



***Turisme de Catalunya* runs a workshop for Swedish and Danish operators to promote the Catalan offer in trekking and bicycle tourism**

A group of Scandinavian tour operators completed their day's work with an outing in which they were able to visit various spots of the Catalan geography both on foot and bike

Tuesday, 28 June 2005.— *Turisme de Catalunya*, a body attached to the Catalan Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs, has run a workshop together with 10 Catalan companies that have presented their products to a group of Swedish and Danish operators who specialise in cycle tourism and trekking. The workshop closed with a prospective outing during which the participants had the opportunity to discover various spots in Catalonia on foot or bike. During the four days of the outing, these Scandinavian professionals visited some stages of the green routes of the Girona regions, and followed various routes across La Garrotxa, El Pla de l'Estany, El Baix Empordà, and the Costa Brava regions.

This activity seeks to make known the wide network of rural paths and little-used roads throughout Catalonia that can be walked on foot and on bike. The Catalan network has more than 5,000 kilometres of paths for Long Distance Trekking (GR), Short Distance Trekking (PR), and Local Trekking (SL), and is connected to the European and peninsular networks.

As for cycle tourism, there is a network of cycling routes (BTT) ever since 1997 and at the moment it already has 15 centres in various Catalan regions, with 3,300 kilometres properly chartered and signposted according to the level of difficulty. On the other hand, Catalonia has currently 7 green roads consisting of old railway routes signposted and adapted for the exclusive use of cyclists and ramblers.