



# TOP SPORT CLIMBING SPAIN

**Siurana, Margalef, Alquezar y Rodellar**



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## 1 Introduction

We invite you to go on a special trip, touring some of the best and internationally acclaimed climbing areas in Spain. During this week you will discover the walls of **Siurana** and **Margalef**, in Tarragona (Catalonia) and you will go into the heart of **Sierra de Guara** in Huesca (Aragón), to climb in amazing places like **Rodellar** and **Alquézar**.

Come and enjoy doing sport climbing in Spain and get to know the wonders of each of these prestigious climbing areas.

This is the perfect opportunity to gain rock climbing experience with climbing professionals, having fun without any worry and with security.

## 2 Destination

**Sierra del Montsant Natural Park** is in the Priorat County, in the province of Tarragona (Catalonia). The landscape and the proliferation of shelters, caves, chasms and ravines is due to the erosion. The sedimentary rocks that conforms this mass have been weathered by the elements over the centuries, shaping it into what

we see today. It is one of the national jewels where you can enjoy nature and adventure sports, and one of the most important climbing destinations worldwide.

**Siurana** is located in the environs of the Natural Park, and it has more than 1200 climbing routes up to 90 metres high; Slabs and steep overhangs of top quality limestone where fissures and crimps predominate. Though Siurana has very difficult routes (up to 9b), tested by famous international climbers, most of the routes are accessible for other levels: 40% from V+ to 6c+ and 40% from 7 to 7c+.

**Margalef** is placed in the heart of Sierra del Montsant Natural Park and along the Montsant River. There are calcareous conglomerate walls with more than 400 climbing routes, where you can enjoy the mono and two fingers pockets, slabs and overhangs, and test your technique and strength. The average height of the routes is 25 metres, and there is a huge variety to climb in any grade, most of them between V+ and 6c+. But you can also find some of the most difficult routes in the world like First round first minute (9b) that have attracted climbers like Adam Ondra or Chris Sharma.

**Sierra de Guara** is a huge mountain range that covers more than 80.000 hectares in the province of Huesca, in the Pre-Pyrenees. Its abrupt terrain, sculpted by a large network of untamed crystal-clear waters, and its good climate make it a perfect destination to enjoy different leisure activities and adventure sports. Climbing has given Sierra de Guara an international reputation. The abrupt terrain offers many vertical rock walls and cliffs, challenges that are the dream of climbers from around the world.

**Alquézar** is a beautiful medieval village surrounded by majestic reddish limestone where you can practice your climbing technique. It is a small climbing area with about 100 routes between 30 and 60 meters high, classified with medium to high difficulty. An exceptional place to climb with the most exciting views, and where you can enjoy your free time walking its cobbled streets, walking around the Vero River walkways or visiting its famous 16th-century Gothic and Renaissance Collegiate, which was declared a National Monument.

Deep inside the Sierra de Guara, we arrive to the small village of **Rodellar**, in the Canyon of Mascún River. It is a magical and breath-taking natural site that looks like a scene taken from the Jurassic Park movie. It is surrounded by huge reddish limestone walls, with a great number of rock formations, overhanging caves, arches, smooth pinnacles and slabs eroded over thousands of years by the river

There are more than 750 routes of all degrees, with a predominance of medium-high difficulty (45% from 7 to 7c). There are also routes of difficulty 9 that have challenged renowned climbers like Dani Andrada, Chris Sharma o Magnus Midtboe.

### 3 Basic information

Destination: Siurana, Margalef (Tarragona, Cataluña), Alquézar and Rodellar (Huesca, Aragón)

Trip category: Sport rock climbing

Level: \*\*/\*\*

Duration: 8 days with de option of extending or reducing this period.

Time of the year: September to November and March to May.

Group size: 1 to 8 persons.

### 3.1 Compromise level and technical difficulty required

This activity is targeted for beginners who want to improve their climbing level, as well as experienced climbers looking for discovering new climbing areas in Spain without worrying about transfers, accommodation, or getting the information about the climbing routes.

It is important that you are clear and honest telling us your previous experience in this type of activity so we can select the most appropriate destination and activity.

Compromise Level	Description
*	Short itinerary, not very remote, easy descent.
**	Itinerary a bit longer with some objective risks, easy descent.
***	Long itinerary with a good mountain experience required. Long approach and a complicated descent.
****	Long itinerary in a big wall; tricky route and exposed to objective risks in both approach and climb. Difficult retreat, via not equipped, difficult descent. The rope team must have an excellent level.

In Spain the most common system used in rock climbing is a mix between the UIAA grading and the French grading, For the less difficult routes we use the UIAA grading (roman numbers from I to V with + or – to be more accurate), from here we switch to the French grading (6, 7, 8, 9 with sublevels a, b or c and + or – to be more accurate).

Difficulty grading	Description
III	Scramble, it is necessary to use the hands but holds are abundant.
IV/VI*	Terrain where the use of a rope is necessary.
V/V*	Difficult climb where the use of belaying is required.
6a/6a+	Difficult climb where the use of belaying is required.
6b/6b+	Difficult climb where the use of belaying is required.

\* If there was a part of the route where **aid climbing** progression were necessary, we would add this classification

**A0.** Pulling on solid protection, often without the use of étriers

**A1** Easy aid, no risk of any piece of protection pulling out. Safe falls.

**A2** Moderate aid. Short sections of tenuous placements above good protection.

## 4 Programme

**Day 1.** Arrival at the airport (Reus or Barcelona) and transfer to Siurana. (1h from Reus, 2.20h from Barcelona)

**Day 2.** Climbing in Siurana.

**Day 3.** Climbing in Siurana.

**Day 4.** Transfer to Margalef (1h) and climbing until 17h. Transfer to Alquézar (2h30h).

**Day 5.** Climbing in Alquézar.

**Day 6.** Climbing in Alquézar o Rodellar.

**Day 7.** Climbing en Rodellar.

**Day 8.** Transfer to the airport.

During the week there will be optional visits to different cultural, leisure and gastronomic places of interest.

## 5 More information

Price: Consult.

### 5.1 Included

- Professional guide services.
- Safety equipment for the activity (rope, quick draws and karabiners).
- 7 nights' accommodation with breakfast in category A or B. Please consult for single room extra fee.
- Private transfer during the trip.
- Trip management.

### 5.2 Not included

- Flight tickets.
- Meals.
- Any extra activity requiring additional cost.

### 5.3 Packing list

It is important to carry a light backpack to climb comfortably, so we recommend to carry only the essential material and clothing. It is possible to hire equipment if necessary, please let us know if this is the case.

- 20-30 litres light backpack.
- Trekking shoes.
- Helmet, harness and climbing shoes.
- Technical clothes:
  - Socks.
  - Short and long trekking pants.
  - Thermal t-shirt.
  - Fleece jacket or similar.
  - Waterproof jacket, Gore Tex type or similar
  - Cap or sunhat.
- Sunglasses.
- Head lamp with extra batteries.
- Canteen or camelback (1 litre minimum).
- First aid kit and essential toiletries.
- Suncream and SPF lip balm
- Camera.

## 5.4 Observations

### **Date Flexibility**

Aside from the regular travel trip dates, we are flexible to reconsider new dates if those are more convenient to the client's plans. Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any different dates in mind.

### **Time and meeting point**

One week prior to the trip departure date, an email will be sent to each participant to inform about the meeting point and time along with the guide contact details. At this point any information considered essential to the trip organization will be shared.

### **Plane tickets (if applicable)**

In case you wish us to handle your plane tickets, please contact us with airport arrival and departure details and number of needed luggage. Before issuing any ticket, price and details will be send to the client for its approval.

Muntania fee for plane ticket management is 20€ per person.

If, otherwise, you handle your plane tickets, please coordinate with us before hand to check on arrival and departure information.

Please take into consideration getting with you on your carry-on luggage some set of clothing in case there is any problem with the checked luggage.

## 5.5 Insurance policy

All activities in Spain have an accident insurance included in the price. Yet, if you practise mountain sports regularly and also travel frequently, **we suggest you get a travel insurance**, that as well as covering any accident and rescue it also protect you against many other situations.

If you do not have a travel insurance you can acquire one with our travel agency. Exploring Spain processes all insurances with **Intermundial**. The cost of these insurances is lower if you buy it through Exploring Spain than if you do it directly with Intermundial.

### **EU RESIDENTS**

#### **Ski/Aventure Plus**

It is a **travel insurance** and also **covers the practise of many sports and activities**. You can get one for the duration of the trip or for the whole year, being able to choose the starting date. If you get the insurance for a year, it will not only be valid for the trip with Exploring Spain but also it will be valid for any other trips or activities you may do during that year.

### **Ski/Aventure Plus with Cancelation**

It has the same coverage that the previous insurance but also you will be cover in case of cancelation of the trip and tickets in case of force majeure (sickness, injury...) for yourself and/or a relative.

The travel insurance with cancelation that we offer, allows a refund of the costs already paid for up to 1.000 €. If the cost of the trip and flights is higher, you can extend the amount covered (under request).

### **Multi-assistance Plus with or without Cancelation**

Both Multi-assistance Plus with or without Cancelation are **travel insurances with better coverage** than the Ski/Adventure Plus with or without cancelation but they **do not cover the practise of sports**.

This insurance can be of your interest if you already have an accident and rescue insurance that covers the activity that you will be doing in the trip, but you do not have a travel insurance. It can also be useful if you are interested in a trip without practising any sports.

### **NON EU RESIDENTS**

#### **Incoming Cancelation Plus**

This insurance covers the costs of the trip and the tickets if you have to cancel the trip before the departure because of different reasons like for example a sickness (see conditions of the insurance).

This insurance can be useful if you already have a travel insurance but it does not cover the cancelation of the trip or if you already have an insurance covering sports and activities.

#### **Incoming Ski/Aventure Plus with Cancelation**

It is a **travel insurance** and also **covers the practise of many sports and activities**. You will also be cover in case of cancelation of the trip and tickets in case of force majeure (sickness, injury...) for yourself and/or a relative. You can get one for the duration of the trip or for the whole year, being able to choose the starting date. If you get the insurance for a year, it will not only be valid for the trip with Exploring Spain but also it will be valid for any other trips or activities you may do during that year.

The travel insurance with cancelation that we offer, allows a refund of the costs already paid for up to 2.000 €. If the cost of the trip and flights is higher, you can extend the amount covered (under request).

\*Consult prices and conditions for Intermundial insurances with Exploring Spain following this link:  
<https://www.exploring-spain.com/insurances>

#### Included accident and rescue insurance

\*\* Included accident and rescue insurance. Nº POLIZA 4020006195 Muntania Outdoors. Assistance phone number 24h 902 09 15 57 (it is the contact number for the insurance company Prebal, Previsión Balear M.P.S).

\*\*\* It is the customer's responsibility to inform the insurance company about the accident as soon as possible. Prior the departure for the trip, we will send you an email with the insurance policy number and the assistance number so you can have it during the trip.

\*\*\*\* Depending on where the accident happens, the customer will have to pay in advance if the insurance company indicates it, being the payment refunded by the insurance company within the policy's limits. In any case Exploring Spain – Muntania Outdoors S.L. is responsible for any advance payment required for the rescue or assistance.

## 5.6 Links of interest

- <http://www.turismepriorat.org/>
- <http://www.guara.org>

## 5.7 Highlights

- Visiting the Top climbing areas in Spain with a professional expert guide in the areas.
- Small group.
- Possibility of combining climbing with other leisure activities.
- Concentrate on climbing, without any worries about the accommodation or transfers.
- Safety during the activity with a professional guide.

## 5.8 Similar trips

- Rock climbing in Costa Blanca, Levante. Bernia Ridge and Peñón de Ifach
- Rock climbing in Picos de Europa. Naranjo de Bulnes.
- Punsola Route to Cavall Bernat. Montserrat, Barcelona
- Rock climbing in Ordesa, Tozal del Mayo and Gallinero.
- High Level Experience in the Pre-Pyrenees.

## 6 Contact

**Exploring Spain - Muntania Outdoors, S.L. CICMA: 2608**

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