



## Post-Trip: Spain & Total Solar Eclipse August 11-13, 2026



### Optional, Self-Booked Extension from Central Europe

 **Overview Video:** <https://youtu.be/4zX9oPdL2XM?si=gaGkrcV-WluDJxBT>

We're planning an **optional, self-booked** post-trip adventure to witness the **Total Solar Eclipse in Spain** on **August 12, 2026**, right after our Central Europe Adventure.

This is *not* an organized Pride Adventures trip — everyone books their own flights, hotel, and train — but we will coordinate so we can experience totality **together** in **León**, which sits on the centerline.

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### Eclipse Details for León, Spain

It's wild that the eclipse happens at 8:30 PM — but the sun doesn't even set until around 8:55 PM! Spain's long summer daylight makes this an especially unique eclipse experience.

- **Location:** León (centerline of totality)
- **Totality Duration:** ~1 minute 55 seconds

- **Partial Begins:** ~7:25 PM (19:25 CEST)
  - **Totality:** ~8:30 PM (20:30 CEST)
  - **Sunset:** ~8:55 PM (20:55 CEST)
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## **My Travel Plan (Chris)**

**Tue, Aug 11 – Budapest → Madrid**

### **Flight:**

- Iberia **IB 872**
- Depart BUD **3:30 PM** → Arrive MAD **6:50 PM**
- Non-stop (3h 20m)

### **Hotel:**

**ibis Madrid Aeropuerto Barajas**

- Check-in: **Tue, Aug 11**
  - Check-out: **Thu, Aug 13**
  - Near airport → easy for early flights & León train connections
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## **Eclipse Day – Wed, Aug 12**

**Madrid ↔ León**

We'll plan to take a **morning AVE/Alvia high-speed train** from Madrid Chamartín to León (~2h), then return after the eclipse.

**Train tickets open ~90 days prior** on Renfe. We'll coordinate as a group.

**Sample Timeline (subject to updates)**

- **7:45 AM** – Cercanías train from Madrid T4 → Chamartín (~17 min)
- **9:15 AM** – AVE to León (arrive ~11:15 AM)
- **Afternoon** – Explore; choose a west-facing observation point
  - Recommended: riverside near **Parador de San Marcos**
- **8:30 PM** – **TOTAL ECLIPSE** (~1m55s)
- **9:45–10:15 PM** – Train back to Madrid
- **~12:00 AM** – Arrive Madrid, overnight at airport hotel

#### **Backup Plan:**

I will also reserve a **cancelable Alamo 9-passenger van** (fits **5–6 with luggage**) in case trains sell out or weather requires flexibility.

- Estimated cost: **\$245 total** (using Chase points) + shared fuel
  - Cost split among riders.
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## **Thu, Aug 13 – Return Flights**

My flight home (for those wanting to mirror):

- **Madrid** → **Los Angeles** (MAD → LAX)
  - British Airways **BA 4265** (operated by Iberia)
  - Depart **1:00 PM** → Arrive **4:05 PM**
  - Non-stop (12h 5m)
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## **How to Join**

This post-trip is **book-your-own**, but we'll coordinate travel times so we're aligned for:

- Flights
- Hotel location
- Train departures
- Eclipse viewing location
- Backup van plan

If you want to join, simply **mirror these plans** or choose similar options and meet us in **León** for this once-in-a-lifetime moment of totality.

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## **Contact (Chris Smith)**

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