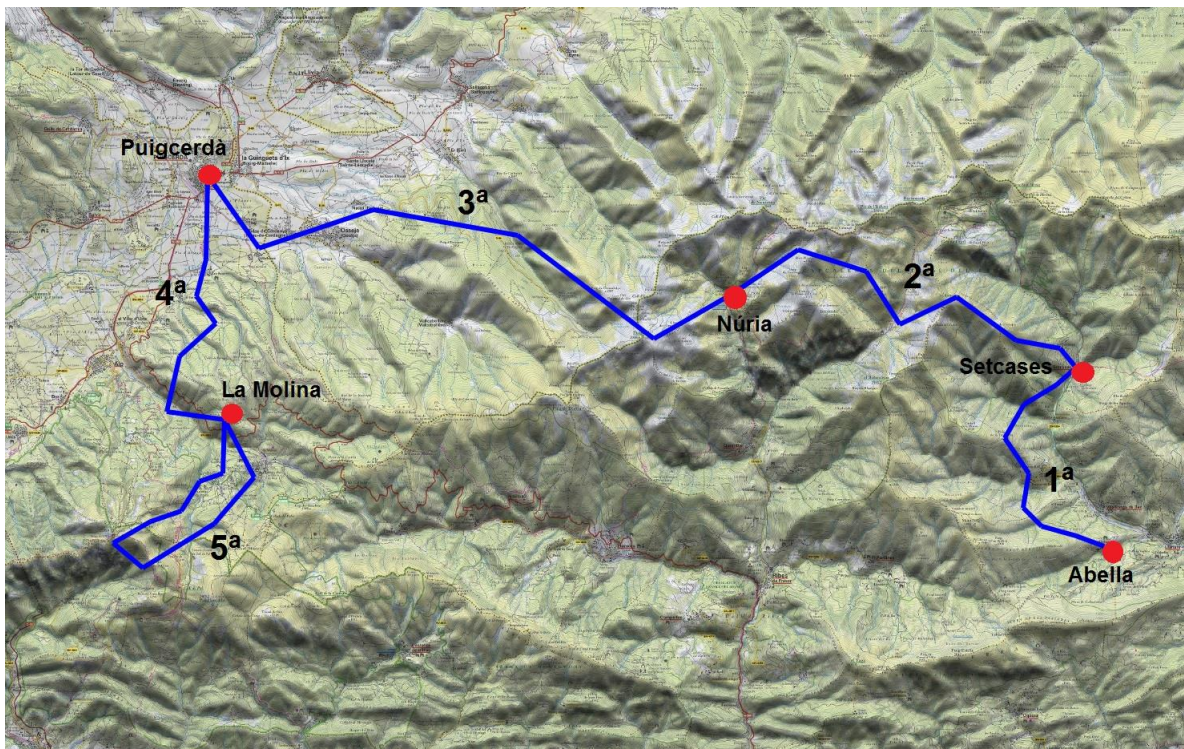


HIGH PYRENEES 2018

Route of the Pyrenees for excellence in which we will reach peaks up to 2800m. It is a trail that crosses great ranges, going on their peaks so we can enjoy the Pyrenean scenery from alpine areas, deep valleys and rocky reliefs where it feels like you have landed on the moon. A nature spectacle!

This route is appropriate only for experienced riders and for fit people used to walk on the mountains, because in some parts of this trail it will be required. Therefore, we only recommend you this trail if you are in a good physical condition!



Abella – Setcases – Queralbs (close to Núria) – Puigcerdà – la Molina

PROGRAMME

Day 1. Arrival

You will arrive to L'Abella on the Pyrenees, a typical and small Catalan village in the middle of the mountains with stone houses. Before dinner, we will go over the week's program. You will be told about the special characteristics of our Andalusian trail horses. You will be given an introduction to the week's programme with an opportunity for a one-to-one conversation designed to find every rider their perfect horse. Then, you can enjoy a fantastic dinner!

Day 2. The journey begins

4-6 hours

After an early start from l'Abella, we begin to climb up to Costa Bona (2500m). Soon we leave the track as up here there is only rolling mountain meadows and wild flowers where we enjoy some very nice canters and gallops. Once we arrive at the peak of Costa Bona, we enter into the French territory passing the source of the Ter River. The views are immense and breath-

trek & ride

taking, the light is that of the Pyrenees. Up here, it is very common to see eagles, vultures and herds of wild goats and deer. Then we continue our trail crossing the landscapes of Can Magre, and Portella de Mantet to reach the slope of Vallter 2000. We leave our horses here and our van is going to bring us to our hotel in Tegurà, in a well-known area because of its excellent and chary gastronomy.

Day 3. Up to the highest peaks **4-6 hours**

Today we will meet for breakfast and for preparing our trail very early.

During this day, we are going to ride through an spectacular high mountain landscape, with peaks of 2600m and 2800m. From Vallter 2000, we will ride to Coll de la Marrana, crossing the top of the Freser River where we will have a picnic. After lunch, we climb up to the Pic de l'Infern from where we can admire the beautiful lakes of Carança and the valley of Coma de Vaca. Our next step is Nou Creus peak, located in an altitude 2800m, our highest peak in this trail. During the descent, we will enjoy long canters until reaching Vall de Núria, and until Queralbs. Accommodation in the hotel and free time until dinner.



Day 4. Riding across French border **6-7 hours**

We will begin this day by riding across the French territory, crossing through some nice ski stations with an intense but also excellent ascension until the Coll de Finestrelles Mountain.

From Vall de Núria we climb up to Finestrelles, crossing several times from Spain to France, with really nice landscapes. Now we start a calm descent on the hillside of Puigmal, where we prepare a delicious picnic. After lunch, we ride into the French side through Vilallobent, to enter again in Spain and arrive at Puigcerdà. Hotel in Puigcerdà. We have the possibility to enjoy our free time visiting the spa zone or also the commercial centre of Puigcerdà.

Day 5. The Great Valley of the Pyrenees **3-5 hours**

Today, we will have a relaxing day with fast gallops and canters, to rest from the long journey of the previous day. We are going to ride across Cerdanya, one of Europe's widest valleys, with a minimum altitude (about 1000 metres), with its east to west orientation, and a high dose of insolation of about 3000 hours of sun exposure a year.

From Puigcerdá, the main village of the valley, we will move towards Queixans where we will ascent to subalpine mountains, to reach the alpine hut of Pla les Forques, where we will stop for the picnic. The diversity and beautiful landscape is clearly evident: from pure Mediterranean traits to alpine meadows of high altitude, you can even find sub-Mediterranean

woods, beech forests, boreal woodlands of red pine trees and sub-alpine conifer woods with black pine trees and fir trees. The Park's vegetation is considered of special interest, since its low temperatures, the high degree of humidity in the area, and its altitude have all contributed to the existence of species which are not characteristic of the Mediterranean region but of northern Europe and the high alpine or European mountains instead.

After lunch, we are going to descent until La Molina. Accommodation in La Molina (a ski station during the winter).

Day 6. Natural Park Cadí-Moixeró

5-6 hours

Two great mountain ridges, El Cadí and El Moixeró, meet at Coll de Tancalaporta and form an impressive mountain barrier where the main Pyrenean ridge meets the pre-Pyrenees. This is where El Cadí-Moixeró Natural Park protects not just a wonderful biodiversity but also numerous sites of outstanding natural beauty. The day begins and we saddle up and ride across the plains through fields of wheat and sunflowers. Then an ascent up to the mountain meadows where cattle & horses are sent to graze in the summer time. Here we are aware of the strength, sure footedness and stamina of the horses as they power their way up the peak. We ascent above an altitude of 1500 m until we arrive at las Barracas del Rus, a building which grazes the cattle during summer, this place has got immense green landscapes with sources of water, where we will have our picnic.

After lunch, we will ride long gallops across the meadows of Pla d'Anella, in where we have the possibility to meet more than 2000 sheep in summer. Arrival at the hotel in La Molina.

Day 7. Departure

Breakfast and we hope see you again in one of our trails in Barcelona!

ACCOMMODATION

Apartments L'Abella
Veinat Abellá, 0 S/N,
17869 Abella

www.hostalroquetes.com

Hotel La Cabanya
c/ del rec, s/n
17869 Setcases
www.lacabanya.net

Hotel Puigcerdà
Av. Catalunya, 42
17520 Puigcerdà
www.hotelpuigcerda.cat

Hostal Roquetes
Ctra. Ribes, 5
17534 Queralbs

Solineu (2 nights)
Avinguda Supermolina, 7
17537 Alp
www.hotel-solineu-la-molina.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

Dates: From Sunday to Saturday (see dates for High Pyrenees)

Pace: trail with long gallops, canters, trots.

Group: Minimum group: 4 riders

Maximum group: 10 riders

Guide: the guide will be Xavi Pastoret, an experienced and talented rider, always accompanied by an English speaking back up guide.

Horses: Spanish, Hispano-Arabians, Arabians, Anglo-Arabian, Quarterback

PRICES

Price: 1.125€

Supplements:

High season supplement (from June to October): 185€

Single Room: 216€ (single person willing to share no supplement)

Transfer: from / to Barcelona airport: 150€ (return from La Molina)

DATES 2018

April 15-21

April 29 – May 5

May 13-19

May 27 – June 2

June 10 – 16

June 24 – 30

July 29 - August 4

September 16-22

Sep 30 - October 6

October 14 – 20