



SUNDAY 15TH JANUARY **HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN TOUR**

10'30 AM

MEETING POINT - AIP Language Institute

The route suggested is of great interest for visitors to Valencia, who won't want to leave without getting to know the best of the city's architecture, its most noble and beautiful buildings and the different styles which have prevailed through the centuries, each one leaving its mark on the city. This route also serves as a compass to guide students into the different neighborhoods, to get to know its streets and squares and to take delight in the beauty of its most exceptional buildings, churches and palaces.

MONDAY 16TH JANUARY **AIP ORIENTATION PROGRAM**

09'30 AM

MEETING POINT - AIP Language Institute

We have planned a brief orientation in which students will learn all about the institute and in which we will try to answer all your questions and get you off to the right start at AIP. There will be information sessions on student life, transportation, health, safety and cultural adjustment. The aim is to make your first few days in Valencia as smooth and fun as possible. At Orientation you will receive a lot of essential information so it is **mandatory** for you to attend. Information covered includes both specific AIP material as well as advice on meeting Spaniards, playing sports, traveling and getting the most out of your time here. Orientation session will cover travel abroad, academic issues, living abroad, cultural shock, etc...



MONDAY 16TH JANUARY **CITY BICYCLE TOUR**

01'45 PM

MEETING POINT - AIP Language Institute

Valencia with its manageable size, nearly 80 km of cycle tracks and large green areas, is a perfect place to enjoy a bicycle ride all year round. Discovering the city on two wheels is a different, original and a funny experience. The tour, escorted by an AIP representative covers the city's most outstanding riverbed monuments as well as the beach area with stops to enjoy the Formula 1 Grand Prix race track and America's Cup facilities. Most of the ride takes in the Turia Gardens, a result of a deep urban study and an ambitious project which produced a fantastic park with all sorts of facilities for adults and children, sporting venues, fountains, and the wonderful Gulliver's kid's park not to mention the futuristic architecture at the City of Arts & Sciences.

SATURDAY 21ST JANUARY **SAN ANTONIO FIRE FESTIVAL (OPTIONAL)**

05'00 PM

MEETING POINT - AVENIDA ARAGÓN (by soccer stadium)

If you are ready for a once in a lifetime experience, this festival most likely will be on top of anything you've ever done. Valencians love fire as it is reflected in many of our main festivals throughout the year, so from time to time some sort of inner pyromaniac needs to be unleashed, so follow us to Vilanova de Alcolea, a small village north of Valencia, to enjoy the Festival of San Antonio. Run along the streets in the middle of a fire chaos trying to avoid horses running into you while joining some other crazy people jumping over piles of burning brush lit in the middle of every street. Keep in mind that before you realize the whole town is on fire and you are trapped in there, wondering what made you decide to join such a crazy event!! By the way, this festival goes on until fires die out so make sure to be ready to be up and running until late in the morning ...

PRICE 25 EUROS





SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY **XATIVA**

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT - Valencia Nord train station main entrance

Located south of Valencia, Xativa preserves a wealth of artistic heritage to be discovered including its Renaissance church, the hermitage of San Félix, the Royal Hospital, which still preserves its original Renaissance façade intact but its most outstanding monument with 30 towers and four fortified gates, is its enormous castle, the result of the fusion of an Iberian-Roman fortress and a later Arab one. Running down from the castle are the walls which until the 10th century enclosed the Roman city. A second wall was added later which took in what today is the historic quarter.

The actual castle though can be divided into two parts: the lower part is the oldest and origin may be earlier than the arrival of the Romans and the upper part whose began with the Romans and later modified by the Arabs, Christians, etc.

FRIDAY 03RD FEBRUARY **FALLAS WORKSHOPS**

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT - AIP Languages

At this point with Fallas festival approaching, one of the most interesting places to visit in order to get a better idea of these artists' work may be the "Ciudad del Artista Fallero", a complex with a number of huge workshops located in one of the outer Valencia neighborhoods where the monuments are being planned and built since previous festival ended. The whole year round, it sees a frenzy of ongoing work so we will have the opportunity to have a look around and see how a Falla monument is made.



SUNDAY 05TH FEBRUARY **VALENCIA CF SOCCER GAME**

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT - "ARAGON" subway station by Valenbisi station

Enjoy the opportunity to attend the most popular sport in Spain. You will be likely surprised by the atmosphere and the way Spaniards live soccer where the game itself is not as important as the emotions and feelings involving this kind of event. We will check a game of any of the different competitions where Valencia CF takes part, being the most important both Spanish & Champions Leagues.

Valencia is actually a top team not only in Spain but in Europe too, after winning two **Spanish Championships** and a **UEFA European Cup** over the last few years. Hopefully this year they will be back again to battle for all titles both in Spain and Europe!!



FRIDAY 17TH - SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY **BARCELONA GETAWAY**

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT - TBA

Few European cities can offer you the wide diversity of cultural experience that you'll find in Barcelona. The city is home to masterpieces of many architects being Gaudi the star with his works present in every corner. Some of the sights to visit while in Barcelona will include the Sagrada Familia, 1992 Olympic Games Facilities, La Pedrera, and the Gothic Quarter and so on... Don't miss out!

PRICE 120 EUROS



FRIDAY 03RD MARCH MASCLETÀ & NINOT EXHIBITION

01.30 PM

MEETING POINT - "XATIVA" subway stop by Mcdonald's

It was back in 1934 that the tradition of the "Ninot Indultat" (Pardoned Figure) was first established as a feature of the Fallas Festival. From that year on those "ninots" which were chosen by popular vote to be the best of each year escaped from the ritual burning on the night of San Jose. It was then decided to exhibit one "ninot" from each falla prior to the "plantà" (the setting up of the statues in the streets) so that people could see them all together and take a vote to pardon one. That was the beginning of the "Exposición del Ninot", which since 1942 has been held annually. Do not forget that your vote counts too!!!



FRIDAY 17TH MARCH PAELLA COOKING

TIME & DAY TBC

MEETING POINT - Falla Pintor Salvador Abril / Avenida Peris y Valero

Among some of the best activities arranged by Valencia inhabitants during the Fallas festival week we easily find the remarkable and countless "in the street" Paella contests celebrated as an excuse to gather with friends and family.

Keep in mind that while at contest you don't have a gas stove where you can control temperature, you just have a big fire burning and if your flames are too high then you must pull out logs, that's what makes it so interesting.

Cooking our worldwide known Valencian Paella - reject the countless imitations - is the perfect occasion to enjoy a totally different activity working by teams to obtain the best one always combining optimally all the necessary ingredients.

Its reward, however, goes far beyond that: lots of laughs, some espionage to other team's work and the competition development itself with a greatly satisfactory conclusion. **EATING TASTY PAELLA, SO COME AND JOIN US!!**



SATURDAY 01ST APRIL SIERRA CALDERONA NATURAL PARK HIKING

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT

VALENCIA NORD train station main entrance (XATIVA subway)

The "Sierra Calderona" Nature Reserve covers a surface area of 18,019 Ha, between the provinces of Castellón and Valencia, consisting of a mountainous alignment in NW-SE direction. The Long-Distance Hiking Route GR-10 and a network of Short-Distance Routes enables hikers to enjoy these fine surroundings. This is a really different tourist destination in the mountains of Valencia, where you can truly relax and shake off the stresses of city life but you should be aware that you are in a protected natural area so in order to contribute to its preservation visitors should not leave the paths marked out, respecting animals, plants as well as following forestry rules such as not leave waste or rubbish along the route.



GROUP DISCOUNT - PRICE 20 EUROS

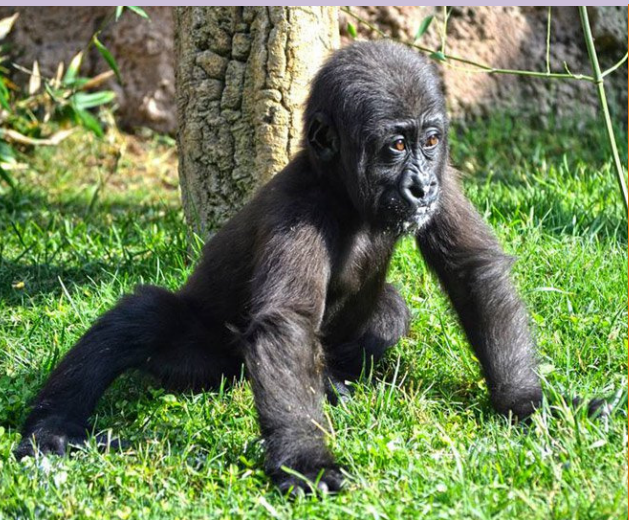


FRIDAY 07TH APRIL OCEANOGRAPHIC

01'30 PM

MEETING POINT- Oceanographic main entrance

The Oceanographic, considered as one of Europe's largest oceanographic parks is an impressive underwater city with over 10.000 specimens of 500 different species with all planet's marine ecosystems. Over 44 million liters of water and 11 underwater towers located around the perimeter of a large central lake allows visitors to get a glimpse of all the oceans in the world through its long underwater tunnels.



FRIDAY 28TH APRIL BIOPARC VALENCIA

01'30 PM

MEETING POINT - NOU D'OCTUBRE subway stop (Bioparc exit)

Bioparc Valencia opened its doors on 28th February 2008 and it will be without doubt one of the coolest zoos you've ever been to. This innovative park covers some 80,000 square meters and is located in the Parque de Cabecera within the former Turia Riverbed.

Contrary to traditional zoos, this park has the unique feature of bringing the visitor totally into the habitat of the animals by being nerve-wracking close to them - only a small stream separates them -. This is particularly wonderful in the Madagascar lemur area, in which there are no cages of any sort and animals run along the same paths as you, coming really close without any fear whatsoever. Leopard, lemurs, hyenas, lions, giraffes, gorillas, rhinos, hippos, porcupines, ostriches, elephants, otters ... all coexist in this amazing zoological world.

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL WATER CANYONING (OPTIONAL)

TIME TBA

MEETING POINT - TBA

Not for the fainthearted, canyoning is a white water ride down gorges and waterfalls. Participants run down wet slabs of rock, jump off blind escarpments, scramble up rocks and abseil down drops. You get fully kitted out before you go with helmets and wetsuits so you're well protected.

Dive into a unique world far from any trails and experience the power of water. Take a deep breath, overcome your fears, enjoy moments of peace – explore a gorge with all your senses – that's canyoning. Adrenaline assured!!

PRICE 55 EUROS



SATURDAY 06TH MAY ALTEA & CALPE

09'45 AM

MEETING POINT - Palacio de la Música

Altea sits on top of a hill dominated by the bell tower of the parish church of the Virgin of Consuelo. The magnificently jumbled and cluttered centre of the Old Town provides the city with a special charm. From its major square, steep narrow cobblestoned streets with balconies and small circular intersections, many of which are lined with small overlooking points, begin their descent towards the sea. Typical whitewashed houses, which were formerly protected by a solid wall, mark the way to the foot of the hill where a 6 km long and wide sea promenade lies as well as the commercial street, with both beach and cliffs alternating with shingled bathing areas. The town's peacefulness and tranquility have made it a paradise for artists and craftsmen and their shops and stalls are scattered throughout the Old Town center.

Calpe sits close to the Rock of Ifach, which was called the Northern Rock by the Phoenicians to distinguish it from Gibraltar, the Southern Rock, as these were at that time the only spectacular promontories they encountered in their travel to the western shores of the Mediterranean. Calm and very clean beaches, little bays and cliffs, valleys and mountains in the inland, Calpe will surprise you with its contrasts and the mild climate all year-round.

THURSDAY 11TH MAY FAREWELL

01'00 PM

MEETING POINT - AIP Languages

On our last day at school, we have scheduled a farewell lunch.

Once we are done with diplomas and AIP staff member speeches we will enjoy a tasty meal in a nearby restaurant.

