



CAL DISCOVERIES
TRAVEL



History and Culture of Spanish and French Catalonia

June 1 – 12, 2015 | \$3,950*

Accompanied by: Professor Alex Saragoza

Itinerary:

Day 1 (Monday, June 1)

Depart your gateway city and board an overnight flight** to arrive in Barcelona, Spain on Day 2.

(**international flights not included in program price)

Day 2 (Tuesday, June 2) | D

Arrive today and transfer on your own to the ***Hotel NH Barcelona***, a comfortable and well-appointed 3-star hotel, located very centrally in the heart of the Gothic quarter. No activities are planned during the day, allowing rest from the long journey.

Tonight meet your fellow travelers for a brief orientation walk followed by a welcome reception at the hotel before dinner.

Tonight we dine at nearby *La Fonda*, a lively and popular restaurant renowned for using market produce in the Mediterranean style.

Day 3 (Wednesday, June 3) | BLD

Enjoy a lecture by Alex Saragoza before breakfast. Depart by bus for an overview tour of the history of Barcelona and Catalonia.

Visit the Museum of the History of Catalonia, a place that gives a historical perspective and overview on everything that will be seen across Catalonia on this program. The museum is neatly ordered across seven themes from the birth of a nation through to Contemporary Catalonia, this tour will be led by a local guide.

Enjoy lunch at *Melic de Gotic*, a well renowned restaurant in a medieval building at the heart of the Gothic quarter, specializing in Catalan grilled cuisine, a fine place to restore energy for the afternoon.

After lunch, continue the introduction with a visit to the museum of the History of Barcelona at the Placa del Rei. Enjoy a guided visit to the site that showcases aspects of the city's history from Roman times onward, with some spectacular Roman and medieval architecture and artifacts that set the city in its extensive historical context. At the end of the tour, there will be an opportunity to visit the Temple of Augustus on your own before returning to the hotel.

Dinner tonight will be at *7 Portes* restaurant near the seafront at Barceloneta. The restaurant is a Barcelona institution, an elegant and classical restaurant from the 19th century built with 7 doors (7 portes) for clients to enter. A private area is reserved with a specialized menu for us to enjoy our dinner.

Day 4 (Thursday, June 4) | BLD

After breakfast, check out and depart for Perpignan. Head north across the border to France and stop at the lovely town of Collioure for lunch. Set in a beautiful location between mountains and sea, Collioure was a favorite haunt of artists such as Picasso, Matisse, and Chagall.

Settle in for a French Catalan lunch in one of the town's most emblematic restaurants, *Les Templiers*. This is where the artists often hung out in the evening and many a famous name's works can be seen on the walls. A beautiful and historical location for a tasty lunch with sometimes slightly chaotic service that perhaps just reaffirms the charm and history of the place.

**Price is land only, based on double occupancy*

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After lunch, visit the very striking 800 year old Royal Castle that was built by the Knights Templar and has changed hands frequently over its lifetime, affording spectacular views over the Mediterranean. A short drive north takes us to Perpignan, our base for the next three nights. Check-in to the **Mercure Perpignan Centre**, a well located 4-star hotel near the center of the city.

The afternoon is at leisure to rest and freshen up. This evening, enjoy another lecture from Alex Saragoza followed by a short walk to dinner in the town center at *L'Arago*, a well-appointed brasserie with classic French dishes and a great place to welcome us to Perpignan.

Day 5 (Friday, June 5) | BD

After breakfast, head north to the spectacular town of Carcassonne, a UNESCO world heritage site and home to one of the most impressive castles in Europe.

Enjoy a guided tour that provides a counterpoint to the history of the region. It is very spectacular and home to the most complete medieval walls in Europe. Enjoy lunch and some free time on your own to explore the old town.

Continue south to the small town of Limoux, famous for producing Thomas Jefferson's favorite wine: the sparkling Blanquette de Limoux. Visit one of the region's finest boutique wine producers at Chateau Rives Blanques, and enjoy a brief visit and a tasting of their white and sparkling wines in a most spectacular tasting room overlooking the Pyrenees. After the visit and tasting head back to Perpignan for a quick rest followed by dinner at *La Cuisine des Sentiments*, a fresh addition to the Perpignan restaurant scene, offering a modern twist on regional dishes in an elegant dining room.

Day 6 (Saturday, June 6) | BL

After breakfast, set off for a short trip north to Narbonne, an ancient town on the shores of the Mediterranean that boasts a wonderful archaeological museum housed in an 11th century palace. The prehistoric collection of artifacts is a fascinating route into the ancient ways of the area. Adjourn for lunch at *L'Estagnol*, an airy and bright restaurant, specializing in dishes of the region and a good jumping off point for a brief stroll around the town after lunch.

Return to Perpignan for a visit to the museum of North Catalonia in the best known building in Perpignan, Le Castillet. The ancient city gate at the entrance to the city, Le Castillet offers a historical view of the northern part of the area to complement the earlier historical museums in Barcelona.

Alex will lecture to the group and the rest of the evening is free, perhaps you'll try the Michelin starred *La Galinette* restaurant; reservations are essential.

Day 7 (Sunday, June 7) | BL

After breakfast, check out and depart Perpignan to return to Barcelona for the duration of the program.

Shortly after crossing the border to Spain, stop at the small town of La Jonquera and visit the museum of exile for a guided tour. The museum presents an overview of the refugees created at the end of the Spanish Civil War in 1939 in Catalonia and the disparate routes they took. It also looks at their subsequent fates, from those that ended up in Nazi concentration camps to those that ultimately returned to Spain. It is a place that provokes reflection into the unpredictable and harrowing consequences of civil war.

Travel on towards Figueras for a wine interlude before a visit to a unique museum. Figueras is in the heart of a very fine up-and-coming wine region called Emporda. We stop for a tapas lunch at the Castillo Peralada wine hotel near Figueras. Experience a tasting of the wines of the region between the visits to La Jonquera and the Dali museum. Red wine is the main style here but there's also white to vary the tasting.

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Continue on to the Dali Theatre-Museum in Figueras which represents the last great work of the artist on the site of the former Municipal Theatre. It is a feast for the senses and very unlike most museums you will see, mixing different types of art in very different backgrounds. It is the largest collection of surrealist art in the world and an unmissable part of the story of Catalonia.

Return to Barcelona, and check back into the **Hotel NH Barcelona**. The evening is free.

Day 8 (Monday, June 8) | BL

After breakfast, set off for wine country and the first stop: Llopart, one of Catalunya's best known cava producers. A beautiful winery in the hills near Sant Sadurn d'Anoya, Llopart is a family producer that has been making wine on the property for over 125 years. The visit shows how sparkling wine is made in this region, before a tasting of several different styles of cava in the new tasting room. In 2012, their sparkling rosé was awarded the best sparkling wine in the world under \$20 by Huffington Post.

After the Llopart visit, travel a bit further south to the capital of the Penedes wine region in Vilafranca. Here we enjoy a simple visit to one of the best known wineries in the world at Torres, the bodega that reset the benchmark for Spanish wine exporting in the 1970s.

Better still, continue up the road to the private Torres family restaurant at *Mas Rabell*. A beautiful private house (Masia) and farm, the setting for private family dinners and clients of the family. Enjoy a regional menu matched with Torres wines and, if he is in town, Miguel Torres might come over to welcome us to the restaurant. After a leisurely lunch, return to Barcelona and the rest of the day is free.

Day 9 (Tuesday, June 9) | B

After breakfast at the hotel, experience a guided visit to the Palau de la Musica Catalana, an Art Nouveau delight that is still an active concert hall, a Catalan icon, and a stirring way to start our day. The visit culminates with a visit to the concert hall and stage.

After the Palau, continue on to the Picasso Museum, also in the Gothic quarter a little closer to the sea. This is the place to gain insight into Picasso's early years and his close relationship with Barcelona and the museum houses over 4,000 of his works. Lunch today is on your own.

The final museum visit today is to the Museum of Catalan art. The museum is set up in sections representing various styles and periods from Medieval to modern via Baroque and Gothic. There is a good representation of Catalan and international artists drawing the overall picture of art in Catalonia together.

After the Catalan art museum return to the hotel. Alex Saragoza will provide his final lecture and the rest of the evening is free.

Day 10 (Wednesday, June 10) | B

Today offers two optional excursions:

1. A Gaudi excursion that covers visits to La Sagrada Familia, La Pedrera, and Casa Batllo in the company of a local guide. Lunch is not included and would be between visits. Tour cost: approximately \$140 (less if 10+ register)
2. A Civil War excursion, looking at the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the events around the Battle of the Ebro in southern Catalonia. There would be a visit to two of the civil war museums near the battle sites in Terra Alta, one before and the other after lunch. Tour cost: \$180 (needs a minimum of 6 people)

The evening is free.

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TRAVEL



Day 11 (Thursday, June 11) | BD

After breakfast, set off for the final day of activities.

The morning is spent at Montjuic hill, scene of many of Barcelona's pivotal moments of history. Visit the castle of Montjuic, a historic symbol of repression in the city affording panoramic views of Barcelona. Now in the hands of the council, the status of the castle has changed and is being transformed into an open fortress and a space of learning.

After the morning in Montjuic, move to La Rambla and the iconic La Boqueria market, where you are free to stroll the market to see the fresh food stalls and find a tasty spot for lunch (not included).

The rest of the afternoon is free before the Farewell Dinner at *Igueldo*. A fine restaurant of the Basque and Navarran styles (the chefs trained at *Arzak* in San Sebastian and *Rodero* in Pamplona, with 5 Michelin stars between them), *Igueldo* offers a stylish and elegant last night location near the Rambla Catalunya and Diagonal. A contemporary menu sets the scene for end of tour reflections on the highlights and memories of Catalunya.

Day 12 (Friday, June 12) | B

After breakfast, transfer on your own to the airport for your return flight home. There are no planned activities on this day.

Meals Included as listed above: B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner

Lecturer Bio: Professor Alex Saragoza

Alex Saragoza has served as Chair of the Center for Latin American Studies and as Director of International Education Programs at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the recipient of the UC Extension's Honored Instructor Award. He also teaches classes at OLLI.

His research and teaching spans Latin America, the United States and Europe. Among his current research projects is an examination of "old world" legacies in the cultural formations and practices of the Americas, e.g., equestrian cultural forms (such as the evolution of the rodeo, for instance, in Spanish, *charreadas*, and their counterpart in the Camargue area of southern France), and wine making (viniculture), which was animated by the Roman occupation of the south of France (Occitania/Aquitania) and of the Iberian peninsula; both of these cultural forms made their way to the new world (Christopher Columbus had barrels of wine on his ship in 1492, and he brought horses with him on his second voyage a year later).

Professor Saragoza has recently presented his research at the University of Provence and at the University of Pau, and in the fall of 2012 he was a visiting scholar at the University of Paris (the Sorbonne). He has offered courses on the history of Catalonia, which at one time also encompassed the southwest portion of France (Roussillon and Languedoc, or French Catalonia, that stretched into the southern reaches of the Rhone Valley).

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Reservation form: Catalonia | June 1 – 12, 2015

Send to: Cal Discoveries Travel
Cal Alumni Association
1 Alumni House
Berkeley, CA. 94720-7520

Contact: 510.900.8222 (direct)
888.225.2586 (toll-free)
caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu
alumni.berkeley.edu/caldiscoveries

Enclosed is my/our deposit of \$ _____ (\$600 per person) for _____ person/people on the above tour.

Make check payable to Cal Alumni Association (CAA), or charge my deposit to: AMEX MasterCard VISA

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature: _____ Date _____
(as it appears on credit card):

Full Legal Name [exactly as they appear on your passport (first, middle, last)]: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

1. _____

Name for name badge: _____ **Email:** _____

2. _____

Name for name badge: _____ **Email:** _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home: _____ **Alternate:** _____

- I am sharing a room with _____ (form sent separately)
- I request a single room and will pay the supplement of \$850 (limited availability)
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.
- Please send additional information on extending our stay in Barcelona outside of the program dates.

There are two optional excursions on Day 10:

I/we select:

- Option 1: Gaudi Excursion
- Option 2: Civil War Excursion
- I/we do not wish to participate in either excursion

Signature: _____

I/we have read the general information section of this flyer and understand and agree to the cancellation policy stated herein. Please note: Any payment to CAA constitutes your acceptance of the general information set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

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General Information:

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: An initial deposit of \$600 per person is due to reserve space on this program. A second deposit of \$900 per person will be due January 23, 2015 and an invoice will be sent to you to request payment. Reservations received between January 23 and March 12 must include a deposit in the amount of \$1,500 per person. Final payment is due **March 13, 2015** and an invoice will be sent to you to request payment. All reservations received after March 13 need to be accompanied by payment in full.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 60 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of \$1,200 per person; 59-30 days, \$2,000 per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE AND INFORMATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE. All cancellations must be submitted in *writing* to Cal Discoveries Travel.

PLEASE NOTE: This program has been planned for adults who appreciate a certain amount of independence, who are flexible and self-reliant, and who wish to broaden their intellectual and cultural horizons. Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa or American Express. Make checks payable to California Alumni Association (CAA). Your deposit will be charged upon receipt and is processed on a first-come first-serve basis and subject to availability. At that time we will send you a confirmation with information on Travel Insurance. Please do not make any non-refundable airline reservations until we can fully confirm the completion of this trip.

COST INCLUDES: Seven nights at a hotel in Barcelona and three nights in a hotel in Perpignan; Meals as described: 10 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners; Rates are per person based on double occupancy; Singles will pay a supplement of \$850 (subject to availability); Welcome Reception; Entry fees for excursions described in the itinerary; Services of on-site travel director and lecturer. Lecturer participation is contingent on a minimum number of paying travelers. We cannot guarantee group size.

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: Airfare; Fees for passports, entry/departure fees; Ground transportation; Meals other than those specified; Beverages; Optional tipping or gratuities; Travel insurance, and other expenses of a personal nature (liquor, laundry, etc.).

ITINERARIES: Accommodations and arranged excursions are subject to change or substitution at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Cal Discoveries Travel's control. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned, but adjustments, substitutions and changes may occur after the final itinerary has been issued. Cal Discoveries Travel may in consultation with OLLI, in its sole discretion, withdraw a program or any part of it, make such alterations or substitutions to the itinerary or program inclusions as it deems necessary or desirable, and pass on to program participants any expenditures, additional costs or losses caused by any such adjustments, or by delays or events beyond its reasonable control. In addition, Cal Discoveries Travel may, in its sole discretion, withdraw or modify a program if required by the tour operator or other vendor with whom Cal Discoveries Travel has contracted.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL: The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of Cal Discoveries Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance. Please note that the Carcassonne Castle visit on day 5 has many steps, and less mobile travelers may not be able to access all areas.

Minimum group size required: 16 Maximum group size: 25

California Seller of Travel #: 2090031-50
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updated: 9/9/14 jca

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