



---

## **The governments of Catalonia, France and Andorra present the guide *Vacances segures* (Safe Holidays) in Girona, containing advice for tourists visiting any of the three countries**

**This year Andorra is joining this initiative about consumer rights promoted by the Catalanian Consumer Agency and the French Consumer Safety Committee**

Friday, 8 July 2005.— Enric Aloy, the Head of the Catalanian Consumer Agency (ACC); Phillippe Cecurel, the Secretary-General of Consumer Safety of the French government; and Joaquim Juan Vañó, the Head of the Association of Consumers and Users of Andorra (ACUA), presented today at the Territorial Services of the Catalanian Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Consumer Affairs in Girona, the guide *Vacances Segures - Prudence en Vacances*. This brochure jointly published by the governments of Catalonia and France, includes some safety recommendations for those tourists on holiday in Catalonia and in the Catalanian lands beyond the Pyrenees. This year the government of Andorra has joined this initiative that last year was launched by France and Catalonia.

The guide is in Catalan and French, and 100,000 copies of it have been printed. In Catalonia they will be distributed at the offices of *Turisme de Catalunya* and at the Catalanian Consumer Agency, and in France they will be found at the Prefectures of the French Ministry of the Interior, at the Maison Catalane of the Consommation in Perpignan, and at the tolls in French motorways. For its part, the Association of Consumers and Users of Andorra will be in charge of the distribution of the brochures in Andorran territory.

The will of the Catalanian, French and Andorran governments is to strengthen the safety measures on the face of the high number of citizens travelling during the summer, not only to Catalonia, but also to the Catalanian lands beyond the Pyrenees and to Andorra, seeing the close relationship existing among the three countries. During last year, Catalonia registered more than 13 million visits from France (1.5 million French tourists). Similarly, Catalonia registered 1.7 million visits from Andorran citizens. According to Enric Aloy, Head of the ACC, ***“we are aware that there is a very important tourist flux, and that, in this sense, we at***



■ **Comunicat de premsa** ■

***the administrations are responsible for watching over the protection of consumer rights in order to stop avoidable accidents***". He finished by saying that ***"prevention is the best protection"***.

The guide compiles a number of basic recommendations for when starting off on a journey, and lays special emphasis on aspects relating to tourism. In this sense, it advises on a number of specific attitudes that must be taken into account when staying on the beach, in the mountains, and in tourist establishments.

The brochure also informs of the precautions one must take with children in the water, the prevention of sun strokes, stomach cramps, measures of prevention on mountain itineraries and in the practice of adventure sports, among other activities that involve the risk of provoking injuries. In addition, the guide also includes recommendations about traffic, referring to the safety measures that must be adopted, and specifically, it reminds the traveller that in Catalonia it is compulsory to carry duly-recognised high-visibility reflecting jackets in the car and to use them in the event of a breakdown or an accident.