



## CONTENTS

- WELCOME TO THE 2019 ICF CANOE FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN SORT
- SORT, NOGUERA PALLARESA
- KEY DATES AND PROVISIONAL COMPETITION SCHEDULE
- COMPETITION GENERAL INFORMATION
  - o Competition Regulations
  - o Events
  - o Registration & Accreditation
  - o Visa Requirements
  - o Insurance & good state of health / fitness
- USEFUL CONTACTS FOR THE 2019 ICF CANEO FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
- HOW TO GET TO SORT
- WHERE TO SLEEP IN SORT
- MAP OF SORT



## WELCOME TO THE 2019 ICF CANOE FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN SORT

On Behalf of the Organising Committee, I would like to give my warmest welcome to the participants of the ICF Freestyle World Championship held this year in Sort (Lleida, Spain).

From the Royal Spanish Canoe Federation, we are thankful to the International Canoe Federation to trust our proposal of nomination for chose the venue of Sort for hosting the Freestyle competition and be able to show the delegations the value and the feature of our project.

Sort has already a trajectory for organizing this kind of competitions, either European such as the Final for the European Wildwater Canoeing Cup on 1980 and the European Freestyle Championship on 2004, or International as the Junior Wildwater Canoeing World Championship on 1988, the Freestyle World Championship on 2001, the Wildwater Canoeing World Championship on 2010, the International Freestyle Open on 2013 and the ICF Freestyle Kayak World Cup on 2014 and 2018. On the 2001 Freestyle World Championship we hosted 450 paddlers from 50 different countries, this year we expect to reach and exceed those numbers!

For the Competition this year we are pleased to announce the new feature on the river. We are working on these new spots that are going to provide the athletes new sensations and hopefully we are going to exceed their expectations. With this project we are going to provide all the paddlers a feature that can be available all year long, getting Sort as an international destination for practicing the Freestyle Kayak any time of the year. We started as the river that allows to introduce in Spain the Whitewater Canoeing, and we want to become a worldwide reference to practice this sport.

On Behalf of the Host Organizing Committee, I thank the City Council of Sort, Diputació de Lleida, Consell Català de l'Esport from Generalitat de Catalunya and Consejo Superior de Deportes from Spanish Government, sponsors, suppliers, volunteers, contributors and the inhabitants of Sort for their continuous support and offering us this fantastique event.

I hope the competition and the magnificent natural environment will be enjoyed, as well as the cultural and gastronomic offers of the town of Sort.

To finish, I can only wish you all the best for your success on the 2019 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championship.

Juan José Roman Mangas  
RFEP president and Organizing Committee President



## **SORT, NOGUERA PALLARSA. THE RIVER FOR THE 2019 ICF CANOE FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

For the first time, the ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championship comes to Sort, in Spain, and what an occasion it will be! Sort is the home of the world's first ever freestyle kayaking stadium, which will give athletes and spectators an experience they've never felt before. This will be the first time it is used.

This year Sort is going to welcome all the athletes with the new feature on the riverbed. We are working against the clock to get you two a new spot on the river that is going to make this competition special. This new feature it will permit to play with the water levels depending on the needs for the competition and we are sure is going to amaze you all. A full team of engineers, workers, and the town council are working to get ready these new features for the trials and of course, for the competition.

Already in the 60s, white water activities started in Spain thanks to our river, La Noguera Pallarsa, which undoubtedly meant the development of a sports tourist offer related to leisure activities in nature, as well as the consolidation of several sports clubs for canoeing and kayaking. Since then we have been leased to host many competitions on local, national, European and International levels, the last one last year's ICF World Cup.

This record and the quality of the natural surroundings of the river, together with its special course as it runs through the town, have become key factors to help the town of Sort become the capital of adventure sports and active and innovative tourism. Thus, in el Pallars Sobirà one can do more than 24 different catalogued sports activities, in relation with nature and the river, within a radius of 40 km.

This year competition venue is found just below the bridge to La Seu (N-260) and right after the Slalom Course named "l'Aigüerola". Over there are taking place the remodelling works for this new feature we are so glad about. Over there we are going to provide a bunch of facilities for the athletes, teams, families and the general public to enjoy the maximum the competition and all the other activities we are planning to offer you. You will hear about it soon.

Sort is the capital of el Pallars Sobirà, a county set in the north-west of Catalonia. The municipality covers about 105 km, it is 695 m above sea level and has about 2.200 inhabitants who most of them live in the town and the rest are spread among the 14 aggregated villages.

The county of Sort, literally the old domain of a count, is worldwide known by its high-quality tourist and sports offer and variety, as well as for being a town in a land where 80% of its territory is protected by the natural areas that surround it: "Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici National Park" and "Alt Pirineu Natural Park".

Apart from the extraordinary river that runs through the town, Sort is an important part of the Counts of del Pallars, 14 picturesque aggregated villages, Romanesque churches,

museums, diaries, meteorological observatory, traditional festivals, amazing landscapes, etc.). There are also excellent hotels, shops, restaurants and adventure sports and active tourism companies offering a bunch of adventures to try.

In such a context, Sort was, in 2006, awarded as Tourist and Sports Destination label for canoeing and kayaking by the autonomous government, Generalitat de Catalunya. This label is given by the bureau of Agència Catalana de Turisme, which certifies the quality in the offer of sports and tourist services of a certain destination.

## KEY DATES AND PROVISIONAL COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Competition dates: 29th June 2019 to 6th July 2019

The deadlines you need to remember:

- Numerical Entries      15<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- Nominal Entries        19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

To make sur you have the very last version of the Official Schedule for the whole competition, we get you to the ICF Official website:

<https://www.canoeicf.com/canoe-freestyle-world-championships/la-seu-2019/schedule>

## COMPETITION GENERAL INFORMATION

### COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The competition will be carried out under the specific regulations of the Canoe Freestyle rules approved by the ICF.

[https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/rules\\_canoe\\_freestyle\\_2019.pdf](https://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/rules_canoe_freestyle_2019.pdf)

### EVENTS:

Event	Maximum numbers of athletes per National Federation
Men's Kayak	5
Women's Kayak	5
Men's Kayak Junior	3
Women's Kayak Junior	3
Canoe Decked	3
Open Canoe	2
Men's Kayak Squirt	3
Women's Kayak Squirt	3



**REGISTRATION & ACCREDITATION**

Entries and accreditations requests must be made by each National Federation using the ICF's online entries system (SDP):

<https://icf.msl.es/icf/icf.jsp>

For detailed instructions on how to submit entries, please read the SDP user guide. Any questions or issues relating to entries or accreditations should be sent to [sdp@canoeicf.com](mailto:sdp@canoeicf.com) prior to respective deadlines.

SDP user guide

[http://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf\\_userguide\\_v2.2.pdf](http://www.canoeicf.com/sites/default/files/nf_userguide_v2.2.pdf)

Reminder: Entries or accreditation requests sent directly to the committee or the event organiser WILL NOT be accepted.

**VISA REQUIREMENTS**

The Spanish Embassy in your country will provide you with detail, your requirement for a Visa. <http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/en/ServiciosAlCiudadano/InformacionParaExtranjeros/Paginas/RequisitosDeEntrada.aspx>

In case you need a VISA to enter the country, please send an email with the details below to [worlds2019@sort.cat](mailto:worlds2019@sort.cat). If it's possible one email with all the details for each Team, so the Team Manager will have the responsibility to collect all the paddlers information.

Details to complete

FAMILY NAME	FIRST NAME	MALE/FEMALE	BIRTH DATE	STATUS	PASSPORT Nº	EXPIRY DATE	NATIONALITY
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**INSURANCE & GOOD STATE OF HEALTH / FITNESS**

As per ICF 2019 Competition Rules 1.3.3 and 1.3.4, each National Federation must ensure that their athletes are in a good state of health and fitness and they carry an appropriate health, accident and personal belongings insurance.



## USEFUL CONTACTS FOR THE 2019 ICF CANOE FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

### ROYAL SPANISH CANOE FEDERATION

c/Antracita 7, 3<sup>º</sup>  
28045, Madrid  
[www.rfep.es](http://www.rfep.es)  
[correo@rfep.es](mailto:correo@rfep.es)

### AJUNTAMENT DE SORT (Sort Town Council)

c/ Pol i Aleu 13  
25560, Sort  
[www.sort.cat](http://www.sort.cat)  
[www.sortturisme.com](http://www.sortturisme.com)  
[worlds2019@sort.cat](mailto:worlds2019@sort.cat)

For any question about accommodation, transportation, tourism, activities... please refer to [worlds2019@sort.cat](mailto:worlds2019@sort.cat).

## HOW TO GET TO SORT?

- Main International Airports:
  - o Barcelona – El Prat Airport (222km)
  - o Toulouse – Blagnac Airport (239km)
  - o Girona – Costa Brava Airport (231km)
  - o Lleida – Alguaire Airport (126km)
  
- By Bus:

The company that does the route Barcelona – Sort is ALSA, you are going to find all the timings and prices in [www.alsa.es](http://www.alsa.es).

For other routes please refer to [worlds2019@sort.cat](mailto:worlds2019@sort.cat)
  
- By Train:

There is no Train Station in Sort, the closest one is in La Pobla de Segur, 28km away. If you are coming from Barcelona, from the airport you must take a train to Sants Railway Station. Once there, train to Lleida and there take the train that goes to La Pobla de Segur. In La Pobla there are buses that comes to Sort, or taxi service.

Train info in: [www.renfe.com/EN/viajeros/index.html](http://www.renfe.com/EN/viajeros/index.html)
  
- By Road:

N-260 and C-13 are the two main roads that gets to Sort. Please refer to this link to create the routes from / to Sort.

<https://www.google.es/maps/place/25560+Sort,+Lleida/@42.4101292,1.1277606,16z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x12a605dc0369c501:0xf06348cef8cfd80f!8m2!3d42.4103118!4d1.1287747>

From the Organising Committee in the Town Council we are not going to provide any official transportation to get all the teams to Sort. However, we can help all the teams to contact the Taxi Services to get that service. All payed by each team.



## WHERE TO SLEEP IN SORT

There are many possibilities of accommodation in Sort and the villages around. From the Organising Committee we do not provide the accommodation for the teams. However if you need any information, any contact or any address please, don't hesitate to contact us at [worlds2019@sort.cat](mailto:worlds2019@sort.cat), we are going to be more than happy to help you have an incredible stay.

The different kind of accommodations that are available in Sort and surroundings are Hotels, Apartments, Bed & Breakfasts, Hostels, Camping sites, holiday Cottages, and Touristic Apartments.

## MAP OF SORT

