

33. SPAIN CELLAR TOURS: LUXURY AND TASTE

**I. Radko,
H. Lukianets**

National University of Food Technologies

The fine wine regions of Spain offer the traveller a truly unforgettable experience. The range of landscapes, architectural contrasts, diversity in cuisine and warmth of the people make a wine tour in Spain a trip of a lifetime. Cellar Tours organizes VIP Luxury Wine Tours with private chauffeur, in all of Spain's premium wine regions including Priorat, Penedes, La Rioja, Ribera del Duero and Sherry. We also work in lesser known regions such as Txakoli in the Basque lands, Rias Baixas in Galicia and the lush wine country of Mallorca. Barcelona, Madrid and San Sebastian are wonderful city hubs where we arrange wine tasting experiences as well.

For food and wine lovers as well as culture vultures, Spain is an outstanding country to visit. For design and architecture, Spain is experiencing a Renaissance and an atmosphere of creativity and investment has attracted superstar architects from around the world to build design wineries including Frank Gehry, Norman Foster, Zaha Hadid, Philippe Mazières as well as local celebrity architects like Santiago

Calatrava and Rafael Moneo. We have created this gourmet tour with an extra special focus on painting, sculpture and architecture – a luxury tour for wine lovers who also love art and design.

The prestigious wine regions of Ribera del Duero and Rioja are next and you will taste wines in a 13th century Romanesque Abbey, visit one of Europe's most beautiful Gothic Cathedrals, and stay in an outrageous ultra modern hotel designed by Frank Gehry in a small medieval hamlet. While in Rioja, one of Spain's prettiest wine regions, you'll take in some excellent restaurants with up-and-coming chefs such as at the stylish La Galeria in Logroño. The scenery changes dramatically over the next couple days as you travel into Basque Country, with lush hills, pine forests and dramatic coastlines along the Atlantic. You'll visit aristocratic San Sebastian with its postcard-perfect, tidy half-moon bay and charming old town. San Sebastian is gourmet paradise and has more Michelin starred restaurants per inhabitant than Paris.

Frank Gehry's tremendous Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao is on the agenda, before flying to bohemian Barcelona. You'll enjoy a special private wine tour to the high-end boutique cellars of Priorat, and private guided art tours in Barcelona's best contemporary art museums such as the Picasso museum and Joan Miró foundation. You'll stay in the most glamorous designer hotel in Barcelona, right on the elegant Passeig de Gracia and conclude this unforgettable art, wine and design tour with a farewell dinner in a very romantic venue.

References:

1. Hall C. M. Popularity of wine tourism grows / C Michael Hall //Italy Magazine. – 2012. -№ 3. – P. 42–47.
2. Cambourne B. Wine Tourism Around the World : Development, Management and Markets / Brock Cambourne. – Elsevier: Academic Press, 2000. – 234 p.