

HARBOUR

A natural harbour

The harbour of Sant Carles de la Ràpita offers a port for cruise ships.

It has all the essential installations, services and necessary accesses for small Mediterranean cruises to moor in the Alfacs Bay, one of the most emblematic natural areas of the Mediterranean.

Its strategic location allows cruise passengers to enjoy this remarkable and little-known area. Being only 81 nautical miles from the city of Valencia, 50 from Tarragona and a mere 125 miles from Palma de Mallorca, means that this port makes for a unique and ideal stop over point.



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Photos: Patronat Turisme Diputació Tarragona, Mariano Cebolla, Santi Martorell, Manel Pons, R. López-Monné, Turisme Peniscola, Turisme Morella.



DELTA EBRE PORT



THE UNBEATEN PATH

THE EBRO DELTA & LA RÀPITA

The most important natural area in the Western Mediterranean

The Ebro Delta Natural Park with its exceptionally rich variety of fauna and flora is one of the most important wetland areas in the Mediterranean. Three hundred species of birds live here with a total population of over 50,000 birds.

On the edge of the Delta, the seafaring town of Sant Carles de la Ràpita is bathed by the calm waters of the Alfacs Bay. Visitors can enjoy sun-soaked beaches or discover the outstanding natural diversity of the Delta whether on foot, by bike, or by boat.



Traditional fishing activities (in town)



Punta de la Banya Nature Reserve (in town)



Rice fields (in town)



SHOREXCURSIONS

A taste of the Ebro Delta

Sant Carles de la Ràpita, on the south of the Ebro Delta, has the largest fishing fleet in Catalonia. The fishing activities of this seaport have led to it becoming known as the gastronomic capital of southern Catalonia. The most well-known and appreciated local delicacy is the triple-grooved shrimp. The Alfacs Bay is also one of the most important areas for mussel and oyster production in Catalonia. There is a spectacular array of delicious dishes based on local products which also include rice from the Ebro Delta, olive oil from the Montsià region, and wines from the Terra Alta – all bearing the Designation of Origin quality label.



Between two natural parks

The Ebro is one of the longest rivers in the Iberian peninsula. As it reaches the Mediterranean it forms the backbone of a region enclosed by the sea and the mountain ranges of the "Els Ports" Natural Park.

This area, known as the Terres de l'Ebre, offers the chance to discover a memorable natural landscape as well as a vivid insight into the three cultures which have lived here – the Moors, the Jews, and the Christians. Bicycle touring, hiking and kayaking are just three of the activities which can bring you into contact with this diverse natural area.



Discovering the Terres de l'Ebre

The region of the lower Ebro, known as Terres de l'Ebre, and in particular the town of Horta de Sant Joan, inspired Pablo Picasso to paint his first cubist works of art. This region is also home to widely-acclaimed wines such as those of the Terra Alta – honoured with the Designation of Origin quality label, they are considered by the "Peñin" wine guide to be among the best in Spain. Further towards the coast you can find the pre-historic cave paintings of Ull-decona. Over eight thousand years old, these paintings have been listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Other jewels to be discovered in the Terres de l'Ebre are to be found in Tortosa, the largest town and administrative capital of this region. Here you can visit the Moorish castle, La Suda, and the 16th century Royal Colleges.



A historic setting

Morella castle is one of the most stunning castles in the Iberian Peninsula. Narrow streets in the old town, full of small craft-shops, wind their way up to this spectacular construction with its amazing views of the mountain ranges which surround the town. Another emblematic castle nearby is that of Peñíscola. Pope Benet XIII lived in this 14th century castle which perches on a cliff top, seventy metres above the sea. Visiting Tarragona you can walk on and around 2,000-year-old Roman ruins. Founded by the Romans, who named it Tàrraco, this town was one of the most important ones on the Mediterranean at that time. This impressive legacy of Roman history is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.



The Mussel Route (in town)



The wines of the Terra Alta (53 min)



Local cooking (in town)



Sailing activities (in town)



World Heritage Site cave paintings (28 min)



Bicycle touring (0-50 km)



Eco-cultural visits to the Delta



The land that inspired Pablo Picasso (1h 5 min)



Peñíscola (40 min)



Roman Tarragona (56 min)



Morella (1h 10 min)