



3 days 2 nights Walking, Food and Wine get away

The best-kept secrets of the sensational Priorat and Montsant region

General overview

What - 3 action packed, fun and informative days of walking, food and wine in truly beautiful and historical countryside in and around the world famous Priorat and Montsant wine regions.

3 day Summary– On arrival to Reus you will be met by your guide David, first stop is the small but beautiful Priorat wine museum, a great introduction to the area, its history, the countryside and of course it's wines, before heading off for lunch, followed by a wine cellar and vineyard tour and dinner in the hotel. Days 2 and 3 take in 2 wonderful hikes of around 10km a day in areas of real historical interest, breathtaking scenery and great local food and wines.

Part Guided? – Really means I will be there when you need me and not when you don't! Everything will be taken care of and whilst we do indeed pack a lot in you'll also have plenty of time to relax and enjoy the environment. This is not a whirlwind tour of dashing around trying to cram in as much as possible, far from it. The aim is to really get to know the area, and soak up the atmosphere, whilst hopefully learning a thing or two about its wine, food and culture.

Where - The Montsant and Priorat region is approximately 30 minutes from Tarragona and Reus, 120km south of Barcelona.

Getting here – You can fly from many destinations to Reus airport. If traveling from Barcelona, the most relaxing way is to catch the train to Reus, which takes just over 1 hour 30 minutes and if you sit on the left, facing



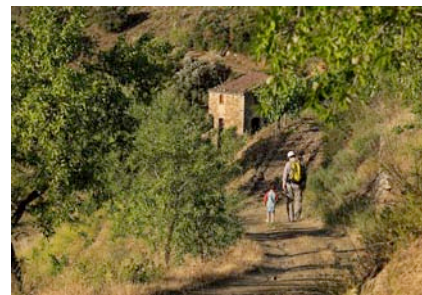
forward you will be treated to lovely sea views as the train runs along the Mediterranean coast for the vast majority of the journey.

When - Best times to visit is spring, early summer or autumn, April, May, June, September, October. The middle of the summer can be too hot, winter is less predictable as it can be cold here too.

What to bring - obviously depends on the time of year but generally a small day pack with, water bottle (2), food/snacks, sun screen, hat, light rain jacket, phone, camera, shorts and light long trousers (to avoid scratching from bushes) ski/hiking pole (optional but sometimes the ground under foot is loose broken up slate which on steep slopes or wet can be a bit slippery).



The Region - This is a truly beautiful area of hills, mountains and water covered in a wide variety of fauna and plants. Nature lovers, especially bird watchers should keep their eyes peeled as there are many different birds of prey including 3 types of eagle and vultures, whilst in the wooded areas you may also catch sight of the brightly coloured Hoopoe and Golden Oriole. On the ground many different reptiles, snakes, foxes, ferrets and wild boars are known to inhabit the area. Geologically it is also extremely varied and interesting. The Priorat itself is an ancient region steeped in history, the municipality was originally formed by Cathusian monks who arrived in the 12th Century and built the now ruined but impressive monastery of Escaladei, whilst the stunning hamlet of Siurana was the last known settlement of the Moors in the area.



Walking - A good level of fitness is needed, expect to walk around 12 km on day 2 and 3 some fairly steep sections but it's definitely walking not climbing so nothing that requires any specialist skills or equipment.



The Food - It is no coincidence that the world famous chef Ferran Adria had his restaurant El Bulli here in Catalonia, a region with a reputation for producing some of Spain's finest cuisine thanks to a wide variety of fresh, high-quality seafood, meat, poultry, game, fruit and vegetables. Grilled meats, stews and locally made sausages such as *butifarra* and *fuet* feature heavily as does seafood dishes often made using locally grown rice from the Delta Ebro or *fideua* a fine thin noodle. Indeed the two can sometimes be combined in a local equivalent of surf 'n' turf known as *mar i muntanya*, sea and mountain.



The Wine - The DOC Priorat lies slightly south and inland from Tarragona and is one of only 2 wine regions in Spain (the other being Rioja) that Qualify as a DOC (Denominació d'Origen Calificada), the highest qualification for a wine region according to Spanish wine regulations, awarded to regions with the potential to make unique and exceptional wines. It primarily produces powerful reds, which came to international attention in the 1990s. The area is characterized by its unusual terroir of black slate and quarts soil, known locally as *llicorella*.



Prices:

395€ per person based on 2 people sharing.

450€ per person single room supplement

What's included in the price? - Accommodation, breakfast, lunch, dinner, detailed maps and directions, wine cellar tours and tasting, luggage transfer. Pick up and drop off from local train station or Reus airport.

What's not included in the price? – Snacks, additional wines and drinks bought in bodegas, restaurants or bars. Most importantly **INSURANCE** it is your responsibility to make sure you have adequate cover, Vinocamino and David will not, in anyway, be held responsible for any injuries, accidents or lost and stolen goods.

Email: Any questions, enquires etc please contact David at info@vinocamino.com

3 Days 2 nights itinerary

Day 1

9.45 - Depart either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday from Barcelona train station 9.46 Estacio de Francia, (Passeig de Gracia 9.55 and Sants 10.00) arriving in Reus 11.23 where David from Vinocamino will be waiting to collect you.

12.00 - Visit to the small but excellent Priorat wine museum in the 'Castell de Vi' (castle of wine) in Falset.

13.30 - Short trip to the beautiful village of Porrera one of the most important wine villages in the Priorat where we go to a good local restaurant for a 3 course meal of traditional Catalan and Spanish cuisine made largely from fresh local produce.

16.00 - Take the 15 minute drive to Cornudella de Montsant, right in the heart of the region, which is a famous base for mountain climbers. Guided wine cellar tour with one of the local producers including a 4x4 trip to visit the vineyard.

18.00 - Check into the lovely local guest house, all rooms are modern and en suite, time to relax, explore the village or simply enjoy the private garden.

20.00 – Tapas in the village square.

Day 2

Approximately 13km gentle hike

9.00 - Good breakfast in the Hotel.

9.30 - Short 10 minute drive to the tiny village of Morena de Montsant where we start our days walk towards the hamlet and 12th Century ruins of Escaladei the birth place of the municipality of the Priorat.

12.00 - Visit and stroll around the ruins before walking down to the charming hamlet.

13.00 - Olive oil tasting in the specialist shop in the square.

13.30 –3 or 4 course lunch in the same square.



15.00 - Visit to the famous winery of Scala Dei one of the oldest and best known Priorat producers, recently renovated to beautifully combine the old with the new.



16.30 - Lovely 2 hour walk back to Morena de Montsant where we take the short drive back to Cornudella.

20.00 – Tapas in the village square.

Day 3

Approximately 14km



9.30 – After breakfast leaving from the village we set off for the spectacular hike up to the stunning and ancient hamlet of Siurana, approximately 3 hours walking. Plenty of time to explore, rest your feet and take in the fantastic scenery.

13.30 – Lovely picnic lunch with locally prepared food and wine, taking in the breathtaking scenery, after lunch there's plenty of time to stroll around and explore the hamlet.



16.00 - Hike back down to the Hotel to collect luggage and make our way back to the train station at Reus for your return trip to Barcelona.

