CASTILLA Y LEÓN





Semana Santa (Holy Week) in Castilla y León is one of the cultural and popular manifestations that attract the highest number of tourists. During the week Castilla y León becomes transformed into a contemplative and devout place, only interrupted by the sound of drums and trumpets.

As varied as the cultural diversity that attends it, the manifestation itself is demonstrative of the devotion of all the people who celebrate the event in their different ways, although always driven by the same sentiments: passion, fervour and silence. Such is the history, custom and sentiment in these religious manifestations, that many of the Holy Week festivals in Castilla y León have been declared festivals of touristic interest Internationally and also nationally and regionally.









TOURISM IDEAS IN CASTILLA Y LEÓN

iseo antropológico de Riatas, Ávila (cedida por Longino y Gloria Hernández Zazo)



RIATAS ETHNOGRAPHIC AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL MUSEUM. ÁVILA

Like a journey through time, the Riatas Ethnographic and Anthropological Museum takes us back to another age. Located in the small town of Riatas in Sotalbo, it bears the traditional architecture that evokes earlier inhabitants. Siblings Gloria and Longino have set up this ethnographic museum in honour and in memory of their parents. It is the result of a great many years of preserving memories, thousands of items, which offer a window into past ages and it is all thanks to the hard work of this brother and sister who have been placing, selecting, and putting together this beautiful museum in what was once a farm warehouse. You can find such varied and diverse items as farm tools, soda bottles from different brands, dolls, clothes, furniture, record players... Some of the particularly curious items you can find include a stove full of sand and small pebbles and a winnowing machine. These are items that were in used until just a few years ago. In putting them on display, their aim is to give young people an understanding of how people used to work and take care of animals, what farm and gardening tools were like, and how pots, stew pots, pans, and other cooking utensils were used.

DESCENT OF THE ANGEL IN ARANDA DE DUERO. BURGOS

The most eagerly awaited moment of Easter Week in Aranda de Duero is the Descent of the Angel, which has been classed as a National Tourist Attraction. On Easter Sunday, which falls on 9 April this year, a boy or girl, dressed as an angel, descends on a cable inside a blue and white balloon from the beautiful facade of the church of Santa Maria. When they are above the image of the Virgen de la Candelas, the balloon opens and the Angel circles down to pull back the black mourning veil covering the carving, in celebration of the joy of the Resurrection of Christ, whose image was previously placed next to that of his mother across from the church. Later on, the Angel takes part in the procession below the platform of the Virgen, proudly carrying the black veil that they removed earlier and warmly waving to all the attendees.





Bajada del Angel, Aranda de Duero, Burgos



Auditorio Ciudad de León



A TOUR THROUGH CONTEMPORARY LEON

History, with its different civilisations and artistic styles, has shaped a modern and current Leon that has been able to blend the old and the modern to keep its past intact over the centuries. Unknown to most, contemporary Leon may make for a different but not less interesting tour than the ancient side. Buildings such as the award-winning City of Leon Auditorium and the MUSAC (Castille and Leon Museum of Contemporary Art) which earned the prize of best architecture in Europe in 2007 (both by architects Mansilla and Tuñón), the Regional Energy Body (an example of smart urban planning), the Regional Government of Castille and Leon building, the funeral home (perfectly embedded in the city), Santo Domingo square, the Guzmán fountain (which welcomes those arriving by bus and train), and Ordoño II street, widely held as the most emblematic street of the most contemporary side of Leon, are just a few of the most noteworthy sights.

WHAT IS THE LEBANIEGO JUBILEE YEAR? PALENCIA

The Lebaniego Jubilee Year refers to a year in which 16 April, the day when the feast of Santo Toribio is celebrated, falls on a Sunday. The celebration of the Holy Lebaniego Year started in the 16th century with the bull issued by Pope Julius II on 23 September 1512, which granted the privilege of celebrating the Holy Lebaniego Jubilee Year. The last one was in 2017 and 2023 will be the 74th holy year to be celebrated. The "Camino Lebaniego Castellano" is a cultural walking route between the city of Palencia and the Monastery of Santo Toribio de Liébana in Cantabria. This traditional pilgrim's route was already mentioned in 1455 and appears in the Book of Records of Palencia Cathedral. The "Camino Lebaniego Castellano" starts at the wharfs of the Canal of Castille in Palencia and uses its towpaths or paths on the



Camino Lebaniego en Frómista, Palencia

first stretch, following the roads left by the Romans in the towns of La Pernía, the "Burejo" road, which began in Pisoraca (Herrera de Pisuerga) and crossed into Cantabria via the Piedrasluengas Pass. Get your walking boots out and ask us for your Pilgrim Passport to stamp as you make your way along this fantastic pilgrim's route.



Dulces conventuales salmantinos

CONVENT SWEETS FROM SALAMANCA

Convent confectionery holds a special place amongst the delights of Salamanca cuisine. Almond-based muffin-like amarguillos, almond-based repelaos biscuits, rich bocadito pastries, crumbly mantecado biscuits, sweet soletilla sponges are just some of the sweet temptations you can find at convents in the province. They are often the result of the fusion of traditional Christian, Arab, and Jewish cooking. High-quality, local ingredients, with a notable use of almonds and honey, and traditional recipes passed down from one generation of sisters to the next in various religious orders come together to produce these delicious treats. Some of the convents where you can find these delights are the Convent of the Dominican-Dueñas (Salamanca), Benedictines (Alba de Tormes), Augustinians (San Felices de los Gallegos), Poor Clares (Ciudad Rodrigo and Cantalapiedra), and the Third Order of Franciscans (El Zarsoso).



TITIRIMUNDI PUPPET FESTIVAL, SEGOVIA

Segovia blossoms with magic and colour in spring. In May, puppets and marionettes take over the city and give us the chance to dip into a world of fantasy. This International Festival puts on puppet shows in a range of venues. Theatres, churches, courtyards, and even the streets come alive with this multidisciplinary theatre that uses marionettes on strings, glove puppets, shadow puppetry and other styles performed by companies from Spain and other countries. The large crowds and overall success mean there are also other places in the province where you can take in shows. Taking the opportunity to discover the charms of this World Heritage City, savouring the wealth of the cuisine, and strolling through the pretty streets is also part of this spring event that you simply cannot miss. What's more, visiting Francisco Peralta's Puppet Collection, in the Puerta de Santiago, is a great way to round off the fun you're bound to have if you come to the Titirimundi!



Titirimundi, Segovia





CATHEDRAL OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA ASUNCIÓN, EL BURGO DE OSMA, SORIA

The origins of the Diocese of El Burgo de Osma are recorded in 597 but it wasn't until 1101 that construction of the Romanesque cathedral would start after the diocese was restored by San Pedro de Osma once it was free from Muslim control. This early Romanesque cathedral would latterly be demolished to build the current Gothic one in the 13th century. Interesting remnants of the Romanesque period can still be seen in the cloisters and the Chapter House. The cathedral itself makes for an extensive history lesson due to the numerous extensions, adaptations, and endowments it has undergone since it was built. The facade and the stairway of the Chapel of San Pedro, the Chapel of Santiago, and a doorway of the cloisters are all from the Renaissance. The huge tower and some chapel domes are Baroque. The largest extension of the cathedral was made in the 18th century, during the

Neoclassical period, to the main sacristy, the chapel of Juan Palafox, and the nave. A cultural visit of the cathedral and the other interesting buildings in the area is enriched by the countryside around El Burgo de Osma. The River Lobos Canyon Park is a fine example of the natural beauty surrounding this wonderful city.





ROMAN VILLAS, ALMENARA DE ADAJA - PURAS, VALLADOLID

The Museum of Roman Villas and the Roman Villa in Almenara-Puras were classed as "Sites of Cultural Interest" in 1994. The house was built in the 4th century and inhabited until the 5th century. A visit to the villa takes in the different rooms, with mosaic floors and some of the original paintings on the walls and gives an insight into what life in the countryside was like at that time. There is a total of 400 m² of mosaics, of which the most important one is called "Pegaso" (Pegasus). There are also some baths which have a frigidarium and caldarium, the latter of which has underfloor heating. You enter through a hall which ends in a large trefoil plan room. This villa has a lot for children to enjoy, as they can also play on a themed playground outside.



Museo Villas Romanas, Almenara, Valladolio





Cofrades Bercianos viernes santo, Zamora (cedida Bercianos de Aliste, Félix Marbán)



HOLY WEEK IN BERCIANOS DE ALISTE, ZAMORA

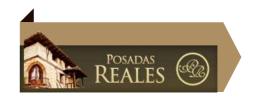
Holy Week in Bercianos de Aliste in Zamora is a unique example of religious fervour, tradition, and unity between the members of the religious brotherhood. It was classed as an "Intangible Site of Cultural Interest" by the Regional Government of Castille and Leon, as well as a Festival Tourist Attraction in Castille and Leon. It draws hundreds of people every year to a small town in the west of Zamora to relive the Passion and Death of Christ in a solemn and austere ritual that astounds first-time attendees. On the afternoon of Maundy Thursday there is a procession of people wearing brown Aliste capes, which seems to be from a time when there were no clocks or none of the trivial concerns of modern life, and the vivid representation of the descent from the cross and burial of Christ, who the brotherhood members accompany dressed the white linen tunics that will one day be their shroud. The silence, broken only by the voices of those singing the Miserere, and especially the participation of practically all the town residents in their biggest week make Holy Week in Bercianos de Aliste one of the most significant religious traditions in not only the province of Zamora but also the whole country.

Remember, in Castilla y León, you'll find everything and more... WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!!!

LAS POSADAS REALES DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN PROPOSALS







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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RUTAS DEL VINO DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN 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.

Natural, warm and welcoming spaces give our wine and people a unique personality. Nature parks, protected spaces, rivers, tracks and trails will allow you to leave your worries behind and reconnect with yourself. It's nature in its purest form.

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A paradise sheltered between granite canyons and metamorphic rocks, known as arribes, arribas or arribanzos, the banks which outline the Douro River. https://www.rutadelvinoarribes.com/?lang=en/hola@rutadelvinoarribes.com/

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TORO WINE ROUTE

Our countless heritage, our wines, our gastronomy, and our people who welcome you with open arms, an experience that leaves its mark. https://www.rutavinotoro.com/en/home-toro-wine-route/ https://www.rutavi

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The ideal place to enjoy perfectly preserved spaces that maintain the essence of the past. It is much more than wine. It is wine tourism. https://rutavinozamora.com/ info@rutavinozamora.com/

CASTILLA Y LEÓN 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. <u>www.rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com/historia-del-camino</u> <u>miguelangel@rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com</u>

DESTINO DIVINO

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

• NIS-NORTH INCOMING SERVICE SL

Unique Wine & Gastronomy experience in Rueda, Ribera del Duero and Basque Country. https://nis.es/from-madrid-to-bilbao.html<a href="https://nis.es

• 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. <u>www.vitorsalamanca.com</u>

info@vitorsalamanca.com

• RESERVASLEON.COM

Specialised in romantic, cultural and adventure getaways in the city and province of León. <u>www.reservasleon.com/zona/1/leon</u> <u>reservas@reservasleon.com</u>

VERONIA TOURS SL

Customized special interest tours: cultural, pilgrimages, choir, wine and gourmet... https://www.veroniatours.com/tours

veroniatours@veroniatours.com

ALACARTA WINE & GOURMET TOURS

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

info@alacarta.es

• BINATUR

Summer 2020 in Bierzo with children. Holidays with kids. https://binatur.es/vacaciones-con-ninos-en-el-bierzo/reservas@binatur.es

• LA MIRADA CIRCULAR

Circular route on mountain bikes and running in El Bierzo. 4, 5, 6 and 7-day routes. https://lamiradacircular.es/ and <a href="https://lamiradacircular.es/contactarcon

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

• NATURALISTE

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









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Itineraries for the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago on foot or by bike; hiking and cycling in Spain.

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THEWAYTOURS

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https://www.thewaytours.com/packages/circular-tour-picos-de-europa-2/

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Pioneer agency, specialized and accredited on the Camino de Santiago at Spain.

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Excellently situated in Benavente, a crossroads point, we offer our knowledge in the field of tourism.

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