

Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales Wine Tour 2019

Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales Wine Tour Highlights

- Discover the distinctively different areas of Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales with their wide diversity of top quality reds, whites and rosés.
- Learn about the importance of the Tempranillo grape and understand how its expression in this region is so different to Rioja. Explore Crianza, Reserva and Gran Reserva styles.
- Meet a wonderful diversity of winemakers and owners at a contrasting mix of estates.
- Based in the beautiful city of Valladolid with its vibrant tapas scene.
- Comprehensive tastings at every visit, and four fabulous tasting lunches or dinners

[Read about the hugely successful tour I ran in 2018](#)

Tour Dates

19th-23rd June 2019 -*this tour is nearly full so please [contact me](#) to check availability*

Outline Itinerary

Wednesday

From the Meeting Point at Madrid Airport (see Flight Transfers below) we will take a coach to the Gareus hotel in Valladolid. From the hotel we will take taxis to the "Atypikal" restaurant where we will have an informal tasting dinner with fabulous wines from the Belondrade estate in Rueda.

Thursday

The first full day of the tour takes us to Rueda and Toro. Verdejo is the key grape in Rueda and we will see the highest quality at Bodega Menade – a leading organic estate. From Rueda we head west to the historic Toro wine region and its 1000 year wine history. A tasting lunch at the family owned Farina estate awaits us. Dinner at leisure.

Friday

We devote ourselves to Ribera del Duero and the stunning range of styles and quality produced within this small region. Our first visit will be to the family run winery of Tomás Postigo who produces very small quantities of exceptionally high quality wine. From Postigo we head to Bodegas Valduerdo, one of the top estates in Ribera del Duero. Here we will have an extensive tasting combined with lunch. Dinner (if you need it) at leisure.

Saturday

The lesser known area of Cigales is our destination and is sure to be a revelation. Our first visit is to La Legua with its fascinating history and superb reds and rosés, and we will have a tasting and tapas at the beautiful Bodegas Concejo.

Final night dinner together at a top local restaurant.

Sunday

The tour ends after breakfast. We will provide a transfer to Madrid airport (see Flight Transfers

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below).

Note: the Itinerary may be changed at Tim Syrad Wine Tours discretion so as to facilitate the smooth running of the tour and to accommodate great opportunities for visits or tastings that may become available.

Key Tour Information*

*** The Key Tour Information specifies what you should expect from the tour, no matter how far ahead you book. As additional information is published on the website, it will be advised to clients who have booked and the daily itinerary will be finalised in the weeks leading up to the Start Date.**

[Download the Key Tour Information as a pdf.](#)

Pricing

- £1,049 per person based on 2 people sharing a double/twin room.
- £100 supplement for single occupancy of a double room.
- £100 discount for bookings made before 1st January 2019, and paid for 8 weeks before departure.

Price includes:

- Transport from Meeting Point at Madrid Airport to Valladolid on Wednesday 19th June, and from Valladolid to the Departure Point at Madrid Airport on Sunday 23rd June.
- 5 days (including arrival and departure days)/4 nights bed and breakfast in good quality hotel. On this tour we will stay at the Gareus Hotel in central Valladolid.
- Coach for all activities in the itinerary.
- Three full days of visits and tastings.
- Six visits/tastings, including wineries in Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales.
- Approximately 12 wines will be tasted each day.
- Four lunches/dinners with local wines.
- All local taxes and service charges.
- The services of Tim Syrad as your Wine Tour manager and Wine Guide.

It is a condition of my accepting a booking that you will take out appropriate travel insurance - please see our Terms and Conditions Section 8.

[Terms and Conditions are available here](#) or on request.

Please note flights are not included in the price. Many of my clients prefer to extend their holiday before or after my tours, so I let people make their own flight arrangements.

Flight Transfers

Our meeting Point is Madrid Airport - there are many flights to Madrid from all major UK airports

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and I will arrange a coach to our hotel to meet flights scheduled to land at Madrid prior to 1400. I will arrange a coach from Valladolid to catch return flights departing Madrid after 1400 on Sunday.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss travel options, for example flying to or from a different airport or making the journey by rail or driving or joining us at the hotel. I cannot arrange travel for you, but I can advise on what might work best.

How to book this tour

Please contact me by phone or email, or use the enquiry form on the [Contact page](#) on the website to check availability. If I confirm a place is available, please complete the [booking form](#) and send it to me with your deposit. A deposit of £100 is taken at booking to reserve your place, the balance must be paid 8 weeks before the tour starts.

If you don't have travel insurance arranged for the dates of the tour at the time you are booking you will need to provide me with details (name of insurer, policy number, 24 hour emergency telephone numbers) before the tour starts.

Once I have confirmed a tour is proceeding I advise clients to arrange flights and confirm travel arrangements to me. **Please do not arrange flights before I have confirmed your place and that the tour is proceeding.**

More about my Wine tour to Ribera del Duero, Rueda, Toro and Cigales

Following our tours in 2012 we returned to this fabulous region in 2018, and our tour was rated extremely highly by everyone who went - [read the tour report](#). Valladolid is a wonderfully accessible city with a lovely main square, a vibrant tapas scenes and a number of great restaurants. All the main wine zones are in relatively easy reach so we keep the time in the coach to a minimum thus maximising our time at the wine estates.

Ribera del Duero has established itself relatively recently and has only reached prominence in the last twenty years. Often compared to Rioja because both regions use Tempranillo as the principal grape, there are a number of differences. Production is much smaller and there is a significantly lower hectareage of vines. High quality has always been the focus and a price war with Rioja has been wisely avoided. A highlight of our 2012 tours was our visit to Valduero, and a number of us clubbed together to buy a barrel of wine which included a tasting dinner at the winery, for which we returned in 2017!

Rueda is another zone that has come to prominence relatively recently. In the early 1970's it

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was languishing economically and production was dominated by cooperatives and a few private producers. Very little was exported. Everything changed when the famous Marques de Riscal estate arrived in Rueda searching for a suitable white wine to add to its portfolio. They discovered that Sauvignon Blanc thrived alongside the local Verdejo grape. Success with Sauvignon Blanc saw a revival in the region and this spurred a drive forward in Verdejo quality. Rueda has been transformed into a highly successful white wine area.

Toro is one of Spain's historic wine regions with records going back many centuries. Because of its continental climate, low rainfall and high temperatures, Toro has always produced intense, strong red wines. Modern winemaking has managed to tame the style a little bit but don't look for anything delicate!

Cigales reputation is for its Rosado wines, which have been traditional in the region for centuries, and are considered the best rosés in Spain. The best Rosados are cask aged for at least 6 months and sold as Crianza. In the sleepy town of Cigales an array of 'luceras' can be seen rising from the earth, each showing the location of an ancient cellar. More recently interest has grown in making complex red wines from vineyards with older vines that have escaped improvement efforts.

As you would expect in Spain, the food is hearty but this region is endowed with high quality restaurants and we will have great opportunities to match the wines we are discovering with innovative local dishes.



Ribera del Duero vineyards



Lunch on tour in 2012



Rosado in the vineyards in Cigales

More about Tim Syrad Wine Tours

Since 2001 I have escorted over 100 groups of people on tours to wine regions in Europe and the New World. My clients keep coming back year after year because in addition to tastings and visits we really do meet the people who make the wine and tend the vines.

I pride myself in offering tours that are informative, imaginative and enjoyable. I keep group

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sizes manageable so that we spend our time appreciating our visits, not getting on and off the bus or queuing for the loos! I personally escort all of my tours, and I ensure as much as possible of the money my clients pay is spent on great food and wine, and good hotels.

I believe you can combine appreciating fabulous wine with relaxation and laughter, which is why so many of my clients come on tour with me every year. There is a friendly and welcoming atmosphere on every tour from the start, and I am proud that many friendships have been made between the people who come on tour with me.

For more information [about me](#), [my next tours](#), and [previous tours](#) I have run, and to [find out what my clients](#) say (some of whom have been coming on tour with me since 2001) please explore the website.

I hope I have inspired you to consider this tour, please do not hesitate to [contact me](#) to find out more.

By phone (020 7060 4529)

Or email (tim@timsyradwinetours.com)

Or use the online enquiry form on the [Contact page](#)