



## HOW TO GET THE MOST OF THE CORKLANDS?

Nature-lovers, gourmets and lovers of history and traditions, families and children, older people and even the most adventurous... there really is something for everyone in **this unique ecosystem.**

**RETECORK**  
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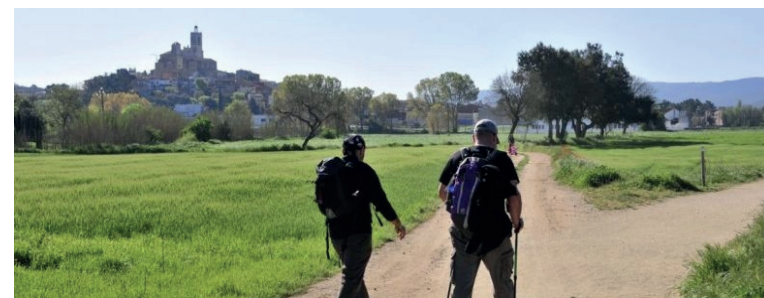


WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



## ACTIVE TOURISM

Each and every one of the corklands offers a wide offer of active tourism and are ideal for all kinds of outdoor activity. **Hiking, mountain biking or horseback riding** all take on a leading role in these areas with **their network of tracks and marked trails** enabling the visitor to discover the characteristic landscape of each area and see their historical, cultural and ethnological heritage.



Green cycleway. Photo: Marc Sureda



Mountain bike trails and signposted itineraries. Photo: RETECORK

## ECOTOURISM



Visit to the extraction of the bark from cork oaks in Llofriu. Photo: RETECORK

The cork territories offer a unique experience of habitats and their natural resources.

Three of the highlights are:

- Birdwatching
- The roaring of the stag
- Stripping the cork

## ETHNOLOGICAL TOURISM

The corklands are mostly rural communities where **a wide range of traditions, customs and culture are found.**

To understand the relationship between man and his rural way of life follow the paths that take in terraces, ice stores, farms, kilns, traditional water mills, coolers, mines, etc.

**Consult the relevant visitor centres for more information.**

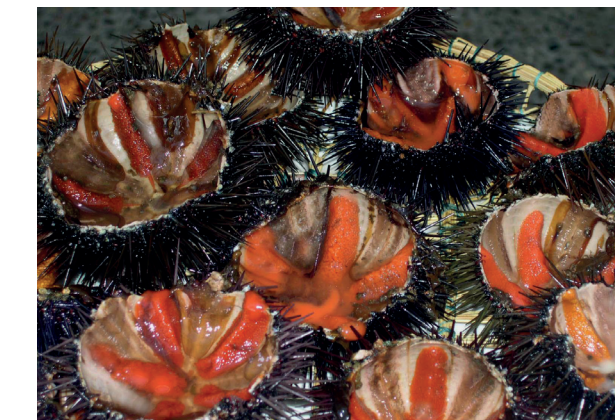
## CULTURAL TOURISM

Most boroughs have archaeological remains, burial sites and megaliths. As well as Iberian villages, castles, walls, farmhouses, medieval mills, architectural remains of the Arab occupation, dams, aqueducts, etc., **all in areas of outstanding natural beauty.**

Once the cork industry got under way in the eighteenth century and prosperity arrived, the towns were adorned with stately homes and modernist buildings.

## CULINARY TOURISM

These towns can be proud of their wide ranging, **high-quality cuisine** true to the precepts of the Mediterranean diet using local produce.



La Garoinada. Photo: Lluís Maimí



Visits to wineries.  
Photo: Lluís Català

Visitors can explore many important aspects of Mediterranean cuisine in the cork producing territories by attending **workshops or guided tours relating to beekeeping, olive oil or wine routes, not to mention the multitude of gastronomic events that are held in the area throughout the year.**

## TOURING

A popular way to uncover the charm of the corklands is **by combining driving with walking, cycling or horse riding to visit selected places of interest.**

**Thematic routes** that explore some aspect related to history, economic activity, local produce, natural heritage, etc., are examples of routes that take in the corklands.



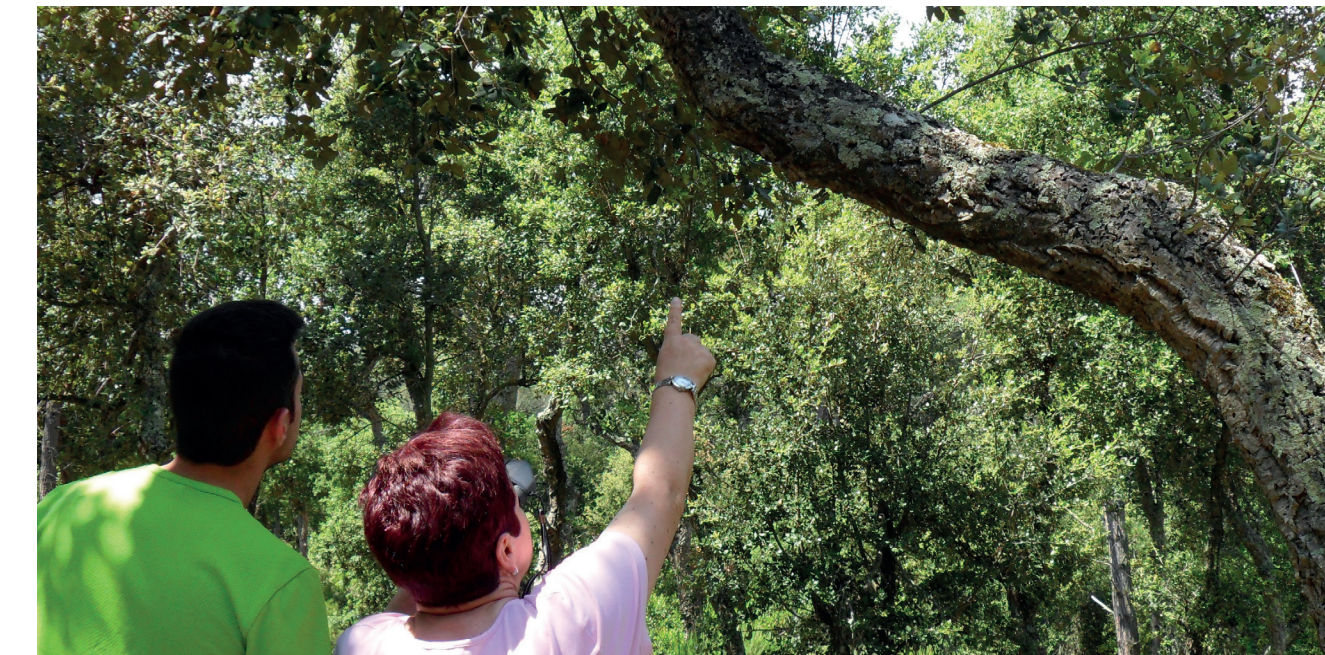
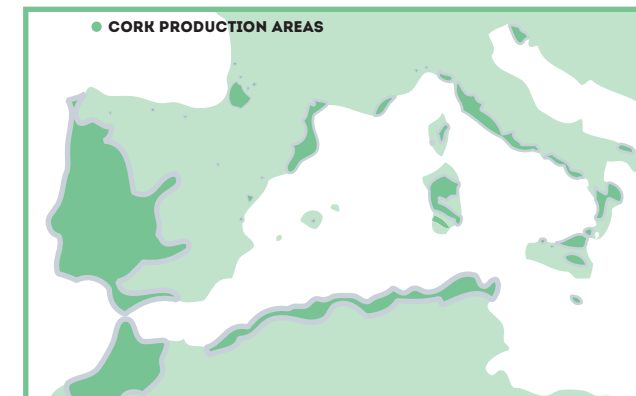
## DISCOVERING THE CORKLANDS

[www.visitcorkterritories.co.uk](http://www.visitcorkterritories.co.uk)

TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE  
AND TAKE A TRIP ROUND  
THE WORLD OF CORK!

## SPECIAL FEATURES

- Reducing the risk of fire
- Providing a bio-diverse natural reserve
- Slowing desertification
- Playing an important role in the water cycle
- Retaining CO<sub>2</sub> and contributing to slow climate change



Birdwatching, Les Gavarres. Photo: RETECORK

It will be a long and varied journey, rich and rewarding, which will give you a unique insight into a diverse geographical phenomenon, what a magnificent way to spend your holidays and leisure time!



Sierra de San Pedro. Photo: Commonwealth of Sierra de San Pedro

The cork industry is responsible for and has created **a particular landscape encompassing unique villages**: in the local culture, the town lay-out and the traditional architecture it is easy to recognize the influence of this craft. To understand this ancient forestry craft feel free to visit any of the following **municipalities** in Spain: Hornachuelos, Los Barrios, Sestrica, Navahermosa, Muelas del Pan, Agullana, Calonge, Cassà de la Selva, Llagostera, Palafrugell, Sant Celoni, Santa Coloma de Farners, Tordera, Eslida, San Vicente de Alcántara, or the townships of the Commonwealth of Sierra de San Pedro.



Piedrabuena Castle, San Vicente de Alcántara. Photo: Susana Expósito Amaro

The cork territories are exclusive to a particular part of the Western Mediterranean and are only found in seven countries in the world: **Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.**

These territories have **an exceptional surroundings, rich cultural heritage and the chance to do a wide variety of activities there**. In addition, the conservation of cork woods is of great importance as their existence has beneficial implications on the surrounding environment and the planet by:



All of these townships are located in the vicinity of **areas with a naturally strong presence of cork oaks**, some already well known landmarks such as the Natural Park of Doñana, but all of which **offer a multitude of possibilities**. The main ones are: the Los Alcornocales Nature Reserve, the Sierra de Hornachuelos Nature Reserve, the Cabañeros National Park, the Nature Reserve of National Interest in Albera, the Les Gavarres Nature Reserve, the Montseny Nature Reserve, the Montnegre and El Corredor Nature Reserve, the Sierra de Espadán Nature Reserve, the Sierra de San Pedro (Area of Regional Importance) and the International Nature Reserve of the Tagus River.



THE CONCEPT OF CORK  
PRODUCTIONS GOES FAR BEYOND  
WHAT IS STRICTLY  
A FOREST INDUSTRY.

In the area, nature reserves and municipalities have set up cultural facilities such as **museums and interpretation centres** through which we can better understand the **reality of this practice and what it means for the landscape and the everyday activity surrounding it**.

Visit to the extraction of the bark from cork oaks in Los Alcornocales Nature Reserve. Photo: GDR de Los Alcornocales