

# INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

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SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA



# INDEX OF CONTENTS

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SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA 4

LIST OF ACTIVITIES 6

ATLANTIC TASTE PROGRAMME 8

CREATIVE COMPOSTELA PROGRAMME 10

ACTIVE NATURE PROGRAMME 12

HEALTH & WELLBEING PROGRAMME 14

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 16

PRACTICAL INFORMATION 18

**EDITED BY** TURISMO DE SANTIAGO  
**COORDINATED BY** TURISMO DE SANTIAGO  
**TRANSLATED BY** DESMOND JOYCE  
**PHOTOGRAPHY** ANXO IGLESIAS  
ALBERTO BANDIN  
FUCO REYES  
MATIAS ASCARIZ  
MARTÍN RENDO  
ARCHIVO INCOLSA  
FUNDACIÓN CATEDRAL DE SANTIAGO  
HOTEL A QUINTA DA AUGA  
FOGAR DO SANTISO  
BLUSCUS  
PIRAGÜILLA  
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# SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

4

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Santiago de Compostela arose and grew to receive visitors. We have more than a thousand years' experience receiving and looking after pilgrims. Every year, thousands of them follow the Way of St. James to reach our Cathedral and, by means of it, fall in love with our city.

With more than a thousand years of history and a university that is more than 500 years old, Santiago de Compostela is now a small grand city -dynamic and alive- that is made for walking. The streets of our stone forest lead to the discovery of convents, churches, stately mansions, museums, landscaped cloisters, fountains, passageways and some of Europe's most beautiful monumental squares.

However, above all, we have a place for each person.

In Santiago, everyone can find a place to suit themselves. Charming hotels. Hills featuring viewpoints. Hundred-year-old parks. Auteur architecture. Atlantic gastronomy: our food market, called "Plaza de Abastos"; wine and tapas routes, more than a thousand bars and restaurants... Nobody every forgets our fresh seafood, "pulpo á feira" (Galician-style octopus), "tetilla" cheese, "tarta de Santiago" (almond cake) and Galician wines, such as Albariño and Ribeiro.

And there is never a dull moment in Compostela. The city reaches its climax in July, with the "Apóstol" Festival and its famous fireworks display.

But the calendar also features a season of classical concerts, music in the squares, dance, theatre, film, world music, puppet, magic, clown, zarzuela and lied festivals; and traditions such as the Carnival, Holy Week, harvest and bonfire festivals... apart from book fairs, collecting events and street markets. Boutiques, studios and avant-garde shops can be found together in shopping centres, streets and boulevards, selling gold, silver and jet-stone articles, ceramics, lacework...

And a lot of fashion, because Galicia is the creator and exporter of brands such as Zara, Adolfo Domínguez, Roberto Verino or Antonio Pernas. When the sun sets, Santiago is one of the Spanish cities with the best and safest nightlife.

The night features traditional "queimadas" (flamed eau-de-vie) enjoyed in the warmth provided by stonewalls and live music.

And that's not all -Santiago is also the geographical centre of Galicia. Its strategic location makes it the perfect place for discovering the Atlantic coast, which combines calm and wild beaches, fishing ports and marinas, rich gastronomy and seafaring legends; Roman cities and small medieval towns; roads lined with "hórreos" (stone granaries) and stone crosses, forests featuring prehistoric remains and Celtic settlements in the midst of green mountains. All of Galicia is within reach of Santiago.

5

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA



**MORE THAN A THOUSAND  
YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN  
RECEIVING AND LOOKING  
AFTER PILGRIMS.**

# LIST OF ACTIVITIES

## Unforgettable activities, in a unique city:

Each visit, trip, tasting, fiesta, dance, adventure or circuit will be touched by the magic of the end of the Way of St. James, the history, the quality of the scenery and products, and by the centuries of experience in looking after visitors.

As an incentive trip organiser, you want the widest variety of unique experiences, but also professional guidance when it comes to combining them.

We present four thematic programmes below that will help you discover different aspects of our destination and inspire you to create your own approach to Santiago de Compostela. These are some of our recommended activities, which you can combine in different personalised programmes:



## EXPERIENCE THE CITY

The beauty and monumentality of a World Heritage City can be yours forever.

- [1] Old town tour
- [2] Cathedral tours (Cathedral interior, stone roof, Santiago Cathedral Museum, "Pórtico de la Gloria")
- [3] Gastronomy tour
- [4] Night tour
- [5] Traditional trades
- [6] Gymkhana special: pilgrim Compostela. **[team building]**
- [7] Compostela portraits **[team building]**



## TRADITIONS AND SPECIALTIES

Understand why Galicia and Santiago are described as "meigas," "enxebres" and "riquiñas" in the Galician language, by means of their most genuine expressions.

- [1] "Botafumeiro" censer
- [2] "Queimada" (flamed eau-de-vie)
- [3] University "Tuna" (music group)
- [4] Traditional music & dance **[team building]**
- [5] Galician Party with "pulpo á feira" (Galician style octopus) **[team building]**



## ACTIVE TORISM & NATURE

Itineraries and activities for enjoying the mythical Atlantic "rías" (estuaries), fishing towns, green mountain landscapes, rivers, "pazos" (ancestral homes) and historical gardens...

- [1] Visits to "pazos" and gardens
- [2] Kayak routes
- [3] Boat trips around the "Rías"
- [4] Marine tourism
- [5] Trekking and cycling on the Illa de Arousa (island) **[team building]**
- [6] Way of St. James **[team building]**
- [7] Discovering the Atlantic Isles **[team building]**



## GASTRONOMY EXPERIENCES

Unforgettable techniques and tastes. Galicia's farm produce is among the richest in Europe; and its sea makes it one of the world's largest exporters of fish and seafood. Discover them.

- [1] 'Shopping and cooking with...' - Gastronomy workshop with chef.
- [2] Tapas routes (around different city neighbourhoods).
- [3] Visit to winery & wine tasting featuring pairing with local produce
- [4] Visits to fish markets, canned food factories...
- [5] Cooking show & tasting
- [6] Tapas competition **[team building]**
- [7] Seafood gathering workshop **[team building]**



## HEALTH & WELLBEING

Stimulate your senses, pamper your body, experience contact with nature: that's our anti-stress health and wellbeing recommendation.

- [1] Routes through parks, forests and along riverside trails
- [2] Spa & relaxation circuits
- [3] Mindfulness workshops
- [4] Yoga in natural settings **[team building]**





# PROGRAMME ATLANTIC TASTE

It's not just tasting Galicia's wonderful fresh food, but also participating in the Atlantic gastronomy culture by means of shopping, cooking sessions, seafood gathering and scenic tours.

## DAY 1

**AFTERNOON**  
🕒 90'-120'

**[1] [2]** Discover the old town, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, Santiago Cathedral and the "Pórtico de la Gloria."

**NIGHT**  
🕒 90'

### DINNER

Savour the best traditional Galician cuisine: fresh fish "en caldeirada" (casserole) or "a la gallega" (Galician-style), steamed or grilled seafood, or tender charcoal-grilled meat. We can't end the day without warding off the "meigas" (witches) and evil spirits with a "queimada" (flamed eau-de-vie).



## DAY 2

**MORNING**  
🕒 60'-90'

**[3]** Discover the popular "Mercado de Abastos" (food market), one of the city's liveliest spots, accompanied by a renowned expert

🕒 60'-90'

**[1] TB Option 1 :** Shopping and cooking with... - shopping and cooking workshop . A renowned local chef will guide us around Santiago's market teaching us the secrets of buying fresh produce, which we'll then use to prepare the best recipes of the Atlantic diet.

**[6] TB Option 2:** Tapas competition using market produce.



**MIDDAY**  
🕒 60'-90'

### LUNCH

in one of the restaurants near "Plaza de Abastos," the city's most fashionable gastronomy district.



**AFTERNOON**  
🕒 3h -4h

**[7] Option 1:** Seafood gathering workshop. Participate in an original outdoor activity, accompanied by the best seafood gatherers. They'll teach you the secrets of the trade, while sharing their love for this work in contact with the sea.

**[3] Option 2:** A sail around Ría de Arousa. Visit to mussel platforms.



**NIGHT**  
🕒 90'-120'

**[2]** Tapas route around one of Santiago's most emblematic districts: Barrio de San Pedro.



## DAY 3

**MORNING**  
🕒 90'-120'

Free time for shopping.

**MIDDAY**  
🕒 90'-120'

**[5]** Cooking show and farewell lunch.





# PROGRAMME

## CREATIVE

## COMPOSTELA

Discover the most creative Compostela with these routes around the city's main craft centres.

Places where you can discover artists as well as magical spots that have been shaped by the passing of centuries, and by pilgrims and visitors.

### DAY 1

#### AFTERNOON

🕒 90'-120'

**[1]** Discover the old town, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and its recently restored "Pórtico de la Gloria."

#### NIGHT

🕒 90'

**[5] DINNER:** Creative cooking show and tasting dinner featuring a "cooking artist."



### DAY 2

#### MORNING

🕒 90'-120'

**[5] Option 1:** Discover Compostela's traditional trades! Visit artisans' studios: silver smiths, jet stone workers,....



**[6] TB Option 2 :** Gymkhana: Discover Compostela's pilgrimage traces around the city.



#### MIDDAY

🕒 60'-90'

#### LUNCH

in one of the restaurants near Plaza de Abastos, the city's most fashionable gastronomy district



#### AFTERNOON

🕒 90'-120'

**[7] Option 1:** "Compostela Portraits": Become an artist for a day! Create your own travel notebook by drawing or photographing Santiago de Compostela's most beautiful spots.



**[4] Option 2:** Traditional music and dance workshop.

#### NIGHT

🕒 90'

#### DINNER

Discover the Galician capital's new gastronomy markets and savour the best tapas.



#### MORNING

🕒 3h-4h

**[1]** Route through San Domingos de Bonaval Park. Optional visits to the Church of Bonaval, Museo do Pobo Galego (ethnographic museum) and the Galician Contemporary Art Centre. Free time for shopping.



#### MIDDAY

🕒 60'-90'

#### LUNCH

Farewell lunch; surprise yourself with the best Galician cuisine on wheels.





# PROGRAMME

## ACTIVE NATURE

Surroundings featuring Atlantic landscapes, living nature, magical spots and singular culture.

Enjoy the most dynamic and active Compostela with our exciting routes for groups.

### DAY 1

#### AFTERNOON

🕒 90'-120'

**[1] [2]** Discover the old town, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and its recently restored "Pórtico de la Gloria."

#### NIGHT

🕒 90'

#### DINNER

Enjoy the new Compostela cuisine right beside Santiago Cathedral. Don't miss the gastronomic creations of the restaurants on Rúa das Hortas.



### DAY 2

#### MORNING

🕒 120'-180'

**[6] Option 1:** Way of St. James. Experience the spirit of the ancient pilgrimage route to Compostela for a few hours. The walk features the mystical beauty of the Galician countryside.



#### MIDDAY

🕒 60'-90'

To round off your pilgrim experience, enjoy a wonderful meal in a magnificent Galician "pazo" (ancestral home) at the foot of the Way of St. James.



#### [5] Option 2:

Trip to Illa de Arousa. Cycling tour of the island and kayak route around the "ría" (estuary).



#### MIDDAY

🕒 60'-90'

#### LUNCH

in a local "pazo" (ancestral home).

**[1]** Tour the "pazo" surrounded by vineyards and camellias.

#### AFTERNOON

🕒 90'-120'

Free time for shopping.

#### NIGHT

🕒 90'-120'

**[2]** Alternative tapas route. Discover the gastronomic creations of the "hidden" bars on Rúa da Algalia, Praciña San Miguel, San Roque ...

### DAY 3

#### MORNING

🕒 120'-180'

**[7]** Trip to the Atlantic Isles Nature Park.

#### MEDIODIA

🕒 60'-90'

Tasting of the best sea produce.





# PROGRAMME HEALTH & WELLBEING

It's time to pamper your body and mind.  
Our recipe: healthy, fresh cuisine, exercise,  
meditation, beautiful scenery and the full  
spiritual force of the Way of St. James.

14

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

## DAY 1

### AFTERNOON

🕒 90'-120'

**[1] [2]** Explore the old town, declared World Heritage by UNESCO, the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and its recently restored "Pórtico de la Gloria."

### NIGHT

🕒 90'-120'

#### [5] DINNER

Cooking show with an Atlantic taste. Discover the healthy and varied Atlantic gastronomy, accompanied by an expert chef.

## DAY 2

### MORNING

🕒 60'-90'

**[1] Option 1:** Get active with a walk around the "Forest of Galicia" -the Galician capital's new green lung.

🕒 45'-60'

**[4]** Yoga session in the Galician City of Culture's "Parque do Lago".

### MIDDAY

🕒 60'-90'

#### LUNCH

Picnic featuring fresh local and seasonal produce. Genuine "km 0" gastronomy.

### NIGHT

🕒 90'-120'

**[2]** Tapas route around the San Pedro neighbourhood: a great variety of options in the city's most dynamic district.

## DÍA 3

### MORNING

🕒 60'-90'

**[6] Option 1:** Way of St. James. Experience the spirit of the ancient pilgrimage to Compostela for a few hours. The walk features the mystical beauty of the Galician countryside.

🕒 90'-120'

#### [3] Option 2:

A sail around the "ría" (estuary).

#### MIDDAY

To round off the day, a farewell menu featuring the best fresh sea produce.

**[2]** Spa session & relaxation circuit in an emblematic spa hotel.

15

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

16

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

## JANUARY

Regular season of the **Real Filharmonía de Galicia** orchestra.

## FEBRUARY

### Carnival

#### “Xenerais da Ulla”

Traditional Rural Carnival. Festival of Galician Tourist Interest

## MARCH

“**Romería de San Lázaro**” - Pig's Trotters Gastronomy Festival

“**Atlántica**” - Oral Narration Festival

**Holy Week** - Festival of Galician Tourist Interest

## APRIL

**Holy Week** - Festival of Galician Tourist Interest

“**De Lugares y Órganos**” Church Organ Festival

“**Paixón Doce**” Lenten Sweets

“**Encuentro Universitario de Danza Contemporánea de la USC**” - University Contemporary Dance Festival

“**Banquete de Conxo**” Historical Festival

## MAY

### “Ascensión” Festival

### University Theatre Festival

### Book Fair

**Antique and Second-Hand Book Fair**

## JUNE

### SELIC

Compostela Book Week

“**San Juan**” Festival.

17

INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

## JULY

“**Apóstol**” Festival - International Tourist Interest

## AUGUST

**Curso Internacional Música en Compostela**

## SEPTEMBER

### Lied Season

### WOS Festival

International Short Film Festival - “**CurtoCircuíto**”

## OCTOBER

International Puppet Festival “**Galicreques**”

## NOVEMBER

International Film Festival “**Cineuropa**”

### “Compostela Ilustrada”

Tapas Competition “**Santiago (é) Tapas**”

“**Magostos**” - Chestnut and Harvest Festival

## DECEMBER

**Christmas Festival and Market**

**Offering to the Apostle James** “Traslato”.

# INFORMATION OF INTEREST

## HOW TO GET THERE

Santiago de Compostela is located in the northwest corner of Spain, only a few kilometres inland from Europe's westernmost coastline, in the region called Galicia, which the Romans considered the end of the earth, "Finis Terrae."

### By plane

— Santiago de Compostela International Airport (SCQ)

- 12 km from the city centre.
- Duration of taxi ride: 15 min.
- [www.aena.es](http://www.aena.es)

### Companies that fly to Santiago Airport:

- Iberia / Iberia Express
- Air Europa
- Vueling
- Air Nostrum
- Aer Lingus
- Ryanair
- Easyjet
- Lufthansa
- Swiss

Consult flight times, destinations and updated information on the web [www.aena.es](http://www.aena.es)

### Direct domestic flights

Alicante, Barcelona, Bilbao, Fuerteventura, Las Palmas, Lanzarote, Madrid, Málaga, Palma de Mallorca, Seville, Tenerife, Valencia

### Direct International Flights

Amsterdam, Basel, Bruselas, Dublín, Frankfurt, Ginebra, Londres, Milán, Munich, París, Rome, Zurich

# SERVICES OF THE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA CONVENTION BUREAU

## DO YOU WANT TO ORGANISE AN INCENTIVE TRIP TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA & SURROUNDINGS?

### ABOUT US

The Santiago de Compostela Convention Bureau (SCCB) is a municipal service, provided by "Turismo de Santiago de Compostela."

### WHAT WE DO

We promote Santiago de Compostela as a tourist destination for national and international incentive trips.

### CONTACT US

We provide information about activities, programmes and suppliers to guarantee the perfect incentive trip.

Santiago de Compostela Convention Bureau  
Rúa do Vilar, 63  
15705 Santiago de Compostela  
Teléphone: +34 981 555 129  
Web: [www.santiagoturismo.com/sccb](http://www.santiagoturismo.com/sccb)  
Email: [sccb@santiagoturismo.com](mailto:sccb@santiagoturismo.com)



Santiago de Compostela  
CONVENTION BUREAU

# INCENTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

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SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA



Santiago de Compostela  
CONVENTION BUREAU

PROJECT FUNDED BY THE "XUNTA DE GALICIA"  
BY MEANS OF THE "TURISMO DE GALICIA" AGENCY.



XUNTA  
DE GALICIA