

Discover Cantabria NC9

Cantabria, the heart of Northern Spain

The Picos de Europa, lovely coastal villages and the unknown, unspoilt Eastern Valleys



Summary

A compact itinerary around the province of Cantabria taking in the Picos de Europa mountains, the stunning western coast and the little-known eastern highlands.

Visit Santander on its sparkling bay, head for the surf-washed beaches or loose yourself in the lovely seaside towns of Comillas, Santillana, San Vicente or Castro Urdiales. There's world-class caving and World Heritage prehistoric cave art, stunning mountain scenery a stone's throw from the coast and wonderful local gastronomy wherever you go.



Your Route

Tour Highlights:

- Medieval Potes & the Picos de Europa
- Historic Santillana & the Cantabrian coast
- Immense caves, waterfalls and glacial valleys of the unspoilt eastern highlands
- Seaside charm; Comillas, San Vicente de la Barquera & Castro Urdiales
- Santander, the city on the bay with the new Botín arts centre

Travel Tips:

- **Stansted:** to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Easyjet
- **Gatwick:** to Bilbao with BA
- **Manchester:** to Bilbao with Easyjet
- **Dublin:** to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Aer Lingus
- **Bristol:** to Bilbao with Easyjet
- **Edinburgh:** to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Easyjet
- **Ferries** Portsmouth or Plymouth: Santander or Bilbao – 5 sailings weekly. We can include the ferry crossings as part of the package



Itinerary Overview

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room *	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Santander		
1	Day 1 to 3	Western Coast	Santillana del Mar	HSAN2 Historic town hotel with pool, 1 x Double room (two sharing)	30mins from Santander
2	Days 4 & 5	Picos de Europa	Pesaguero	HPES1 Mountain posada with pool, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 30mins
3	Days 6 & 7	Eastern Highlands	Ruesga	HRUE1 Historic palace with spa and pool near the Asón river, 1 x Twin room (two sharing)	2hrs 20mins
			Departing Santander		1hr to Santander

* Double room (2 sharing) can be either double or twin bedded. If you have specific requirements, please let us know.

Your Itinerary

What the tour includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed & breakfast accommodation in each of the hotels
- 4 door economy class car hire for the duration
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary map and Northern Spain Guidebook
- Our own restaurant guide and Vamoos travel app
- NB Flights not included

If you would like to book this itinerary please call us at your earliest convenience.

If, on the other hand, you require further help or information or wish to investigate alternatives please don't hesitate to contact us.

Stage 1



Region: Western Coastal Cantabria

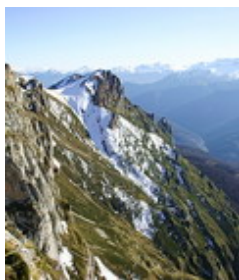
Historic seaside towns of San Vicente de la Barquera, Comillas or Santillana del Mar
Sweeping sandy beaches and craggy protected coves
Unspoilt Carmona, Cabezon, Barcena Mayor in the beautiful valleys
Prehistoric cave paintings at Altamira and magnificent formations in El Soplao - the Cathedral of the cave world
Wonderful walks along the coast or in the rolling hills just inland

Historic town hotel with pool

Just outside the historic village of Santillana del Mar in a peaceful spot, this handsome building is set in attractive gardens, with a terrace and swimming pool, and views over red roofs and green hills. Decorated and furnished in the traditional period style of the region, and family run, it combines elegant simplicity with rustic charm - and with all modern comforts. There is a lounge and breakfast room/bar (Santillana del Mar, about 5...[Read More](#)



Stage 2



Region: Picos de Europa

Let the cable car at Fuente De whisk you up 1800m into the Picos de Europa
Make a pilgrimage to Santo Toribio, at the heart of the Valle de Liébana
Potes, Cangas de Onis and Ariondas historic yet full of life
Local mountain gastronomy - don't miss the local cider and Orujo
Get canoeing on the Rio Sella or Deva, a great day out!
Walk the Ruta del Cares - breathtaking mountain scenery for all abilities
Covadonga, geographical, spiritual and sporting heart of the Picos

Mountain posada with pool

Up in the mountains of the Picos de Europa, this attractive posada is built in traditional style and materials to combine rural charm with modern comforts. Situated in Barrio La Gloria, Pesaguero, a little village twelve kilometres from Potes, in the beautiful Liébana countryside, with views to the high peaks, it is well located for exploring the Picos Mountains, with walks straight from the door or further afield. The posada is centrally he...[Read More](#)



Stage 3



Region: Santander and eastern Cantabria

Santander, the beautiful city on the bay.

Valle de Pas - distinct culture, prehistoric cave paintings, rolling scenery

Somo, Ajo and beyond, lofty cliff top walks and sandy beaches

Wildlife in a spectacular lunar landscape - Cabarceno Wildlife Park

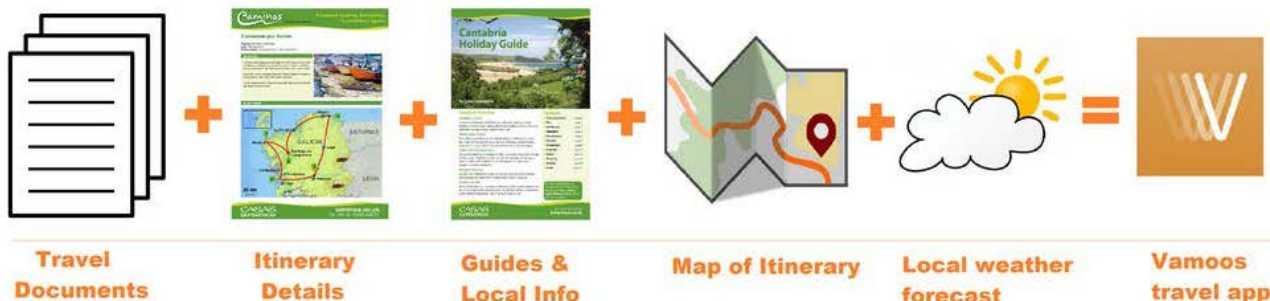
Spectacular scenery in the Asón and Miera valleys, virtually unknown Historic castle and Basque style pintxos in Castro Urdiales

Historic palace with spa and pool near the Asón river

Built in 1610 by the renowned architect Diego de Sisniega this magnificent palace set the trend for the design of noble houses throughout Cantabria in that opulent period. Recently renovated to a high standard, preserving all the grandeur of the 17th century, the Palace is elegantly decorated with stone walls and delightful antique furniture as well as some original 19th century frescoes. The rooms have been decorated and furnished in a sympat...[Read More](#)



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- your ferry voucher / car-hire voucher as applicable
- point to point directions
- regional guides to the areas you will be visiting
- a general food and vocab guide
- a map with each hotel geo located
- directions to find each hotel (embedded within the map)
- local weather forecast

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What our clients say...

"We loved your Vamoos app - it really enhanced our pre-holiday planning and meant we had everything at our fingertips without having to have WiFi during the trip. The detail provided was exceptional. Everyone should use it!" Client 2018

"I particularly liked the use of Vamoos app to provide all the holiday information including off-line maps & travelling directions so we always had this to hand." Client 2018

"We particularly liked the Vamoos app which placed all our holiday information - and more at our fingertips" Client 2018