of the 20th Century**
    - The impact of World Wars I and II, and the subsequent complexities of the Franco regime, left indelible marks on Spain's cultural and political landscapes.

12. **Contemporary Sophistication**
    - Today, Spain is a thriving nation, recognized for its contribution to global culture and its modern approach to socio-economic issues.

Spain's history is a dynamic narrative of change and continuity, offering lessons that are relevant both to the past and present. Each era has contributed to the unique character of Spain, a country that continues to evolve and adapt to the relentless march of time.
Orson Welles once asserted that Spain offers a continent’s worth of great locations. What kind of production are you planning to shoot? What kind of atmosphere are you looking for? Spain is the perfect backdrop for every genre under the sun.

Spain abounds in lush, green zones and ancient woodlands perfect for shooting mystery and fantasy stories set in any type of environment from an Atlantic forest or Mediterranean pine grove to a Jurassic jungle. It also has scores of fairy tale villages.

Historic palaces and gardens from Andalusia to Aragon known for their air of Eastern exoticism have provided glorious backdrops for recent movies like Assassin’s Creed (Justin Kurzel, 2016) as well as film classics such as Lawrence of Arabia (David Lean, 1962).
If you're looking for a marine, coastal, or river setting, Spain is the place to be. It has two archipelagos (the Canary and Balearic Islands), 4,900 miles of coastline, 13,400 miles of river, and the highest number of beaches in Europe awarded coveted "blue flag" status.

Spain has four types of desert that together occupy an extensive 1,650 square miles. Locations here have been used as stand-ins for the Sahara Desert and other places in the Middle East, the Grand Canyon, the Wild West, and even the surface of Mars.

No other country in the world has 2,500 castles spanning a wide variety of time periods ready and waiting to serve as backdrops for medieval tales and epics such as Game of Thrones.

Vanguard Spanish architecture is frequently featured in science fiction movies, one example being Valencia’s spectacular aquarium L’Oceanográfic, which was the principal setting for Disney’s Tomorrowland (Brad Bird, 2015).
Need a great location for an action or adventure movie? Spain has 2,600 miles of mountains that remain snow-capped nine months of the year and over 103,000 miles of highways of every type ideal for shooting thrilling action scenes and road movies.

**Wild Landscapes**

Spain boasts no less than 15 UNESCO World Heritage Cities full of historic buildings that reflect the architecture and tastes of almost every period of history.

**Opulent Palaces**

Major Spanish cities such as Madrid and Barcelona have served as the mise en scène for contemporary thrillers such as the Bourne saga and 007 films. The country has 63 cities with a population of over 100,000.

**All of History**

Dozens of civilizations have passed through Spain over the ages, leaving a rich legacy of well-preserved art and architecture. Practically any period of history can be reproduced here.

**Vibrant Street Life**

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How can decades of foreign production history be summed up in just a few names and titles? So many distinguished films have been shot in Spain and there has been a tremendous rise in interest in Spain as a location over the past few years.

CLINT EASTWOOD / (A Fistful of Dollars) / Alejandro G. Iñárritu (Biutiful) / Anthony Mann (King of Kings) / Arnold Schwarzenegger (Conan the Barbarian) / Audrey Hepburn (Roman Holiday) / Ava Gardner (55 Days at Peking) / Blake Edwards (Curse of the Pink Panther) / (Knight and Day) / Catherine Deneuve (Tristana) / Charlton Heston (Antony and Cleopatra) / Chris Hemsworth (In the Heart of the Sea) / Dustin Hoffman (Perfume: The Story of a Murderer) / Franklin J. Schaffner (Patton) / George Lucas (Empire of the Sun) / Geraldine Chaplin (Talk to Her) / (Star Wars) / Guillermo del Toro (Pan’s Labyrinth) / Hugh Laurie (The Night Manager) / (The Impossible) / Imogen Poots (The Possession) / Keanu Reeves (The Matrix) / Laura Dern (Wildlife) / Lawrence Olivier (Richard III) / Liam Neeson (The Brothers Grimsby) / (The Others) / Mario Casas (Allied) / Michael Fassbender (The Counselor) / Michelle Pfeiffer (The Host) / Morgan Freeman (Million Dollar Baby) / Penélope Cruz (Vicky Cristina Barcelona) / Richard Attenborough (Chariots of Fire) / Robert De Niro (The Godfather) / Robert Downey Jr. (Iron Man) / Salma Hayek (Desperado) / Sean Connery (The World is Not Enough) / Tilda Swinton (We Need to Talk About Kevin) / Wolgang Petersen (The NeverEnding Story), and many, many, many more.

ANGLER

SPANISH FRAMES

CANARY ISLANDS ANDALUSIA, CATALONIA, NAVARRE, VALENCIAN COMMUNITY

MADRID}

PREMIUM CONTENT

NICOLAS CAGE
SAFETY

CONVENIENCE

EFFICIENCY

TOURISM

As the third most visited country in the world (ninth in the influx of an estimated 75 million arrivals in 2018 alone), Spain offers one of the best arrays of overnight accommodations in the world. Its 16,000 hotel facilities have the combined capacity to lodge 1.5 million guests.

TRANSPORTATION

According to the World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report, Spain has the second-largest high-speed rail network in the world (nearly 1,500 miles in service) and the largest highway network (9,135 miles) in Europe. Spain has the longest coastline of any EU country (almost 5,000 miles). More than 130,000 ships enter the 40 state-owned port facilities located along its Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts. In 2018, 8.5 million cruise ship passengers visited Spanish ports. A total of 250 airlines maintain scheduled flights in and out of Spanish airports, carrying more than 150 million passengers per year—more than in countries such as Italy and France. Practically all destinations within Spain are a mere one-hour flight away from each other.

HEALTH

Spain’s universal public healthcare system (SNS) maintains a network of over 3,000 primary health centers and more than 10,000 local clinics. There are close to 500 hospitals throughout the country that offer comprehensive, up-to-date services. Spain is a leader in organ transplants.

LIFESTYLE

Spain is an exceptionally sunny country, a characteristic that gives daily life a bright and cheerful atmosphere that brings out the best of any film crew. The cost of living is very competitive: everything is much more affordable in Spain than in neighboring countries. The conditions it offers are particularly appreciated by animation teams, which often spend months on location. Every foreign professional who has ever worked in Spain has the same opinion: the quality of life here is simply fantastic.

WE’RE HERE TO HELP

Who can foreign film producers look to for practical assistance and advice in Spain? National, regional, and local government agencies work hand in hand with sector experts countrywide to ensure that every production shot in Spain is a picture-perfect experience. The entities listed below are ready to help.

NATIONAL LEVEL

ICAA

The Instituto de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales (ICAA) is the public body responsible for regulating and financing cinematographic activities in Spain. It provides comprehensive support for every phase of short, full-length feature, animated, documentary, and made-for-television film projects from pre-production to release.

SPAIN FILM COMMISSION

SFC is the umbrella organization for the majority of Spain’s film commissions and offices. One of the founding members of the European Film Commission Network (EFCN) and member of the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI), it works in coordination with national cultural, trade, and tourism organizations and an extensive network of regional and local film boards to facilitate the production of every type of audiovisual work being carried out in Spain.

REGIONAL/LOCAL LEVEL

ICEX-INVEST IN SPAIN

ICEX-INVEST is the national agency responsible for promoting Spanish exports and foreign investment in Spain. To strengthen the country’s position as an extremely competitive location for film production, it is currently working to establish a common program of actions in support of the sector in foreign markets.

TOURSPAIN

TOURSPAIN is a national entity charged with guiding Spain’s international strategy for the promotion of incoming tourism. One of its objectives is to forge a link between cinematography and tourism by highlighting places throughout the country that have served as film locations.

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OTHER REGIONAL FILM COMMISSIONS:

1. Andalucía Film Commission
   www.andaluciafilm.com

2. Aragón Film Commission
   www.aragonfilm.com

3. Ávila Film Office
   www.avilaturismo.com

4. Benidorm Film Office
   www.benidorm.org/filmoffice

5. Bilbao Bizkaia Film Commission
   www.bifilmcommission.com

6. Canary Islands Film
   www.canaryislandsfilm.com

7. Cantabria Film Commission
   www.cantabriafilmcommission.com

8. Carmona Film Office
   www.carmona.org/filmoffice

9. Castilla la Mancha Film Commission
   www.castillalamanchafilm.com

10. Castilla y León Film Commission
    www.cultura.jcyl.es

11. City of Madrid Film Office
    www.cityofmadridfilmoffice.com

12. Extremadura Film Commission
    www.extremadurafc.org

13. Film Madrid
    www.madrid.org/filmmadrid

14. Gran Canaria Film Commission
    www.grancanariafilm.com

15. Illes Balears Film Commission
    www.illesbalearsfilm.com

16. La Palma Film Commission
    www.lapalmafilmcommission.com

17. La Rioja Film Commission
    www.filmcommissionlarioja.org

18. Catalunya Film Commission
    www.bcncatfilmcommission.com

19. Lanzarote Film Commission
    www.lanzarotefilmcommission.com

20. Málaga Film Office
    www.malagafilmoffice.com

21. Mallorca Film Commission
    www.mallorcafilmcommission.net

22. Monegros Film Commission
    www.losmonegros.com/sitios/filmcommission

23. Murcia Film Office
    www.murciainfofilmoffice.es

24. Navarra Film Commission
    www.navarrafilm.com

25. Principado de Asturias Film Commission
    www.filmmissionasturias.org

26. Salamanca Film Commission
    www.salamancafilmcommission.com

27. Santiago de Compostela Film Commission
    www.compostelafilm.com

28. Segovia Film Office
    www.segoviafilmoffice.com

29. Tenerife Film Commission
    www.tenerifefilm.com

30. Terrassa Film Office - Parc Audiovisual de Catalunya
    www.parcaudiovisual.cat

31. Valencia Film Office
    www.valenciafilmoffice.org

32. Valladolid Film Office
    www.info.valladolid.es/turismo/vafo

33. Vitoria-Gasteiz Film Office
    www.vitoria-gasteizfilmoffice.org

THE SPAIN FILM COMMISSION NETWORK
www.shootinginspain.info
coordinacion@spainfilmcommission.org

SHOOTING IN SPAIN
All angles covered

www.investinspain.org www.icaa.es www.tourspain.es