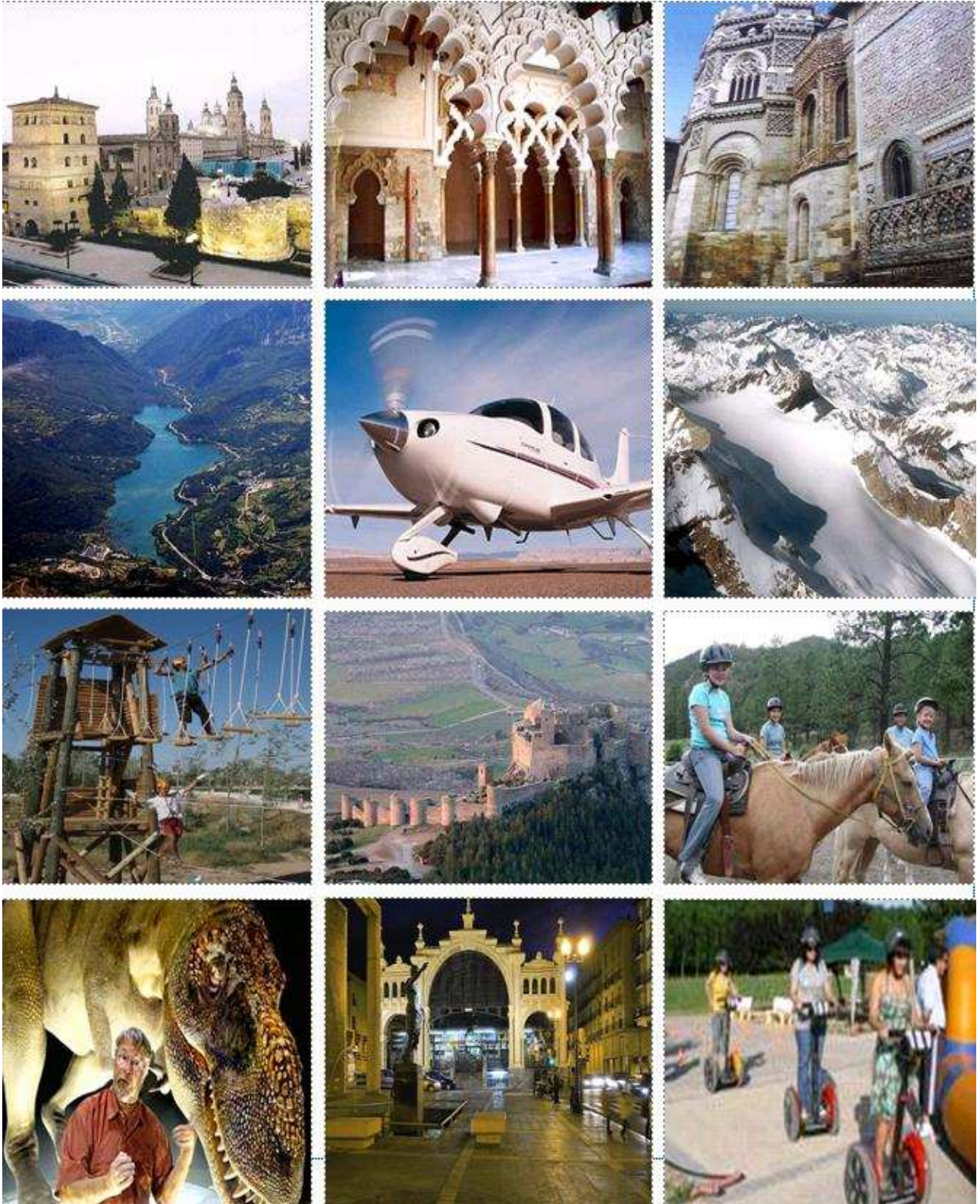


## SERVICES LIST

The next pages contain information about the different visits we offer in Saragossa as well as in the rest of the community of Aragón.

We have a wide variety of options to support congresses and incentives for companies.

There is a section in this brochure dedicated to young people with an offer of guided visits combined with cultural games and multiadventures.



## Walking tour around the historical district

The group leaves the hotel at the appointed time and goes for a walk around the historical district of Saragossa, a city that with its more than 2,000 years of history will surprise the visitor.



There is an option that allows the visitor to use our radio-guide system in which they carry a small radio allowing them to listen to the guide's explanation on a 50 metres reach.

During the tour the group stops at Plaza San Felipe, a clear example of how the city has grown showing the coexistence of buildings from different architectural styles: Torreón Fortea from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the renaissance palace of the Arguillos which nowadays houses a museum, the baroque church of San Felipe and the remains of Torre Nueva, one of the symbols of the city that disappeared in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



In the Roman Theatre visitors can witness the traces that the different cultures that inhabited the city left: Romans, Jews and Christians.



Other stop is at Plaza del Justicia and Santa Isabel the Portugal's church, an aragonese princess who was born in the city. All along the tour visitors can find plenty of renaissance and modernist palaces.

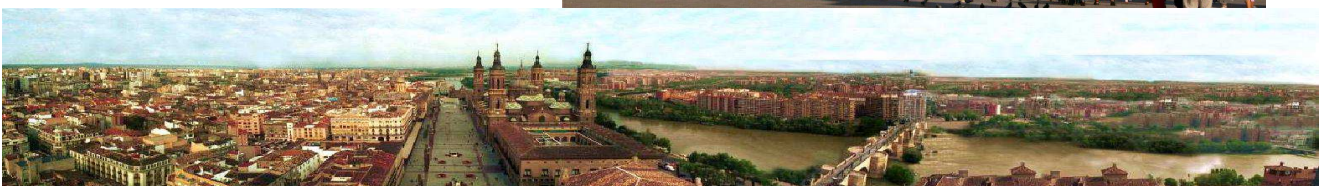


After that the group walks along Plaza del Pilar, where the main monuments of the city are located: the City Council, Lonja de Mercaderes, Goya's monument and Basílica del Pilar, the Marian temple devoted to the figure of the Virgin Mary under the name of Nuestra Señora del Pilar. Inside the temple visitors can see the pillar that, according to the tradition, the Virgin gave to Saint James.



Finally the group stops at the Roman walls, the modernist local market and San Juan de los Panetes' church where visitors can observe its leaning tower.

The visit ends at Plaza de las Catedrales where we finish our services.



## Guided visit including two monuments

The group leaves from the place and time appointed with the guide to make a panoramic tour on the bus around the city visiting the viewpoint of Primo de Rivera's park, where the bus stops to admire the viewpoint of Jardines de San Sebastián. Along the route visitors can see a wide variety of monuments such as the old Sciences faculty, Baltax door, the renaissance palaces of the Sastagos and Don Pedro de Luna or the Roman walls to name few.



After the tour there is a visit to the Aljafería Palace, an Omeyyan palace from the 11<sup>th</sup> century whose name comes from the name of the king who commanded the construction of the palace: Abdu Yahfar Almutadic Al-Yafarhia. The palace was the residence of the aragonese kings for centuries.



Next stop is at Plaza de las Catedrales where the group walks along Plaza del Pilar. There they find the main monuments of the city: the City Council, Lonja de Mercaderes, Goya's monument and Basilica del Pilar. The group visits the Basílica, a Marian temple devoted to the figure of the Virgin Mary under the name of Nuestra Señora del Pilar. Inside the temple visitors can see the pillar that, according to the tradition, the Virgin gave to Saint James.

After the visit, people have some free time to explore the area by themselves. They can find different shops where they can buy from handicrafts to typical products of the region

This is only one option that they can adapt to their needs since the visit can be designed according to the time each group has.



## Mudéjar Towers in Saragossa

### San Pablo's church



Located in San Pablo Street, in the district known as "El Gancho", the church from the 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries still preserves its mudéjar tower from the 14<sup>th</sup> century.



This church is considered as the third cathedral of the city because of the richness of its tapestries and gold work.

Until 1259 it was a small chapel devoted to San Blas that had been built soon after the conquering of the city in 1118. After the 13<sup>th</sup> century the chapel was pulled down to build a new church.

## Santa María Magdalena's Church

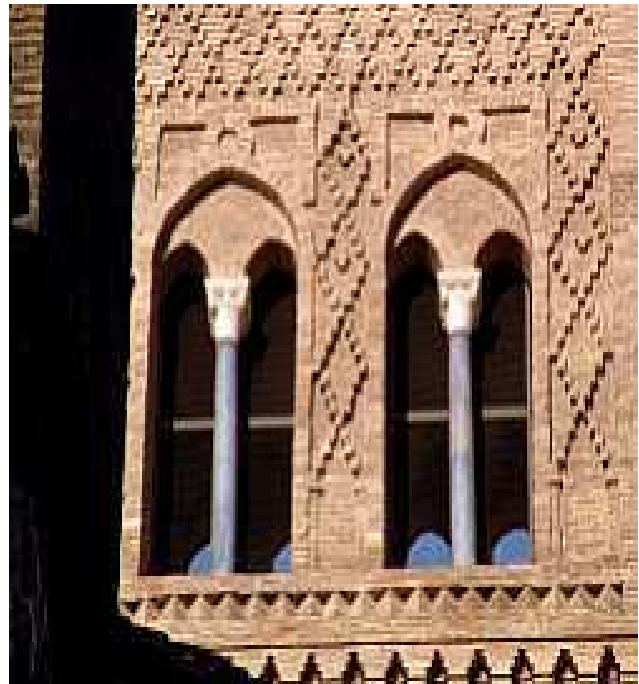


The church was originally mudéjar, but it suffered a baroque repair, so it changed the shape of the original one. The tower is the most striking element with its square floor plan.

Magdalena's church follows the style of mudéjar aragonesa architecture, with a single nave without buttresses and square floor plan as in the churches of San Martín and El Salvador in Teruel.

Outside we find the most remarkable element, the belfry with its beautiful decoration made of coloured ceramic forming different geometrical shapes. We also find outside the little door known as "portadita", opened on the old mudéjar apse, cut in black marble from Calatraz that changed its appearance after a restoration in 1970.





This church presents a single nave with chapels between the buttresses and two polygonal apses. The mudéjar tower was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and is made of brick and the whole church underwent a baroque reform in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

San Gil Abad is considered Historical Heritage and was declared Asset of Cultural Interest in 1967, although it is one of the mudéjar towers in Saragossa that is not considered World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The façade was built in 1640 following the baroque style.

## Guided visit including two monuments and Expo showground

The group leaves from the place and time appointed with the guide to make a panoramic tour on the bus visiting different monuments as well as the Expo 2008 showground.



After the tour there is a visit to the Aljafería Palace, an Omeyan palace from the 11<sup>th</sup> century whose name comes from the name of the king who commanded the construction of the palace: Abdu Yahfar Al-mutadic Al-Yafarhia. The palace was the residence of the aragonese kings for centuries.

Next stop is at Plaza de las Catedrales where the group walks along Plaza del Pilar. There they find the main monuments of the city: the City Council, Lonja de Mercaderes, Goya's monument and Basílica del Pilar. The group visits the Basílica, a Marian temple devoted to the figure of the Virgin Mary under the name of Nuestra Señora del Pilar. Inside the temple visitors can see the pillar that, according to the tradition, the Virgin gave to Saint James.



After the visit, people have some free time to explore the area by themselves. They can find different shops where they can buy from handicrafts to typical products of the region.





## Aquarium

The biggest river aquarium of Europe



his aquarium contains about 5.000 specimens from 300 species from different rivers in the five continents. These specimens are distributed through 60 bowls and terrariums.

It is the only aquarium in Spain containing a rich combination of water specimens: reptiles, mammals and amphibians. The Fluvial Aquarium of Saragossa is one of the 3 most important inland water aquariums in the world.

Visitors will discover a rich variety of fauna through the natural tour that leads us around the five largest rivers of the planet (the Nile, Mekong, Amazon, Darling Murray and Ebro) connected with each other through the River of the World, which symbolizes the origin of the world and establishes the relationship between the five continents: Pangea.

The Nile shows its species from the great lakes to its delta. Passing through the narrow pass of the Himalayas we arrive in the Mekong where we find different species from its upper to its lower basin, and the Pacific Ocean with the coral reefs.

The Amazon shows the variety of its fauna and rainforest together with the Atlantic and the Darling Murray takes us from the desert areas to the flooded ones. The Ebro is the main protagonist in this aquarium, with its diverse elements: the *sotos* and *galachos* (natural formations made by the river) and limestone caves.

Its façade simulates a series of cliffs with waterfalls and inside the building we find a shop, a restaurant, an auditorium and a panoramic terrace.



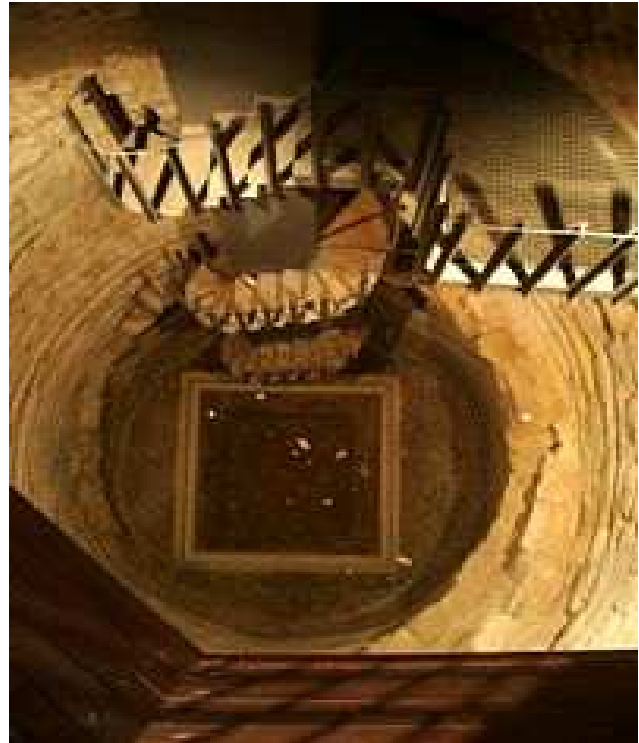
## Aljafería Palace

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It is the only preserved remain of Islamic architecture from the Taifas together with Cordoba's Mosque from Cordoba Caliphate and the Alhambra.

This fortified palace was built during the second half of the 11<sup>th</sup> century, during Al-Muqtadir's period as a residence for kings. It reflects the magnificence of the kingdom of Saraqusta at that time.



When Alfonso I the Battler conquered Saragossa in 1118, the palace became the residence for the Christian kings of Aragón, so Aljafería became the central point of departure for aragonese mudejar. Pedro IV used the palace as his royal residence and later the palace underwent a series of reforms to build the Catholic Monarchs' palace in 1492. In 1593 the palace became a fortress.





La Seo owns and preserves a collection of 63 Flemish tapestries and 6 other tapestries called *reposteros* that kings, archbishops and the council donated to La Seo for their cultural exhibition on the cathedral. We can find medieval and gothic Flemish tapestries from 15th, 16th and 17th centuries weaved on the looms of Arras, Toumai and Brussels.

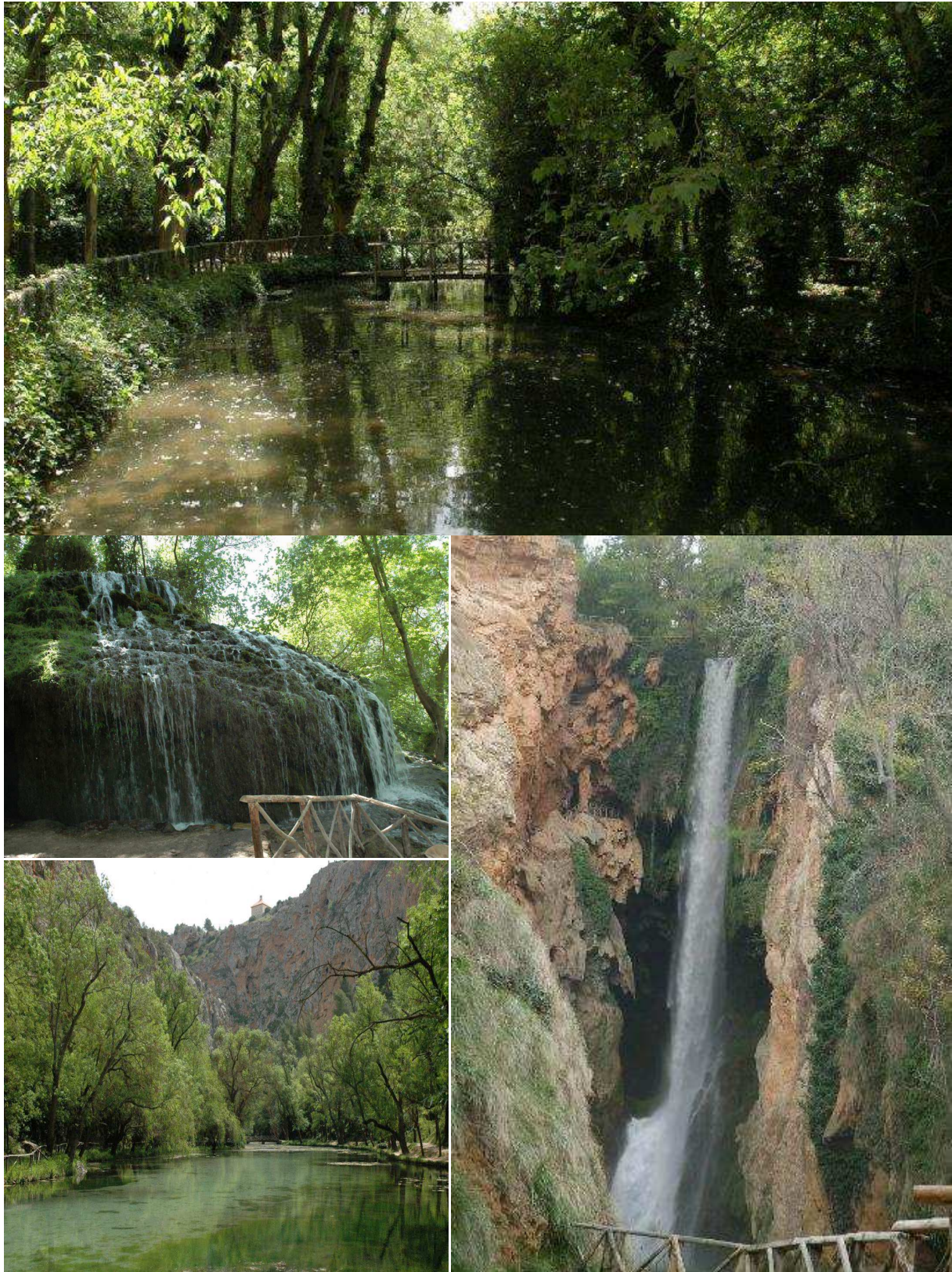
In 1991 a symposium took place in Saragossa in which was stated that this collection of La Seo is the most important of the world.



The theatre was built in the 1<sup>st</sup> century during Tiberius' period but the construction ended in Claudius. It was one of the most magnificent theatres of Roman Hispania, with a capacity of 6.000 people. Unlike other theatres that were built using irregular land, this one was built on a plain land using opus caementicium, imitating Marcellus Theatre in Rome.

Its decadence began during the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, when the stones of this theatre were used to enlarge the walls as well as other buildings in the city. With the passing of time the site where the theatre was, was covered by other buildings until the 1960s when came to the surface again. Nowadays, the theatre houses a museum where visitors can see the archaeological discoveries in the theatre.





Thousands of waterfalls will accompany the visitor in this incomparable landscape that mixes the braveness of the waterfalls with the quietness of the lakes. The river and its bank have a great ecological, cultural and scenic value for the large specimens of animals and plants that can be found there.



In the city of Huesca the plains that lead to the Ebro and the foothills of the Pyrenees meet. In this area known as La Hoya, we find the essence of Aragón: cosy plains and noble mountains.

Huesca, the capital city of Alto Aragón, is a small city which offers a wide variety of services and equipments to make our stay more pleasant.

The city invites us to live its millennial traditions which coexist with the new vanguards, showing city full of vitality.

San Pedro el Viejo is one of the most ancient churches in Spain. It already existed during the visigothic period, and later under Muslim rule Christians kept practising mozarabic worship in this church. The foundation of this Benedictine monastery took place at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The current temple dates from the XII century and was built in the Romanesque style.



Inside the city hall we can find the painting La Campana de Huesca from 1880, based on a legend that bears the same name. Legend has it that the Aragonese noblemen disobeyed their king, Ramiro II, so he decided to look for advice solve his problem.

The solution was that the king called his noblemen for a meeting to build a new bell and he beheaded them to stop the revolt.

## JACA

Located in the valley of the river Aragón, this town has a great importance due to its history and location. Surrounded by mountains, the streets offer a wide variety of monuments. From the Romanesque Cathedral, that houses one of the most important Romanesque museums, to the Ciudadela and the Town hall, to name few.

Likewise, Jaca with a population of 11.000 inhabitants and located at 820m over the sea level is considered a strategic point for communication among the different valleys of the Pyrenees and is one of the main centres of tourist attraction in Aragón. Its cultural life is very intense, with a wide variety of events such as music festivals, summer courses or ice hockey and figure skating championships.

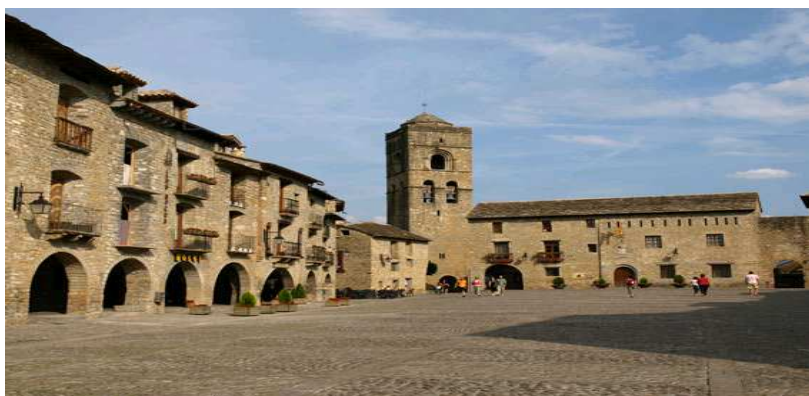


## AINSA



Aínsa is the perfect place to start some of the most attractive tourist routes through the northern part of Aragón. Located at 580m over the sea level, it surprises the visitor carrying him away to ancient times, because

Aínsa preserves its medieval magnetism with its square surrounded by porticos and its cobblestone streets. The town was declared Historic-Artistic Site in 1965. Nowadays, it is a relevant centre of tourism in Spain.



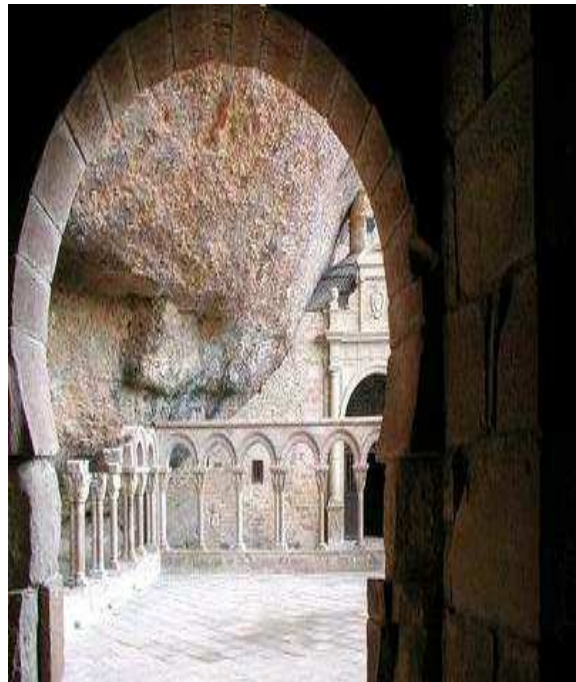
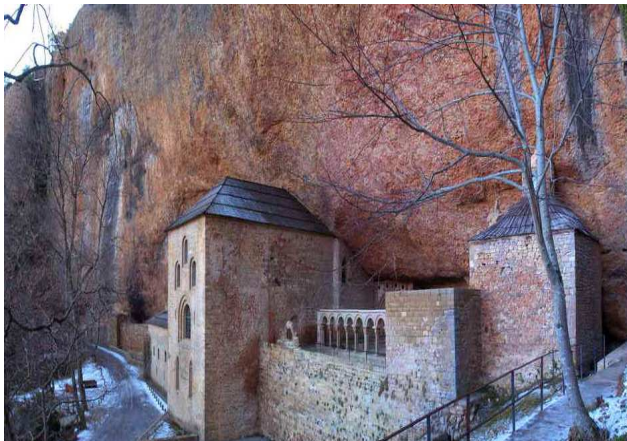
The original nucleus of the town, which is located on a promontory on the binding of the rivers Cinca and Ara, consists of two parallel streets and a main square which lies together with the castle. In front of it there is an esplanade, where a legend sets there the miracle of the appearance of the cross-fire on a tree called *carrasca*, which gave the victory to the Christian troops under the command of King Garcí Ximénez.

The festivities of Aínsa will turn the visitor back in time to the middle Ages.



## MONASTERY OF SAN JUAN DE LA PEÑA

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20 km from Jaca, following the road on left bank of Aragón River as well as part of St. James' Way, we find this monastery taking the road from Santa Cruz de la Serós.

When Muslims invaded Spain, a group of hermits founded a community that survived until 10th century. It was in this century when a count named Galindo Aznarez II founded a monastery dedicated to two saints (San Julián and Santa Basilisa), in the same place where the hermits had lived.

Over this monastery Sancho Ramírez, King of Aragón, built San Juan de la Peña as a pantheon for the Kings of Aragón.

## LOARRE'S CASTLE



From its watchtower this castle has witnessed the passing of centuries and many different cultures, civilizations, battles, kings, politicians, film stars, tourists... The castle has held all these things and it is waiting, patiently, to carry us away by its magic from the shade of its churches to perceive the subtle vibrations of its ancient dwellers.



The castle has been considered as the most important Roman fortress in Spain.

It was built during the 11th century over the remains of a Roman castle called *calagurris fibularia*, under the rule of king Sancho Ramirez I of Aragón.

The castle was used at the beginning as royal residence, and from 12th century onwards it became the monastery of the Augustinian Order.

It has a plan arrangement and it is surrounded by a double wall with cylindrical towers and two gateways.

The portico in the façade is decorated with a relief representing Jesus Christ blessing. Inside the castle we can visit the Romanesque church of Santa Maria, from 12<sup>th</sup> century erected over a rectangular crypt.





Boltaña is one of the most important villages of the Pyrenees located on 443 kilometers point of the Pyrenees' axis.

The oldest remains of Boltaña are in the upper part of the village: its medieval castle from the 11<sup>th</sup> century was built to defend the place from the Muslims.

On the hillside of the castle we find the village with its stone houses, steep streets and small squares. On the way to the castle there is a viewpoint next to Santa Lucía's church with a beautiful panoramic of the valley.

The streets of Boltaña are full of magnificent houses, standing out those old houses such as Casa Don Jorge, El Tieso, Casa Carrasco, Casa Bentué (formerly known as Pyucercus) and Casa Núñez.

The historical district combines tradition and modernity, preserving an important number of old houses around the collegiate church of San Pedro Apóstol from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

## LAS CINCO VILLAS SOS DEL REY CATÓLICO



Over Sierra de la Peña is located the town of Sos del Rey Católico, the county seat of Altas Cinco Villas, declared Historic Artistic Site and property of cultural interest.

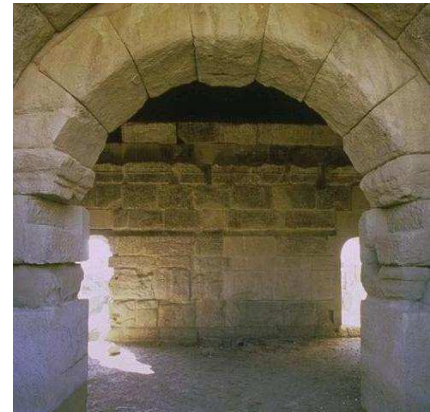
The town was set up over a hill with two natural promontories in which we find the castle and the palace and its characteristics of frontier watchtower between the kingdoms of Navarra and Aragón.

The stone houses, gothic and renaissance windows and the narrow cobble paving streets form a harmonious monument, combined with the beautiful landscape surrounding the town.

San Esteban Church is located on the upper part of the town next to the castle's ruins. The church from the 11<sup>th</sup> century contains another church below, the so called Santa María del Perdón, or simply "the crypt".

Sadas'Palace was the birth place of Fernando el Católico. Worth mentioning its renaissance façade crowned with battlements and its door containing the Sadas' coat of arms, marquises of Campo Real. Nowadays this palace is a museum.





Uncastillo is one of the richest monumental sets in Aragón. Declared Historic Artistic Site in 1966, the fortress that gave name to the town is nowadays one of the elements that form the whole set of the town.

This town and the fortress dates from the 10<sup>th</sup> century when king Sancho Garcés I, ruled the area. It played an important role during 10th century, being the battlefield between Christians and Muslims.

Nowadays, Uncastillo is together with Ejea de los Caballeros, Sádaba, Sos del Rey Católico and Tauste one of the villages which are part of the Histórica de las Cinco Villas' County.

The Tower Museum, located in the tower keep of Uncastillo's fortress. The museum houses a collection of objects, models etc.

Santa María's church has one of the most beautiful façades of the Spanish Romanesque, containing different characters, animals, supernatural beings, etc. The man who made this façade is known as Uncastillo's master.

Eastwards we find the remains of the aqueduct of the village in which there are 32 pillars left of the original course.

San Martin's church is the current sit for religious art of the Pre-Pyrenees area. Here, visitors will find works from the medieval art, renaissance and baroque belonging to different places of the Pre-Pyrenees.

## TERUEL

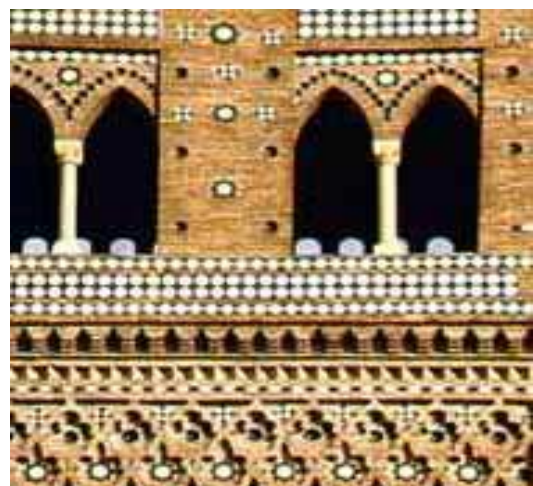
Teruel, a crossroads of cultures, was declared UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986 for the richness of its historical mudéjar monuments.



Located next to Turia river at 915m over the sea level, Teruel is surrounded by mountains and plains. The city served as the platform to conquer the kingdom of Valencia and fight against the Muslims.

The medieval city witnessed one of the most famous events in its history: the story of the Amantes and the development of mudéjar architecture.

Some examples of mudéjar art can be seen in monuments such as Torre Del Salvador, from 14<sup>th</sup> century, following the structure of ALMINAR ALMOHADE, a clear example of the construction tower-door that was AUTHORISED in 1277.



### Santa María de Mediavilla's Cathedral

The cathedral was erected over the church under the same name. It has three naves made of brick and masonry, as a consequence of the expansion of the previous Romanesque structure in 1171. The Moorish Juzaff managed the expansion works by which the Romanesque apses were substituted by the gothic-mudéjar ones. The tower, built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century has a passageway on its lower part.



San Pedro's church is decorated following the style of the façade of the mosque in the Aljaferia Palace.

The ceiling of this church presents a beautiful decoration, completely preserved. Visitors are able to appreciate this decoration very close because there are two balconies on the upper part next to the ceiling.

## ALBARRACÍN



This city holds the title of National Monument since 1961, and has recently been proposed as World Heritage Site, due to the importance and beauty of its heritage.

Located in the lowlands of Guadalaviar River, it is surrounded by the mountain range of Albarracín on the northern part and by Montes Universales on the southern part. In this area have its source five rivers: Guadalaviar, Júcar, Tajo, Gabriel and Jiloca.

In the village we can find steep and narrow streets full of beautiful places. The architecture in this village is very characteristic, with its reddish stone buildings.





The Castle is located in the oldest part of Albarracín, the only part that still remains are the walls.

This castle was an islamic Alcázar (a royal palace) that belonged to a "bereber" family, the Banu-Razins during the Taifa kingdom in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The walls belong to the Christian period, 14<sup>th</sup> century.



**Catedral:** Situada junto al castillo; es del siglo XVI con una sola nave y capillas laterales. En su interior hay excelentes tapices historiados con la vida de Gedeón.

## CULTURE AND ADVENTURE

Guías Turísticas de Aragón has a specific program for schools and highschools



A tour around Aragón in which they will visit the city of Saragossa together with the Aljafería Palace and Basílica del Pilar.

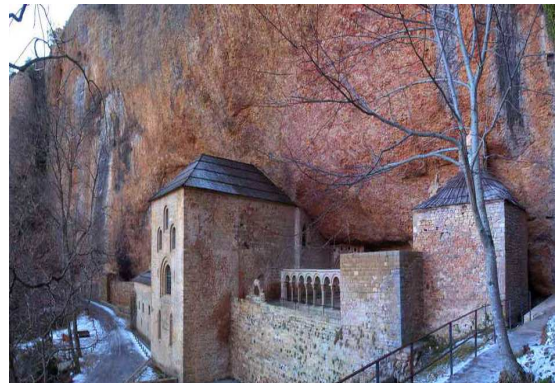


### An enjoyable and funny way combining culture, leisure and adventure.

The programs consist of 4, 7 or 15 days in which the students will discover the history, culture and gastronomy of Aragón. They will visit palaces and castles and discover hidden places in the heart of the Pyrenees, and will enjoy the activities and games designed for them.



The program combines cultural visits according to their age with multi-adventure activities supervised by experienced professionals.



**Culture and adventure** is the best way to spend the spare time. A cultural program designed for students as a perfect combination of physical and cultural activities.



Guías Turísticas de Aragón goes a step further and offers the possibility of enjoying the landscape from the air.



Here we offer a selection of four air routes, besides the alternative to design your own route.

### **Moncayo and Aranda county**



Following the Ebro's waterway you can discover this route that leads to the Iberica range and photograph its landscape from the air

### **Western Pyrenees**



Fly to the western part of the Pyrenees taking photographs of the most representative valleys and peaks of the area.

### **Central Pyrenees**

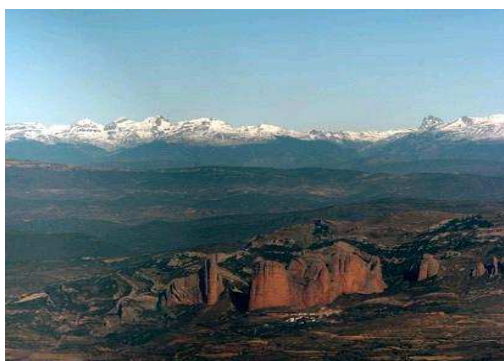


This unforgettable route shows the peaks, valleys and glaciers of this part of the Pyrenees.

### **The whole Pyrenees**



This route offers a complete view of the range, from the highest peak to the surroundings in which you can take photographs and follow the explanations of an expert.





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The offers you have seen here are only a sample of what Guías Turísticas de Aragón offers to its customers.

We know the area and we can help you to prepare any route in any place of the community of Aragón.

For more information about our services please contact with us:

**Telephone number: 976 740 723**

**Fax: 976 518 356**

**E-mail: [info@guiasaragon.com](mailto:info@guiasaragon.com)**

**We will be very pleased to help you**