

Nature & Villages hike Marina Alta Costa Blanca 9 days/8 nights Self-guided

Away from the coastline of the Costa Blanca, in the most beautiful valley of this area, you will encounter an unexpected hiking paradise. Here is Casa Llibertat, your boutique stay and spa, where you can relax after a great hike. Costa Blanca's beaches are never far away! Neither nice coastal places like Denia, Javea and Altea should not be missed! More into the valley you will find picturesque little Spanish towns to explore. We suggest you make a trip to Castell at Guadalest and the waterfalls of Algar. City trips to Valencia, Murcia or Alicante are also good options. Enjoy one of the local festivals in the neighborhood like 3 Kings, Semana Santa, Moors & Christians and Wine & music festivals.

We offer a varied set of hikes where you experience the best nature in this corner of Spain. You will walk through colorful villages, lush forests and green vineyards, climb beautiful rock and mountains with stunning views, walk through tunnels and caves, see ruins of Castles of the Moors, centuries old Spanish waterworks and much more.

This is a moderate hike trip combined with local activities for adventure lovers, for nature and wilderness admirers. In the middle of the autumn, when the colors of the vineyards change to yellow, brown and red tints. The olives are waiting to be picked from the trees and the air turns fresher. Sensing the immensity of the mountains and authenticity of local life, all for yourselves, when almost no tourists are left.

The 2nd half of February, is a great time come, when the Almond trees are blossoming and the whole valley the Pop turns into pink.

Walking through the Marina Alta area, where you will find the 11km wide mountain range Sierre de Bernia, which separates the Marina Alto from the Marina Bajo, with spectacular sights on the coastline. On the other end of the Marina Alto is National

Parc de Montgo. The importance of the natural park lies in the great wealth of flora and fauna that it hosts in a very small area.

Walking through Vall the Pop encounter beautiful Spanish authentic villages. Notice al lot of Stone walls were made by the Moors without any mortal.

In the case you want to change from hiking into biking or kayaking for a day, it can be easily arranged.

It's a unique nature and cultural heritage waiting to be responsibly explored by those nature, traditions and hiking lovers. A journey of approx. 80 km of trails in the Marina Alta.

#### **Highlights**

- Vall de Pop
- Ruta de 10.000 steps
- Cima de Montgo
- Circular de Bernia
- Castell de Aixa
- Beaches
- Traditional cooking
- Wine tasting

#### **Characteristics**



# Initiary



# **Day 1: Arrival Casa Llibertat**

There are two airport options to reach us, Alicante or Valencia. Rent a car from the airport and in approximately 1 - 1,5 hour you will arrive at our Bed & Breakfast in Lliber, where your hosts will be waiting for you! Depending on time of arrival you can relax around the swimming pool or make your first short hike option. The



circular route Lliber-Senija would be then a perfect hike. This varied walking tour takes you through picturesque villages, through a hidden green valley and through the vineyards of Vall de Pop. You hardly meet anyone on the hiking trails.

#### Day 2: Caminos de piedras y agua

Today the hike goes the valley for almost 20km and the trail connects all the municipalities of Val de Pop. Get to know the beautiful heritage of the region. See the long tradition of hydraulic architecture can be seen in wells, cisterns, ponds, ditches, water boards and mills using water from the river Gorges. See examples of



the long tradition of hydraulic typical building technique of the Levantine region which consists of raising stone walls without any mortar. You will see this technique of dry stacking stones at the terraces that rise to the highest level of the slopes, as well as at wells, beads, shelters, etc. Most of the route follows the course of the Gorgos River. This backbone of the Vall de Pop has a high ecological value. In the village of Parcent, try the typical Valencian paella during lunch. In the afternoon continue walking to Benigembla, the end point of today's hike. One of the hosts will pick you up for the transfer back to Casa Llibertat.

V transfer 10km distance: 17km duration: 6h ascent 400m - descent 300m

### Day 3: Castell de Aixa

Today we also start the hike from Casa Llibertat. Your breakfast will be at the Plaza Mayor in Lliber between locals. From there you continue with a beautiful and varied hike with a few tough climbs. For a long time you are completely in the middle of nature and hear absolutely no sound of a city, village or car traffic. Walk through green valleys and make a long climb to places



where the Moors used to feel lord and master. Along the way enjoy the beautiful views and history of the surrounding area. In Jalon you can make another small detour to visit Basse dels Arcs.





#### Day 4: Cima de Montgo

Today a climb to the top of The Montgó is on the menu. This Massive mountain is located between the towns of Denia and Jávea in northern Alicante. The mountain dominates the horizon for miles around. Its steep cliffs are home to some of the most unique flora and fauna in Spain. The mountain is known for its rock formations, cliffs, caves and natural harbors.



There are three hiking routes to the top. We choose to depart from Jesus Pobre.

♥ Drive to start: 13km 

duration 20min

distance: 9,6km aduration: 4-5h ascent 760m - descent 760m

### Day 5: Ruta de 10.000 steps

This walk is one of the classics and one of the most popular walks in the region and is also known as "El Catedral del senderismo" or "Barranc del Infierno." Its official designation is PR-CV 147. The trails are clear and well-marked. The hike is tough because of the many stairs. The steps were made by the ancient inhabitants of the area, the Moors, to cultivate the fields. The steps are just too big



to take in one step, but are actually too small to make it two steps. There is some confusion about the exact number of steps, but a number between 5,000 and 10,000 seems realistic. Perhaps you will make an effort to count them. If so, we would love to hear the exact number from you!

✓ Drive to start: 11km 

✓ duration 30min

distance: 16km acent 1000m - descent 1000m

## Day 6: Day off

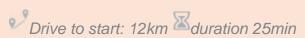
Today you will have a free day. You can enjoy one of the nearby beaches or just relax by the pool with jacuzzi and sauna at Casa Llibertat. If you do prefer hiking, there are plenty of options nearby to discover more of nature here. A day of cycling, mountain biking or sea kayaking, can easily be arranged.

### Day 7: Peñon de Ifach

Many walking paths lead the way to the top of this famous rock. Hundreds of thousands of times the intriguing Ifach has already been photographed, in all sorts of fun ways! The rock's rock magic continues to enchant visitors. The view of the Costa Blanca's impressive coastline is stunning! You can see for miles, as far as Moraira and on clear days from the top of the Ifach you can even see Ibiza, some 90 km far out



to sea. You can continue the hike after climbing the Ifach with a trip along the coast with the Ruta Ecològica. Back and forth this is another 10km. In the afternoon there is time to have a wine tour at Bodega Pepe Mendoza in Lliber.



distance: 3km aduration: 2.5h ascent 270m - descent 270m

## Day 8: Sierre de Bernia

Today we will end the week with an excellent hike on the Bernia. The hike around Mount Bernia (also known as PR-CV 7) is, of course, one of the classics for those overlooking this mountain. It is one of the most popular hikes here in the area, so you



are not alone on the route. However the nature feeling will be guaranteed. High up in the mountains eat some local food like paella in a mountain hut. Start the hike early to have the clearest views. The tunnel makes it a real adventure.



distance: 9.8km aduration: 3.5h ascent 450m - descent 450m

## Day 9: End of hiking holiday

After breakfast and check out of Casa Llibertat, you may still have time to visit other places of interest such as Castell de Guadalest and Fonts de l'Algar. It's time to go to the airport for your flight home.

#### **Trip Includes**

All informative material and maps in detail per hike (digital) in English 8 overnight stays at Casa Llibertat based on 2-persons (private double room) 7 breakfast at Casa Llibertat and 1 breakfast on the square in Lliber 3x lunch-box, 1x lunch at mountain hut 1x transfer from Benigembla back to Lliber Wine tasting at organic winery Tourist tax

#### **Trip Excludes**

Car rental
Transfer to or from airport, this can be arranged
Diners, drinks, snacks
Tips
Insuarance

A 9-days package tour excluding the room rate is € 250 for 2 people

# More info?

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