



## **Grape Escapes debuts Spain's latest winery**

Wine enthusiasts can be the pick of the bunch as the first visitors to Europe's latest winery, thanks to new tours to Spain organised by specialist operator Grape Escapes.

The state of the art Portia winery in Spain's Ribera del Duero has been designed by the renowned Foster and Partners, with Lord Foster himself due to officially open it on October 28. Grape Escapes' first visit to the winery is the following day.

The operator is best known for its well-established tours to Champagne and other key regions of France but has now added Spain to its itineraries. Located in Spain's northern plateau, Ribera del Duero is about a 1.5-hour drive from Madrid and is noted for production of world-class red wines.

Massive investment in wine production in the area has included the development of the Portia winery, which features glass-encased viewing decks allowing visitors to easily see different aspects of the wine production.

Grape Escapes' first two-night wine-tasting tour of the region runs from Thursday, October 28. Travellers are free to explore the area on arrival, with guided tours of three wineries scheduled for the Friday.

Travelling in a luxury air conditioned mini-coach, they first visit a modern winery to experience the full winemaking process, following by a visit to a second winery to explore the vines themselves. A gourmet three-course lunch, accompanied by a selection of fine local wines, is followed by the visit to the Portia winery.

Grape Escapes offers the tour as a ground arrangement only, allowing travellers to make their own travel plans by road, train or air, or combining it with a longer visit in Spain. Equally, Grape Escapes can tailor-make the tour and extend it to suit travellers' requirements.

The two-night package is priced from £284 per person, based on two people sharing a twin/double room in the superior-grade Hotel Ribera Del Duero (bed and breakfast), the all-day tour, wine tastings and lunch. Alternative hotel options are available.

Places on this inaugural tour are limited and for more information go to [www.grapeescapes.net](http://www.grapeescapes.net) or call 08456 430860.

**ENDS**

#### **About Grape Escapes**

Grape Escapes is a specialist in travel to wine regions of Spain and France offering a selection of gourmet wine-tasting weekends in Ribera del Duero, Champagne, Burgundy, Bordeaux, the Loire and the Rhone. Catering for all food and wine lovers from the serious connoisseur to enthusiastic beginner, Grape Escapes' small group tours average just 16 guests and blend tastings at prestigious bodegas, chateaux and Champagne houses with more intimate invitations as the guests of smaller family-run estates. Grape Escapes also offers longer tailor-made self-drive itineraries, private group tours for friends or social groups such as hen weekends and weddings. [www.grapeescapes.net](http://www.grapeescapes.net)

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