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**Make a Grape Escape to discover Spain's emerging wine region -
Ribera Del Duero**

Discover one of Europe's emerging wine regions, Ribera Del Duero, on an exclusive new two-night tour launched by specialist wine-tasting operator Grape Escapes – and be among the first to visit leading British architect Lord Foster's first winery, Portia.

Located just two hours' drive from Madrid, in Spain's northern plateau, Ribera Del Duero has been making waves in the wine world since the 1990's and is now recognised as a premier source of world-class red wine.

Home to arguably one of Spain's most prestigious wines – the Vega Sicilia – the Ribera Del Duero region is characterised by its flat, rocky terrain, where soils deposited by the Duero river provide ideal growing conditions for the Tempranillo grape, known locally as *Tinto Fino*.

Grape Escapes' new trip features a full day guided tour to three of the region's most famous wineries located around Peñafiel and Aranda de Duero.

The trip highlight is an exclusive visit to the spectacular Bodegas Portia, a newly opened winery owned by the Martinez Family. As one of the great family names in Spanish winemaking, and best known for their Faustino Rioja, they commissioned Lord Foster of leading British architects, Foster + Partners. The Portia winery in Ribera del Duero is the first winery in the architect's impressive portfolio of buildings, which include the new Wembley Stadium and 'The Gherkin'. After a full tour of this unique establishment, visitors will sample Portia wines and a selection of other international award winning wines from the Faustino group, which are popular choices from the wine lists of Spain's Michelin starred restaurants.

Grape Escapes' new Ribera Del Duero tour takes place from 28 – 30 October and costs from just £284 per person. The price includes two nights' hotel accommodation on a twin share basis with breakfast, a full-day guided tour to three wineries in the Ribera del Duero wine region, and three-course gourmet lunch at top local restaurant to sample regional specialty "lechazo asada" - suckling lamb roasted in a traditional stone oven until deliciously crispy - with accompanying local wines.

Grape Escapes can also arrange tailor made trips to Ribera Del Duero for individuals, groups or corporate groups

The package does not include travel from the UK to the hotel base in Ribera Del Duero. Direct flights operate to Madrid Gatwick (British Airways and Ryanair), Luton (Easyjet), Liverpool (Easyjet), Stansted (Ryanair), Dublin (Ryanair) and Bristol (Easyjet). Ryanair also operates flights to Valladolid from Stansted to Valladolid on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

For more information or to book call 08456 430 860 or visit www.grapeescapes.net

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About Grape Escapes

Grape Escapes is a specialist in travel to the French wine regions offering a selection of gourmet wine-tasting weekends in 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 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

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