

When you're planning a rural getaway and looking for accommodation, you always go for the one that best meets your needs. To help you get it right, the Directorate-General for Tourism rates rural accommodation establishments by awarding ears of wheat. It is a similar system to the stars awarded hotels: the more ears of wheat, the better the quality of the establishment. In Catalonia more than 500 rural tourism establishments already display their wheat ears.

There are 5 classes of rural tourism establishment



Features of rural tourism establishments

Simple

Common Characteristics

- Rural building, pre-1950, fits in with landscape
- Small accommodation
- Peaceful surroundings
- Good local connections and knowledge
- Comfortable, welcoming atmosphere
- Direct contact with people from the region
- Access route in good condition
- Information for tourists about the area
- Friendly treatment and personalised welcome
- Heating in all rooms and hot water
- TV in lounge
- Basic set of personal hygiene items

Specific Features

WHOLE HOUSE

- Linen and household equipment for immediate use

SHARED HOUSE

- Breakfast with home-made and locally produced foodstuffs

Comfortable

Common Characteristics

- Outside area
- Access to swimming pool

Specific Features

WHOLE HOUSE

- Cleaning equipment (kitchen roll, washing-up liquid and sponge, tablets for dishwasher if there is one, bin liners and washing powder for clothes)

SHARED HOUSE

- Sweet and savoury breakfast with home-made and locally produced foodstuffs

Very Comfortable

Common Characteristics

- Friendly treatment, personalised welcome and small gift on arrival or departure

- Good facilities in indoor and outdoor areas

- Parking near the house

- Activities and experiences available in the area

- Own updated website

Specific Features

WHOLE HOUSE

- Basic kitchen set (oil, salt, vinegar, coffee and sugar)

- Dishwasher

- Complete barbecue

SHARED HOUSE

- Breakfast with fresh fruit

Highly Comfortable

Common Characteristics

- Special construction, pre-1950, of architectural interest with traditional local elements

- Asphalted or compacted access route

- Full set of personal hygiene items

- Superior facilities in indoor and outdoor areas

- Open fireplace

- Well-equipped rooms with high-quality furniture

- Guest bathroom

- Extensive outside area

- Pool on the same site

- Parking on the same site

- Wide range of activities and experiences available in the area

Specific Features

WHOLE HOUSE

- Good quality linen and household equipment for immediate use

- Brick-built barbecue

- Basket of basic products on request

- Extra cleaning during stay

SHARED HOUSE

- Cooked breakfast with home-made and locally produced foodstuffs

- Half board with home-made and locally produced foodstuffs

- All rooms have en suite bathroom

Exceptionally Comfortable

Common Characteristics

- Building of exclusive architectural interest, pre-1950, with traditional or historical features

- Scenic views in detached country houses. For houses in towns and villages, the area round the centre should be of special architectural and local interest.

- Access route in good condition with asphalted or compacted surface

- Individual heating and air conditioning in each room

- Bathrobe and slippers

- Parking under cover on the same site

- Online booking and payment by credit card

Specific Features

WHOLE HOUSE

- Very high-quality linen and household equipment for immediate use

- Common rooms (multi-purpose hall, games room, reading room, music room)

SHARED HOUSE

- Full board with home-made and locally produced foodstuffs

Above the basic class, each new class includes the features of the ones below.