Guidebook

Day Trips and Getaways Province of Castellón







CASTELLÓN: A FEEL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Dear traveller,

As the President of the Provincial Council of Castellón I am pleased to present this Day Trips and Getaways Guidebook about the province of Castellón. This guidebook will help you discover the best of the province of Castellón.

The 135 towns of the province have a lot to offer and show all year round. This Day Trip and Getaways Guidebook tries to inform you about every place in the province, from North to South, from the beaches of the Mediterranean to the Penyagolosa massif, the highest summit of the Valencian Community. Here you will find many suggestions to plan your trips around Castellón, both if your stay is short or if you plan to stay longer in the province.

Thus, this guidebook presents several sections classifying the offer of tourist products in Castellón. This way, you will find the option that best matches your interests.

Our **singular towns** are easily accessible from any point of the region and are listed under the category *Conjunto Histórico-Artístico* (official 'Historic and Artistic Site'). Together with a unique artistic heritage, they offer the visitor high-quality gastronomy and shops.

The **beaches of the province of Castellón** are still our main treasure and attraction. The 120 km of coast include very different beaches, from wild coves to urban beaches, all of them with well cared-for waters and services.

There is also a section which informs you about all you need to go sailing and play golf.

Our cultural heritage is legatee of the thousands of years of history of our region; not for nothing were our cave paintings listed World Heritage Site. The huge **natural heritage** that hoards Castellón region complements this cultural heritage. Unique landscapes like the ones in the Maestrazgo region, offering activities to enjoy them all year round. Through this guidebook you will know more about our natural parks, our network of marked footpaths which extends for more than 1,000 kilometres, the almost 1,000-kilometre-long marked paths for mountain bikes and also our health tourism services.

The annual calendar of **popular festivals** is extensive. In this guidebook are popular **festivals** that combine tradition and history with the Mediterranean colour and *joie de vivre*.

You will also find marked **footpaths** to go through some of the most appealing places of our province, or themed routes to discover, in detail, the most interesting facts of our culture.

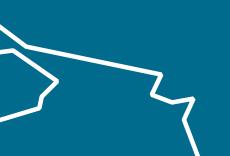
This guidebook aims to give you hundreds of ideas to plan a trip with your family, with children or by your own, and for all kinds of interests. Any sort of activity, from the most dynamic to the most contemplative, to discover the province of Castellón.

Accessing our tourist website www.turismodecastellon.com you will also find information about our accommodation offer, to plan your stay in Castellón and make the most of this Day Trips and Getaways Guidebook.

We are sure that the Castellón territory will be the ideal destination for your holidays. You will enjoy every minute of your stay in the province, which is qualified to offer the visitor a professional and kind treatment.

Welcome to Castellón!

Javier Moliner Gargallo President of the Provincial Council of Castellón



www.turismodecastellon.com

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The province of Castellón is the most Northern region in the Valencian Community; a larger area which includes our province and is located on the Eastern coast of Spain, by the Mediterranean Sea.

Nowadays Castellón is one of the main tourist attractions in Europe. Not only has the province a wide range of leisure activities to offer the visitor, but it also boasts a modern transport network along the Spanish and European Mediterranean Basin.

GETTING TO CASTELLÓN

EASY AND COMFORTABLE









The AP-7 motorway is part of the E-15 European route and crosses the entire province from North to South linking it up conveniently with Europe. Moreover, the Mudéjar highway (A-23) goes through the South of the province and is also part of the E-07 European route, simplifying access to the Cantabrian coast and the South of France. The N-232 road links the North of the province with the North of Spain.

The high-speed rail of the Mediterranean Basin stops in Castellón,

Therefore, rail transport operates every day, connecting the city to Europe and to the main cities in Spain.

Castellón's airport, which will start operating soon, offers a new way of getting to our towns, beaches and mountains, bringing Castellón closer to Europe and offering the passengers our tourist attractions and our excellent weather, with more than 300 sunny days per year.

As for Castellón's harbour, many cruise ships moor there, making it the starting point for trips to many interesting parts of the province.

A wide range of coaches and local trains bring closer the furthest places in the province in a very simple and convenient way, so everyone can discover the thousand and one charms of this land.

www.turismodecastellon.com

SINGULAR TOWNS

The province of Castellón has got a large and worthy cultural, historical and artistic heritage.

Many more towns in this province are worth a visit, but visiting these twelve towns is, with no doubt, required to discover the history of their streets and monuments.

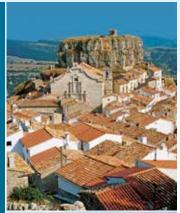
These towns are listed Historic and Artistic Sites by the Spanish Ministry of Culture, due to their ensemble of monuments that are listed as Historic and Artistic Monuments.

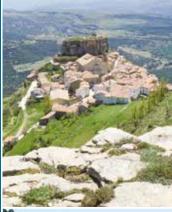
Ares del Maestre, Burriana, Castellón de la Plana, Catí, Culla, Jérica, Morella, Onda, Peñíscola, Sant Mateu, Segorbe, Vilafamés.

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

ARES DEL MAESTRAT

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS







Distance from Castellón: 76 km.





The location of Ares del Maestrat is a real surprise for travellers. The old quarter appears to be leaning against the foot of La Mola Mountain which dominates the landscape at a height of 1,000m.

It was highly important in mediaeval times, and a walk through its streets will reveal a templar castle, a cave which has been transformed into an exhibition centre, mansions with elaborate porches, the old prison, the fish market, the church and the town hall.

Ares is situated amid lush countryside and nature with ravines, buttes and tiered terraces with dry stone wall architecture, all of which you can discover by taking one of the numerous signposted paths.

Something you cannot miss is the cave paintings, especially Cueva Remigia which is considered to be the Sistine Chapel of the Neolithic age.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.aresdelmaestrat.es

Note:

Barranc de Gasulla Cave Paintings. UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Plaza Mayor - Els Perxes fish market

Asuncion Town Church

Network of local paths

Barranc del Molins: La Nevera Museum

Castle and cave

Fortified country houses

La Mola de Ares y Barranc dels Horts Town Nature Park

BURRIANA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS





Distance from Castellón: 14 km.





With a fishing port, commercial port and more than 15km of beaches and orange groves... this is the essence of the Mediterranean.

The old quarter, at its finest during the mediaeval era, with El Salvador Church representing a beautiful example of a gothic temple and then later, thanks to the orange trade came the modernist era; there are still traces of Muslim influence to be found. A walk through the streets will bring to light all of these monuments and allow you to take in the lively atmosphere of its shops and businesses.

The whole place transmits peace, except during Las Fallas festival in March and the Arenal Sound Festival in August.

The warm water at its beautiful beaches is complemented by a Marina which boasts all kinds of water sports.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.turismoburriana.com

Note:

Fishing and Yacht Port
Convento de la Merced Cultural Centre and the
Archaeological Museum
El Salvador church
Watchtowers
El clot de la Mare de Déu Local Natural Park
Arenal Sound Festival and Fallas

CASTELLÓN DE LA PLANA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS













The capital of the region has a lot to offer. It is open to the Mediterranean with its seaside quarter called El Grau and sports marina, commercial and fishing ports as well as two Nature Parks; Las Islas Columbretes and Desierto de las Palmas, along with magnificent beaches equipped with every service and activity a tourist could wish for.

This business town with its monuments on the central streets surrounding the Plaza Mayor, literally buzzes throughout the year, but even more so during La Magdalena festival; a declared tourist attraction.

Castellón is a modern capital with excellent transport links, and lots on offer for business tourism, a cruise departure port which also provides water sports and activities, plus dynamic cultural, gastronomic and leisure options.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

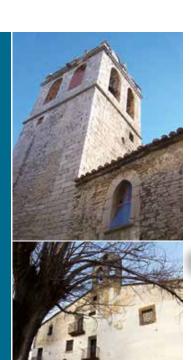
Note:

Plaza Mayor: Town Hall, Fadri belltower, Santa Maria Cathedral Canem Fish Market Hermitage and Magdalena Festival Ribalta Park Art Museum

Beaches and port

CATÍ

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS





Distance from Castellón: 73 km.





As you reach Catí you begin to go deeper into the history of this region. Catí houses some extremely important religious and civic buildings such as the Casa de la Vila or the Casa del Delme and the parish church, attractive examples of gothic art and a reflection of its rich history.

The gastronomy in Catí has international fame with its cheeses, meats, "turrones" and marzipan which can all be tasted in one of the many town restaurants.

L'Avella Hermitage has a natural spring and is a unique place for enjoying the scenery. Still preserved in the surrounding countryside are mediaeval icehouses where snow was stored during the winter, and of course there are peaks of over 1,000m, so you can enjoy some spectacular outings.

Find out more:

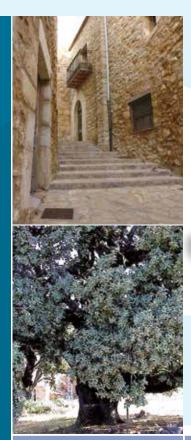
www.turismodecastellon.com www.cati.es

Note:

City walls and Castle
Parish church
Mediaeval icehouses
Gastronomy
Pilgrimage to Sant Pere de Castellfort

CULLA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS





Distance from Castellón: 57 km.





The mediaeval town of Culla has one of the best preserved old quarters in the region.

Walking through these well maintained streets, alleys and small squares will give you a tour of restored monuments such as Asunción church, the jail, the old hospital, Casa de la Vila and porticoes until you reach the castle and the remains of its walls, doors and arches.

El Terrat scenic viewpoint offers some impressive panoramic views.

The landscape at Culla is dotted with lots of country houses, fountains and lush nature, the most important of which is Carrasca de Culla, a monumental tree belonging to the Comunitat Valenciana, Molinell River and Sant Cristòfol Hermitage.

There are some sign-posted paths to show you around the area.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.culla.es

Note:

Castle and Walls Festivals, Sant Cristòfol Pilgrimage, Pla Ball... Gastronomy; black truffles, 'tombet'... Natural beauty spots and sign-posted paths

JÉRICA DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS





Distance from Castellón: 92 km.





 ${f M}$ udéjar tower in Jérica reigns over the whole of Palancia valley.

Mudéjar bell tower is one of the few remaining examples of Mudejar (Muslims who remained in Spain) art to be seen in the Comunitat Valenciana.

A great historical heritage welcomes you to the town with Santa Ägueda and Cristo churches, or the old church at Convento del Socós, arches, porticoes and remains of city walls can be seen as you walk through the streets, all this along with the castle serve to remind us of the strategic and defensive importance of the place both in the Muslim and Christian eras. The town Museum houses some valuable assets.

However, the surrounding countryside is also important with many fountains and beauty spots which make it an ideal place for a pleasant outing.

Find out more:

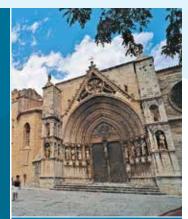
www.turismodecastellon.com www.jerica.es

Note:

Da Teresa Gil de Viadurre Mediaeval Market Trails and Paths Paseo de las Fuentes Vía Verde Ojos Negros (the green route)

MORELLA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS







Distance from Castellón: 104 km.





The unique, unmistakable vision of Morella crowned by its castle makes it one of the most beautiful villages in Spain.

Morella, the capital of Els Ports has a rich history and proof of this can be found dating back to prehistoric times with cave paintings of Morella La Vella, then there are traces of Iberians, Romans, Jews, Muslims and above all Christians, as Jaume I converted this into a royal village.

From mediaeval times we have the impressive Basilica de Santa María, a porticoed street called Blasco de Alagón, Convento de Sant Fransesc, the palaces and the town hall.

The village is completely enclosed by stone walls with 6 gates and 14 towers, and along with its Castle, Morella was a defensive bastion which witnessed the passing of El Cid and General Cabrera.

With such great cuisine and lots of celebrations, you are invited to Morella at all times.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.morellaturistica.com

Note:

Castle and Walls

Santa María Archpriestal Church

Museum network: Temps de Dinosaures (museum about dinosaurs), Museu del Sexenni (museum about El Sexenni festival), Temps d'Imatge (photography museum) and Temps d'Història (history museum)

Typical products

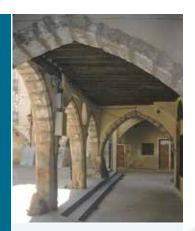
L'Anunci and El Sexenni popular festivals

Local gastronomy and quality restaurants

Yearly Festivals and Sexenal (once every six years) Festival

ONDA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS







Distance from Castellón: 25 km.





The streets and squares in the historic centre of Onda still have a mediaeval feel, and they are carefully watched over by the Castle with its 300 towers.

Almudín square with its Synagogue, La Sangre church and Asunción church are just some of the monuments to be discovered as you walk through the streets of Onda.

There are numerous ceramic paintings in the streets, as the tradition of manufacturing ceramics was brought back again during the Muslim era, however, it was in the eighteenth century when workshops were built and ceramics developed to such an extent that the town became one of the most important ceramic producers in the world.

The Castle, an important stronghold, houses an interesting museum complementing others to be found in the town.

Tradition and modernity go hand in hand in this town.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.onda.es

Note:

Castle
Molí de la Reixa (industrial building)
Manolo Safont (Ceramics and Tiles Museum)
El Carmen Natural Science Museum
El Salvador Hermitage

PEÑÍSCOLA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS







Distance from Castellón: 74 km.





This town almost surrounded by sea, with the Papa Luna castle dominating the Mediterranean, is one of the most admired postcard scenes of the whole coastline.

The templar castle is an impregnable watchtower with its impressive walls surrounding the old quarter which is full of whitewashed houses and narrow winding streets.

Peñiscola is a combination of long fine, sandy beaches to the north of the town and beautiful coves protected by rocky cliffs to the south. These well-maintained beaches along with the Sierra de Irta Nature Park and its numerous paths, offer visitors a wide variety of activities.

Hotels, apartments, camp sites, restaurants and leisure facilities, as well as a varied programme of recreational and cultural activities give visitors the freedom to choose how to use their free time.

All of this makes Peñiscola the most important tourist destination in Castellón.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.peniscola.es

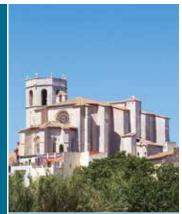
Note:

Papa Luna Castle Defense walls Jazz festival Food festivals Maritime Museum

One of the most beautiful villages in Spain

SANT MATEU

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS







Distance from Castellón: 65 km.





Sant Mateu is the historic capital of the Maestrazgo, and at the hands of the Order of Montesa it became an important centre for exporting wool to weaving mills in Florence and surrounding regions. During this glorious period from the fourteenth to fifteenth centuries, the architectural monuments we so admire today were built, comprising the parish church which saw the end of the Western Schism, Angel Fountain in the porticoed Main Square, and different palaces such as Borrull or Cort Nova which houses the town hall.

There are various sign-posted trails in and around Sant Mateu, some of which cover streets full of history and tradition, such as Senderos de Pequeño Recorrido (short trails) or Vía Verde (the green route).

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.santmateu.com

Note:

Archpriestal Church Plaza Mayor (Main Square) Mare de Déu dels Angels Sanctuary Signposted trails

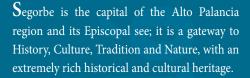
SEGORBE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS









The neoclassical cathedral houses one of the best gothic art museums in Valencia, and along with numerous churches, civic buildings and restored heritage, visitors are invited to discover the city before trying a traditional meal in one of the many excellent restaurants.

Nature is also important in Segorbe with its olive trees and high quality olive oil, the Vía Verde and Palancio River being its backbone.

You must not miss the Entrada de Toros y Caballos, which is a unique show including bulls and horses and is held during the first week of September.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.turismo.segorbe.es

Note:

Museo del Aceite y Olivera Morruda (olive oil museum) Interpretation Centre for the Entrada de Toros y Caballos Festival

Vía Verde de Ojos Negros (the green route) Esperanza Nature Park and 50 Caños Fountain





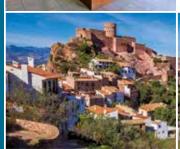
VILAFAMÉS

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - SINGULAR TOWNS





Distance from Castellón: 28 km.





This is one of the most picturesque villages in the region.

Come and walk through the streets with whitewashed houses made of red rodeno stone. From the Arabic castle sitting at the top of the village and overlooking the whole of the Pla de l'Arc, you can walk down to the Museum of Contemporary Art, where art from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries contrasts with the fifteenth century architecture of Batlle Palace which is now the museum itself.

Numerous wine cellars invite you to taste the local wines and then you can end the day with exquisite cuisine based on local products, like olive oil and fruit.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.vilafames.es

Note:

Cave paintings below the castle Roca Grossa (a promontory) Fountains and recreational areas www.turismodecastellon.com

 ${f T}$ he province of Castellón offers superb beaches in its 120 kilometres of coast.

Calm waters with perfect temperature to have a bath almost all-year-round, sandy beaches with access for people with limited mobility, some coarse sand beaches, or hidden beaches and coves in the middle of protected areas. Castellón offers a vast array of beaches to the visitors.

The seaside towns are: Vinaròs, Benicarló, Peñíscola, Alcalà de Xivert-Alcossebre, Torreblanca, Cabanes, Oropesa del Mar, Benicàssim, Castellón de la Plana, Almassora, Burriana, Nules, Moncofa, Chilches, La Llosa, Almenara. They take care and improve these beaches for you.

More than 20 beaches in the province of Castellón have been awarded the Blue Flag by the European Foundation for Environmental Education, due to the outstanding quality of their water and the services they offer.

Beaches are the main tourist attraction in the province of Castellón.

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - BEACHES IN THE PROVINCE OF CASTELLÓN







Castellón offers more than 120 km of Mediterranean coast. In Castellón you can choose from all kinds of beaches, all of which guarantee you the finest waters and a multitude of services and facilities for a great day out in the sunshine. From urban beaches to hidden coves, the main tourist heritage in Castellón is our Mediterranean coast.



DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - BEACHES IN THE PROVINCE OF CASTELLÓN



Alcalà de Xivert - Alcossebre:

- Las Fuentes Beach
- Carregador Beach
- Romana Beach
- El Moro Beach
- Manyetes or Tropicana Beach
- · Serradal Beach
- Ribamar Coves
- · Tres Beaches

Almassora:

- La Torre Beach
- Benafeli Beach

Almenara:

Casablanca Beach

Benicarló:

- Norte or Mar Chica Beach
- El Morrongo Beach
- La Caracola Beach

Benicàssim:

- Voramar Beach
- Almadraba Beach
- Torre San Vicente Beach
- Els Terrers Beach
- Heliópolis Beach

Burriana:

- L'Arenal Beach
- La Malvarrosa Beach
- El Grao Beach

Cabanes:

- Torre la Sal Beach
- · Cuartell Vell Beach

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - BEACHES IN THE PROVINCE OF CASTELLÓN







Castelló de la Plana:

- El Pinar Beach
- El Serradal Beach
- El Gurugú Beach

Chilches:

- El Cerezo Beach South Beach
- Les Cases Beach North Beach

La Llosa:

· La Llosa Beach

Moncofa:

- Pedraroja Beach
- Grao Beach
- Belcaire Beach
- Beniesma Beach
- Estanyol Beach
- Masbó Beach

Nules:

- L'Alcudia Beach
- El Boyalar Beach
- Les Marines Beach
- El Rajadell Beach

Oropesa del Mar:

- · Morro de Gos Beach
- La Concha Beach
- La Renegá Beach
- Platgetes de Bellver Beach
- Les Amplàries Beach
- Orpesa la Vella Cove
- El Retor Cove

SPAIN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - BEACHES IN THE PROVINCE OF CASTELLÓN







Peñíscola:

- Norte Beach
- Sur Beach
- · Serra d'Irta Coves

Torreblanca:

- Norte Beach
- Torrenostra Beach
- Prat Beaches

Vinaròs:

- Aiguadoliva Beach / El Fortí Beach
- Fora del Forat Beach
- Les Cales Beach / El Clot Beach
- Riu de la Sénia Beach / Saldonar Beach
- Triador Beach / Barbiguera Cove
- Les Deveses Cove / El Pastor Cove
- El Pinar Cove / Els Cossis Cove
- Els Pinets Cove / Fondo de Bola Cove
- La Foradada Cove/ La Roca Plana Cove
- Les Llanetes Cove / Les Salines Cove
- Les Timbes Cove / El Puntal Cove
- Les Roques Cove / Saldonar Cove
- Sòl de Riu Cove

Find out more:

You will find detailed information about the services available in each beach on our web site. Download our Costa y Nautica (coast and navigation) guide.

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

25 Blue Flag Awards to the high quality of the beaches.

Marinas offering all the services for sailing.

www.turismodecastellon.com

GETAWAYS

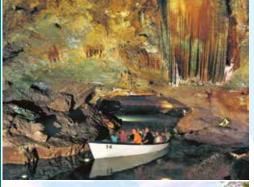
There is a lot to see and do in the province of Castellón. Here you have several offers which will lead you to different part of Castellón province coast and inland.

Coves de Sant Josep underground river and caves in La Vall d'Uixo, Benicarló-Peñiscola Marina, the Villas in Benicàssim, Torre del Rey (king's castle) in Oropesa del Mar, Valltorta Cultural Park, Minero del Maestrat Park, the Planetarium in Castellón, Puig de la Nao Iberian village in Benicarló, the Roman arch in Cabanes, Vall de Crist Carthusian monastery in Altura, Balma Sanctuary in Zorita del Maestrat, Mare de Deu de la Salud Royal Sanctuary in Traiguera, Salto de la Novia waterfall in Navajas, the walled village of Mascarell, Dinomania in Cinctorres, Water Parks in Castellón, parachuting in Castellón, Saltapins zip-lining and rope bridges in Morella.

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

SUBTERRANEAN RIVER OF COVES DE SANT JOSEP

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



By visiting Europe's longest navigable subterranean river the visitor will go deeper into the Earth plying calm waters on a boat, contemplating the fanciful shapes of the rocks, eroded through the action of water for thousands of years, going backward and forward in time at breakneck speed when imagining the creation of stalactites and stalagmites, listening to silence, noticing the water murmur, hearing the echo of a drop of water on a subterranean lake, discovering a beautiful landscape that nature has hidden since time immemorial.

SPAIN







www.turismodecastellon.com www.riosubterraneo.com

Opening hours and prices on the web site. Tels: (+34) 964 69 05 76 - (+34) 964 69 67 61



In Coves de Sant Josep you can practise speleology and discover the interior of the grotto. Contact us to find out more. Right at the entrance, on the right, we find cave paintings, listed World Heritage Site.

CASTELLÓN (

LA VALL D'UIX



BENICARLÓ-PEÑÍSCOLA MARINA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS







 ${f T}$ he Benicarló-Peñíscola Marina holds the nautical offer of the north of the province of Castellón. The harbours of these two towns offer many nautical activities, sports activities, accommodation and catering, so visitors can enjoy Castellón coast from the sea, both if they are experienced or amateurs.

The Marina has the best offer in nautical sports, in a unique environment of sandy beaches, natural parks and marine reserves. You will find your activity amongst this offer of sports activities and have fun.

The Marina also has the greatest offer of accommodation and restaurants, just a click away.

Enjoy any of our activities and make your visit in this destination be something different and fun.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.enbenicarlopeniscola.com www.ajuntamentdebenicarlo.org www.peniscola.es

E.N. BENICARLÓ - PEÑÍSCOLA Puerto Deportivo Benicarló Telephone: (+34) 964 465 206 - (+34) 654 904 917 info@enbenicarlopeniscola.com

CASTFILÓN (

Note:

Columbretes Islands, the paradise of scuba divers. Relax in a spa after spending a day by the sea.

PEÑÍSCOLA



LAS VILLAS IN BENICÀSSIM

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS







From the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century, Benicàssim experienced a huge boom as a tourist attraction that earned it the nickname of 'the Biarritz of the Levante'. In fact, it was one of the first towns with hotels in Spain, what turned it into an attraction for several renowned important figures, outstanding wealthy families from the Valencian and Castellón bourgeoisie which decided to build their summer homes, of an unusual architecture and with huge and luxurious gardens, next to the beautiful beaches in Benicàssim. 51 listed *villas* are registered, 19 of which are signposted. Furthermore, four buildings are entirely protected.

Going the whole length of *Las Villas* route may be a great choice. All the *villas* are lovely, although the most striking may be Villa Elisa, currently owned by the Council and a venue for sociocultural events.

Find out more:

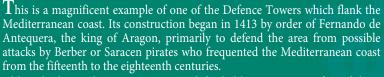
www.turismodecastellon.com www.turismobenicassim.com

Note:

Beaches Music festivals Via Verde del Mar greenway Desert de les Palmes natural park Sant Vicent watchtower BENICÀSSIM CASTELLÓN • ZAGS

TORRE DEL REY (THE KING'S TOWER) OROPESA DEL MAR DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK – GETAWAYS





Although almost the entire coast was defended by towers, very few of them were of the quality of this military construction which is unique along the Mediterranean.

Its presence alone must surely have dissuaded pirates from making many attacks, which in that era were numerous, and nowadays you have the chance to admire a military construction which is unparalleled in the rest of the world.



Find out more:

Opening hours:

During the summer: La Torre del Rey is open to the public every afternoon from Tuesday to Sunday from 5.30pm to 8.15pm.

The rest of the year: On Fridays at 5.15pm by prior booking at a tourist office or by calling 964 312 320 (always reserve at least one day in advance).

Entry price: Free.

Avda. del Faro, sn, 12594 Oropesa del Mar Tel. 964 312 320 oropesadelmar@touristinfo.net www.turismodecastellon.com

www.oropesadelmarturismo.com





Guided tours: Tourist Info Oropesa del Mar. Plaza de Paris s/n. Paseo de la Concha, 12594 Oropesa del Mar.

Telephone: 964 312 320, oropesadelmar@touristinfo.net

A site of Cultural Interest and declared a Historical and Artistic Monument in 1931.

In 1564 the tower was bought by Felipe II for 10,000 ducats, which is why it became known as the King's Tower.



LA VALLTORTA CULTURAL PARK, TÍRIG

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS





VISITING THE SHELTERS

Starting from the Museum: Mas d'En Josep (at 10.00 am), Cova dels Cavalls (at noon); Cova Ribassals or Coves del Civil caves. Visits to La Saltadora (Les Coves de Vinromà) and to Abric Centelles (Albocàsser) must be set up in advance by telephone.

Cova Remígia cave (Ares del Maestre):

Visit from Mas de la Montalbana. Summer opening hours (from May to September), 10.00 am, noon and 6.00 pm. Winter opening times (from October to April), 10.00 am, noon and 4.00 pm. Please contact us to set up a visit in advance: (+34) 964 762 186. Mondays and Thursdays closed. It is required to arrange a visit in advance: (+34) 964 336 010.

The visit takes around 2 hours.

The shelters with cave paintings in this gully, excellent example of rock art of the Iberian Mediterranean Basin, are listed Historic and Artistic Monument and World Heritage Site by Unesco.

In the Museum, which is also the visitors' centre, is a reproduction of Cova dels Cavalls cave and it is the starting point for guided visits to the different shelters with cave paintings.

In its four permanent exhibition halls is a display of Valencian rock art. It is also one of the best research centres on rock art of the Iberian Mediterranean Basin.

TÍRIG •

CASTELLÓN •

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.cult.gva.es www.valltorta.com

Pla del Om, s/n 12179 TÍRIG

Telephones: (+34) 964 336 010 - (+34) 964 761 025 museo_valltorta@gva.es

Opening times:

From October to April:

Tuesdays-Sundays, 10.00 am to 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

From May to September:

Tuesdays-Sundays, 10.00 am to 2.00 pm and 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Note:

Free admission.

The rock art of the Iberian Mediterranean Basin was declared a World Heritage Site by Unesco. Download our guide to Cave Paintings from the web site.



MINING PARK OF EL MAESTRAT

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS





This museum is based in the mine shaft itself, which has been carefully renovated preserving the original aspect of the mine, and prepared for public use. Its interior is arranged along the various natural galleries which are now safe, easily accessible display areas, and can be visited free of charge. The guided visit takes visitors back to the glorious mining age of Torre d'en Besora and Culla and faithfully represents the manual extraction process of the mineral.



Minero del Maestrat Park is a museum which preserves the history of the mine itself, while informing and offering visitors a different experience in the interior of a real iron mine. The 2 kilometres of galleries make you feel like a miner would have, with simulated explosions and extractions.



Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.parcminerdelmaestrat.es Telephone: (+34) 651 17 70 71 e-mail: parcminerdelmaestrat@gmail.com Follow us on facebook.com at Mina Museo Esperanza



This Mine Park is the only one in the Valencian region. Quality rural accommodation in inland Castellón. There are excellent views from this location.



SPAIN

CASTELLÓN PLANETARIUM

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



The Planetarium's 25-metre dome stands out above the blue sea in El Grau, Castellón's maritime district. It was the first planetarium built in the Valencian Community and, apart from the exhibition halls, it houses the entrance to the Visitors' Centre of the Columbretes Islands Natural Park.

Right in the hall of the building we find **Focault's pendulum**, a prelude to the Projection Room, where the visitor can learn more about the Universe, the Sky and the Earth through different astronomy films.

CASTFILÓN •





INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS:

Telephones: (+34) 964 282 968 - (+34) 964 282 584 Fax: (+34) 964 285 161

Paseo Marítimo, 1 - 12100 El Grao (Castellón, Spain)

OPENING TIMES AND TICKETS:

For more information about opening times and prices: www.planetari.castello.es



www.turismodecastellon.com www.planetari.castello.es

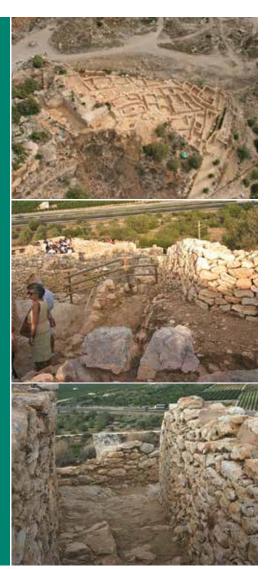
Note:

Located between El Pinar del Grao and Castellón beaches.



THE IBERIAN VILLAGE OF EL PUIG DE LA NAO, BENICARLÓ

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



El Puig de la Nao is one of the most important Iberian sites in the Comunidad Valenciana. From its geostrategic position, it dominates the Mediterranean and the plain lying below.

A visit to El Puig gives us an insight into the daily life of Iberians as we walk through the village which reached its height in the 4th and 5th centuries BC. All kinds of utensils, basic tools as well as interesting Attic pottery have been discovered here. A walk around restored streets, to different houses and beside the walls helps us to discover how they lived and worked, how and with what they traded, how they ate etc., in fact, all about the Iberians who lived in this land from the 1st to 7th centuries.

At Benicarló Museum you will find pottery, iron tools, bronze, silver and gold utensils, wine amphorae and numerous remains found during excavations.

Find out more:

Opening hours

To visit this village you must reserve a guided tour with MUCBE (Benicarló City Museum) Tel. 964 460 448

correu. mucbe@ajuntament debenicarlo.org

Entry: €2 per person.

Partida El Puig. 12580 Benicarló

Tels. 964 473 180 - 964 460 448 benicarlo@touristinfo.net

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City Museum at the Cultural Centre of San Francisco Convent
Plaza de la Paz, 2 - Tel, 964 460 448 / correu.mucbe@ajuntamentdebenicarlo.org

www.ajuntamentdebenicarlo.org / www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

Site of Cultural Interest and a Historical and Artistic Monument. You can take a guided tour and discover with every detail about how the Iberians lived and who they really were.

CASTFILÓN •

ROMAN ARCH IN CABANES AND THE VÍA AUGUSTA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



This arch is a landmark of Roman culture in the Castellón region. The magnificent Roman arch is located parallel to the old Via Augusta. It was built in the 2nd century AD as an honorary monument and is a magnificent example of a rounded archway standing at a height of 5.80m.

It almost looks like a triumphal arch which is missing its entablature and spandrels. It is also recorded as having been a funeral monument. It is made of granite ashlars which are joined together without mortar. Still remaining are the pillars which support the arch comprising 14 keystones.



Find out more:

Touristinfo Cabanes Plaza de la Iglesia, 4, 12180 Cabanes Te. 964 657 032

Mail: cabanes@touristinfo.net

Web: www.cabanes.es

www.turismodecastellon.com



Note:

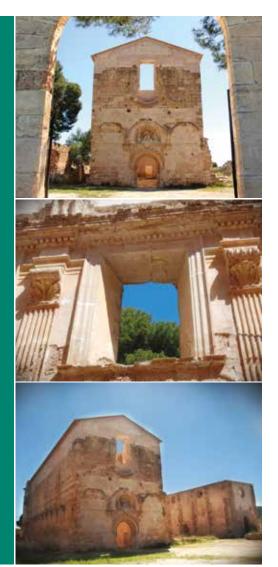
Declared an Asset of Cultural Interest

The Vía Augusta crosses the region for 146km.

The Vía Augusta is completely signposted with curb stones painted in white and blue, and milestones imitating Roman signposts.



CARTUJA DE VALL DE CRIST (MONASTERY), ALTURA DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



 ${
m The}$ Cartuja was founded by express wish of King Martin "The Humane", and was one of the economic, cultural, religious, and political centres of power in the lands of Valencia for more than five centuries.

Pope Clemente VII gave permission for it to be founded in April 1383, and the first monks to occupy it, did so in June 1385. In the world of art, Vall de Cristo was home to only the most select visual arts at that time, and promoted exceptional architectural works such as the Iglesia Mayor (main church) and its gothic cloister with unique proportions and harmony. In political, social and religious spheres, the influence of Vall de Cristo is reflected in the important role it played in resolving the Compromise of Caspe and the Western Schism.

Some famous people have resided in the Cartuja, such as Bonifacio Ferrer who was the prior, San Ignacio de Loyola and Pope Benedicto XIII. Today it is possible to visit the restored ruins which evoke the splendour of the Cartuja.

Find out more:

Tourist Info Altura Calle Ignacio Marin, 1, 12410 Altura Tels. 964 147 075 - 964 146 384 altura@touristinfo.net Opening hours: Contact the Town-hall

(964 146 385) or Altura Tourist Office (964 127 075) for information on

opening hours and/or to arrange a guided tour. Entry: Free

Partida de la Cartuja. 12410 Altura - Tel. 964 146 384 - mail. info@valldecrist.org / web: www.valldecrist.org www.turismodecastellon.com - www.altura.es

ALTURA

CASTFILÓN (

Note:

Declared a Site of Cultural Interest and Historical and Artistic Monument by the Generalitat Valenciana. A large part of the art work and furniture from the Cartuja can be found in the Museum at Segorbe Cathedral.

SPAN

SANT, DE LA MARE DE DEU DE LA BALMA, ZORITA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



La Balma is one of the most interesting sanctuaries in the whole of the Communidad Valenciana, as well as being especially spiritual. It is a centre for pilgrimages, which have been documented there since the fourteenth century. It is located on the left bank of the River Bergantes, almost three kilometres north from the village of Zorita. The name Balma refers to a kind of elongated hollow which has been caused by erosion. The Sanctuary itself is built into this hollow, in an immense solid rock mass which looks like it could fall into the river at any moment. There, embedded in the rock, in this natural cave, is this Renaissance façade from the seventeenth century.

Since 1617 a covered cross has welcomed travellers reaching the Sanctuary from the road. There are some interesting paintings by Cruella on the roof of the Sanctuary.

Find out more:

Opening hours: Monday: closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: mornings 10.30am - 1pm and afternoons 4.30pm - 8.30pm. Saturdays and Sundays: 11am - 8pm. Entry: Free.

CV-14, Km. 22 (Crta. Aguaviva). 12311 Zorita de Maestrazgo. Tels: 964 177 095 (rest.) / 964 177 070 (T.hall)

www.zoritadelmaestrazgo.es www.labalma.es

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

Site of Cultural Interest and Historical and Artistic Monument since 1979. The hermitage and its long façade, along with the bell tower were built in 1667. It houses a hotel and restaurant.



REAL SANT, DE LA VIRGEN DE LA FONT DE LA SALUD, TRAIGUERA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS







In 1384 two shepherds discovered a sculpture of the Virgin, and in the place it was found a small chapel was built, which over time became the temple that we know so well today.

Building of the current sanctuary was started in 1598 and includes; a church (fifteenth - eighteenth centuries); the Chaplain's house (sixteenth century), which dates back to 1570 and was where everything for the whole building was organized from.

The Hospedería (guest quarters) from the sixteenth century, which formed part of the temple, was built under protection of the Bishop of Segorbe.

Duques de Segorbe Palace (sixteenth century) or Duc Alfons d'Aragon was started in 1523 and its cloister was never finished.

These buildings were declared a royal hermitage in 1542 by Carlos V, they were renovated by Felipe II and validated by papal bull in 1555.

Find out more:

Opening hours. Guided tours

Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from 11am to 1.30pm and 4pm to 7pm. Groups of more than 15 persons to be arranged with the Town-hall

Other hours to be arranged with the Town-hall.

Entry: €2 per person

€1.50 for groups, retired persons and students

Santuario Fuente de la Salud. 123390 Traiguera

Tels. 964 765 869 - 964 765 490 (T.hall)

traiguera@touristinfo.net / www.traiguera.es

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

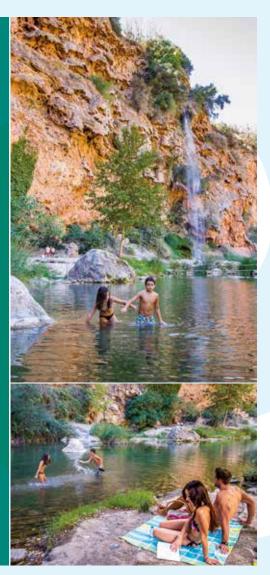
This is a site of Cultural Interest and was declared a historical and artistic Monument in 2007. The path to reach it was dotted with "peirons" or crosses from the sixteenth century. This highly important Sanctuary has been visited by Popes and Kings throughout history. There is a restaurant in the Casa dels Capellans (The chaplain's house).

CASTELLÓN

TRAIGUERA •

SALTO DE LA NOVIA WATERFALL IN NAVAJAS

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



The Salto de la Novia waterfall is part of a beautiful natural site in Navajas, in the Alto Palancia county, 75 kilometres away from Castellón de la Plana. This natural site has beautiful waterfalls, being the Cascada del Brazal waterfall the most outstanding one (60 metres high). Around the river are pools with clear and refreshing water where visitors can enjoy this natural paradise.

The site offers a green area to have a rest, admire the beautiful landscape and spend a great day with the family. It is a magical place thanks to the singular landscape created by the water and the nature around the site, as well as to the legend that gives name to this beautiful landscape.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.navajas.es

Note:

Routes and Footpaths

Ojos Negros Greenway

MTB Centre besides Altomira Camping Site

Navajas has a great offer of accommodation and catering



MASCARELL, A FORTIFIED VILLAGE DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS







 \mathbf{M} ascarell is a hamlet in the municipality of Nules, from which it is only 2 kilometres away. This little fortified village is unique in the Valencian Community and it was listed Heritage of Cultural Interest. This village was founded when the Muslims living in the neighbouring village of Burriana were expelled. The oldest register of these events dates back to 1310. James I expelled the Muslims from Burriana, and they settled between Nules and Burriana, that is to say, in Mascarell. Mascarell was almost totally deserted after the Muslim expulsion and it remained so until the 18th century.

The town hall and the parish church, from the late 18th and 17th centuries, respectively, stand out in the village. The latter is home to interesting sgraffiti.

CASTELLÓN (

MASCARELL

The wall surrounding this village is made of mortar, soil and brick. It has a tower in the centre of each side. We can enter Mascarell through the east or west side. It is a square shaped village.



www.turismodecastellon.com www.nules.es

Note:

Mascarell has got 200 inhabitants. A bustling Mediaeval Festival takes place is November.



DINOMANÍA IN CINCTORRES

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



 ${f F}$ or thousands of years dinosaurs lived in the territory of Castellón. Nowadays we still find some tracks that prove that they lived in our region.

In Cinctorres and around Ana Palaeontological Site a theme cultural park is being built, which shows the way dinosaurs looked like and how they lived: **Dinomanía**.

An active site housing over 700 fossils, where excavations still go on extracting dinosaurs that are more than 125 millions of years old. It is a park to observe, feel, understand and learn.



Do not miss the Palaeontological Museum of Cinctorres, in Palau dels Santjoans, which completes the visit to Ana Site.



SPAIN

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.dinomania.es

Note:

In Cinctorres you can also visit La Faixa Museum or La Fábrica, an old textile mill. Arrange your visit calling: (+34) 964 181 152 - (+34) 964 205 243.

In the region of Els Ports are many archaeological and palaeontological sites.

It is the first site with dinosaurs of the Valencian Community open for visitors.

WATERPARKS IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS



Having fun in the water is possible in Castellón thanks to its warm weather in summer; and children just love it.

Aquarama, in Benicassim, is Castellón's most popular water park. Water chutes, swimming-pools, activities around the water, with rides such as the *Space Shot* or *El Remolino*, which are unequalled rides in Spain.

Segobriga Park is the first water park inland Castellón province. It is located in Segorbe, next to the swimming-pool, where families have fun with the many water chutes and water activities in summer.

Mundo Fantasía (A World of Fantasy) at Marina d'Or, offering attractions where water is the central theme, like at Polinesia Park.

Castellón has got water parks both in coastal and inland towns of the province.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.aquarama.net www.segorbe.org www.marinador.com

Aquarama

CN-340 Km 986.8 - 12560 Benicàssim (Castellón, Spain) Telephone: (+34) 964 303 321 Fax: (+34) 964 302 069 e-mail: info@aquarama.net

Segóbriga Water Park

Monte San Blas s/n. - 12400 Segorbe (Castellón, Spain)

Telephone: (+34) 699 069 855

Mundo Fantasía

Marina d'Or Ciudad de Vacaciones - 12594 Oropesa del Mar (Castellón, Spain) Telephones: (+34) 902 903 090 - (+34) 964 727 270

Note:

BENICASSIM

CASTFILÓN •

SEGORRE

Open in summer.

OROPESA DEL MAR

SPAN

SKYDIVING IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GETAWAYS







At Aeroclub de Castellón (flying club), located between the beaches of Castellón de la Plana and the beaches of Benicàssim, many kinds of aeronautical activities can be practised. Light aircraft flight, gliding, model aircraft, etc.

The most amazing activity is, with no doubt, the free-fall parachute jump organised by Skytime. SkyTime is the closest dropzone to the beach in the whole of Europe. They offer courses at all levels and tandem skydiving with an instructor, allowing you to experience freefall. Moreover, it offers the most technically advanced course nowadays: *curso PAC* (accelerated progression to free-fall parachuting).

The school is made up of instructors with an average of 15 years of experience; a large number are members of the Spanish national team.

Thanks to the nice climate in Castellón this activity can be practised all year round.

The Aeroclub's flight school offers private pilot training courses and motor glider with engine power introductory courses.

Find out more:

Skytime Skydiving Centre Aeródromo El Pinar. Camí La Plana s/n 12100 Castelló de la Plana (Castellón, Spain) Telephone: (+34) 605 920 380 e-mail: Info@skytime.info

www.turismodecastellon.com www.skytime.info www.aeroclubcastellon.com

Note:

Located near El Pinar del Grau park and Castellón beaches.



SALTAPINS (OUTDOOR-ADVENTURE COURSES), MORELLA DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK – GETAWAYS



At the old Fábrica Giner, a restored 19th-century factory complex, is Saltapins. Saltapins is an Adventure Park in a wooded area, with different courses for adults and children to jump from tree to tree under strict security measures, since children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. There are three different courses, adapted to different age groups or to the users' physical shape. The Green Course is for the little ones (ages 6 and up) and it is the easiest course, with a maximum height of 6 metres.



www.turismodecastellon.com www.saltapins.com

Note:

It is the perfect place to spend a day with your children.

SPAN

www.turismodecastellon.com

GOLF IN CASTELLÓN

Castellón is a golf destination that offers three great golf courses.

Panorámica Golf Club, Club de Campo Mediterráneo Golf Club and Costa Azahar Golf Club are, for many reasons, clubs of an undeniable high quality.

Good example of that quality are the high-level golf tournaments hosted here for many years. European Tour competitions, national competitions (professional, senior and women's competitions), or the 4 Tours, which has the best of each circuit.

Sergio García, one of the best golfers of Europe, is also a wonderful reference for our facilities. Here is where Sergio learnt to play golf and he is indeed our best ambassador.

Playing any handicap, having fun all year round and savouring an excellent rice dish after the round is a pleasure that Castellón offers to golf lovers.

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

GOLF IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GOLF IN CASTELLÓN







Castellón is a golf destination that offers three great golf courses. In the north Panorámica Golf Club is without a doubt one of the best golf courses in Spain thanks to its design. Club de Campo Mediterráneo Golf Club, in Borriol, is an 18-hole golf course which has hosted national and international tournaments at professional level, highlighting the European Tour tournament. Borriol is also where Sergio García -our most international golfer- was born.

The **Costa de Azahar Golf Club** is a 9-hole course surrounded by pine trees which is located 50 metres from El Grau beach of Castellón. This is one of the oldest golf courses on the Mediterranean coast, only 6 km from the centre of Castellón de la Plana and 12 km from Benicàssim.

Castellón will increase its offer, since many golf courses are being designed and they will be soon opened.



SPAIN

CLUB DE CAMPO MEDITERRÁNEO

CASTELLÓN

CLUB DE GOLF COSTA AZAHA

Find out more:

www.ccmediterraneo.com www.golfcostadeazahar.com www.panoramicaclubdegolf.com www.turismodecastellon.com www.golfencastellon.com

GOLF IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - GOLF IN CASTELLÓN







Note:

CLUB DE CAMPO MEDITERRÁNEO

Inaugurated: 1978

Address: Urb La Coma, s/n

12190 Borriol (Castellón, Spain)

Phone: (+34) 964 321 227 www.ccmediterraneo.com

E-mail: club@ccmediterraneo.com

Holes / Par 18 / 72

PANORÁMICA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Inaugurated: 1995

Address: Urb Panorámica, s/n

12320 Sant Jordi (Castellón, Spain)

Phone: (+34) 964 493 072

www.panoramicaclubdegolf.com

E-mail: golf@panoramicaclubdegolf.com

Holes / Par 18 / 72

COSTA DE AZAHAR GOLF CLUB

Inaugurated: 1960

Address: Ctra. Grao-Benicàssim, s/n

12100 Grao de Castellón (Castellón, Spain)

Phone: (+34) 964 280 979

www.golfcostadeazahar.com

E-mail: info@golfcostadeazahar.com

Holes / Par 9 / 70

SPAZ

www.turismodecastellon.com

NATURAL RESOURCES

Castellón cannot just claim within its territory the largest protected surface area of the whole Valencian Community, but also an immense variety of landscapes and natural areas. From the most southern pinewood in Europe in Tinença de Benifassà or the cork tree forests of Serra d'Espadà, to the regenerated dunes of Castellón or the lagoon in the Estany d'Almenara... The natural habitats in Castellón are home to more species of flora and fauna than one can find in many other countries.

The range of choices we will put forward to you will surely satisfy your longing to enjoy nature in Castellón. Footpaths to discover this land on foot, natural parks and natural sites that constitute our natural heritage, or the intangible cultural heritage represented by the various pilgrimages that devouts do since time immemorial.

Nature Parks in Castellón, Penyagolossa Nature Park, Les Illes Columbretes Nature Park, Town Nature Parks, the GR Network of long trails, the PR Network of Short Trails, Les Useres Pilgrims Path, Vía Verde (route) in Ojos Negros, Via Verde Sea route, Via Augusta, Alto Palancia Mountain Bike Centre, Els Ports Mountian Bike Centre.

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

NATURAL PARKS IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES









The Province of Castellón has eight natural parks, making this one of the provinces in Spain with the most areas benefiting from this level of protection. The marked contrasts of the scenery and the protected areas represent the best of this Mediterranean landscapes, both on the coast and inland. The large number of leisure activities available in this territory is not less important.

The good road network and proximity to the main municipalities of the province makes these natural areas a perfect place to visit and an ideal starting point for excursions on any of the numerous hiking routes they house, this being an activity which is practiced nearly all year round.

The natural parks of Castellón are managed by the Generalitat Valenciana (Valencian regional government), each of them has its own nature interpretation centre and signposted itineraries.

Serra d'Espadà Natural Park Sierra Calderona Natural Park Serra d'Irta Natural Park

Desert de les Palmes Natural Park

Penyagolosa Natural Park

Tinença de Benifassà Natural Park

Prat de Cabanes - Torreblanca Natural Park

Columbretes Islands Natural Park

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com parquesnaturales.gva.es www.cma.gva.es

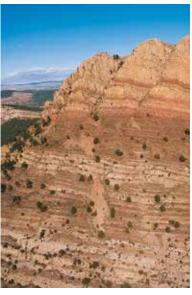
Note:

More than 65,000 protected hectares.

PENYAGOLOSA NATURAL PARK

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Penyagolosa is very popular with hikers and mountaineers, offering woods and rugged landscapes. The biodiversity due to its singular location and altitude includes micro-reserves, oak and pinewood forests, or vegetation than grows thanks to the numerous springs around. A short-distance footpath (PR) network makes it possible for the visitor to enjoy beautiful landscapes, places with exuberant nature; and it also serves to link the towns. Some of these tracks and paths cover the route of the numerous pilgrimages which take mount Penyagolosa as their finishing line or station.

(14th c.) and its hostel is a leisure area; there we can understand the history of this Valencian cultural landmark. Also important is the rural heritage of the country houses and dry-stone constructions dotted about the territory, and the monuments in Villahermosa, Vistabella or Xodos. Penyagolosa Mount is 1,814 metres high and is considered the roof of the Valencian Community. It is a spiritual and landscape reference in the province. Declared Natural Park and located between the municipal areas of Vistabella del Maestrat, Xodos and Villahermosa del Río.

In Sant Joan de Penyagolosa Sanctuary

Find out more:

 $www.turismode castellon.com\\www.parquesnaturales.gva.es$

Note:

The highest peak in the Valencian Community: 1,814 m. Pelegrins de Les Useres pilgrimage route.

PARK INFO OFFICE

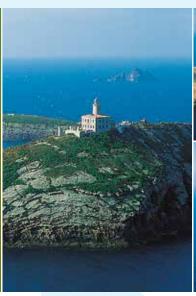
La Casa Forestal Interpretation Centre

(behind Sant Joan de Penyagolosa hermitage) 12135 Vistabella del Maestrat (Castellón, Spain) Contact telephones:

(+34) 964 760 838 - (+34) 626 520 048 parque_penyagolosa@gva.es

COLUMBRETES ISLANDS NATURAL PARK

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES









The Columbretes Islands form the most unique archipelago opposite Castellón coast. It is a volcanic formation made up by a series of small islands and reefs, located 30 nautical miles from the coast of Castellón. The islands are divided into four groups, which are given the name of the largest island of each group: L'Illa Grossa, La Ferrera, La Foradada and El Carallot.

Columbretes Islands are one of the most ecologically interesting insular sites in the Mediterranean. Thanks to their isolation and their excellent conservation status, the islands are home to several animal and plant species which are rare in the rest of the Mediterranean, and a great amount of unique species in the world, such as an endemic species of lizard or the tree medick

Visiting the islands, sailing around them and mooring are allowed with prior authorisation. Some specialized companies may arrange the visit.

It is one of the best-known diving areas for divers in the Mediterranean.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com parquesnaturales.gva.es

Note:

The lighthouse was inhabited from the 19th century to 1975. Marine Nature Reserve since 1988, with 5,540 submarine hectares. Check the companies offering trips to Columbretes Islands at Turismo de Castellón website: www.turismodecastellon.com

PARK INFO OFFICE

Castellón Planetarium - Paseo Marítimo, 1 12100 Grau de Castelló (Castelló, Spain) Phone: (+34) 964 288 912 (Castelló) Phone: (+34) 964 762 386 (Islands) parque_columbretes@gva.es

PROTECTED MUNICIPAL SITES

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES







Almost every municipal area in the province boasts several spots of outstanding natural beauty. Twenty-two of the municipalities in the province of Castellón have put the focus on the protection and enhancement of their natural environment. The areas are protected due to their natural, historical and social values. Most of the beauty spots have a leisure zone where to enjoy a combination of nature protection and free time..

Segorbe / La Esperanza
Bejís / Peñaescabia
El Toro / El Pozo Junco
Altura / La Torrecilla-Puntal de Navarrete
Sant Joan De Moró / El Mollet
Vilafamés / Sant Miquel
Vilafranca / Palomita
Sant Mateu / Racó del Frare
Ares del Maestre / La Mola D'ares
Benasal / El Rivet
Soneja / La Dehesa
Burriana / Clot de la Mare de Déu
Nules / L'Estany
Castellfort, Cinctorres, Portell de Morella /
Rambla Celumbres

Atzeneta del Maestrat / El Castell

Forcall / La Mola de la Vila
Castelló de La Plana / Ermitorio de la Magdalena
Sant Jordi / Bovalar de Sant Jordi
Morella / Pereroles
Almenara / Els Estanys
Puebla de Arenoso / Castillo de Arenòs
Almassora / Desembocadura Millars

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.cma.gva.es

Note:

3,550 protected hectares in 25 municipalities. A sample of the diversity of the Mediterranean nature in the province of Castellón.

LONG-DISTANCE FOOTPATHS (GR) NETWORK

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES











The long-distance footpaths (known as GR) are those that go along more than 50 kilometres and join regions and countries. Castellón has got four GR.

The GR-7 crosses the interior of the province from North to South; the GR-10 crosses the South of the province from East to West; the GR-33 or *Sender de la Lluna Plena* (literally, the Full Moon Path) stretches from Castellón de la Plana to Penyagolosa; and the GR-36

or Transespadá goes into the Serra d'Espadà Natural Park. The two last ones cross the province SE-NW.

These footpaths are home to some of the most beautiful natural sites of the province of Castellón, and the user can admire the villages that are found in the way and enjoy the local food and cultural heritage.

Find out more:

GR-7 European Footpath E-4	209 Km
GR-10 European Footpath E-7	38 Km
GR-33 Sender de la Lluna Plena	58 Km
GR-36 Transespadá	65 Km

www.turismodecastellon.com

cma.gva.es

blogs comunitatvalenciana com/senderismo/

Note:

Total route distance in the province: 370 km. Perfect to discover the province's nature on foot. Easy access to MTB centres.

SHORT-DISTANCE FOOTPATHS (PR) NETWORK DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES





The short-distance footpaths (known as PR) are itineraries that can be covered in one or two days, going through one or several municipalities. Many of these routes are circular and easy.

In Castellón there are 100 approved footpaths or in the process of approval.

This complete network is enlarged with more than 40 Local Footpaths.

The routes go through some of the most beautiful natural spots of the province of Castellón and allow the users to admire both the nature and the historical and artistic heritage of this land.

A list and a comprehensive map of the short-distance footpaths can be found at: www.turismodecastellon.com

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

Total route distance in the province: Over 1,000

Perfect to discover the province's nature on foot. Easy access to MTB centres.

PELEGRINS DE LES USERES PILGRIMAGE ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES







Every last Friday of the month of April and since the beginning of the 14th century, the pilgrimage from Les Useres to Sant Joan de Penyagolosa takes place. The itinerary goes through the municipalities of Les Useres, Llucena del Cid, Xodos and Vistabella del Maestrat, ending at Sant Joan de Penyagolosa hermitage. Els Pelegrins (13 men) depart from Les Useres followed by a procession of devouts, following a conscientious ritual which is over 700 years old.

Apart from its religious and mystic nature, this route linked villages since ancient

times. For this reason, it coincides with other droveways and it is common to find several archaeological sites, farms, hermitages, castles, springs and *peirons* (stone or brick pillars placed just outside many towns, marking the beginning of a pathway) along the way. This area is home to an important archaeological, architectural, cultural and ethnological heritage, which is part of the route itself.

The Mediterranean natural surroundings are of great value.

Find out more:

Route distance: 35 km. Difficulty level: Easy.

www.turismodecastellon.com www.cma.gva.es www.lesuseres.es

Note:

Declared a Natural Monument by the Valencian Government.

The pilgrimage is made in dead silence, only broken by the pilgrims' chants.

OJOS NEGROS GREENWAY

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES







In ancient times, the Ojos Negros greenway was used to transport coal from the Ojos Negros mine in Teruel to the blast furnaces in Sagunto. It is Spain's longest greenway.

It crosses the province of Castellón from Algimia de Alfara in Valencia to the border of the province of Teruel, in the region of Barracas. There are five tunnels and thirteen bridges and viaducts.

The greenway passes through the municipalities of El Toro, Barracas, Torás, Viver, Benafer, Caudiel, Iérica,

Navajas, Altura, Segorbe and Sot de Ferrer, overcoming differences in altitude of over 1,000 metres in Barracas and the sea-level of the coastal towns in the province.

The greenway goes through natural sites, such as the Valle del Palancia valley, and Sierra del Toro and Sierra de Espadán mountain ranges, among orchards and Mediterranean woodland, while admiring the monumental sites in Segorbe and Jérica, the calvary in Sot de Ferrer or the Salto de la Novia waterfall in Navajas.

Find out more:

Route distance: 72 km.

Difficulty level: Easy. Suitable for mountain bikes, hikers and horse riders. Adapted for people with limited mobility.

www.turismodecastellon.com www.viasverdes.com turismoaltopalancia.com

Note:

There are stretches of asphalt and stretches of dirt track.

It is easily accessed from the railway (local train) or from the A-23 dual carriageway, so the visitor can choose which stretches to visit.

Alto Palancia MTB Centre in Navajas.

VÍA VERDE DEL MAR MARITIME GREENWAY

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES





The Vía Verde del Mar greenway is nearly 6 kilometres long and links Oropesa del Mar and Benicàssim. It covers the old railway line and goes along the coast.

The route offers wonderful views of the Mediterranean sea and goes past La Renegà, a place of a vast environmental and sea richness, full of rocks and quiet coves that can be accessed from the greenway.

From the greenway we can admire La Corda and La Colomera watchtowers, which are both defensive and security bastions from the 16th century and which, together with the Torre del Rey, were part of the system of guard of our coast. Nowadays, these constructions are listed Heritage of Cultural Interest.

The coves of Les Platgetes and the Voramar beach in Benicassim can be seen as we get closer to the finish. It is a constant approach to the sea, sheltered under the pine trees, the carob trees, the Mediterranean dwarf palms, the rosemary or the lavender; with a sea breeze touch.

Find out more:

Route distance: 5,6 km.
Difficulty level: Easy (cycling or walking).

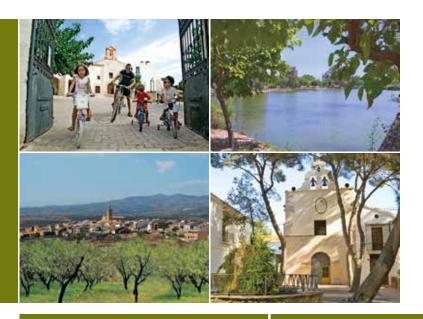
www.turismodecastellon.com www.oropesadelmar.es www.benicassim.org www.viasverdes.com

Note:

Wear comfortable shoes and take some water and a camera.

VÍA AUGUSTA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES





The Via Augusta is a Roman road which joined the Iberian Peninsula and Rome, crossing the province of Castellón from North to South, to Cadiz. Always close to the Mediterranean sea, the Via goes along the interior valley.

It is perfectly signposted and it is perfect for a bicycle ride, allowing us to admire Roman monuments, such as the Arco de Cabanes (Roman arch), several milestones or remains of an old road, going through thousand-year-old olive groves in the North or orange

tree groves in the South. We can also discover the historic heritage left after the Romanization.

The Via Augusta goes through the municipalities of San Rafael del Río, Traiguera, La Jana, Sant Mateu, La Salzadella, Les Coves de Vinromà, Vilanova d'Alcolea, Cabanes, La Pobla Tornesa, Borriol, Castelló de la Plana, Vila-real, Betxí, Nules, La Vilavella, La Vall d'Uixó, Moncofa, Chilches, La Llosa and Almenara.

Find out more:

Route distance: 146 km. Difficulty level: Easy.

www.turismodecastellon.com www.cma.gva.es

Note:

From start to finish the Via Augusta is signposted with blue and white kerbs and milestones that simulate the Roman signposting.

ALTO PALANCIA MTB CENTRE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES







The Alto Palancia MTB Centre is located in the town of Navajas. It offers nine routes, marked for MTB, covering nearly 400 km.

The routes take you through varied landscapes such as the Serra d'Espadà and Serra Calderona nature parks, the Ojos Negros greenway, the Palancia valley or Sierra del Toro natural site.

The routes will let us enjoy natural sites such as Mosquera, El Regajo reservoir

and the Palancia river source, as well as monumental sites as, for instance, the towns of Segorbe or Jérica.

These routes are adapted for different difficulty levels and make it possible for the visitor to discover these worthy places in an unhurried visit by mountain bike.

Furthermore, it is a unique chance to visit the town of Navajas.

Find out more:

Route distance: 385 km.

Difficulty level: 2 very easy courses; 2 easy courses; 3 difficult courses; 2 very difficult courses.

www.turismodecastellon.com www.comunitatvalenciana.com www.navajes.es turismoaltopalancia.com

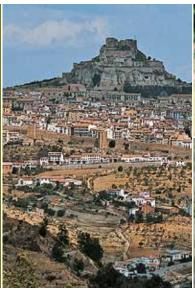
Alto Palencia Mountain Bike Centre CV-213 road from Navajas, km.1 - Tel 964 713 211

Note:

Located in Altomira Camping Site www.campingaltomira.com

ELS PORTS MTB CENTRE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - NATURAL RESOURCES









The MTB Centre of Els Ports, located in the Fábrica Giner complex in Morella, offers 12 different routes representing 390 kilometres.

The routes are themed itineraries which aim to present features of the cultural or natural heritage of Els Ports. Among the routes are easy walks for children and adults, and also routes which require being in good shape and having some technical knowledge. Visiting the rivers of this land, learning about the traditional

coal mining work, which allows the visitor to enjoy the singular heritage of Morella, Zorita, Forcall or Todolella. And all this without forgetting about the excellent gastronomy of this land.

The Fábrica Giner, is an old industrial camp and textile factory from the 19th century. It constitutes a complex housing a hostel, country-holidays apartments, a museum and the outdoor adventure park Saltapins.

Find out more:

Route distance: 390 km.

Difficulty level: 1 very easy course; 2 easy courses; 7 difficult courses; 2 very difficult courses.

www.turismodecastellon.com www.comunitatvalenciana.com www.morella.es

Els Ports MTB Centre Fábrica Giner reception Carretera Morella-Zorita km 4,5 12300 Morella (Castellón, Spain) Telephone: (+34) 964 173 256

Note:

In the factory's complex is Saltapins. www.saltapins.com

www.turismodecastellon.com

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

There are many different popular *fiestas*, contests, events and festivals celebrated in the province of Castellón. They are unique in their conception of culture and tradition and constitute an important attraction for visitors to our province. Every municipality in the province celebrates an annual festival where visitors are warmly welcomed. Furthermore, our numerous art festivals bring together a great number of attendees around music and theatre activities. There is a wide offer of different festivals in the province that have been listed as event of touristic interest by the Valencian government as well as by national and international authorities.

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF INTERNATIONAL TOURIST INTEREST

- Entrada de Toros y Caballos (Bull and Horse Droving) in Segorbe
- Festes de la Magdalena annual festival in Castellón de la Plana

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF NATIONAL TOURIST INTEREST

- La Sagrada Familia y Santísimo Cristo annual festival in La Vall d'Uixó
- San Vicente Ferrer Patron Saint's annual festival in La Vall d'Uixó
- *L'Anunci* and *Sexenni* festivals in Morella
- Virgen de Ermitana Patron annual festival in Peñíscola
- Segorbe Patron Saints Festival

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF REGIONAL TOURIST INTEREST

• Carnival in Vinaròs

- Sant Antoni festival (Santantonà) in Forcall
- Sant Pere festival in El Grau de Castelló
- Easter in Vinaròs
- Fallas Festival in Benicarló
- Tourist Route, Hermitages in Burriana Route

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF PROVINCIAL TOURIST INTEREST

- Paella's Day in Benicàssim
- Fallas in Burriana
- Cruces de Mayo in Burriana
- Les Calderes in Almassora (gastronomic festival)
- Festa del Rotllo in L'Alcora
- Holy Week in Vila-real
- Bull Droving *a l'Estil Calijó* in Càlig
- Santa Caterina festival in Vila-real
- Font del Vi festival in Burriana
- Sant Antoni Abad festival in Benicarló
- Altura pilgrimmage to the Cueva Santa Sanctuary in Altura

- Sant Andreu de Cabanes Fair
- Santa Maria Madgalena disembarking in Moncofa
- Representation of the Passion in Torreblanca
- Bull Runs in Oropesa del Mar
- Agricultural, livestock and Commercial Fair in Nules
- Transbetxi Cultivators Rally in Betxi

POPULAR FETIVALS OF LOCAL TOURIST INTEREST

- International Street Theatre Festival in Vila-real
- Agricultural Exhibition in Nules
- Eucharistic Processions in Nules
- San Vicente festival in Nules
- San Antonio Abad festival and pilgrimage in Betxí
- San Antoni festival in Borriol
- San Francisco de Paula festival in Viver

Find out more: www.turismodecastellon.com

FESTES DE LA MAGDALENA ANNUAL FESTIVAL IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

La Magdalena, the major popular festival in the city of Castellón de la Plana, honours the foundation of this city. It consists of nine holidays, starting on the third Saturday and ending on the fourth Sunday of Lent. At the heart of this celebration is the pilgrimage known as Romeria de les Canyes; year after year tens of thousands of pilgrims reach the plot of land where their ancestors used to live, on La Magdalena hill.

Together with this pilgrimage, another major element of this festival are the *Gaiates*, luminous monuments only found in Castellón and for the time this festival lasts. They stand at the various squares of the city throughout the week. They are also part of the parade **Cabalgata del Pregó**, a genuine sample of the ethnology and traditions of the various towns and people part of the province of Castellón. Music concerts, fireworks, bullfights, street theatre performances, open-air dances and dinners take place throughout the week. They gather visitors from all over the province and international tourists.





Note:

Wine fair, Tapas and beer fair, Fireworks amongst other events.

POPULAR FESTIVALS OF INTERNATIONAL TOURIST INTEREST

ENTRADA DE TOROS Y CABALLOS (BULL AND HORSE DROVING) IN SEGORBE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

The most important festival in Segorbe is an amazing Bull and Horse Droving that takes place every year. The relevant and outstanding characteristics of this event have come to its declaration as a popular festival of international interest and Intangible Cultural Heritage. It is a unique show that takes place at 2pm every afternoon, from Monday to Sunday, throughout the second week of September. Thirteen horse riders carrying only a thin lance guide six bulls through one of the main streets of Segorbe, Calle Colón. This speedy droving is surrounded by a crowd of people forming a wall along the winding length of the path, many of them accompanying the movement, as thought recreating the behaviour of a school of fish. The result is an impossible space, an illusion which lasts barely some tenths of a second and represents the magic of a unique show in the world.

The first written record on the Bull and Horse Droving dates back in the 14th century and this once-in-a-lifetime event of excitement and tradition has continued existing ever since.



Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.segorbe.es

Entrada de Toros y Caballos (Bull and Horse Festival) Interpretation Centre, next to Segorbe Tourist Information, C/ Marcelino Blasco, 2 Tel. (+34) 964 713 254 www.turismo.segorbe.es

CASTELLÓN

SEGORBE

Note:

Handmade Ham and Sausage Festival of Segorbe Cathedral, old town and Olive Oil Museum.

FALLAS IN CASTELLÓN PROVINCE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

Fallas are a Valencian traditional festival which takes place every year during the days before the 19th of March, Saint Joseph's day. This great celebration ends with the night Nit del Foc or Cremà, when after countless fireworks the Fallas monuments get burnt to ashes. This festival is widely known also abroad of Spain because it is only celebrated in the Valencian region. Fallas are satirical papier-mâché monuments which offer a social critique of the reality of life. Several towns in the province of Castellón boast these beautiful, massive, spectacular, clever, artistic and graceful monuments that are las Fallas. The festivals are completed with live music, and fireworks both during the day and at night.

The town of Burriana boasts the best option for enjoying *Fallas* in the province of Castellón, as it has one of the oldest and most significant festivals of this kind after the case of the city of Valencia. Twelve of these monuments can be also admired in Benicarló every year. La Vall d'Uixó has six *Fallas* and once we are in this area, the papier-mâché monuments in the town of Almenara will be also worth the visit.





SANT ANTONI FIRE FESTIVAL

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

Sant Antoni Abat festival consists of a set of celebrations taking place every year around the 17th of January, the patron saint's day, who has been the protector of labour farm animals throughout centuries.

This celebration also includes great bonfires called *fogueres de dimonis* and a large number of dance and song performances and a genuine gastronomy. This celebration is part of a tradition dating back to the dawn of time, a pagan worship of the winter solstice. In the province of Castellón most towns and municipalities celebrate this day. Noteworthy popular festivals of touristic interest in the Valencian Community are the *Santantonà* in Forcall, declared festival of particual interest by the provincial authorities, and the celebrations of this day which take place in Betxí, Borriol, Vilanova d'Alcolea, Benicàssim, Benlloch, Vilafranca, Benassal, Albocàsser... which have been declared of touristic interest by the corresponding local authorities.



BENICARLÓ VILAFRANCA BENASSAL ALBOCÀSSER BENLLOCH VILANOVA D'ALCOLEA BORRIOL CASTELLÓN BENICÀSSIM CASTELLÓN BETXÍ

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com Visitor Centre of the *Santantonà* Forcall. Telephone number +34 964 171 001

Note:

The clothings of the horses

La matxà (blessing of animals)

El tropell (droving)

Les coquetes (traditional sweet pastries)

Les corregudes (parades)

EL SEXENNI FESTIVAL IN MORELLA

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

On the 14th of February 1673 the civil authorities of the town of Morella and its inhabitants made a vow to the Virgin of Vallivana as a token of gratitude for the end of a terrible plague suffered in 1672. The vow involved a solemn Novena or nine-day period celebrated every six years to honour the Virgin. The vow has been observed ever since only interrupted in times of war and it is going to take place again in years 2012, 2018, 2024, 2030 and so on.

The celebration is held during the second fortnight of August, after a busy year preparing the ornaments placed in the streets of Morella. These hand-made works are carried out by the inhabitants of the town and involve making great ornaments and arranging them along the streets where the festival processions pass through. Throughout the previous year the inhabitants of Morella make tapestries with very thin curled paper. Once they get them arranged along the streets, the town becomes a museum thanks to the beauty and delicacy of the ornaments.



One year before *El Sexenni* another celebration takes place in Morella, *L'Anunci*.

It is the greatest calling to the major festival, *El Sexenni*.

The town of Morella does its utmost to make a success of the central event, which involves a parade with many floats made of curled paper ornaments.

Note:

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.morellaturistica.com La Rogativa (a pilgrimage from the town to a sanctuary)

MORELLA

La Novena (a nine-day praying period)

Carro Triomfant (children's float)

Els Torners (traditional dance)

CASTELLÓN

Els Volantins i la Taronja (hanging puppets)

<u>CARNIVAL IN VINARÒS</u>

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

Vinaròs celebrates Carnival as its most lively festival in the year. Every February, the town gives its very best to this *fiesta*, declared popular festival of touristic interest by the Valencian regional government. The town becomes a centre for entertainment and imagination. Fantasy, colourful atmosphere and music are the main ingredients of massively attended events which take place during ten days in a row and conclude with several parades. The parades gather more than thirty musical groups who march through the streets of Vinaròs accompanying the *Rei Carnestoltes* or King of the Carnival.

The Carnival of Vinaròs has been observed since the 14th century. Back in the 18th century, dances and costumes became popular, imitating the style of the Carnivals celebrated in big cities such as Madrid. During the dictatorship, Franco banned the celebration of the Carnival in Vinaròs and the rest of the Spanish territory. Later on, in 1983, the inhabitants of the town took back this tradition. Many other municipalities in the province also celebrate Carnival, as a festival previous to Lent.



VINARÒS • CASTELLÓN •

Find out more:

www.turisme.vinaros.es www.carnavaldevinaros.org

Note:

Imposición de corbatines (Conferring of honor ribbons for the standards of the parades)
Proclamation of the Queens

Parades

Drag Queen Contest

BOUS AL CARRER BULL POPULAR FESTIVAL

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

Bous al carrer is a traditional bullfighting *fiesta* widely spread over most of the municipalities in the province of Castellón. Bulls are a central part of the celebrations held in many municipalities of the province. This tradition involves the releasing of fighting bulls and heifers in the streets of the town, which have been previously closed and secured with barriers.

Bull Festivals are the perfect excuse to meet up with friends and acquaintances and celebrate together in the streets or enjoying a traditional meal. From April to October, various events take place around this tradition in the municipalities integrating the province of Castellón.

There is also a variation of this tradition called *toro embolado* or bull with fireballs on its horns. This practice has endured through the centuries and has deep roots especially in eastern Spain. The bull with fireballs can be found in the streets or in the bullrings. A group of men attach the fireballs to the horns of the bull. Noteworthy bull festivals, given the quality and frequency of the bullfights they celebrate, are: Onda, Almassora, La Vall d'Uixó, Nules, La Vilavella, L'Alcora, Càlig or Segorbe.

Castellón de la Plana and La Vall d'Alba boast bullrings with regular quality bullfights.





Note:

Caution. There is a law regulating participation in this kind of events. Decree 60/2002 de la Generalitat Valenciana.

Municipalities with bullring in the province: Vinaròs, Vall d'Alba, Morella, Vilafranca, Benassal, Onda and Oropesa del Mar.

MORE FESTIVALS IN CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - POPULAR FESTIVALS OF TOURIST INTEREST

The festivals under this category are major events that gather music, dance, theatre, cinema, gastronomy... and all the national and international culture in Castellón. Most of them take place in the summer months, when many towns in the province of Castellón organise cultural events in order to provide visitors with a very attractive leisure offer. Some of these festivals, such as Benicàssim's FIB or Rototom are benchmark events in Europe's and the world's music scene.

The International Festival of Benicassim (FIB), the Festival of Ancient and Baroque Music of Peñíscola, the International Festival of Street Theatre of Vila-real, the Moncofa Street Festival (MAC) or the Oropesa del Mar International Music Festival (ORFIM) are events that draw a large audience and are only a sample of the countless activities held in the province of Castellón.

We are sure that you will always find an event that meets your preferences, allowing you to enjoy an unforgettable time here.







The International Festival of Benicassim (FIB) / www.fiberfib.com
Arenal Sound in Burriana / www.arenalsound.com
Rototom Sunsplash in Benicassim / www.rototomsunsplash.com
Oropesa del Mar International Music Festival (ORFIM) / www.orfim.com
International Jazz Festival of Peñíscola / www.peniscola.es
Francisco Tárrega International Guitar Competition, in Benicassim
www.certamentarregabenicassim.com
Festival of Ancient and Baroque Music of Peñíscola / www.peniscola.es

Festival of Ancient and Baroque Music of Peniscola / www.peniscola.es
International Festival of Street Theatre of Vila-real / www.vila.real.com
Moncofa's Street Festival (MAC) / www.moncofa.com

International Música de Festa Festival (competition of parade music bands) / www.castello.es Sixties Rock Weekend Castelló / www.sixtiesrockweekend.es

Benicàssim Blues Festival / benicassimblues.com Soundgalsses Castellón / soundglasses.org OROPESA DEL MAR

BENICÀSSIM

PEÑÍSCOLA

CASTELLÓN •

BURRIANA

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

ROUTES

Castellón is endowed with a large variety of landscapes, natural areas and charming places. The routes described in this guidebook can be useful for exploring the best of the province, its traditions and festivals, its monuments and heritage, its history and municipalities.

These routes cover the territories of the coast and the inland and are conceived as an enjoyable and enriching way to experience the province of Castellón.

Their duration is variable; between one or several days. They are:

Museums Route

Camino del Cid Route

Pope Luna Route

Ceramics Route

Pedra en sec (dry stone) Route

Cave Paintings Route, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Spas and Waters Route

Wines and Wineries Route

Olive Oil Route

Oranges Route

The Rice Route

Castles Route. Province of Castellón

The Sea Route South of Castellón

Holy Week Route

Pilgrimages Route

Sanctuaries Route

St. James Way Route

Descubreturuta.com

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

MUSEUMS ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The province of Castellón boasts museums that are renowned all over Spain due to the quality of the pieces that they house. These museums are the Fine Arts Museum in Castellón de la Plana, the Ceramic Museum Manolo Safont in Onda, the Natural Science Museum El Carmen in Onda, the Contemporanean Art Museum Espai d'Art in Castellón de la Plana, the Contemporarean Art Museum in Vilafamés or the Cathedral Museum in Segorbe.

Together with these museums there are also many local museums, religious art collections or archaeological museums.

The Almirez Museum in Les Coves de Vinromà, the Museo del Naipe, dedicated to playing cards, the Museo del Hierro (iron museum)

in Oropesa del Mar and the *Museo* de *Medallística Enrique Giner* (a museum housing a large exhibition of medals) in Nules house unique collections in Spain.

Additionally, there are museums devoted to the traditions in our territory, such as the Textile Museum in Cinctorres and the Ceramic Museums in L'Alcora and Ribesalbes. There are also museums covering the theme of the traditional food and diet from our land, such as the Museum of the Orange in Burriana, the Olive Oil Museums in Segorbe and Cervera, the Bread Museum in Cortes de Arenoso, the Water Museum in Bejís, the Carmelite Spirits Museum in Benicàssim.

Other museums have didactic purposes, such as showing us more about the daily life in our territory. That is the case of the *Pedra en sec* (dry stone)

Museum in Vilafranca, • cortes de Arenoso

the Ethnological Museum in Castellón de la Plana or the Maritime

Museum

Museu de la Mar
in Peñíscola.

CERVERA DEL MAESTRE

• VILAFRANCA DEL CID

PEÑÍSCOLA

LES COVES DE VINROMÀ •

CORTES DE ARENOSO

VILAFAMÉS •

L'ALCORA •

BENICÀSSIM

CASTELLÓN •

Find out more:

Further information about all the museums in the province, as well as their opening hours, location and collections is available at: www.turismodecastellon.com

SEGORBE

Note:

Each of the museums sets its own opening times and days. Please check out this information before planning your visit.







CAMINO DEL CID ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

If there is a historical figure in Spain whose legend inspires admiration, it is Rodrigo Díaz de Vivar, El Cid Campeador.

The route *Camino del Cid* runs through many different landscapes and territories of the province of Castellón, from the region known as Els Ports to the coastal plains.

Thus, the stories and adventures that El Cid experienced in the lands of Castellón can be remembered through several routes:

- The Conquest of Valencia, with several stretches passing through Castellón province; from the municipality of Puebla de Arenoso until Sot de Ferrer, from where it goes on until the city of Valencia. Montanejos, Jérica or Segorbe, are towns which witnessed the trajectory of El Cid towards the Mediterranean Sea.
- The Maestrazgo belt route, with 205 km from Mora de Rubielos, Teruel to Montanejos, in Castellón. The Castle of Onda, Vilafranca, Benassal, Culla and Montanejos, are the municipalities within a route dotted with many beautiful landscapes, heritage and culture.
- The Morella belt route, with 99 km running in a circle that covers Morella, Olocau del Rey, Cinctorres or Forcall.

- The branch of Castellón, from Sagunto to Castellón, with 49 km. Almenara, Mascarell, Burriana or Castellón de la Plana, were conquered by El Cid within the Kingdom of Valencia.
- The Peñíscola belt route passes through coastal towns such as Benicassim, Oropesa del Mar, Benicarló or Peñíscola, as well as Sant Mateu, Coves de Vinromà, La Vall d'Alba or Cabanes, thus joining municipalities conquered by the historical figure of El Cid or associated to the famous film starring Charlton Heston in the role of the conqueror.

Each of these routes is divided into several days, so that you can gain a deep knowledge of our territory.

You can find out more about accommodation and where to eat on the links to websites provided.

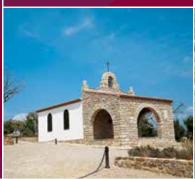


The *Camino del Cid* route across can be covered either by car, on horseback, by bycicle or on foot and directions are signposted no matter the mean of transport you choose.

The film *El Cid* was shot in Peñíscola in 1961 and contributed to the greater glory of this myth.

This touristic route is the perfect excuse to get to know the historical heritage of these lands, while hiking or enjoying our gastronomy.

El Cantar de Mio Cid ('the Lay of the Cid'), written in the 12th century is one of the masterpieces of Castilian literature.





POPE LUNA ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Pope Benedict XIII, the illustrious Aragonese Pedro de Luna, also known as Papa Luna, once took refuge in the Templar fortress in the town of Peñíscola. It happened in 1411, after having been dismissed from his post of Pontiff because he would not have accepted the clergy's corruption and he refused being part of the political control carried out those days. Benedict XIII was a historic figure with a high level of education and a very multifaceted personality who shut himself away in Peñíscola and turned the castle into a palace and a library.

Morella hosted the meeting of the King Ferdinand I of Aragón, the friar Vicente Ferrer and the Pope Benedict XIII with the purpose of solving the widely-known Western Schism.

A solemn mass was held, singular because it was attended by a King, a Pope and a Saint. Nevertheless, the talks were unsuccessful and Papa Luna returned to Peñíscola. He did not resign the papacy until his death.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.peniscola.es

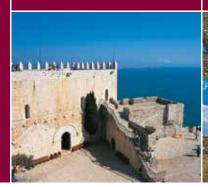
Note:

Alabaster is traditionally crafted in Peñíscola. Also notheworthy are the wineries and the only barrel-maker in the Valencian Community, present in the town of Sant Jordi. Ceramics and pottery are also common in Traiguera.

In Morella you will find artisans who sell a typical local blanket the *manta morellana*, as well as hand-made cheese and traditional products from the region, such as several types of cured meat and ham, cold-meat sausages and the famous wild truffles from Morella.



This route will lead you from the coast, through the region of El Maestrazgo, and you will eventually arrive in the main town of the Els Ports region.







CERAMICS ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Castellón is a province with a deeply rooted ceramic tradition.

Examples range from archaeological findings to modern factories run by the most advanced companies of the sector, to the Royal Factory of the *Conde Aranda*, which produced unique pieces of china and porcelain.

Castellón is a key producer of ceramic pieces and modern tiles, and therefore an important industrial location in Spain.

There are three splendid museums devoted to ceramics and they are all worth a visit, as each of them brings a different insight; the Museo del Azulejo (Onda) houses glazed ceramic tiles. the Museo de la Cerámica (L'Alcora) is focused on modernist-style

ceramics, and the **Museo de la Baronía** (Ribesalbes) covers the issue of ancient ceramics.

In Castellón de la Plana, the Museum of Fine Arts *Museu de Belles Arts* is proud to house collections of ceramics that are unique in Spain.

Nowadays, we can still find ceramic artisans working with the traditional potter's wheel and selling their works.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.museoazulejo.org www.alcora.org/museu www.culturalcas.com

Note:

Don't miss a visit to the Castle in Onda.









PEDRA EN SEC (DRY STONE) ROUTE DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The landscapes and mountains in Castellón are dotted with buildings made using an ancient technique called pedra en sec, where dry Stone is the only material used and there is no trace of any kind of binder. It is an ancient building method which has been used in rural areas and has constituted the singular landscape that is nowadays a genuine heritage for mankind.

It is a unique and characteristic scenery which tells us something of our agricultural past, when resources were very limited and, thanks to human labour and intervention, new landscapes were created; a set of buildings made by anonymous ancestors make up these great works of rural architecture.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.ajuntamentdevilafranca.es

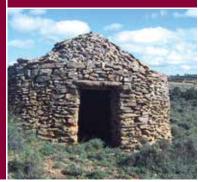
Note:

In Vilafrança, visit the Museu de la Pedra en Sec, a museum where you can learn about this building technique and the rural lifestyle of its creators. Additionally, there are three thematic routes through the municipal area to admire the rich heritage of this kind of construction.



These walls and small buildings are especially frequent in the Maestrazgo area. They are always linked to an agricultural past, as they served the purpose of separating different plots of land and paths or served as warehouses or shelters, water wells or even houses.

The best samples of these works are in Vistabella, Ares del Maestre, Castellfort, Portell de Morella, Tírig or Vilafranca.







CAVE PAINTING ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The territories of Castellón bear witness to a unique heritage. Rock paintings listed as UNESCO World Heritage.

There are many rock shelters that can be visited, and of course the Park of la Valltorta, which is the one declared Wold Heritage site. The visitor centre and the expert guides will make your visit an experience in which to understand the lifestyle and the reasons behind these cultural expressions with outstanding historical and artistic values. You can find many other rock art shelters throughout the province.

Valltorta-Gasulla Cultural Park Valltorta-Gasulla Museum / Tírig

ENGRAVED CAVE ART Sant Josep Caves / La Vall d'Uixó Abric d'en Meliá / Serra d'Encarceran La Serratella

LEVANITINE CAVE PAINTINGS
Barranc de la Valltorta / Tírig Albocàsser - Les Coves de Vinromá
Cavalls Cave / Tírig
Civil or Ribassals Cave / Tírig
Cingle del Mas d'en Josep / Tírig
Saltadora Cave / Les Coves de Vinromá
Centelles Cave / Albocàsser
Barranc de Gasulla / Ares del Maestre
Remigia Cave / Ares del Maestre
Mola Remigia / Ares del Maestre
Rossegadors or Polvori Cave / Tinença
de Benifassà
Morella la Vella / Morella
Racó de Nando / Benassal

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST Vilafamès Castle / Vilafamès La Joquera / Borriol



Level of difficulty: Easy www.turismodecastellon.com www.valltorta.com www.cult.gva.es

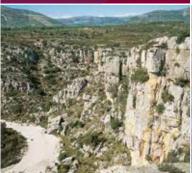
La Valltorta Cultural Park Phone: +34 964 336 010

Note:

Most of these paintings are in the middle of the mountains.

Therefore we recommend you to bring adequate footwear with you.







SPAS AND WATERS ROUTES

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

 \mathbf{T} he province of Castellón boasts a large number of springs and health-improving waters whose effect has been known since time immemorial. Its use as a method for curing diseases, preventing them or improving health. This method is nowadays complemented by the positive effect of having a break and spending several days of relaxation and recovering in the middle of nature, being surrounded by a silent and peaceful atmosphere in opposition to the stressful lifestyle of cities. This option means enjoying a genuine healthy holiday.

The thermal spas in Benassal, Montanejos and La Vilavella, have offered therapies based on the quality of their waters for centuries. In their brand new modern facilities they can offer any prescribed treatment.

Termas Marinas El Palasiet in Benicassim and the coastal Centro Balneario de Marina d'Or are spas that make the most of the Mediterranean water using it for various thalassotherapies (sea water for health treatments) and boasting top-quality hotels.

Furthermore, there are countless water springs dotted throughout the entire province, which are devoted to free public use. Some of them simply rise from the earth in the mountains or in the towns for the pleasure of the hiker.

The springs of Almedíjar, Azuébar, Bejís, Benassal, Catí (L'Avellà), Artana (Orotana) and Chovar bottle their waters under the brand Waters from Castellón. Their waters and those coming from other springs of the province are available in many shops and restaurants.

MONTANEIOS

OROPESA DEL MAR

BENICÀSSIM

CATÍ

BENASSAL

LA VILAVELLA

CASTELLÓN

BEJÍS

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.termasmarinas.com www.marinador.com/es/balneario www.balneariovillavieja.com www.balneariodemontanejos.com www.balneariodebenassal.com

Note:

There are many hotels offering spa treatments. Find out more on the Health Tourism Guidebook www.turismodecastellon.com







WINES AND WINERIES ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The province of Castellón boasts outstanding white wines, as well as rosés, red wines and sweet wines whose quality is comparable to the most renowned brands of wine. The label *Vins de les Terres de Castelló* (wines produced in the province of Castellón) is a geographical indication (IGP), common to the majority of vinegrowers and wine-producers from Castellón, and undergo strict analytical and organoleptic parameters.

Wineries:

Bodega Alcovi Almedíjar Bodega Agrotaula Almassora Bodegas y Destilerías Vidal Almassora Bodega Vega Palancia Azuébar Bodegas Carmelitano Benicàssim Bodega Castillo de la Duquesa Benlloch Bodega Mas de Rander Benlloch Bodega Les Useres Les Useres Bodega Vicente Flors Les Useres Bodega Barón d'Alba Les Useres Bodega El Mollet, vino y cultura Les Useres Bodega La Mariana Les Useres Bodega Vinya Natura Les Useres Bodega Mas del Coll Rossell Bodegues Besalduch Valls Sant Mateu Bodega Di Vinos & Viñas Segorbe Bodega Masia de la Hoya Segorbe Bodega Castells i Montoliu Viticultors La Torre d'en Doménech Bodega Almaros Soneja Bodega El Rosso Vall d'Alba - La Barona Bodega Mayo García Vilafamés Bodega Señorio de Villafamés Vilafamés Bodega Baranco Magro Villahermosa del Río Bodega San Juan Viver



Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.vinosdecastellon.com

Note:

Most of these wineries can be visited and offer a menu with their best wines as well as a tour through the winemaking process and the vineyards.







OLIVE OIL ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The olive tree has been part of the culture of Castellón and a characteristic element of the Mediterranean landscapes for ages. The olive oil production is one of the main products of Castellón's agriculture. There are several olive-oil mills where to admire the process of getting the olive oil and buy some of this golden liquid. Amongst other municipalities Vilar de Canes, Cortes de Arenoso and Traiguera, the coorperatives of Vilanova d'Alcolea, Traiguera, Sant Mateu, Les Useres, Aín or Vilafamés offer this kind of establishments.

production process for getting the greatest treasure in the form of golden liquid, fruit of the land of Castellón. There is another Olive Oil Museum in Cervera del Maestre. Finally, also the handicrafts made of olive wood made in Xert by the craftmen *Oliveros* are notheworthy.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.labelluga.com/es/museo-del-aceite www.olearum.es

Note:

The olive oil is the base of Castellón's gastronomy. You will find many menus offering dishes with olive oil as an essential ingredient.



Thousand-year-old olive trees constitute the scenery of inland Castellón, where unique examples can be found. Outstanding are the *Olivera Morruda* in Segorbe, *Los Olivos* in Canet lo Roig or *Los Olivos* in the districts of El Algepsar and La Campana, in the municipality of Sueras.

Furthermore in some towns you can participate in the celebrations at Olive Oil Fairs, for example there is the Sierra Espadán Olive Oil Fair, Viver Olive Oil Fair, Canet lo Roig Olive Oil Fair and Almonacid y Segorbe Olive Oil Fair.



In the Museum of Olive Oil in

Segorbe will get to know the whole





ORANGES ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Castellón's coastal landscape is a green carpet full of miles of orange groves.

This route will take you on a discovery of everything related to oranges.

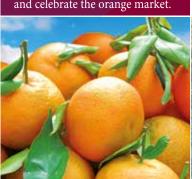
With towns like Burriana where the production and commercialization of oranges has had and still has a huge influence on this very modern town. There are endless orange groves in the outskirts of the town, complete with waterwheels, irrigation pumps and channels. Surrounded by orange groves we arrive at Nules, which is known worldwide as the cradle of the "Clemenules" variety of orange. In January and February this variety is the star of the Clemenules Festival, and is also often used in culinary festivals.

At Moncofa, you can visit the local orange route which gives you a close look at old country houses, irrigation pumps with their typical farm reservoirs called "basses", the co-operative and different businesses so that you can get an insight into the agricultural traditions

of oranges, and likewise in Xilxes. Our route continues to the south to Almenara with its unique irrigation system. We recommend you visit Almacen Torres (orange company), where at any time of the year you can see at first hand how oranges arrive from the fields and are prepared for the market.

Some companies allow you to visit fields in production, taste and pick fruit from the orange trees and become familiar with the commercialization process, as well as try dishes made with citrus fruits.

Castellón de la Plana has developed three orange routes so that you can discover everything related to citrus fruits in this area and celebrate the orange market.





Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.hotelalias.com www.museonaranja.com www.matafruitnaranjas.com www.turisgrupazahar.com

Note:

The production of citrus fruits is the main agricultural export in the Castellón region.



DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

This walk by the water starting in Almenara really allows you to get a close look at the "Moli de l'Arros" Ethnological Museum (18th century), which shows the past and present of this crop, as the museum has preserved traditional machinery which once prepared the local rice for consumption. Surrounded by water, you join the "Cami Seratella" path going into Xilxes, which is a route full of birds and marshes where you can discover the agricultural ecosystem of this cereal and visit fields of crops in the area.

Find out more:

http://www.turismodecastellon.com/ www.almenara.es

MOLI DE L'ARROS Tourist Info Almenara Plaza del Molí, s/n . 12590 Almenara Tel. 962 623 345 almenara@touristinfo.net

Note:

Natural Beauty Spot in L'Estany d'Almenara.

One of the best examples of industrial rice archaeology in the Comunidad Valenciana.



It is recommended that you visit during the summer months, to really appreciate the beauty of the fields brimming with this cereal, which gives us the essential grain for making our ancestral gastronomic dish, the paella.







CASTLES ROUTE. PROVINCE OF CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Castellón is a land endowed with castles. Throughout history many various civilizations built these military structures that today are reminiscent of legendary times.

Especially outstanding are the castles of Peñíscola, Onda and Morella or the Torre del Rey -kings tower- in Oropesa del Mar.

The coast it dotted with watchtowers as a protective measure against pirates. There are several good examples along the coastal forest of Serra d'Irta or in Benicàssim, the coastal town where the San Vicente Tower stands.

Other significant castles open for visits are in Alcalà de Xivert, Almenara, Miravet, Oropesa del Mar, Pobla d'Arenós, L'Alcalatén, Todolella or Vilafamés.

Some of these castles have been declared Cultural Heritage Site or BIC.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

El Cid, the Pope Luna or the Carlist general Cabrera are historic figures linked to the Castles of the Province of Castellón.

- 1- Alcalà de Xivert / Xivert Castle
- 2- Almenara / Almenara Castle
- 3- Ares del Maestre / Castle
- 4- Argelita / Abu Zeyd's Castle
- 5- Benassal / Walled enclosure
- 6- Benicàssim / Montornés Castle San Vicente Tower
- 7- Borriol / Borriol Castle
- 8- Cabanes / Miravet Castle
- 9- Castellnovo / Castle
- 10- Castellón de la Plana / Castell Vell (old castle)

CASTELLÓN

- 11- Cervera del Maestre / Remains of the Master of Montesa's Castle 12- Culla / Castle and Walls
- 12- Culla / Castle and Walls
 13- Eslida / Arabic Castle
- 13- Eslida / Arabic Castle 14- Jérica / Castle and Tower
- 15- La Vall d'Uixó / La Vall d'Uixó Castle
- 16- L'Alcora / L'Alcalaten Castlé
- 17- Morella / Castle and Walls
- 18- Oropesa del Mar / Torre del Rey (the King's tower)
- 19- Onda / Onda Castle
- 20- Peñíscola / Peñíscola Castle
- 21- Santa Magdalena de Pulpis / Pulpis Castle
- 22- Segorbe / Castle and Walls
- 23- Todolella / Castle
- 24- Vilafamés / Vilafamés Castle







SOUTH SEA ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

This route from north to south starts in Burriana, with the impressive beaches of Malvarrosa, Grao and l'Arenal, the marina and the fishing port. Then, head towards Nules where you can enjoy total peace and quiet, as well as different sports and fitness circuits. Continue the route to Moncofa; Pedraroja, Grau and Masbo are beaches which are rich in iodine and so renowned throughout Europe.

The next stop is Xilxes, with its beautiful sandy beaches, perfectly shaped like shells and with lots of children's play areas, making this a perfect place to enjoy with the family.

The route finishes after arriving in Almenara, by crossing rice paddies and fields to reach Casablanca beach which is incredibly long and peaceful and at the southernmost point of our region, and so, marking its boundary.

Find out more:

Route: 30km / Difficulty: Low www.turismodecastellon.com www.almenara.es www.burrianaturismo.com turismo.xilxes.es www.platgesdemoncofa.es www.nules.es Tourist Info Almenara Plaza del Molí, s/n. 12590 Almenara Tel. 962 623 345 - almenara@touristinfo.net Tourist Info Burriana C/ El Raval, 18, 12530 Burriana. Tel. 964 570 753 - burriana@touristinfo.net Tourist Info Chilches C/ Colón, 11. 12592 Chilches Tel. 964 583 446 - xilxes@touristinfo.net Tourist Info Moncofa Avda. Mare Nostrum, 143. 12593 Moncofa Tel. 964 588 557 - moncofa@touristinfo.net Tourist Info Nules Plaza Mayor, 1. 12520 Nules Tel. 964 670 001 - nules@touristinfo.net



This route connects the towns in the South of Castellón from Burriana to Almenara.

The beauty of this route lies in its exceptional location between the sea and Espadán Mountain Range.





HOLY WEEK ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

With the arrival of the Holy Week many municipalities in Castellón express their devotion with celebrations in a deeply rooted traditional Holy Week. The intensity and passion conveyed in processions, performances and other religious events endow this celebration with great appeal for the visitor to our province during this time of the year. Noteworthy are the performances of the Passion in Borriol and Torreblanca, with many people involved and a very spectacular result. The Holy Week in Vila-real was declared a celebration of touristic tourist interest by the provincial authorities, as it gathers a large number of visitors who admire the processions. Similar cases are those of the towns Nules or Burriana.

The Rompida de la hora in L'Alcora is a vibrant performance where the sound of several kinds of drums full the air of the midday of the Holy Friday and constitute one of the most intense moments a devout follower can ever experience..

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

Every year since 2000 the Provincial Day of Exaltation of the Drum gathers over 1,000 members of brotherhoods and offers a diocesan procession involving brotherhoods from many various municipalities. It is held in a different town every year.



A large number of municipalities have brotherhoods who march on processions during this time. L'Alcora, Almassora, Almenara, Alcalà de Xivert, Les Alqueries, Altura, Benicarló, Benicàssim, Betxí, Borriol, Castellón de la Plana, Cervera del Maestre, Chilches, Jérica, Moncofa, Nules, Onda, Sant Mateu, La Vall d'Uixó, Vila-real, La Vilavella and Vinaròs amongst others. The most well-known processions are those celebrated in Vinaròs, Benicarló and Vila-real.







PILGRIMAGES ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Tradition and devotion are present in the pilgrimages of penance and prayer that many towns in Castellón observe each year.

Altogether, from the popular visit to the Sant Antoni hill in Betxí which takes place in January until the procession to La Balma in September, more than 80 pilgrimages take place in the counties of Castellón every year. The origin of some of them dates back in the 13th century.

Amongst the most relevant ones are:

- Romería de Les Canyes. This event is part of La Magdalena annual festival; the path starts at the Cathedral and ends at La Magdalena hermitage.
- Camí dels Pelegrins de les Useres; from the municipality of Les Useres to the Sant Joan de Penyagolosa sanctuary.
- Romería de Todolella; it ends in Sant Cristòfol hermitage.
- Romería del Catinencs; from Catí to Sant Pere de Castellfort.
- Romería a la Cueva Santa; from Altura and other municipalities in the Alto Palancia county to the Cova Santa (sanctuary of the holy cave).
- Rogativa (rogation pilgrimage); from La Vallibona hermitage and Peñarroya de Tastavins, celebrated

every seven years.

- Romería del Sexenni; from La Vallivana sanctuary to Morella.
- Romería de Culla; to Sant Joan de Penyagolosa.
- Romería de Albocàsser; from this town to the Sant Pau sanctuary.
- Romería de Peñíscola; from this town to Sant Antoni hermitage.
- Romería de Benicarló; from this town to Sant Gregori hermitage.
- Romería de Vinaròs; from this town to Sant Sebastià hermitage.

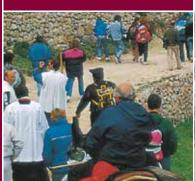
Find out more:

The exact dates of each year's pilgrimages and practical information are available at the website of the Provincial Tourist Board.

www.turismodecastellon.com



Most of these pilgrimages follow specifically designed paths which run across unique and spectacular natural environment. The singularity of these routes, the beautiful landscapes, the large number of ancient hermitages conserved in the province and the fact of helping these traditions survive, in most cases since medieval times, are powerful reasons to make this special mention to the pilgrimages in our province.





SANCTUARIES ROUTE

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

The province of Castellón has abundant hermitages and sanctuaries. The list counts over 300 examples, all of them valuable and with regular visitors.

All these sanctuaries are open for visitors and prayers. They are located in privileged areas where scenery, panoramic views and available routes make them worth a visit.

All of them hold artistic value, as they have been declared Heritage of Cultural Interest or BIC.

The most noteworthy are:

- Sant Pau hermitage in Albocàsser

- Cova Santa sanctuary in Altura
- Verge de la Ortisella / Benafigos
- Mare de Déu de la Font / Castellfort
- Basílica de la Mare de Déu del Lledó / Castellón de la Plana
- Vallivana / Morella
- Mare de Déu dels Angels / Sant Mateu
- La Balma / Zorita
- Mare de Déu de la Font de la Salud / Traiguera
- Sant Pascual / Vila-real
- Mare de Déu del Llosar / Vilafrança
- Sant Joan de Penyagolosa / Vistabella
- Santa Ana / Zucaina

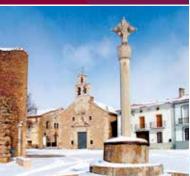


Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com

Note:

Most of these sanctuaries are the destination of *Romerías* or pilgrimages whose starting points are municipalities in the province. These routes cover beautiful landscapes of the province of Castellón.







ST. JAMES' WAY ROUTE RUNNING ALONG CASTELLÓN

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

St James' Way passes through the province of Castellón and along this stretch the pilgrim will go from the capital city and then link their way to the Ebro river Way, once in the Aragonese part of the Maestrazgo region. The Way passes by La Pobla Tornesa, Sierra Engarcerán, Albocàsser, Catí, Morella and Zorita.

From Sant Jaume de Fadrell to La Balma in Zorita, you will come across many monuments along your way. Some of them are La Magdalena hermitage, the Roman arch in Cabanes, Sant Pau hermitage in Albocàsser, the Roman Via Augusta or the Vallivana hermitage in Morella.

All along the path, the pilgrim will be provided with places to stay and recover in all the municipalities he/she will pass through during each of the five days in which the Way towards St James is divided in the stretch passing through the province of Castellón.

Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com www.castellonsantiago.es

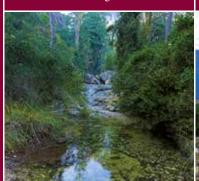
Note:

164 km through the landscapes of the province.

The route of St James' Way across Castellón is signposted as a European Cultural Route.



This stretch of the Way joins later the St James' French Way. The pilgrim arrives in Santiago de Compostela 895 km after having left the territory of Castellón.







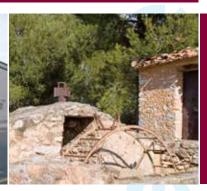
DESCUBRETURUTA.COM

DAY TRIPS AND GETAWAYS GUIDEBOOK - ROUTES

Towns forming part of the Consortium for the Ceramics Agreement have designed a series of routes so that you can discover tourist resources in the region.







The Orange Blossom Route. Alqueríes, Betxí, Burriana and Vila-real.

Discover the use and aromas of the most emblematic fruit in the area and spend 2 unforgettable days by the sea enjoying the local hospitality, customs and monuments.

Orange Tour in Betxí, Walk through Calduch Botanical Park in Vila-real, Clot de la Mare de Deu in Burriana, The Hermitage Route in Burriana.

The Ceramics Route. L'Alcora, Costur, Onda and Ribesalbes.

Enjoy 2 days of cultural visits to ceramics museums, walks through nature reserves, good food, castles and charming villages.

L'Alcora Ceramics Museum, climb to the Calvari (bell tower) in Costur, Baronía Museum in Ribesalbes and the Tile Museum in Onda.

The Encomienda Route. Les Useres, Pobla de Tornesa, Vall d'Alba and Vilafamés.

Travel back to the past in the land of Commanders from Military Orders, absorbing all of the history just oozing from every single corner of this route.

The Pilgrims Route in Les Useres, The Vía Augusta Route in Vall d'Alba, Lights which quench our senses in Pobla Tornesa, Route around Vilafamès.

Route in the Espadà Mountains. Alcudio de Veo, Fanzara, Sueras and Tales.

Enjoy the paths and trails where you can discover fountains and springs right in the heart of the Espadà mountain range. Two days in direct contact with nature.

A Walk through Olive Groves in Tales and Alcudia de Veo, a Walk by the Springs in Sueras, a Walk along Routes in Fanzara.

Route from the Sea to the Mountains. Almassora, Borriol, Figueroles, Lucena del Cid and Sant Joan de Moró.

Why choose between the sea and the mountains? On this route you can enjoy both and have an unforgettable experience. Contemplate the marvellous Mediterranean from the estuary of Mijares River and walk through some of the magnificent countryside that these towns have to offer.

Mijares Estuary in Almassora, Mollet Nature Reserve in Sant Joan de Moró, Route of Two Churches in Borriol, Ethnographic Route in Alcalaten in Figueroles and The Windmill Route in Lucena del Cid.







Find out more:

www.turismodecastellon.com / www.descubreturuta.com / rutas@descubreturuta.com

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Note:

Alcudia de Veo, Almassora, Betxí, Borriol, Burriana, Costur, Fanzara, Figueroles, L'Alcora, La PoblaTornesa, Les Alqueries, Les Useres, Lucena del Cid, Onda, Ribesalbes, Sant Joan de Moró, Sueras, Tales, Vall d'Alba, Vila-real, Vilafamès.

You will find information about the tourist attractions of Castellón and all the accommodation options at the website: www.turismodecastellon.com

You will also find us on: www.facebook.com/turismodecastellon www.twitter.com/turcastellon www.youtube.com/turismodecastellon www.flickr.com/turismodecastellon

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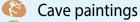
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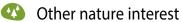
TOURIST MAP

Motorway-dual carriageway State road Generalitat system basic road Generalitat system secondary road Central gov't. branch system Tracks and others Railway Former train lines for hiking/biking GR long-distance route









Scenic landscape/good view

Historical/artistic interest

Family tourism

Health tourism



Ports/harbours



Blue Flag standard beaches



Lighthouse

Beaches



Castle, tower, heritage



Railway station Chapel/hermitage



BTT mountain biking centre



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INGLÉS

