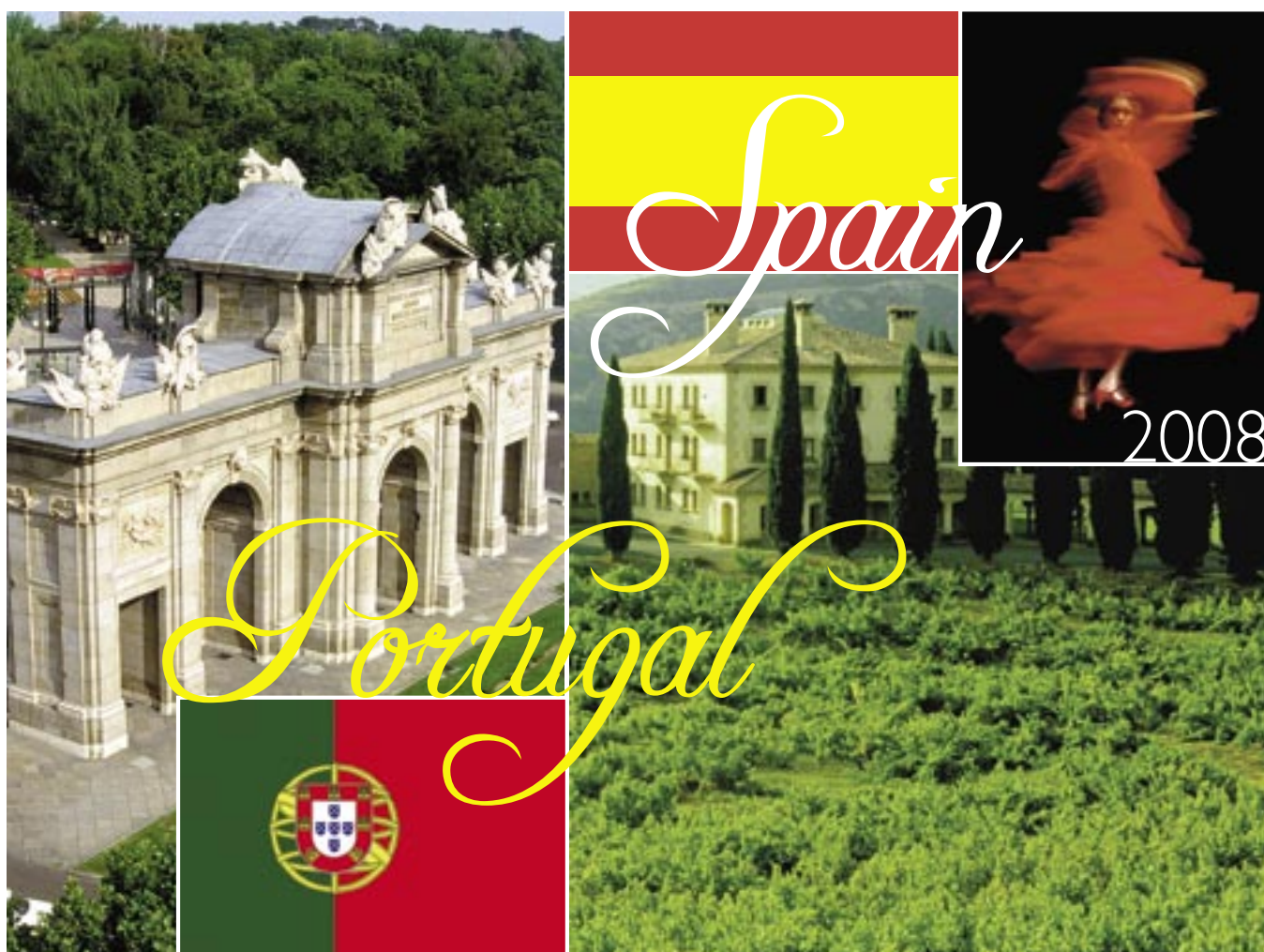


Winestate Wine Tour of Spain & Portugal, 20 September - 7 October 2008



Join Peter Simic on Winestate's 2008 tour to the both historic and emerging fine wine regions of Spain & Portugal.

Have fun exploring the historic towns and villages in the Spanish & Portuguese wine regions: Rioja, Navarra, Rueda, Toro, Oporto, Ribera del Duero, Rias Baixas and Penedes/Priorato. We begin in Madrid, the Paris of Spain, and finish in Barcelona, the city of spectacular Gaudi architecture! Peter Simic will open doors not normally available to tourists and ensure that you have a rewarding and exciting time in outstanding surroundings.

If you love the culture and history of France and Italy, you will adore Spain & Portugal!

For more information contact Australia's leading wine travel specialist Travelrite, on balwyn@travelrite.com.au



WINESTATE

Tour of Spain & Portugal 2008

THE ITINERARY

DAY 1

Saturday 20 September

DEPARTURE

Tour members leave Australian capital cities and travel overnight to Madrid via Frankfurt. Accommodation will be offered at a Madrid hotel for members who wish to arrive earlier. Please call for details.

DAY 2

Sunday 21 September

MADRID

On arrival mid-morning at Madrid airport, the tour group will be met by a private coach and travel to central Madrid for an afternoon sightseeing tour with a local guide before checking into the tour's centrally located four-star hotel. Madrid, with a

population of more than three million, is one of Europe's most hospitable, cosmopolitan cities, with wide avenues, attractive parks and a great sense of the joy of life. The tour group will meet for welcome drinks with Peter Simic before dinner. A good-value local restaurant will be recommended.

DAY 3

Monday 22 September

MADRID

After breakfast we will travel just south of Madrid to visit producers in the Vinos de Madrid region who make quality reds from tinto fino, garnacha tinta, cabernet sauvignon and merlot and whites from malvar, albillo and airen. We will see the vineyards, tour the cellars and enjoy structured tastings with Peter Simic, then return to Madrid in the late afternoon. Local restaurants will be recommended for dinner.



DAY 4

Tuesday 23 September

VALLADOLID

After breakfast we travel north on our private coach to the important wine regions in the Duero valley, near the city of Valladolid: the Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales. The Rueda region has been producing wine since the 11th century and is famous for its tempranillo/cabernet sauvignon reds and fine white wines based on verdejo and sauvignon blanc. We will check in to our centrally located hotel in the late afternoon. Interesting restaurants will be recommended for dinner.

DAY 5

Wednesday 24 September

VALLADOLID

We travel east to visit wineries in the Ribera del Duero, regarded by some as Spain's finest red producing area. The soils have a high level of active chalk and the relatively high altitude with cool nights make it ideal for the mainly

tempranillo grapes that produce an outstanding range of red wines. Don Eloy Lecanda Chaves pioneered the production of red wine in the region in 1864 on his Vega Sicilia estate, which now produces Spain's most famous wine. We will explore wineries, meet the winemakers and enjoy structured tastings under Peter Simic's leadership. Dinner will be at members' leisure in Valladolid.

DAY 6

Thursday 25 September

VALLADOLID

After breakfast we will continue our vineyard visits, with tours and tastings in the Duero River valley. The tour group will enjoy a *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Dinner with wines carefully selected and matched to the menu by Peter Simic.

DAY 7

Friday 26 September

PINHAO

After breakfast we travel west along the Duero River valley,

Vino & Vistas



your expert tour leader

passing through the La Ribera de Salamanca region and into Portugal. We will stop for the night in the fine Alto Douro wine town of Pinhao, close to the vines that cascade down the steep slopes on either side of the Douro River valley. We will visit wineries that produce fortified wine for the large port houses, local suppliers and the estates that produce notable and distinctive red table wines.

DAY 8

Saturday 27 September
OPORTO

This morning we continue our journey west along the Douro River valley to Oporto, the port town that for centuries has been the home to many port lodges - establishments where port is aged, blended and stored, and the departure point for worldwide exports. We will tour the major lodges and sample some of their fine products before checking into the tour hotel in the late afternoon.

Peter Simic, your tour guide, is an ideal host for this trip. With a background in publishing and wine education over 30 years, his wine knowledge is vast. In addition to being the founding editor/publisher of *Winestate*, Peter was formerly the founding publisher of *Wine & Spirit (US)*, manager of the SA Wine Information Bureau, and wine educator with SA Regency College. He is also a regular wine commentator in newspapers and on radio and television. Peter has led a number of highly successful *Winestate* tours: to France in 1999, 2003 and 2007, the QE2 wine cruise in 2001, to Italy in 2002 and 2005 and to Spain in 2004.

DAY 9

Sunday 28 September
OPORTO

There will be some free time after breakfast for independent sightseeing. Tour members will enjoy a short cruise along the Douro before the *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Lunch at a highly rated Oporto restaurant. The fine menu will be matched to a range of good local wines selected by Peter Simic. The evening is free time.

DAY 10

Monday 29 September
PONTEVEDRA

After breakfast we drive north along the coast and cross the Mino River into the 'green' area of Spain. The vegetation is lush and there

is spectacular mountain scenery with cascading rivers. We will make a winery visit in the southern Rias Baixas, home to some of the Galicia's region's best white wines produced from the albarino grape. We continue onto the pleasant town of Pontevedra, our base for one night. Local restaurants will be recommended for dinner.

DAY 11

Tuesday 30 September
LEON

After breakfast we will travel to Santiago de Compostela, one of the most important pilgrimage cities from the Middle Ages. We will enjoy a short tour of the town with a local guide and an early, leisurely lunch. After lunch we will

continue our exploration of the Rias Baixas region and then travel east to Leon, the one-time capital of the kingdom of Leon. There will be time in the evening to explore the city and enjoy dinner at leisure.

DAY 12

Wednesday 1 October
LOGRONO

After breakfast we travel to Logrono, the main town in the acclaimed Rioja region, famous for its powerful high quality red wines. Rioja is based mainly on tempranillo, with small quantities of mazuolo, graciano and garnacha. The vineyard visit program will commence in the late morning; we will enjoy cellar tours and structured tasting sessions led by Peter Simic.

Tour of Spain & Portugal 2008

DAY 13

Thursday 2 October

LOGRONO

Visits continue with vineyard and cellar tours, discussions with winemakers and informative tasting sessions led by Peter Simic, followed by a *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Dinner with local wines matched by Peter to regional food.

DAY 14

Friday 3 October

BARCELONA

After breakfast we travel through the eastern part of the

Rioja region before continuing on to Barcelona at the centre of the Catalonian wine region. Our journey will take us through the impressive city of Zaragoza and to Catalonia for a late-afternoon vineyard visit. Catalonia produces fine, elegant whites and the world's second most popular sparkling, Cava, mainly from three local varieties, macabeo, xarel-lo and parellada, and high-quality reds from cabernet sauvignon and tempranillo. The vines are grown in several major regions south of Barcelona:

Penedes, Conca de Barbera, Alella, Tarragona, Piorato and Terra Alta. Local restaurants will be recommended for dinner.

DAY 15

Saturday 4 October

BARCELONA

A full day of vineyard visits in Catalonia. Peter Simic will introduce winemakers and lead the group on cellars tours and tasting sessions. Local restaurants will be recommended for dinner.

DAY 16

Sunday 5 October

BARCELONA

After breakfast we will tour the main sights of Barcelona in the final *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Lunch at a highly acclaimed Barcelona restaurant. Peter Simic will match a carefully selected range of fine Spanish wines to an outstanding menu. The evening will be at members' leisure.

DAY 17

Monday 6 October

DEPARTURE

After breakfast the tour group will be transferred to Barcelona airport to join the flight to Australia.

DAY 18

Tuesday 7 October

En route to Australia.

DAY 19

Wednesday 8 October

Early morning arrival in Australia.

TOUR DETAILS

The price for the 14-night tour is \$9200 per person twin share. Single supplement is \$1375 per person. The land-only price for the tour (no flights) is \$7525 per person twin share. International and general travel taxes and fuel surcharges are additional; as at November 2007 they were approximately \$489 per person. Please call for business class fares and for fares on other airlines.

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- Return economy class air travel from east coast Australian capitals to Madrid and return from Barcelona. Please call for other departure cities. Long-haul travel will be on Singapore Airlines. Passengers will be able to extend their stay in Europe and stop over in Singapore at no extra airfare cost.
- Accommodation in three- and four-star hotels with private facilities. Hotel taxes and service charges.
- A full continental breakfast daily and four special *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Lunches or Dinners.
- Entrances, tasting fees and special services at vineyards in each of the regions visited.



great food and wine

We have found that tour members get a lot more out of their holiday if they are free to choose their own lunch and dinner arrangements on some of the tour days. It provides the opportunity to try out local restaurants – which is essential for getting to know the locals – and to eat lightly or informally on some occasions. Peter Simic and the tour manager will recommend restaurants for each of these flexible-eating meals. Full continental breakfast daily and four special *Winestate* Magazine Celebration Lunches/Dinners – at which we celebrate the food and wine of each region – are included in the tour package.



very special experiences

Following the great success of previous wine tours to France, Italy and Spain, Peter Simic and the staff at *Winestate Magazine* have arranged for a series of very special visits in the historic and impressive fine wine areas of Spain and Portugal. We will visit vineyards that are rarely open to the public and sample special vintages and meet people responsible for their skillful production. It will be a unique time to meet the characters and expand our knowledge in most enjoyable and pleasant surroundings.

Vino & Vistas



- Sightseeing and general entrance fees as detailed in the itinerary.
- Tour leadership by Peter Simic, editor/publisher of *Winestate Magazine*.
- Tour management by Travelrite International Pty Ltd, with an experienced staff member travelling with the group.
- A Travelrite International travel bag.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- Passport and visa fees.
- International airport and general travel taxes.
- Travel insurance.
- Sightseeing and general expenses not specified in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature.
- Additional travel arrangements - these will be quoted for separately.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND BOOKING CONDITIONS

TOUR OPERATOR.

Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour operator working with *Winestate Publishing Pty Ltd*.

TOUR PRICES.

The tour prices are based on airfare, general transport, accommodation and other costs at foreign exchange rates at 29 November 2007. Travelrite International reserves the right to alter the tour price or modify the tour if any of these factors change, giving any passenger who has booked the right to withdraw and receive a full refund of monies paid. No alteration to the tour price will be made within 60 days of departure from Australia.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS.

A deposit of \$500 per person is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 60 days before departure.

CHANGES.

After confirmation of travel arrangements, one change to travel arrangements will be provided free. Subsequent changes will incur a fee of \$25 each.

CANCELLATIONS.

Cancellation advised more than 60 days from the date of departure from Australia will incur a cancellation fee of \$300 per person. Cancellations advised 60 days or less from the date of departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Travel insurance is strongly recommended to cover the cost of cancellation fees that could result from a death in the family, illness, etc.

MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS.

The tour has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked on the tour 60 days before departure. Travelrite International reserves the right to cancel the tour if insufficient passengers have booked by this time, giving a full refund of all monies paid, or offering arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified price.

REFUNDS.

The tour is based on arrangements that do not allow for any refunds in respect of sightseeing, accommodation, meals, airfare or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

All passengers need a valid passport. Passengers holding other than an Australian passport should check requirements with Travelrite International.

Vino & Vistas

BAGGAGE.

Economy class passengers qualify for a 20kg airline baggage allowance.

CHANGES TO THE TOUR ITINERARY.

Travelrite International reserves the right to change the tour itinerary to fit in with operational requirements. Any change will be replaced with similar arrangements with an equal or greater value.

RESPONSIBILITY.

Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078), Licence

No 30858) is the tour organiser. Travelrite International acts only as agent for passengers in making arrangements with carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result, we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule, or any other events that are beyond our



comfortable tour hotels

We have carefully selected well-located three- and four-star hotels (top class or very comfortable Michelin ratings) that provide good value for money. All the hotels have clean, comfortable rooms with private facilities. Some will provide an enjoyable experience of hotels 'European style', rather than the uniformity of standardised modern hotels.

direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, terrorism, flood, fire. Civil disturbance, acts of God, acts of government, or any other authorities, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial actions. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the tour. The contract between passenger and Travelrite International shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria.

HOW TO BOOK

Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a deposit of \$500.00 per person to: Travelrite International Pty Ltd 298 Whitehorse Road Balwyn 3103 Victoria

Further information and booking forms can be obtained by telephoning Travelrite International Pty Ltd on (03) 9836 2522 or toll-free on 1800 630 343.

Travelrite International Pty Ltd ABN 64 005 817 078.

License No 30858

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ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL

Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a well-established travel company that has been operating in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for 26 years. It is fully licensed and has two fully accredited IATA offices: Heathmont and Balwyn. It directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international tour and transport operators. Travelrite International is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA).