

THE MAKING OF A MOUNTAIN RANGE

Geology of the Pyrenees, Cultural Heritage and Gastronomy

A voyage to the remote past



PYRENEES TRIPS

PYRENEESTRIPS S.L. GC 4906
Pl. Capdevila, 9. CP 25620 TREMP (Cat, Spain)
Tlf. +34973650031 +34696384716
www.pyreeneestrips.com
info@pyreeneestrips.com

Dates: September 23-30, 2017

Duration: 8 days – 7 nights

Price: Double room: 1590€

Single room: Supplement of 150€

Group size (max / min): 14 / 7

Closing date: September 2, 2017

DAY 1: THE SACRED SERRATED MOUNTAIN

Pick up at Barcelona. Panoramic view of the Montserrat mountain with its needle-like peaks. Overnight in Llavorsí. (H****)



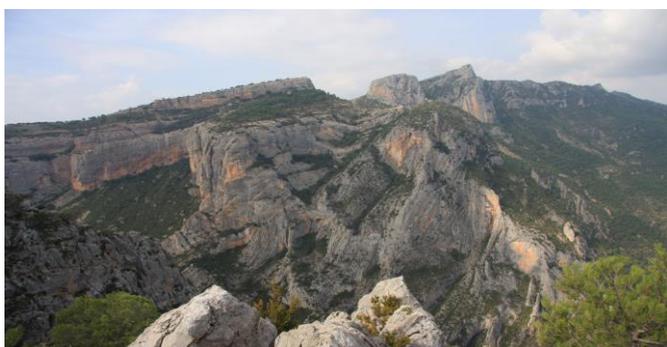
DAY 2: A WALK THROUGH A NATIONAL PARK

5-hours excursion through a landscape of high peaks and glacial valleys, modelled over the oldest rocks of the Pyrenees. Overnight in Llavorsí. (H****)



DAY 3: GEO-RAFTING THROUGH TIME

Rafting along Collegats gorge, a key structure to interpret the Pyrenees. Visit to the Tros de Sort farm which makes cheese with raw cow milk. Overnight in Senterada. (RH****)



DAY 4: THE LIFE IN AN ANCIENT TROPICAL SEA

In the surroundings of La Pobla de Segur there are well-preserved coral reefs from the Mesozoic Era. The amazing arrangement of the rocks testifies the formation of the Pyrenees too. Visit to the Portet walnut's liqueur factory (worldwide awarded recently). Overnight in Senterada. (RH****)



DAY 5: THE LAND OF DINOSAURS

A visit to the Basturs dinosaur egg site, one of the most important in Europe. Wine tasting at Sauvella's winery and free time around Tremp, the capital of the *comarca*. Overnight in Senterada. (RH****)



DAY 6: CAN SALT FORM MOUNTAINS?

In the surroundings of Sopeira we will discover how the salt diapirs are a clue to explain the architecture of many mountains in the world. Spa and traditional folk music based on diatonic accordions. Overnight in Areny. (AH*)



DAY 7: KAYAKING THROUGH THE GORGE OF COLLEGATS

Geology along a spectacular gorge of vertical walls placed at the Eastern border of Catalonia. A Neanderthal man site by the river. Overnight in Cellers (H***).



DAY 8: A FRONTIER CASTLE

Visit to Mur, originally consisting of a castle and a collegiate church which belong to the 10th – 11th centuries, at the border between the Christian and Muslim worlds. Lunch and travel back to Barcelona.



SERVICES INCLUDED:

General services: Geologist tour guide, travel insurance.

Transport: 20-seat minibus or 8-seat van. Transport from origin to Barcelona and return from Barcelona to origin not included.

Sailing: Raft from day 3 and kayak from day 7.

Overnights: Rural guest houses, hotels or AH. Single or double rooms with private bathroom.

Gastronomy: Meals are home-made and elaborated with local food (local wine included).

Daily Catalan style breakfast: bread with tomato accompanied with cheese, dry sausages, jam and eggs (on request).

Daily picnic for lunch (except for day 6 that we are going to have lunch at casa Passé, Sopenra). The picnic from day 2 will consist of sandwiches and fruit. No lunch day 1. Dinners are served on a fixed menu.

Visits: Portet and Sauvella wineries, Tros de Sort cheese farm and Mur Castle.

Weather conditions and clothing: In May, June and September temperatures are reasonably warm, therefore adequate light clothing is recommended; October may be a little colder and rainy. Hat, sun glasses and sunscreen lotion are a must. Long trousers are more appropriate in areas of rough vegetation, though shorts may be worn depending on individual preference. In the unlikely event of rain or colder weather, a rain jacket should suffice.

Safety: A safety briefing presentation will be given upon arrival at the hotel and prior to any field trip. All participants will be provided with our HSE flyer.

Services not listed are not included in the price.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE SALE OF TOURIST PACKAGES

1) **PAYMENT:** An advance deposit of 35% of the price of the package must be paid at time of booking, unless a provider demands the full advance payment of his services. The rest of the price will be fully paid 30 days prior to departure.

The failure to pay amounts by the established date constitutes an express termination clause such as to determine, by the intermediary agency and / or the Organizer, the right resolution.

2) **PRICE:** The price of the package is determined in the contract, with reference to what is stated in the catalog or brochure program and to any change of the catalogs or programs added subsequently. It may be changed up to 20 days prior to departure and only in consequence of changes in:

- transportation costs, including fuel costs;
- rights and taxes on certain types of tourist services such as taxes, landing fees, landing or boarding at ports and airports;
- the exchange rates applied to the package in question.

3) MODIFICATION OR CANCELLATION OF THE PACKAGE BEFORE STARTING

a) Before departure, the Organizer or the Seller who needs to significantly change one or more elements of the contract, it will immediately notify in writing to the Consumer indicating the type of change and the change in price that goes with it.

b) If the client does not accept the proposed amendment referred to in clause 3a, the Consumer may exercise the right to reacquire the amount already paid or to make use of an alternative tourist package, without supplement in price, or, if the alternative tourist package has a value less than the initial package, to be repaid the surplus in price. The Consumer must communicate his decisions within three days from the moment he has received notice.

c) For cancellations other than those caused by force majeure, unforeseeable circumstances and failure to reach the minimum number of participants described in the catalog or program outside the catalog, as well as to those other than the non-acceptance by the Consumer of the alternative tourist package offered, the Organizer that cancels, will return to the Consumer what was paid within a month.

d) In the cases mentioned in clauses 3b and 3c the Organizer and the seller are responsible for the payment of a penalty not lower than 5% of the total price if the breach of the contract occurs from two months up to fifteen days before the beginning of the tour; not lower than 10% up to three days before and not lower than 25% if the breach occurs within the previous 48 hours before the beginning.

4) **WITHDRAWAL OF THE CONSUMER:** The Consumer can withdraw from the contract with the right to reacquire what he has paid, but he will be charged administration fees, cancellation fees and, unless otherwise specified in the individual travel suggestions and / or under the service confirmation, the penalties set out below, depending on the number of days until the departure date in which is given the cancellation communication.

a) 5% of the price from 15 to 11 days before departure;

b) 15% of the price from 10 to 3 days before departure;

c) 25% of the price within 48 hours before departure;

Please note: the same amounts should be paid by those who could not make the trip for lack, incompleteness and / or irregularity of personal and travel documents.

5) CHANGES AFTER DEPARTURE

If, after the date of departure, for whatever reason, the organizer finds itself impossible to supply an essential part of the services considered in the contract, except in instances caused by the consumer, it must arrange alternative substitutions, without charging a supplement in price to the contracting party and if the supplied services should cost less than that originally planned, the Consumer will be reimbursed the difference.

If it is not possible to find an alternative solution, or the alternative offered by the Organizer has been refused by the tourist for honest and just reasons, the Organizer will give, without a supplement in price, means of transport equivalent to that originally booked for the return to his departure location or to a different location to be agreed upon, compatible with the availability of means and the spots available, and the Consumer will be reimbursed the difference between the cost of the expected services and those services rendered up until the moment of anticipated return.

6) REPLACEMENTS

The Consumer backing out of the package may be replaced by another person if:

*The Organizer is informed in writing at least 4 working days before the fixed date of departure, receiving communication in context about the reasons of the substitution and the particulars of the transferee;

*If the transferee satisfies all the conditions required for the trip and especially the requirements related to the passport, visas, and health certificates;

*These or other replaced services may be provided after the substitution;

*The substitute person shall pay to the Organizer all additional expenses it sustained, in order to make the substitution, in as far as it receives these amounts before the transfer.

*The Consumer transferor and the transferee are jointly liable for the payment of the balance due as well as the costs specified in this clause.

*The subsequent methods and conditions of substitution are mentioned in the technical data.

*We specify that in some cases, the substitution will be possible only with the consent of the carrier.

7) OBLIGATION OF ASSISTANCE

The organizer is required to lend the necessary assistance to the Consumer imposed by the criterion of professional diligence exclusively with reference to its obligations, by law or contract. The Organizer and the Seller are exonerated from their respective responsibilities when the failure or improper performance of the contract is imputable to the Consumer or derives from an unforeseeable or unavoidable event, or force majeure.

8) COMPLAINTS

Any failure in the contract must be contested by the Consumer without delay so that the Provider, the Organizer, its local representative or guide can remedy the situation promptly. Otherwise it can not be denied the breach of contract. The Consumer must - on pain of forfeiture - also make a complaint by sending a registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt, to the Organizer or the Seller no later than 10 working days from the date of return at the place of departure.

9) INSURANCE

Unless expressly included in the price, the Client is strongly advised to take out adequate insurance cover such as cancellation due to illness, accident or injury, personal injury and personal liability, lost or damage of baggage.

10) HEALTH & FITNESS

A minimum level of fitness is required to be able to participate on this tour. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk three-four hours on uneven surfaces and carry your own rucksack. You must inform us at the time of booking of any medical condition that you have which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. Also, you must inform us in advance of any dietary requirements.



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