

Guerrillas in Spain

A *Partida* of Guerrillas was linked to their locality and would be responsible for harassing French troops in that area and ensuring that no local produce was taken as forage. Where possible, enemy detachments would be taken on in ambush or straight fights where the odds were in the favour of the guerrillas. The French were incredibly frustrated by the propensity of these irregulars to fight and then melt away if the action went against them. Whilst the main rules do contain ratings for Guerrilla troops, we suggest using the ideas in the list provided here for guerrillas in Sharp Practice.

Below are two guerrilla forces covering the period 1808 to 1814. The guerrillas can choose any regular Spanish, British or Portuguese units as support options. The first list represents the Spanish people rallying to the guerrilla bands. The militia are the new recruits and the trained guerrillas are the regular troops who have joined the ranks of the irregulars in order to continue resistance against the invaders.

People Rise Up (1808-1809)
Leader Status II
Two Groups of 10 Guerrilla Militia, Muskets
Leader, Status II
Two Groups of 8 Trained Guerrillas, Muskets
Leader, Status II
Two Groups of 8 Guerrilla Cavalry, Lances
Leader II
Two Groups of 6 Guerrilla Skirmishers, Muskets
Points: 58

The second list represents a tried and tested guerrilla force of the sort which could be attached to a British force in Northern Spain.

Storm Break Lose (1810-1814)
Leader Status III
Leader Status I
Leader Status I
Three Groups of 6 Guerrilla Skirmishers, Muskets
Leader, Status II
Leader I
Three Groups of 8 Guerrilla Light Cavalry, Lance and Muskets
Point Value:
Points: 57

Guerrilla Militia, 1808-1809					Type	Militia
Points Value	2	Weapon	Musket		Size	10
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	No bayonets
Trained Guerrillas, 1808-1809					Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	First Only	-	2	2	
Guerrilla Skirmishers, 1808-1814					Type	Irregular Skirmishers
Points Value	6	Weapon	Musket		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No	Yes	No	-	1	-	Tactical, Moveable DP
Guerrilla Cavalry, 1808-1814					Type	Scouting Cavalry
Points Value	5	Weapon	Lance		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	
Guerrilla Light Cavalry, 1808-1814					Type	Irregular Cavalry
Points Value	5	Weapon	Lance, Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	Yes	No	-	-	-	Tactical, Moveable DP

Contra-Guerilla Forces in Spain

The sheer number of French forces tied down by guerrilla activity in Spain was remarkable, not least because the French found themselves unable to recruit significant Spanish forces to fight against the guerrillas. As a result, the French were obliged to use their own forces to secure their lines of communication and supply.

The following forces are examples of forces which can be used to combat the Spanish, be that occupying a block house or more aggressively taking the fight to the enemy in the hills and mountains.

The first list is a standard infantry force occupying a blockhouse under the command of a Captain.

Blockhouse Garrison
Leader Status II
Two Groups of 8 French Regulars, Muskets
Leader, Status I
Two Groups of 8 French Regulars, Muskets
Leader, Status II
Two Groups of 6 French Line Skirmishers, Muskets
Points:

The second list represents a patrol sent out to take on any guerrilla force located.

Contra-Guerilla Patrol
Leader Status III
Three Groups of French Regulars, Musket
Leader, Status II
Two Groups of 6 French Line Skirmishers, Muskets
Leader I
One Group of 10 Contra-Guerillas, Musket
Points:

The third list represents a fast moving force of Polish light infantry accompanied by French Dragoons tasked with sweeping villages in the hope of finding weapons or guerrillas

Light Patrol
Leader Status III
Two Groups of 6 Light Voltigeur Skirmishers, Muskets (French)
Leader, Status II
Leader I
Three Groups of 8 French Dragoons, Sword and Carbine
Leader, Status I
One Groups of 8 mounted Gendarmes, Muskets
Points:

French Line Infantry, 1809 - 1812						Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	Yes	No	3	2	-	Pas de Charge	
French Line Infantry, 1813 - 1814						Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	No	No	-	3	3	Pas de Charge	
French Line Skirmishers, 1809 - 1812						Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	7	Weapon	Musket		Size	6	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	Yes	No	-	2	-	Sharp Practice	
French Line Skirmishers, 1813 - 1814						Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	5	Weapon	Musket		Size	6	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	No	No	-	2	-		
Contra-Guerrillas, 1808-1814						Type	Militia
Points Value	2	Weapon	Musket		Size	10	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Never	No	No	-	-	-		
Voltigeur Skirmishers, 1808-1812						Type	Light Infantry
Points Value	9	Weapon	Musket		Size	6	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	Yes	-	-	2	-	Sharp Practice, Aggressive	
Voltigeur Skirmishers, 1813-1814						Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	7	Weapon	Musket		Size	6	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	No	-	-	2	-	Sharp Practice	
French Dragoons, 1809 - 1814						Type	Dragoons
Points Value	9	Weapon	Sword & Carbine		Size	8	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Always	Yes	No	-	2	2	Tally Ho! Sharp Practice	
French Gendarmes 1809 - 1814						Type	Irregular Cavalry
Points Value	4	Weapon	Sword and Carbine		Size	8	
Formation	First Fire	Controlled Volley	Crashing Volley	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics	
Never	No	No	-	-	-	Moveable DP	