

## **FESTIVITIES AND TRADITIONAL EVENTS**

### **ALBARCA**

#### *AUGUST:*

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, 15th August, patron saint of the village. Speech, traditional dancing and skittles. Traditional excursion to the chapel of La Mare de Déu del Montsant (Our Lady of Montsant) on the last day of the festivities.

### **BELLMUNT DEL PRIORAT**

#### *DECEMBER:*

SAINT BARBARA, patron saint of miners, 4th December. A traditional local festivity that has been revived. Procession from the mines near the village and concert.

SAINT LUCY, patron saint of the village, 13th December. Dance or concert.

HOLY INNOCENTS, VILLAGE FESTIVITY, 28th December sees the "Badejada", a meal cooked in the street by the men of the village. This is a bean stew made with "badejo" (cod).

### **LA BISBAL DE FALSET**

#### *MAY:*

SANT ISIDORE, farmers' festivity, communal lunch organised by the Cooperative.

#### *AUGUST:*

GATHERING IN THE CAVE OF SANTA LLÚCIA (St. Lucy), Second Sunday in August. Mass, communal breakfast and traditional performance.

#### *SEPTEMBER:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY, 8th September. Dances, concerts, traditional games and more.

### **CABACÉS**

#### *FEBRUARY:*

SAINT BLAISE, 3rd February, VILLAGE FESTIVITY (distribution of "blaiets", dance and sardana dancing). The Saturday of the village festivity sees the Festa de l'Oli or Oil Fair, with a communal lunch, visit to the cooperative oil mill and a talk.

#### *APRIL:*

SAINT MARK, 25th April. A gathering is held at the chapel of La Foia, including an auction of bunches of flowers and "coques" (flatbreads or cakes). This dates back to St. Mark's day in 1791.

*MAY:*

SANT ISIDORE, 15th May (mass in honour of the patron saint, traditional children's games and in the afternoon a cultural activity and a snack).

*AUGUST:*

PROCESSION TO THE CHAPEL OF LA FOIA, 5th August. Celebration of La Verge de les Neus (Our Lady of the Snows), with a mass at the chapel and a communal lunch (paella).

*DECEMBER:*

SAINT NICHOLAS' DAY, 6th December. Traditional event for children. The children collect sweets around the streets and sing a very old traditional song.

## **CAPÇANES**

*JULY:*

SAINT ABDON AND SAINT SENNEN, 30th July, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. A highlight is the "Dia dels Barbis", when a group of men from the village organise a day of fun and games in the streets.

*SEPTEMBER:*

INSTITUTIONAL EVENT AT THE CARRASCLET MONUMENT on 11th September, attended by all the authorities in the Priorat and representatives of the Catalan government.

## **CORNUDELLA DE MONTSANT**

*JANUARY:*

SAINT ANTHONY, 17th January. The animals are blessed and a lunch is prepared at the chapel of Sant Joan del Codolar.

*MAY:*

GASTRONOMIC DAY: Devoted to rabbit paella (13th edition, 2010) and sweet and spicy snails (7th edition, 2010), 4th Sunday in May (coinciding with Pentecost). Also, Cornudella wine show (6th edition, 2010, morning only) and craft market (25th edition, 2010)

*AUGUST:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY, 3rd weekend in August. Speech, dance, giants, havanera songs, sports competitions, etc.

*SEPTEMBER:*

NATIONAL DAY, 11th September, giant communal paella in the square

**FALSET**

*JANUARY:*

L'ENCAMISADA, held at the closest weekend to 17th January (Saint Anthony's Day). Procession of decorated horses with riders in traditional dress. Dancing of Jotas and blessing of the "panets", or bread baked in honour of the saint.

*FEBRUARY:*

SAINT BLAISE's day, 3rd February. Malanyet neighbourhood festivity. A "coc de recapte" (flatbread with a savoury topping) between 10 and 20 metres long is carried through the streets of the town and then raffled.

*APRIL:*

SPRING CONCERT: by the Falset town band. This marks the end of the Musical Days organised this month by the Vila de Falset musical association.

*MAY:*

WINE FAIR. First weekend in May, normally coinciding with 1st May. Stands run by various wineries from the area, where visitors can taste wines by buying tickets for 10 tastings. Plus talks, round tables, introduction to wine tasting, cookery competition in the street and more.

*AUGUST:*

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, 15th August, patron saint of the village. The festivities include a range of traditional events such as L'Espígol, when children carry baskets of lavender and spread it around the streets, the "Danses", cakes that are handed out to the oldest and youngest people, those who have made voluntary contributions for the good of the town and any other townspeople who want to buy some, a "ball de coques" where young men "buy" dances with women with cake, a procession of floats and a confetti fight.

*SEPTEMBER:*

SAINT CANDIDA, 2nd weekend of September. SECOND VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Different events.

*NOVEMBER:*

SAINT ANDREW'S FAIR, 29th & 30th November. Traditional general and craft fair.

## **LA FIGUERA**

### *JANUARY:*

SAINT PAUL, 15th January. Procession to the chapel in honour of the saint; hymns are sung there and a bonfire lit.

### *MAY:*

SAINT ISIDORE'S DAY, 15th May.

### *AUGUST:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY, second weekend in August. Havanera singing and dancing at the chapel of Sant Pau (St. Paul) with breakfast, mass and sardana dancing.

### *NOVEMBER:*

SAINT MARTIN'S DAY, 11th November, former patron saint of the village. Theatre, dance and hot chocolate.

## **GRATALLOPS**

### *JANUARY:*

SAINT SEBASTIAN'S DAY, 20th January, winter festivity. On the last Sunday in January people go up to the chapel of La Consolació.

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT LAURENCE'S DAY, 10th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. On the last Sunday people go up to the chapel of La Consolació.

## **ELS GUIAMETS**

### *FEBRUARY:*

COMMUNAL CALÇOTADA (barbecue) at a weekend in the middle of the month

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT LOUIS & SAINT FELIX'S DAY, 19th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Sardanes are danced and there is traditional music and dancing.

### *DECEMBER:*

HOLY INNOCENTS, 28th December. Communal breakfast and dance.

## **EL LLOAR**

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT DOMINIC, nearest weekend to 4th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Bell ringing, traditional games, football and dancing.

### *SEPTEMBER:*

SAINT MICHAEL, 2nd September

## **MARÇÀ**

### *MAY:*

CRAFT FAIR. Around the third Saturday in May. Streets around the village.

### *AUGUST:*

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, 15th August, patron saint of the village. Highlights include "L'Espígol", where the children of the village go through the streets spreading lavender that they carry in baskets.

### *DECEMBER:*

EVENING MASS on 26th December. In the church a song dating from the 16th century and hymns to Our Lady of Sickness are sung. In the early morning the Aurora procession takes place. Only the men of the village take part in this, going round the streets singing in honour of Our Lady.

OUR LADY OF SICKNESS, 27th December.

## **MARGALEF DE MONTSANT**

### *APRIL:*

SANT MARK'S DAY, 25th April, visit to the chapel of Sant Salvador.

### *AUGUST:*

SANT SALVADOR, 6th August, visit to the chapel of Sant Salvador. Communal breakfast and dance, with a traditional repertoire, including the "ball del "fanalet" (with a lantern) or the "ball de rams" (with a branch). Festivities over the weekend.

### *SEPTEMBER:*

SAINT MICHAEL'S DAY, 29th September, VILLAGE FESTIVITY.

### *NOVEMBER:*

PIG KILLING, 1st November, communal lunch.

## **EL MASROIG**

### *JANUARY:*

SAINT SEBASTIAN'S DAY, nearest weekend to 20th January, WINTER FESTIVITY. Procession around town and collection of "guinaldos" (gifts) by the population, mass, blessing and distribution of "coca de Sant Sebastià", a kind of sweet suet cake, accompanied by music. In the afternoon, traditional dance in the village square, auction of gifts and cakes, communal dinner and dance.

OUR LADY OF LES PINYERES, 1st Saturday after Easter. Mass in honour of Our Lady of Les Pinyeres, sardanes and other dances by the children of the village. Walk back to the village carrying the statue of Our Lady, which stays there for eight days. In the evening, musical show by a group of people from the village.

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, nearest weekend to 24th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Competition between decorated streets, dancing, football, etc. On the "dia dels dropos", the last day of the festivities, parade and float competition, fireworks in the streets and closing dinner.

### *OCTOBER - NOVEMBER:*

CULTURAL WEEK, last weekend in October, until 1st November. Talks, exhibitions, concerts, theatre, competitions in cookery and handmade wines from the village.

## **EL MOLAR**

### *APRIL:*

CULTURAL WEEK. Around Easter Week, several days of concerts, talks, competitions, theatre and so on are organised.

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT ROCH, 16th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Dances, traditional games, fireworks in the streets, floats, etc.

### *DECEMBER:*

FESTA DE LES XIQUES (GIRLS' DAY), 6th-8th December. Old tradition with cakes and jota dancing.

## **LA MORERA DE MONTSANT**

### *JUNE:*

SAINT JOHN'S DAY. Arrival of the flame from the Canigó, bonfire, dinner and dance.

### *SEPTEMBER:*

NATIVITY OF OUR LADY, 8th - 11th September, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Dance, theatre and other activities.

### *OCTOBER:*

VILLAGE CASTANYADA (roast chestnut party). 31st October. Dinner and dance.

## **POBOLEDA**

### *AUGUST:*

SAINT DOMINIC, 4th & 5th August, VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Races, recitals, competitions, concerts, dances and traditional games.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY, 15th August, traditional singing of havanera songs. On 16th August there is a procession to the chapel of Maria Assumpta

### *SEPTEMBER:*

FESTA DE LA VEREMA A L'ANTIGA (Old-style harvest celebration). In late September there is a celebration of the harvest with outings to vineyards, visits to wineries and fun activities of different kinds. People go grape-picking with animals, then there is a breakfast and the grapes are trodden, and finally there is a wine tasting.

## **PORRERA**

### *JANUARY:*

SAINT ANTHONY, 17th January. People go up to the chapel dedicated to the saint and animals are blessed.

### *FEBRUARY:*

EL ROTLLO (The Roll), 2nd February. A traditional piece of confectionery that is distributed around the houses and eaten the next day, St. Blaise's day, in the country or beside the river.

### *MAY:*

FESTIVITY OF ST. JOAN DE LA CIRERETA, nearest weekend to 6-7th May, St. John's day.

*JUNE:*

SAINT JOHN's day, with lighting of "la gala" (a bonfire), grallers (pipers), cake and cava.

*NOVEMBER:*

AUTUMN FESTIVITY, second weekend in November. "Coques" (cakes) are distributed in the streets by children, there are guided tours of wineries and other festive activities.

**PRADELL DE LA TEIXETA**

*JULY:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. 3rd weekend in July, in honour of St. Mary Magdalene (22nd July).

*SEPTEMBER:*

2nd VILLAGE FESTIVITY. 1st Saturday after St. Michael's day (29th September).

**SCALA DEI**

*SEPTEMBER:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. 24th September and the closest weekend.

**SIURANA**

*MAY:*

JUBILEU. This has been celebrated on 9th May since 1682; a very old tradition, it consists of praying for rain for the crops. The surrounding villages are also present.

*AUGUST:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. On 15th August, celebration of the Assumption of Our Lady. Traditional games of skittles are played.

**LA TORRE DE FONTAUBELLA**

*AUGUST:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. First weekend in August.

*DECEMBER:*

WINTER FESTIVITY coinciding with New Year's Eve, with a dinner and concert.

## **TORROJA DEL PRIORAT**

### *MAY:*

JOCS FLORALS (Floral Games). These take place on the Saturday before the second Sunday in May. They bring together poets and writers from all over the Catalan-speaking lands.

### *SEPTEMBER:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. 29th September, St. Michael's day.

## **ULLDEMOLINS**

### *MARCH:*

OMELETTE IN SAUCE FAIR. Gastronomic event held at the second weekend in March. Preparation, competition, tasting and festivities centring on this typical Priorat dish.

### *AUGUST:*

GATHERING TO DANCE SARDANES. First weekend in August

AUGUST FESTIVITIES. F festivity in honour of the Assumption of Our Lady, around 15th August.

FESTIVITY OF OUR LADY OF MONTSANT. 17th August. Celebration at the chapel.

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW. 24th. Walk up to the chapel, mass and communal lunch.

### *SEPTEMBER:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. 8th September. Dance, music and street activities.

### *OCTOBER:*

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY. The nearest Sunday to 7th October. Celebration by the Majorales del Roser group, dancing the old traditional dance of the same name.

SAINT GALDERIC, patron saint of Catalan farmers, 16th October. Mass, distribution of cakes, lunch and baking competition.

### *DECEMBER:*

FESTIVITY OF LORETO. 10th December. Celebration of the patron saint of the sanctuary church, organised by the Majorales.

## **LA VILELLA ALTA**

### *JANUARY:*

SAINT PRISCA. Winter festivity. 18th January. Vermouth and musical performance.

### *JULY:*

SAINT JAMES. Summer festivity, 25th July. Dance, music and other activities.

### *AUGUST:*

GATHERING TO DANCE SARDANES. Second weekend in August.

### *DECEMBER:*

SAINT LUCY'S FESTIVITY. 13th December. Music and vermouth

## **LA VILELLA BAIXA**

### *MAY:*

SAINT QUITERIA. 22nd May.

### *JUNE:*

VILLAGE FESTIVITY. Pentecost (movable). Traditional dances in a marquee.

SAINT JOHN'S DAY. 24th June. This is celebrated on the evening of 23rd to commemorate the arrival of the summer, coinciding with the shortest night of the year.