



Spain
Natural
Travel



Experience Heritage

E-BIKE THROUGH PRE-PYRENEAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Central Pyrenees

Next date available

From 04-06-22 to 11-06-22

Duration

7 days

Group size

6-12 people

Price from

1550€/person

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Description

Let the sound of chipping birds wake you up from the comfort of one of the renovated chambers of an authentic XVI century medieval fortified house built in the heart of the Pyrenean countryside, and be ready to e-bike some of the most unknown and surprising history landmarks of this territory. From 11th century Romanesque architecture to entirely abandoned rural towns, this program will make you feel like time-travelling a region where the present culture and rich gastronomy have been developing their strong deep roots for centuries.



Itinerary

Day 1. Arrival at Casa Mur, Alujan

Rest and group meeting before in-house dinner.



Day 2.

1st ride: The Romanesque way.

Activity: 6h | Distance: 22m (35.4km) | Ascent: 4340ft (1323m) | Difficulty: Low.

Percentage Track: 10% Percentage Road: 90%

- Highlights:

Romanesque and Gothic Architecture, Troncedo Castle, Formigales and Tierrantona Churches, Bruis Sanctuary.

- Overview:

Our first ride will take us back to the early 11th century, when the King of Pamplona, Sancho III the Elder, annexed these lands to his domains, extending the defensive line to the east and setting the foundations of what will become the Kingdom of Aragón. Built as a defensive belt to protect the Cinca and Ésera valleys from enemy attacks, La Fueva's Romanesque strongholds that we are visiting today became critical assets for its strategic locations nearly 1.000 years ago.



Day 3.

2nd ride: Old times' distant echoes.

Activity: 6h | Distance: 164m (26.4km) | Ascent: 4314ft (1315m) | Difficulty: Intermediate.

Percentage Track: 60% Percentage Road: 40%

- Highlights:

Muro de Roda Castle, Abandoned Village Remains of Lecina, Ministerio and Arasanz, Stargazing session.

- Overview:

Triggered by the relentless process of industrialisation in the early '70s, many of the hamlets routed today were progressively abandoned till what remains nowadays. The most absolute silence is the only thing that walks now among the walls of its beautiful houses.

Whole villages like Arasanz were condemned to disappear after their agricultural lands were expropriated to build the impressive Mediano reservoir. At present, they have become part of the wild nature that reigns these mountains. Once back to the comfort of our lodging and if weather provides, we will still get the chance to look at the nocturnal sky and observe the immensity of the universe during a stargazing session guided by a member of the Astronomic Association of Huesca.



Day 4.

Interlude: Experience Pyrenean Tradition.

- Highlights:

Farm tour, Cooking Live Show, Traditional Lunch, Contemporary Medieval Music Recital.

- Overview:

Today we will give a break to the pedal and enjoy a free day in Alujan to discover our guest house and its surroundings. Our host will take you on a whole tour through the history of the castle and give you the chance to explore his nearby farm with him if you are curious about how it looks like to live the rural way.

But don't go too far away as today we will be having a catered traditional lunch cooked on premises so you can experience the whole process of preparing two flagships of our local cuisine, such us shepherd breadcrumbs and fire-grilled light lamb. To call it a day, and still within the comfort of our lovely patio, a live music recital will be carried out to indulge our senses with the contemporary Celtic sounds performed by the gifted local violinist Victor Palacín.



Day 5.

3rd ride: Wheels, Beers and Mill

Activity: 6h | Distance: 202m (32.5km) | Ascent: 3018ft (920m) | Difficulty: Low

Percentage Track: 20% Percentage Road: 80%

- Highlights:

La Rondadora beer factory tour, San Juan de Toledo Romanesque Church, La Cabezonada Restored Mill.

- Overview:

Today's journey title entirely speaks for itself. Grab your e-bike and head to a guided visit at "Rondadora" brewery in La Cabezonada, where a group of young beer lover entrepreneurs have managed to develop internationally recognised innovative flavours and at the same time serve as an example of a sustainable and responsible local business.

After having a good taste and enjoy our picnic beneath the views of the hills around us, we will still have the chance to stop by two more examples of Pyrenean cultural heritage before riding our way back to our base, San Juan de Toledo Church and La Cabezonada restored mill.



Day 6.

4th ride: The Medieval Tour

Activity: 5h | Distance: 163m (26.3km) | Ascent: 3146ft (959m) | Difficulty: Intermediate

Percentage Track: 80% Percentage Road: 20%

- Highlights

Ainsa's Historic-Artistic Heritage, Traditional Craftworks and Arts Museum Guided Tour, Dine in at Ainsas historical centre.

- Overview:

After a rewarding route heading north with the views of Mediano reservoir, today's finish line awaits where it has been considered one of the most beautiful villages in Spain. The historic medieval town of Ainsa holds some of the most representative symbols of the Pyrenean Romanesque heritage. After a guided route along its ancient streets, the Museum of Traditional Arts and Crafts will provide an insight into what local life was like not so long ago, keeping alive the memory of traditional trades such as pottery, tinsmithing or basket-making. Still, we won't be saying goodbye until we palate some of the local gastronomy provided by any of the superb restaurants in the medieval old town, ¡buen provecho!.



Day 7.

5th ride: Among Wine Yards

Transfer: 1h | Activity: 2h30' | Distance: 8m (12.9km) | Ascent: Nil | Dificulty: Low

Percentage Track: 100%

- Highlights

Vineyard e-bike route, El Grillo y La Luna Winery tour, Wine tasting, Vineyard lunch.

Overview

During our last day, we aim to get you fully immersed in our wine culture. Starting with one last morning e-ride among vineyards in the heart of Somontano's region after a short van transfer to Barbastro, you will have the chance to discover a totally different landscape, displaying erratic hills, remote hamlets, and lonely hilltop monasteries.

Right before noon, El Grillo y la Luna, a European awarded family-owned wine cellar, will indulge you with a guided visit to its premises followed by a premium wine tasting of some of their best vinos. Leave your bento box at home as today's superb lunch, elaborated by a local restaurant to pair at perfection with El Grillo and la Luna wines, will be served by the vineyards before heading back to Aluján.



Day 8. Return Shuttle

After a relaxed breakfast, we make the short journey back to the Zaragoza airport and train station. Please let us know if you need help arranging the commute to any other city, either you are on your way back home or heading to your next adventure.

🚩 Leader of the Experience



Sergio Bermejo

With more than 25 years of background involved with BTT, Sergio and his partner decided years ago to move from Madrid to Ainsa to start a new life closer to nature. Sergio is a certified guide and an authentic enthusiast of mountain bikes and any kind of adventure sports. During his career, he has specialised himself as a mountain bike and canoeing sports technician and, most importantly, he has been approved as a Geological Heritage Guide of the Sobrarbe Geopark.

First aid trained, he is a very thoughtful professional who values the group's safety. He enjoys sharing his knowledge in mechanics, so don't be surprised if he tests your skills during the rides! In a nutshell, Sergio is the perfect example of an outdoors sports person that also, during his spare time, loves to explore with his e-bike to discover new routes around the Sobrarbe region and the Pyrenees.

🛏️ Accommodation

Placed in the village of Alujan in Huesca, the base for the 7 days duration of this Experience is Casa Mur, a fortified house initially built in the late 15th century, newly renovated and subsequently expanded till its current state.

Casa Mur is an architectural complex with defensive towers, cellars, medieval paintings, wine presses and even its own chapel. Despite being fully refurbished and thoroughly adapted to modern life with all the amenities and comforts, the apartments manage to preserve the traces of how life was like 500 years ago in a fortified and self-sufficient house.

Having Aragon's Cultural Heritage title, the construction has been transformed into an outstanding rural hospice. Two fully equipped apartments with 3 and 2

dormitories each, plus 2 double ensuite rooms placed in the main tower, have been named after the products they used to produce and store, Bread, Wine, Honey and the Dovecote.

It is definitely a magical and charming enclosure in the middle of the peaceful quietness of the Pre-Pyrenean countryside.



What's included:

- ✓ Welcome Pack: Bento Box to pack your lunch before heading the adventure and refillable aluminium bottle of water.
- ✓ Accommodation and all meals included. Lunches are prepared in house to be taken away during the walks as picnics when needed.
- ✓ Electric bike and safety equipment rental for 6 days.
- ✓ Catered lunch at La Luna y el Grillo Wine Cellar.
- ✓ Guided visits to La Rondadora Brewery, Museum of Traditional Arts and Crafts, and La Luna y el Grillo wine cellar.
- ✓ Transfer from/to Zaragoza airport and in-trip transportation with minibus and dedicated driver.

- ✓ Services of the tour leaders.

What's not included

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Additional drinks, tips, and any other personal expenses
- ✗ Day 6 dine in Ainsa's Medieval town

Packing list

- ✓ Personal First Aid Supplies: Sunscreen/Lipbalm, painkillers, blister kit, clearly labelled prescribed medicines, spare contact lenses or glasses.
- ✓ Documentation: Passport, additional ID, Cash
- ✓ Clothing guideline: Lightweight jacket, long & short-sleeve tops, shorts and bib shorts with a chamois pad, waterproof trousers, sport shoes and change of footwear, good breathable long socks and quick-drying sports clothes. Warm or waterproof clothing depending on season and weather conditions.
- ✓ Equipment: Sunglasses, sports gloves with grip and knuckle protection, knee pads and other protection if needed, small backpack, sports towel..
- ✓ Additional equipment: AC adaptor, camera, light binoculars, hand-washing soap (laundry available if needed).

How to get there

The tour price includes the transfer from/to Zaragoza airport and Zaragoza Delicias Train Station with minibus and the dedicated driver. Ryanair operates flights between Zaragoza and London, among many other European cities on a regular basis.

How to book

1. Make your booking

Once you find your Experience and verify that you understand and agree to our booking conditions, please choose one of the following ways to make your booking:

- Use “select a date and book now” option on the experience page.

- Please email us or use our contact form to let us know your details.
- On the phone: Call us on +44 784 336 68 46 if you call from the UK or +34 669 962 970 when calling from the EU

2. Secure your reservation

If you have chosen your desired holiday and you are happy with our proposition, we will ask you to pay the correspondent deposit of 10% of the total amount of the booking to secure your reservation.

3. Full travelling information

Before we are all set up, a complete booking form will be sent to gather essential details about you and the people you travel with, so we can do our best to make everything run smoothly during your trip. (Such as dietary requirements, any medical conditions or your actual travel insurance cover).

4. Booking confirmation

No later than two working days, we will send the final confirmation of your holiday and provide you with all the relevant information about your trip as appropriate, as well as the outstanding amount to be paid before the correspondent cut-off date.

5. Balance payment

From this moment on, we require full payment six weeks before departure. If you make your booking within six weeks of the starting date, the total amount will be needed to proceed with the reservation.

ENQUIRE

Should you need to extend your stay before or after the trip, please let us know.