



WHAT'S NEW 2015

- **TOURIST EXPERIENCES ONLINE**

The Government of Catalonia has created a platform to sell travel packages through the internet. It is the first public administration in Europe implementing a tool of this kind, which allows doing the whole purchasing process within one same platform without needing to go to the travel agents' websites. This portal is focused on fostering inland tourism and all tourist policies contained within the Strategic Tourism Plan and the Tourist Marketing Plan of Catalonia. This new sales channel shall serve as a support to small and medium-sized companies having difficulties in creating their own platforms and accessing the big distribution channels. It is also aimed at providing a tourist offer different from that found in the usual sales channels.

www.catalunya.com

- **2015, YEAR OF INLAND AND MOUNTAIN TOURISM**

The Catalan Tourist Board devotes 2015 to promoting inland and mountain tourism. Several specific marketing and promotion actions will be done over the year, focusing specifically on this product and the related offer. Fostering tourism in inland counties is a major tourist policy of the Government of Catalonia, in an effort to promote this beautiful area providing tourist resources and proposals to any target group.

The inland and mountain regions of Catalonia feature a wide variety of attractions: diverse landscapes with peaks, valleys and fields, towns with a strong character and noteworthy heritage, gastronomy and wine with an identity of their own and sports such as alpine and cross-country skiing, climbing, golf, hunting and fishing as well as active and adventure tourism proposals such as rafting, kayaking, balloon flights, scuba diving and multiple signposted hiking and mountain bike routes.

www.catalunya.com

- **1st FAMILY TOURISM CONGRESS**

The 1st Family Tourism Congress will close the year devoted to family tourism by the Catalan Tourist Board. The congress aims at positioning Catalonia as a landmark destination in family tourism. It is intended to be held in different places around Catalonia on a regular



basis. The main goals of the congress are an analysis by both national and international experts and professionals of the current offer, to showcase role models and examples of leading family tourist destinations as well as to highlight the future perspectives of the branch.

www.catalunya.com

- **CATALAN SKI RESORTS ARE FHD**

Within the Family Holiday Destination (FHD) programme, the Catalan Tourist Board of the Government of Catalonia is undertaking the certification of destinations with a ski resort as FHD. Thus, it is planned that during 2015, the certification process is completed for Vall de Boí with Boí-Taüll Resort, Vall de Camprodon with Vallter 2000, Vall de Núria-Ribes with Vall de Núria, Port Ainé-Sort with Port Ainé and La Molina-Masella with La Molina and La Masella ski resorts. They will add to Espot Esquí, which was certified as an FHD as early as 2013, together with Valls d'Àneu.

Catalonia is further celebrating the Year of Family Tourism this year, the Catalan Tourist Board's great promotional action with the aim of strengthening Catalonia's position as an ideal destination for families with children. Around 350 Catalan tourist businesses are involved in this theme year, providing almost 500 proposals and activities, including special promotions for families with children such as 2 for 1, discounts up to 50% and special offers for large families.

There are currently 18 destinations featuring the FHD label: Blanes, Calonge-Sant Antoni, Lloret de Mar, Roses, Torroella de Montgrí-L'Estari, Castell-Platja d'Aro and Sant Feliu de Guíxols on Costa Brava; Calella, Malgrat de Mar, Pineda de Mar and Santa Susanna on Costa Barcelona; Calafell, Cambrils, Salou, Vila-Seca/La Pineda Platja and Muntanyes de Prades on Costa Daurada; and Valls d'Àneu and Berga in the Pyrenees. Apart from these already certified destinations, Castelldefels, El Vendrell, Sant Pere Pescador and Vilanova i la Geltrú on the coast as well as Vall d'en Bas and the second phase of Muntanyes de Prades inland are currently in the certification process.

This year will also see the first certifications of large Family Tourist Facilities (FTF) describing Catalonia's large tourist infrastructures suitable for families. Some examples include the Barcelona Zoo, Tibidabo, Poble Espanyol, Catalunya en Miniatura, Cim de les Àligues, the Dalí Museum, the Gaudí Centre, Montsec Astronomic Park and Món Natura.

www.catalunya.com



- **IGNATIAN WAY JUBILEE YEAR**

The Ignatian Way follows the route covered by Ignatius of Loyola from his natal Azpeitia in the Basque Country to Manresa in Bages county, where he meditated and wrote his well-known *Spiritual Exercises* in a cave nearby the river Llobregat. This route has become a tourist attraction and will celebrate the first jubilee year from 31 July 2015 to 31 July 2016. The Ignatian Way jubilee shall reach out to those who, meeting the conditions set by canon law (mass, confession and prayer for the Pope's intentions), complete the pilgrimage along the Ignatian Way in an according spirit and following some of the *Spiritual Exercises*, visiting an Ignatian sanctuary along the way and doing a work of charity before or during pilgrimage. The Ignatian Way covers 184 kilometres in Catalonia, divided into seven stages.

www.caminoignaciano.org

- **TRAVEL BLOGGERS IN LLORET DE MAR**

Lloret de Mar will host the Travel Blogger World Congress in Europe, TBEX EU 2015, which will gather 800 travel bloggers, virtual media writers and content creators. Being located at one end of the Costa Brava, Lloret de Mar has been for many years a consolidated tourist destination, providing premium convention facilities and an excellent accommodation and leisure offer. This is completed with its charming setting characterised by wide beaches and sheltered coves between cliffs. The event will take place from 30 April to 2 May.

<http://www.lloretcb.org/es/evento/tbex-europe-2015/>

- **FILM LOCATIONS IN CATALONIA**

The Catalan Department of Culture and the Barcelona City Council have created a new digital platform (web portal) containing all the information needed for shooting films in Catalonia. The portal includes a directory with more than 900 media companies and features over 1100 public and private film-friendly locations all over Catalonia.

The website is a platform of the Catalunya Film Commission (CFC) and the Barcelona Film Commission. It provides quick and intuitive information, including how to ask for specific shooting permits. A total 3101 film productions were made in Catalonia in 2013, 63 of which



were large productions. 24 of them were shot exclusively in the city of Barcelona.

www.bcncatfilmcommission.com/ca

- **ART MUSEUM NETWORK OF CATALONIA**

Spearheaded by the National Art Museum of Catalonia (MNAC), 14 museums intend to create a specialised network encompassing art museums from all over the country. The network will include the Víctor Balaguer Library and Museum in Vilanova i la Geltrú, the Girona Art Museum, the Vic Episcopal Museum, the Solsona Diocesan and County Museum, the Cau Ferrat Museum in Sitges, the Garrotxa Museum in Olot, the Jaume Morera Art Museum in Lleida, the Lleida Diocesan and County Museum, the Empordà Museum in Figueres, the Museum of Reus, the Museum of Valls, the Museum of Manresa and the Sabadell Art Museum. The goals are improving documentation and knowledge of and accessibility to collections, joint working programmes, a better use of each museum's resources and, above all, allowing visitors a large overview over artistic creation in all Catalonia.

www.museunacional.cat/es/red-de-museos-de-arte

- **CATALONIA GOES FOR THE 2022 RYDER CUP**

The Costa Brava will be a candidate to host the Ryder Cup in 2022. Eleven institutions, organisations and companies are working to bring the world's most renowned golf tournament to the Girona area. The bid is backed by the fact that PGA Catalunya Resort has been chosen as Spain's best golf course for three consecutive years and declared "Europe's Golf Resort of the Year 2015" by the International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO). Furthermore, Barcelona, the Costa Brava and Catalonia are prime tourist destinations, apart from their long-standing record in hosting world-class sports events.

en.costabrava.org/

- **STUDENT TOURISM CONGRESS**

The first Student Tourism Congress will be held in Barcelona on 17 and 18 April within the B-Travel International Show (formerly the Catalonia International Tourist Show).



The congress intends to be a meeting point where experts on tourist training, university education and professionals from the branch will have the opportunity of networking with students and entrepreneurs, creating an innovation, discussion and knowledge hub.

There will be discussions on subjects such as tourist communication and marketing strategies, experiential tourism, online reputation, brands in tourist destinations, the economic impact of sports and leisure events, new forms of accommodation and commercialisation, social, sustainable and responsible tourism, social media and keys to be entrepreneurial. Speakers include Ferran Adrià, Kike Sarasola, Álex Cruz and representatives of companies such as Port Aventura, Value Retail, Starwood Hotels and Cirque du Soleil, among others.

The Student Tourism Congress is organised by bcnmoments and supported by “La Caixa” Social Work, CETT-University of Barcelona and HTSI-Ramon Llull University.

www.studenttourismcongress.com



BARCELONA

- **ART NOUVEAU IN BARCELONA**

Barcelona can be considered Europe's Art Nouveau capital. This style, which had a considerable influence on European architecture and design from the mid-19th and well into the 20th century, left a strong footprint in Catalonia. The old Hospital de Sant Pau, Torre Bellesguard, Casa Vicens, Casa Lleó i Morera, Casa Amatller and Palau Güell are some of the best-known Art Nouveau buildings in Barcelona.

The Sant Pau Art Nouveau site offers a visit through the history of one of the finest examples of Catalan Art Nouveau architecture. This impressive array of buildings was a functioning hospital until recently and is now planned to become a cultural centre. Built by Domènech i Montaner, the site features a main building with the façade looking towards Sagrada Família and twelve pavilions linked with each other by means of underground passageways. The site, including some of its buildings, is currently open to visitors, offering guided tours in Catalan, Spanish, English and French. www.visitsantpau.com

Torre Bellesguard at the foot of the Tibidabo is perhaps one of Gaudí's best-kept hidden gems. Opened to the public only recently, it is an innovative example of the combined power of architecture and music concerts. www.bellesguardgaudi.com

Casa Vicens in Carolines street in the quarter of Gràcia will open to the public after having its interior refurbished, thus joining the Art Nouveau route through Barcelona. www.casavicens.es

When entrepreneur and chocolate maker Antoni Amatller ordered his new family home to architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch in the late 19th century, nobody could imagine the impact the building would have on Barcelona's cityscape a century after. Casa Amatller is currently one of the city's most representative buildings, although it can hardly be visited from inside. Thanks to major refurbishment carried out to become a museum, Casa Amatller is now open to limited groups, while the original decorations are restored. www.barcelonaturisme.com/Casa-Amatller

Having opened to visitors fairly recently, Palau Güell nearby La Rambla is now celebrating the 30th anniversary of its listing as a UNESCO World Heritage site. This celebration will be underpinned with numerous lectures, panel discussions and cultural events that will



provide an additional attraction to this gem built by Antoni Gaudí in his early career. www.palauoguell.cat

- **DISSENY HUB BARCELONA**

Barcelona gathers its design museums under one same roof. Located on Plaça de les Glòries—its surrounding buildings paving the way to make it a new hotspot in the city—and designed by Oriol Bohigas and David Mackay, Disseny Hub Barcelona has made true one of the city's dreams: bringing its whole design heritage into one single modern building. The Museum of Decorative Arts, the Pottery Museum, the Textile and Clothing Museum and the Museum of Graphic Arts are gathered on 25,000 square metres, exhibiting over 70,000 pieces dating from the 4th century BC to the present. They include furniture, pottery, jewellery, glassware, appliances, posters and much more. This new museum intends to be the main creativity and design hub in Barcelona, with different organisations having moved there.

www.museudeldisseny.cat

- **RENOVATION OF THE MNAC**

In a major renovation effort, the National Art Museum of Catalonia (MNAC) devotes now a whole floor to Art Nouveau, including artists unknown to a large public. Hence Pere Daura and Antoni Fabrés can be found next to more famous authors such as Casas, Jujol and Gaudí. A total 4000 square metres are devoted to display 1350 works of 260 different artists, including furniture, sculpture, decorative pieces, paintings and stained glass.

www.museunacional.cat

- **MUSEUM OF CULTURES OF THE WORLD**

This new museum located in Nadal and Marquès de Llió palaces in Montcada street in the Gothic Quarter, close to the Picasso Museum, will display some of the so far unknown pieces from the Barcelona Museum of Ethnology, originating from Asia, Africa, America and Oceania. A total 30,000 objects will be exhibited, as will the collection from the Folch Foundation donated by the Barcelona City Council.

<http://museuculturesmon.bcn.cat>



- **BARCELONA, CITY OF FESTIVALS**

Adding to its large artistic and cultural heritage, festivals of all kinds are held in the capital of Catalonia. From more than fifty festivals taking place throughout the year, the following stand out:

- ✓ Barcelona International Auteur Film Festival. www.cinemadautor.cat
- ✓ BCN Sports Film. www.bcnsportsfilm.org
- ✓ SÓNAR. International Festival of Advanced Music and Multimedia Art. www.sonar.es
- ✓ Festival Grec Barcelona. www.bcn.cat/grec
- ✓ Festival In-Edit. www.in-edit.org

COSTA DAURADA AND TERRES DE L'EBRE

- **25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CISTERCIAN ROUTE**

2015 will see the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Cistercian Route. On slightly more than a hundred kilometres that can be covered either walking or by mountain bike, the route links three relevant Cistercian monasteries in five stages across Alt Camp, Conca de Barberà and Urgell counties. The monasteries of Santes Creus, Santa Maria de Poblet and Vallbona de les Monges have a common history reflected in the trail signposted as GR-175. The latter two are still inhabited by monastic communities and Poblet is additionally listed as UNESCO World Heritage.

Along the route, visitors will discover an area with plenty of culture, heritage, nature, wine and sparkling wine, festivals, traditions and handcrafts.

www.larutadelcister.info

- **2017 MEDITERRANEAN GAMES**

Tarragona is preparing to host the next Mediterranean Games to be held in 2017. The games shall be simple yet exemplary, with initiatives based on new organisation patterns. Over 4000 athletes from 24 different nations are expected. The competition will last ten days.

www.tarragona.cat/tarragona-2017

- **SALOU LIGHTHOUSE LOOKOUT**

The recently opened Salou lighthouse lookout not only allows great views but has also brought about the creation of a 300 metre-long



footpath along the local landscape characterised by cliffs. There are also several information panels on the seabirds that can be watched from the lookout.

www.visitsalou.eu

- **ROMAN VILLA IN BARENYS**

The villa is composed of the remains of a Roman site belonging to a building where pottery was made in the late 1st century BC. In that time, the Romans settled in Tarraco built numerous villas to exploit local resources. The Barenys archaeological site was used for manufacturing building materials and amphorae, which were filled with wine from Tarraco for export. The Salou tourist office arranges guided tours in several languages, providing a glimpse into the relevance of the site.

www.visitsalou.eu

- **CULTURAL ROUTE THROUGH THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF VILA-SECA**

A stroll through the historic centre of Vila-seca leads past the main heritage sites of the town, plus the areas created in La Pineda, such as the *Watermark* and *Pine Grove* sculpture groups, the Pinar de Perruquet park and the Sèquia Major (Main Ditch), as well as cultural sites outside Vila-seca, such as Torre d'en Dolça, the Rescat pylon and Mare de Déu de la Pineda sanctuary.

The route starts in the Raval de la Mar quarter, featuring 12th century Beguda cross, leading then through the street maze of the old town, where historic sites mingle with traditional shops.

Eleven totems identify heritage sites by their name and building year and have an attached QR code to download their history in six languages.

www.lapinedaplatja.info

- **VERMOUTH MUSEUM IN REUS**

There is a long-standing relation between Reus and this traditional drink. Local Joan Tàpias has been collecting objects related with vermouth (e.g. posters, barrels, bottles, merchandising objects) for three decades, before opening a museum where all this material is displayed.



Featuring a restaurant and terrace, the museum also offers tasting of thirty sorts of aperitifs from all over the world. There are three specific rooms devoted to the local vermouth brands: Yzaguirre, Miró and Iris.

<https://es-es.facebook.com/museudelvermut>

- **PRATDIP LLEGENDARI FESTIVAL**

In late October and early November 2015, Pratedip will hold the second Pratedip Llegendari festival related to the mythological character Dip. For some days, Pratedip will become a stronghold of terror and mystery, as legend has it that this vampire-like animal sucked the blood out of the cattle and terrorised villagers. The programme is completed with a phantasy and esoteric handcraft market, a literary contest with terror and mystery short stories, children's workshops, street performances, gastronomic products related to this subject and a terror and mystery show in the castle.

www.pratedipturisme.com

- **ARTISAN FISHING "A LA PAUPA"**

Fishing "a la paupa" is a sort of artisan fishing that had fallen into disuse but has now been recovered as a tourist product. In Badia dels Alfacs nearby Sant Carles de la Ràpita, true professionals teach how to catch fish only with the eyes and hands.

www.catalunya.com

COSTA BRAVA AND GIRONA PYRENEES

- **VIES BRAVES**

Vies Braves ("Wild Ways") are a public maritime network along the Costa Brava for sports, leisure and learning. They are a new tourist product within the catalogue of differentiated quality products provided to visitors. Swimming in open waters and snorkelling is also promoted as a part of this scheme.

The project started in 2014 in seven coastal municipalities plus Banyoles, located inland, with a total 13 kilometres of signposted ways parallel to the watch paths. It is a way of enjoying and discovering the coastline from the sea in a different, safe manner.

<http://www.viesbraves.com/en/home/>



- **NEW MAP OF COSTA BRAVA BEACHES**

The map of Costa Brava beaches is a foldout leaflet providing information on 67 beaches and coves along 220 kilometres, together with a location plan. Every beach in the folder includes a picture and descriptive pictograms with practical user information such as name and town, length and width, access, services (toilet, showers, restaurants), sports facilities, disabled services and environmental certificates such as blue flag and Via Brava labels, among others. 30,000 copies in 8 languages have been edited with the cooperation of the 23 coastal municipalities in the Girona province.

en.costabrava.org/

- **BANYOLES, EUROPEAN TOWN OF SPORT**

Banyoles, with the lake as its main feature, hosts all kinds of sports events, many of them related with rowing and canoeing. It was the ideal venue for these disciplines in the 1992 Olympics. Alongside competitions, many teams from all over the world have been coming for training camps ever since.

During 2015, Banyoles will hold the title of European Town of Sport. The Pla de l'Estany county seat will host big international sports events, training seminars together with the Sports Chair at the University of Girona and sports activities for both families and sports enthusiasts.

www.banyoles.cat/Turisme

COSTA BARCELONA AND PAISATGES BARCELONA

- **FORMULA 1 AND MOTO GP AT THE CIRCUIT DE BARCELONA-CATALUNYA**

The Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya racetrack will once again host the motorcycling and Formula 1 world championships. The fifth race of the Formula 1 World Championship will take place from 8 to 10 May, while the Moto GP Grand Prix will be held from 12 to 14 June, the seventh race in the Motorcycling World Championship.

www.circuitcat.com



- **2015 SPANISH GOLF OPEN**

The Spanish Open will be held at the Real Club de Golf El Prat in Terrassa (Barcelona) from 15 to 18 May. Being part of the PGA European Tour, it is the most important professional golf tournament in the country.

Around the city, there are ten golf courses of international standard, laid out by renowned professionals and including all sorts of facilities (e.g. practice green, equipment rental, buggies, lessons, shop, club house). There are courses overlooking the sea as well as in the hills, with attached charming accommodation and traditional yet innovative cuisine.

www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat

- **WINE TOURISM BARCELONA**

There are five denominations of origin (DO) in Barcelona province: Penedès, Alella, Pla de Bages, Catalunya and Cava, which also offer tourist experiences. They are all introducing a varied wine tourism programme, featuring visits to caves, tasting, routes through vineyards as well as music and theatre in wine cellars.

www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat/es/enoturisme

- **NAUTICAL RESORTS, SPORTS AND LEISURE**

For active tourism on the seaside, there is a large offer provided by the nautical resorts of Vilanova i la Geltrú and Santa Susanna: sailing, windsurfing, snorkelling, scuba diving, water skiing, ski bus, parasailing, canoeing, kitesurfing, kayaking, etc., besides accommodation and side activities.

www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat/es/costabarcelona/

- **CITY BREAKS CLOSE TO BARCELONA**

Towns nearby Barcelona, like Manresa, Igualada, Terrassa, Sabadell, Granollers, Vic, Mataró, Vilafranca del Penedès and Sitges, are very suitable for city breaks as they feature a wealthy cultural and artistic heritage (prehistorical, medieval, Art Nouveau, etc.) and a wide range of events, with festivals, dance season, music, theatre, traditional festivals and *castellers* (human towers).



These bustling towns are prepared to welcome visitors, with shopping areas and malls, outlets and traditional shops, all offering any sort of products from the best brands. Traditional and creative cuisine with renowned chefs and restaurants—some of them featuring Michelin stars—together with a wide, varied accommodation offer, ranging from little charming hotels to five-star resorts, also make them a nice destination for a unique weekend breakaway.

www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat

- **MUCH MORE ABOUT BARCELONA'S FLAVOURS**

The Barcelona area gives visitors the chance of knowing its culture and traditions through a vast array of gastronomic experiences. Great chefs skilfully blending traditional products and methods with innovative preparation and presentation techniques are gathered in regional cuisine associations to please their guests with the best produce from the land and the sea. Additionally, a wide offer in gastronomic events highlights the virtues of seasonal products, from gatherings and routes to traditional fairs and markets, not to forget experiences at specific locations or activities with and visits to local producers to know first-hand the best-kept secrets of traditional products.

www.barcelonaesmoltmes.cat

- **MARESME, WATCHTOWERS AND CASTLES**

Maresme features a route along the watchtowers and castles built mainly in the 16th and 17th centuries all over the county. Most of the fifty towers erected are still standing, many of them having been restored. The route can now be downloaded from a guide available at the local Maresme tourist offices and Palau Robert in Barcelona. This shall allow visitors to complete a day or weekend route including a stay anywhere in Maresme.

www.costadearcelonamaresme.cat

- **SUSTAINABLE TOURISM**

Garraf Park set the first steps in early January to join the European Sustainable Tourism Charter, an initiative of the Europarc Federation aiming at developing sustainable tourism in Europe's protected natural areas. Montseny and Sant Llorenç del Munt i l'Obac natural parks already joined this project in 2014.

<http://parcs.diba.cat/>



TERRES DE LLEIDA, LLEIDA PYRENEES AND VAL D'ARAN

- **60th ANNIVERSARY OF AIGÜESTORTES I ESTANY DE SANT MAURICI NATIONAL PARK**

The Pallars Sobirà County Council presents special activities and events to celebrate this jubilee. Together with the guide association, the park will organise several activities to discover nature, including winter tours with snowshoes and monographic tours on natural, cultural and immaterial heritage.

www.lleidatur.com

- **TWO NEW FACILITIES AT THE UNIVERSE OBSERVATION CENTRE**

The Ull del Montsec (Montsec Eye) is being technologically upgraded with a whole new projection system to become a 3D planetarium. This will allow visitors to enjoy a fully immersive experience with the aid of special glasses. Films and live sessions will use this new technology to enable travelling through space in an unparalleled way. This will to be the second planetary in Spain using the 3D system in its sessions.

Also, a new dome hall in the Telescope Park will start working in summer 2015. It is a 10 metre-wide dome allowing joint telescope observations for groups of up to 70 people. The telescope, the largest at the observation centre, is equipped with the latest astronomic observation technologies.

www.parcetrastronomic.cat

- **PALEONTOLOGICAL SITES**

The Tremp basin in Pallars Jussà county is of great geological and paleontological importance. Two of its sites—Nerets in the Sant Corneli range and Suterranya in Vilamitjana—have been declared a Cultural Site of National Interest for their remarkable array of fossils from dinosaurs, archosaurs, chelonians and other invertebrates that allow to reconstruct the ecosystem and understand the transition from early to late Maastrichtian (the latest Cretaceous period). The area is of utmost relevance thanks to the state of conservation and the diversity of the remains found.

www.pallarsjussa.net



- **“PERSECUTED AND SAVED”, JEWISH ESCAPE ROUTES**

The “Persecuted and Saved” project identifies four routes along which Jews fled from Nazi Holocaust through the Lleida Pyrenees during World War II to escape deportation and death. The routes have a total 151 kilometres through Alta Ribagorça, Pallars Sobirà, Alt Urgell, Cerdanya and Val d’Aran counties. Signposts lead visitors through different paths, areas and towns that bore witness to one of Europe’s darkest chapters in history. The routes are: Pirineus Val d’Aran-Alta Ribagorça (from Eth Pònt de Rei to El Pont de Suert), Pirineus el Pallars Sobirà (from Guiló pass to Sort), Pirineus Alt Urgell (from Pimés pass to La Seu d’Urgell) and Pirineus la Cerdanya (from Perafita pass to Martinet). Signposting consists of banners, panels, plates and totems including QR codes linking to the new website, where contents are published in Catalan, Aranese, Spanish, English, French and Hebrew.

www.perseguitsisalvats.cat

- **MAYORAL ARTS CENTRE**

The old, interesting toy museum in Verdú (Urgell) has become an arts and gastronomy centre. It revolves around Joan Miró’s work and is completed with creations by Picasso, Dalí, Chillida, Tàpies, Barceló, Plensa and Calder, including graphic works, pottery and sculpture. To top this, chefs Albert and Jordi Marimon have created seven tapas inspired in the work of these artists, so visitors feel a pleasure in the eyes and the palate. After completing the tour, guests will be served the main dish and the dessert in the dining room.

www.miroataula.cat

- **RAIMAT CAVES, A HUNDRED YEARS OF WINE**

Raimat winemakers, belonging to Costers del Segre Denomination of Origin and the Lleida Wine Route, have turned a hundred years. The centennial is celebrated with different events, such as the Centenary Photographic Museum Hall and the production of Raimat 100 aged wine.

www.raimat.com



- **BAQUEIRA BERET ANNIVERSARY**

The ski resort is celebrating its 50th anniversary with different events during the whole season. After investing 10.5 million euros, the resort offers its customers 21 new routes, an increase from 120 to 146 kilometres of slopes plus 7 kilometres off-piste in an unparalleled freeride experience, thus totalling 153 kilometres in the 2014-15 season. The ski resort has opened three new lifts providing additional comfort in crossing between Baqueira and Beret: the Jesús Serra quad detachable chairlift and the Saumet and Stadium ski lifts.

Moreover, the accommodation offer has been enlarged with Hotel Val de Neu, located by the slopes in the new Val de Ruda area in Baqueira. Apart from its 120 rooms, it is especially the additional services that provide luxury and warmth at this high-end mountain hotel.

www.baqueira.es
www.hotelbaqueiravaldeneu.com

- **CASA SINTET IRON MUSEAL SPACE**

Iron was at the origin of Vall Ferrera and shaped its history over almost two thousand years. Metalworking used to be its economic mainstay up to the late 19th century. The Casimiro family from Casa Sintet in Alins were the owners of the last working forge in the valley, which closed in 1880.

With the aim of explaining the metalworking history in Vall Ferrera, the Casa Sintet Iron Museal Space has been opened this year. The whole process is explained on a guided tour including more than 300 exhibited objects, from the family's origins and the whole economy revolving around iron to agricultural work done for more than 150 years.

www.facebook.com/casasintet

- **EXPERIÈNCIES PIRINEUS – FAMILY ECOTOURISM**

Eight companies from Alt Urgell and Cerdanya counties have created the Experiències Pirineus tourist brand to promote the area and market jointly family ecotourism and quality tourism. They offer not only accommodation but also active tourism, specific routes and nature experiences.

www.experienciespirineus.com



- **NEW HIKING ROUTE: THE ANETO TOUR**

The Aneto Tour is a hiking trail around the Aneto massif. Leading through five valleys and across six mountain passes in Val d'Aran, France, Aragon and Catalonia, the route covers 115 kilometres in six stages, with an accumulated altitude of 11,332 metres. Under the Walking without Baggage brand, the accommodation is in hotels and rural homes and every stage is covered by a luggage carrying service.

www.tourdelaneto.com www.camins.es

- **NEW TOURIST WEBSITE AND APP**

Val d'Aran has created a new tourist website with an updated layout, numerous pictures and adapted to mobile devices. Featuring state-of-the-art technology, it is much more accessible and intuitive. The multi-language app contents work as a tourist guide and include accommodation as well as maps, localisations and interesting routes.

www.visitvaldaran.com