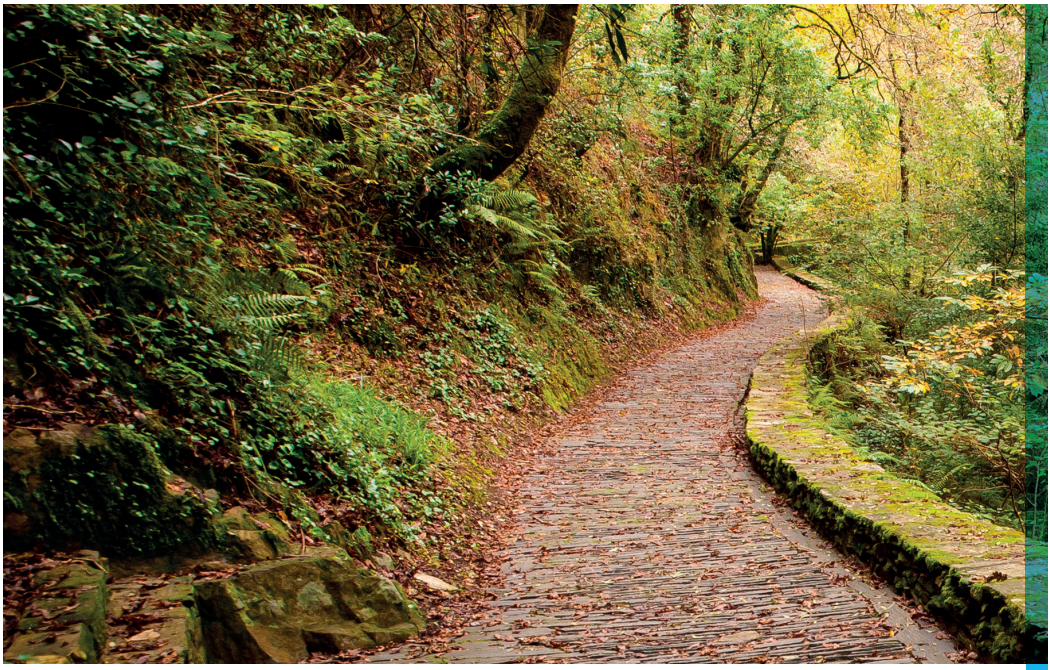
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RÍAS BAIXAS EXPERIENCES

EXPLORE THE UNKNOWN



DURATION

Hours

Days

SEASON

Spring

Summer

Autumn

Winter

THEME

Water

Landscape

Nature

Sport

Gastronomy

Culture

Party

St James' Way

PUBLIC

Single

Couple

Family

Group

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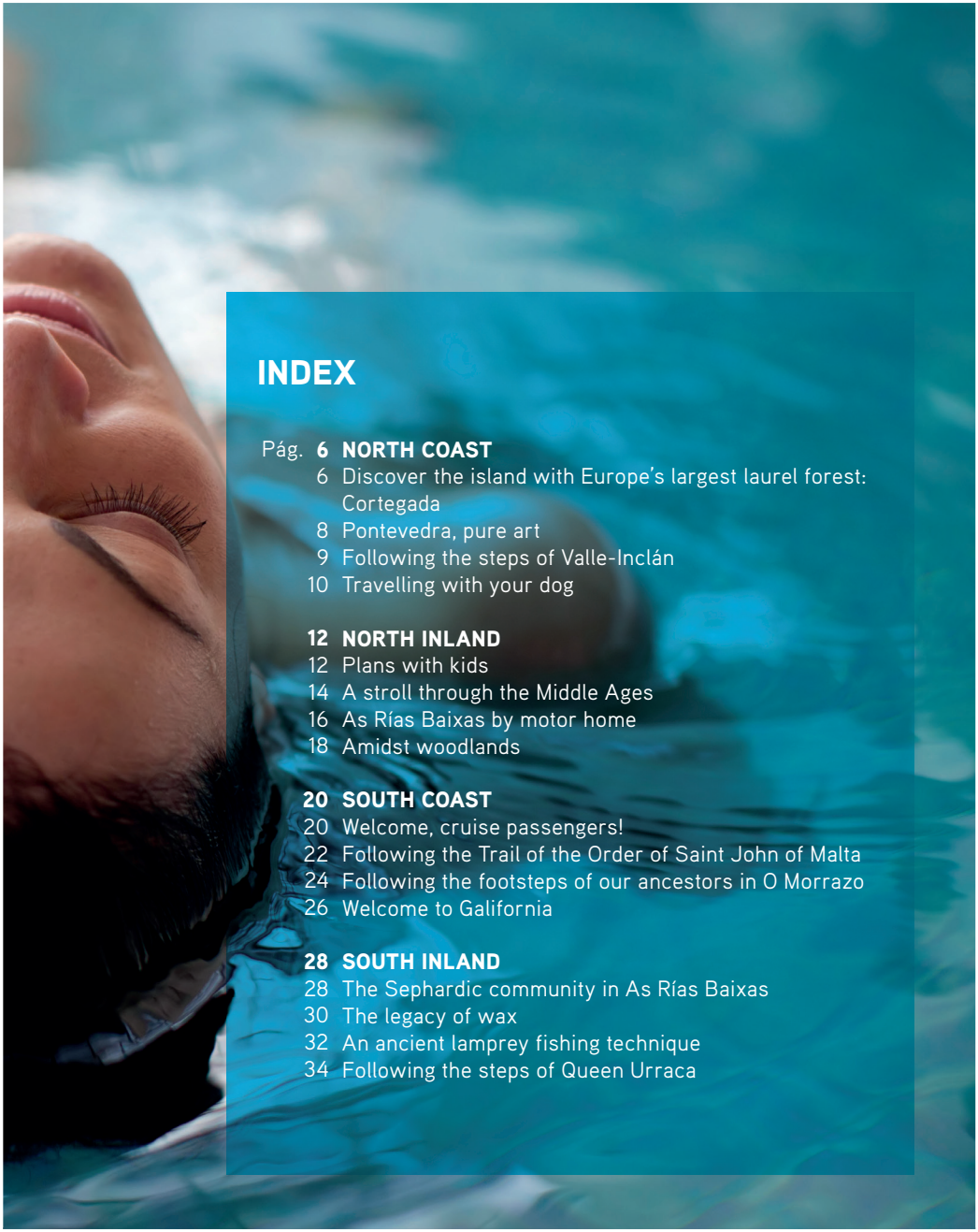
Something unforgettable, something magical

EXPLORE **RÍAS BAIXAS**

Experiencing a place means **living it, breathing it, feeling it**. As **Rías Baixas** is a **perfect spot** to experience one of those trips that will remain in your memory forever, as it offers many possibilities and surprises. You can organise **experiences**, **itineraries or routes**, but there is something you cannot plan: your feelings. What you experience in As Rías Baixas is something that you cannot explain, something **magical**, so simply forget about time and let yourself go.



Deputación Pontevedra | rías baixas



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NORTH COAST

Discover the island with Europe's largest laurel forest:

Cortegada

Have you ever been to a laurel forest? Not many people can say so, as it is something exceptional, a botanical rarity in As Rías Baixas visited by experts from all over the world.

Cortegada Island (Vilagarcía de Arousa), which is part of the Galician Atlantic Islands Marine-Terrestrial National Park, is the largest of an archipelago that includes other groups of islands, such as **Malveiras or Briñas**, where visitors can also enjoy a stunning landscape. To explore it, it is necessary to take the path that runs parallel to the sea, which allows you to admire its natural beauty. But the most interesting thing about Cortegada undoubtedly is its **laurel forest,** the largest in Europe and the most important in terms of age, height and density. You will also find hundred-year-old trees, native tree species (oaks, pines and willows), the ruins of a shrine and an uninhabited village, among many other treasures. A place filled with mystery and magic.

As a curiosity, during low tide, Cortegada is connected to the village of O Carril by **O Carro path,** which in the past was used to transport heavy loads.

More information at **www.parquenacionalillasatlanticas.com**

DURATION

1 Day

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

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Pontevedra, pure art

Pontevedra has been an attractive and interesting town for all types of artists, especially illustrators, painters and sculptors. The **Museum of Pontevedra** houses drawings, gouaches and oil paintings of great value, as well as sculptures depicting the people of Pontevedra. You can visit the rooms of the different buildings that make up the museum and contemplate vedute and magical landscapes of the past and present of the province of Pontevedra. A perfect plan to talk about art, history, nostalgia and, of course, the future. The visit can be done on one's own, following an established itinerary (which can be requested at the reception desk of the Castelao Building) or by arranging a **free guided tour** with the **Department of Education**.

More information at **www.museo.depo.es**





DURATION

2-3 Hours

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Deputación Pontevedra | rías baixas

Following the steps of Valle-Inclán

Ramón María del Valle-Inclán (1869), the renowned writer from the village of **Vilanova de Arousa**, did not usually refer to place names in his works. However, he did depict the physical reality of the towns and areas with a great creative fantasy using a unique style, and includes references to names of saints, patron saints and churches. Ramón María lived in several Galician towns in As Rías Baixas, such as **Cambados**, and also in **Pontevedra**, where he used to participate in different literary gatherings with intellectuals and writers of the time and published his first book, Femeninas (1885). Thus, in this town you can retrace the steps of Valle-Inclán, by visiting the places where he was born, grew up, studied and lived; a place that he beautifully portrayed in his works.

More information at **www.museocuadrante.com**



DURATION

1 Day

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Travelling with your dog

Pets are part of our life and family. Here are some activities you can do with your furry friend.

You can choose among one of the countless trails that pass through the most beautiful landscapes, such as the **Ruta da Pedra e da Auga** (Route of the Stone and Water), between the towns of Meis and Ribadumia; discover how the Umia River water drops at the **Segade cascade** in Caldas de Reis; or visit the **Abalo Windmills** (Catoira), which, with their unique two-blade system and propelled by the Atlantic winds, offer spectacular views over the coastal inlet Ría de Arousa.

Moreover, in the summer season, there are **beaches suitable for dogs** where you can swim with your loyal friend and enjoy a fun day out; some of these are:

- O Grove: O Espiño, O Portiño y Lousiñas.
- Vilagarcía de Arousa: O Castelete.
- Cangas: A Cunchiña.
- Redondela: Arealonga Chapela y Cesantes.
- Vigo: Foz e A Calzoa.
- Poio: A Pinela.
- Rest of city Councils: from 22.00 to 09.00 hours.

You can also do the Way of Saint James together, as more and more pet-friendly establishments are becoming available, but before taking the trail, check which ones welcome pets.

DURATION

2-3 Hours

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas







Discover our secrets

Plans with kids

A tour of the inland of the province of Pontevedra will give you the chance to live new experiences through nature, culture and games. Why? Because As Rías Baixas is a perfect place for families, and besides sun and beaches, has much more to offer.

The town of A Estrada boasts a great cultural heritage and interesting historical buildings, such as the manor house **Pazo de Oca**, whose origins date back to an old fortress belonging to Fonseca, Archbishop of Santiago de Compostela. Its main structure was transformed in the 18th century and became one of the most attractive and elegant pazos (typical Galician manor house) in the region, closely linked to the Medinacelli family. Moreover, its gardens stand out for their great beauty and diversity of species, which is why it is popularly known as the 'Galician Versailles'. In the same municipality is the bridge known as **O Xirimbao** or Mariola, a metal structure over the Ulla River, originally built to connect the fishing preserves of Ximonde and Xirimbao during the salmon season, and a magnificent viewpoint over the river.

The town of Silleda boasts river areas of great ecological value. There you can visit the **Toxa River Waterfall**, the highest in Galicia. Nearby is FervenzAventura, where you can enjoy a fun day out with family or friends.

Travelling to the moon is possible thanks to the **Astronomical Observatory of Forcarei** and from the **Outeiro do Couto Viewpoint**, located at the highest point of O Cando Mountain Range, you can see the Atlantic Ocean and the rías (coastal inlets).

DURATION

3 Days

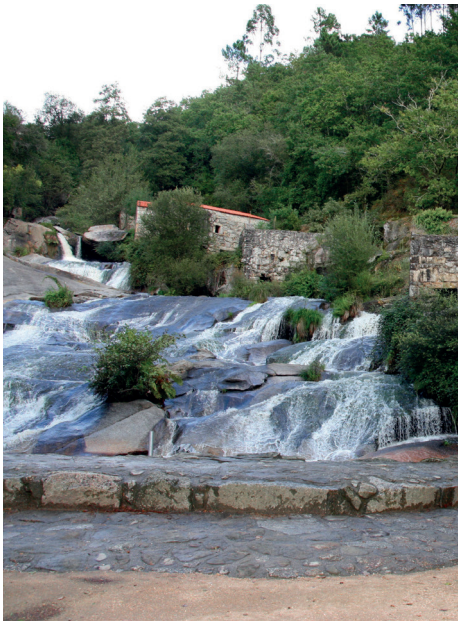
PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME









A stroll through the Middle Ages

Would you like to travel back in time? Live like a warrior, become a feudal lord, dwell in a monastery, enjoy a medieval market, visit defensive places... In the inland of the province of Pontevedra you will find a great variety of places that can take us back to the High and Low Middle Ages.

Go to the inland to find out how our ancestors lived in the Middle Ages.

The quietness of **Carboeiro (Silleda) and Aciveiro (Forcarei) monasteries** will take you back to a time of feudal lords and warriors. The former was founded by Tareixa Eiriz and Gonzalo Betótez, the Counts of Deza, while the latter was created by the initiative of twelve monks from Clairvaux (summoned by King Alfonso VII).

Learn about strategy at the **Cira towers (Silleda)**, where the famous archbishop Gelmírez was imprisoned; the **Guimarei Tower (A Estrada)** hides stories of knights and wars; and the walls of the manor house **Pazo de Camba (Rodeiro)** invites you to discover its secret passages.

But if you really want to experience the Middle Ages, you must visit an authentic medieval market, with its stone typical constructions known as **Pendellos**, being the most important those of the villages of **Dozón, Rodeiro and Agolada**. The latter are the best known and were declared a historic and artistic monument in 1985.

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DURATION

2 Days

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas













As Rías Baixas by motorhome

Suitcases, a full tank and a map. That's all you need to travel by motor home. Are you up for it? Here are some suggestions:

You can start your route by motor home through As Rías Baixas in the north of the province. Hiking and architecture are combined for you to enjoy a day in nature. Its landscapes are really varied: the highlands bordering the region contrast with deep valleys, where you can find impressive waterfalls such as those of the **Toxa or Férveda rivers,** both in the town of Silleda. Be sure to visit **Faro Hill (Rodeiro)** or **O Candán Mountain Range (Silleda)** to enjoy the most beautiful sunsets. And, if you want to learn more about our native woodlands, you should stroll around the woodland **Fraga de Catasós** or the oak grove **Carballeira de Barcia (Lalín)**, to learn more about our native forests.

Moreover, the different communities that have inhabited Galicia have left their mark on the region, evidence of this are the hundreds of castros (Galician pre-Roman hillfort settlements) that can be found in this land. You can learn about the history of the area of **Deza**, which is home to the largest number of castros in Galicia.

You can also stop at the hórreos (typical Galician raised granaries) of **Eira da Ermida** and at the wolf pit **Foxo do Lobo (Cerdedo-Cotobade)**; and at the **curro** (stone enclosure for wild horses) of the parish of **Sabucedo (A Estrada)**.

In short, it is an easy province to travel around in a motor home. A perfect plan to discover its rivers and woodlands and to contemplate its landscapes

DURATION



3 Days

PUBLIC



SEASON



THEME



Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas









Amidst woodlands

The inland of As Rías Baixas boasts unspoiled, natural spaces, with traditional villages that are attractive to any visitor. If you like nature, you are going to love this experience.

In the village of **Vila de Cruces** you can walk through the natural area of the cork tree wood by the **Arnego River**, the **Portodemouros reservoir and the Gres islands**. If you want to enjoy a good panoramic view of the inland of Galicia, you should go up to the **Alto da Madanela Viewpoint**. Here we recommend you try the **galo de curral** (free-range chicken), paired with a wine under the Rías Baixas Designation of Origin.

In the town of Silleda, you can admire the beauty of the **Toxa River** waterfall and its surroundings by taking the **Deza trail** from **A Carixa Recreational Area** to the **Carboeiro Monastery**. Afterwards, you can stop to taste a piece of empanada (typical Galician savoury pie) from the village of Bandeira. Then you can head to **Sacra de Olives Lagoon** and the **Brañas de Xestoso** Wetland, and end at **A Crespa oak grove**, a great surprise in the area.

In **Lalín**, you can visit the village of **Codeseda (Doade)**, and also its **Feira do Cocido** (Festival of the Galician Stew), for which this town is especially famous. This festival takes place on the Sunday before Carnival and is dedicated to one of the most famous dishes in Galician cuisine. To end the day, you can take a walk through the woodland **Fraga de Catasós**, an essential natural monument

DURATION

2 Days

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME









Welcome, cruise passengers!

It's time to enjoy the largest city in Galicia.

After landing, the maritime station welcomes you with the **monument to the emigrant** and other sculptures such as the one dedicated to **Jules Verne**. Now we recommend you explore the winding streets of Vigo's historic quarter, popularly known as **Casco Vello** (old town), and try one of the most popular delicacies in As Rías Baixas: **oysters**. In **A Pedra Square**, the experienced ostreiras (women oyster sellers) show their skills opening and serving this product.

In the Casco Vello you will have the opportunity to see examples of the religious architecture of this city, such as **Vigo's co-cathedral (A Colexiata)**. If you continue towards **Porta do Sol Square**, you can see O Sereo (the merman) statue and begin a tour of the city's most emblematic buildings: the **House of Arts**, the building **Edificio El Moderno, García Barbón Theatre** and the **Museum of Contemporary Art of Vigo (MARCO)**, located in the most attractive shopping area (**O Príncipe Street)**. If you keep ascending, you'll reach the highest point in the city, **O Castro Hill**, from whose fortress you'll be able to enjoy spectacular views of the coastal inlet **Ría de Vig**o.

After visiting the most important attractions in the city, you can head south to **Baiona**, a small town where you can visit the **caravel Pinta** and climb up to **A Virxe da Rocha Viewpoint**. If you head further south, you will reach **A Guarda**, a town that combines sea, river, beaches and hills. The pre-Roman fortified settlement **Citania de Santa Trega** is the most important example of pre-Roman culture and, from its highest point, you can enjoy a view of the mouth of the **Miño River** and Portugal.

DURATION

5 Hours

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME


CERERIA SAN JOSE
La Central









Following the Trail of the Order of Saint John of Malta

Vigo

Would you like to delve a little into history and visit a church that belonged to the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem or of Malta? Be sure to visit **Castrelos Parish Church**, which belonged to this order until 1862. You can also go to **Santa María de Castrelos Church**, a true Romanesque jewel that was consecrated in 1216 and stands out for the impressive ornamentation of its western door, its symbolism and its presumably Templar crosses.

Bueu

On O Morrazo Peninsula, just as you enter the town of Bueu, you can visit **Santa María de Cela Parish Church**, which offers a stunning panoramic view of the coast. Romanesque in style, it is a faithful reflection of the churches built by the Order of Saint John. It consists of a single nave, which ends in a rectangular apse with a groined arched opening. It also has a curious tympanum decorated with two lions flanking a cloaked figure and three crosses.

Marín

Santa María do Campo Church, in the town of Marín, was built at the end of the 12th century and beginning of the 13th century in the late Romanesque style. From this period, we can still see a narrow, rough, pointed triumphal arch, which leads to a rectangular chancel. In a second construction period, in the 16th century, the Baroque style nave was built. It also boasts magnificent Gothic mural paintings.

DURATION



1 Day

PUBLIC



SEASON



THEME











O Morrazo,

following the footsteps of our ancestors.

Explore the area of **O Morrazo**, with its many vestiges of the first settlers, and let your imagination fly to understand their way of life, their customs and their beliefs. Here, legends from ancient times continue to create mystery around the petroglyphs, a set of signs and drawings carved into the stones thousands of years ago. This system of communication has survived to the present day to show us the activities that were considered important in the Bronze Age, the period that has left us the greatest legacy of rock art.

The **petroglyphs of Mogor (Marín)** are a rock site consisting of three groups of stones: **Laxe dos Mouros**, which contains more than thirty carved motifs; **Pedra do Labirinto**, the best preserved of all and the most original; and **Pedra dos Campiños**.

Mámoas are Neolithic burial mounds made of stones and soil found in the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula. Inside, they hide the dolmen, another structure formed by stones creating a kind of a shelter. The well-known **Mámoa do Rei (Vilaboa)** is one of the best-preserved examples of the megalithic complex of **Chan de Castiñeiras**, which is 25 metres in diameter and 2 metres high.

Located in strategic places and with spectacular views, castros are Galician fortified settlements built in the Bronze and Iron Ages. The **castro of O Facho Hill (Cangas)** is a Galician-Roman site that hosted different forms of life in the region. This settlement offers views of the beautiful rías (coastal inlets) and their islands.

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DURATION



1 Day

PUBLIC



SEASON



THEME



Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas







Welcome to Galifornia

Galifornia is much more than a place; it's a feeling, a unique concept of quality of life and a way of being. It is a land where you live like in no other and which is worth visiting.

The **Galifornia-Rías Baixas Route** has a wonderful cultural, historical, artistic and natural heritage full of stories to tell, with different cultures that inhabited these lands, villages and landscapes, and with welcoming and friendly people that will make your stay better.

This route allows you to discover castles, fortresses, pazos (Galician manor houses), churches, monasteries, ancient villages and unique nature. It will take you along white sandy beaches with crystal clear waters where you can relax and enjoy exceptional seafood as well as mountains and winding rivers that are full of life every day of the year.

It is a five-day plan to enjoy with your five senses.

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DURATION

5 Days

Ruta Galifornia

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Water Landscape Nature Sport Gastronomy Culture St James' Way

Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas











SOUTH INLAND

The Sephardic community in Rías Baixas

In the Middle Ages, the Jewish people settled in various parts of the Galician region. Tui used to have one of the most important Jewish quarters, which has left a vast cultural heritage.

This town had all the typical elements of its religious community: a synagogue next to a medieval wall and old episcopal palaces; a cemetery next to the historical suburb of the city, known as Riomuíños; the house of Solomon or the house of Moses or Aaron, located in As Monxas Street and dating from the 15th century; and O Xudeu Tower, next to which several members of the Jewish community lived between the 13th and 14th centuries.

The expulsion of the Jewish people in 1492 and the subsequent forced conversion of many of them in Portugal in 1497 increased social tensions. The Inquisition gave rise to some of the most important events in the social history of the city, such as the reaction of the cathedral chapter of Tui after the social rise of some Jewish-converted families, such as the Coronel and Saravia families, and the appointment of Francisco Coronel as Canon of the Cathedral in 1600.

Within the local community, the silversmiths who worked for the cathedral stood out for their expertise and tradition of craftsmanship with works of great quality, such as chalices, crosses, situlae or sceptres, some of which are preserved in the **Museum of the Cathedral.** Other outstanding pieces are the extraordinary sanbenitos on display at the **Tui Diocesan Museum**, a set of garments with the names of the Judaizers who had been condemned by the Holy Office and the only ones preserved in Spain.

DURATION

1 Day

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

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The legacy of wax

Wax is a raw material that has been part of our not so distant history and whose production process still arouses our interest today. This experience will take you back in time, to the life of our ancestors and to our characteristic Galician mysticism.

The waxworker profession was very important in our most recent history, as it was especially important for the economy of the **village of Covelo**. Its great ethnographic legacy is proof of this and the best way to get to know it is by discovering the places where it was most important.

The **ethnographic route of the Xabriña River** shows us everything related to the old trade of the borreiros (waxworkers), as people came to this area from other parts of Galicia to rent the presses and make their own wax.

At the **museum FAVUM, Lagar da Cera**, we can learn about the different production processes and other elements, such as presses, basins and curadoiros (stone slabs in various shapes used for wax whitening), the best preserved in Galicia, that have left an important ethnographic legacy. In addition, the route runs through the pines and oaks of the woodland **Fraga do Rei**, a leisure and educational area converted into a forest park in 2009.

DURATION



1 Day

PUBLIC



SEASON



THEME




Ruta do Xabriña
PR-G
119





An ancient lamprey fishing technique

Lamprey is a fish that is caught in the pesqueiras (ancient stone constructions) of the **Miño River**. With a peculiar appearance, this fish travels for several years across the ocean until it returns to the river where it was born, swimming upstream. It has a distinctive taste which makes it a very tasty dish and it is said to have aphrodisiac properties.

There are some activities linked to the lamprey that will undoubtedly make you enjoy As Rías Baixas:

You can visit the famous **pesqueiras**, constructions from Roman times that are still preserved today and that are the basis of traditional lamprey fishing. From January to May, you can find both fishermen and fisherwomen developing their skills to catch this ancestral species.

You can try this exquisite fish in any of the restaurants in the village of **Arbo**, where the **Lamprey Festival** is held every April, or in **As Neves**.

The **Miño River** is also the perfect place for activities such as hydrospeed, rafting, kayaking or canoeing. From the village of **Crecente** to **Salvaterra de Miño** you can enjoy the most beautiful river landscapes.

To round off the experience you can walk along the banks and valley of the Miño River, and admire manor houses such as **A Fraga, in Crecente,** or **Almuíña** and **A Moreira,** in **Arbo**.

DURATION



2 Days

PUBLIC



SEASON



THEME



Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas





Following the steps of Queen Urraca

This experience is based on the experiences of Queen Urraca of Galicia, León and Castile at the beginning of the 12th century, one of the most famous figures in our history

You can start your tour at **Sobroso Castle**, which, even though it is located in the village of Mondariz, the property belongs to the neighbouring town of Ponteareas. This is where Queen Urraca was besieged in 1117, after her second marriage, by the supporters of her son, the young King Alfonso VII, her sister Teresa, Infanta of Portugal, and the Count of Traba. Imprisoned in the dungeons, legend has it that she managed to escape through secret passages that led to the banks of the Tea River. Come and stroll along the banks of this river, and visit the **beach and the river path of A Freixa** (Ponteareas).

If you head to the town of Salvaterra de Miño, you will find a fortress overlooking the Miño River. Inside the fortress there is a vaulted area known as 'caves of Queen Urraca', which now houses the **Wine Science Museum of O Condado do Tea**. Many of the clashes between Portugal and the Kingdom of Castile took place at this wall. It is also said that in this fortress there was a secret passage through which the queen used to cross on her love and political adventures to reach Portugal.

Finally, you can combine your plan with a wine experience, as the grapes used every year to produce the famous Albariño wine under the Rías Baixas Designation of Origin are grown in the area of O Condado.

DURATION

2 Days

PUBLIC

SEASON

THEME

Deputación Pontevedra | riasbaixas





Rías Baixas experiences

EXPLORE THE UNKNOWN

EXPLORE AS RÍAS BAIXAS

www.**turismoriasbaixas**.com

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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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