

Valesa Cultural Services

Spain · Portugal · Morocco · France

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WHAT'S NEW

2017-2018

VIPS: Our new internal system, launching this Fall! Front office system designed for faster and better client proposals, centralized information for better service, easier payment methods and more.



FRANCE! Finally our debut across the northern border... but only within easy reach of Spain, of course! Our approach to travel planning is always experiential, as we strive to meet your needs and offer only the best guides and the most authentic, hands-on experiences around.

We believe a regional approach to travel offers the best insight into each area, regardless of where current borders may lie. The French Basque country is a beautiful, small area just 20-30 minutes from San Sebastian (where only 20% of the total Basque population lives). Different recent history, cuisine and language have each left their mark to explain the many differences found across the border though in fact there is even more in common among the small, down to earth population. Obviously visitors who see both sides of the Basque Country are guaranteed a richer and more complete Basque regional experience. Ask us for our sample itineraries!

ILTM in CANNES- Come see us in the Spanish pavilion downstairs, where we will be scheduling appointments with a few of our favorite **Basque partners**.

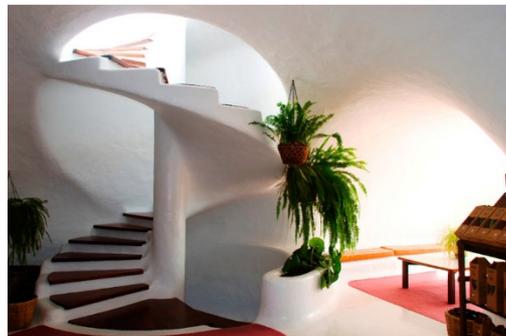
SPECIALIZED FAM TRIPS: Our latest and greatest.... No longer just for generalists! Check out our special interest trips for the most specialized advisors. Having completed “Spain Best Food & Wine” 1 & 2” with great results, we are now offering our first ever “Family Travel Fam” in Spain this Fall. Fingers crossed for such demand that we must offer a second one! There are 2 spots left on this upcoming Family Fam, so please request your application if you are interested. Stay tuned for 2018 invitations coming this Fall!

UPCOMING WEBINAR: Food & Wine Across Spain & Portugal on September 27th. Join us to learn the ins and outs of local customs, take note of our favorite tips for eating with kids or special diets, and also our favorite dishes around the Iberian Peninsula and more.

All clients have some level of interest in eating and drinking when they travel; our webinar will address their needs from the most popular ones (restaurants!) to the most specialized and in-depth experiences available.



THE ISLANDS of SPAIN & PORTUGAL: We have been serving Virtuoso Voyages since its inception more than 20 years ago, as well as many other cruise clients and top American groups on the islands. The Azores, Madeira, Balearic and Canary Islands.... have become a must for groups such as YPO, National Aboretum, Pacific Horticultural Society, Stanford and Yale Universities, National Trust for Historic Preservation and more. Ask us for suggestions for your client.... Surprising landscapes, different cultures, cuisine and history in each island, with unusual nature and observatory visits, mild weather and friendly people as part of these very distinct islands.



NEW EXPERIENCES- ask us for our favorites! Here is a sampling of the latest and greatest:

-French Basque Country! History, cuisine, wine, villages, walking and biking and surfing and golfing and cooking and more. All with the best local guide.

-More cooking classes in Spain....Seville and San Sebastian and Bidarte all boast new experiences that clients will love! And each class offers special advantages for different client needs, whether you need to include a market visit or you prefer a shorter class or you love technology for the latest restaurant tricks. And we have personally tried them all too!

-Meet our newest type of specialist- a Gastro-Botanist. Take a nature walk in the woods, or along the Costa Brava, or the Pyrenees Mountains or even in the city.... Learn about local gastronomy and where/how it is found in nature by picking mushrooms, flowers and other plants all used in the local cuisine. City visits offer a historical view of nature and how things got to their current state, also fascinating and great for kids and foodies. This visit combines perfectly with our private chef in Girona for a meal with cooking demonstration, or a wine pairing with flowers, and more...

-Hot Air Balloons and Helicopters.... Very special experiences to wow clients and offer a great overview of the area, peaceful and memorable experiences. Whether it be the largest hot air balloon in Spain to see the mountains and Barcelona in the background, or a day by helicopter to see castles of Segovia or visit a special winery in the Priorat area... these moments are the most unforgettable.

-Winemaking with the house enologist/ winemaker at a top winery in La Rioja. Wine pairing with flowers used in Catalanian cooking.

-The best public and private gardens, for affinity groups or families.

-Prehistoric cave paintings and great museum visit for beautiful and educational visit just a full day excursion from Bilbao.

CONGRATULATIONS JESSICA!



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