

CASTILLA

Y

NADA QUE SE PAREZCA A TI

TOURIST NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024

LEÓN



NATURE AND HIKING



Castilla y León is one of Europe's most blessed territories in natural beauty. The opportunities for nature-based tourism in Castilla y León are unrivalled. Our Autonomous Community boasts lush forests, large mountain ranges, incomparable valleys, unique caves, impressive river canyons, rivers, and lakes with a history that dates back millions of years.

The diversity of Natural Areas in Castilla y León make it a first-class destination. To ensure conservation in the Autonomous Community, the Autonomous Government of Castilla y León created the Network of Natural Areas in 1991, which currently comprises more than 35 Protected Natural Areas of great ecological, geological, and scenic interest. It is also home to 10 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and Las Loras Geopark, the only UNESCO Global Geopark in Castilla y León.

Furthermore, Castilla y León boasts 10 of the 48 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Spain, which gives a good idea of how important sustainable development is to our Community.

It is also illustrative to highlight the importance of Las Loras Unesco Global Geopark which covers part of the north of the provinces of Burgos and Palencia. This is the only UNESCO Global Geopark in Castilla y León.

In this guidebook we plot out a journey through the natural areas of our 9 provinces in a selection of 90 trails chosen in partnership with the Department of Development and Environment and the Castilla y León Natural Heritage Foundation. We also include some recommendations of noteworthy trails with a wealth of heritage and/or fauna and flora, which make for a gateway into the beautiful landscapes and ecosystems to be discovered in our Autonomous Community.

Broadly, the trails are signposted and mostly suitable for people of all abilities and have a moderate or low level of difficulty. They are located close to places of interest and feature good facilities. We have used a simple naming system which includes the initials of the province and a number to indicate each of the 10 suggested trails per province, so that you can find them easily on the map we have included and on the tourist information website.

Additionally, we set out 7 long-distance trails for you, which in their own way take you on an experience full of history and wonderful views in a blend of tourism, the great outdoors, culture, and sport.



TOURIST PROPOSALS

Museo Etnográfico Villa De El Colmenar En Mombeltrán, Ávila



"VILLA DE EL COLMENAR" ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM IN MOMBELTRÁN, ÁVILA

The Ethnographic Museum "Villa de El Colmenar" is located on the first floor of the Hospital de San Andrés. With 16 rooms to explore, guests are invited to wander through the former sickrooms, constructed in the mid-18th century. The rooms are divided into two long rows, the first of which is dedicated to traditional architecture, while the second showcases local weights and measures, traditional slaughter techniques, ancient trades, and the rhythms of agricultural and livestock activities. Here, the museum recreates the ambiance of the sickrooms and the vibrant activity of the pharmacy, which once served the hospital and surrounding community. At the heart of the museum's collection lies the generosity of Mombeltrán's residents, who have loaned and donated their cherished belongings to create this cultural treasure. Through their contributions, the museum celebrates a way of life on the brink of extinction, preserving the customs and folklore that define the unique identity of the municipality.



Desfile del pendon de las Navas de Tolosa,
festividad del Día del Curpillos, Burgos (cedida agencia Ical)



FESTIVAL OF THE CURPILLOS, BURGOS

This year, on 7 June, the city of Burgos will celebrate the Festival of the Curpillos, also known as "Corpus Chico". This event is one of the most unique days on the festival calendar of the City of El Cid and a prominent hallmark of its identity, where the sacred and the secular are beautifully combined. Tradition has it that the festival originated from the Christian victory over the Almohads at the famous Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa in 1212. Since medieval times, there has been documentation of this celebration in the Las Huelgas neighbourhood, taking place on the Friday following Corpus Christi. During the procession, the Blessed Sacrament is carried under a canopy, and the highest military authority in the area carries the reproduction of the Banner of Las Navas (seized in the battle by the monastery's founder, King Alfonso VIII, from the Almohad Sultan Miramamolín). The popular part of the festival usually begins in the nearby Parque del Parral. However, this year it will be relocated to Parque de La Quinta, where people flock to enjoy delicious food at the booths set up by local clubs and regional centres of the city.





TEMPLAR NIGHT IN PONFERRADA, LEON

Every year on the first weekend of July, Ponferrada embarks on a journey back in time to the medieval era. The highlight of the weekend is Saturday night, which is especially magical and popular, as it features the torchlight procession, one of the main events of the Templar Night. During this procession, the Knights Templar, led by Master Guido de Garda, carry torches from the river promenade to the Templar Castle. At the castle, they renew their vow to guard the Ark of the Covenant and the Holy Grail, making for a captivating and historically rich experience.



La Casa del Abuelo en Cevico de la Torre, Palencia



LA CASA DEL ABUELO (THE GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE) IN CEVICO DE LA TORRE, PALENCIA

Not so long ago, children's tablet computers came in the form of small slates with a piece of white chalk. On these, they would draw, write, and learn their lessons - an image which is now unimaginable for today's younger generation. That is why we warmly invite you to visit with your family, especially grandparents and children, or as part of school groups and student tours. It is important that they discover the past, that of their grandparents, great-grandparents or even great-great-grandparents, and a way of life that is truly unknown to them. Join us on a journey back in time as we explore the lives of Ambrosio and Teodosia and their 14 children, who were raised in this house built in 1863. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Juan Carlos Garcia, who has been painstakingly restoring the house since 2015, it is now open for visitors. Entry is by a free-will donation, which helps to fund the ongoing restoration work and provides for some delicious pastries, grape juice, and wine that will wonderfully conclude your visit. For reservations, please call 667615120.





EL AZUD DE RIOLOBOS, SALAMANCA

Amid the cereal plains of north-eastern Salamanca, between the municipalities of Villar de Gallimazo and El Campo de Peñaranda, lies a surprising expanse of water: the Azud de Riobobos. This 387-hectare reservoir, built in 1998 for irrigation purposes, has quickly become a haven for migratory birds, who stop here on their journeys and use it as a breeding ground. In 2003, it was designated a ZEPA (Special Protection Area for Birds). Birdwatching tourism has steadily increased, attracting visitors eager to observe species such as the northern shoveler, little egret, mallard, great bustard, great crested grebe, white-headed duck, and common coot. Visitors can explore the reservoir's perimeter via a mostly paved path that crosses the containment dike and provides access to the settlement of the Duero Hydrographic Confederation.



Catedral Capilla Maria del Salto, Segovia (cedida Cabildo Catedralicio de Segovia)



MARÍA DEL SALTO, SEGOVIA

In the 13th century, in the city of Segovia, Jews lived alongside Christians and Muslims. A Jewish woman named Esther sympathized with Christians, which displeased the Jewish community. With the help of a nobleman's wife, she was accused of adultery - a crime punishable by death. Esther was taken to the Peñas Grajeras (now the Sanctuary of Our Lady of La Fuencisla) to be thrown into the abyss. At that moment, Esther prayed to the Virgin Mary, saying, "Oh, Virgin Mary; you who help Christians, have mercy on this Jew." Miraculously, she survived the fall without harm. Esther asked to be taken to the Cathedral of Santa María (opposite the Alcázar) and was baptised with the name "María" in honour of the Virgin. People later added "del Salto" or "Marisaltos" to

her name. Her remains were transferred to the current Cathedral and are located in the southern section of the cloister with an inscription referencing this event. The impact of this miracle at the time was significant; even King Alfonso X included this miracle in his Cantigas de Santa María (Canticles of Holy Mary), specifically number 107.



CANYON ROUTE OF THE RIVER VAL FROM ÁGREDA, SORIA

Cañón del Río Val, Ágreda, Soria (cedida Mediaambiente Agreda)



This route is perfect for enjoying the convergence of two different ecosystems: the Mediterranean and the continental. It's a delightful walk along the banks of the Río Val, where you can find unique natural species in the province of Soria. The route can be started from two different points. One of the trails begins in Ágreda. This is a linear route, marked with the code PR-SO-20, covering about 14 kilometres round trip. The second route is ideal for families, being a shorter route of about 3 kilometres, guided by the Moncayo once you start walking. Both routes are well-signposted and offer fabulous opportunities to enjoy the lush vegetation and diverse fauna. As you descend the canyon, you might spot various birds of prey, providing a spectacular natural show. After a short ascent towards the end, you will reach the most remarkable spot of the entire route: the Pozo de las Truchas waterfall. Here, you can simply relax and enjoy the soothing sound of the water.



Meandro del Río Duero, Parque de la Muela, Castronuño, Valladolid



EL DUERO ROUTE THROUGH THE PROVINCE OF VALLADOLID

The Duero River emerges in the province of Valladolid, flowing through the Cuco Valley. It passes through towns such as Bocos de Duero, offering an impressive view of the valley, and Curiel de Duero, with its historic castle. Peñafiel is notable for its Provincial Wine Museum, located inside its impressive castle. As you travel along the route, you can explore archaeological sites such as Pintia and visit towns like Pesquera, Valbuena, and Olivares de Duero, each known for their rich historical monuments. The historic towns of Simancas and Tordesillas are also well worth a visit. Nature lovers will enjoy the Senda del Duero (GR-14), which offers about 165 kilometers of scenic trails through the province of Valladolid. The route concludes by crossing the Castronuño Nature Reserve, where tourists can view one of the largest meanders in Europe from the Muela viewpoint. In addition to its gastronomic delights, a highlight of this route is the unique wine offerings, endorsed by the D.O. Ribera de Duero, Rueda, or Toro, and two D.O.P. Vino de Pago (Dehesa de Peñalba and Abadía de Retuerta).





FESTIVAL Z! LIVE, ZAMORA

As the rock band Barón Rojo famously sang, "My thing is rock". In Zamora, June is all about rock. Since 2016, with both international and national bands, more than 10,000 attendees, and an economic impact close to 4 million euros, Z! Live has become an unmissable event. In 2024, the festival will host 33 bands, with Europe headlining. Over three days, attendees can enjoy camping, merchandise stalls, food trucks, and more. Zamora fully embraces the rock spirit, even celebrating the festival's launch last November with the town hall bells playing chords from Europe's "The Final Countdown" at 12:00 and 18:00. The entire city eagerly anticipates June, ready to welcome the influx of rockers with open arms.



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



LAS POSADAS REALES PROPOSALS



Posada Real Los Templarios, Ucero, Soria

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.



ÁVILA

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www.loscincolinajes.com
info@loscincolinajes.es

- **POSADA REAL QUINTA DE SAN JOSÉ**

www.posadaquintasanjose.es
posadaquintasanjose@hotmail.com

- **POSADA REAL DEL INFANTE**

www.posadadelinfante.es
info@posadadelinfante.es

- **POSADA REAL EL LINAR DEL ZAIRE**

www.ellinardelzaire.com
info@ellinardelzaire.com

- **POSADA REAL HOSTERÍA DEL MUDÉJAR**

www.hosteriadelmudejar.com
info@hosteriadelmudejar.com

BURGOS

- **POSADA REAL HOSPEDERÍA CONVENTO SAN FRANCISCO**

www.conventosanfrancisco.es
hospederia@conventosanfrancisco.es

- **POSADA REAL LAS MAYAS**

www.lasmayas.es
informacion@lasmayas.es

- **POSADA REAL HOSPEDERÍA JARAMILLO**

www.hospederiajaramillo.com
info@hospederiajaramillo.com

LEÓN

- **HOTEL RURAL EL RINCÓN DE BABIA**

www.elrincondebabia.com
informacion@elrincondebabia.com

- **POSADA CASA DE TEPA**

www.casadetepa.com
casadetepa@casadetepa.com

- **POSADA REAL HOSTERÍA CAMINO**

www.hosteriacamino.com
informacion@hosteriacamino.com

PALENCIA

- **POSADA REAL SANTA MARIA LA REAL**

www.posadasantamarialareal.com
reservas@alojamientosconhistoria.com

SALAMANCA

- **HOTEL RURAL QUINTA DE LA CONCEPCIÓN**

www.quintadelaconcepcion.es
info@quintadelaconcepcion.es

- **HOTEL RURAL RURAL MUSICAL**

www.ruralmusical.es
ruralmusical@gmail.com

- **POSADA REAL CASTILLO DEL BUEN AMOR**

www.buenamor.net
castillo@buenamor.net

- **POSADA REAL CASA DEL BRASILEIRO**

www.casabrasilero.com
reservascasabrasilero@gmail.com

SEGOVIA

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www.posadamingaseda.com
reservas@posadamingaseda.es

- **POSADA REAL EL SEÑORÍO DE LA SERREZUELA**

www.elseñoriodelaserrezuela.com
elsenoriodelaserrezuela@hotmail.com

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www.lobones.com
info@lobones.com

- **HOTEL RURAL FINCA FUENTE TECHADA**

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SORIA

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info@almazuela.es

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www.realposada.com
info@realposada.com

- **POSADA REAL LOS TEMPLARIOS**

www.posadalostemplarios.com
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- **POSADA REAL DON MARCOS**

www.hoteldonmarcos.es
hoteldonmarcos.sl@gmail.com

VALLADOLID

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www.laposadadelpinar.com
info@laposadadelpinar.com

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laposadadelcanal@gmail.com

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ZAMORA

- **POSADA REAL LA MULA DE LOS ARRIBES**

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- **POSADA REAL LA CARTERÍA**

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posadareallacarteria@gmail.com

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elsenderodelagua@gmail.com

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info@villalucerna.es

- **POSADA REAL DE LAS MISAS**

www.posadadelasmisas.com
posadadelasmisas@gmail.com

- **POSADA REAL LOS CONDESTABLES**

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info@posadaloscondestables.com

- **HOTEL RURAL LA YÉNSULA**

www.layensula.es
reservas@layensula.es

- **POSADA REAL LA POSADA DEL BUEN CAMINO**

www.laposadadelbuencamino.com
info@laposadadelbuencamino.com

- **POSADA REAL CASTILLO MONTE LA REINA**

www.montelareina.es/
reservas@montelareina.es

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.



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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**

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<https://www.rutadelvinoarribes.com/>
hola@rutadelvinoarribes.com

- **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 [GR296 Trail](#)

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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

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<https://www.rutadelvinoderueda.com/es/>
info@rutadelvinoderueda.com

- **SIERRA DE FRANCIA WINE ROUTE**

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<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.
www.rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com/historia-del-camino
miguelangel@rutasdelcaminodesantiago.com

- **DESTINO DIVINO**

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

- **NIS-NORTH INCOMING SERVICE SL**

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

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

- **VITORSALAMANCA**

Discover the province of Salamanca through half-day or full-day experiences.
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>
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 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/contactarcontacto@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

- **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.caminandocaminando.com
info@caminandocaminando.com

- **SPANISHG G EXPERIENCE**

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

- **SPAIN IS MORE**

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- **WELCOME CASTILLA Y LEÓN**

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www.spaciolibre.com/destino-palencia

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- **INCOMING SALAMANCA**

Specialised in cultural, wine and food tourism in Salamanca and in Castilla y León.

www.incomingsalamanca.com

info@incomingsalamanca.com

- **MUNDILEON**

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

www.livingthecamino.com

info@livingthecamino.com

- **ALBUR VIAJES BENAVENTE**

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

www.viajesalbur.net

viajes@viajesalbur.net