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▲ BODEGA PAGOS DE LEZA

Spain is a wine lovers' paradise. From north to south, you'll find numerous wine routes that will give you an insight into the history, character and culture of the country. Travel through a world of sensations, aromas and flavours and discover unique experiences.

Visit Spain's wineries and learn the secrets of how wine is made, sleep amid vineyards or go on a wine tasting course. Sample the best wines from each region in any of the hundreds of itineraries, hotels and experiences available all over Spain.

Enjoy the wide diversity of red, rosé, white and sparkling wines. Spain's different climates ensure a wide variety of wines to suit all tastes and any time of day. From the freshness of Galicia's Albariño to the character of Rioja, the versatility of Ribera del Duero and Andalusia's treasure –wine from Jerez, better known as sherry. The key lies not only in the variety, but in the quality.

The experts rate the products of many Spanish winemakers amongst the best in the world.

Wine routes are the ideal way for you to discover all Spain's attractions. There is an immense cultural and natural heritage for you to come and explore: from the villages of Don Quixote in La Mancha, to the Great Mosque of Cordoba and including Las Médulas in El Bierzo, and the Sierra y los Cañones de Guara Nature Reserve. There are plenty to choose from.

Through their popular festivities, Spain's towns and villages maintain alive ancestral traditions like the **Wine Battle in Haro**, La Rioja, and **the wine-harvest festivities** in Jerez, Cadiz and Logroño, also in La Rioja. Spanish wines are synonymous with **innovation** and the **avant-garde**. In recent years, the the Spanish wine industry has been undergoing a genuine revolution as it applies the latest technologies to grape cultivation.

WINE ROUTES

Spain is home to an extraordinary cultural heritage. Come and discover it by taking any of the numerous wine routes on offer, and learn how wine is made. Share the philosophy of an organic firm in the **Empordà**, Catalonia. Visit magical towns and villages like **Laguardia** in **La Rioja** Alavesa, with its cobbled streets and ancient city walls. If you like adventure, climb aboard an off-road vehicle for a fascinating trip accompanied by a guide to the vineyards in **Jerez**.

SOUTHERN SPAIN

High spirits, sunshine and the blend of cultures are all part of the personality of Andalusia, the birthplace of flamenco. Treasures like Jerez –sherry– wines and their typical taverns are scattered throughout the region, where you'll find a beguiling mixture of nature and cultural heritage.

MARCO DE JEREZ WINE AND BRANDY ROUTE

Sherry and Manzanilla are two of southern Spain's greatest wine treasures. An ancestral tradition and an exceptional climate combine to produce some of the most highly regarded wines in the world. Explore a landscape that is a blend of farmland, mountains, the marshes of the Guadalquivir and the Costa de la Luz, with its endless beaches of fine sand.



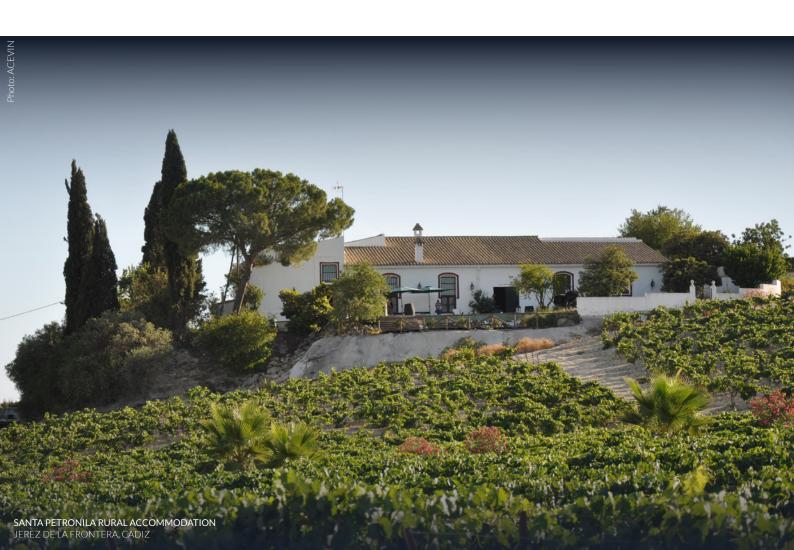
Visit some of the largest wineries in Europe, known as cathedrals of wine, and discover the triangle of villages where they pay homage to this miraculous beverage: Jerez de la Frontera, El Puerto de Santa María and Sanlúcar de Barrameda. Three ideal places to sample a glass of sherry accompanied by a tapa.

Test your swing on one of our golf courses and then treat yourself to a guided tour through a silent world of wine casks. If you have time and you're visiting in August, make sure you catch the horseracing on the beach in Sanlúcar de Barrameda. Or follow an itinerary that ends in a typical Jerez "tabanco", a traditional tavern where sherry is served from the barrel, accompanied by live flamenco.

SERRANÍA DE RONDA WINE AND WINERY ROUTE

This is a land where you'll find great wines and such genuinely local delicacies as extra virgin olive oils, traditionally made cheeses and cured Iberian pork products. Don't miss Ronda Vino a Vino, an event in which winery owners and growers come together at the Centro Integral del Vino de Ronda to showcase all their best products.

You can also wander through natural treasures like the Sierra Nevada Nature Reserve, declared a Biosphere Reserve by the UNESCO. Come and enjoy its rich cultural heritage, including the church of Santa María la Mayor in Ronda, and the Bandit Museum, the only one of its kind in Spain.





MONTILLA-MORILES WINE ROUTE

This route takes you to the south of the province of Cordoba, through a landscape dominated by olive groves and vineyards. Enjoy a healthy breakfast of bread with olive oil before setting out on this route, and sample some Cordoba "salmorejo" (a creamy chilled tomato soup) in any of the 17 municipalities in the area it passes through, including Baena, Puente Genil and Cordoba itself. Visit the Casa del Pedro Ximénez to find out how they make the famous sweet wine that gives the route its name.

RIBERA DEL GUADIANA WINE ROUTE

This is where you'll find the main wine route in Extremadura. One of its highlights is the town of Almendralejo, named International City of Wine in 1987. Buy a ticket to visit the Museum of Wine Science and then stroll around its bullring, the only one in the world with a wine cellar below the stands. When you take this route you'll be travelling on part of the Silver Route, which follows an ancient Roman road that left a vast historic and artistic heritage in this area. Along the way you'll see archaeological sites, monasteries, castles and beautiful ancestral homes.



INLAND SPAIN

The plains of Castile are a paradise for lovers of good wine. This is the area that produces some of the most highly regarded wines in Spain and around the world. Many of them are aged in barrels and vats stored underground. There are also numerous archaeological remains and natural landscapes where you can escape from the pressures of everyday life.

RUEDA WINE ROUTE

The area between the provinces of Valladolid, Segovia and Avila is where the famous Verdejo grape is grown. Learn its secrets by exploring the wine cellar-maze called El Hilo de Ariadna (Ariadna's thread), with a depth of 20 m. Or spend a day enjoying wine related activities on an estate with organic vineyards in the heart of the Castilian plateau. Make the most of your visit to see two spectacular architectural works at close quarters: the Roman aqueduct in Segovia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the city walls in Avila.

RIBERA DEL DUERO WINE ROUTE

Avant-garde architecture, gastronomy, and cultural and natural heritage. The Ribera del Duero has everything to guarantee an all-round wine-based experience. You'll feel like a king as you stroll around the Castle of Peñaranda de Duero or over the lovely Puente de Piedra stone bridge in San Esteban de Gormaz. Walk the trails in the Hoces del Río Riaza Nature Reserve, then sign up for a tasting workshop in a cellar dating from the 13th century.





OTHER ROUTES

The Calatayud wine route is one of the highest-altitude wine routes in Spain. Hop on any of the wine buses leaving Calatayud and pick your itinerary. Another option is the Garnacha-Campo de Borja wine route in the foothills of the Sierra del Moncayo. Why not take a ride on a sled pulled by dogs and explore the vineyards?

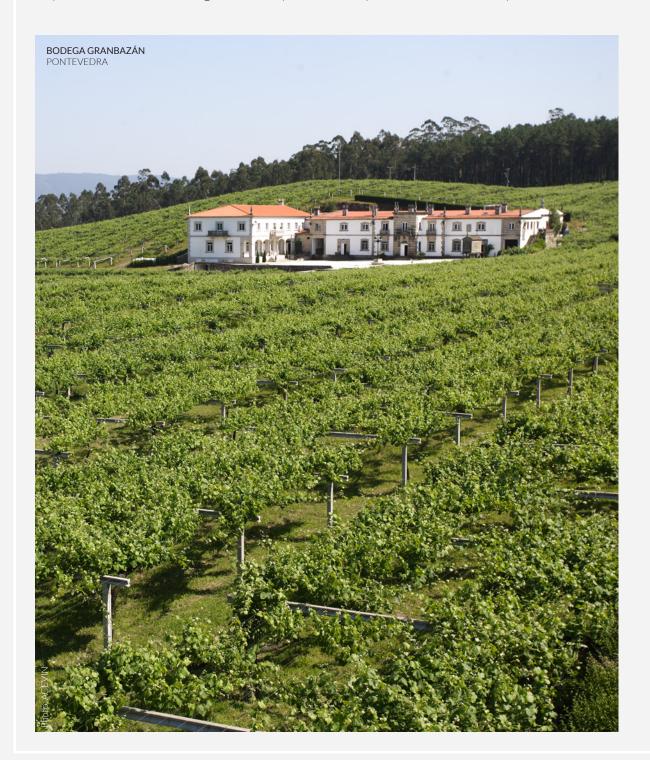
A little further north you'll find the Somontano wine route. If you love mountains, this is your opportunity. In the annual Somontano Wine Festival you can sample wines while you listen to live music. Or perhaps you'd prefer to explore the Campo de Cariñena wine route or the Arlanza wine route in Burgos, and take part in a traditional wine-harvest festival.



▲ MEDIEVAL TOWN OF ALQUEZAR

NORTHERN SPAIN

Allow yourself to be enveloped in the colours of this area's landscape. Here you'll find some of the most prestigious wine-producing areas. La Rioja, the Basque Country, Catalonia and Galicia offer numerous routes where you can experience world-class gastronomy and the expertise of the winery owners.





RÍAS BAIXAS WINE ROUTE

No one who has been to Galicia will ever forget how enchanting this region is. Here you'll find fertile countryside and exquisite gastronomy, with the Atlantic Ocean playing a leading role.

Stroll around the communities of Sanxenxo, O Grove and Cambados and raise a glass of Albariño while you treat yourself to some delicious seafood. The verdant landscape invites you to explore it at your leisure. The Siradella viewing point offers

spectacular views over the **Arousa** estuary. Very nearby is a family-run winery with a tapas bar where you can sample the local mussels.

You can stay in a typical Galician "pazo" or mansion, only 15 minutes outside the historic city of **Santiago de Compostela**. In addition to its rich cultural heritage it also has exceptional beaches, nature reserves and spa resorts where you can escape from the pressures of everyday life.



LA RIOJA ALTA WINE ROUTE

The main features of the landscape are the vineyards, the Ebro river and the mountains of **Toloño**, **Cantabria** and **La Demanda**. It is also home to an abundant historic and artistic heritage.

You can take any of the wine routes, or discover the secrets of a castle-winery within a walled enclosure dating from the 14th century. This is an opportunity to wander around the town of Haro, which exudes wine tradition from every stone. You can drop into a wine merchant and pick up some wines from small wineries that you won't find anywhere else. Wind up your day in a

hotel-convent and immerse yourself in the medieval history of the city.

Try some traditional fare in any of the charming restaurants housed in former wine stores. And if you dare, take part in the claret battle in San Asensio. This is a raucous festival where all the participants end up drenched in wine, and then continue sampling tapas in the local bars.

In the "La Vista" sensory wine centre in San Asensio you can take an extensive and innovative tour involving all aspects of wine-making associated with the sense of sight.

RIOJA ALAVESA WINE ROUTE

It's not every day you can sample wines aged in mediaeval caves. The winery owners in this region have successfully combined tradition with the avant-garde. It's also home to the towns of **Samaniego** and **Laguardia**, set amid vineyards.

LLEIDA-COSTERS DEL SEGRE WINE ROUTE

Experience at first hand the irresistible blend of world-class gastronomy and age-old tradition. Here you'll have the chance to visit the first winery to produce and label "crianza" wines in Cataluña (aged for 2 years with at least 6 months in oak). Then take a dip in mineral-medicinal waters in one of its famous spas with mountain views.

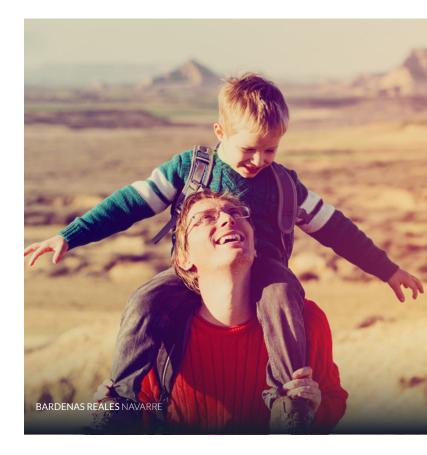
NAVARRE WINE ROUTE

One of Spain's food baskets, this area is famous for the abundance of its farm produce and for its first-rate wines. Navarre is a land of contrasts. From the mountains and green pastures of the north to the desert of the **Bardenas Reales** in the south. There's no doubt that this is a route designed for the most discerning foodies. Try your hand at working in the vineyards for a day, and enjoy the pleasures of lunch out in the country.

TXAKOLI ROUTE

Raise a toast with a glass of *Txakoli*, a young fruity white wine with a moderate alcohol content, and accompany it with a *pintxo*, or gourmet canapé, in one of the wineries in the Basque Country. Not many such simple things provide so much pleasure. Follow the **Aiaraldea** itinerary, and you'll find out why its gastronomic tradition is acknowledged throughout the world.

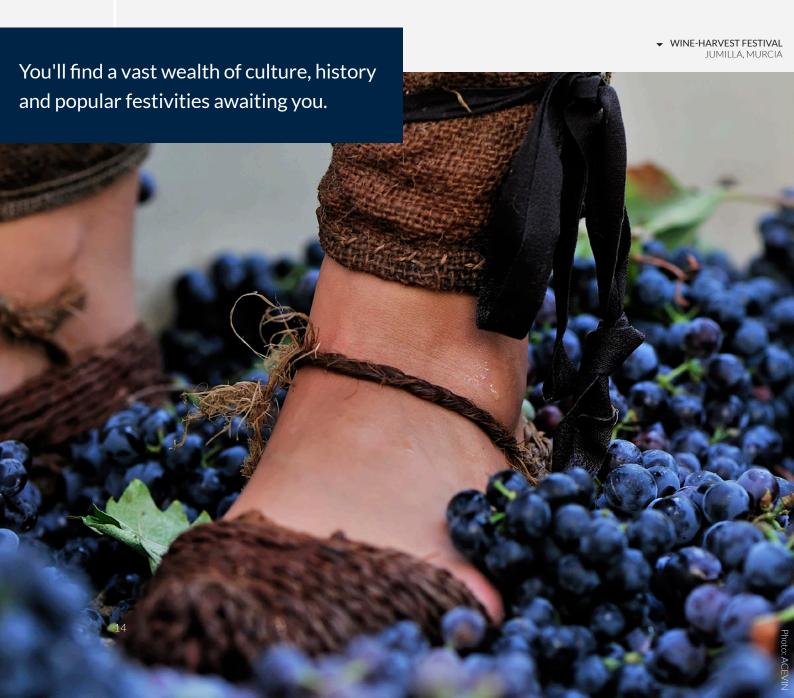




LEVANTE

This is the domain of the Monastrell grape. The Mediterranean essence of a land with a mild climate that invites you to discover it all year round. You can explore the mediaeval aqueduct in the town of Petrer, and the shrines of San Bonifaci and Santísimo Cristo. Highlights in Ifach include the Baños de la Reina, one of the most important archaeological sites in Roman Hispania.

For those who prefer experiences in the open air, the Serra Gelada Nature Reserve is a unique place on the Mediterranean coast. Another place worth visiting is the Vall de Pop, with its imposing mountains and winding gorges. If you still have the energy, take a side trip to Villena to take part in its traditional Moors and Christians festival.



ALICANTE WINE ROUTE

This region is home to a varied and attractive scenic, architectural and gastronomic heritage. Take a trip to the imposing **Atalaya Castle** in Villena or climb aboard an **Alicante Wine Bus** and choose from a number of attractive options.

BULLAS WINE ROUTE

The soul of this region in Murcia is to be found in its vineyards. A historic heritage that can be seen in its traditional wineries, its wine museum and its wine centre. Drop into the wine school in Cehegín, a meeting point for wine enthusiasts and students. Try some of the restaurant options in the area, and enjoy a peaceful night's sleep in a rural accommodation.

JUMILLA WINE ROUTE

You can visit Jumilla without leaving the region of Murcia. Join in the wine-harvest festival, where you can take part in competitions, games and parades.

YECLA WINE ROUTE

Don't be surprised if someone suggests taking part in a wine marathon. Everything's possible in this wine-loving region. Follow the wine and tapa route in March or during the Monastrell weekend in June. Check the calendar and pick a date.









▲ UTIEL-REQUENA WINE ROUTE

THE ISLANDS

The **Balearic** and **Canary Islands** have a diverse and attractive wine-growing tradition. Their wines can now be found on wine lists in top Spanish restaurants, although the best idea is always to taste them *in situ*.

Majorca has the largest wine production in the Balearic Islands. You'll have the chance to sample delicious wines accompanied by traditional dishes from Majorcan cuisine. Explore exotic Ibiza and visit magical Formentera, and try the exquisite varieties of *Chardonnay* and Moscatel, or *Minorca*, the other jewel of the Mediterranean, declared a Biosphere Reserve.



To the south, opposite the coast of Africa, you can travel to the largest wine-producing region in the Canary Islands: Tenerife. A combination of sun, volcanoes and vineyards in an outstanding setting. Pay a visit to the Casa del Vino wine centre to see a good example of local rustic arquitecture where you can participate in one of their wine workshops or tastings. And Lanzarote, with its highly-regarded volcanic Malvasía grape which is unique in the world. The island is also home to natural monuments such as the Timanfava National Park and the Los Volcanes Nature Reserve.

CAVA

Cava is the Spanish sparkling wine par excellence. This universally acclaimed product is made in a large part of Spain. Uncork a bottle on any occasion and serve it in a crystal flute to best appreciate its properties.

You can learn all about it in some of the traditional cava wineries in the main producing area in Catalonia, home to some of the finest labels.

There are also first-rate red and white varieties. A good way to discover them is through organised excursions to wineries and cava producers in the Penedès. Sign up for the Primavera del Cava or "Cava Spring" to witness the birth of the grape, or take a helicopter flight to see the first shoots from the air. The exceptional setting of these vineyards can be enjoyed in places like the Sierra del Montmell nature space and the Olèrdola regional park.



EXPERIENCES

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Fall in love with Spain, its people and its culture. Come and discover a cultural heritage steeped in history, tradition and the avant-garde while you travel its wine routes.

You'll find 15 World Heritage cities, some of the most visited museums in the world and ancient monuments all awaiting you. A rich and open culture, perfect for combining with the best wines from each region.

If you're travelling in the south, make sure to visit the majestic mosque-cathedral in Cordoba and see its courtyards bedecked with flowers. In May you can attend the Horse Fair, a perfect occasion to discover Jerez Cathedral and the close cultural relationship between its wine varieties, flamenco and the equestrian world.

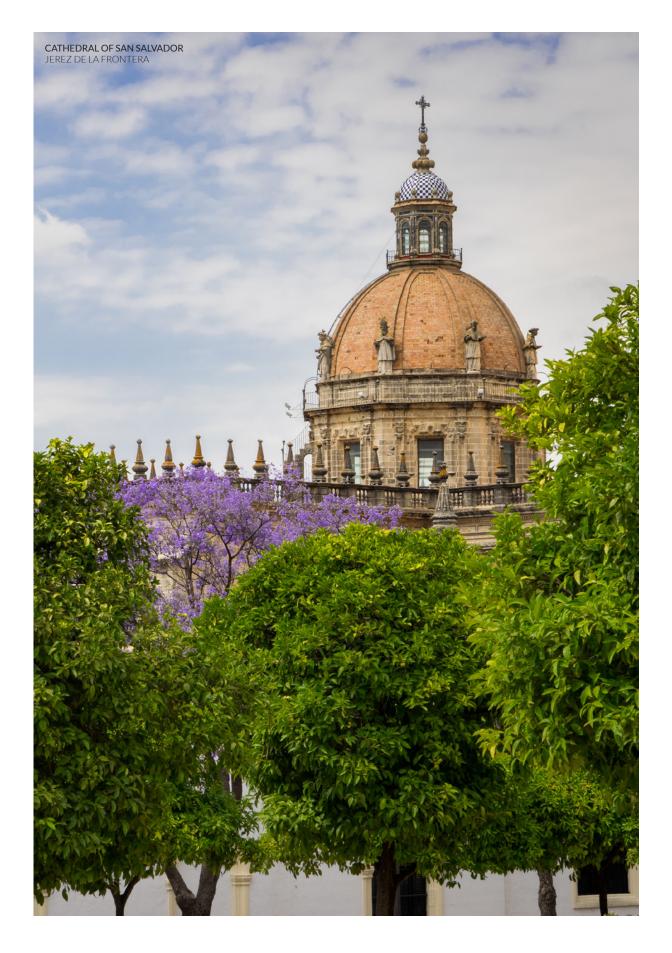
Inland, you can visit the towns and villages of Don Quixote while you follow the wine routes of La Mancha. Pay a visit to Segovia or Burgos, two cities steeped in history, where highlights include the Roman aqueduct and a spectacular cathedral both of which will leave you speechless.

Discover the numerous architectural remains and mediaeval buildings all around the north of the peninsula. The Rías Baixas, La Rioja, Navarre, the Basque Country and Lleida are winegrowing regions with a vast historic and artistic heritage, full of churches, museums, and age-old traditions.

Travelling towards the east you will arrive at such emblematic places as the prehistoric rock art caves located in the **cultural park of Rio Vero**, in the Somontano de Barbastro. Cities with centuries of history, like **Valencia** and **Alicante**, and traces of Spain's Roman past in the **ruins at Empúries** in **Girona**.

The wineries near **El Vendrell** in Penedès make some of the best cavas in the world. While you're there, drop into the Archaeology Museum to discover the remains of the civilisations that left their mark on the region. Pay a visit to the church of **Sant Salvador**, a building with Renaissance and Baroque features with a beautiful church organ in the interior.

The great natural wealth of the Canary Islands, their beaches and their volcanic geology will amaze you. Malvasía wines are the perfect complement to unique places like the city of **San Cristóbal de La Laguna** in Tenerife, where you can visit churches, palaces and noble houses with brightly-painted facades.





BODEGA MARQUÉS DE RISCAL

Don't miss a visit to this groundbreaking building by the famous architect Frank O. Gehry in Elciego in the heart of the Rioja Alavesa region, and see how it rises out of the ground like a vine. The interior of this complex, known as the City of Wine is also spectacular, and includes a luxury hotel and restaurant, wine-therapy spa, meeting centre and a museum.

BODEGAS LEGARIS

Domingo Triay is responsible for the minimalist architecture of this winery located in Curiel de Duero (Valladolid). Its large windows give the sensation of being completely in harmony with nature. On the terrace in the evening you can enjoy a tasting session with wines from Ribera de Duero with fabulous views of the Peñafiel Castle as a backdrop.

BODEGA VIÑA REAL

In the town of Laguardia itself, just a few kilometres from Logroño, you'll find these wineries designed by the French architect Philippe Mazières. This spectacular work is defined by natural light, the wine cellars dug out of the ground and all the latest technology. The main structure is built of red cedar and shaped like a wine barrel.

BODEGA BAIGORRI

Most of the facilities are underground, with only a large glass box visible from the exterior. Designed by the architect lñaki Aspiazu, it is located in the town of Samaniego in the foothills of the Sierra de Cantabria. From the roof you can enjoy a spectacular view over the local vineyards.

BODEGA PORTIA

A concrete, steel, oak and glass star designed by the English architect Norman Foster in Gumiel de Izán, in the south of Burgos province. A visit to the facilities is a chance to learn more about the wine-making process and to discover the wine-growing history and tradition of the Ribera del Duero region.

BODEGA CEPA21

This avant-garde building in the heart of the Ribera del Duero region in the province of Valladolid also has a restaurant where you'll have the chance to enjoy the local cuisine and learn about all the latest innovative techniques used to produce its wines.



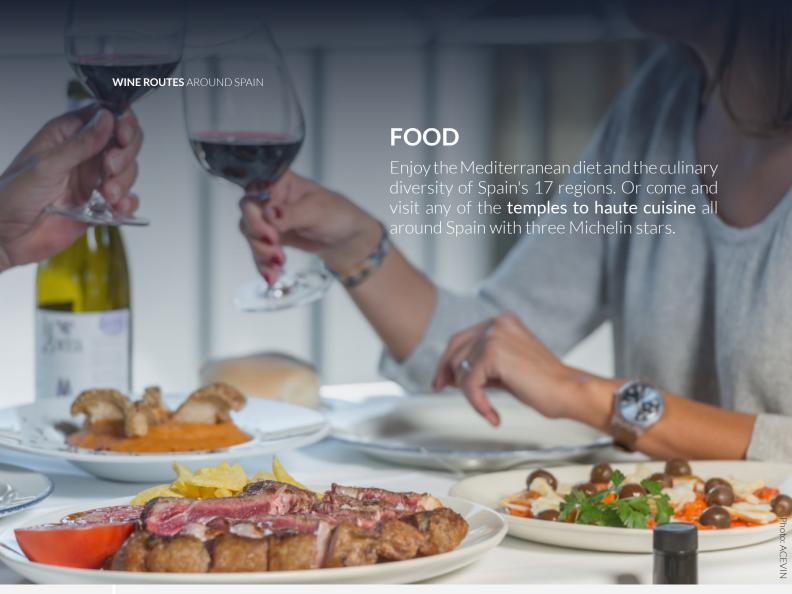
This contemporary reinterpretation of a traditional local winery designed by Richard Rogers is located in Valladolid, at the foot of Peñafiel Castle. Its most eye-catching feature are the vaulted roofs.

BODEGA PAGOS DEL REY

Very near Aranda del Duero in the province of Burgos stands this spectacular concrete and glass structure that seems to be inspired by a great wooden cabin. Enjoy the views over a vast area of vineyards, as the winery stands on the top of a hill.

BODEGA YSIOS

The most internationally renowned Spanish architect, Santiago Calatrava, designed a building that looks like a glass of wine when viewed from above. Pass by the magical town of Laguardia (Avila) to see this state of the art design. Perfectly integrated into its landscape, it has become the architectural symbol of the wine culture in La Rioja.



▲ SIERRA DE FRANCIA WINE ROUTE SALAMANCA

The wine-harvest festivals at the start of autumn are an excellent excuse for gastronomic indulgence. These festivities are the ideal way to enjoy all the traditions and the popular festive atmosphere on every wine route all over Spain. The Navarre wine-harvest festival is held at the end of August or beginning of September and is one of the most famous. The main celebrations take place in Olite, and include concerts and tasting sessions, with many establishments offering samplings of "pintxos" (gourmet canapés), main dishes and desserts based on grapes.

Numerous activities are organised by the wineries and accommodations on the Penedés wine route in Catalonia in September and October. These naturally include the traditional treading of the grapes and the tasting of the first must. Wine-related activities like tasting sessions, al fresco meals and open days at wineries are also often available. At the end of August the Montilla-Moriles wine route in Cordoba (Andalusia) holds its Cata Flamenca wine-tasting festival, featuring a combination of music and gastronomy, and the Wine and Tapas Fiesta, a wonderful opportunity to discover the typical tapas of southern



Spain, accompanied by local wines. And these are just a few examples.

Another interesting way of sampling the best local products is to visit fairs like **Madrid Fusión** in January, a multicultural event featuring cooking demonstrations and numerous product-tasting and sampling sessions, amongst other activities.

Whatever time of year you travel, you can sign up for a wine-tasting session to learn how to distinguish the aromas, flavours and special characteristics of the different designations of origin. This experience is available in most wineries as well as in specialised establishments.

You can learn more about pairing local Spanish products with the most suitable wines. In Andalusia nothing goes better with the typical gazpachos, salmorejos (chilled tomato soups) and fried fish platters than Manzanilla or Montilla-Moriles fino. Highly-cured Manchego cheese is best enjoyed with a glass of "gran reserva" red wine from La Mancha. Or try the excellent seafood from the Rías Baixas accompanied by Ribeiro and Albariño wines. Wherever you are, you'll find a treat for your palate awaiting you.



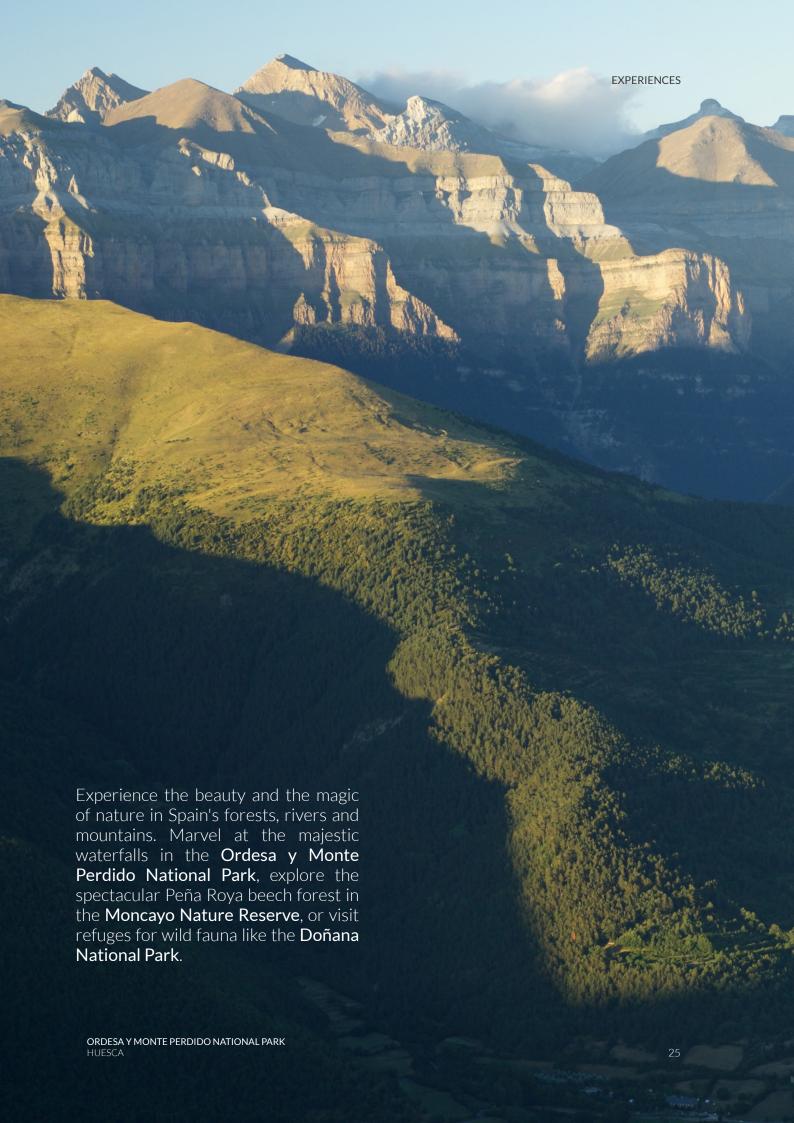
WINE-RELATED

ACTIVITIES

Spain has a climate and a variety of natural environments that favour the quality of our vines and which sustain a diversity of flora and fauna that is unique in Europe. As you explore the wine-producing regions in Spain, discover an extensive network of protected natural spaces and 15 national parks. Come and discover them!

■ WINE AND FOOD TASTING JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, CADIZ









For those who love sport and outdoor adventure, here you'll find a genuine paradise for **active tourism**.

Wine routes are an opportunity to discover extraordinary natural environments where you can enjoy your favourite activity in a spectacular setting.

Golf and wine are two pleasures that can be combined in a single experience. Enjoy a round of golf on one of the courses in La Rioja and the Ribera del Duero, and sample the best labels from their magnificent wineries. Or enjoy the sun on the beach with a delicious sherry on the Cadiz coast.

You can play a few holes on the courses at Costa Ballena Ocean Golf Club and Sherry Golf and visit the famous **Bodegas Osborne**.

In the wine-growing region of **Penedès**, in addition to sampling the best cavas you can discover all its charms by going **hiking**. The itinerary known as the **wine road** runs through Vilafranca del Penedès and follows the ancient route leading to the Garraf beaches, the place where the Romans exported the local wines. Near there, the **Empordà** has spectacular landscapes with vineyards that embody the essence of the Mediterranean. You can travel its extensive network of trails and paths on foot or by bike and enjoy a unique experience.





In Andalusia, you can go horse riding through one of the oldest and most singular wine-producing regions in the world. The Marco de Jerez is the perfect destination for experiences that can be enjoyed with all the five senses.

If you prefer a relaxing experience, in the province of **Ourense** you'll find the perfect combination of wine tourism, wellness and nature. Discover the land that produces the excellent Ribeiro wine and relax in the spas and thermal water centres.

◆ RIBERA DEL GUADIANA

BADA IO7





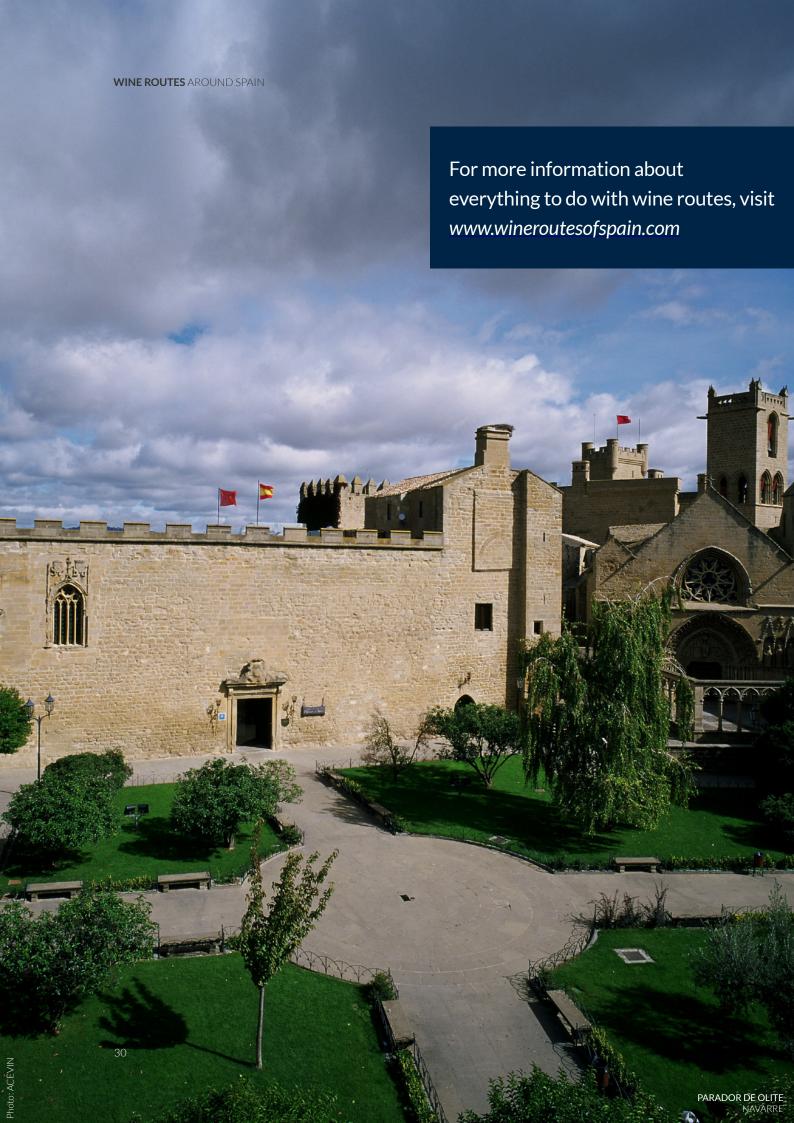
MEETINGS

AND EVENTS

Spanish wineries offer a vast array of venues and facilities for business meetings, professional seminars and congresses. These important facilities offer a high standard of service to ensure the total success of your corporate events. An original idea that will allow you to mix business and pleasure.

Spain provides an opportunity to discover delicious wines and work, and have pleasure and fun in historic wineries with ancestral underground cellars where wines are made following traditional practices. You'll find perfectly equipped halls in avant-garde buildings designed by some of the world's greatest architects. Seductive contrasts of old and new where you can enjoy a unique experience amid vineyards and wineries.





ACCOMMODATION

Spain has numerous hotels related with the world of wine. In addition to the large number of rural accommodation options located on the wine routes that offer experiences amongst vineyards, there are a multitude of hotel establishments that have a very close symbiosis with wine culture.

Experience absolute peace when you sleep in a 14th-century hotel-convent, surrender to the charms of wine therapy in accommodation with a spa, or relax in a hotel-winery surrounded by olive trees and vines on the banks of the Guadiana River. In the great wine tourism areas like La Rioja, Penedès and Navarre there is also a wide selection of wine tourism hotels, also known as Wine Hotels, which are specially designed to ensure a first-class wine-themed experience.

Enjoy a few unforgettable days as you recharge your batteries in any of **Spain's** Parador hotels. The excellence of their cuisine and the variety of services are a guarantee of quality and comfort. Some of them are part of the wine routes that criss-cross the Spanish mainland. In La Rioja you can stay in the Parador de Olite, housed in a mediaeval palace in Olite, La Rioja. If you're heading for the Ribera del Duero, seize the chance to spend a couple of nights in the Parador de Lerma. The modern Parador de Cadiz is perfect for exploring the brandy route in Jerez, with an exclusive swimming pool and attractive facilities.















