

The Directorate-General for Tourism awards 7 new scholarships to students on different Masters programmes in tourism

- **Scholarship holders must do a Masters' degree final project in an area associated with the territory's management and development.**
- **These scholarships are a feature of the #formacióturismecat plan implemented by the Directorate-General for Tourism and the Catalan Tourist Board to improve the competitiveness of companies in Catalonia's tourism sector.**

Barcelona, 5 June 2019.- The Ministry of Business and Knowledge, through the Directorate-General for Tourism (DGT), this year has awarded 7 new scholarships to students on Masters programmes in tourism who will undertake a Masters' degree final project in an area linked to the territory's management and development.

This project, which is part of initiative 1 of the Strategic Tourism Plan for Catalonia, involves providing economic assistance to students on these Masters courses as well as backing projects that encourage the creation of experiences for redistributing tourist flows, improving the carrying capacity of destinations and encouraging more sustainable tourism. Special consideration is therefore awarded to those projects aligned with the objectives of the Strategic Tourism Plan for Catalonia, which are to increase daily expenditure and encourage territorial decentralisation, seasonal deconcentration, and smart management of the growth of tourism.

The scholarship students have signed a salaried internship agreement by which they receive 3,000 euros to meet the cost of the Master's course. They will also be assigned one of the heads of the Government of Catalonia's tourist information offices as a mentor to help them on the Masters' degree final project.

This scholarship programme is part of the #formacióturismecat plan run by the Directorate-General for Tourism and the Catalan Tourist Board to provide support to the Catalan tourism sector with a view to improving its companies' competitiveness. Students on these masters' courses receive the scholarships as future tourism professionals.

This academic year the universities involved in the programme are the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), Rovira i Virgili University (URV), the University of Girona (UdG) and the CETT-UB.

This is the fourth year running that these scholarships have been awarded. In previous academic years (2015-2016; 2016-2017; and 2017-2018) the DGT subsidised 41 projects on subjects as diverse as “Ecotourism in Catalonia”, “Inclusive tourism for intellectual diversity in Girona”, “Sustainability in the Catalan tourism sector”, “Science tourism as a business idea and tourism product”, “Cuisine and wine tourism as elements for promoting and boosting the tourism of Central Catalonia”, “Territorial impact of the Lakes Train tourism product”, and “Accessible tourism in the nature areas of Les Terres de l'Ebre”.

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