ENG



CAMELLIAS RÍAS BAIXAS

THE ROUTE OF THE CAMELLIA



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Inspiring and magical beauty

CAMELLIA GARDENS **RÍAS BAIXAS**

Rías Baixas are a vast garden of camellias that thrive in autumn, winter and spring, and can be seen in streets, squares, gardens, pazos (Galician manor houses), castles and monasteries... We can proudly say that these wonderful camellias **are truly part of our history and culture**, and that they are ornamental trees whose beauty surprises those who see them. **Native to the East, they first arrived in the province of Pontevedra from Portugal** in the 17th century and have adapted extremely well to the environmental conditions of As Rías Baixas: acidic, well-drained and slightly humid soils. There are about **80 species and 30,000 varieties** of camellias having different sizes, shapes and colours of petals and leaves. We invite you to admire these delicate flowers and discover this beauty that is so inspiring and magical.



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INDEX

Page **6 NORTH COAST**
6 Pazo de Rubianes
7 Pazo Quinteiro da Cruz
8 Estación fitopatolóxica do Areeiro
9 Pazo de Lourizán

10 NORTH INLAND
10 Pazo de Oca
11 Pazo de la Saleta

12 SOUTH COAST
12 Soutomaior Castle
13 Park of O Castro Hill
14 Pazo Museum Quiñones de León

15 SOUTH INLAND
15 Pazo de Pegullal

16 PARTNERS
16 Pazo de Fefiñáns
17 Pazo de Casalnovo

1 Pazo de Rubianes

VILAGARCÍA DE AROUSA

This 18th-century *pazo* (Galician manor house) was built on the grounds of a 15th-century tower owned by the Caamaño family, the founders of the town of Vilagarcía de Arousa. It has preserved its agricultural nature since old times. Its most outstanding attraction is its French-style garden, boasting more than sixty varieties of camellias. This garden was awarded the Golden Camellia and the Silver Camellia prizes in several years of the International Camellia Show, and it is included in the Route of the Camellia. There, you can find camellias of various species, such as *Camellia sasanqua, C. reticulata* and *C. japonica.*









MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 510 534 / 619 261 847
How to get there: 42.57383 -8.73295
www.pazoderubianes.com

VISITS: By appointment

2 Pazo Quinteiro da Cruz

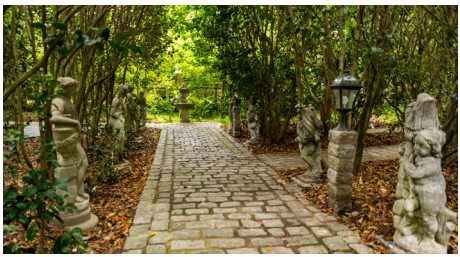
RIBADUMIA

Built in 1790 in the parish of Lois, this *pazo* (Galician manor house) is a true example of Galician stately neoclassical architecture. This romantic 19th-century property covers an area of seven hectares. Its gardens, surrounded by Albariño vineyards and a native woodland, are home to more than 1,500 varieties of camellias, among them *Camellia assimilis, C. caudata, C. cuspidata, C. fluviatilis, C. nitidissima, C. granthamiana, C. sasanqua* and *C. sinensis*. The species C. japonica and C. reticulata as well as the Higo camellias are particularly noteworthy and have been awarded the Golden Camellia prize at the International Camellia Show on several occasions.



MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 619 110 806
How to get there: 42.53561 -8.72815
www.pazoquinteirodacruz.es

VISITS: By appointment



3 Estación fitopatolóxica do Areeiro

PONTEVEDRA

The property Finca Areeiro was acquired by the Provincial Council of Pontevedra (Deputación de Pontevedra) in 1963. Later, in 1980, the Estación Fitopatolóxica Areeiro was created as a branch of the Agricultural Department of this institution in order to find solutions to the plant health problems of the crops growing in the province.
When the Deputación de Pontevedra bought this property, there was an old camellia specimen growing in the garden, and between 1985 and 1987, 90 cultivars of *Camellia japonica*, 27 of *C. sasanqua* and 12 of *C. reticulata* were planted. Today, it has more than 1,300 cultivars belonging to 46 different camellia species.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 841 491
How to get there: 42.40582 -8.67539
www.areeiro.depo.gal

VISITS: By appointment

4 Pazo de Lourizán

PONTEVEDRA

On the outskirts of the town of Pontevedra there is a magnificent example of a late 19th-century pazo (Galician manor house), currently dedicated to forestry research and conservation. This property houses an exceptional garden of great size, with unique botanical species, such as a Dutch elm, an avenue of magnolias or a dawn redwood that was only known as a fossil. However, the most striking elements of this garden are the old specimens of *Camellia japonica* 'Alba Plena', which bloom from November to February.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 805 000
How to get there: 42.41001 -8.66472
info@cameliagalicia.com

VISITAS: free access from 10 to 8 pm

5 Pazo de Oca

A ESTRADA

The manor house Pazo de Oca, popularly known as the 'Galician Versailles', has several types of baroque gardens of exceptional quality. It has outstanding elements and the treatment of the water — with ponds, fountains, jets, mills, cisterns and channels — gives the property a great charm. There are Romantic and classical geometric gardens, a hedge maze, large topiary pieces, the vegetable coats of arms of noble families and military orders, an orchard and kiwi vines, among others.

There is a specimen of *Camellia reticulata* 'Captain Rawes', considered the oldest in Europe, being 12 metres tall and with large red flowers that bloom between late February and early April. Undoubtedly, it is the gem of the camellias in As Rías Baixas. Besides this great flower, there are 107 camellias of different sizes, as well as five large botanical groups with camellias of different species, 277 specimens of white camellias and another 17 camellia species.



MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 587 435
How to get there: 42.74658 -8.39496
www.fundacionmedinaceli.org
VISITS: Visitors must purchase an admission ticket



6 Pazo da Saleta

MEIS

In the heart of the area of O Salnés you find this property with ground floor buildings distributed around a medium-sized courtyard. In this beautiful pazo (Galician manor house), native species coexist with Eastern, Australian, New Zealand, South African and South American varieties, among others. It has one of the most important private botanical collections in Spain, is part of the Route of the Camellia and belongs to Les Belles Maisons, an exclusive collection of private houses for unique events.



MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 629 816 880 / 609 330 056
How to get there: 42.51958 -8.71686
www.pazodelasaleta.com

VISITS: By appointment

7 Soutomaior Castle

SOUTOMAIOR

This castle, which used to be the centre of Galician feudal life in the 15th century, was used for different purposes until it became a summer residence at the end of the 19th century. Later, it was acquired by the Provincial Council of Pontevedra (Deputación de Pontevedra).

Its 25-hectare property contains a renowned arboretum with unique specimens that reach extraordinary sizes: enormous sequoias and palm trees, Lebanese cedars, thousand-year-old chestnut trees, magnolias, northern firs and, of course, more than half a thousand monumental camellias, including the *Camellia japonica* specimen with the largest perimeter in Spain.

In 2012, it was recognised as an International Camellia Garden of Excellence by the International Camellia Society, thus becoming the first garden in Spain to obtain this status.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 804 100 / 886 209 500
How to get there: 42.33057 -8.56814
www.castelodesoutomaior.com

VISITS: Free entry to the gar

8 Park of O Castro Hill

VIGO

The park of O Castro Hill, located in the heart of the city of Vigo, boasts an exceptional botanical garden. It has large-sized exotic species of great ornamental value as well as the remains of a *castro* (Galician pre-Roman hillfort settlement) showing what life was like in Vigo in the 3rd and 1st centuries B. C. The camellias, most of which are of Portuguese origin, are found scattered all over the gardens, offering a stunning view of the coastal inlet Ría de Vigo and its port.



MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel.(+34) 986 224 757
How to get there: 42.23202 -8.72622
www.turismodevigo.org

VISITS: Free access



9 Pazo-Museum Quiñones de León

VIGO

The origin of this construction dates back to the old manor house Pazo de Lavandeira, built around 1670. After belonging to different families, in 1924 it was donated to the people of Vigo to be converted into a museum and public park. In 1937, it was opened to the public as the town museum, having one of the best collections of Galician painting. One of the most outstanding features of this *pazo* are the gardens with their magnificent camellia specimens, as well as a beautiful hedge maze where the Methuselah of the Camellias, one of the oldest camellias in Galicia, is found.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 295 070 / 986 295 075
How to get there: 42.21343 -8.72763
www.museodevigo.org

VISITAS: Free access

10 Pazo de Pegullal

SALCEDA DE CASELAS

It is a *pazo* (Galician manor house) built in the 18th century with gardens designed by the renowned landscape architect Fernando Caruncho. These gardens, declared of international excellence, have 370 camellia cultivars distributed with care and delicacy throughout this bucolic setting.
It also has vineyards and kiwi vines and produces Albariño wine and extra virgin olive oil under its own name.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 343 004 / 646 706 191
How to get there: 42.11004 -8.55712
www.pazopegullal.com

VISITS: By appointment

11 Pazo de Fefiñans

CAMBADOS

This *pazo* (Galician manor house) is a magnificent combination of Galician Renaissance and Baroque styles. It was built in the 16th century by Juan Sarmiento Valladares, advisor to King Philip II of Spain. Nowadays, its vineyards are under the Designation of Origin Rías Baixas with its Albariño wine wineries: Joaquín Gil Armada and Palacio de Fefiñanes.

Here we can find the oldest Albariño vines in the valley of O Salnés and a woodland with centenary trees, which includes a 200-year-old ash tree and the remains of an 18th-century hedge maze.







MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 986 52 48 77
How to get there: 42.51918 -8.81369
www.fefinanes.com

VISITS: By appointment

12 Pazo de Casalnovo

CALDAS DE REIS

The origin of this *pazo* (Galician manor house) dates back to the second half of the 16th century, when the property belonged to the Varela family, who were related to the kings of Aragon.

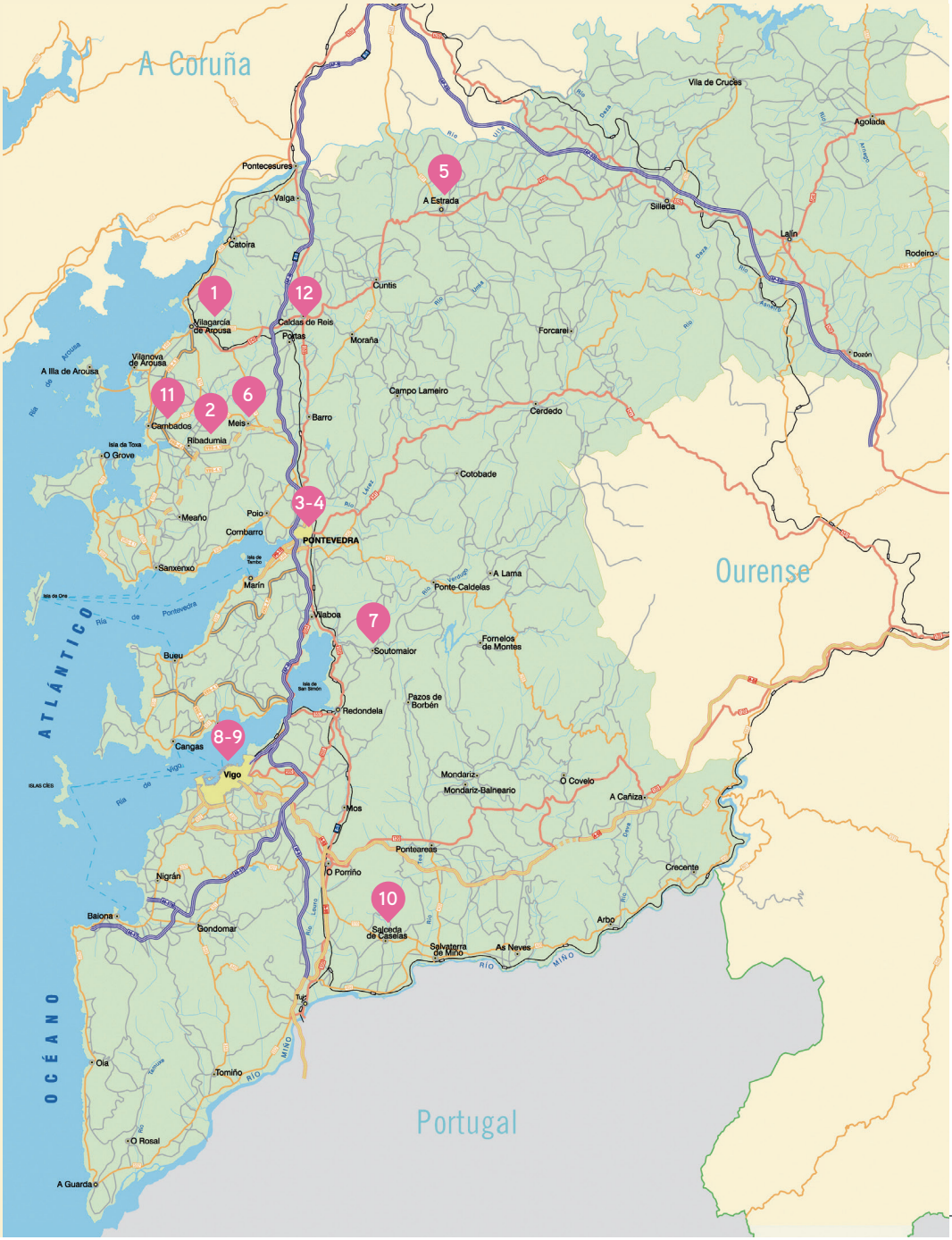
Its land covers more than 37,000 square metres, mainly used for vineyards. Nowadays, it has an area of 7,000 square metres distributed in seven terraces containing the largest garden of perennials and grasses in Spain. This private *pazo* is an associated tourist resource of the Route of the Camellia.



MORE INFORMATION
Contact:
Tel. (+34) 692 892 220 / 886 250 034
How to get there: 42.59064 -8.64299
www.pazocasalnovo.com

VISITS: By appointment





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Camellias Rías Baixas

THE ROUTE OF THE CAMELLIA

EXPERIENCE THE RÍAS BAIXAS

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When you no longer need me, put me in the blue bin so that I can reinvent myself.

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