

COAST • 2 H 15

Ebro Delta, Peníscola and Morella in winter by motorhome

Wintering ducks and flamingos on the lagoons of the Ebro Delta, Pope Luna's castle at Peníscola and walled Morella, at almost 1,000 m.



START AND FINISH

Les Franqueses del Vallès

DURATION

5 rental nights

APPROX. DISTANCE

700 km

BEST TIME

November — March

MILEAGE

1,500 km included (300 km/day) • extra km €0.40

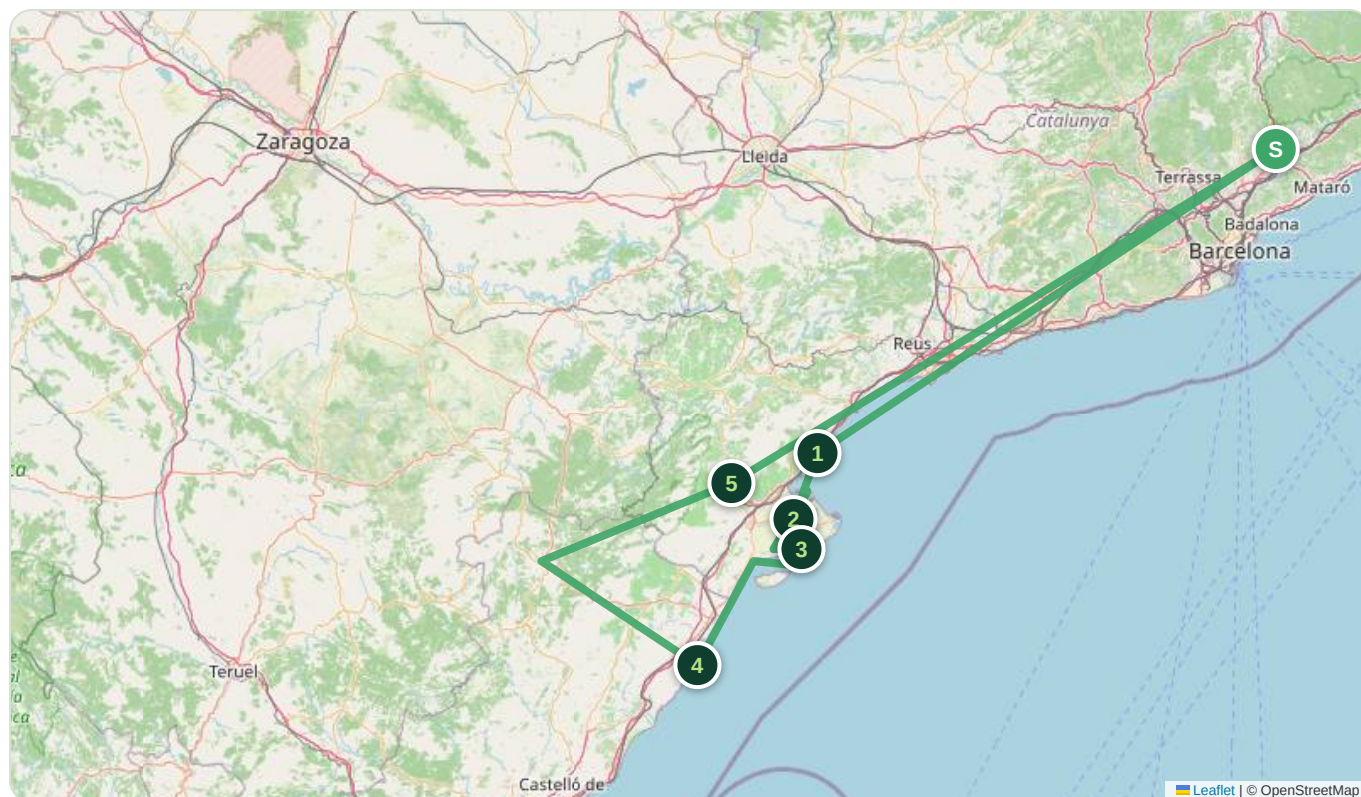
INDICATIVE PRICE

from €625 rental in low season

In winter the Ebro Delta changes character: the harvested rice fields become feeding grounds for thousands of ducks and waders that spend the season here, the flamingos stay on the lagoons and the beaches are empty. A little further south, Peníscola rises from the sea on its rock, while inland Morella sits inside its walls at almost 1,000 m. A mild coast and a cold mountain town on the same trip.

The route is planned for 5 nights: collect on day 1 in the afternoon and return on the morning of day 6. It covers about 700 km, within the 300 km a day included on Segimon Rental hires of 3 to 6 days. From November to March the minimum hire is 3 days, but Christmas is high season and requires 7: late November, early December or January are better dates. For the classic spring version, see our Ebro Delta route.

Route map (approximate line)



Route plan

Day 1	Pick-up • L'Ametlla de Mar
Day 2	Deltebre • Punta del Fangar • L'Encanyissada at dusk
Day 3	La Tancada • Trabucador • La Ràpita
Day 4	Peníscola • Morella
Day 5	Morella • Tortosa • Costa Daurada

Day-by-day itinerary

Day 1 • Pick-up and first leg

Collect the motorhome between 16:00 and 19:00 in Les Franqueses del Vallès and take the AP-7 south without going through Barcelona. Winter evenings are short, so keep the first leg brief: L'Ametlla de Mar or Cambrils are 1 h 30–2 h away. If you collect early, you can reach the delta itself in about 2 h 15. Sleep at a campsite or authorised aire.

Day 2 · Deltebre, El Fangar and L'Encanyissada

In Deltebre, the Natural Park information centre will tell you where the birds are that week. Drive through the northern half of the delta, its rice fields harvested and partly flooded, to the Punta del Fangar, with its dunes and a beach you will have almost to yourself. Leave the vehicle in the signposted car parks and carry on on foot or by bike. Late in the afternoon cross to the southern half: sunset at L'Encanyissada, with flocks of ducks and flamingos, is one of the highlights of the trip. Sleep around La Ràpita.

Day 3 · La Tancada, the Trabucador and La Ràpita

Get up early: first light at La Tancada lagoon is the best time to see flamingos and ducks without disturbing them. Bring binoculars and keep your distance. Next, the Trabucador, a sand bar between the open sea and the bay; vehicle access is regulated, so check before you go. Have fish or shellfish for lunch in La Ràpita (Sant Carles de la Ràpita), then drive about 45 minutes south to Peníscola.

Day 4 · Peníscola and Morella

Park outside Peníscola's old town, in the car parks by the beach, and walk up to the castle, once the residence of Pope Luna, Benedict XIII. The white lanes and sea walls are crowd-free in winter. In the afternoon, about 1 h 15 on the N-232 takes you to Morella. The pass can have ice or snow: check road conditions with the DGT and carry chains. Sleep on the outskirts; the V66's Truma heating with EisEx and heated grey-water tank are built for cold nights like these.

Day 5 · Morella, Tortosa and heading north

Walk Morella's walls, gateways and the arcaded Carrer de Blasco de Alagón, and go up to the castle if the weather allows. Midwinter is black truffle season in Els Ports and the Maestrat; try the hearty sopa morellana too. Head down towards Vinaròs and up via Ulldecona, or return through Horta de Sant Joan and Gandesa, and stop at Tortosa for its Gothic cathedral and La Suda castle. Sleep on the Costa Daurada: on day 6 you are back in the Vallès in about 1 h 30 to return the motorhome between 9:00 and 12:00.

Where to sleep

The Delta and Peníscola have campsites and motorhome aires, several open all year; Morella has fewer options, so check in advance what is open in winter. Outside bank holidays you rarely need to book far ahead. Park4Night and Campercontact show facilities and recent reviews, and our winter motorhome guide has tips for cold nights and frost.

The Delta is a natural park: overnight stays are only allowed in authorised places, and wild camping is generally not permitted in Catalonia. Parking wherever any vehicle may park is legal (DGT instruction 08/V-74), as long as you do not put out the awning, chairs or levelling ramps and do not empty any water.

Practical tips

- For birdwatching, dawn and dusk are best. Bring binoculars, warm layers and patience, and stay on paths and at viewpoints.

- Morella can wake up below freezing or under snow: check the DGT before driving up and add the optional snow chains (€20) when you book.
- Do not drive the motorhome into the old towns of Peníscola, Morella or Tortosa: park outside and walk.
- The mestral wind can blow hard across the Delta: in strong gusts keep the awning closed and take care on the raised roads between rice fields.
- Fill up with water and empty grey water at a campsite or aire before heading up to Morella, where services are scarcer in winter.

Information and bookings

segimonrental.com/en/routes/ebro-delta-peniscola-morella-winter/

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Indicative itinerary. Check road conditions, opening times and restrictions before setting off. Up-to-date information on our website.