

Deluxe Design & Rioja Wine Package

5 days / 4 nights
Departs Monday – Saturday

For the traveler wanting to experience the new architecture of La Rioja and Bilbao, this package is for you, mixing new, innovative designs by Frank Gehry and Javier Mariscal with the wines of La Rioja, this unique Avanti self-drive program offers you elegance and comfort with cellar visits and tastings of fine Spanish vintages in the most fascinating settings on the planet.



The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, designed by American architect Frank Gehry, is a highlight of any visit to Northern Spain.

Your 4-night Deluxe Design & Rioja Wine package includes

In Madrid	In La Rioja	In Bilbao
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 night 4★+ ME Reina Victoria• One 3-course dinner• Daily breakfast• Hotel taxes & service fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 nights 5★ Marques de Riscal• Lunch at the Museum of Wine Culture• 2 cellar visits• Daily breakfast• Hotel taxes & service fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 night 5★ Gran Domine• Daily breakfast• Hotel taxes & service fees
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5-day intermediate manual car rental• Maps and driving directions		

Day 1 ~ Arrive Madrid: Check into your hotel, the 4★ Superior ME Reina Victoria in time to freshen up before your included dinner at one of Madrid's finest restaurants. (Accommodation, Madrid)

- **Dinner at Restaurant La Capilla de la Bolsa** Please arrive on your own to the restaurant (next door to your hotel) by 8:30 p.m. for your reservations and a special dinner at a very modern restaurant located in an ancient church connected with the mysterious and legendary Knights Templar. (Please present your voucher prior to ordering; gratuities not included.)

Day 2 ~ Madrid to La Rioja: After breakfast at your hotel, pick up your rental car at a location convenient to your hotel for your drive through the beauty of Spain to La Rioja. (Breakfast, Madrid; accommodation, La Rioja)



(Please present voucher prior to ordering. Does not include gratuity.)

- **Visit of Dinastia Vivanco with lunch** The Museum of the Culture of Wine (Dinastia Vivanco, above) offers a stroll through the history and culture of wine featuring grape vines including an extensive wine garden. Your lunch menu at the museum restaurant includes regional cuisine and wines, mineral water and coffee.

Day 3 ~ La Rioja: After breakfast, you have cellar tours and tastings set up at two of Europe's finest wineries, both of which feature remarkable and breakthrough architecture. (Breakfast & accommodation, La Rioja)

Next page, please



On this exclusive Avanti package, you have a visit scheduled for your third day to the Ysios bodega in La Rioja Alavesa, a stunning winemaking facility nestled in the foothills of the Sierra de Cantabria mountain range. Named after the Egyptian goddess of magic who oversaw winemaking, the building is integrated into the surrounding landscape.

- **Marques de Riscal wine cellar visit** Founded in 1858, this is one of the oldest wineries in Rioja and one of the first to introduce French winemaking techniques. Currently, the winery is being remodeled to a design (right), by Frank Gehry, best known for his Bilbao Guggenheim Museum. When opened, this flamboyant building will house a 14-room luxury hotel, a 120-seat restaurant and a health club. (Please show your voucher upon arrival to the Marques de Riscal wine cellar.)



- **Ysios wine cellar in Haro** The Ysios Winery, located just north of the classic wine-growing region of La Rioja in the province of Álava, enjoys growing conditions that promise high-quality wines. The newly planted vineyards (160 acres of tempranillo grapes) produce a wine (pictured, left) that is “ruby red with brick-colored tones, a persistent smooth bouquet with a hint of dried fruit”. (Present your voucher upon arrival for your guided tour and wine tasting.)



Day 4 ~ La Rioja to Bilbao: Tonight you have accommodation at the fabulous *El Gran Hotel Domine* (right) facing the Guggenheim Museum. This is a true five-star property in a contemporary concept infected by its neighbor. Designed and decorated by Javier Mariscal and Fernando Salas, the hotel is a “colourist microcosmos” that warmly greets whoever enters, whether for a coffee, a meal in its restaurant or a night’s luxurious stay. (Breakfast, La Rioja; accommodation, Bilbao)



Day 5 ~ Depart Bilbao: After breakfast, you depart, you appetite for design and fine wine sated, for your next Avanti destination. (Breakfast, Bilbao)

Driving distances and times

Madrid to La Rioja ... 230 miles ... 5:00 hours **La Rioja to Bilbao** ... 85 miles ... 1:55 hours

For information and reservations, please see your professional travel agent.

Agency label or business card here

