

INSTITUT CRISTÒFOL DESPUIG'S PRESENTATION

TORTOSA (TARRAGONA)

SPAIN

Our high school is situated in Tortosa in the south of Catalonia, Spain. Tortosa is a small city with about 32,000 inhabitants, most of the inhabitants work in the primary and secondary sectors. The school is situated on the outskirts of the city in a quiet neighbourhood.

Tortosa has a great cultural and historical heritage, for many centuries it has been a place where kings settled during their journeys from north to the south and vice-versa, there are several remains from different ages, from the Roman ages to the Jewish one when they were an important community in the town, up to five castles on top of the city which ruins are still kept being La Suda castle the one which still remains quite well preserved.

In the area, there is a natural park called «*Els Ports*». The park covers a surface area of approximately 800 square kilometres, and is home to over a thousand botanical species. In addition, it has become the most important Spanish ibex reserve in the country. Other animals of note in the park are the vulture, Iberian lynx, golden eagle, blue rock thrush, adder or European nase.

Furthermore, there is another natural park called «*Delta de l'Ebre*», which is biosphere reserve designated by UNESCO, where thousands of different species cohabit to draw a really beautiful view. It is the wettest area in Catalonia, with an area of 320 km² and it is the most important aquatic habitat in the Western Mediterranean. Moreover, it has a rich variety of environments such as the river, beaches, dunes, bays, lagoons, river islands... Also, there are lots of rice fields which, together with the seafood (oyster, mussels, fish...), make this area a referent of the mediterranean gastronomy.

Most of all described about «*Delta de l'Ebre*» can be seen at the link shown below:

<https://www.turismodeltadelebro.com/en/what-to-see-and-do-in-the-ebro-delta/>

However, this scenery is the one that has engaged our interest in knowing how other European high schools with similar atmospheres and interests work this issue with their students, being part of an international Erasmus + project is going to enable our teachers to discover different points of view on the matter. We consider it an interesting starting point so we can introduce and engage our students to become part of the European network from where they can feel involved. Finding similarities and differences in the European context promotes learning and affection towards the European Union.