

CASTILLA Y LEÓN



MUSAC, León

MUSAC. MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART OF CASTILLA AND LEÓN

The Castilla y León Museum of Contemporary Art (MUSAC), houses a collection of art from the 20th and 21st centuries, with a particular focus on works dating from the early eighties until the present day. The collection includes an ample representation of new artistic trends both in Spain and abroad.

The MUSAC Collection, made up of more than 1,650 works by almost 400 artists from Castilla y León, Spain and abroad, is the keystone to the museum, and the focal point for intense research, study and conservation activity. The exhibitions, arranged in accordance with the layout and design of the museum spaces, focus on the relationship between contemporary art and a review and contextualisation of certain themes, movements or artists within a wider historical political and social framework.

The educational and cultural programmes contribute to achieving the museum's social objectives. In short, this is a venue that aspires to become a public meeting point and exhibition space based on research, debate, analysis and above all the enjoyment of contemporary art and culture.



TOURISM IDEAS IN CASTILLA Y LEÓN



Semana Santa de Ávila

ÁVILA SEMANA SANTA

Ávila's Semana Santa (Holy Week), listed as an event of international tourist interest, takes place in the beautiful and incomparable setting of Ávila's city walls. Its cobbled streets and numerous Renaissance palaces take us back to the Middle Ages. Its spectacular processions begin on the Friday of Sorrows and end on Easter Sunday. Highlights include extraordinary bands of music, the candles, and lanterns of the Nazarenes, the singing of the Miserere, the meeting between Jesus and his Mother at the gates of the Cathedral on the night of Easter Monday, the Via Matris with its readings and the Stations of the Cross, which takes place around the city walls with the crowds. All of which makes Holy Week in Ávila a very special event, charged with emotion and spirituality, and which will remain in the memories of all those who contemplate and experience it. The exquisite gastronomy of Ávila offers us many delicacies typical of this time of year, such as flores fritas (deep-fried sweet pastries in the shape of flowers), torrijas (a type of French toast), and hornazo (a type of pie traditionally filled with pork products, such as chorizo), all accompanied, of course, with its traditional lemonade.



MORCILLA FROM BURGOS

Morcilla, or black pudding, is traditionally made from different parts of the pig, such as the blood, intestines and lard, to which are added vegetables, such as onions, and spices, such as paprika and pepper, all of which are stuffed into casings and then cooked. Rice was added in the 18th century. It was the carters who brought this ingredient back from Valencia, where they would take the wood obtained from the pines of the Sierra. This laid the foundations for the "bland, tasty and spicy" morcilla de Burgos that we know today containing blood, rice, lard, salt, pepper, paprika and onion (an ingredient that gives it a distinctive quality and which has led to it being awarded PGI status). The Morcilla de Burgos has been a staple in the larder of the people of Burgos for centuries, creating an inseparable link between a specific food product and a region, well-known throughout Spain. Small companies throughout the province produce this product traditionally, some of them also making new products based on black pudding, applying R+D+I and imagination.



Morcilla de Burgos
(cedida agencia Ical)



La comarca de Babia (León) desde el Puerto de Ventana
(cedida agencia Ical)

A BUCOLIC PARADISE: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE VALLEYS OF BABIA, LEÓN

Babia is notable for the tranquillity of its wide valleys and mountains. This territory is one of the most important natural attractions in the province of León. Since the 13th century, the rise of transhumant merino sheep farming has favoured the pasture landscape. In recognition of this traditional and cultural use derived from centuries of having been settled, the area was declared a Biosphere Reserve in 2004, made up of the municipalities of San Emiliano and Cabrillanes. The Palacio de Quiñones, in Riologo de Babia, houses the Casa del Parque Natural, the park's Interpretation Centre. There, we can access information about each area of the Park in a pleasant and simple way, as well as receive advice on hiking routes. In recent years, Babia has been promoted as a tourist destination for astronomical observation and the protection and conservation of the night skies.



SEMANA SANTA IN PALENCIA

The Semana Santa, or Holy Week, of Palencia was declared a Festival of International Tourist Interest in 2012. And it boasts acts that make it really special. One of the most unique of them is the "Tararú", a long trumpet blast that imitates the sounds of the Roman trumpets, which announced the procession of those condemned to death. One very curious event to witness is that of "la Vestición", just before the procession of the Cinco Llagas (Five Wounds) on Easter Monday. The confrères of the Brotherhood explain their attire and its symbolism to the public. Afterwards, they carry on their shoulders the oldest image that is exhibited in the Holy Week processions of Palencia, the Crucifixion of Alejo de Vahía, from the 15th century, which belongs to the Cofradía del Jesús Resucitado y Ntra. Sra. De la Madre Dolorosa (The Brotherhood of the Resurrected Jesus and Our Lady of the Sorrowful Mother). Our procession of the Soledad de la Virgen, on Easter Saturday, is also quite special, as there are usually no processions on this day. It is a procession conceived as a tribute by the women of Palencia to Our Blessed Lady. All the Marian advocations of the different penitential brotherhoods of the city march in procession, accompanying the Virgen de la Soledad.



Semana Santa de Palencia



Alcornocal de Valdelosa, Salamanca

THE CORK OAK GROVE OF VALDELOSA, SALAMANCA

In the northern part of the province of Salamanca, some 45 kilometres from the capital, we find the Valdelosa cork oak grove. The cereal-growing landscape is interrupted by a dense forest of Pyrenean oaks, holm oaks, Portuguese oaks, and, predominantly, cork oaks. Its 6,000 hectares make it the largest cork oak grove in Castilla y León. Some 300,000 kilos of cork are extracted from it every summer when the *saca*, the extraction, takes place, following a rotation process, as each tree can only be uncorked every eleven years, and according to appropriate techniques that do not damage the specimens in order to maintain the activity in a sustainable manner. Within this unique forest lies the cork oak tree of Los Carretos, included in the "Living Cathedrals" route due to its age and majestic size. The route is also of great interest to birdwatchers due to the large number of species to be found throughout.



COCA, SEGOVIA

Located between the rivers Voltoya and Eresma, within the Tierra de Pinares, we find the so-called "Cauca", the birthplace of the Roman emperor, Theodosius the Great (last emperor of the East and West). Later, it would become the Villa de Coca, head of the Comunidad de Villa y Tierra, a form of political organisation in Castilian Extremadura, of the same name. But, without a doubt, the jewel of Coca is its Mudéjar castle, an impressive 15th-century brick building. The interior, the bridge over the moat, the parade ground, the towers (such as the keep), the chapel, the arms room and the dungeon will enchant you. We can also climb up to the parapet to enjoy the "sea of pine trees" and see the portcullis that closes the entrance gate. It is currently an Agricultural Training School. In Coca, we will also find remains of the town walls (with its Puerta de La Villa gate), the verracos vacceos (ancient granite statues representing animals), the Gothic church of Santa María La Mayor (where we can find the Renaissance tombs of the Fonseca family, who ordered the construction of the castle), the Mudéjar tower of San Nicolás (from the disappeared church of the same name and defensive watchtower of the town). Outside the wall, there are some Roman remains that are thought to be related to the villa of Theodosius the Great, located very close to here.



Castillo de Coca, Segovia





Sierra de Moncayo, Soria

BERATÓN AND THE FANTASTIC MONCAYO, SORIA

Beratón (the highest village in the province of Soria, at almost 1,391 meters above sea level) sits at the foot of the imposing Moncayo. Its privileged natural environment offers endless possibilities for hiking and other nature activities, such as ascending to Pico San Miguel (at 2,315 meters), crossing the Moncayo to Somontano through Añon, reaching the sources of the Araviana and Isuela rivers, or walking the different paths and trails of the ravine of the Isuela river. The Moncayo represents contrast and mystery. The literature, the mythology and the oral tradition of generations of the inhabitants of this region have transmitted a world that lies between the real and the fantastic, full of stories, tales, news and legends, of incomprehensible beings, already mentioned since Roman times. Called Veratón by Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer, some of his stories, such as La Corza Blanca, were set in its surroundings, which is why the village of Beratón is part of the Bécquer Route. The beauty and sheer strength of the Moncayo was also a reference for another great poet, Antonio Machado. "Look at the blue and white Moncayo; give me your hand and let us walk", he wrote to his wife Leonor.



VIEJO COSO SQUARE, VALALLADOLID

The Viejo Coso Square is one of the most interesting tourist attractions in Valladolid (while also being a great unknown), not only because of its origin but also because of its architectural features. Accessed through a passageway, it amazes visitors with its impressive interior. For 60 years, since 1833, it was the first bullring in Valladolid, until 1890, when the current one on Paseo Zorrilla was built. As a result, it was abandoned and, in 1900, it was restored as a Guardia Civil, Spain's Civil Guard, barracks. After the barracks were moved to the Segovia road, it deteriorated once again, until 1982, when it was restored for residential use after being included in the catalogue of protected assets. It was one of the few octagonal bullrings in the country, along with those of Zaragoza and Granada, among others. The interior façade has been kept almost intact and all the preserved materials, such as the original brickwork, have been reused. What used to be the arena is now a wooded park, and the wooden gallery simulates a traditional corrala, the traditional communal courtyard belonging to a tenement house.

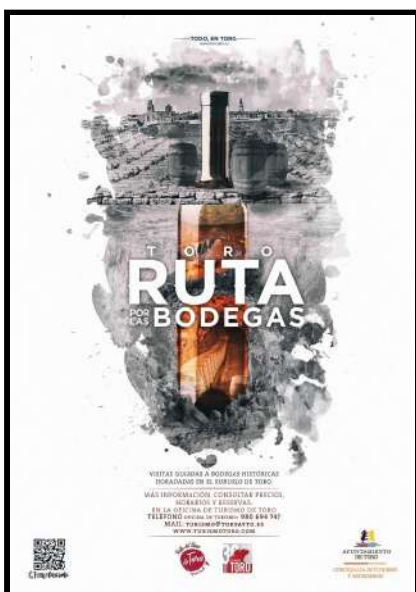


Plaza del Viejo Coso, Valladolid



ROUTE THROUGH THE HISTORIC WINE CELLARS OF TORO, ZAMORA

The traditional wine cellars of Toro are a magnificent testimony to understanding the identity of a city that has been closely linked to both vines and wine since ancient times. They are excavated under the buildings to which they belong. Hundreds of underground spaces, often splendid and sometimes very humble, can be seen in any street or square, to the point that the most common type of civil architecture in Toro is that which includes a vent or zarzera within the elevation of the façade of the building. This architectural element is the terrestrial evidence that, for centuries, the wealth of the wine industry was a major social, economic and town-planning agent that further strengthened the historical and strategic importance that the city has had over the centuries. In 2005, after a century of neglect, the Spanish Heritage Institute launched a project to conserve the traditional wine cellars of Toro and Tierra del Vino. Five publicly owned wine cellars in Toro were chosen: those of the Town Hall, the Palace of the Counts of Requena, the Palace of Valparaíso, the Agricultural Chamber and the old Hospital.



Ruta por las Bodegas de Toro, Zamora (cedida por Turismoto)



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

LAS POSADAS REALES DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN PROPOSALS



Posada Real Caserío 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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info@posadadelinfante.es

- **POSADA REAL QUINTA DE SAN JOSÉ**

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info@hosteriadelmudejar.com

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informacion@elrincondebabia.com

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- **POSADA REAL HOSTERÍA CAMINO**

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informacion@hosteriacamino.com

Palencia

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reservas@alojamientosconhistoria.com

Salamanca

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info@quintadelaconcepcion.es

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- **HOTEL RURAL MUSICAL**

www.ruralmusical.es
ruralmusical@gmail.com

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Soria

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Valladolid

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info@laposadadelbuencamino.com

- **POSADA REAL CASTILLO MONTE LA REINA**

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reservas@montelareina.es

RUTAS DEL VINO DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN PROPOSALS



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

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



- **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/en/arlanza-wine-route/>

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.

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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!!!!

<https://bierzoenoturismo.com/en/>

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- **RIBERA DEL DUERO WINE ROUTE**

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info@riberate.com

- **RUEDA WINE ROUTE**

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<https://www.rutadelvinoderueda.com/en/>

info@rutadelvinoderueda.com

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- **TORO WINE ROUTE**

Our countless heritage, our wines, our gastronomy, and our people who welcome you with open arms, an experience that leaves its mark.

<https://www.rutavinotoro.com/en/home-toro-wine-route/>

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

CASTILLA Y LEÓN INCOMING TOUR OPERATORS PROPOSALS

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

- **PILGRIMS' ROUTE TO SANTIAGO OPTIONS**

Specialised in the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago.

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.

<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**

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www.vitorsalamanca.com

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- **RESERVASLEON.COM**

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www.alacarta.es

info@alacarta.es

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www.mundicamino.com

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- **WELLBEDS**

Reservation portal specialized in health and well-being.

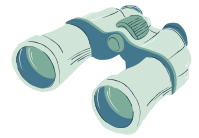
www.wellbeds.es

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

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travel@spanishgexperience.com

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viajesturiscar@hotmail.com

- **RUTAS DE VINO - VINTAGE SPAIN**

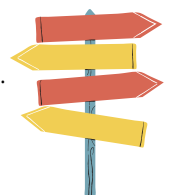
Break away in the Ribera de Duero area with transportation.
<https://www.rutasdevino.com/enoshop/producto/enoturismo-ribera-del-duero-transporte/>
jorge@vintagespain.com

- **WELCOME CASTILLA Y LEÓN**

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Experts in Getaways, Cultural Routes, Food Routes, for individuals, groups, events and incentives in Palencia city and province.
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- **INCOMING SALAMANCA**

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

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