

Wines and Castles IC3

Rioja - Ribera del Duero - Salamanca

Stay in real castles and discover the charm of Spain's wine regions

Summary

Live like a king, staying in authentic castles, and discover Spain's great wine regions. Follow the great rivers Ebro and Duero and explore the lands of Rioja, Ribera de Duero, Toro and Rueda.

And so much more - you'll discover the infinite charms of Spain's vibrant capital and will find a rich heritage from Roman and Moorish Spain, monumental cities, villages lost in time and a rich gastronomic tradition.

Discover the mountains of the Sierra de Toloña and the magical landscape of the Dehesa where Iberian pigs are bred for the best ham in the world.



Your Route

Tour Highlights:

- Rioja, Ribera de Duero, Toro & Rueda wine regions
- Stay in romantic castle hotels
- Walk or cycle amongst the vines
- Laguardia, Peñafiel, Torredesillas
- Monumental Salamanca, Spain's greatest university city
- Prehistoric dolmens to ultra-modern bodegas

Travel tips:

Fly

Bilbao from Stansted or Manchester with Easyjet. From Gatwick with Vueling. From

Dublin with Aer Lingus

Madrid

From Gatwick, Luton, Bristol, Liverpool & Edinburgh with Easyjet. From Stansted Manchester, Liverpool & Dublin with Ryanair. From Dublin with Aer Lingus

Ferry

Portsmouth or Plymouth to Santander or Bilbao

Please consult for other travel options



Itinerary Overview

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room *	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Madrid airport	<i>Ferry travel also possible. Ask our experts for more info.</i>	
1	Day 1 & 2	Madrid	Madrid	HMA3 Family run hotel in Madrid's artistic centre, 1 x Double Room (2 sharing)	20mins from airport
2	Day 3 & 4	Rioja	Laguardia	HLAG2 Historic castle style hotel, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	3hrs 30mins
3	Day 5 & 6	Ribera del Duero	Curiel	HCUR1 Castle hotel at the heart of the Ribera de Duero, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	2hrs 40mins
4	Day 7 & 8	Salamanca	Topas	HTOP1 Castle amongst the vineyards of Salamanca, 1 x Double room (2 sharing) 1 x Double Room (2 sharing)	2hrs
			Departing Madrid airport		2hrs 30mins to Madrid airport

* Double room (2 sharing) can be either double or twin bedded. If you have specific requirements, please let us know.

Your Itinerary

What the cost includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed & breakfast accommodation in each of the hotels
- 4 dr Economy class hire car from leaving Madrid
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary regional roadmap & copy of Guidebook of the region
- Our own restaurant guide and Vamoos travel app
- NB Flights not included

If you would like to book this itinerary please call us at your earliest convenience.

If, on the other hand, you require further help or information or wish to investigate alternatives please don't hesitate to contact us.

Stage 1



Region: Madrid

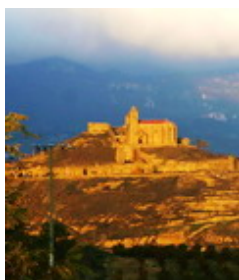
El Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen-Bornemisza - three world-class museums
Visit Santiago Bernabeu Stadium home of Real Madrid
Take a stroll in El Retiro Park
Visit El Rastro - Madrid's famous flea-market
Take a trip out to Toledo or Segovia
Take a relaxing cafe con leche in the Plaza Mayor or the Puerta del Sol where there's always something going on
The Royal Palace - Europe's largest
Templo de Debod - an authentic Egyptian temple in the middle of the city!

Family run hotel in Madrid's artistic centre

Set in the genuine Madrileño neighbourhood of Lavapiés yet with all the city's major art galleries - El Prado, the Thyssen-Bornemisza and the Reina Sofia - within a short walk, this small, family-run hotel is a breath of fresh air. The building, which has been in the family for two generations, has been recently restored with clean, white decor throughout making the most of Madrid's wonderful light whilst retaining some delightful original fe...[Read More](#)



Stage 2



Region: La Rioja wine region

La Rioja Alavesa, where the mountains give shelter to the best wineries
Riojan cuisine- excellent local ingredients with a touch of Basque flair
A history of architecture from cave-dweller to Gehry
Medieval towns such as Laguardia, thriving centers of the wine trade
Dinastia Vivanco Museum of Wine Culture, one of the finest private collections in the world.
Izki Golf, two courses in the midst of the beautiful Nature Park of Izki

Historic castle style hotel

Though built in 1863 in the Modernista style this striking building with its imposing watchtower was constructed with stones from a 12th century barracks and has the feel of a small medieval castle. The location is excellent, built into the town wall and at the same time set up and back from the road, with views from the tower, over vineyards to the Sierra de Toloña and the town itself, which are truly second to none. The rooms are quite lux...[Read More](#)



Stage 3



Region: Ribera del Duero

The 'Golden Mile' - legendary wine trail with Vega Sicilia and many more.
Peñafiel's magnificent castle cum wine museum and unique square 'el Viejo Coso'.
Richard Rogers' modernista bodega at Protos
Valladolid at the hub of five wine regions. Lovely Old-town with great tapas!
Fine Roman remains at Clunia, vestiges of Moorish struggles in Peñafiel
Cycle or stroll along the banks of the Duero river

Castle hotel at the heart of the Ribera de Duero

Perched upon its little mountain overlooking the village of Curiel this pocket-sized fairy tale castle is now a stylish and comfortable hotel and a perfect base from which to discover the Ribera de Duero wine region. Once part of Eleanor of Aquitaine's estate, the castle played a key role in the Islamic wars of the 11th century, later becoming a nobleman's prison before falling into ruin after the Christian re-population of the area and the bu...[Read More](#)



Stage 4



Region: Salamanca

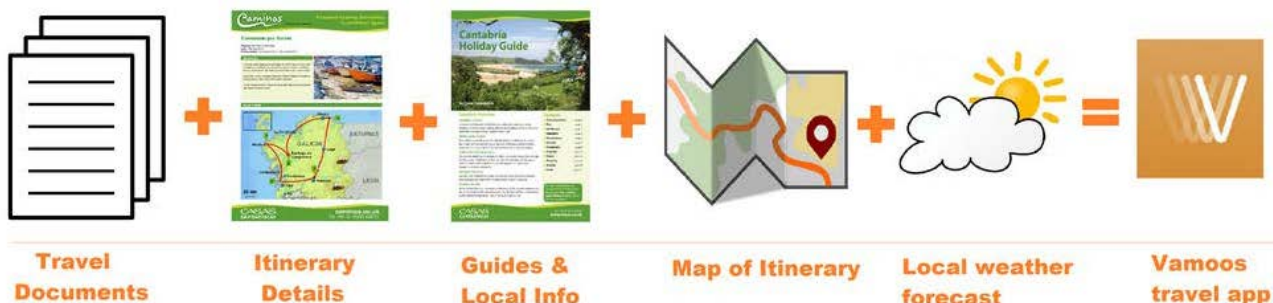
Magnificent Salamanca Spain's foremost university town
Walking in the Sierra de Francia
Gijuelo ham, one of the best in Spain
Site of Wellington's famous victory at the Battle of Salamanca and nearby Ciudad Rodrigo
Via de la Plata - ancient Roman route linking Sevilla with Gijón on the north coast
Arribes del Duero Nature Park - breathtaking catamaran journey on Duero river
Wines of Sierra de Salamanca and nearby Toro and Rueda

Castle amongst the vineyards of Salamanca

The moat is now a lovely walled garden with a glimmering pool, the battlements sunny terraces for guests to relax and take in the views, and the armoury a cool shady patio but in every other way this hotel is a very 'proper' castle indeed. This XV century castle, at various times owned by Ferdinand, the Catholic King, the Duke of Alba and Cardinal Fonseca was declared a monument of national interest in 1931. Looking out over vineyards t...[Read More](#)



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- your itinerary
- your letters and receipts
- your ferry voucher / car-hire voucher as applicable
- point to point directions
- regional guides to the areas you will be visiting
- a general food and vocab guide
- a map with each hotel geo located
- directions to find each hotel (embedded within the map)
- local weather forecast

Also, if you have any other travel documents that you'd like to load to the application you can send them to us and we'll load them on there for you.

What our clients say...

"We loved your Vamoos app - it really enhanced our pre-holiday planning and meant we had everything at our fingertips without having to have WiFi during the trip. The detail provided was exceptional. Everyone should use it!" Client 2018

"I particularly liked the use of Vamoos app to provide all the holiday information including off-line maps & travelling directions so we always had this to hand." Client 2018

"We particularly liked the Vamoos app which placed all our holiday information - and more at our fingertips" Client 2018