

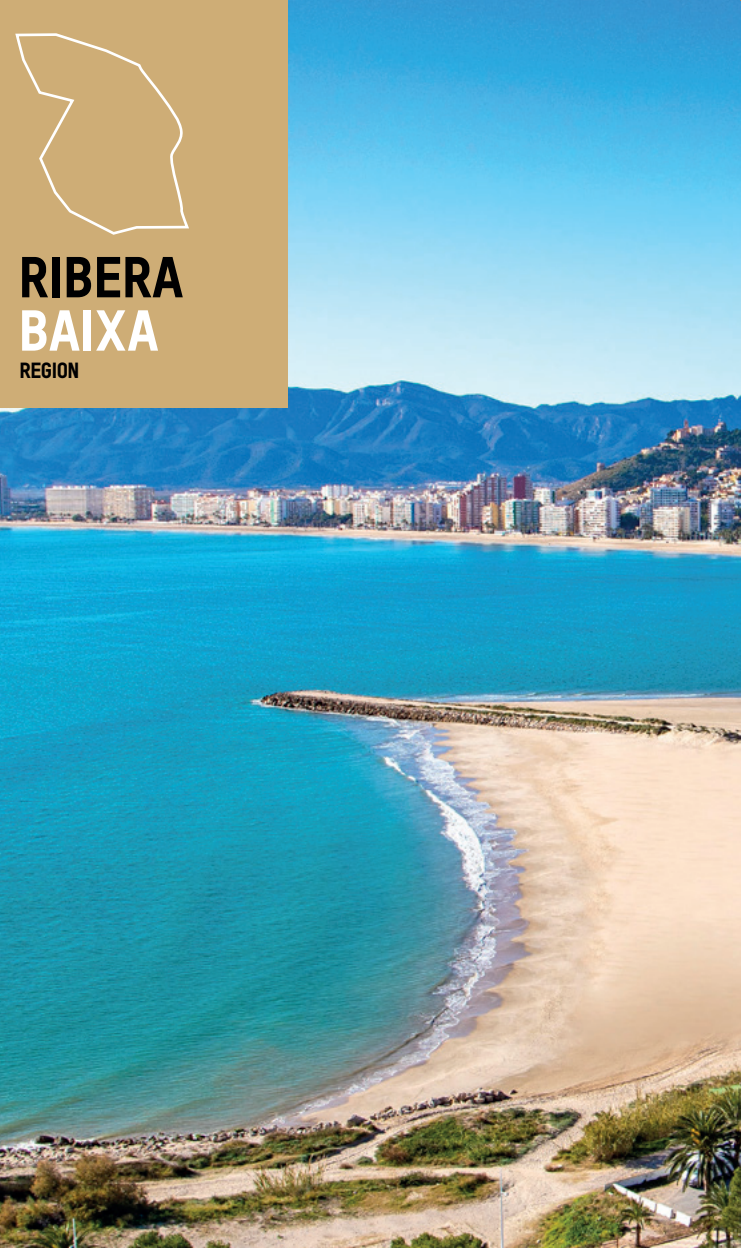
regions of the province
of Valencia

RIBERA BAIXA

REGION



**RIBERA
BAIXA**
REGION





La Ribera de Xúquer is the tourism brand that covers a territory with two administrative regions: **La Ribera Alta** and **La Ribera Baixa**.

This territory shares tourism products that link both regions, such as the network of 11 themed bicycle tourism routes that crisscross the territory from north to south and from inland to the coast.

These cycle routes show off **La Ribera's** most singular heritage: Arab Towers, unusual shrines, iron bridges crossing the River Xúquer and relaxing routes through fields of crops with an aroma of orange blossom. Particularly worthy of note is the natural track of the Antic Trenet green route, which takes us on a trip in history, from the cradle of orange-growing in **Carcaixent** to the beach. For sports enthusiasts, worthy of special mention is the restored "*Descenso del Xúquer*", a kayaking event that has now been held more than 50 times and which is becoming a meeting for members of affiliated kayak clubs but also for river enthusiasts participating in this people's event.

The region of **La Ribera Baixa** comprises the final stretch of the River Xúquer, close to where it flows into the sea in **Cullera**.

It is also a flat territory, flanked on the right by the **Sierra de Corbera** mountains, with altitudes exceeding 500 metres, just a short distance from the coast.

This fertile region has rice fields in the southern area of the *Albufera* lake, alternating with orange groves. Part of the Albufera Nature Park falls within this region's municipal areas of **Cullera, Sueca, Albalat de la Ribera** and **Sollana**.

An interesting historic-artistic heritage, excellent beaches of fine, golden sand, natural beauty spots of great interest like the Albufera Nature Park, a calendar chock-full of festivals and unbeatable gastronomy make the Ribera Baixa, without doubt, one of the most interesting regions of Valencia for tourists. We will begin our trip around the Ribera Baixa region in the town of **Sueca**, which stands among extensive rice fields.

A notable feature of the town is the 17th-century Royal Church of Our Lady of Sales (*Iglesia de Ntra. Sra. De Sales*), which houses the impressive painting of the Virgin of the Milk (*Virgen de*





“Santuario de la Virgen del Castillo” - Cullera

la Leche), by the artist Juan de Juanes-XVIII. The church of San Pedro (17th century). These and the 18th-century Town Hall building are special features of interest on the urban route that **Sueca** offers us, in addition to other important buildings that form part of the European Modernism Route, such as the house where the writer Joan Fuster lived, the Nursing Home (*Asilo de Ancianos*), and the *Ateneo Sueco del Socorro* cultural institution, amongst others. Another notable feature is the 17th-century shrine of *Benissants de la Pedra* on the Muntanyeta del Sant. Sueca also boasts 8km of beaches, stretching from el **Perelló** to el Mareny de Vilxes, via Socarrat, el Pouet, la Llastra, Les Palmeres, Motilla, el **Mareny de Barraquetes**, Bega de Mar and Mareny Blau.

Very nearby, at the mouth of the River Xúquer, we find the town of **Cullera**. To arrive in Cullera is to discover a town with a great diversity of history, culture and landscapes thanks to its special location. The sea, the river, the mountain, the lake, the extensive rice fields and orange groves create unusual natural surroundings where contrast is the byword. From the seafront

to the top of the mountain, where the imposing *Castillo* fortress stands, the views will not disappoint you. **Cullera** has an exquisite offer of gastronomy, based on rice and products from the sea and the land. It is a hospitable, welcoming, safe and dynamic holiday destination where the experiences are unique.

The Castle, of medieval origin, and the shrine of the *Virgen del Castillo*, both at the top of the mountain, offer a splendid view of the whole coastline and the region's inland area. The *Estany* lake, with a footpath around it, offers one of the most picturesque natural landscapes.

And in the summer, there is fun for the whole family at the Water Park (*Parque Acuático*) very near the town. **Ribera Baixa** has other tourist attractions: the crenellated Mozarab Tower and the church of Saint Bartholomew (*Iglesia de S. Bartolomé*) in **Almussafes**, which has been home since the 1970s to the Ford-España car factory. The 18th-century parish church of



Cycling Routes
Sueca



Kayak Xúquer

Santa María la Mayor, in **Riola**.

In terms of monuments, the town of **Corbera** is worthy of note for its Castle and its 14th-15th century parish church, dedicated to the Saints Vincent. Standing on flat terrain, adjacent to the Albufera lagoon, is the town of **Sollana**, of Muslim origin. **Llaurí** is notable for its natural beauty spots, on the slopes of the *Sierra de Corbera* mountains.

4km away is the town of **Favara**, where we will find the parish church of *Sant Antoni Abat* and its numerous natural beauty spots. **Polinyà del Xúquer** and **Fortaleny** are two towns suitable for those looking to enjoy nature and peace and quiet; in **Fortaleny** we recommend a visit to the parish church of *Sant Antoni*.

We will round off our route with a visit to **Albalat de la Ribera**, surrounded by the River Xúquer. Its most emblematic buildings include the 17th-century parish church of *Sant Pere Apòstol*, the shrine of *Sant Roc*, with its curious triangular bell tower and, as an example of early 20th century engineering, the *Pont de Ferro* bridge, surrounded by orange groves and natural beauty spots.

GASTRONOMY_

The gastronomy of the region of La Ribera Baixa is notable mainly for its wide variety of rice dishes (let's not forget that **Sueca** is the largest and main rice producing centre in Spain): paella, oven-baked rice, soupy rice, *arroz negro* (with cuttlefish and ink) and *arroz a banda* (with cuttlefish and prawns). In Cullera, the Traditional Rice Products Club (*Club de Productos Artesanos del Arroz*) is worthy of note.

But there is no doubt that the region's standout dishes are the popular *all i pebre*, made with potatoes and eels, boiled with garlic and paprika, and *espardenyá*, prepared with potatoes,





Valencian Paella

eels, rabbit and eggs. Its sweets and confectionery are also famous: *coques fines i de carabassa* (“coca” flatbread with aniseed or pumpkin), *pastissets de Nadal* (small cakes with sweet potato, typical at Christmas), *rotllos de Sant Blai* (sweet rolls), and also the popular pumpkin sweet, *arnadí*, which is typical of this region and of La Costera.

FESTIVALS_

Fallas: From 16 to 19 March.

Albat de la Ribera: From 8 to 17 August, Sant Roc and fiestas del Crist.

Alamussafes: From 14 to 16 July, Sant Bertomeu and the Santíssima Creu (Holy Cross).

Benicull del Xúquer: From 18 to 22 August, festivals in honour



“Ateneo del Socorro”
Sueca

of the Blessed Inés (*Beata Inés*). At the start of July, *Hijas de María*.

Corbera: 8 September, festivals in honour of Our Lady of the Castle (*Mare de Déu del Castell*).

Cullera: Holy Week, with processions involving 6 brotherhoods (*cofradías*), and *Fiestas Mayores* in Cullera, festival devoted to the *Mare de Déu del Castell*, Virgin of the Incarnation and Patron Saint of Cullera (9 days after the Saturday following Easter until the following Sunday).

Favara: From 9 to 14 August, Sant Cristóbal, Sant Llorenc, la Puríssima, la Divina Aurora and la Santa Creu.

Fortaleny: From 15 to 19 August, Santíssim Crist del Consol.

Llaurí: From 1 to 3 February, Sant Blai. From 5 to 10 August, Sant Llorenc.

Polinyà del Xúquer: From 1 to 7 August, Our Lady of the Angels (*Mare de Déu dels Àngels*), la Mare de Déu del Rosari, Sant Josep, Sants de la Pedra and el Crist de la Sang. 20 January, *Fira* (Fair).

Sollana: From 22 July until 10 August, different festive and bull-related activities. The biggest day, Crist de la Pietat.

Riola: From 5 to 10 August, festival in honour of Santa María la Major.

Sueca: on 29 July, the festival of los Benissants de la Pedra, from 1 to 8 September, the Fair and Festival in honour of the Mare de Déu de Sales, followed by the *Festa de l'Arrós* rice festival, with the Sueca and Firarròs International Valencian Paella Competition. In the second fortnight, the *Mostra Internacional de MIM* (International Mime Exhibition).

In March, 16 *fallas* committees bring this festival to life; it dates back to 1876, when the first monument was erected.

In el **Perelló** on 16 July, la *Mare de Déu del Carme*. At Easter, la *Mare de Déu del Roser* in **Mareny de Barraquetes**.



Corbera's Castle



Almussafes

Benifaio

Alginet

Algemesi

Quadassuar

Alzira

roaixent

el Romani

Sollana

Parc Natural de l'Albufera

l'estany de la Pl

Muntanyeta dels Sa

Albalat de la Ribera

Polinyà de Xúquer

Riola

Fortaleny

Benicull de Xúquer

Corbera

Llaurí

el Cavall Bernat
585 m

la Ratlla
625 m

RIBERA BAIXA_

gola del Perellonet

el Perellonet

CV-500

gola del Perelló

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Miqtanya de Cullera
233 m

Dovel

Cullera

Sant Antoni

Riu Xúquer

Torre Marenyet

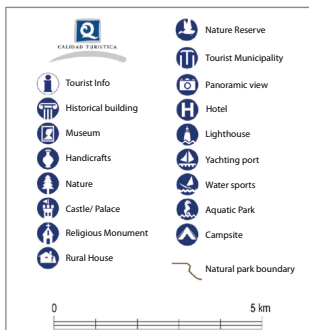
Llac de l'Estany

CV-605

el Brosquil

N-332

AP-7



TOURIST INFO_



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Favara



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