CASTILLA

Y

NADA QUE SE PAREZCA A TI

TOURIST NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024



CASTILLA Y LEÓN MUSEUM OF IRONWORK AND MINING



In the early decades of the 19th century, around 1830, countries such as France, Germany and Belgium were building large ironworks that embodied a novel industrial urban planning concept. These vast complexes were designed with specific architecture for industrial production.

These urban configurations were designed to provide all kinds of services for both workers and management, including hospitals, pharmacies, housing, supermarkets and, of course, the workplace itself. The rolling and forging workshop at this site is the only remaining example in Spain of such an industrial facility from that period.

Its architectural interest and historical value are noteworthy, as it was the first foundry in Spain to use blast furnaces powered by mineral coal (coke) and to introduce the large machinery that was revolutionising ironworking in Europe.

The factory is built from stone and brick, featuring a large central nave entirely open and unsupported by pillars, with the roof supported by a series of diaphragm arches. It has a basilica layout with three naves, the central one being taller and wider. The side naves are covered with barrel vaults at a height of 5 metres and are connected to the central nave through pointed arches. Both naves extended westwards to form lean-tos: the northern one housed forges, while the southern one contained reverberatory furnaces. Both naves opened to the exterior through semi-circular arches, creating a splendid gallery. The construction of this workshop began in 1846, driven by the Palentino-Leonese Mining Society.

The building housed the province's first steam engines and large machinery imported from Great Britain, including rolling mills, a steam hammer and a shearing machine.









TOURIST PROPOSALS



SANCTUARY OF OUR LADY OF SONSOLES, ÁVILA

This elegant Sanctuary and Pilgrims' Hospital is located on the northern slope of the Paramera of Ávila, about five kilometres southeast of the city. It houses the image of Our Lady of Sonsoles, the patron saint of La Colilla and the nearby villages of La Sierrecilla and the Amblés Valley. No remains of the original building survive. The current construction, along with the Pilgrims' Hospital, dates back to the 15th century. The temple consists of three naves and a single apse where the main altar is located, featuring a 16th-century image. The original statue of the Virgin is safeguarded in the sacristy on a small altar. On either side of the main altar of the sanctuary, there are two large paintings depicting two miracles attributed to this Virgin—one of them features the famous crocodile displayed in a glass case inside the church, and the other refers to the replica of a ship hanging from the ceiling. One of the most notable celebrations in honour of the Virgin is known as Las Ofrendas, where various villages that worship her present their tributes.









PENARANDA DE DUERO, BURGOS

One of the must-visit destinations in the Burgos region of the Ribera del Duero is the monumental town of Peñaranda de Duero. After the turbulent period of the early Middle Ages, during which the area around the River Duero was the site of constant battles between Muslims and Christians, the town came under the lordship of the Avellaneda family during the reign of Alfonso XI, and later passed to the Zúñiga family, Counts of Miranda del Castañar, who built much of its historical and artistic heritage. Its military past is evident in the strategically positioned castle atop the hill overlooking the town, now home to an intriguing interpretation centre. There are also remnants of the wall that once surrounded the village, including two gates, one of which leads into the impressive Plaza Mayor, dominated by the Avellaneda Palace, the former Collegiate Church of Santa Ana, and the rollo jurisdiccional, one of the finest in the province. Other noteworthy landmarks include the Monastery of the Franciscan Sisters, the Convent of Carmen and the underground wine cellars. These historical and cultural treasures have earned Peñaranda de Duero a place in the exclusive club of Spain's Magical Towns.













MAGOSTO, LEÓN

The magostos are a deeply rooted tradition in the province of León during the autumn season. This ancient celebration, which takes place in November, revolves around the gathering and consumption of chestnuts, a typical seasonal fruit. The tradition not only includes roasting chestnuts but also enjoying other local products. It is common for families, friends and visitors to gather in the countryside or town squares, enjoying each other's company and the region's traditional gastronomy. Many towns also organise cultural activities, such as music and dancing, which enhance the experience even further. Several towns host magostos, including Camponaraya, Vega de Espinareda, Páramo del Sil, Moreda, Toral de Merayo, Ponferrada, Villafranca del Bierzo, Fabero and Chano.







Festival de Jazz, Palencia

JAZZ IN PALENCIA

The Palencia Jazz Festival returns, firmly established as a musical landmark and a must-attend event for jazz enthusiasts. This year's programme is brimming with talent and excitement. The festival kicks off on 9 November at the Teatro Principal with a performance by the Cuban group Ariel Bringuez and the presentation of the prestigious "Ramos Ópticos" award for the best jazz short story. But that's just the beginning. From 15 to 23 November, the Teatro Ortega will host four extraordinary concerts, headlined by the incomparable Dee Dee Bridgewater and the virtuosic Marcia Scheneider, as part of this 11th edition. American saxophonist Lakecia Benjamin will dazzle us with her energy and talent. A moving tribute to Paco de Lucía will mark the tenth anniversary of his passing, featuring performances by four renowned musicians who accompanied him throughout his career: Antonio Serrano, Carles Benavent, Tino di Geraldo and Antonio Sánchez. Don't miss this unique opportunity to enjoy the best jazz, with top international artists and the magic that this festival brings every year. We look forward to seeing you at the Palencia Jazz Festival!













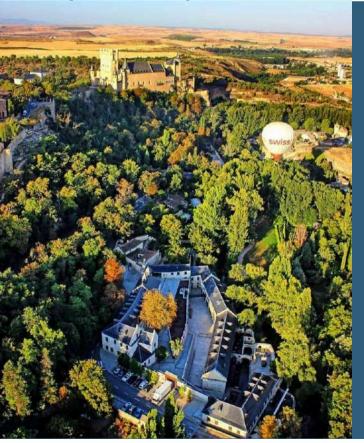
THE OLIVE OIL TRAIL, SALAMANCA

The landscape surrounding San Felices de los Gallegos and Ahigal de los Aceiteros has, for centuries, told the story of humanity's relationship with one of the trees that has accompanied it since the dawn of agriculture: the olive tree. This landscape, shaped by olive oil, its culture and the marks it has left on the people of these villages, is the main feature of this circular route linking the historic town of San Felices de los Gallegos with the village of Ahigal de los Aceiteros. The 11.4 kilometres trail runs through gentle terrain, with hardly any inclines, framed by almond and olive groves, and occasionally interrupted by medieval stone fountains, centuries-old mills and modern-age bridges. The difficulty is low, as the elevation gain never exceeds 5%, and the estimated duration of the walk is around four hours. The trail also offers attractions such as the Lagar del Mudo museum in San Felices de los Gallegos and the olive oil mill in Ahigal de los Aceiteros, which are well worth a visit.









ROYAL MINT, SEGOVIA

The Royal Mint of Segovia is a unique place that combines industrial and historical architecture. It consists of several sections: the museum, where visitors can learn more about coin minting techniques and machinery, the Aqueduct Interpretation Centre, and the King's Garden, which was a resting area for Philip II. Commissioned by Philip II in 1583, it was the first mechanised mint in Spain and the first directly owned by the Crown. It is recognised as one of the oldest and most important examples of industrial architecture in Europe. King Philip II entrusted the project to the renowned architect Juan de Herrera. The technology used at the mint went through various phases, from rolling and coin minting powered by waterwheels to the screw press and finally, the automatic press. In 1861, the new Royal Mint in Madrid was inaugurated, centralising production there and leading to the closure of the Segovia Mint in 1869. Today, the site also hosts a variety of cultural activities, such as concerts, conferences and celebrations.













SAN FELICES, SORIA

San Felices is one of the most beautiful villages in Soria, with a special charm like many other towns in this stunning province. Perched on a rock above the Alhama River Gorge, it is located in the "Tierra de Ágreda" region in the northeast of Soria. The village stands out for its rural architecture and the beautiful landscape that surrounds it. San Felices marks the beginning of the Ebro Valley, which explains the distinctive vegetation of this village, setting it apart from its neighbouring towns. It is an ideal place for hiking, boasting numerous springs that irrigate its terraced fields. Summer, up until mid-August, is the perfect time to visit and take a stroll through its beautiful lavender fields. With its unique magic, San Felices served as the filming location for director Roberto Lázaro's film—winner of a Goya Award—titled San Felices. The film presents a poetic story set here, filled with values and emotions, offering viewers an opportunity to appreciate the Sorian landscape.



INTERPRETATION CENTRES IN THE CASTLES OF VALLADOLID

Castillo de Fuensaldaña, Valladolid (cedida www.provinciadevalladolid.com)







It is undeniable that the province of Valladolid is home to numerous castles and fortresses. Some house valuable archives, such as the Castle of Simancas, while others have been transformed into interpretation centres or museums. The keep of Montealegre Castle, as the Centre for Medieval Interpretation, features audio-visual and educational resources, connecting the context of the era with the Meneses family lineage. Fuensaldaña Castle, which was the residence of the Vivero family in the 15th century, is now an Interpretation Centre dedicated to the world of castles, achieving a perfect balance between history and technology. Torrelobatón Castle, as the Interpretation Centre of the Comunero Movement, provides visitors with insights into the significance and historical impact of the War of the Communities, exemplifying the architectural standards of the Valladolid School. Lastly, in Peñafiel Castle, you will find the Provincial Wine Museum, a key destination for Ribera del Duero tourism. It offers visitors a look at the production techniques of the province's finest wines and includes a tasting room.











ZAMORA'S AUTUMNAL DELICACIES

November is the perfect month to visit a province as rich in traditions as Zamora, which celebrates the arrival of autumn in a unique way. The first autumn rains bring a bounty of delicious boletus mushrooms, wild mushrooms and saffron milk caps from our forests to our tables. Events like "Buscasetas" offer a variety of mushroom-based menus and tapas across Castilla y León, crafted by the region's top chefs. Zamora also hosts its own highly popular mushroom festivals, drawing visitors from all over Spain. In the chestnut-growing villages, popular magosto festivals are held, where rich chestnuts are roasted in village squares and shared with everyone gathered. This is accompanied by chestnut cakes, cured meats, filloas, Zamora wines and Sanabria cider. And, of course, there is lively music featuring flutes, drums or Sanabrian bagpipes, completing the warm, traditional atmosphere amidst the cold and the bonfire smoke. Towns like Trabazos, Sejas de Aliste, Puebla de Sanabria, Hermisende, El Piñero, Alcañices and Benavente are just some of the places where you can join us in celebrating these traditional chestnut roasts.



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









LAS POSADAS REALES PROPOSALS



Posada Real Caserio de Lobones, Valverde del Majano, Segovia



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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PALENCIA

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SALAMANCA

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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.

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.



ARLANZA WINE ROUTE

Feel the essence of Castile with the Arlanza Wine Route. Heart of a land where the history of wine travel through time

https://www.rutadelvinoarlanza.com/es/info@rutadelvinoarlanza.com

ARRIBES WINE ROUTE

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/

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BIERZO WINE ROUTE

Wines with their own personality, Nature, Medieval architecture, Major towns, Way of Saint James. We have plans for you!!!!

http://www.bierzoenoturismo.com info@enoturismoenelbierzo.com

CIGALES WINE ROUTE

Do wine tourism in the Campiña del Pisuerga, with our underground cellars, wine castles, Castilla Waterway (Eurovelo 1) and the <u>GR296 Trail</u> https://www.rutadelvinocigales.com info@rutadelvinocigales.com









RIBERA DEL DUERO WINE ROUTE

Enjoy your freedom in the Wine Route of Sensations with Origin Denomination. https://www.rutadelvinoriberadelduero.es/ info@riberate.com

RUEDA WINE ROUTE

Extensive historical and gastronomic legacy. The Castilian landscape, characterised by its green fields and pine forests, changes in this Route.

https://www.rutadelvinoderueda.com/es/

info@rutadelvinoderueda.com

SIERRA DE FRANCIA WINE ROUTE

Integrated within the Biosphere Reserve of the Sierras de Béjar y Francia and the Natural Park of the Sierra de Francia Batuecas.

https://rutadelvinosierradefrancia.com/

info@rutadelvinosierradefrancia.com

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/

info@rutavinotoro.com

ZAMORA WINE ROUTE

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









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-caminomiguelangel@rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com</u>

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. https://nis.es/from-madrid-to-bilbao.html cyl@nis-dmc.com or hello@nis-dmc.com

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. www.vitorsalamanca.com info@vitorsalamanca.com

RESERVASLEON.COM

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

VERONIA TOURS SL

Customized special interest tours: cultural, pilgrimages, choir, wine and gourmet... https://www.veroniatours.com/tours
yeroniatours@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 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 https://lamiradacircular.es/contactar contacto@lamiradacircular.es

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... https://naturaliste.es/info@naturaliste.es/info@naturaliste.es

CULTUR VIAJES

Cultural getaways for adults focused on Palencia's Romanesque jewels. www.culturviajes.org/escapadas info@culturviajes.org

CAMINANDOCAMINANDO

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

SPANISHG G EXPERIENCE

Customised, cuisine-oriented trips through the north of Spain. www.spanishgexperience.com/estravel@spanishgexperience.com

SPAIN IS MORE

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VIAJES SALAMANCA

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VIAJES TURISCAR

Tours: Isabella I of Castilla/León and Los Arribes/Salamanca and Castilla Route. 7 days. www.viajesturiscar.grupoairmet.com viajesturiscar@hotmail.com

RUTAS DE VINO - VINTAGE SPAIN

Break away in the Ribera de Duero area with trasportation. https://www.rutasdevino.com/enoshop/producto/enoturismo-ribera-del-duero-transporte/jorge@vintagespain.com

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Specialised in cultural, wine and food tourism in Salamanca and in Castilla y León. www.incomingsalamanca.com info@incomingsalamanca.com

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ALBUR VIAJES BENAVENTE

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