

# EDPA International/IFES

## Country Report Template

*A Local Knowledge Report  
From Exhibit/Event Service Providers*



# SPAIN

## Presentation Prepared By

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# **| SPAIN Facts and Figures**

# Facts & Figures

- Population approx: 46.704mln
- Main language(s): Spanish, Catalan, Basque, Galician
- Country Size: 504,645 km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital and the largest city: Madrid, population 3,216mln
- Barcelona, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city, population 1,621 mln



# Money Issues

- Currency: EUR
- Are credit cards widely accepted? YES
- Are credit cards required (like in the US at shows for services)? NO
- Hints regarding tipping (taxis, restaurants, bars, baggage handlers, etc.) and/or haggling?  
Tipping is up to you, the standard tip is between 10-20% in restaurants.
- Is there a VAT? How high is it? Who needs to pay it? Is there a way for Americans to get it refunded? Is there a useful website (in English)?

VAT in Spain is at 21% for the most of the goods (there are exceptions like for food, water supplies, plants etc. where VAT is 10%). For financial transactions outside the European Union VAT is not applicable.

Non-EU companies must first ensure that there is a tax reciprocity agreement between Spain and their home territory. If not, then no Spanish VAT may be reclaimed. For example, US companies cannot recover Spanish VAT

Spanish Tax Agency website: <http://www.agenciatributaria.es/>

## **| Size and Distance Information**



## **| Location of Major Venues**

# FIRA BARCELONA

([www.firabarcelona.com](http://www.firabarcelona.com))

- Over 400,000 m2 of exhibition floor divided into 2 congress centres: **Montjuïc** and **Gran Via** (they are 3.5 km apart, close to the airport and to the main access roads into Barcelona and connected to the city's public transport network)
- 14 pavilions
- Both venues host around 500 events every year



Montjuïc



Gran Via

  
**Fira Barcelona**

# IFEMA – FERIA DE MADRID

([www.ifema.es](http://www.ifema.es))

- Feria de Madrid host annually over 80 events
- 200,000 sq. m. of exhibiting space
- 12 Halls and 3 Convention and Congress Centres
- Madrid Barajas airport is located only 10 minutes from the exhibition complex, and just 15 kilometres from the city centre, with which it is connected by Metro



## **| Exhibition Facts and Figures**

# General Information

- Who are typically the organizers (local? international?) Both international and local
- Which services are typically handled by the organizers and which can you subcontract?  
Usually the organizers handle electricity, water connection and rigging – the other services like cleaning, furniture rent ect you can subcontract.
- Are there unions to be dealt with? If so, who and where? No, there are no unions
- You should know that there is a special “tax” for construction– it is a fee the venue charges you per sqm (aprox. 7eur/sqm)
- Information on Rigging?  
Rigging approval is given by the venue or the organizer – depends on the event. The regulation on rigging may vary in different exhibitions even if they are held in the same venue.
- How are move in/move outs handled (lots of time? No time? Targeted move ins or outs?  
Again it is very different in every show, aprox. 1 week between delivery of the materials and beginning of the event, to move out usually there are 3 days after the show.
- Health and Safety standards? Some countries (like the UK) require detailed Risk Assessments and Method Statements, for example.

You may be asked to provide Method Statement, Risk Assessment, information about the materials you will use, insurances, labor permissions of the workers

# Electrics and Electricity

- Typical Voltage 220v
- Do you need to have certified electricians?

Yes, you need to present certificates and permissions for electricians, it is very strict

- Standard plugs and sockets

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mains\\_electricity\\_by\\_country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mains_electricity_by_country) has pictures and descriptions



# Labour Cost Estimates

- General Labourer: aprox 30 eur/ hour

In Spain we usually don't count labour work in hours but per project, it depends on the project.

# Materials Usage

- Carpet - standard types, rough prices? Standard carpet 7eur / sqm
- Raised flooring—standard or not standard? Heights? Materials? Costs?  
Standard height is between 4cm and 12cm, materials wood or laminate, cost aprox. 15eur /sqm
- Standard US materials available in your country?  
Yes most of the US materials are available, in Spain we use much more wooden construction than in US.
- In your experience, are any materials particularly cheaper or more expensive in your country as compared to the US?  
In general, it is cheaper in Spain.

# Shopping Tips

- Home Improvement store where construction things can be bought (hardware, tools, paint, etc.) Leroy Merlin (Barcelona & Madrid) [www.leroymerlin.es](http://www.leroymerlin.es) , Bauhaus (Barcelona) [www.bauhaus.es](http://www.bauhaus.es)
- Electronics store for cables, monitors, etc. Media Markt (Barcelona & Madrid) [www.mediamarkt.es](http://www.mediamarkt.es)
- A general sort of store where everything can be bought, El Corte Ingles department store (Barcelona & Madrid) [www.elcorteingles.es](http://www.elcorteingles.es)
- IKEA is available in Barcelona and Madrid [www.ikea.es](http://www.ikea.es)



Event  
Experiential  
Environment

**Exhibit Designers + Producers Association**

