

CASTILLA

Y

NADA QUE SE PAREZCA A TI

TOURIST NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

LEÓN



Junta de
Castilla y León

MUSAC

MUSEO DE ARTE CONTEMPORANEO DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN



The Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León aspires to be a fundamental tool to know critically the art, culture and society of the world in which we live and to act in the formulation of new models to produce, make visible and share contemporary art that are reflections of new ways of understanding society in times of radical and rapid transformations. MUSAC is defined as an open space for citizens for thought, dialogue and understanding of analytical tools and action strategies concerning art and its relation with society, using critical museology as a paradigm through which the users can relate with the museum and the environment to generate a shared network of situated and contextual knowledge. Crossing cultures and identities, the museum functions as a platform that transforms, problematizes and questions current aesthetic, poetic, political and socioeconomic conditions.



TOURIST PROPOSALS

Mercado Medieval de La Adrada, Ávila (cedida agencia Ical)



MEDIEVAL MARKET OF LA ADRADA, ÁVILA

The Medieval Market of La Adrada is one of the oldest medieval festivals in the province of Ávila. When King Enrique III granted La Adrada the title of “Carta de Villazgo” (Town Charter) on October 14, 1393, he bestowed upon it the privilege of several concessions that have marked the history of the town. Since 2002, the medieval market has been held, coinciding with the May 1st bank holiday. The historic centre and the main cultural symbol of the municipality, the Castle of La Adrada, is decorated with banners, flags, merchant stalls, culinary delights, artisan crafts, entertainers, birds of prey displays and street performances, all of which evoke the atmosphere of medieval village life. Historical re-enactments through theatrical performances, madrigal concerts, archery, medieval tournaments, the Arab quarter, medieval camping, illustration and costume contests, conferences, medieval dinners and the eagerly awaited fireworks display of the burning of the Castle accompanied by a torchlight procession, make up an original celebration of the medieval heritage of the town of La Adrada.



Fiesta del Mayo, Hontoria del Pinar, Burgos



MAY FESTIVAL, HONTORIA DEL PINAR, BURGOS

In 2024, the Hontoria del Pinar, in the province of Burgos, makes its debut as a Festival of Tourist Interest in Castilla y León, joining the ranks of prestigious celebrations such as the Cecina Festival, in the San Pedro de la Fuente district of Burgos, and the Judas Festival in Villadiego. At the heart of the festivities is the "Pingar el Mayo" (raising of the maypole), a cherished tradition in many of the towns in the Hontoria parish, nestled within the Pinares region shared by the provinces of Burgos and Soria. It is a day in the Pinares region, where traditional life has always unfolded in a forest environment of wild or Scots pine. During the "Pingada del Mayo" festival, visitors can enjoy traditional ethnographic events such as the jotás serranas, which is performed around the towering maypole. There is also a communal meal with the traditional stew of the Pinares region, made with lamb, potatoes, peppers, onions, garlic, and paprika, all boiled in a large pot fired with pine wood. Hontoria del Pinar

boasts a rich natural heritage, including the breathtaking scenery of the Cañón del Río Lobos Natural Park. A party for the whole family to enjoy.



LEMONADE AND LENTEN GASTRONOMY IN LEÓN

In León, the most traditional drink during Holy Week is lemonade. Made with red wine, lemons, oranges, dried figs, raisins, cinnamon, and sometimes a splash of other spirits, it's a quintessential part of the celebration. Complementing this drink are the renowned tapas, often served alongside free of charge. If you're visiting León during Lent or Holy Week, there's a wide range of typical dishes to enjoy. Highlights include bacalao al ajo arriero (cod with a garlic-based sauce), torrijas (Spanish-style French toast with many variations), meatless vigil stew, garlic soup, various conger eel dishes, and marinated olives with paprika, spring onions, and olive oil. Beyond Lenten specialities, León offers a multitude of year-round delights, making it a true haven for food enthusiasts.



Cubos Festival Internacional de Fotografía de Castilla y León en Palencia (cedida agencia Ical)



CASTILLA Y LEÓN INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL - FIFCYL, PALENCIA

Photography enthusiasts will have the International Photography Festival of Castilla y León - FIFCYL marked on their annual calendar, which this year celebrates its 4th edition and will be held in Palencia from 17 April to 19 May. A varied program of activities throughout the city will include a series of exhibitions featuring works by national and international artists, attracting photography associations, schools, and the general public to enjoy a unique festival. From the streets and squares to museums and exhibition centres, Palencia will be transformed into a creativity hub, where visitors can explore the captivating perspectives and talents of photographers who approach their craft with boundless passion. Embark on a journey of visual culture and uncover the enchanting beauty of Palencia in a unique and magical way.



"EL NOVENO" FESTIVITIES IN SAN FELICES DE LOS GALLEGOS, SALAMANCA

Castillo San Felices de los Gallegos, Salamanca

Every year, on the weekend closest to May 11th, San Felices de los Gallegos adorns itself in its finest attire to commemorate "El Noveno" (The Ninth), a festival that dates back to 1852. A closer look at its history reveals that its origins lie in the power struggles of centuries past. The dispute for the throne of Castilla between the future Queen Isabella I and her niece, Juana "La Beltraneja", led to the cession of San Felices de los Gallegos to the Duke of Alba, who imposed a tax called "El Noveno" on its inhabitants and those of neighbouring towns. This levy required the villagers to give the duke a ninth of their harvest. However, on May 11th, 1852, a group of magistrates gathered at the High Court of Valladolid to abolish the tax. It was then that the mayors of the towns affected by "El Noveno" decided to celebrate the end of the tax in grand style, with a festival that has continued to this day. The festival, declared to be a Festival of Tourist Interest of Castilla y León in 2005, is held in the main town square, transformed into a bullring, using antique farming carts and other tools.



Real Fábrica de Cristales de La Granja, Segovia



GLASS BLOWING, SEGOVIA

In December 2023, the technique of glassblowing was inscribed on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. In addition to transhumance, which was also declared this year, Spain is now proud to be home to twenty-one manifestations that have been recognised as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This candidacy has been shared with other countries. In Spain, it represents a body of knowledge closely linked to Spanish culture, thanks mainly to institutions such as the National Glass Centre of La Granja and Los Vidrios Gordiola in Mallorca. In Segovia, the Royal Glass Factory is one of the most important industrial buildings of the Enlightenment period. Commissioned by Carlos III, a visit offers an educational journey through glass-making, featuring varied permanent and temporary exhibitions, exquisite stained glass from the Maumejean workshop, and contemporary glass art. One of the distinguishing features of various Royal Palaces and noble residences are their uniquely crafted lamps, made to perfection. The traditional technique employed in La Granja is the blowing of glass with a pipe, with a firm commitment to preserving tradition, quality, and production methods.





MONASTERY OF SAN JUAN DE DUERO, SORIA

Situated along the banks of the Duero River, this monastery is a true wonder. Its cloister boasts impeccably geometric lines, showcasing a unique blend of original Romanesque style infused with Eastern influences. Built by the Order of the Hospitalers of Saint John of Jerusalem between the 12th and 13th centuries, it was abandoned in the 18th century, with only the church and its cloister remaining. The latter displays a striking Romanesque aesthetic with a blend of added styles. In the architectural expression of its cloister, one can admire a display of semi-circular arches, pointed horseshoe arches, and intersecting arches, making a total of four arcades of different orders. Its arcades are a combination of the different architectural styles of the time, including Romanesque, Gothic, and Moorish latticework, lending it an exotic charm. The highlight of the complex is the 11th-century Romanesque church, featuring two small temples attached to the wall, where the Eucharist was celebrated. Its capitals depict animated figures recreating various scenes from history, such as battles with fantastic animals, knights fighting dragons, and Herod's banquet.



THE TOWN OF ÍSCAR, VALLADOLID



The town of Íscar is located in the region of Tierra de Pinares, to the south of the province of Valladolid, near the banks of the Pirón River. Its fortress dominates the highest part of the town. Íscar is also distinguished by its religious heritage: the Mudéjar apses of the churches of San Pedro and Santa María Mártir, and the church of San Miguel, dating from the late 13th century. Also noteworthy are some 18th-century noble residences, such as the Casa de Caviedes, and the Mariemma Museum of Spanish Dance, dedicated to the famous dancer and choreographer, who donated her legacy to her hometown. The town also offers nature lovers two hiking trails: the Resina and Real de Merinas routes, whose main feature is the presence of large pine forests. It is also known for its suckling lamb, garden produce, and traditional pastries, including its authentic "rosquillas ciegas" (doughnuts with an iced lattice pattern on top).





VIEWPOINT OF ALTO DE SAN JUAN, SAN JUAN DE LA CUESTA, ZAMORA

Located at the heart of Sanabria stands the "Alto de San Juan" or "Peña Surrapia" towering at 1416 meters. This mountain boasts a natural viewpoint that serves as a balcony over the region of Sanabria. Situated in an isolated spot within the region, it treats visitors to breathtaking 360-degree panoramas encompassing vast stretches of Sanabria, Carballeda, and even Portugal. From this vantage point, visitors can marvel at the picturesque lower Cabrera, the Historic Complex of Puebla de Sanabria, and most notably, an awe-inspiring panoramic view of Lake Sanabria, rarely seen from this perspective. A hike is highly recommended, as the trail is relatively easy, with scenic views, spanning a mere 5-kilometre round trip. For details of the route, please refer to this link:



**REMEMBER, IN CASTILLA
Y LEÓN, YOU'LL FIND
EVERYTHING AND
MORE...
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
YOU!!!**



LAS POSADAS REALES PROPOSALS



Posada Real Casa Brasileru, Saucelle, Salamanca

For a fully immersive experience involving the nature and authenticity of Castilla y León, we recommend Las Posadas Reales, our high-quality rural tourism brand! Not only will you stay in singular buildings, but excellent accommodations and service are guaranteed! They are the perfect place to stay for an unforgettable experience, immersing yourself in all the activities, heritage and nature of Castilla y León.



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- **POSADA REAL EL LINAR DEL ZAIRE**

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- **POSADA REAL LAS MAYAS**

www.lasmayas.es
informacion@lasmayas.es

- **POSADA REAL HOSPEDERÍA JARAMILLO**

www.hospederiajaramillo.com
info@hospederiajaramillo.com

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www.elrincondebabia.com
informacion@elrincondebabia.com

- **POSADA CASA DE TEPA**

www.casadetepa.com
casadetepa@casadetepa.com

- **POSADA REAL HOSTERÍA CAMINO**

www.hosteriacamino.com
informacion@hosteriacamino.com

PALENCIA

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www.posadasantamarialareal.com
reservas@alojamientosconhistoria.com

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info@quintadelaconcepcion.es

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ruralmusical@gmail.com

- **POSADA REAL CASTILLO DEL BUEN AMOR**

www.buenamor.net
castillo@buenamor.net

- **POSADA REAL CASA DEL BRASILEIRO**

www.casabrasilero.com
reservascasabrasilero@gmail.com

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RUTAS DEL VINO PROPOSALS



Nature is certainly one of the biggest attractions of Las Rutas del Vino de Castilla y León. Hundred year-old vineyards are surrounded by fairytale scenery where flora and fauna coexist in perfect harmony, creating a magical horizon full of contrasts.

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<https://rutavinozamora.com/>
info@rutavinozamora.com



INCOMING TOUR OPERATORS PROPOSALS

In this newsletter, we would also like to share the proposals of some incoming tour operators in Castilla y León that organise different activities based on their thorough knowledge of the area and extensive experience.

- **PILGRIMS' ROUTE TO SANTIAGO OPTIONS**

Specialised in the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago.
www.rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com/historia-del-camino
miguelangel@rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com

- **DESTINO DIVINO**

Wine tourism and family tourism activities.
www.destino-divino.com/experiencias-en-familia/
Info@destino-divino.com

- **NIS-NORTH INCOMING SERVICE SL**

Unique Wine & Gastronomy experience in Rueda, Ribera del Duero and Basque Country.
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- **TOP RIBERA DEL DUERO**

Receptive tour operator in Ribera del Duero: tourism packs, accommodations, wineries, restaurants, recreational options...
www.topriberadelduero.com
info@topriberadelduero.com

- **VITORSALAMANCA**

Discover the province of Salamanca through half-day or full-day experiences.
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info@vitorsalamanca.com

- **RESERVASLEON.COM**

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- **VERONIA TOURS SL**

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- **ALACARTA WINE & GOURMET TOURS**

Specialised in exclusive trips and experiences focused on wine and cuisine.
www.alacarta.es
info@alacarta.es

- **BINATUR**

Summer in Bierzo with children. Holidays with kids.
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- **LA MIRADA CIRCULAR**

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- **MUNDICAMINO**

Receptive tour operator for all pilgrimage routes on the Iberian Peninsula.
www.mundicamino.com
travel@mundicamino.com

- **WELLBEDS**

Reservation portal specialized in health and well-being.
www.wellbeds.es
info@wellbeds.es

- **THEWAYTOURS**

Circular tour of the Picos de Europa.
<https://www.thewaytours.com/packages/circular-tour-picos-de-europa-2/>
info@thewaytours.com

- **NATURALISTE**

Trips and tours to Arribes del Duero, Sierra de la Culebra, Sanabria, Sierra de Francia...
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info@naturaliste.es

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- **INCOMING SALAMANCA**

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- **MUNDILEON**

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- **ALBUR VIAJES BENAVENTE**

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www.viajesalbur.net

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