

### **Excursion 1. Monastery of Vallbona de les Monges and visit an experiment on organic mulches and cover crops in vinyards**

This excursion will take you to visit the **Monastery** of Vallbona de les Monges and some **experiments** on cover crops and organic mulches done in collaboration with the **cellar l'Olivera**.

The Monastery of Vallbona de les Monges is a historic Cistercian convent in Catalonia, Spain, and one of the region's oldest monastic communities for women. Established in the 12th century, it showcases exquisite Romanesque and Gothic architecture, with a stunning church, cloisters, and chapter house. The monastery still houses a community of nuns to this day. In the same village of Vallbona de les Monges, we have a couple of cover crop and organic mulch experiments in collaboration with the local cellar l'Olivera. We will visit them and showcase some of the results and may end up having a glass of wine.



Photo credits 1. <https://www.spain.info/es/destino/vallbona-les-monges/>



Photo credits 2. Bàrbara Baraibar

More info: <https://www.monestirvallbona.cat/en/>  
<https://olivera.org/es/>

### **Excursion 2. Fruit processing center (ACTEL) and Castell del Reimei cellar**

Fruit production is a vital economic driver in Lleida province and particularly renowned for its high-quality stone fruits, such as peaches, plums, and cherries. In this excursion, we will visit a **fruit processing center** and learn about the importance of this production for the area. But before that, we will visit the **cellar of Castell del Reimei**, the most ancient winery of fine wines in Catalonia. It consists of a castle built on an ancient edification at the end of the XIX century, a sanctuary of Italianized classist style and vestiges of the most important agricultural colony of the age together with a mill, a distillery, a barrel-maker's workshop and a blacksmith.



Photo Credits 3. <https://castelldelreimei.com/en/>



Photo Credits 4. <https://actelgrup.com/ca/fruita/>

More info: <https://actelgrup.com/en/>

### **Excursion 3. Alquezar, Quality corn and *Amaranthus palmeri***

In the first stop north of Lleida we will visit a maize field with an abundant ***Amaranthus palmeri*** infestation and hear about its arrival and the challenges it poses to crop production. Later, we will visit the facilities of **Quality corn**, a company devoted to the production of maize offshoots such as sprout, flour, semolina etc. for human use. The third and last stop will be a guided **visit of Alquezar**, considered one of the most beautiful villages of the Aragon region located next to the river Vero. During the visit we will hear about the history and curiosities of this place. We will also visit a museum explaining ancient rural life and will have the opportunity to have a glance on the greenish fresh water of the Vero river.

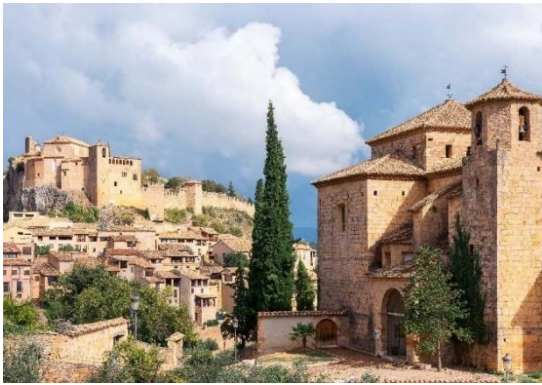


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<https://turismoenaragon.com/item/alquezar/>



Photo Credits 6. Jordi Recasens

More info: <https://www.spain.info/en/destination/alquezar/>  
<https://qcgrain.com/>

### **Excursion 4. Raimat Cellar and weed management experiments**

This excursion will take you to visit the **Raimat Cellar** and taste 2 wines and a cava glass and then visit some **weed management experiments** lead by the Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology of Catalonia (IRTA). Raimat Cellar, nestled in the Costers del Segre wine region of Catalonia, is a pioneering winery known founded in 1914, that transformed a previously arid land into a thriving vineyard through advanced irrigation techniques. And after that, we will visit a couple of **mechanical and cultural weed management experiments** managed by IRTA.



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<https://360.turismedelleida.cat/es/descubre/@@place/celler-ramat>



Photo Credits 8.  
<https://www.irta.cat/es/activitat/demostracio-dequips-de-maquinaria-de-desherbatge-mecanic-en-cultius-extensius/>

### **Excursion 5. Olive oil museum and cooperative in la Granadella and visit to olive, almond and fruit orchards**

Spain is the world's largest producer, manufacturing almost half of the world's olive oil. In this excursion we will visit the **olive oil museum** in La Granadella, where we will learn about this essential product of Catalan and Spanish culture. After that, we will visit some **olive groves and almond orchards** under different production management strategies (intensive, extensive) while we enjoy a typical Mediterranean dryland landscape.



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[https://www.tripadvisor.es/Attraction\\_Review-g12514467-d11879470-Reviews-Museu\\_de\\_l\\_Oli\\_de\\_Catalunya-La\\_Granadella\\_Province\\_of\\_Lleida\\_Catalonia.html#/media/11879470/?albumid=-160&type=ALL\\_INCLUDING\\_RESTRICTED&category=-160](https://www.tripadvisor.es/Attraction_Review-g12514467-d11879470-Reviews-Museu_de_l_Oli_de_Catalunya-La_Granadella_Province_of_Lleida_Catalonia.html#/media/11879470/?albumid=-160&type=ALL_INCLUDING_RESTRICTED&category=-160)



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<https://www.territoris.cat/articulo/garrigues/cooperativa-granadella-promou-espai-d-art-oliveres/20181107204051052917.html>

More info: [https://www.culturadeloli.cat/en\\_index/](https://www.culturadeloli.cat/en_index/)

### **Excursion 6. Irrigation channel infrastructure and visit to a fruit processing center**

Fruit production is a vital economic driver in Lleida province and particularly renowned for its high-quality stone fruits, such as peaches, plums, and cherries. In this excursion, we will visit a **fruit processing center** and learn about the importance of this production for the area. After that, we will visit a pumping station of the **Segarra-Garrigues irrigation channel**, which is an approximately 85 kilometers long water infrastructure project, designed to irrigate up to 70,000 hectares across the Segarra and Garrigues regions. We will also visit some areas that were excluded from irrigation and are part of the Natura 2000 network, designed to protect birds of steppe zones.



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<https://www.aiguessegarragarrigues.cat/ca/proyecto/>



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[https://www.segre.com/es/economia/170221/lleida-triplica-exportaciones-desde-2000-alcanza-los-949-millones\\_22850.html](https://www.segre.com/es/economia/170221/lleida-triplica-exportaciones-desde-2000-alcanza-los-949-millones_22850.html)

## **Excursion 7. Santa Maria de Poblet**

### **Abbey and the Artist's vineyard.**

This excursion will take you first to visit the **abbey** of “Santa Maria de Poblet” and then to a **The artist's vineyard**, an open air museum, where vines and sculptures merged.

Santa Maria de Poblet is a Cistercian monastery nestled at the foot of the Prades Mountains in Catalonia, Spain. Founded in 1151, it is one of the largest and most significant monastic complexes in Europe, known for its beautiful Romanesque and Gothic architecture. The monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, served as the royal pantheon of the kings of Aragon and has been meticulously restored, continuing to be home to a community of monks.

“The artist's vineyard” in “Mas Blanch i Jove” is an open air museum that merges art and wine. Here you can find sculptures and large-scale installations conceived by artists such as Carles Santos, Guinovart, Joan Brossa, Susana Solano, Evru (Zush) and Frederic Amat intermingled with vineyards and olive trees.

More info: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/518/>  
<https://www.masblanchijove.com/en/the-vineyard/>



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<https://saposyprincesas.elmundo.es/actividades-ninos/tarragona/cultura/monumentos/el-monasterio-de-santa-maria-de-poblet>



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<https://www.turismegarrigues.com/es/visitasdeinteres/vinyadels-artistes/>