



## EXPO ZARAGOZA 2008 WEEK AT THE SPANISH PAVILION

**11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> July 2005**

**During next week, from the 11<sup>th</sup> until the 17<sup>th</sup> of July, the Spanish Pavilion will celebrate the EXPO Zaragoza 2008 week. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, the autonomous region of Aragon and Zaragoza, capital city of Aragon, will be sharing their official day. For this special occasion, the Spanish Pavilion is honoured to receive the Official Delegation headed by the President of EXPO Zaragoza 2008, Roque Gistau.**

Spain is divided into seventeen autonomous regions, each of them with its own government. During EXPO Aichi 2005 the Spanish Pavilion will have the participation of its regional governments and autonomous cities to show Spain's natural diversity and cultural pluralism. Each Spanish autonomic region will have the use of the Pavilion for an entire week in order to display its cultural roots as well as the most outstanding features of its land and peoples, through dance, musicians, theater, exhibitions, and an audiovisual projection in the Plaza.

Spain's regions will use this opportunity to show typical products and objects of their cuisine, customs, and craft traditions. The flag of each region will fly alongside the Spanish, Japanese and European flags over the main gate for a week. During its featured week, each region will have a special day.

**EXPO Zaragoza 2008** aims to be a cultural celebration of the fruitful relationship between water and human communities, in a global, efficient and magnanimous project. From there, the project is constructed over an indissoluble concept: WATER AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The theme chosen is of vital importance, both now and for the future generations. Water is life, raw material, energy, it unites people and regions, it is the seed of civilizations and a source of culture. Above all, it is a symbol of universality.

This event is framed between the exhibitions of EXPO Aichi 2005 "NATURE'S WISDOM" and Shanghai 2010 "BETTER CITY, BETTER LIFE", both organized by the BIE, whose titles attend to the guiding principles of sustainable and lasting development and in their respective fields of action, the same ones that EXPO Zaragoza 2008 assumes for WATER.

Zaragoza is the capital of the autonomous region of Aragon, and the fifth city of Spain in population (over 600.000 inhabitants) and it hosts the political and economic institutions of the territory.

It is a liberal and welcoming city, the result of the influence of the four cultures that have marked its character; founded by the low Iberian under the name of Salduie in the confluence of the rivers Ebro, Huerva and Gállego, it would later be Roman (Cesaraugusta), royal Arabic capital (Sarakosta) and Christian capital of the Kingdom of Aragón.

The so-called "casco viejo" (historic city centre), contains most of the history of Zaragoza. More than 2000 years of history and cultures such as the Roman, the Christian, the Arabic, the Jewish or Mozarabic have cohabited in that portion of the current city. The buildings, palaces and churches reflect the different styles and the exchange among cultures. In the Square of El Pilar, visitors can find the Gothic cathedral of La Seo and the Basilica of El Pilar, one of the main places of worship to Virgin Mary of the Christianity, with frescoes by Francisco de Goya.

All throughout the week, EXPO Zaragoza 2008 will organize different activities which include Calanda drums and dancing performances. Also, visitors will be able to try the natural mineral water from this region which will be distributed to the public as a symbol of the natural wealth of Aragon and the main theme of EXPO Zaragoza 2008.

### **CALANDA DRUMS**

Easter is the best time to visit Calanda in Aragon to enjoy the famous celebrations of its Holy Week, with the noisy excitement of its drums. After the "rompida" (the moment when all the drummers begin to play) the continuous drumbeat and the mixing of various rhythms and beats becomes a sort of constant buzzing in the brain, that inevitably accompanies any other sensation you enjoy in this Fiesta.

For twenty four hours and without pauses or orchestrated compositions, bands of drummers dwell through the streets of Calanda. When one band meets another band, they start duelling, until all drummers find themselves in agreement with a certain rhythm. After their encounter and mutual jamming, the bands move on and prepare themselves for the next battle. The founder of surrealist cinema, Luis Buñuel, was born in Calanda and Bunuel always spent Holy Week in Calanda. Whether he was in New York, Paris or Rome, he would catch a plane and go to Calanda for three days, and participate in the Holy Week processions, which included drums.



## **DANCING PERFORMANCES**

The dance performances will be held by Miguel Ángel Berna and his company which mix flamenco dance with traditional Spanish folk music. Reinventing Spanish dance, he creates a whole new form through his fresh and intelligent interpretations of the traditions.

## **GOYA ´S ENGRAVING**

Finally, an engraving from one of the most important Spanish painters, Goya, will be exhibited at the Spanish Pavilion´s Plaza. This engraving called "The Sleep of Reason produces monsters" is a self-portrait of the artist, surrounded by demonic-looking animals.



Francisco de Goya was born in Aragon in 1746 and is one of the major figures of European art. Goya painted all aspects of Spanish life – portraits, including those of the royal family, religious works, scenes of war and of everyday life. The engrave that will be exhibited at the Spanish Pavilion was painted in 1799.

## **ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR THE EXPO ZARAGOZA 2008 WEEK AT THE SPANISH PAVILION**

### **MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JULY (ARAGON & EXPO ZARAGOZA 2008 DAY)**

- 13:00 – 13:15** Dance performance
- 16:30 – 17:00** Calanda drums performance
- 17:00 – 18:00** Handing out of Aragon water
- 18:00 – 18:30** Calanda drums performance

### **TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JULY**

- 12:00 – 13:00** Handing out of Aragon water
- 13:00 – 13:15** Dance performance
- 17:00 – 18:00** Handing out of Aragon water

### **WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JULY**

- 12:00 – 13:00** Handing out of Aragon water
- 13:00 – 13:15** Dance performance
- 17:00 – 18:00** Handing out of Aragon water

### **THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY**

- 12:00 – 13:00** Handing out of Aragon water
- 13:00 – 13:15** Dance performance
- 17:00 – 18:00** Handing out of Aragon water
- 19:10 – 19:25** Dance performance

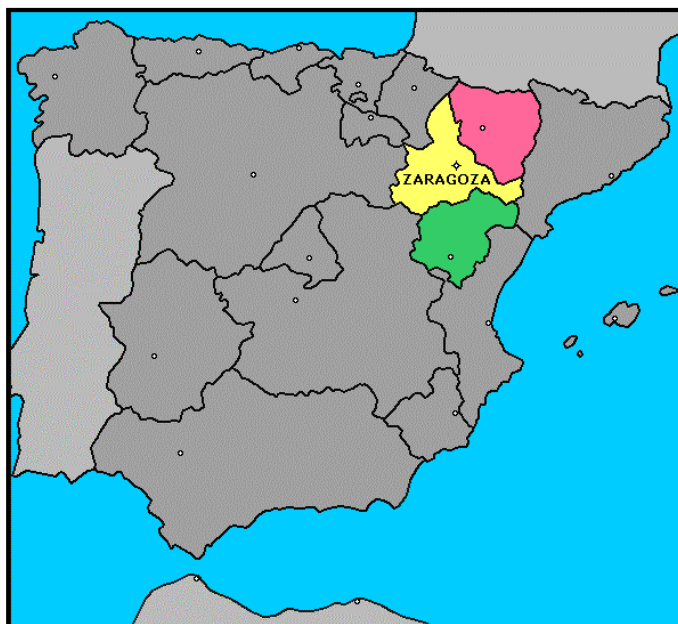


**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> TO SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JULY**

**12:00 – 13:00** Handing out of Aragon water

**17:00 – 18:00** Handing out of Aragon water

**MAP OF ZARAGOZA**



For more information:

Jennifer Alcalá

Spanish Pavilion´s Communication Department

Tlf: 0561 63 9050

Jennifer\_alcala@es.bm.com

