



**Horseback trip** through the mountains of Northern Spain, traversing three different protected areas: Valles de Babia y Luna, Somiedo and Las Ubiñas-La Mesa. A little-known non-massified mountainous area, passing through **alpine meadows and lakes, steep gorges, and old forests where bears and wolves still roam.**

The route goes through a mosaic of landscapes that combines **wild nature and traditional uses**, free range cattle and horses, historic trails and **ancient villages** high in the mountains. **A remote area that still retains its authenticity.** We will stay in small rural hotels and enjoy the **famous traditional cuisine** of this area.



## Day 1.

### MADRID – SAN EMILIANO

Pick up in Madrid and transfer by road ( aprox. 5 hr) to the town of San Emiliano. We will make a stop midway in **Leon**, to admire its **gothic cathedral**, and have lunch. In the evening we'll have a **briefing** about the trip and a welcome dinner. Accommodation in local hotel.



## Day 2.

### SAN EMILIANO – VILLAFELIZ DE BABIA (LOOP TRAIL)

On this first day of riding we will ride a loop trail, to get used to our horse. If, for any reason, we are not comfortable with it, we will have the opportunity to change it before leaving the following day.

We will ride through a mid-mountain area, the **Sierra de los Grajos**, along cattle trails. We will have the opportunity to see the peaks of Las Ubiñas and cross **large mountain prairies**. We will have a picnic lunch and return along the south side of the mountain range to Villafeliz de Babia and San Emiliano. Dinner and lodging.

*Estimated riding time (including stops): 7 hours (5 hours in the saddle).*

## Day 3.

### SAN EMILIANO – VALLE DEL LAGO

After breakfast, we will ride on a track that will lead us to the **lonely Valverde Valley**, which we will traverse on paths made by cattle and wildlife. We will reach the **Alto de la Farrapona (1,707 m)**, where a good picnic will be waiting for us to regain strength. In the afternoon we will pass through the **Saliencia Lakes**, small natural mountain lakes of astonishing beauty. The more adventurous, weather permitting, can take a dip in its cold waters.

Crossing a large mountain meadow, we will reach the most complicated point of the day, down a narrow path on the side of the mountain, which will force us to dismount and lead the horse by foot in some parts. We will finally reach the village of Valle del Lago, where we will finish for the day. Lodging in charming refurbished traditional **shepherd's teitos** (made with stone walls and thatched roofs) and dinner only 15 min. away by car, in the village of **Pola de Somiedo**, in a restaurant known for its local cuisine.

*Estimated riding time (including stops): 8 hours (6 hours in the saddle).*



## Day 4.

### VALLE DEL LAGO – SAN MARTIN DE TEVERGA

We will take the road to a narrow canyon that will lead us to the charming **villages of Teitos and La Falguera**, where we will be able to see good examples of the **rural architecture** of the area. After a demanding climb for the horses we will arrive at the **Cordal de Villaux**, a dividing range from where we will enjoy incredible 360° views. From there we will descend towards the **Valley of Teverga**, crossing some brañas (groups of centuries-old high-altitude summer grazing grounds for cattle and wild horses). We will arrive in SanMartin de Teverga mid-afternoon. This is the main town in the borough, where we will have some time to rest or stroll its main street for some souvenirs and gifts. Dinner and lodging in a local hotel.

*Estimated riding time (including stops): 8 hours (6 hours in the saddle).*



## Day 5.

### TEVERGA – SALIENCIA

We will leave Teverga in the morning to climb up a narrow valley to the **Collado de la Magdalena, at 1,600 m altitude**, where we will stop for lunch. We will start the descent towards the valley of Saliencia, following narrow paths along the southern slope of the **Cordal de la Mesa**. Throughout the route the views are impressive, and we will also see more well kept typical shepherds' teitos. We will arrive at the village of Saliencia, where we will spend the night in a local hotel and have dinner in the only restaurant in the village, therefore usually lively with locals.

*Estimated riding time (including stops): 7 hours (5 hours in the saddle).*

## Day 6.

### SALIENCIA – SAN EMILIANO

We will leave Saliencia and ride through the spectacular **Foz del Arroxu Gorge**. A narrow path crosses this mountain pass where we may have to dismount and lead the horses by foot. We will reach the historical **Camino Real de la Mesa**, which traverses the mountain range at an altitude of 1,700 meters. We will ride a good stretch of this road, of **prehistoric origin**, which communicated the mountains of Asturias with the Castilian plateau, since time immemorial. The Romans built a road over this path, of which some stretches are still preserved. From the Puerto de la Mesa, at 1,800 m., we will descend along a track to the town of Torrestío and, from there, through a wide valley to San Emiliano, returning to the point from which we started our journey. Farewell dinner and overnight at the hotel.

*Estimated riding time (including stops): 7 hours (5 hours in the saddle).*



## Day 7.

### SAN EMILIANO – MADRID

After breakfast, transfer by road to Madrid, estimated arrival around 1:00 pm. Drop off at airport or hotel.



## THE TRIP INCLUDES

- Private transfers by road, from/to the international airport of Madrid Barajas or agreed meeting point in Madrid.
- Horses and tack, guides and support vehicle.
- Accommodation in local rural hotels, the best available in each area.
- All meals: breakfast at the hotel, lunch (picnic) and dinners (local restaurants, beverages and wine included). Drinks, snacks and fruit for the saddle bags.
- English-speaking guide from IVERYAN will accompany the group throughout the trip to assist the travelers with anything that may arise.

## NOT INCLUDED

- Personal travel insurance , tips, additional drinks.



*The travel program is indicative, and is subject to modifications depending on weather conditions, delays, cancellations, temporary closure of any of the accommodations or any other circumstance beyond IVERYAN's control. However, the essence of the trip will remain unchanged and possible modifications will not substantially affect the experience.*

**7 days - 6 nights**  
**5 days riding**

**Dates :**  
May to October

**Price:**

Around 400-500€ per person/night.  
Depending on dates, group size and final program.

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