



# Aragon Active

## Culture and Gastronomy Holiday

Experience the Culture, Food and History of Aragon



### Full Itinerary

The itinerary below gives an idea of what we will be doing during a typical week. Some weeks coincide with local food fairs, in which case we change the itinerary accordingly to accommodate them. Each evening after supper we talk about the following day. Any changes to the itinerary are done to maximise the best use of time and to ensure you have a full and enjoyable holiday. It will depend a great deal on the weather, as well as the availability for our local supplier visits.

### Cooking

You will have the opportunity to join in a couple of easy and informal cooking workshops. The recipes we use are a mix of Spanish dishes and some of our own favourites (not so Spanish). We always use locally sourced or home-grown ingredients whenever possible.

### Walks

The walks are short and easy and can be adjusted according to the abilities of the group. Being in the mountains, the terrain can sometimes be rocky and uneven, but we try to minimise any climbs or steep descents. Be prepared to spend a lot of time on your feet during guided tours of monuments, villages and watching the local dancing.

We grade this week as easy walking. [See our walking grades.](#)

## DAY 1

### Arrival

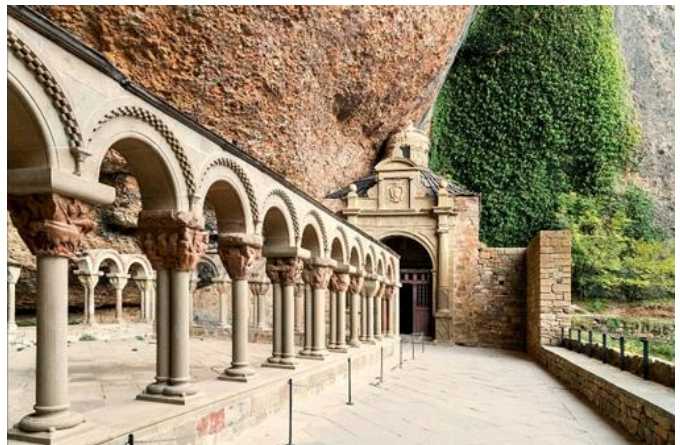
- Minibus taxi transfer from Zaragoza airport and train station. (see website for times).
- A welcome drink on arrival at our farmhouse, Casa Allué, and a chance to meet Simon and Lucy, your hosts.
- After the evening meal we will have a chat about the week ahead, and the program for the following day.



## DAY 2

### Monasteries and Jaca Cathedral on the Camino de Santiago

- Today we head west to the Monasteries of San Juan de la Peña.
- After a coffee stop in the beautiful village of Santa Cruz de la Seros, we drive up to the 10<sup>th</sup> century monastery, built into the mountain side.
- Highlights include the 12<sup>th</sup> century frescos, the holy grail connection, the pantheon, and the magnificent Romanic cloisters.
- We then go up to the plateau where we take an easy stroll to a mountain viewpoint, and hear the legend of the monastery.
- After a picnic lunch we visit the newer 17<sup>th</sup> century monastery, now a clever reconstruction of monastic life.
- On the drive back, we visit the city of Jaca, for a guided tour of the Romanesque Cathedral of San Pedro. Built to welcome the pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago. We have the option to visit the adjoining museum of Diocesan art, with an impressive collection of Romanesque frescoes.
- Return to Albella for our evening meal.





## DAY 3

### Local village Walk

- We take a gentle walk direct from Albella. We cross ancient seabeds and follow medieval pathways to visit the neighbouring villages.
- Along the way we see examples of Aragonese architecture, learn about the geology, history and customs of the area, and visit a fascinating abandoned village.
- After a picnic lunch by the Ara River, we take the minibus back to Albella.
- Optional evening cookery workshop.
- Walk 4-6 km, 100m ascent.



## DAY 4

### Alquézar and Winery Visit

- We drive south to Somontano, our local wine growing region.
- Our destination is the spectacular Moorish citadel of Alquézar. The town sits perched on the limestone cliffs of the Sierra de Guara Natural Park.
- A guided visit of the town and a short climb up to the collegiate, with its impressive cloisters, church and frescoes.
- We have lunch at our favourite restaurant.
- Afternoon winery visit and tasting, before returning to Albella for a light supper.



## DAY 5

### Rest Day & Paella in Albella

- A day without travelling and a chance to rest and recharge.
- Relax with a book, take a short walk from the farmhouse, or go wild swimming.
- Late morning optional cooking workshop to help prepare Paella, followed by a leisurely lunch out on the terrace!
- Afternoon guided visit to our local chapel to learn the full story of our saint, San Urbez, “the rain man,” and how the chapel survived the Spanish civil war.
- In the evening, we can prepare a few easy tapas to go with a light buffet supper.



## DAY 6

### Village Festival and Bujaruelo Valley Walk

- We drive to Torla where they celebrate the local fiestas with processions and traditional dancing.
- On the way we visit a local cheese producer for a cheese tasting.
- After seeing the procession of Pilar in Torla we drive alongside the Ara River to the glacial valley of Bujaruelo. We stop at the Romanic bridge, which was of strategic importance being one of the main trade and pilgrim routes from France. Here we have a traditional lunch in the local mountain restaurant.
- Afterwards we take an easy walk along the Ara River through meadows, box trees, and along a 4x4 gravel track.
- Walk 4km, 50m ascent





## DAY 7

### High Mountain chapel walk & Ainsa visit

- We drive up to the mountain village of Tella at 1300m.
- Being so remote, this tiny village is steeped in superstition, legends of giants and witches abound. As a result, it has no less than 3 chapels including the oldest in Sobrarbe, dating from the 11<sup>th</sup> century.
- We visit the chapels via a short circular walk, and take in the panoramic views.
- A short drive down the mountain takes us to a prehistoric Dolmen where we have our picnic lunch.
- In the afternoon we visit the medieval town of Ainsa, voted one of Spain's top 10 prettiest towns. After a short tour of its fort, church and cobbled streets, there is a chance to relax and have a drink in the Medieval Plaza, as well as buy any last-minute souvenirs.
- Walk 2.5km, 100m ascent.



## DAY 8 - Departure

Depart for Zaragoza and onward journeys home

### Make a Reservation

Use our online booking system on the holiday page to reserve your place.

There are only 8 places available on this trip.

Accommodation, transport, guides, meals and drinks are all included. The only additional cost is the optional gratuities for the guides.

We charge no single supplement.

If you have any questions, please contact us using the details below:

Email: [holiday@aragonactive.com](mailto:holiday@aragonactive.com)

Telephone: 0034 679 345 623.

**Please note this is strictly a no-smoking holiday.**