



***Turisme de Catalunya* resumes in Valencia the international promotion tour of Catalanian gastronomy**

The Catalanian Director-General of Tourism presided over a dinner prepared by the Lleida collective *Gourmet Hotels, Cuina de Muntanya* that was attended by some five hundred business people and professionals from the Valencian tourist sector

Wednesday, 28 September 2005.—*Turisme de Catalunya* resumed in Valencia the international gastronomic tour that visits various cities in Europe and the United States on the occasion of the Gastronomy Year. Coinciding with the celebration yesterday of World Tourist Day, Isabel Galobardes, the Catalanian Director-General of Tourism travelled to Valencia, where she presided over a dinner with some fifty representatives of the Valencian tourist sector and members of the media. During her speech, Galobardes spoke of the importance of the tourism that arrives from Valencia, **“the third Spanish autonomous community sending the greatest number of tourists to Catalonia”**. In 2004, nearly 800,000 Valencian tourists visited the destination Catalonia, a figure representing 15% of the sending market of the Spanish state.

Turisme de Catalunya presented to the Valencian tourist professionals Catalonia's gastronomic offer with a menu prepared by cooks from the collective *Gourmet Hotels, Cuina de Muntanya*: Joan Pallarès, from Hotel Can Boix (Peramola), Gabriel Serra, from Hotel Terradets (Cellers), and Cristina Puig, from Hotel Can Rafel (Cervelló). The event also hosted the presentations of a number of producers in the Catalanian territory: Segrià-Urgell fruits, Pirineus veal, Nacariï sturgeon, Berguedà cheese, the Protected Denominations of Origin oils (Garrigues, Siurana, Terra Alta and Baix Ebre-Montsià), and wines of the *Costers del Segre* Denomination of Origin (DO).

In the presentations that will be carried out during this month of September, *Turisme de Catalunya* uses its new format for the first time, thanks to which the products of the earth have earned protagonism. The people attending all these events can get to know in detail and from the producers themselves the Catalanian products grouped by families –oil, wines and *caves*, cheese, market-garden produce, and mountain and sea produce.



■ **Comunicat** de premsa ■

The presentation in Valencia must be added to those that have already taken part in Palma de Mallorca, San Sebastián, Chicago, Zaragoza and Lyon. The next presentations planned are Rome, on 20th October, and Turin, on 9th November. This gastronomic tour forms part of the plan of promotion activities launched by *Turisme de Catalunya* to further gastronomy as a quality resource.