

# **The Government of Catalonia agrees to collaborate with the Basque Country, La Rioja and the Foral Community of Navarra to manage and promote the Ignatian Way .**

The Catalan Government, through the Department of Business and Knowledge, on November 24, 2020 has signed a collaboration agreement with the governments of Euskadi, La Rioja and the Foral Community of Navarra to sponsor and promote joint management, promotion and marketing actions of the Ignatian Way. The objective is to develop a diversified, sustainable and innovative tourism model, based on territorial balance and seasonal adjustment, which highlights the value of both the natural environment and the historical, architectural, religious and cultural heritage. In this sense, the four communities consider that there is a special opportunity to develop this shared polyhedral vision, based on the exchange of information and experience. Furthermore, in the specific case of Catalonia, the impulse of the Ignatian Way is in line with the various lines of work of the Strategic Tourism Plan for Catalonia 2018-2022.

700 kilometers of spiritual and cultural path. Currently, the path traced from the personal notes of Saint Ignatius begins at Loyola's house where he was born and leads to the one known as "Cueva de San Ignacio", in Manresa. The Ignatian Way passes through villages and quiet corners, little crowded but rich in Romanesque, Gothic and little-known religious monuments. This itinerary contributes to assessing cities, places and inland regions that have a first-rate monumental and cultural heritage, but that are not yet sufficiently known from a tourist point of view.

It will work together with the Society of Jesus, from its Office of the Pilgrim of the Ignatian Way, to create a plan of actions to promote the Way that takes into account the direct involvement of tourist resources and companies from the four

territories to facilitate a beneficial exchange. On the other hand, it will participate in promotional activities.