THE ADVANTAGES OF A PICTURE-PERFECT LOCATION

SPANISH FRAMES
SPAIN IS

PRODUCTIVE
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.

DELICIOUS
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.

HISTORICAL
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.

CULTURAL
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.

INTERNATIONAL
With more than 500 million native speakers, Spanish is now the second most spoken language in the world, and Spanish aesthetics, customs, and thought have deeply influenced Latin American culture, which is progressively gaining greater global exposure and acclaim.

EFFERVESCENT
Everyone loves the Spanish lifestyle. With 300 sunny days a year, Europe’s best array of leisure time activities, hundreds of cultural festivals, and numerous traditions accorded UNESCO intangible heritage status, every corner of Spain is simply bursting with energy.

SAFE
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.

DIVERSE
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.

WELCOMING
Spain is the world’s top destination for vacation travel and ranks third internationally in terms of annual incoming visitors. Everyone is invited.

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.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

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SPAIN IS

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

SPAIN IS
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.

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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.

NATIONAL LEVEL
20%

REGIONAL LEVEL
40% 35%

CANARY ISLANDS NAVARRE

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 MACLANE

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 OLOONEY

The secret behind production design for film is the team and we have outstanding technical talent here in Spain.

SANDRA HERMIDA, production designer,
GAME OF THRONES

This 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

Tax credits are also available for Spanish productions (applicable to co-productions)

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Spain is a vivid tapestry of cultures and landscapes in which any type of story could unfold. Numerous civilizations and religions have left their imprint here over time—from Romans and Visigoths to Arabinns and Christian monarchs. In step with the times we live in, it also offers a stunning variety of cities known for their modern architecture and singular buildings. The following is a chronological overview of everything that Spanish history offers today’s storytellers.

ROMANESQUE HERITAGE

The small nucleus of Christian communities that sprang up in Gaul that began to form the Gallo-Roman world in the Western Mediterranean basin, as well as the mosaic of Visigothic art known as the Saint James Way, still plays a prominent role in the cityscape of Santiago de Compostela.

ANCESTRAL SOCIETIES

A legendary society that emerged from theegalitarian communities of the Iberian Peninsula that managed to resist the advance of the Roman Empire. It is the subject of the legendary story of the Galician hero, Samson.

PICTURESQUE TRADITIONS

The story of a medieval society that emerged from the egalitarian communities of the Iberian Peninsula that managed to resist the advance of the Roman Empire. It is the subject of the legendary story of the Galician hero, Samson.

THE WINDS OF COLONIALISM

The discovery of America changed the course of history and triggered a period of unparalleled cultural and social development, with most Spanish territories in Latin America becoming the core of new states throughout Spain today.

BAROQUE DRAMA

The advent of a new era of greatness, which was associated with the Carolingian Empire, came with the rise of the Spanish empire. The new entity was granting autonomy and power to its governors, who in turn established a network of political and cultural power that would become known as the “Spanish Empire”.

THE RELIGIOUS CONFLUENCE OF CULTURES

The mixture of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish cultures in the Iberian Peninsula, which was known as the â€œAl-Andalusâ€, was the cradle of a unique cultural and artistic synthesis.

ENLIGHTENED DESPOTISM

The rise of a new elite led by the Enlightenment, which emphasized reason, progress, and individualism, as well as the necessity of reforms to move forward. This was a period of intense political and cultural activity, which led to the rise of a new class of intellectuals and artists.

RELIGIOUS REVOLUTION

The progressive implementation of the ideas of the French Revolution in Spain, which led to the rise of a new political and social order, characterized by a new set of ideas and values. This period saw the rise of a new culture, which emphasized reason, progress, and individualism.

THE WOUNDS OF WAR

From 1936 to 1939, Spain experienced its Civil War, which left a lasting impact on the country’s social and political landscape. This period marked the end of the Second Republic and the beginning of the dictatorship of Francisco Franco.

TRACES OF THE 20th CENTURY

The birth and growth of Spain as a modern nation comes to an end with the cold war and the rise of the European Union. This period marked the end of the Cold War and the start of a new era of global integration and cooperation.

RAPID DEVELOPMENT

Today, Spain is a thriving and dynamic economy recognized for its leadership in finance and industry, as well as its ability to attract foreign investment and develop new industries. The country has also made significant progress in addressing social and environmental issues, and continues to be a leader in global affairs.

CONTEMPORARY SOPHISTICATION

Spain is a land of contrasts, with a rich history and a dynamic culture. Its cities are a blend of tradition and modernity, with a unique blend of art and architecture. The country is known for its unique blend of ancient and modern elements, as well as its ability to attract international tourists and investment.
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 area of 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.

Vanguard Spanish architecture is frequently featured in science fiction movies, one example being Valencia's spectacular aquarium L'Oceanogràfic, which was the principal setting for Disney's Tomorrowland (Brad Bird, 2015).

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.
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**

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**

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

TOURISM

As the third most visited country in the world (ninth in the influx of an estimated 75 million arrivals in 2016 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.

CONVENIENCE

TRANSPORTATION

According to the World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report, Spain has the second largest high-speed rail network in the world (more than 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 46 state-owned port facilities located along its Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts. In 2015, 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.

EFFICIENCY

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 300 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 Institute of Cinematography and Audiovisual Arts (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 (EFC/N) and member of the Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI), it works in coordination with national audiovisual, trade, and tourism organizations and an extensive network of regional and local film bureaus to facilitate the production of every type of audiovisual work being carried out in Spain.

REGIONAL LEVEL

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.

LOCAL LIAISONS

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

Andalucía Film Commission
www.andaluciafilm.com

Aragón Film Commission
www.aragonfilm.com

Ávila Film Office
www.avilaturismo.com

Benidorm Film Office
www.benidorm.org/filmoffice

Bilbao Bizkaia Film Commission
www.bifilmcommission.com

Canary Islands Film
www.canaryislandsfilm.com

Cantabria Film Commission
www.cantabriafilmcommission.com

Carmona Film Office
www.carmona.org/filmoffice

Castilla la Mancha Film Commission
www.castillalamanchafilm.com

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

City of Madrid Film Office
www.cityofmadridfilmoffice.com

Extremadura Film Commission
www.extremadurafc.org

Film Madrid
www.madrid.org/filmmadrid

Gran Canaria Film Commission
www.granicanariafilm.com

Illes Balears Film Commission
www.illesbalearsfilm.com

La Palma Film Commission
www.lapalmafilmcommission.com

La Rioja Film Commission
www.filmcommissionlarioja.org

Lanzarote Film Commission
www.lanzarotefilmcommission.com

Málaga Film Office
www.malagafilmooffice.com

Mallorca Film Commission
www.mallorcafilmcommission.net

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

Murcia Film Office
www.murciafilmoffice.es

Navarra Film Commission
www.navarrafilm.com

Principado de Asturias Film Commission
www.filmcommissionasturias.org

Salamanca Film Commission
www.salamancafilmcommission.com

Santiago de Compostela Film Commission
www.compostelafilm.com

Segovia Film Office
www.segoviafilmoffice.com

Tenerife Film Commission
www.tenerifefilm.com

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

Valencia Film Office
www.valenciafilmoffice.org

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

Vitoria-Gasteiz Film Office
www.vitoria-gasteiz.org/filmoffice

OTHER REGIONAL FILM COMMISSIONS:

Catalunya Film Commission
www.bcncafilmcommission.com

All angles covered