

# COSTA BRAVA AND SOUTHERN FRANCE: A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

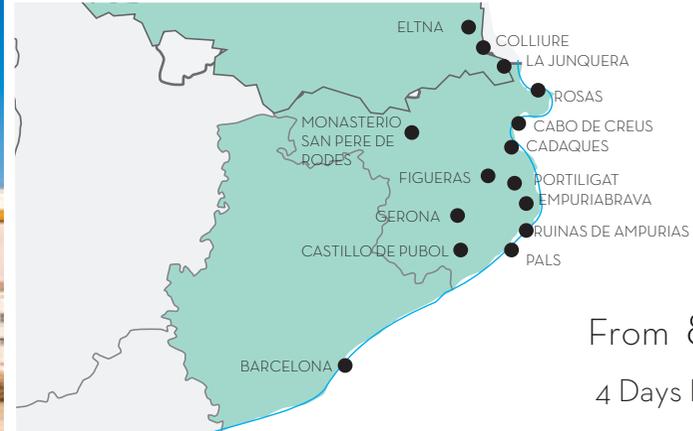




CADAQUES



FIGUERAS. MUSEO DE DALI



From 843\$  
4 Days | 3 Nights

**Areas:** France

**Tour Type:** :Archaeological, Historical, Landscape

**Day 01 . Barcelona- Abbey Fontfroide- Minerve- Carcassonne.-**  
**Welcome to your Europamundo Trip Style!!!**

The information about the meeting place and start time of your circuit can be found on your voucher.

Departure from Barcelona to cross the French border, traveling through the region of **Languedoc** arriving to the **FONTFROIDE ABBEY** (visit included), center of papal orthodoxy during the Cathar conflict. We can admire the convent church, the cloister and the abbey palace.

We shall continue to **MINERVA** located in an awesome scenery seeming suspended in the void. Our guide will accompany us walking to the center of the first enclave of the Cathars. Free time to have lunch and take a walk in its old alleys.

We continue our route to **CARCASSONNE**, famous for its role during the Albigensian Crusade. Let's go through the medieval city, the largest and best preserved in Europe, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. We will enjoy ourselves in this beautiful city. Accommodation.

**Day 02 . Carcassonne - Lagrasse- Villerouge-Termenès -Rennes le Château -Castres.-**

Today we will have an interesting day where we will explore some small but fundamental stops on our trip.

The first part will be in **LAGRASSE** picturesque medieval town with Benedictine Abbey where we will walk accompanied by our guide.

We continue to **VILLEREUGE-TERMENÈS**, the place where the last Prefect of the Cathars was burned during the Inquisition. Time for lunch. **Visit to the castle included.**

We keep going through the roads of Corbelles massif till we get to the enigmatic village of **RENNES LE CHATEAU**. **Entrance included.** Through a walk we will try to expose the mysteries and secrets that still hides.

Later, we will arrive to **CASTRES** an attractive town on the banks of the Agout river, with coloured houses on the river who tell us about its artisan past. As a curiosity, you would know that the gardens of the episcopal palace were designed by the same landscaper who designed the Versailles Palace grounds. Before heading to our accommodation, we will have the opportunity to discover its old town.

### Day 03 . Castres – Albi – Najac- Cordes sur Ciel- Gaillac- Toulouse.-

We head to **ALBI**, the city that gave its name to the Crusade against the Cathars, also known for being the birthplace of Toulouse Lautrec . We go to the city center with our guide, which was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 2010.

We will continue to **NAJAC**, charming town literally hanging on a rocky cliff, overlooking the entrance to the Aveyron river gorges, creating an incredible landscape together with its castle. We encourage you at lunch to discover some typical local dishes.

Later, we will travel to **CORDES SUR CIEL**, small fortified medieval gem on top of a hill, an Albigenian stronghold. Our walk through its winding streets will take us to the Market square, in the town center.

In the afternoon we continue to **GAILLAC**, town bathed by the river Tarn, where since its foundation as an abbey in the 19th century, everything revolves around wine, vineyards and winegrowers. A visit to a winery is included.

After this interesting day we head to **TOULOUSE**. Accommodation.

### Day 04 . Toulouse – Castelnaudary – Mirepoix – Foix.-

**TOULOUSE**, capital of Occitania, located on the banks of the Garonne river and the Canal du Midi. Known as the Pink City, it seduces and captivates us with its history and scenery. In the morning we will visit its most emblematic places and get to enjoy a **boat ride (included, depending on the season)**. We will be able to taste the rich and varied gastronomy of the region.

We continue on to **CASTELNAUDARY**, a village which grew around its XIIIth century castle, which was destroyed during the crusade. In 1681, the Canal du Midi was inaugurated, which is a large work of engineering that unites the Atlantic Ocean with the Mediterranean Sea and crosses the country. Currently stands out as an important river port.

After a short journey, we arrive to **MIREPOIX**, medieval town reconstructed during the XIIIth century which maintains to this day its original appearance; we will see the cathedral of Saint Mauritius and the Market square.



After this we will leave for **FOIX**, at the foot of the Pyrenees, with its impenetrable county castle. It was a place of Cathar refuge at the start of their persecution. We cannot neglect to explore the church of Saint Volusien. Time to wander and lose ourselves before we arrive to the hotel.

### Day 05 . Foix – Montsegur- Castle of Puivert- Puigcerdá – Barcelona.-

After breakfast we will discover the most representative of the castles of our route: **MONTSEGUR**, located on top of a 1200 meters mountain, it succumbed to a sad fate after a 10-month siege. It remained as a symbol of the Cathar resistance.

After this we will go to the **castle of PUIVERT** and we will visit its square door tower, the Court of Honour, the tower with four splendid rooms (**entrance included**). We can have lunch on this small town full of history and mystery.

After the visit we will return through the Pyrenees and the border to **PUIGCERDA**, capital of the Cerdanya Region, active commercial center. We will go to Santa Maria Bell Tower, the most emblematic monument in the city.

Arrival at the end of the afternoon to **Barcelona**.

**Arrival and end of services.** Our guide will drop you off at the agreed point.

**We hope you have enjoyed your circuit with Europamundo.**



OPERATES MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

### Prices per person

ID 22060



			7 PAX	6 PAX	5 PAX	4 PAX
HIGH SEASON	INDIV	\$	<b>1.211</b>	<b>1.287</b>	<b>1.392</b>	<b>1.552</b>
	DBL	\$	<b>924</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>1.104</b>	<b>1.264</b>
MID SEASON	INDIV	\$	<b>1.229</b>	<b>1.304</b>	<b>1.410</b>	<b>1.570</b>
	DBL	\$	<b>941</b>	<b>1.016</b>	<b>1.122</b>	<b>1.282</b>
LOW SEASON	INDIV	\$	1.131	1.204	1.308	1.463
	DBL	\$	843	916	1.020	1.175

### Price Includes

**Europamundo General Services:** Travel by bus with an English-speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.

**Includes arrival and departure transfers**

**Boat:** Toulouse.

**Experiences:** La Maison des vins en Gaillac winery.

**Ticket admission:** Fontfroide Abbey, Termenes Castle, Rennes le Chateau, Puivert Castle.

### Expected Hotels

See the hotels provided for this trip in the final part of the brochure and on the website "My Trip".



ELNE. CATEDRAL Y PICO DEL CANIGOU



PALS. ARROZ