Wines and Climate: The Somontano ENATE Winery

Chairs: ENATE staff

The word Somontano alludes to a territory extending at the foot of the mountains in the centre and east of the province of Huesca. It is a land of transition between the mountains and the plains with gentle slopes and the formidable ravines of the Sierra Natural Park and the Guara canyons. The region includes unique sites from cave art, declared a World Heritage Site, to the city of Barbastro, the capital of Somontano, and villages of medieval origin including Alquézar, Bierge and Azara. Somontano’s special climate, soil and geography mean it is an excellent place for vine-growing.

We will tour the ENATE winery and the vineyards. The ENATE winery building was designed in two phases by the Madrid architect Jesús Manzanares. They were opened in 1993 and 1997 respectively. The winery’s modern facilities occupy an area of 12,000 m2. Of this, 1,500 m2 house 4,000 barrels (70% French oak and 30% American oak) and 3,200 m2 are set aside for bottle aging, with capacity for more than 4 million units. The high-quality vine-growing is based on low production per hectare and respect for the environment. The ENATE staff will show the precision vine-growing techniques with weather and soil moisture monitoring, GIS, GPS, satellite images and intensive monitoring of the ripening of the grapes to choose the best possible dates and times for each kind of wine. In 1992, Enate began a contemporary art collection. More than 100 original works of art by well-known painters are permanently on display in the Exhibition Hall at our winery.

Field trip starts and ends in Zaragoza
Maximum participants: 50 people

Cost includes field-trip guide, bus transport and lunch expenses