



C U L T U R E

Cantabria



Cantabria  
Infinita

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sharing culture .....	3
World heritage caves .....	4
Museums and art centres .....	10
Festivals and other cultural events .....	12
Ensembles of archaeological interest .....	14
Cultural routes .....	20
Cemeteries of artistic interest.....	26
Ethnography of Cantabria .....	28
The world of fishermen and seamen .....	38
The game of skittles .....	40
Regional festivals .....	42
Interesting information.....	47

### CULTURA EN CANTABRIA

Edita: Gobierno de Cantabria Sociedad Regional Cántabra de Promoción Turística, S.A. CANTUR

Diseño y maquetación: © C&C Publicidad, S.A.

Fotografía: Archivo C&C Publicidad

y Sociedad Regional Cántabra de Promoción Turística, S.A. CANTUR

Texto: © C&C Publicidad, S.A.

Imprime: Artes Gráficas J. Martínez

Depósito legal: SA 498-2019

Impreso en España 2019

# S H A R I N G

## culture

Imagine travelling back in time. How far? 150,000 years. This is the cultural journey which passes by the oldest remains of the prehistoric caves of Cantabria and the Centro Botín. Via the pre-Christian world of Cantabrians and Romans, the dawn of the Christianisation of the southern valleys and Liébana, the Romanesque and Gothic expansion with its collegiate churches and fortresses... The same land that welcomes us today has been a witness to all episodes of history.

Cantabria retains the cultural legacy of all these periods; mansions and churches built with fortunes made in America, historicist or 19th-century modernist buildings... without forgetting this contemporary concept of culture which consists not only of preserving the past but also of participating in the present and the future. This is the culture of Cantabria; we hope you enjoy it!



# WORLD HERITAGE

## caves



Magdalenian staff  
of command  
(±15,000 years old)

In Cantabria there are some 60 caves with Palaeolithic art, of which ten have been declared "World Heritage Sites"; seven of these can be visited. Their artists lived 10,000, 20,000, 100,000 years ago... and according to experts thought, felt, and socialised with a fully human awareness.

The limestone soil of the region facilitates the appearance of caves shaped by underground rivers. When the water finds its way to deeper levels the "fossil galleries" through which water does not flow may be occupied by human groups.

On some sites the time scale is amazing. At Monte Castillo in Puente Viesgo humans were present for 150,000 years... Who knows how many civilisations, languages, conflicts, inventions, and events succeeded each other?

We know for sure that over so many years the climate went through several glaciations. The sea came to be 100 metres below its current level and the mountains were permanently covered in ice. The climatic changes led to journeys and migrations which encouraged cultural exchanges and progress.

Monte Castillo, Puente Viesgo



Fossil skull of a cave bear.  
Cantabria Prehistory Museum



When the ice melted the sea flooded the coast, burying caves and settlements which we will never know. Life continued on the sites we do know, almost all of which are in high places where the valley narrows and it was easier to ambush the large mammals: deer, bison, mammoths, reindeer, bears, and lions shared the landscape with humans, who also fished and gathered shellfish.



Covalanas Cave (Ramales de la Victoria)

A very different world in a natural setting similar to that of today. We recommend a visit to the Cantabria Prehistory Museum (MVPAC) or the Altamira National Museum to prepare you for greater enjoyment of the caves that can be visited. It's cold in the caves, so take a jacket even in summer and wear strong footwear.

**MVPAC  
Regional  
Prehistory  
Museum**

With a modern and didactic museography it exhibits collections from the main sites of Cantabria from prehistory to Romanisation. Closed on Mondays.

**Santander.** C/ Bailén s/n. (+34) 942 209 922. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)

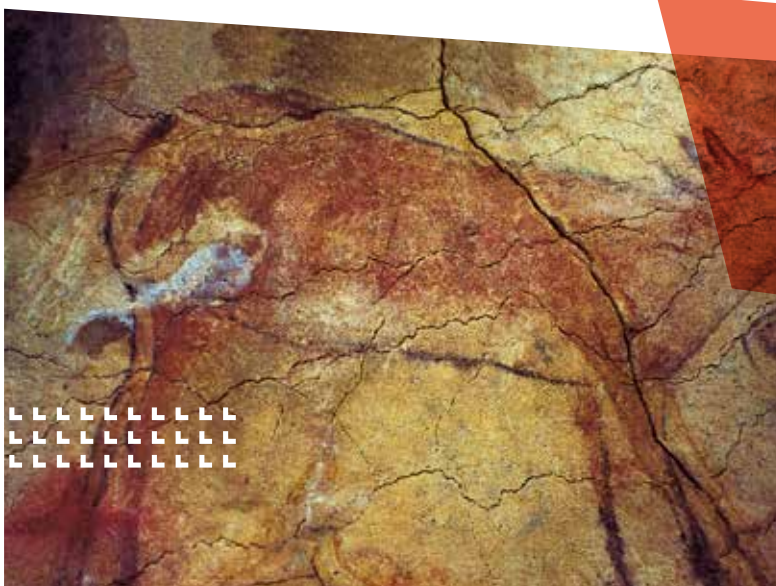




# ALTAMIRA

## origin of art

Altamira is the most famous of the caves of Cantabria, a cultural icon recognised all over the world. Discovered in 1879, it contains the polychrome paintings which led to the well known scene in which little Maria looked up and said: "Look father, oxen". Marcelino Sainz de Sautuola thus discovered the cave paintings and published a study in which he hazarded the extreme antiquity of the paintings. He was branded a fraud by the intellectuals of the time and was not recognised until after his death. The story is told in the film Altamira by Hugh Hudson starring Antonio Banderas.



**Altamira  
National  
Museum  
and Research  
Centre**

**Santillana del Mar**

**Open:** Open: From **May to October:** Tuesday to Saturday from 9:30 to 20:00 h.

Sundays and holidays from 9:30 to 15:00 h.

From November to April: Tuesday to Saturday from 9:30 to 18:00 h.

Sundays and holidays from 9:30 to 15:00 h.

**Closed:** All Mondays in the year; 1st January; 1st May; 24, 25, and 31st December. Two local holidays.

[museodealtamira.mcu.es](http://museodealtamira.mcu.es) • (+34) 942 818 005

The paintings of Altamira reveal an expert knowledge of the techniques of plastic expression. The use of colours, shadows and volumes are those of one or several experienced and talented artists. Indeed, when they were painted 14,000 years ago art had already accumulated millennia of tradition: around the main paintings and in other parts of the cave there are other drawings which are over 35,000 years old.

If as it appears this was an important place for cultural encounters and development, this is still the case today with the Altamira National Museum.

The heart of the museum is the “neocave”, an exact and faithful copy of the room of the Great Ceiling. Access to the original is limited to guarantee its preservation but is not quite impossible: once a week for 37 minutes five



people are allowed to visit, chosen by drawing lots from those aged 16 or over who are in the museum between 9:30 and 10:30 that day. Will you have this extraordinary experience?

In the high season reserve your tickets in advance.



# EL PENDO

**Barrio EL Churi. Escobedo – Camargo**

Halfway between Santander and the Cabárceno Nature Reserve

When Sautuola found that his discovery met with incredulity, he could have proved his theory by finding other paintings elsewhere. In the El Pendo cave where he led an excavation in 1878, he was unknowingly very close to doing so.

This is a large cave located in the middle of a wood. During decades of excavations tools and remains of over 80,000 years old were unearthed, until in 1997 someone looked up and surprisingly discovered a large mural with painted animals. Visits of 45 minutes can be made with a guide in groups of twenty.

# PUENTE VIESGO

**Monte Castillo** Near the N-623 Santander-Burgos main road.

Monte Castillo has a labyrinth of caves which were occupied for 150,000 years. The sequence of this site extends from Homo neanderthalensis to Homo sapiens. Five caves contain art work and two can be visited, Las Monedas and El Castillo. Their paintings are between 41,000 and 4,000 years old and drawings of animals, symbols, and human hands stand out.

# COVALANAS AND CULLALVERA

**Ramales de la Victoria** (near the N-629 Colindres-Burgos main road)

At Ramales de la Victoria alongside the Collados del Asón Nature Reserve we find these two caves in which there are several hinds represented by lines of dots. The hinds are the animals most frequently represented in the caves, probably because they were those most frequently hunted.

Covalanas



EL PENDO, PUENTE VIESGO, COVALANAS, AND CULLALVERA - OPENING HOURS

**Open:** From **November to February:** Wednesday to Friday from 9:30 to 15:30 h. Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays from 9:30 to 14:30 and from 15:30 to 17:30 h.

From **March to 14th June** and from 16th September to October:

From Wednesday to Sunday from 9:30 to 14:30 and from 15:30 to 18:30 h.

From **15th June to 15th September:**

From Tuesday to Sunday from 10:30 to 14:30 and from 15:30 to 19:30 h.

LAST VISIT 50 MINUTES BEFORE CLOSING TIME

**[cuevas.culturadecantabria.com](http://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com)**

Booking at least 24 hours in advance is mandatory. (+34) 942 598 425



# HORNOS DE LA PEÑA

**Tarriba, San Felices de Buelna** Near the A-67 Autovía de la Meseta

This cave of the Valley of the Besaya contains engravings and paintings of various animals and an anthropomorphic figure which has been dated at between 18,000 and 13,000 years old. Visits in groups of four.

**Open:** From **15th June to 15th September**, from 11:00 to 14:00 h.  
Guided tours at 11:10, 12:10, and 13:10 h.  
From **16th September to 14th June** only by reserving in advance.  
**Closed Mondays and Tuesdays**  
[cuevas.culturadecantabria.com](http://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com) • (+34) 942 598 425

# CHUFÍN

**Riclonos** Near the CA-181 road

Located in the Valley of the Nansa near, Celis, it contains paintings and engravings of hinds, bison, and other animals and enigmatic symbols some 17,000 years old. Four daily visits in groups of 6 people. To enter you have to crawl the first four metres. Inside the cave there is a very beautiful lake.

**Open:** From **15th June to 15th September**, and at **Easter** from 10:30 to 14:30 h.  
and from 15:30 to 19:30 h. Guided tours at 10:40, 12:40, 15:40, and 17:40 h.  
**Closed Mondays and Tuesdays**  
[cuevas.culturadecantabria.com](http://cuevas.culturadecantabria.com) • (+34) 942 598 425

# LA GARMA

**Omoño, Ribamontán al Mar**

Until 1995 it was thought that La Garma was a cave of little interest. But it was then that potholers found by chance a passage to a gallery that had been buried 13,000 years ago. Everything in the gallery was intact just as its inhabitants had left it: huts, tools, burial mounds, skeletons of animals, and naturally paintings. A "time capsule" which had awaited prehistorians with as many answers as new questions.

The cave cannot be visited but its finds and a small copy of the original can be seen in the Cantabria Prehistory Museum.

**Cannot be visited**  
[cuevadela garma.com](http://cuevadela garma.com)

# MUSEUMS

and art centres



## REGIONAL NATURE MUSEUM

Recently renovated, it gives an immersion into ecosystems and fauna of Cantabria.

**Carrejo.** (+34) 942 701 808. [museosdecantabria.com](http://museosdecantabria.com)

## CENTRO BOTÍN

This building right on the Santander Bay holds exhibitions of international contemporary art, concerts, and numerous activities for all ages. It closes on Mondays, except in the summer.

**Santander.** Jardines de Pereda s/n. (+34) 942 047 147. [centrobotin.org](http://centrobotin.org)



## CANTABRIAN MARITIME MUSEUM

Devoted to marine biology and the history of navigation.  
Closed on Mondays.

**Santander.** San Martín de Bajamar s/n. (+34) 942 274 962.  
[museosdecantabria.es](http://museosdecantabria.es)



## MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Closed for renovation until 2021

**Santander.** C/ Rubio 6. [museosantander.es](http://museosantander.es)

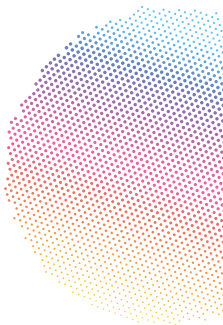
## TORRELAVEGA MUSEUM

Museum of the town. Open from Monday to Thursday.  
(+34) 942 806 032. [torrelavega.es](http://torrelavega.es)

## SANTOS COLLECTION - PALACIO DE ELSEDO

**Pámanes (Liérganes) – Valles Pasiegos**

A 20th-century Spanish private art collection in a 17th-century rural mansion (+34) 942 528 273 / 617 884 410



# FESTIVALS

and other cultural events

## **Palacio de Festivales de Cantabria**

**Santander. All year round.**

A public institution on the shore of the Santander Bay. It has two halls with a capacity of 1,500 and 500 spectators. It stages plays, recitals, and musicals all year round. [palaciofestivales.com](http://palaciofestivales.com)

## **Festival Internacional de Santander**

**Santander. August.**

A festival of classical music, dance, and theatre which has been held for seven decades. Major orchestras, soloists, and international companies. The performances are organised in the Palacio de Festivales de Cantabria and in a score of towns in the region. [festivalsantander.com](http://festivalsantander.com)

## **Indifest**

**Santander. February-March.**

Festival of theatre, dance, and the independent scene consolidated in Cantabria.

Sala Miriñaque. [escenamirinaque.es](http://escenamirinaque.es)

## **Concha Espina Theatre of Torrelavega**

**Torrelavega. All year round.**

A municipal hall which can seat 768 people. It is known for its Winter Festival (December-March) of contemporary theatre and its International Shorts Festival (May). [tmce.es](http://tmce.es)

## **International Sample of Unipersonal Theatre**

**Oruña de Piélagos. March-April.**

An event of the Ábrego Group which is becoming established.

La Teatrería [teatroabrego.com](http://teatroabrego.com)

## **Música en Grande**

**Torrelavega. July.**

A festival with current Spanish stars.

## **Santander Music**

**Santander. August.**

A festival of Spanish pop music lasting three days at the Campa de la Magdalena.

[santandermusic.es](http://santandermusic.es)

## **Artesantander**

**Santander. July.**

A contemporary art fair which is attended by some 40 galleries from all over Spain.

It is held at the Palacio de Exposiciones y Congresos of Cantabria.

[artesanter.com/](http://artesanter.com/)



## **Interceltic Festival of Orejo**

**Orejo (Medio Cudeyo). August.**

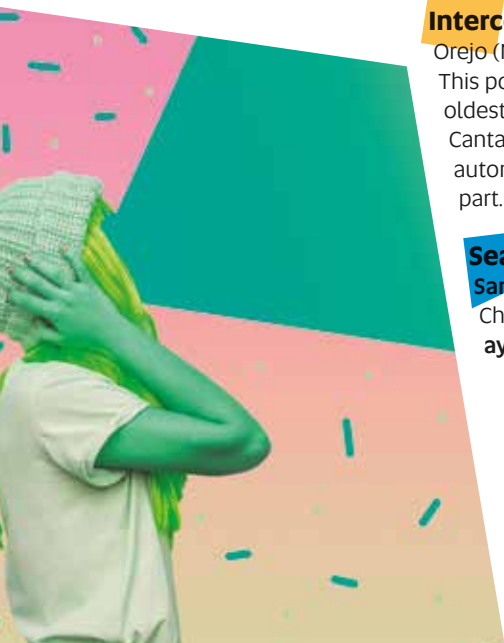
This popular free festival is one of the oldest in Cantabria. Folk groups from Cantabria and groups from an invited autonomous region and country take part.

## **Seafaring Song Competition**

**San Vicente de la Barquera. July.**

Choral music festival.

[aytosanvicentedelabarquera.es](http://aytosanvicentedelabarquera.es)





# ENSEMBLES

of architectural interest

## THE PRETTIEST

Five villages of Cantabria are part of the Association of “The prettiest villages in Spain”. All of them are lucky enough to be situated in a privileged landscape and to have the commitment of their citizens and local institutions to preserve them, keep them pretty, and improve them. Enjoy!

## SANTILLANA DEL MAR **Central Coast**

This historical ensemble developed around the 8th-century Monasterio de Santa Juliana; it was the capital of Las Asturias de Santillana until the 13th century and remained influential until the 18th. Its streets and buildings around its Romanesque collegiate church are intact.

## CARMONA AND SAN PEDRO QUARTER **Saja-Nansa**

On a little known hill between the valleys of Saja-Nansa stands this historical-artistic ensemble; its houses of stone and oak wood and its cobbled streets have been preserved intact for centuries.

Bárcena Mayor



## LIÉRGANES **Valles Pasiegos**

A very ancient town linked to the 9th-century Monasterio de San Martín, Liérganes is the administrative and business capital and the gateway to the Miera Valley. It saw early industrial activity in the 16th century with the canyon factory in the nearby town of La Cavada, and won fame as a spa with the visit of King Alfonso XIII.

## POTES **Liébana**

The four valleys of Liébana (Valdebaró, Cerecedas, Valdeprado, and Cillorigo) meet in this village on the way to the Picos de Europa. Its old part has many original buildings and a mountain atmosphere.

## BÁRCENA MAYOR **Saja-Nansa**

In the heart of the Saja-Besaya nature reserve, this village has characteristic popular architecture. Its buildings of reddish sandstone and oak wood are among the most traditional in Cantabria.





Tudanca

## MORE THAN TYPICAL, ARCHETYPICAL

Some of the listed urban ensembles reflect the circumstances of various historical situations.

### TUDANCA Saja-Nansa

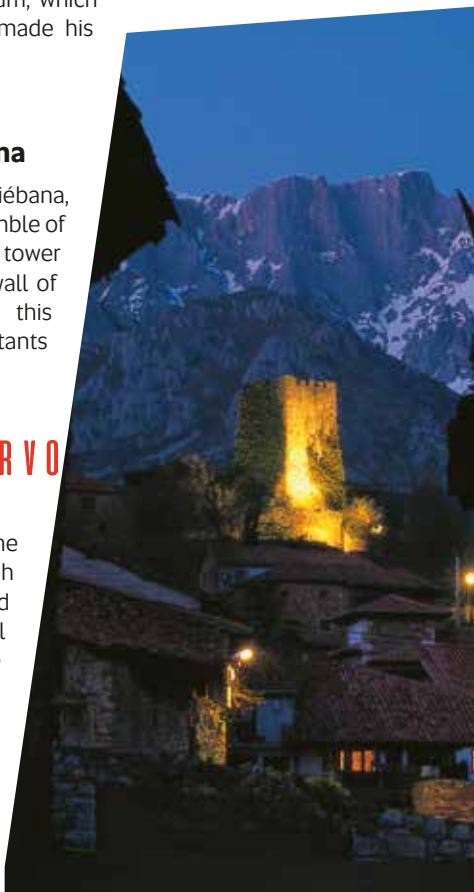
In the high valleys of the Nansa River we find this historical-artistic ensemble of typically Cantabrian rural houses, among which stands out the house of the Cossío Museum, which was built by a Spaniard who made his fortune in Peru.

### MOGROVEJO Liébana

If you remember postcards of Liébana, they portray the historical ensemble of Mogrovejo. The characteristic tower silhouetted against the rocky wall of the Picos de Europa makes this hamlet of less than 40 inhabitants unmistakable.

### CARTES Y RIOCORVO Besaya

Cartes grew up alongside the 15th-century towers which flanked the Royal Road and served as control and toll towers. On both sides of the road houses were built to provide services to travellers; this arrangement is repeated in the nearby ensemble of Riocorvo.



## AGÜERO Trasmiera

A scattered historical ensemble typical of the Trasmiera district, the landscape of which is relatively flat for Cantabria. It is made up of mansions with their corresponding coats of arms, a castle, the Church of San Juan, and a bridge which avoided a very long detour.



Cartes



## ALCEDA Valles pasiegos

This is probably the smallest place with most noble coats of arms on the façades of its mansions. Built by noblemen and American riches between the 16th and 18th centuries.





## LOOKING TO THE SEA

Ports are vulnerable and every so often North European fleets came to sack the towns of Cantabria. With a common past of trade, fishing, and pilgrimages, each of the seafaring towns of Cantabria has a personality of its own.

## SAN VICENTE DE LA BARQUERA

### Saja-Nansa

This charming seafaring village represents the coastal Pilgrims' Route to Santiago with its Renaissance eight-span bridge, its castle, and its Puerta del Perdón at the Church of Santa María de los Ángeles.

## COMILLAS

### Costa Central

What makes this small fishing port special is that one of its native sons, Antonio López, was very good at doing business in America, gaining power and influence in the 19th century, and making his village the summer court for the king and his ministers. As a consequence unusual modernist constructions including the Capricho de Gaudí mixed with traditional Cantabrian mountain architecture.

## LAREDO

### Asón-Agüera

It disputed Santander's capital status and was a base of the Royal Navy. Its old town and its walls bear witness to its glory and its scars to its misfortunes, such as the privateer attacks and the factional wars of the medieval period.







San Vicente de la Barquera



urdales

## CASTRO URDIALES

### Asón-Agüera

A bi-millennary town which was the Portus Samanum of the Romans and later a thriving medieval town. Its Gothic church is the most important in Cantabria and stands alongside what was the old whaling port and more recently the summer retreat of the industrial bourgeoisie.

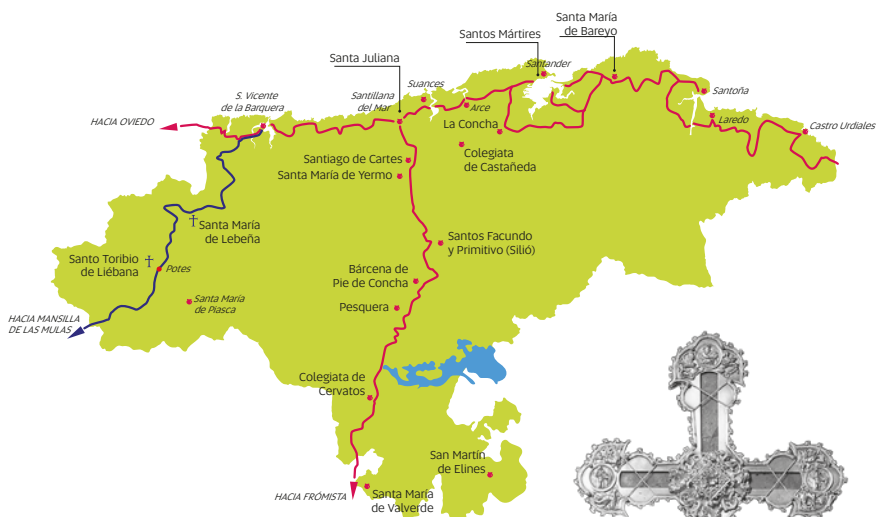
## SANTANDER

The capital has two protected historical ensembles, that of the **Paseo de Pereda-Castelar** and **El Sardinero**, which are from the golden age of maritime trade and tourism respectively. Outstanding buildings such as the Palacio de La Magdalena, the Cabo Mayor lighthouse, the Cathedral, and the Centro Botín complete the picture.

Mouro Island (Santander)



# CULTURAL ROUTES



## ON THE WAY to the sky

Cantabria is the only place in the world where two jubilee routes which have been declared World Heritage Sites coincide. Catholicism promises the pardon of all sins (plenary indulgence) to the faithful who complete a pilgrimage to the holy places. Since the finding of the tomb of Santiago in Compostela in the year 812 therefore, Cantabria has seen many centuries of pilgrims, especially in the times when the Moslem invasion made the routes of the plateau impassable. The pilgrims travelled parallel to the coast from east to west as did Saint Francis of Asís in the 13th century. They also arrived by boat and from the ports went south to join the French route. This is why the Valley of the Besaya is full of romanesque churches and remains of the Pilgrims' Route towards Frómista.



**Torre  
del Infantado**

**Potes - Liébana**

An interpretation centre on the production of the illustrated books known as "Beatos" (pious books) at the Monasterio de San Toribio in the 10th century

**Romanesque  
Interpretation  
Centre**

**Villacantid – Campoo-Los Valles**

Cantabria holds numerous examples of Roman architecture, in particular at Santillana del Mar, Santa María de Bareyo, Castañeda, Cervatos, San Martín de Elines, and Piasca. The Romanesque Interpretation Centre explains the construction techniques of the Romanesque style. Closed on Mondays and in the low season also on Tuesdays.

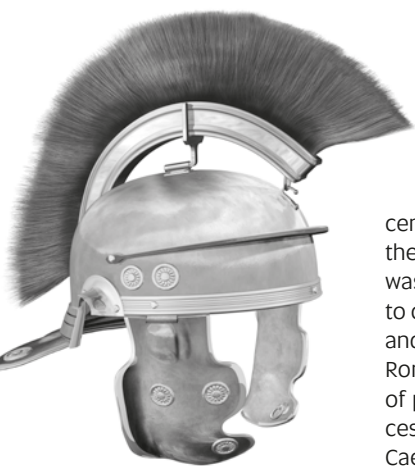
(+34) 942 598 425. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)

In addition, in the year 1512 Pope Julius II granted the Monasterio de Santo Toribio in Liébana the privilege of awarding plenary indulgence on the years in which the feast day of Santo Toribio (16th April) fell on a Sunday; this initiated the tradition of the Holy Year of Liébana. This added interest to the route from San Vicente de la Barquera via Liébana which rises towards the plateau through León province to join the French Route in Mansilla de las Mulas.



# CANTABRIANS

## and Romans



The information we have on the ancient Cantabrians comes from the descriptions and narrations of the Roman chroniclers of around the 1st century B.C. Once Hispania had been pacified the last stronghold on the edge of the Empire was this of the Cantabrians, which was difficult to conquer owing to the “roughness of the hills and the people” together with the Asturians. Rome took the “Wars of Cantabria” as a matter of prestige and thus devoted to them resources, chroniclers, and even the visit of Emperor Caesar Augustus in a bid for victory. The

Roman name of Santander Bay (or perhaps of Santoña), Portus Victoriae, commemorates that visit. Its sea ports (Portus Blendium, Portus Vereasueca, and Portus Samanum) account for a large part of the Roman remains found in the region and are linked to maritime trade with the major port Roman on the



**Roman  
city of  
Juliobriga**

**Retortillo – Campoo-Los Valles**

A Roman site of the 1st century A.D. and a reproduction of a domus show life in those times. Closed on Mondays. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)

**Cantabrian  
Settlement**

Centres of interpretation of the culture and customs of the Cantabrian people.

**Cabezón de la Sal – Saja Nansa**

(+34) 942 700 332 [cabezondelasal.net](http://cabezondelasal.net)

**Argüeso – Campoo-Los Valles**

(+34) 630 79 19 06. [pobladocantabrodeargueso.com](http://pobladocantabrodeargueso.com)





Atlantic, Burdigala (Bordeaux) where the raw materials obtained in Cantabria were taken, such as iron from the mines of Cabárceno or the wines, oil, and grain from the plateau which would reach the port via the Roman roads.



#### Camesa-Rebolledo Archaeosite

##### Camesa-Rebolledo – Campoo-Los Valles

An archaeological site at what is thought to be a Roman staging post abandoned in the 3rd century. It was later a Visigothic (6th century) and late medieval (8th century) necropolis. Closed on Mondays and in the low season also on Tuesdays. (+34) 942 598 425. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)



# THE ROUTE

## of the Foramontanos

In the year 711 the Moslems began their invasion of the Iberian Peninsula, reaching the borders of Cantabria in but a year. Once again the mountains gave refuge to the Christians who had fled and organised their resistance there. The borders vary with the centuries, and each time the Christians gained ground the fiercest or the neediest made for the south, "beyond the mountains" as from the 9th century to establish themselves on reconquered land. The route of the Foramontanos ("fora": "out of "or "beyond"; "montis": "mountains". "Those who go beyond the mountains") runs through the valley of the Saja from Cabezón de la Sal to Campoo and the reconquered lands of the north of Palencia.

# THE ROUTE OF THE CAVE CHAPELS

## Valderredible-Campoo-Los Valles

For the new settlers of the 8th to 10th centuries excavating their chapels in rock could have been an efficient strategy to conceal the churches of the Christian religion. In the extreme south of the region several survive and there is a Cave Architecture Interpretation Centre in Santa María de Valverde. Open from Tuesday to Sunday. In the low season, weekends, and holidays. Tel. (+34) 942 776 146. **valderredible.es**





# THE ROUTE of the Emperor

After forty years of a reign in which Spain had become the major world power, the emperor Charles V was old and tired and decided to retire to the Monasterio de Yuste in Extremadura. During his last journey the monarch sailed from Flanders to Laredo. His disembarkation on 28th September 1556 is commemorated each year with a re-enactment of the event on the La Salvé Beach. This is a festival of National Tourist Interest in which hundreds of locals take part in period costume. He rested for a week at Laredo before setting off again on 6th October along the Asón Valley.

**Charles V  
Cultural  
Theme Centre**

**Laredo – Asón Agüera**

Puerta de San Lorenzo, walls of Laredo.

Open at Easter and in summer.

(+34) 625 900 896. [desembarcodecarlosv.org](http://desembarcodecarlosv.org)





# C E M E T E R I E S

of artistic interest

They say that you can know a people by the way they treat their dead and some cemeteries show great respect and gratitude. We highlight these five.

## BALLENA CEMETERY

### Castro Urdiales – Asón-Agüera

The murmur of the waves marks the inexorable passage of time; the silhouette of the church stands out against the sky in the distance, and the marine horizon encourages reflection. There is no doubt that powerful families of the industrial bourgeoisie of Castro Urdiales found the best location for their eternal rest in pantheons designed by leading modernist and historicist architects and sculptors from the late 19th century onwards.

Open from 8 to 19 hours. [castro-urdiales.net](http://castro-urdiales.net)

## SANTA MARÍA DE VALVERDE NECROPOLIS

### Valderredible – Campoo-Los Valles

They mark the repopulation between the 8th and 10th centuries. The most important are those of Castrillo de Valdelomar, Susilla, La Puente del Valle, and Santa María de Valverde of the Interpretation Centre. Open Tuesday to Sunday in the low season, weekends, and holidays.

Tel. (+34) 942 776 146. [valderredible.es](http://valderredible.es)

## SANTANDER PROTESTANT CEMETERY

Owing to the close relations with England thanks to the port and numerous industrial initiatives, there was a large Protestant population. This cemetery was created in the 19th century to attend their final needs; it is at Calle Cardenal Herrera Oria numbers 17 and 19 in the Cazoña quarter.

### **CIRIEGO CEMETERY. Santander**

This Santander cemetery gives guided tours of the tombs of famous people and their outstanding architecture.

Tel. (+34) 942 331 987. [cementeriodeciriego.es](http://cementeriodeciriego.es)

### **COMILLAS CEMETERY. Central Coast**

In the Jewish-Christian tradition an angel receives the souls of the dead as we are reminded by Josep Llimona's sculpture (left-hand photo) in this cemetery included in the guided tour of modernist Comillas.

Although the façade of the cemetery is by the architect Domenech y Montaner, the great man of the town Antonio López, the Marquis of Comillas, had his own pantheon constructed away from the cemetery which is also open to visitors.

Tel. (+34) 942 722 591. [comillas.es](http://comillas.es)

Cementerio de Ballena



Ciriego Cemetery

# ETHNOGRAPHY

## of Cantabria

Mountainous Cantabria is divided into closed and relatively isolated valleys which have a rich identity as a result of the peculiarities of each district. These are reflected by a large number of ethnographical centres.

### LIÉBANA

#### **COUNTRY SCHOOL MUSEUM. Mogrovejo (Camaleño)**

An interpretation centre on the history of education. It reproduces a classroom of an old country school, Open only in season.

Tel. (+34) 942 733 015

#### **Casa de las Doñas Museum. Vega de Liébana**

A country estate which reflects the way of life of Liébana in the late 19th century. It opens every day from 15th June to 15th October and at weekends the rest of the year. Tel. (+34) 674 233 610. [casadelasdoñas.es](http://casadelasdoñas.es)

### SAJA-NANSA

#### **TORRE DEL PONTÓN. Linares (Peñarrubia)**

A 15th century fortress which shows the way of life of a local noble of the time. In the high season it opens regularly; in the low season please ask.

Tel. (+34) 942 730 964. [ayto-penarrubia.org](http://ayto-penarrubia.org)

#### **CADES FOUNDRY. Cades (Herrerías)**

An interpretation centre on the traditional trade of the blacksmith in an old foundry. In the low season only at the weekend, except for groups who have booked in advance. In the high season it closes on Mondays

Tel. (+34) 608 104 785. [ferreriadecades.es](http://ferreriadecades.es)

#### **MAQUIS MUSEUM. Estrada (Val de San Vicente)**

The Torre de Estrada is the venue for this exhibition on the republican partisans who after the civil war remained hidden in the Cantabrian hills. Open only in season.

Tel. (+34) 942 718 011 / 671 484 765

#### **CASTILLO DEL REY. San Vicente de la Barquera**

This 13th century fortress holds a permanent exhibition on the history of the town and temporary exhibitions.

Tel. (+34) 942 710 012. [sanvicentedelabarquera.es](http://sanvicentedelabarquera.es)

#### **LA CASONA DE TUDANCA. Tudanca**

The House and Museum of José María de Cossío, a language academician, writer on a large variety of subjects, bullfighting expert, and literary critic... From November to Easter only with reservations at the weekend; Easter and mid-season, open weekends. From 15th June to 16th September, open Wednesday to Sunday. Tel. (+34) 942 598 425. [museosdecantabria.es](http://museosdecantabria.es)



## **TEXTILE ART AND REGIONAL COSTUME MUSEUM. Cabezón de la Sal**

It explains the costumes of the various valleys of the region, the traditional techniques, and industrialisation.

Tel. (+34) 942 700 332. [cabezondelasal.net](http://cabezondelasal.net)

## **NATURE MUSEUM. Carrejo (Cabezón de la Sal)**

A permanent exhibition with a great variety of animals, fossils, dioramas, plant species, and minerals. Closed Mondays.

Tel. (+34) 942 701 808. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)



Casona de Tudanca

Casa de las Doñas

## **THE WESTERN VALLEYS, THE HEART OF CANTABRIA**

The upper course of the River Saja is known as the "Cabuérniga Valley" and passes through various municipalities south of Cabezón de la Sal and towards Campoo. The valleys of Polaciones and Tudanca correspond to the River Nansa south of Comillas and San Vicente de la Barquera. This territory has been inhabited since antiquity in a contrast of alluvial valleys, plains, and fertile horticultural soil with the rugged uplands devoted to livestock and hunting. Almost all of it is a natural protected area.

The local culture has a strong link with agricultural tasks shown in festivals such as "la pasá" (Carmona, last Saturday in September) or "la campaná" (Valle, second Sunday of October) when the stockbreeders end the period of pastures, adorn their cows of the local Tudanca breed, and descend with them from the passes to the valley. The Tudanca cow is one of the stars of our gastronomy together with mountain stew and big game.

This culture is celebrated on the second week in August in Cabezón de la Sal with exhibitions, livestock competitions, folklore, and a gastronomic market.



La Vijanera (Silió)



## BESAYA

### **EL CASERÍO INTERPRETATION CENTRE. Caseríos Quarter (Torrelavega)**

The centre is open to the public if you have reserved in advance over the telephone (+34) 942 831 235. [coorcopar.com](http://coorcopar.com)

### **JOSÉ MARÍA QUIJANO CANTABRIAN INDUSTRY INTERPRETATION CENTRE. Los Corrales de Buelna**

The centre is open to the public if you have reserved in advance over the telephone (+34) 942 831 235. [museoindustriacantabria.com](http://museoindustriacantabria.com)

### **TORRE DE PERO NIÑO. San Felices de Buelna**

The Exhibition on the life and adventures of Admiral Pero Niño in a 14th-century tower. Closed on Mondays and in the low season also on Tuesdays. Tel. (+34) 942 598 425. [culturadecantabria.com](http://culturadecantabria.com)

### **MITOCASUCA DE ANIEVAS. Barriopalacio (Anievas)**

Space devoted to the mythological tradition of Cantabria. Tel. (+34) 942 840 613. [mitocasucaanievas.es](http://mitocasucaanievas.es)

### **LA VIJANERA MUSEUM. Silió (Molledo)**

An interpretation centre for this popular fiesta of pre-Roman origin which is still held on the first Sunday of the year. Visits from Monday to Sunday by reservation. Tel. (+34) 675 937 776. [vijanera.com](http://vijanera.com)

# CAMPOO-LOS VALLES



## **EL PAJAR ETHNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM. Proaño (Campoo de Suso)**

An interpretation centre for this popular fiesta of pre-Roman origin which is still held on the first Sunday of the year. Visits from Monday to Sunday by reservation.

Tel. (+34) 942 753 012 / 676 256 631. [museoetnograficoelpajar.es](http://museoetnograficoelpajar.es)

## **EBRO RIVER VISITORS' CENTRE. Fontibre (Campoo de Suso)**

It shows the cultural, social, and landscape diversity which the river has created throughout history. In the high season it closes on Mondays; in the low season only at weekends. Routes & activities by reservation.

Tel. (+34) 900 649 009. [cima.cantabria.es](http://cima.cantabria.es)

## **CASTILLO DE SAN VICENTE. Argüeso (Campoo de Suso)**

A restored 13th-century fortification originally built by the De la Vega family. It can be visited all year round; it has a programme of temporary exhibitions and scenic activities. Tel. (+34) 942 779 632. [castillodeargueso.com](http://castillodeargueso.com)

## **EBRO RESERVOIR VISITORS' CENTRE.**

### **Corconte (Campoo de Yuso)**

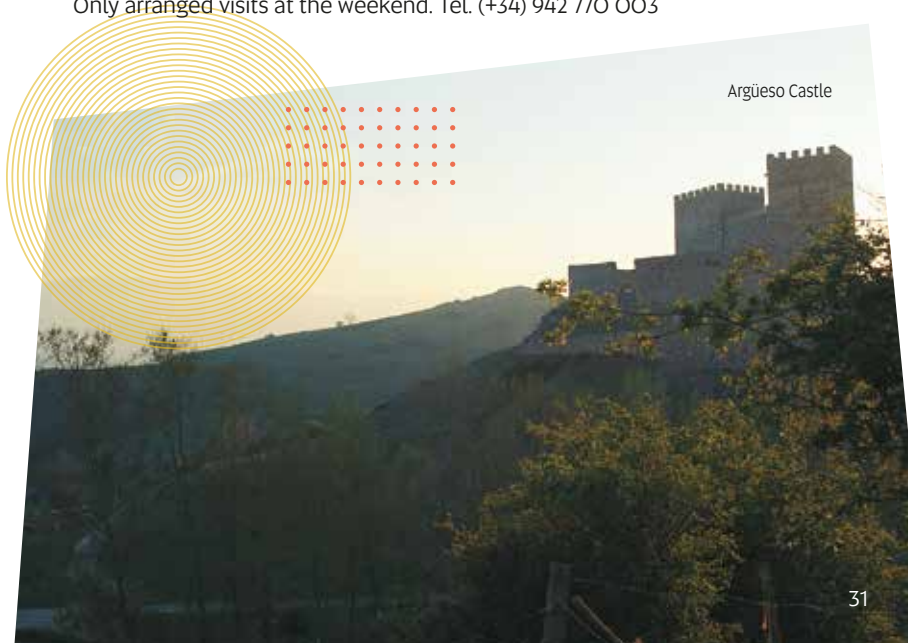
It shows how human intervention such as the creation of a reservoir modifies and enriches the local economy. In the high season it closes on Mondays; in the low season only at weekends. Routes and activities by reservation. Tel.

(+34) 900 649 009. [medioambientecantabria.es](http://medioambientecantabria.es)

## **MIGUEL BRAVO ETHNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM. Camesa (Valdeolea)**

Collection of utensils and tools from the country and the traditional trades. Only arranged visits at the weekend. Tel. (+34) 942 770 003

Argüeso Castle





Monte Hijedo  
Interpretation Centre

### **RAILWAY MUSEUM. Mataporquera (Valdeolea)**

A railway interpretation centre at La Robla in an old station. Only at the weekend. Tel. (+34) 942 770 164 / 616 681 642. [aafmataporquera.com](http://aafmataporquera.com)

### **PATHS OF FLOUR VISITORS' CENTRE. Pesquera**

Devoted to the former flour industry. In the high season it closes on Mondays; in the low season only at the weekend. Routes and activities by reservation. Tel. (+34) 900 649 009. [cima.cantabria.es](http://cima.cantabria.es)

### **ORZALES MILL. Orzales. (Campoo de Yuso)**

It explains the old trade of milling in a restored river mill. From Monday to Friday by booking in advance. Tel. (+34) 942 049 438. [natureacantabria.com](http://natureacantabria.com)

### **MONTE HIJEDO VISITORS' CENTRE. Riopanero (Valderredible)**

Located in an oak wood and devoted to the trades of forestry. In the high season closed on Mondays; in the low season only at the weekend. Routes and activities by reservation. Tel. (+34) 900 649 009. [cima.cantabria.es](http://cima.cantabria.es)

### **DRY STONE VISITORS' CENTRE. La Puente del Valle (Valderredible)**

Devoted to the traditional construction type of the area. In the high season it closes on Mondays; in the low season only at the weekend. Routes and activities by reservation. Tel. (+34) 900 649 009. [cima.cantabria.es](http://cima.cantabria.es)

### **LOS CAMPURRIANOS**

The Campurrianos are the Cantabrians of the south on the border of Cantabria with Castile. To understand that it is both a border (between Cantabrians and Romans, between Christians and Moslems) and a communication route (pilgrims, wheat, oil, and wool) just consider a symbol: the Tres Mares peak from which waters flow to the Cantabrian Sea, the Atlantic (the Duero), and the Mediterranean (the Ebro).

The traditional trades are those of stockbreeding and the transport of merchandise with little agriculture beyond the subsistence level apart from the Valderredible potato crop. On about San Mateo's Day the Campoo Day is held on the last Sunday in September.

# SANTANDER AND AROUND

## **CITY OF SANTANDER INTERPRETATION CENTRE. Santander Cathedral**

History of the city. From Tuesday to Sunday, only by reservation.

Tel. (+34) 942 203 099. [anillocultural.com](http://anillocultural.com)

## **CANTABRIAN RAIL ASSOCIATION MUSEUM. RENFE station – Santander**

You must reserve in advance. Tel. (+34) 942 203 000/001. [acafcantabria.es](http://acafcantabria.es)

## **CANTABRIA ETHNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM. Muriedas (Camargo)**

Installed in the birthplace of the military officer Pedro Velarde, who led the uprising of 2nd May 1808. The collection is devoted to the customs, traditions, and trades of Cantabria. Closed on Mondays.

Tel. (+34) 942 251 347. [museosdecantabria.com](http://museosdecantabria.com)



Cantabrian Ethnographical Museum

# PASIEGO VALLEYS

## **MAN AND THE COUNTRY MUSEUM. San Vicente de Toranzo (Corvera de Toranzo)**

A collection of Pas Valley ethnography linked to daily farming. Only arranged visits. Tel. (+34) 609 044 207. [museoelhombreyelcampo.com](http://museoelhombreyelcampo.com)

## **PASIEGO WET NURSE MUSEUM. Valvanuz (Selaya)**

In the 19th century many women from the Pas Valley were wet nurses giving their milk to the children of high society families. In the low season please ask us; in the high season closed on Mondays.

Tel. (+34) 942 049 438 / 942 671 724. [cofradiavalvanuz.webcindario.com](http://cofradiavalvanuz.webcindario.com)





### **ETNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM OF THE PASIEGO VILLAGES. Vega de Pas**

It shows the traditional way of life of the Pas Valley inhabitants. Closed Mondays. Tel. (+34) 942 595 053. [vallespasiegos.org](http://vallespasiegos.org)

### **CASA DEL PASIEGO. San Roque de Riomiera**

Tools and chattels from Pas Valley houses and work in the country. Consult times. Tel. (+34) 942 539 636. [vallespasiegos.org](http://vallespasiegos.org)

### **EL HOMBRE PEZ INTERPRETATION CENTRE. Liérganes**

It tells the legend of Francisco de la Vega (fish man), who was swept along by the river and survived five years swimming in the sea. Consult opening times. Tel. (+34) 942 740 506. [aytolierganes.com](http://aytolierganes.com)

### **FLUVIARIUM ECOMUSEUM. Liérganes**

The ecology and ethnography of the River Miera. Every day from 16th June to 30th September. In the low season at weekends, holidays, and long weekends. Tel. (+34) 942 528 196. [fnyh.org](http://fnyh.org)

#### **THE PASIEGOS, A WORLD APART**

Around the Rivers Pas, Miera, and Pisueña we find the territory of the Pasiegos, an ethnic group whose characteristics are a consequence of their unusual manner of grazing cattle, changing the family home several times a year so as to be near the pastures in all seasons.

The "sobao pasiego" (typical pasiego sponge cake) comes from this area; it was originally produced with cows' milk of the local Pasiego breed.

Traditionally each pasiego family had four or five huts at different altitudes and moved several times a year. In winter they used the "living hut" in the valley bottom and when spring arrived they moved to higher huts to take advantage of the pastures. The huts for the summer were located on the highest passes.

When autumn came they began to descend and surplus grass was gathered for the winter. Some huts are used as tourist accommodation which provides a unique cultural experience..

At the festivals of Our Lady of Valvanuz (Selaya, 15th August), the Holy Martyrs (San Pedro del Romeral, 30th and 31st August) and the Virgen de la Vega (Vega de Pas, 9th September) you will find folk music performances and sporting events such as the pasiego jump, its variant the palo-aya (stick and line), or pasiego skittles.

# TRASMIERA

## **ARTILLERY FACTORY ROYAL MUSEUM. La Cavada (Riotuerto)**

Devoted to the manufacturing of the arms which supplied the Spanish Armada in the 16th and 17th centuries. Closed Mondays.

(+34) 942 539 412. [lacavada.es](http://lacavada.es)

## **MOLINO DE JADO INTERPRETATION CENTRE AND NAVAL MUSEUM.**

### **Argoños**

It contains an 18th-century mill which operates with the movement of the tides and an exhibition on the history of navigation. Closed Mondays.

(+34) 678 792 201 / 942 626 025. [molinodeargonos.com](http://molinodeargonos.com)



Jado Mill (Argoños)

## **BELL MUSEUM. San Mamés de Meruelo**

Devoted to the metallurgical tradition of bell manufacture in Trasmiera, where the three largest bells in Spain were made (those of the cathedrals of Santiago, Pamplona, and Toledo). From 15th June to 15th September from Tuesday to Saturday. For other dates a visit must be arranged.

(+34) 942 637 003. [meruelo.es](http://meruelo.es)

## **SANTA OLAJA MILL. Arnauero**

It explains the old trade of milling in a tide mill. Can only be visited only at low tide. In the high season it closes on Mondays; in the low season it only opens at the weekend.

(+34) 942 637 915 / 676 486 111. [ecoparquetrasmiera.blogspot.com](http://ecoparquetrasmiera.blogspot.com)

**SALVADOR HEDILLA CENTRE OF TRADITIONS. Castillo (Arnuero)**

A vision of the customs and modernisation of the district through the eyes of an aviation pioneer. In the high season it closes on Mondays and Tuesdays, in the low season please ask us.

Tel. (+34) 942 637 915 / 676 486 111. [ecoparquetrasmiera.blogspot.com](http://ecoparquetrasmiera.blogspot.com)

**VICTORIA TIDE MILL. Noja**

An exhibition of ethnographic and ecological material about the Nature Reserve. In the low season it closes on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Tel. (+34) 942 630 306. [ayuntamientonoja.com](http://ayuntamientonoja.com)

**INTERPRETATION CENTRE FOR THE NATURE RESERVE OF THE MARSHES OF SANTOÑA, VICTORIA Y JOYEL. Santoña**

Open every day in July and August but in September it closes on Mondays and from October to June on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Tel. (+34) 942 049 438 / 942 671 724. [natureacantabria.com](http://natureacantabria.com)

**CERROJA MILL INTERPRETATION CENTRE. Escalante**

It explains the old trade of milling in a tide mill. Open all year round.

Tel. (+34) 942 677 720. [aytoescalante.org](http://aytoescalante.org)

**MARQUÉS DE VALDECILLA MUSEUM. Valdecilla (Medio Cudeyo)**

It tackles the subject of the indianos, those who emigrated to America, made their fortunes, and on their return became benefactors such as the Marquis of Valdecilla, the founder of the hospital which bears his name. From April to September it closes on Mondays; from October to March only at weekends. Tel. (+34) 942 521 359. [turismomediocudeyo.es](http://turismomediocudeyo.es)



Marquis of Valdecilla Museum



# ASÓN - AGÜERA

## **INTERPRETATION CENTRE OF THE COLLADOS DEL ASÓN NATURE RESERVE.**

### **La Gándara de Soba**

Every day in July and August; in September it closes on Mondays and from October to June on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Tel. (+34) 942 049 438 / 942 677 371.

[natureacantabria.com](http://natureacantabria.com)

## **STONEMASONRY MUSEUM.**

### **Cereceda (Rasines)**

Dedicated to Rodrigo Gil de Hontañón, the outstanding stonemason representative of the trade of building in stone with a long tradition in Cantabria. Open from May to November, Tuesday to Sunday.

Tel. (+34) 942 636 907.

[aytorasines.org](http://aytorasines.org)

## **VALLE DE VILLAVERDE ETHNOGRAPHICAL MUSEUM.**

### **La Matanza (Valle de Villaverde)**

An exhibition on the traditional trades of the area such as the production of chacolí wine and cider or charcoal. Only arranged visits.

Tel. (+34) 946 809 108 / 946 809 005.

[valledevillaverde.com](http://valledevillaverde.com)

# THE WORLD

## of fishermen and seamen

Cantabria gives its name to a sea with which it has a close relationship; fishing ports constitute the world of fishermen.

One of the oldest trades in the world with its own traditions, music, devotion, festivals, the sport of rowing boats, and an excellent gastronomy which make up an essential part of regional identity.



### CASTRO URDIALES

**A place:** The old town around the port. **A date:** 30th November (the festival of San Andrés). Regattas of rowing boats, choral music, tasting of snails and sea bream. **To visit:** Sea and Fishing Museum (only in the morning through the Cultural Association).

### LAREDO

**A place:** The old town. **A date:** 16th July (the festival of El Carmen), procession, mass, and floral offering in the sea; 17th August (Hotpot Day), seafaring stew. **To visit:** Several anchovy factories give guided tours. Consult the Tourist Office.

### COLINDRES

**A place:** The fishermen's quay. **A date:** 25th August (festival of San Ginés). **To visit:** the Eiffel Bridge and the replica of the "Treto ferryboat".

### SANTOÑA

**A place:** Around the port and the fish market. **Dates:** May long weekend (Anchovy Fair), 7th September (festival of the Virgen del Puerto)

### ARGOÑOS

**A place:** El Rivero. **Dates:** around 15th July (festival of El Carmen) skiff regattas. **To visit:** the Jado quarter and its mill.





## PEDREÑA

**A place:** The promenade. **A date:** Between 15th and 30th July (variable), rowing boat regattas.

## SANTANDER

**Places:** Tetuán Quarter, Fishing Quarter, Chapel of the Virgen del Mar. **Dates:** Monday after Whit Sunday (festival of the Virgen del Mar); Variable, one Sunday in July (Bandera Sotileza rowing boat race); 16th July (festival of the Virgen del Carmen); **To visit:** Cantabrian Maritime Museum.

## SUANCES

**A place:** The promenade of La Concha and the quay. **A date:** 16th July (festival of the Virgen del Carmen). **To visit:** the lighthouse and El Torco.

## COMILLAS

**A place:** The fishing port. **A date:** 16th July (Santo Cristo del Amparo). **To visit:** The modernist historical ensemble. [comillas.es](http://comillas.es)

## SAN VICENTE DE LA BARQUERA

**A place:** The old town. **A date:** Second Sunday after Easter. Seafaring procession of La Folía. **To visit:** The Castillo del Rey. [aytosanvicentedelabarquera.es](http://aytosanvicentedelabarquera.es)

# THE GAME

## of skittles

Any summer day when you are strolling in any of the villages of Cantabria you may hear repeatedly an almost musical sound of the wood knocking on wood of the game of skittles. It is one of the local sports of Cantabria and has been played in four forms for a very long time.

Information on the game of skittles, location of skittle alleys, and events at [maderadeser.com](http://maderadeser.com)



**Bolo palma** is the most widespread over practically all of Cantabria; it is highly technical. It is played with a square of nine thick skittles turned on a lathe at which a stationary player throws with a parabolic trajectory a wooden ball which must be given spin. Your score is the number of skittles knocked down.

**Pasabolo losa** is played in Trasmiera. The nine skittles are slender and are fixed with mud on a stone slab.

The skittles are small and shaped like pineapples and are aimed “a ruedabrazo”—i.e. gaining momentum and with an arm outstretched, directly at the wood. Your score is the number of skittles knocked down and the distance they are projected.

**Pasabolo tablón** is played in the valleys of the Asón and in Valderredible. The balls are large and have handles so they can be thrown with a run up along the ground at three skittles lined up on a board. Your score is the number of skittles knocked down and the distance they are projected.



- Bolo Palma
- Pasabolo Losa
- Pasabolo Tablón
- Bolo Pasiego



**Bolo pasiego** is traditionally played in the towns of Vega de Pas, San Pedro del Romeral, and Resconorio (Luena). The large balls also have handles and are thrown at widely spaced out skittles. Your score is the number of skittles knocked down.





# FIESTAS

## regionales

**ITN:** National Tourist Interest  
**ITR:** Regional Tourist Interest  
**ITI:** International Tourist Interest

- **First Sunday in January.** La Vijanera in Silió. Festival of pre-Roman origin with characters wearing masks and wood, plants, and skins. ITN. [lavijanera.com](http://lavijanera.com)
- **5th January.** Twelfth Night Procession in Santillana del Mar. ITN
- **6th January.** Twelfth Night Procession in Seña (Limpías) and in Castanedo, Carriazo, and Galizano (Ribamontán al Mar). ITR
- **20th January. La Perola in Vargas (Puente Viesgo).** ITR - **Day of San Sebastián in Reinosa** ITR.
- **From Thursday to the Sunday before Ash Wednesday.** Carnival in Santoña. Seafaring carnival which includes a curious lawsuit at the bottom of the sea and the burial of the sea bream. ITR
- **Easter.** In Santander. ITR
- **Good Friday.** The Living Passion of Castro Urdiales. Performance of the Passion in the streets of the town. ITN
- **Second Sunday after Easter.** La Folía in San Vicente de la Barquera. Seafaring festival. ITN
- **2nd May.** La Santuca in Liébana. The longest procession in Spain, 24 kilometres carrying the patron of the district to the Monasterio de Santo Toribio. ITR
- **15th May.** San Isidro Labrador in Mazcuerras. Cantabrian folklore.
- **Monday after Whitsun.** La Virgen del Mar in Santander. Seafaring and Cantabrian folklore.
- **23rd June.** San Juan in Soto de la Marina. Bonfires and bathing on the beach of San Juan de la Canal the shortest night of the year. ITR
- **29th June.** San Pedro in San Pedro del Romeral and San Pedruco in Comillas. Procession of the saint accompanied by dancers and tambourine players.
- **Saturday after San Pedro.** Fair of The Shawl in Ramales de la Victoria. The women show off their embroidered shawls to commemorate a skirmish with French troops. ITR
- **First Friday in July.** The White Bullring in Castro Urdiales. ITR
- **2nd July.** Virgen de la Salud in Espinama (Camaleño). ITR
- **11th July.** San Benito in Barcenaciones. ITR



- **16th July.** Virgen del Carmen in Revilla de Camargo, Suances, Las Fraguas (ITR) • Celebrated also in San Vicente de la Barquera, Suances, Santander, Santoña, Colindres, Laredo, and Castro Urdiales with seafaring processions.
- Santo Cristo del Amparo in Comillas.
- **Mid July.** Wave bathing in Santander. To commemorate the beginning of tourism in the 19th century. ITR
- **Week of 25th July.** Semana Grande (Big Week) of Santander for the Santiago festival. Bullfighting fair and fiestas. ITR
- **27th July.** San Pantaleón in Escobedo de Camargo (ITR) and Liérganes.
- **28th July.** Festival of the Institutions of Cantabria in Puente San Miguel (Reocín). To commemorate the creation of the province of Cantabria at the Chapel of Los Valles, the meeting place of the council.
- **Last Sunday in July.** Wave Festival in La Matanza (Valle de Villaverde). ITR
- **Last Sunday of July or first of August depending on the tide.** Derby of Loreda in Ribamontán al Mar. Horse racing on the beach. ITR
- **First Saturday of August.** Lemon Festival in Novalés (Alfoz de Lloredo).
- **4th August.** Procession of torches in Iruiz (Santiurde de Toranzo). ITR
- **5th August.** Virgen de las Nieves in Guriezo. Mountain procession and folklore.
- **First week.** Day of Valderredible in Polientes. • Hiking ascent to the Braña los Tejos in Linares (Peñarrubia). ITR
- **First Sunday every five years (those ending in 0 or 5).** Pilgrimage to the Pico San Carlos in Bejes (Cillorigo). ITR
- **10th August.** San Lorenzo, Maya-Tree festival in Pujayo (Bárcena de Pie de Concha).
- **Second Sunday in August.** Day of Cantabria in Cabezón de la Sal. Celebration of the Cantabrian people. ITN and R
- **Days before 15th August.** Medieval Festival in Solares (Medio Cudeyo) to commemorate the "Song 263" of Alfonso X the Wise relating a miracle of Santa María de Cudeyo. Medieval music, theatre, market. ITR
- **Weekend before 15th August.** A legendary village in Barriopalacio de Anievas. Festival of mythology in Cantabria. ITR





- **15th August.** Virgen de Valvanuz in Selaya. Patron of the Pasiegos. ITR • Festival of the Virgen Grande in Torrelavega. ITR and N
- **Saturday after 15th August.** Fiesta of the Virgen del Moral in Arenas de Iguña. ITR
- **Sunday after 15th August.** Gala Floral in Torrelavega. ITR Festival of San Roque and masquerade of the Black Cat in Carasa
- **16th August.** Fiesta of San Roque and the black cat masquerade in Carasa (Voto). ITR. Fiesta of San Roque in San Roque de Riomiera and Laredo.
- **22nd August.** Virgen de la Cama in Escalante.
- **24th August.** Our Lady of El Monte in Mogro.
- **Last Friday in August.** Battle of Flowers in Laredo. ITN

• **Fourth Saturday in August.** Day of the Royal Artillery Factory in La Cavada (Riotuerto). ITR

• **Last week of August.** La Semana. Santander celebrates the Holy Martyrs San Emeterio and San Celedonio. ITR

• **Last weekend of August.** International canoe descent of the River Deva in Unquera. ITR Festival. • Pilgrimage of San Tirso in Ojedo (Cillorigo). • Rebec Competition in Pejanda (Polaciones).

• **Last weekend of August and first of September.** Guerras Cantabras in Los Corrales de Buelna to commemorate the clashes between Cantabrians and Romans reproduced by hundred of locals dressed in period costume. ITI [guerrascantabras.net](http://guerrascantabras.net)

• **Last Sunday in August.** Bullrunning of Our Lady of Consolación in Pie de Concha. ITR





- **1st September.** San Vicente in Lloreda (Santa María de Cayón). ITR
- **First Sunday of September.** Fiesta del Cocido, Stew Festival in Ucieida (Ruen-  
te) to celebrate the most characteristic dish of Cantabrian gastronomy. ITR
- **Second Sunday of September.** Festival of Los Campanos in Abiada (Brother-  
hood of Campoo de Suso). Traditional “pasá” or descent of the livestock to the  
village.
- **4th September.** El Milagruco in Vegacorredor (Ramales de la Victoria). Rural  
sports and music.
- **7th September.** Virgen del Puerto in Santoña.
- **8th September.** Feast day of the Virgen de Valencia in Vioño de Piélagos. ITR  
• Virgen de la Luz in Cabezón de Liébana. ITR • Virgen de la Barquera and El  
Mozucu in San Vicente de la Barquera. • Festival of the Virgen de Latas in Somo  
& Loreda.
- **5th to 8th September.** Bullrunning in Ampuero to coincide with the festival of  
the Virgen Niña. ITR.
- **Thursday after 8th September.** The great hotpot in Santoña. ITR
- **10th September.** Horse race in Molledo. ITR
- **14th September.** The Holy Cross in Potes and Santo Toribio de Liébana ITR
- **15th September.** The Bien Aparecida, Patron of Cantabria, in Ampuero. ITR.
- **16th September.** San Cipriano in San Miguel de Cartes. Traditional pilgrimage.  
ITR
- **21st September.** San Mateo in Reinosa.
- **Last but one week in September.** Last disembarkation of Charles V in  
Laredo. ITR • Procession of Carriages in Reinosa. ITR
- **29th September.** Fair of San Miguel in Puentenansa.
- **Last Sunday in September.** Day of Campoo in Reinosa. ITN and ITR
- **September.** La Pasá in Carmona. ITR

- **Variable date.** Hike of the Last Journey of Emperor Charles V in El Prado (Soba). ITR
- **12th October.** Tudanca Olympiad in Cabezón de la Sal. ITR
- **26th October.** Tudanca Breed Cattle Show in Ruate.
- **Undetermined date in October.** Festival of La Magosta in various villages. Gathering chestnuts to eat roasted and folklore.
- **Variable in November.** Festival of kidney beans and vegetables in Cabezón de la Sal. ITR
- **1st November.** All Saints' Day in Arredondo. Fair of the year: shepherds of sheep and goats take their flocks down to the village to sell them.
- **Second weekend in November.** Fiesta del Orujo. Brandy festival in Potes. ITN
- **30th November.** San Andrés in Castro Urdiales. ITR
- **6th December.** Cattle and Horse Show in Ibio (Mazcuerras). Cows of local breeds and wild horses for both exhibition and sale. Market and oxen dragging competition.



## INFORMATION OF INTEREST

### TOURIST OFFICES BELONGING TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANTABRIA

#### SANTANDER

Regional Tourism Office  
Mercado del Este. Hernán Cortés, 4. 39003  
Tel. 942 310 708 Fax 942 313 248  
Teléfono Vacaciones: 901 111 112  
Infocantur: 902 210 112  
turismosantander@cantur.com

#### CASTRO URDIALES

Parque Amestoy, s/n. 39700  
Tel. 942 871 512 Fax 942 871 337  
turismoastro@cantur.com

#### LAREDO

Alameda Miramar, s/n. 39770  
Teléfono y Fax 942 611 096  
turismolaredo@cantur.com

#### SANTILLANA DEL MAR

Jesús Otero, 20. 39330  
Tel. 942 818 251 Fax 942 840 265  
turismosantillana@cantur.com

#### SEVE BALLESTEROS SANTANDER AIRPORT

Arrivals terminal  
39600 Camargo. Tel. 942 250 904  
turismoaeropuerto@cantur.com

#### SANTANDER FERRY STATION

Estación Marítima, s/n. 39003  
Abierta en días de Ferry/cruceros

#### SANTANDER BUS STATION

Plaza de las Estaciones, s/n. 39002  
Tel. 629 910 440  
Abierta en verano, Semana Santa y puentes  
turismoestacionbus@cantur.com

#### UNQUERA

San Felipe Neri, s/n. 39560  
(junto a Casa de Cultura Villa Mercedes)  
Tel. 690 602 107  
turismounquera@cantur.com  
Open in Easter and summer

#### TORRELAVEGA

Plaza José María González Trevilla  
(Pequeñeces)  
39300 - Tel. 942 133 077  
turismotorrelavega@cantur.com

#### CABÁRCENO NATURE PARK

(By the Reptile House)  
Open in Easter and summer  
Tel. 606 592 281  
infoturcabarceno@cantur.com

#### PILGRIM INFORMATION LEBANIEGO STUDIES CENTER, PILGRIM AID

Tel. 942738 126

### MUNICIPAL TOURISM OFFICES OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND

#### SANTANDER

Jardines de Pereda, s/n. 39002  
Tel. 942 203 000 - Fax 942 203 005  
turismo@ayto-santander.es

#### CABEZÓN DE LA SAL

Botín, 1. 39500. Tel. 942 700 332  
turismo@cabezondelasal.net

#### CASTILLO (ARNUERO)

Antiguas Escuelas Castillo 7 Villas. 39193.  
Tel. 942 637 915  
museohedilla@ecoparque.info

#### COMILLAS

Town hall ground-floor  
Joaquín del Piélagu, 1. 39520  
Tel. 942 722 591 Fax 942 720 037  
oficinadeturismo@comillas.es

#### FONTIBRE

Argüeso castle  
Hermandad de Campoo de Suso. 39212.  
Tel. 942 779 607  
cunadelebrofontibre@gmail.com

#### LIENDO

Town hall ground-floor  
Barrio Hazas, 53. 39776  
Tel. 942 643 026  
turismo@aytoliendo.org

#### NOJA

Plaza de la Villa s/n, 79-81. 39180  
Teléfono y Fax 942 630 306  
oficinadeturismo@ayuntamientodenoja.com

#### POLIENTES

(Facing the Museum of Ethnography)  
Barrio La Huertota. 39220  
Tel. 942 776 146 Fax 942 776 155  
cultura@valderredible.es

#### POTES

Lebaniego Studies Center. 39570.  
Tel. 942 730 787  
turismopotes@yahoo.es

#### RAMALES DE LA VICTORIA

Fundación Oreñse  
Paseo Barón de Adzaneta, 8. 39800  
Teléfono y Fax 942 646 504  
turismo@cantabriorientalrural.es

#### REINOSA

Avda. del Puente de Carlos III, 23. 39200  
Tel. 942 755 215 Fax 942 751 147  
turismo@aytoreinosa.es

#### SANTOÑA

Palacio de Manzanedo. 39740  
Teléfono y Fax 942 660 066  
oficinadeturismo@turismosantona.com

#### SAN VICENTE DE LA BARQUERA

Avda. del Generalísimo, 20. 39540  
Tel. 942 710 797 Fax 942 712 251  
oficinadeturismo@sanvicentedelabarquera.es

#### SUANCES

Mirador Vuelta Ostrera. 39350  
Teléfono y Fax 942 810 924  
turismo@aytosuances.com

#### VILLACARRIEDO

Pl. Jacobo Roldán Posada, 1-2pl. 39640  
Tel. 942 591 999  
agencia@vallespasiegos.org

### TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

#### ALTAMIRA MUSEUM

39330 Santillana del Mar  
Tel. 942 818 815 / 942 818 005  
museodealtamira.mcu.es

#### EL SOPLAO CAVE

Rábago. Tel. 902 820 282.  
www.elsoplao.es

#### MONTE EL CASTILLO CAVES VISITOR CENTER

Puente Viesgo. Tel. 942 598 425  
cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

#### HORNOS DE LA PEÑA CAVE

S. Felices de Buelna.  
Tel. 942 598 425  
cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

#### COVALANAS CAVE

Ramales de la Victoria  
Tel. 942 598 425  
cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

#### EL PENDO CAVE

Escobedo de Camargo  
Tel. 942 5a98 425  
cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

#### CHUFÍN CAVE

Riclones. Tel. 942 598 425  
cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

#### MUSEUM OF PREHISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY OF CANTABRIA. MUPAC

C/ Bailén s/n. 39003  
Tel. 942 209 922  
www.museosdecantabria.com

#### ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF CANTABRIA

Muriedas. Tel. 942 251 347  
www.museosdecantabria.com

#### CANTABRIAN MARITIME MUSEUM

S. Martín de Bajamar s/n. Santander  
Tel. 942 274 962. www.cantur.com

#### REGIONAL NATURE MUSEUM

Carrejo. Tel. 942 701 808  
www.museosdecantabria.com

#### CABÁRCENO NATURE PARK

Tel. 942 563 736  
www.parquedecabarceno.com

#### ABRA DEL PAS GOLF COURSE

Mogro. Tel. 942 577 597.  
www.cantur.com

#### NESTARES GOLF COURSE

Las Eras s/n. Tel. 942 771 127.  
www.cantur.com

#### ALTO CAMPOO SKI AND MOUNTAIN RESORT

Brañavieja. Tel. 942 779 223  
www.altocampo.com

#### FUENTE DE CABLE CAR

Tel. 942 736 610 www.cantur.com

#### CASONA DE TUDANCA

Tel. 942 598 425  
www.museosdecantabria.com

#### JULIÓBRIGA DOMUS VISITORS CENTER

(Retortillo). Tel. 626 325 927  
culturadecantabria.com/julibriga.asp

#### CAMESA-REBOLLEDO ROMAN

AND MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE  
Tel. 626 325 932  
culturadecantabria.com/camesa.asp



[www.turismodecantabria.com](http://www.turismodecantabria.com)



**GOBIERNO  
de  
CANTABRIA**



**Cantabria  
Infinita**

Holiday Telephone:  
(+34) 901 111 112