

FOOD

The Celiac Association accredits the first establishment with guarantees

Some companies lose interest because it takes a slow process of two to four months

This initiative offers peace of mind to customers as the risk of being intoxicated



EDUARD COMELLAS

►►Some cooks prepare food in an establishment in Andorra.

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The Association of Celiac of Andorra (ACEA) accredits today the first establishment so that celiac people can go to eat with guarantees. The sticker will be delivered at 4.30 pm at the Hotel Roc Meler in Canillo.

The head of the restoration project of the Andorra Without Gluten association, Ingrid Forell, assured EL PERIÒDIC that «the initiative has been underway since 2019, but it was not until 2020 that we began to renew it with stricter protocols, safer and adapted to the new recognitions towards the celiac disease». The regulations are mainly

based on the actions and training of the Celiac Association of Catalonia. «They have made it very easy for us, as we are not only a small association, but we do not receive any kind of subsidy or aid», said Forell.

In the country, there are already places that offer gluten-free food. However, the person in charge of the project recalled that «since in Europe there is no obligation to add to the information of a product that it contains traces, the establishments can offer a product with gluten without knowing it, and this is a problem for celiac people. In addition, Forell explained that «some of these places say they do not need accreditation because celiac people never complain about



INGRID FORELL
MEMBER OF THE ACE

«At the European level, there is no obligation to add that a product contains traces and is dangerous for celiac people»

«It's not that people who suffer from this disease aren't getting gluten well, they're not tolerating it»

their options, but the truth is that it is very difficult to prove that you have been intoxicated in a specific place and, for this reason, people suffering from the disease do not take action in the event of effects.

In this line, not every place can get the accreditation sticker, because it needs to meet special requirements. First, the option offered by the establishment must not only be gluten-free, but also ensure that the products are free of traces. In addition, the food must be labeled or have a barred spike on it and provide good storage. In addition, waiters and cooks should be trained in food handling, cleanliness, and use of different utensils and cooking spaces. «Some companies ask us for information», said Forell.

The regulations are based on the actions and training of the Celiac Association of Catalonia

In any case, the aim of the ACEA is to make establishments aware of the importance of achieving a seal suitable for celiac people and the confidence that they gain if they know that they are not at risk. However, the association also makes an effort to educate about the disease. Forell warned that «in 2012, after many years without knowing celiac disease, the nomenclature was changed and it was determined that it is in fact an autoimmune disease, which affects the small intestine, but can also cause secondary problems, such as herpetiform dermatitis or osteoarthritis. Contrary to many people's beliefs about celiac disease, «it's not about gluten, it's about tolerating it», said Forell.

Ultimately, Forell explained that «many foreigners ask where they can go to eat when they come to the holiday country, and as a tourist destination it should be a priority concern.» «We have few accredited restaurants, and most of them are international chains», he added. ≡

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STATISTICS

Fuel imports are up 41% in March

During the first quarter of the year, the total of the rest of the materials experienced an increase of 60%

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The import of fuels during the month of March has been 17.37 million liters. This represents a positive percentage change over the same month last year of + 41.1%. From January to March 2022 the import of fuels was 49.29 million liters, giving a percentage change of + 36.8% as opposed to the same period in 2021. In terms of data accumulated during the last 12 months, the import of fuels has been 167.26 million liters, which is a positive change of + 29.9% compared to 128.75 million liters accumulated last year. As for the adjusted data, after eliminating the variations caused by the effects of the calendar and the period of the year in which we are, it shows a downward

The only import with a negative variation is Jewelry, which fell by more than 10.5% last month

trend in the last three months, although positive, and stands at a value of + 0.8%.

On the other hand, the rest of the imports during the last month have added a value of 148.14 million euros, which represents a percentage change of + 47.2% compared to March of the previous year. This is due to the positive percentage and absolute variation of almost all groups, highlighting energy with + 169.0%, food with + 51.0%, drinks and tobacco with + 105.2% and pharmacy-perfumery with + 73.9%. By contrast, the only import with a negative percentage change is jewelry with -10.6%.

During the first three months of this year, total imports amounted to 398.31 million euros, with a percentage change of + 60.4% over the same period last year. All groups have outstanding positive values: energy (+ 159.2%), food (+ 54.7%), beverages and tobacco (+ 131.5%), pharmacy-perfumery (+ 78.3%), electronics (+ 63.0%), industrial (+ 39.2%), clothing and footwear (+ 44.0%) and miscellaneous (+ 59.9%).

As for the cumulative of the last 12 months, imports have had a value of 1,473.07 million euros, which is a percentage change of +



►► Archive image of a gas station.

16.2% over the cumulative of the last 12 months of the previous period, in which imports in value were 1,267.19 million euros. Excluding energy, imports are up 11.0% from last year. The items energy (+ 109.6%), transport (+ 37.4%), food (+ 27.7%), pharmacy-perfumery (+ 50.0%) stand out with a positive percentage change and greater absolute

variation, beverages and tobacco (+ 57.0%) and clothing and footwear (+ 30.0%). In contrast, the only item with a percentage change and negative absolute change is miscellaneous (-64.2%).

Due to the exceptional import of the item miscellaneous and specifically of Chapter 97 Objects of art, collectors' items or antiques in Ju-

ne 2020, the import of the said item shows a marked decrease. Excluding these imports for June 2020, the variation is + 38.0% for the cumulative of the last 12 months compared to the cumulative of the previous period.

Exports during the month of March totaled 12.94 million euros, with a percentage change of -0.4% over the previous period. The exported items that stand out with a positive percentage change and a greater absolute variation are miscellaneous with + 5.9% and jewelry with + 32.5%. The items clothing and footwear with -16.1%, construction with -19.7% and pharmacy-perfumery with -21.7% have a more pronounced negative percentage variation.

Thus, in the first quarter the total exports are 237.84 million euros, with a percentage change of + 616.5% over the same period last year. The items of miscellaneous (+ 7,031.1%) and electronics (+ 38.4%) stand out with positive values. On the other hand, the item with the

most notable absolute negative variation is construction (-8.2%). Excluding the exceptional export of the item miscellaneous and specifically of chapter 97 Art objects, collectors' items or antiques for the month of February of the current year, the variation becomes +14.0% for this first quarter of this year.

Also, in the first three months of 2022, total exports amounted to 237.84 million euros, with a percentage change of + 616.5% over the same period in 2021. They stand out with positive values the items of miscellaneous (+ 7,031.1%) and electronics (+ 38.4%). On the other hand, the item with the most notable absolute negative variation is construction (-8.2%). Excluding the exceptional export of the item miscellaneous and specifically of chapter 97 Art objects, collectors' items or antiques for the month of February of the current year, the variation becomes +14, 0% for the first quarter of 2022, as reported yesterday by the Government Statistics Department. ≡

the figures

17.3 million liters is the total fuel import for March of this year.

169% is the increase in imports experienced by the Energy group in the last month.

1,473 billion euros is the accumulation of imports over the last year.

12.94 millions d'euros és el que van experimentar les exportacions el mes de març.

7,031% is the share value of the exports of the Others group in the first quarter.

237.84 million euros is the total exports experienced this year.

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