

CATALONIA WEEK AT THE SPANISH PAVILION

5th – 11th September 2005

From the 5th until the 11th of September, the Spanish Pavilion will celebrate the CATALONIA region week. CATALONIA will be the sixteenth autonomous region present at EXPO Aichi 2005 and all throughout this week will be organizing different events and activities.

All throughout the week, Catalonia will be organizing different events like wine and olive oil tastings, soup bubble performances, giants parades, art exhibitions and professional seminars.

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.

On the 5th of September, Catalonia will be celebrating its official day. For this special occasion the Spanish Pavilion is honoured to receive the Official Delegation from this autonomous region headed by the President of the Catalonia Parliament, Ernest Benach and the Councillor of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Antoni Siurana.

The autonomous region of Catalonia, with a population of 7,000,000 people, is located in the northeast of Spain and lies on the Mediterranean coast. It borders France and Andorra in the north, the Mediterranean sea in the east, the region of Valencia in the south, and Aragon in the west. Catalonia has a very marked culture of its own, mainly from the Mediterranean tradition. It is also one of the most cosmopolitan places in Spain, thanks to its long tradition of international commerce.

As with nearly all cultures, Catalonian cooking has great character. Its innovative cooking often looks back to history for inspiration. Although ultimately Mediterranean, Catalonia has been influenced by various cultures over the centuries: the Greeks, Romans, the Italians in the eighteenth century and the French have all left their mark on this complex cuisine. Catalonia has absorbed the best of each country and created a culinary package which forms part of the popular wisdom of the region.

Another activity which reflects the Catalonian dynamism is the wine industry. There are eleven different Denominations of Origin, due to the varied landscapes of the region. With this wine heritage, Catalonia is capable of producing fresh, light white wines, powerful red wines and classical rosé wines; light internationally recognized red wines and sparkling wines which are exported world-wide and have the Denomination Cava, the best natural sparkling wine in the world, together with French champagne.

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ACTIVITIES INFORMATION FOR THE CATALONIAN WEEK

Giants

The Giants in Catalonia are a very popular tradition which started in the XVI Century and are characterized for their enormous size, weight and colourful dresses. There will be four giants coming to EXPO Aichi 2005 from the region of Solsona in Catalonia which will be entertaining all the EXPO visitors during the week.



Pep Bou: Soup bubbles performance

The Catalan theatre magician Pep Bou conjures a seductive planetarium of brilliant colours, airiness and light during his performances and all done with soap bubbles! Pep Bou grew up in Barcelona where he originally trained as an architect. In a twenty year performance career his work has held audiences spellbound around the world.



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Art Exhibitions

Visitors to the Spanish Pavilion will be able to admire art exhibitions at the Plaza at the Spanish Pavilion all throughout the week. There will be different exhibitions based on Catalonian designs and the agrarian and alimentary industry in the region.



ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR THE CATALONIAN WEEK

▪ THE PLAZA AT THE SPANISH PAVILION:

TUESDAY 6th TO SATURDAY 10th OF SEPTEMBER

10:15 – 11:30	Olive Oil Tasting
11:30 – 12:30	Wine Tasting
13:00 – 13:30	Pep Bou: Soap bubbles performance
16:00 – 17:00	Olive Oil Tasting
17:00 – 18:00	Wine Tasting

MONDAY 5th OF SEPTEMBER (CATALONIA DAY)

11:30 – 12:30	Wine Tasting
13:00 – 13:30	Pep Bou: Soap bubbles performance
16:00 – 17:00	Olive Oil Tasting
17:00 – 18:00	Wine Tasting

SUNDAY 11TH OF SEPTEMBER

12:00 – 13:00	Lluís Claret: cello performance and reading
13:00 – 13:30	Pep Bou: Soap bubbles performance
16:00 – 17:00	Olive Oil Tasting
17:00 – 18:00	Wine Tasting

- EXTERIOR

MONDAY 5th TO SUNDAY 11th OF SEPTEMBER

11:30 – 13:00 Giants Parade
17:00 – 18:00 Giants Parade

- MULTIPURPOSE ROOM (2nd Floor) – SPANISH PAVILION

MONDAY 5th OF SEPTEMBER

15:00 – 17:00 Torres Codorniú Seminar (Sparkling Catalan wine tasting)

THURSDAY 8th OF SEPTEMBER

15:00 – 17:00 SIDI Seminar (International Selection of Design for the Habitat equipment)

FRIDAY 9th OF SEPTEMBER

10:15 – 12:30 Barcelona Foundation and Ports Seminar (Barcelona Economic development)

15:00 – 16:30 Gastronomy Seminar (Evolution of the Catalan cuisine)

MAP OF CATALONIA



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spain in japan

