



concello de Padrón
D INTERESE TURISTICO



CONCELLO
D PADRÓN

Padrón Cradle of the Xacobeo



The Padrón. Roman altar stone that is situated in the church of Saint James of Padrón.



Chapel of Santiaguiño do Monte.

History and tradition

Padrón, municipality situated to the south of the province of A Coruña, in the limit with that of Pontevedra, lies in a wide valley between the rivers Ulla and Sar, natural gate to the Arousa estuary. The name of the town, probably comes from the “Pedrón”, Roman altar stone which is kept underneath the high altar of the Church of Santiago. According to the Jacobean tradition, this is the place where the apostolic boat was moored; by which, guided by an angel, came from “Haffa” in Palestine to the port of Iria Flavia the Apostle Saint James’ dead body (1st century), accompanied by his disciples Theodore and Athanasius. The origin of the town dates back to the 10th century, as a suburb of Iria Flavia, rising up by a river, the Sar, which until the Middle Ages was navigable.

Padrón, rises up at a crossroads, a place of Jacobean pilgrimages. The town-planning arrangement keeps a medieval layout, the streets are narrow and are placed around a central axis, the Rúa Longa (Longa Street), from which the rest of the streets part across, intercalated by small squares. Until the Modern Age it had two ports: an outer one by the Ulla River, at the place of A Ponte, and an inner one at Murgadán on the banks of the Sar River.

The forum that the King Fernando II of León (1164) granted it, because of being the place of the Apostle’s arrival, changed the hamlet of Padrón into a town, getting Padrón tax concessions and political privileges in the kingdoms of the monarchy, confirmed

by all the monarchs until the King Felipe V (1701) and kept in the Municipal Historical Archive.

In the 15th century, Padrón suffered the ups and downs of the Revolta Irmandiña (struggle between the Archbishopric and the knights); in the town an Irmandade was formed (1467) which would lead to the destruction of the fortress of the Rocha Branca at Iria Flavia (one of the most beautiful castles in the archbishopric) and of the Moucha Tower, defensive watchtower, next to the parochial church.

With the introduction of the textile industry in the 17th century, an important protoindustrialization takes place in the town, which would last until the middle of the 19th century and in which local companies which traded with several European countries will take part. At the beginning of the 19th century Padrón suffers the consequences of the French Invasion, with sackings at the Convent of Carme, Herbón and at the Sanctuary of A Escravitude. From the 18th century it holds the name of very loyal and noble Town of Padrón. Administrative centre (3/2/1820) and Tourist Municipality (7/2/2000).



Rocks of O Santiaguiño. According to the legend, place where the apostle preached.



O Espolón walk with the monument to the memory of Camilo José Cela.

Monuments of Padrón

Cruceiro (Stone cross) of Fondo de Vila. 15th century. Pedestal with figures of the Passion: salamanders, tibias and skulls. Long pole with the images of the Apostle dressed as a pilgrim and Saint John.

The Espolón. River promenade, 19th century, covered artistically by plane trees and presided by the Statue of Rosalía de Castro to the north, 1957, José María Mateos' work. To the south the one of Camilo José Cela, Ferreiro Abadía's work, 2003. Every Sunday all the year round from the Middle Ages, a typical market takes place there; on it all kind of goods are sold, which attracts thousands of visitors.

Church of Saint James of Padrón. 1876, in Neo-classical style, by José Piquet, it was built on a Romanesque temple, under the patronage of the Archbishop Gelmírez (1123). It was altered in the 16th and 17th centuries. Inside we can find the Pedrón, Roman altar stone, a Gothic pulpit (15th century) from the times of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna, on which a beautiful image of Saint James the Pilgrim is sculpted. Two canvases, depicting the arrival of the Apostle Saint James in a boat (17th century), and two wooden relief carvings, recently recovered, where the baptism of Queen Lupa and the arrival of the Apostle Saint James in a boat to Padrón are represented.

Bridge of Saint James. 1904, Juan Peón's work, rebuilt on a medieval bridge. (foto 6)

Fountain of O Carme. 1577. Restored in 1789 and with Jacobean symbols, depicting the arrival of the Apostle to Padrón and the baptism of Queen Lupa.

Convent of O Carme. 1752, ancient Carmelite monastery, today occupied by Dominican Fathers. The carvings of the Virgin of O Carme, work of Felipe de Castro (1704-1775), a Virxe das Angustias (the Virgin of the Anguish), Christ with the Globe, works of José Ferreiro (1738-1830) outstand. From its magnificent atrium, one enjoys a splendid view of the town.

Palace of Quito. 1666, Renaissance building by Melchor Velasco Agüero, it was commissioned by D. Alonso de la Peña y Montenegro, rector of the University of Santiago, Archbishop and general captain of Quito.

Townhall. Manor house, restored in 1794, work of the master don Francisco Domínguez. On the façade, municipal stone coat of arms, face of English clock from the same time. In the assembly hall, image of Saint John Anteportam Latinam (popularly known as Saint John of the Lightning), a canvas from the 19th century, work of the local painter Balsa de la Vega, it represents the medieval friar and poet Juan Rodríguez del Padrón, and on the last floor, rooms of the Municipal Historical Archive.

Building of the Alfoli (salt warehouse). Warehouse for the selling of salt from the 12th century.

Houses with coats of arms and galleries of the old town. Witnesses of a flourishing past.

Historical Artistic Garden. 19th century, with numerous species of trees, unique specimens: Senegal date palm, Californian redwoods, oak trees, Syrian hibiscus, etc. It was declared national artistic monument in 1946. Inside there are busts of the medieval poet Macías and of Alfonso Daniel Rodríguez Castelao, distinguished personage from Rianxo. (foto 12)

Way of the Cross leading to O Santiaguíño. From Padrón to the top of the mountain, 125 steps, 19th century work, under the patronage of the Maecenas from Padrón Vidal Cepeda.

Santiaguíño do Monte. Jacobean shrine, formed by the rocks, the house of the hermit, the



The bridge of Saint James and the convent of O Carme.

fount and the hermitage. On the west gate, a big coat of arms of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna (15th century): inside stony statue of the Saint and tomb of the canon Gregorio (15th century). According to the Jacobean tradition, the Apostle Saint James preached on the rocks and with his staff he made the spring appear.

Iria Flavia. From high antiquity it was a focal point irradiating culture. Old pre-Roman village, it was colonized by the Romans in the 1st century AD. Roman mansion of the Vía XIX. In AD 69-70 the Emperor Vespasiano grants it the *ius latii*. Episcopal See from the 5th century until 1095. Collegiate church until 1895, from that date on Main Parish Church, consecrated to Saint Mary. One of the first Marian churches in the world, rebuilt in the 18th century. On the main front, Gothic tympanum in which the Annunciation is represented. The pyramid-shaped bell tower and the coat of arms of the Chapter of Iria. Inside, the sarcophagus of the Saint Body and of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna (15th century). The high altar in Churrigueresque style, with the image in slate of the Virgin and of the Apostle kneeling.

Baroque iron grille where the donors are sculpted. Side chapels of the Archbishop of Quito (17th century) and of the Virgin of Bethlehem. In the atrium, cemetery of Adina, where Rosalía de Castro was buried from 1885 until 1891 and to which she beautifully sang in her poems. The tomb of the Nobel Prize winning author Camilo José Cela (1916-2002) and two artistic cruceiros (stone crosses).

Camilo José Cela Foundation. Old cannons House (18th century). The foundation shelter the important legacy of Nobe Prize in Literature 1989 and important works of art. **The Museum of the Railway**, in memory of the great-grandfather of don Camilo, builder of the first railway Cornes (Santiago)-Carril (Vilagarcía) in 1873, and the Sacred Art Museum.

Rosalía de Castro's House and Museum. Historical Artistic Monument since 7 October 1946. House & Museum since 1972. In its rooms they make a journey through this poetess' life and work (1837 – 1885).



Collegiate church of Iria Flavia.



Way of the cross leading up to O Santiaguíño.



Rosalía de Castro's House and museum. A Matanza.



The manor house of O Vinculeiro. Extramundi.



Spring of Our Lady of A Escravitude.

Charm and tradition of rural Padrón

Place of Extramundi.

Private manor houses of Torre do Monte (15th century) and do Vinculeiro (18th century).

Place of A Ponte.

Old trading quay until the end of the 19th century. River promenade and recreational area where the Sar river meets the Ulla.

Parish of Saint Mary of Herbón.

Romanesque church (12th century), it was commissioned by the Archbishop Gelmírez. Franciscan monastery of Herbón (14th century), old missionary school. In it the medieval poet Juan Rodríguez del Padrón lived; the church with a beautiful altarpiece, in which the main Galician sculptors of the 18th and 19th centuries worked, outstands. The Roman “pesqueiras” (fisheries) for the lamprey in the Ulla river and the greenhouses for the peppers.

Parish of Saint Peter of Carcacia.

Birthplace of the medieval poet called Macías o Namorado (Macías in love). Stations of the Cross in Xuane, 18th century. Fault of Lapido mount, dug into the rock by the Ulla river. Reserves of lampreys and salmon at Sinde.



Roman fisheries at Herbón.



Romanesque church of Saint Mary of Herbón.



Stone cross at Xoane. Carcacia.

CALENDAR OF FESTIVITIES

- Carnival of Carcacia, with the popular generals (February).
- Main Feasts of Pascua and Pascuilla, it coincides with Easter (March – April).
- San Xoán do Raio (Saint John of the Lightning), patron saint of the town council, 6th May.
- Corpus Christi, sixty days after Pascua.
- Saint Peter of Carcacia (end of June).
- Romería (gathering at the local shrine) of Santiaguño do Monte (24th and 25th July).
- Feast of the Pepper, place of Herbón (first Saturday of August).
- Our Lady and San Roque, parish of Iria (15th and 16th August).
- Virgin of A Escravitude, 8th September.
- A Mercede, Bandín, Herbón 24th September.
- Rosary of Padrón, October.
- Rosary of A Escravitude, October.
- The Traslato (transferring) of the apostle Saint Jame’s body.

FOUNDATIONS AND MUSEUMS

Camilo José Cela Foundation

Telephone: 981 810 348 / Fax: 981 810 453

Rosalía de Castro Foundation

Telephone: 981 811 204

MUSEUMS TIMETABLES

Rosalía de Castro’s house and museum

Winter timetable: tuesday to saturday: from 10:00 to 13:30 h. and from 16:00 to 19:00 h.

Summer timetable: tuesday to saturday: from 10:00 to 14:00 h. and from 16:00 to 20:00 h.

Sundays and bank holidays: from 10:00 to 13:30 h. • closed on Mondays • Price of admission: 1,50€

Camilo José Cela’s foundation

Winter timetable: Monday to thursday: from 10:00 to 14:00 h. and from 16:00 to 19:00 h.

Fridays: from 10:00 to 14:00 h.

Summer timetable: Monday to Friday: from 10:00 to 14:00 h. and from 16:00 to 20:00 h.

Price of admission: 8€

Parish church of Saint James of Padrón

Mornings: 10:00 to 12:30 h (mass at 9:30 h) • Afternoons: 16:30 to 20:30 h (mass at 21:00 h)

Sundays: 11:00 to 11:45 h (mass at 10:00 and at 12:00 h).

Parish church of Saint Mary the greatest of Iria Flavia

Mornings: 11:00 to 13:30 h • Afternoons: 17:00 to 19:30 h

Convent of O Carme

19:30 to 20:00 h

Convent of Herbón

Mornings: 9:00 to 13:00 h • Afternoons: 16:00 to 20:30 h

Shrine of A Escravitude

Mornings: 9:00 to 10:00 h • Evenings: 18:30 to 21:00 h • Mass at 20:30 h (Saturdays 20:00 h).



TELEPHONE OF INTEREST

Town Council 981 810 451 / Tourist Information Office 627 210 777 / Local Police 981 810 247 / Civil Guard (Guardia Civil) 981 810 091

Health Centre 981 810 303 / Social Centre - Auditorium 981 811 329

Convent of Dominican Friars 981 810 044 / Convent of Franciscan Friars 981 811 704

Taxi stands 981 810 295 (Rúa Real) • 981 811 459 (Avda. Compostela)



**CONCELLO
DE PADRÓN**
Concellería de Turismo



XUNTA DE GALICIA
CONSELLERÍA DE CULTURA
E TURISMO