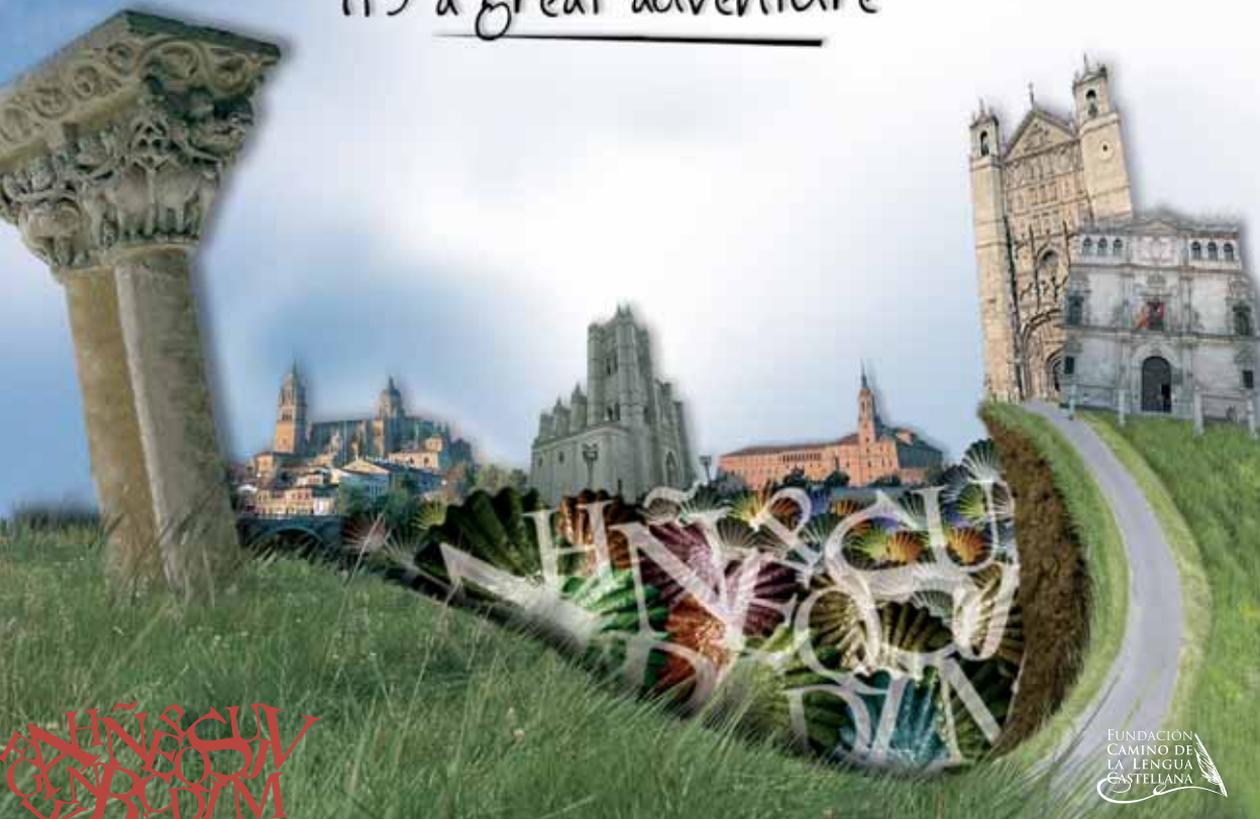


# ROUTE OF THE CASTILIAN LANGUAGE

it's a great adventure



ANÍSQUIN  
CINCO  
CINCO

FUNDACION  
CAMINO DE  
LA LENGUA  
CASTELLANA

San Millán de la Cogolla | Santo Domingo de Silos | Valladolid | Salamanca | Ávila | Alcalá de Henares



# Route of the Castilian Language

The Route of the Castilian Language focuses on the history of the Castilian (Spanish) language and proposes six places of particular importance to visit: San Millán de la Cogolla (La Rioja), Santo Domingo de Silos (Burgos), Valladolid, Salamanca, Ávila and Alcalá de Henares (Madrid).

In this itinerary, monuments, writers, squares, cloisters, palaces, libraries, landscapes, tradition and gastronomy are all intermingled, in an open invitation to discover the beauty of these six localities. The entire tour encourages visitors to discover and experience for themselves all the charm of a history and a language which have evolved in parallel and which are clearly evident in every little spot along the way.



# San Millán de la Cogolla

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

Santo Domingo de Silos  
BURGOS

Valladolid

Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



Library



Monasteries of Suso and Yuso



San Millán walks

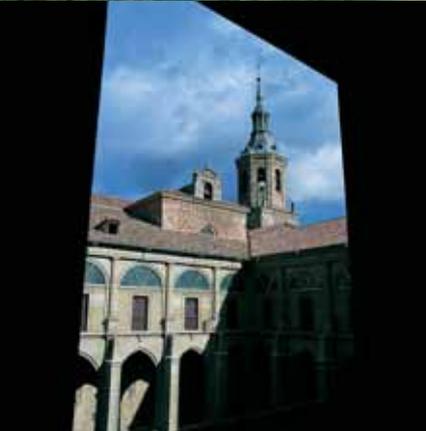
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■ San Millán de la Cogolla, a **World Heritage Site** since 1997, is part of the Route of the Castilian Language. It was here where the earliest known writings in the Castilian language were discovered, the so-called **Glosas Emilianenses or Emilian Glosses**.

The monasteries of **Suso** and **Yuso** are both located in San Millán; these two monasteries are of considerable importance in terms of architectural heritage and culture. In fact, the scriptorium at San Millán was one of the most prominent in Spain in the Middle Ages, thanks to the literary work of the monks residing there. **Gonzalo de Berceo**, the first poet to write in the Castilian language, also came from these lands.

These monasteries and adjoining grounds are a haven for meditation, walks, rests or simply to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the **Cárdenas Valley**.

[01] SIERRA DE LA DEMANDA. The monasteries of Suso and Yuso are set in the Sierra de la Demanda, specifically in the Cárdenas Valley, named after the river winding through its hills and meadows. The monasteries owe their names to their geographic location: Suso comes from the Latin word *Sursum* (up) and Yuso from *Deorsum* (down).





**[02] MONASTERY OF SUSO.** The simple and austere Visigothic-style Monastery of Suso is considered to be the oldest in Spain; it was erected between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> century. The monastery revived in 923 after the conquest of Nájera by Sancho III, the Great, and was inhabited by the Mozarabic monks; the horseshoe-shaped arch at the entrance comes from this period.



[03]

**[03] 7 INFANTES OF LARA.** The entrance gallery to the Monastery of Suso holds the tombs of the seven Infantes of Lara, together with that of their tutor, Nuño Salido, and also the tombs of the three queens of Navarre: Toda, Elvira and Jimena.

**[04] CENOTAPH OF SAN MILLÁN.** Until the year 1030, San Millán (St Emilianus) was buried in the central cave which was initially used as an oratory. Sancho III, the Great, subsequently had the relics solemnly transferred to the Monastery of Yuso.



[04]

5



**[05] MONASTERY OF YUSO.** This Renaissance and Baroque style building dominates the valley, thanks to its impressive size, the result of a prolonged period of frenetic building activity between the 16<sup>th</sup>C and 18<sup>th</sup>C; in fact, it has even been called the “El Escorial” of La Rioja. The monastery houses an extensive collection of art, including twenty-two canvases by Juan de Rizzi (considered to be the leading Spanish cloister painter) and some important 17<sup>th</sup>C coppers.



**[06] RELIQUARY OF SAN MILLÁN.** The small chest covered in gold and ivory plaques and encrusted with precious stones, holding the relics of San Millán, is of great historical and artistic interest. It narrates the life and miracles of the saint in Romanesque relief. A replica is to be found at the monastery of Yuso.

**[07] YUSO CLOISTERS.** The cloisters are a place of exquisite visual rhetoric, the ideal spot for enjoying the silence of the late afternoon. Gothic and Plateresque additions have been made to the original Renaissance style, with the lower cloisters completed in 1554 whilst the upper cloisters date back to 1577.



[06]

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[09]



## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

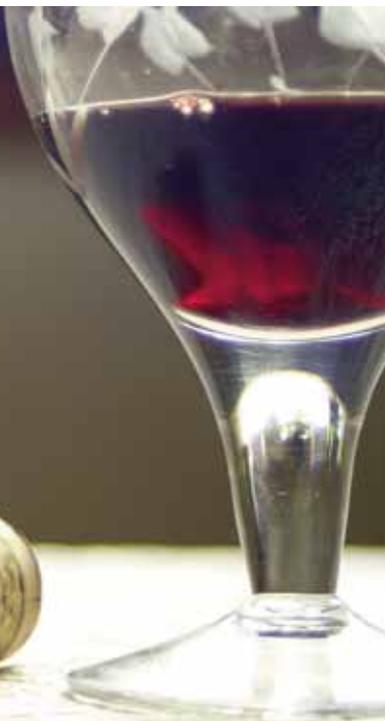
**[08] EMILIAN GLOSSES.** In the 11<sup>th</sup> century, in the margins of a Latin text, a monk noted down the translation in the Romance language, a popular Latin which was later to evolve into what we now call Castilian. These explanatory notes are the so-called Emilian Glosses, considered to be the earliest written evidence of the Castilian language.

**[09] GONZALO DE BERCEO.** Some of the poems of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Riojan poet, Gonzalo de Berceo, the first known poet to write in the Castilian language, were written at San Millán. This author wrote in the educated verse known as Mester de Clerecía (Craft of the Clerics). However, his desire to make himself understood by the general public led him to express himself in “roman paladino” or plain Romance instead of Latin.

**[10] LIBRARY.** The complex formed by the Library and Archive can be considered as one of the best amongst the monasteries in Spain. The late 18<sup>th</sup> century library furnishings still remain unchanged. There is intentionally no electricity.

## GASTRONOMY

■ Riojan gastronomy offers a varied selection of produce and dishes such as: Rioja-style potatoes; fresh mixed vegetables; lamb cutlets; fresh haricot beans; Rioja-style salt cod; Rioja wines...



### USEFUL INFORMATION

> **SAN MILLÁN DE  
LA COGOLLA CITY COUNCIL**  
Tel. 941 373035

> **TOURISTIC OFFICE  
IN SAN MILLÁN DE  
LA COGOLLA**  
Tel. 941 373 259

> **YUSO MONASTERY**  
Tel. 941 373049  
[www.monasteriodeyuso.org](http://www.monasteriodeyuso.org)

> **LA RIOJA GOVERNMENT  
(TOURISTIC INFORMATION)**  
[www.lariojatourismo.com](http://www.lariojatourismo.com)

> **SUSO MONASTERY**  
Tel. 941 373082  
(to book the visit)

# Santo Domingo de Silos

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

**Santo Domingo de Silos**  
BURGOS

Valladolid

Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



The cypress of Silos



Monastery of Silos cloister



Library

10

■ Santo Domingo de Silos is directly linked to the history of the Castilian language, being the place where the **Glosas Silenses or Silos Glosses** were written, another of the earliest written examples of Castilian Spanish.

The **Monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos** combines the flavour of its historical past, a past which pervades the whole atmosphere of the monastery, with the lively activity of the Benedictine monks still living there. The monastery **cloisters**, one of the masterpieces of Romanesque art in the Iberian Peninsula are a must-visit. Silence reigns in this architectural wonder decorated with beautiful **capitals**.

Standing in the monastery is the famous **cypress** to which Gerardo Diego dedicated his verses; the monastery also houses the **old pharmacy**, which still preserves the shelves holding marvellous jars for the potions and remedies; and, finally, of particular mention are the world-famous **Gregorian Chants** which visitors can listen to.



**[01] MONASTERY OF SANTO DOMINGO DE SILOS.** The Monastery of Silos is located on the eastern side of a small valley in the great Castilian meseta. The earliest known document held in the Silos Archive dates back to 954. The prosperity experienced by the monastery was largely due to Santo Domingo de Silos, who gave the place its name and who went there in 1041 after leaving his post as prior at San Millán de la Cogolla. In fact, the figure of the Abbot Domingo de Silos gained such magnetism that, after his death, the monastery became a place of pilgrimage due to the miracles performed by the Saint. The influx of pilgrims and the growing activity led to subsequent extensions to the monastery until the final complex reached a considerable size.

[02] **MONASTERY OF SILOS CLOISTERS.** The Romanesque cloisters of Silos are, and always have been, the focal point of monastic community life. The remainder of the monastery buildings converge on and lead off the cloisters, as do all the monks' activities. The cloisters themselves could be considered to be a "book of stone" to enable Christians, the majority of whom could not read and write, to learn the Sacred Story thanks to the carved images on the cloister columns and capitals. At Silos, the decorative motifs are principally of birds, Gazelles, plants etc. in addition to historiated bas-relief carvings with themes relating to the life of Christ. Here, art not only serves a decorative function but also has a didactic and moralizing purpose.

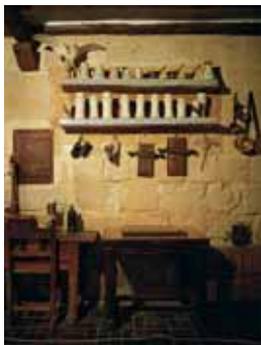


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[03] CYPRESS. The famous cypress was planted in the monastic cloisters at Silos in 1992. The greatest glory to be bestowed on the tree was the sonnet that Gerardo Diego dedicated to the tree, *in situ*, in 1924. However, he was not the only author to do so, it was also the source of inspiration for Miguel de Unamuno, Rafael Alberti, Manuel Machado... Some examples of the exaltations dedicated to the cypress include: *night beau*, *streams of nostalgia*, *goldfinch's paradise*, *antenna for far away music*, *cone shaped emerald*, *prayer to a plant*, *monastic bliss in plain song*, *sovereign cypress of all cypresses*.





[04]



**[04] OLD PHARMACY.** In the Middle Ages, the monks of Silos ran a hospice and leper colony and this led them to become familiar with botany. An early 13<sup>th</sup> century (1705) pharmacy is still preserved from this activity. The facilities included a specialist botanical garden, a bio-chemical laboratory, library and a collection of jars.

The library contains almost 400 volumes, some from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and most from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Of particular note is a magnificent work by Dioscórides (1525) featuring some excellent animal and plant drawings; this was an essential reference book for the apothecaries and those responsible for preparing herbal liqueurs at the monastery.

The jar collection comprises almost 400 earthenware jars, specifically made for the pharmacy and bearing the monastery coat of arms. The shelves are also still preserved with their wonderful containers for potions and remedies; in addition to the ovens, retorts, stills and other instruments for heating and distilling substances.



**[05] CHANT SHEET.** The chant books, or choir books, are some of the most important codices of the Middle Ages; the format was to remain unaltered until well into the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Large sized parchment was used for the books, with large lettering and musical notes as well, making it possible to read them at a distance, and from any place in the choir.

**[06] GREGORIAN CHANTS.** This is the name given to the vocal music associated with the Christian religion. The name refers to Pope St Gregory, who is thought to have developed this chant. Today the Benedictine community of Santo Domingo de Silos actively continues this tradition. In fact, the success of the Gregorian chants recorded by the monks has unquestionably helped to make this monastery even more well known.



## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

**[07] LIBRARY.** In the 10<sup>th</sup> century, the monastery was at its zenith and the scriptorium was already functioning.

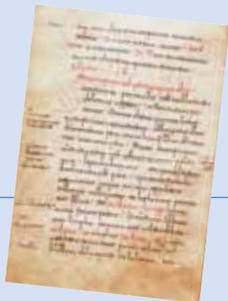
In 1835, monastic life at Silos was curtailed as a result of the land confiscation decreed by Mendizábal, leading to the expulsion of the monks from their monasteries and, consequently, the loss of the majority of the manuscripts held in the archive.

1880 marked the start of the restoration of the monastery and part of the cultural property was recovered: 14 medieval manuscripts appeared, many diplomas, also from the Middle Ages, and almost the complete archive corresponding to Modern Times.

At present the library at the Monastery of Silos holds more than 60,000 volumes including incunabula, codices and parchments.

**[08] SILOS GLOSSES.** The Silos Glosses, one of the early examples of written Castilian Spanish which, like the Emilian Glosses, are explanatory comments to Latin texts have been conserved since the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

[08]



[07]

## GASTRONOMY

■ Some of the highlights of the Burgos cuisine include: Burgos black pudding; red kidney beans; suckling lamb; chorizo sausage; trout, Burgos cheese; *Agujas* (needles – sweets resembling the Gothic adornments of the cathedral)...



## USEFUL INFORMATION

> **SANTO DOMINGO  
DE SILOS CITY COUNCIL**  
Tel. 947 390070

> **TOURISTIC  
INFORMATION OFFICE  
IN SANTO DOMINGO  
DE SILOS**  
Tel. 947 390119

> **SANTO DOMINGO  
DE SILOS MONASTERY**  
947 390068 / 49  
[www.abadiadesilos.es](http://www.abadiadesilos.es)

> **BURGOS  
TOURIST BOARD**  
[www.turismoburgos.org](http://www.turismoburgos.org)

# Valladolid

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

Santo Domingo de Silos  
BURGOS

Valladolid

Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



José Zorrilla Square



Cathedral



The house of Cervantes

18

■ Valladolid, a city on the river **Pisuerga**, has been the setting for a number of important events over the centuries, as a former capital of Spain and seat of the Court. The city has always been linked to royal names and it was the venue for the marriage of the **Catholic Kings**.

Valladolid is also linked to **Christopher Columbus** who was a key figure in the Discovery of America and the introduction of the Spanish language into that continent.

The city's rich cultural past and present can be felt throughout Valladolid, it is latent in its historical university and in the works of many **great writers** born in this land, writers such as José Zorrilla the author of "Don Juan Tenorio", or Rosa Chacel, José Jiménez Lozano, Miguel Delibes, Jorge Guillén, Francisco Umbral... Miguel de **Cervantes** himself lived in Valladolid during his most productive years and many of the city's corners, streets, squares, palaces and large houses are present in his works, places which are still recognisable today.



**[01] PLAZA MAYOR SQUARE.** The Valladolid main square or Plaza Mayor is considered to be the first regular-shaped main square in Spain. As an urban complex, it dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and during the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became the city's political, commercial, social and cultural centre. The bronze statue presiding over the square is dedicated to Count Ansúrez, the first Lord of Valladolid.

During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, this was the Plaza del Mercado or market square and the place where all kinds of civil and religious festivals were held, in addition to Acts of Faith. After the fire in 1561, it was reconstructed by order of Philip II. Today, the City Hall is located in this square.



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**[02] ROYAL PALACE.** The Royal Palace was seat of the Court under Philip III and Margaret of Austria and the birthplace of Philip IV (1605). Of particular note are the Renaissance courtyard and a 18<sup>th</sup> century Imperial staircase.

**[03] BENAVENTE PALACE.** The Plaza de la Trinidad square is flanked by what was formerly the Palace of the Counts of Benavente (16<sup>th</sup> century) and where the city Hospice was housed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, an institution run by the Brotherhood of St Joseph for Abandoned Children in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, it was also the place where Cipriano Salcedo studied.

**[04] FABIO NELLI PALACE.** A Renaissance palace erected in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It currently houses the Valladolid Museum of Archaeology.

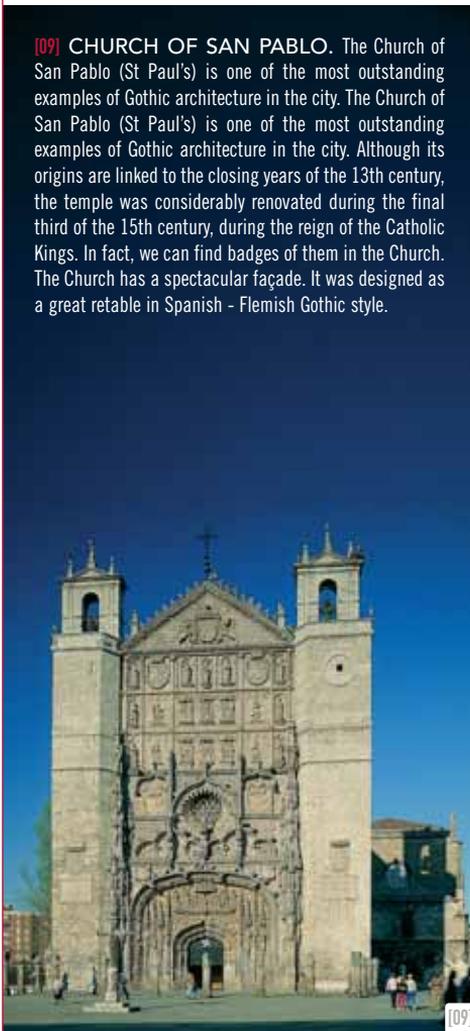
**[05] PIMENTEL PALACE.** King Philip II was born in the Pimentel Palace in 1527. The vestibule is decorated with tiles recreating different events in the city's history. The palace is currently home to the Provincial Council.

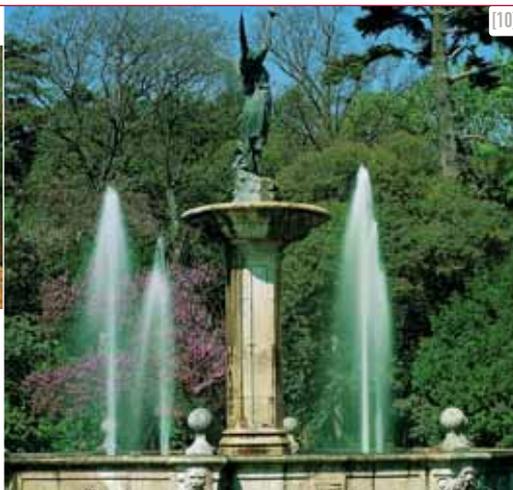
**[06] CATHEDRAL.** Construction work commenced in 1527, building over an already existing collegiate church. The cathedral was designed with the intention of becoming the most important church in Spain, however subsequent problems put an end to this dream. A number of important artists have left their mark on this building, such as the architect Juan de Herrera, responsible for the project; the master Churriguera, who completed the façade and Juan de Juni, the author of the altarpiece. Inside the cathedral is the Diocesan Museum, holding works by Juan de Arfe and Gregorio Fernández.

**[07] CHURCH OF LAS ANGIUSTIAS.** The Calderón Theatre is located in the street of Las Angustias, opposite the Church of Las Angustias (late 16th century), a penitential church model. It contains the carvings of the “Cristo de los Carboneros” (Christ of the Carbon makers) and the “Virgen de las Angustias” (Virgin of Anguish), one of the masterpieces by Juan de Juni, also known as the “Virgen de los Cuchillos” (Virgin of the Knives).

**[08] CHURCH OF LA ANTIGUA.** The church of Santa María la Antigua is known as the “queen of the Romanesque towers of Castile”. The building is crowned by a pyramid steeple with a slab tiled roof.

**[09] CHURCH OF SAN PABLO.** The Church of San Pablo (St Paul's) is one of the most outstanding examples of Gothic architecture in the city. The Church of San Pablo (St Paul's) is one of the most outstanding examples of Gothic architecture in the city. Although its origins are linked to the closing years of the 13th century, the temple was considerably renovated during the final third of the 15th century, during the reign of the Catholic Kings. In fact, we can find badges of them in the Church. The Church has a spectacular façade. It was designed as a great retablo in Spanish - Flemish Gothic style.





22

**[10] CAMPO GRANDE PARK.** These historical, romantic gardens cover a surface area of more than 115,000 m<sup>2</sup>, offering a rich variety of flora and fauna in addition to an extensive collection of ornamental artwork in the form of busts and statues dedicated to illustrious figures of Valladolid, fountains such as the fountain of Fame, or the Swan fountain...

**[11] COLUMBUS HOUSE MUSEUM.** Erected as a new house on the plot of land on which the house inhabited by Columbus during the last years of his life had stood, and in which he died in 1506. Its five rooms contain objects and documents relating to the voyage of discovery. It is currently a centre for research into the history of America.

**[12] CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM - SAN BENITO.** The San Benito street is home to a church and monastery, bearing the same name as the street. The Spanish Contemporary Art Museum is located in the Herreran style Courtyard; it contains an important collection of more than 900 works by artists such as Dalí, Tapies, Miró or Chillida.





[13] **SAN GREGORIO COLLEGE.** A splendid example of the Hispano-Flemish Gothic style, it houses part of the National Museum of Sculpture.



[14] **SANTA CRUZ COLLEGE.** This institution was very closely related to the university of Valladolid, and is now the university rector's office. It was founded by Cardinal Pedro González de Mendoza (1428-1495), to enable poor students with an aptitude for study to be able to reside and receive their education there. Its façade is the first Renaissance-style work in Spain.

[15] **UNIVERSITY.** The origins of the University of Valladolid date back to 1293 when there is documentary evidence to show that it was an important academic centre. Between its walls, heated discussions have taken place about the new currents of thought presented by Erasmus and Luther. The university undertook considerable work to refine the Spanish language, finally achieving the well-spoken model of imperial Valladolid.



## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

**[16] DELIBES – “THE HERETIC” ROUTE.** The Heretic Route is a journey through those places in which the Valladolid writer, Miguel Delibes, sets his historical novel "The Heretic". The historical events around which the whole story rotates are the two great Acts of Faith held in May and October 1559.

[16]



[17]

**[17] ZORRILLA – MUSEUM HOUSE.** This writer and author of "Don Juan Tenorio", was born in Valladolid in 1817. His birthplace house is now a museum, exhibiting a collection of the poet's personal souvenirs and items; in addition, the furniture recreates the interior of what a house would have been like during the Romanesque period.



[18]

**[18] CERVANTES – MUSEUM HOUSE.** Miguel de Cervantes resided in Valladolid from 1603 to 1606. As a result, much of this city is reflected in his work, for example "The Dialogue of the Dogs" describes the atmosphere pervading the Pavement of San Francisco, which is now part of the main square or Plaza Mayor. The museum house recreates the domestic atmosphere of a 17th century nobleman's home.



[19]

**[19] GUILLÉN, CHACEL AND UMBRAL.** The city has also been home to other great writers such as Jorge Guillén, Rosa Chacel or Francisco Umbral.

## GASTRONOMY

■ The lands of Valladolid have a great many delicacies to offer visitors, such as: Game (pigeons, partridges, hares), suckling-lamb, the sponge cakes of Tordesillas, the “Pasteles de Marina” cream-filled flaky pastry of Medina de Ríoseco, the red wines of Ribera de Duero and the white wines of Rueda.



## USEFUL INFORMATION

> **VALLADOLID CITY COUNCIL**  
[www.ava.es](http://www.ava.es)

> **VALLADOLID TOURISM**  
[www.valladolidturismo.com](http://www.valladolidturismo.com)

> **TOURISM OFFICE**  
Pabellón de Cristal  
(Campo Grande)  
Acera de Recoletos s/n  
Tel. 983 219310

> **DIPUTACIÓN DE VALLADOLID**  
[www.diputaciondevalladolid.es](http://www.diputaciondevalladolid.es)



## San Millán de la Cogolla

The earliest writings in the Castilian language

- **Emilian Glosses**
- **Cárdenas Valley**
- **Monastery of Suso**
- **Gonzalo de Berceo**
- **Monastery of Yuso**



## Santo Domingo de Silos

The sung word

- **Cypress**
- **Gregorian Chants**
- **Silos Glosses**
- **Old Pharmacy**
- **Monastery**



## Valladolid

The literary word

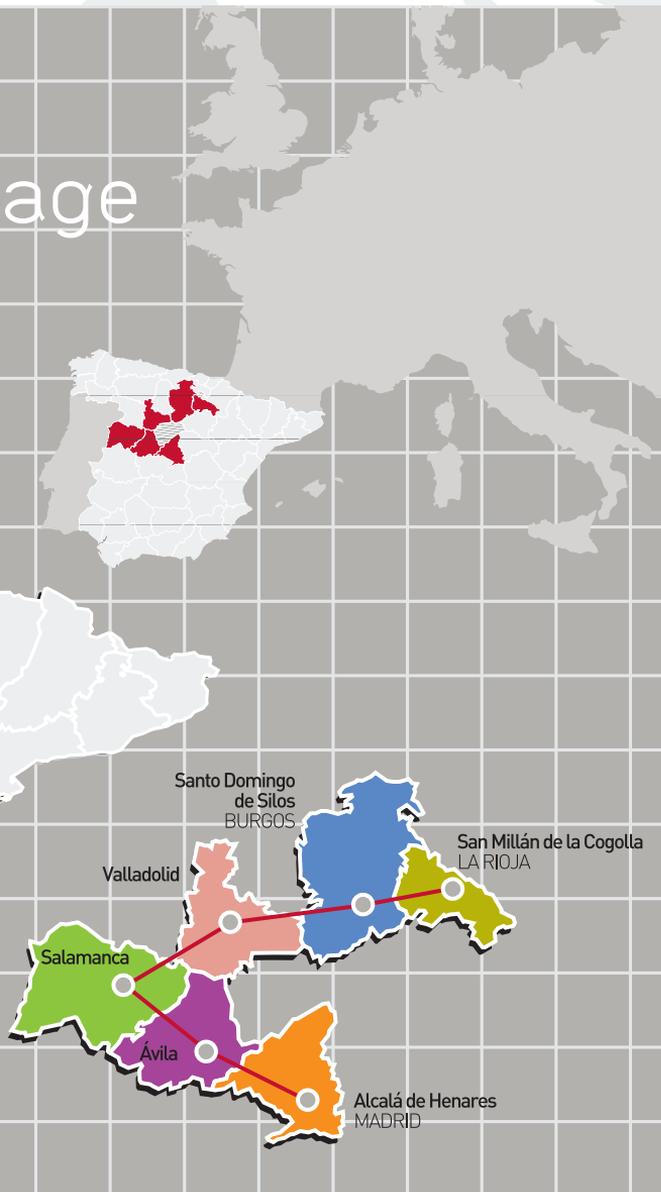
- **Pisuerga river**
- **University**
- **Palaces**
- **Cristóbal Colón**
- **Zorrilla, Delibes...**

# Route of the Castilian Language

*it's a great adventure*



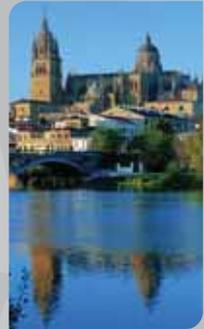
age



## Salamanca

The wise word

- ▶ Main square
- ▶ University
- ▶ Cathedrals
- ▶ La Celestina
- ▶ Unamuno



## Ávila

The mystic word

- ▶ Wall
- ▶ Medieval heritage
- ▶ Cathedral
- ▶ Mysticism
- ▶ Convents



## Alcalá de Henares

The universal word

- ▶ Miguel de Cervantes
- ▶ University
- ▶ Cisneros
- ▶ Complutum-Hippolytus
- ▶ Cervantes Award for Literature



# Salamanca

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

Santo Domingo de Silos  
BURGOS

Valladolid

Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



Main Square



View of the city



Monastery of Dueñas

■ In Salamanca, the city of knowledge, declared a **World Heritage Site** in 1988, every street and corner is part of its artistic heritage, a heritage that is so rich that the city has even been called the "Little Rome". The city's role in the history of Spanish has led it to be included in the Route of the Castilian Language.

Its **University**, the oldest in Spain, has always remained an important cultural focal point. This is the city in which **Antonio de Nebrija** wrote the **First Grammar Book** of the Castilian Language (1492), **Fray Luis de León** gave classes and Miguel de **Unamuno** was Rector. Salamanca is also included in literary works, in books such as "**La Celestina**", "**El Lazarillo de Tormes**" or "El Licenciado Vidriera".

Salamanca, crossed by the river Tormes, is an open invitation to explore the city's streets, palaces and houses, to stroll around its majestic **Plaza Mayor** or main square, to visit the **cathedrals** and to discover the hidden secrets of the University. In short, Salamanca stands before the visitor, as a city bedecked in blue and gold, beautiful, well-cared for and vibrant.

[01] PLAZA MAYOR. The main square is unquestionably one of the most beautiful arcaded squares in Spain. It was constructed between 1729 and 1755 by Alberto Churriguera, with the intention of creating a public space to be used for fiestas, fairs, leisure and commercial activities. The square also serves a didactic purpose, as revealed by the medallions crowning the 88 semi-circular arches, paying homage to the famous people related to the city, its history and the history of Spain, figures such as Unamuno, Cervantes, Teresa de Jesús...



[01]



**[02] UNIVERSITY.** This is the oldest University in Spain and one of the most long-standing universities in Europe. It was founded around 1218 by decree of the king of León, Alfonso IX and went on to serve as an intellectual focal point, which is still the case today.



[03]



[04]

**[03] LIBRARY.** The “old library” is perhaps one of the places that holds most charm within the University of Salamanca. It was founded in 1254 by Alfonso X, the Wise, and today it holds 62,500 works. The manuscript and incunabula archive is located in the centre of the room, where a special micro-climate has been created in order to preserve these great works.



[05]

**[04] ARCHBISHOP FONSECA COLLEGE.** This was one of four colleges for higher studies pertaining to the University. This elegant, extremely balanced building is of the classical style.

**[05] ANAYA PALACE.** Founded in 1401, the palace is located opposite the Cathedral and replaced the first College of higher studies of the University of Salamanca, the College of San Bartolomé.



**[06] OLD CATHEDRAL.** This temple evokes times past, going as far back as the medieval period. It is a Romanesque building, with defensive features, accessed through the interior of the new cathedral.

**[07] NEW CATHEDRAL.** This is one of the last Gothic cathedrals in Spain. As the Old Cathedral was too small, on 25th March 1513, construction of the new one commenced. The building is an impressive blend of styles ranging from late Gothic to Renaissance and Baroque.

**[08] HUERTO DE CALIXTO Y MELIBEA.** The gardens known as the Huerto de Calisto y Melibea are to be found very close to the Cathedrals, offering a magnificent view of the banks of the river Tormes. As tradition goes, this was the lovers meeting place for the two characters in the novel written by Fernando de Rojas "La Celestina".

[09] HOUSE OF SHELLS. This is a prime example of civil Gothic architecture. It is a late 15<sup>th</sup> century - early 16<sup>th</sup> century construction, ordered by Rodrigo Arias Maldonado. Its walls are decorated with more than 300 shells from Santiago, as R. Arias pertained to this order.

[09]



[10]



[10] PALACE OF MONTERREY. This palatial residence is now the property of the Dukes of Alba. The Count of Monterrey had it built in the 16th century as the house of the primogeniture of the Fonseca, with the design by Rodrigo Gil de Hontañón.



[11]

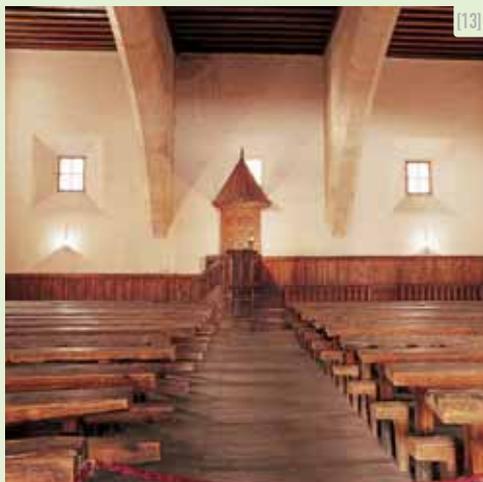
[11] HOUSE OF LIS – MUSEUM OF ART NOUVEAU AND ART DECÓ. This is a modernist-style building decorated with beautiful stained glass windows, holding up to 19 collections dating back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, comprising almost 2,500 items.

[12] ROMAN BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER TORMES. This bridge was constructed at the time of the emperor Trajan and formed part of the Silver Route. At the bridge entrance there is an Iberian boar, in reference to the picaresque novel “El Lazarillo de Tormes”.



[12]

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[13]

## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

**[13] FRAY LUIS DE LEÓN LECTURE HALL.** At the University there is the lecture hall where the poet Fray Luis de León (1527-1591) gave classes, still conserved intact as he left it. The room still contains the benches at which the students would sit, made from un-worked beams of wood. Here he made his famous comment "Como decíamos ayer" (as we were saying yesterday), just after being released from five years in prison, after trial by the inquisition of Valladolid.

**[14] MIGUEL DE UNAMUNO – HOUSE MUSEUM.** This writer of the 98 Generation was brought into contact with the city of Salamanca through the University. Here he was named Rector in 1900. The former rector's house houses a museum dedicated to Unamuno, which it is possible to visit.

**[15] FIRST GRAMMAR BOOK - ANTONIO DE NEBRIJA.** Amongst the famous people related to Salamanca, there is one in particular who is linked to an important event in the history of the Spanish language: Elio Antonio de Nebrija, responsible for writing the first "Castilian Grammar", published in the year 1492.



[14]



[15]

## GASTRONOMY

■ The gastronomy of Salamanca offers the following specialties: Lentils of La Armuña; *Hornazo* (large pie of chorizo sausage, cured ham, bacon and eggs), *Farinato* (sausage made from bread crumbs, lard and spices), cured sausages, cured ham from Guijuelo, *Perrunillas* (almond biscuits), nougats from La Alberca, *Bollo Maimón* (spongey marzipan).



## USEFUL INFORMATION

### > SALAMANCA CITY COUNCIL

Ayuntamiento de Salamanca  
Tel. 923 279100  
[www.aytosalamanca.es](http://www.aytosalamanca.es)  
[www.salamanca.es](http://www.salamanca.es)

### > TOURISM OFFICES

Oficina Municipal  
de Turismo de Salamanca  
Plaza Mayor, 32  
Tfno: 902 302002  
923 218342

Oficina de Turismo de la  
Junta de Castilla y León  
Casa de las Conchas  
C/ Compañía, 2  
Tfno. 923 268571

### > TEMPORARY INFORMATION

**POINTS**  
(Del 1 de julio al 30  
de septiembre)  
Estación de Autobuses  
Estación de Renfe

# Ávila

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

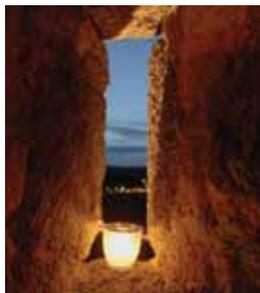
Santo Domingo de Silos  
BURGOS

Valladolid

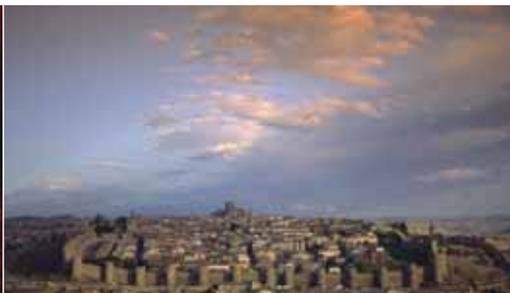
Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



Candle in the Wall



View of the city



Wall and statue of Sta. Teresa

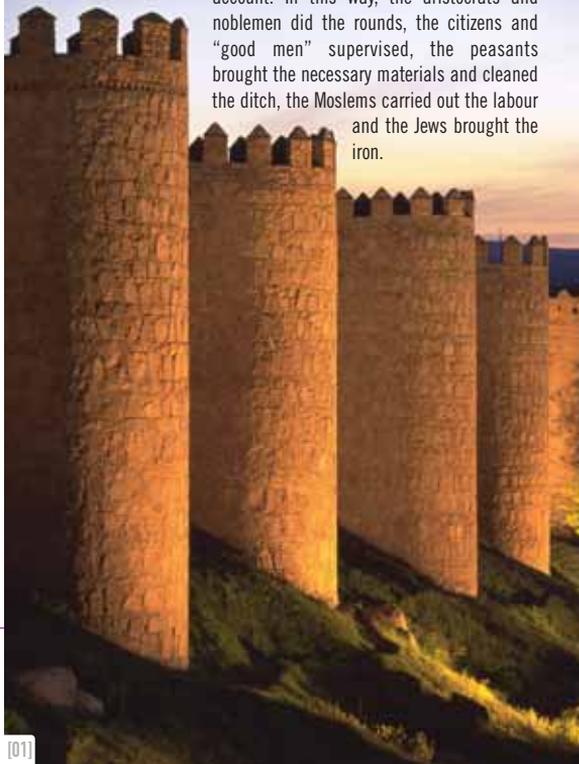
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■ Ávila, a **World Heritage Site** since 1985, is a living example of what a walled city was like in medieval Spain. Visitors can enter the fortress through any of the nine gateways interspersed along the **Walls**, in search of adventure, delving into the realms of history, literature, art ...

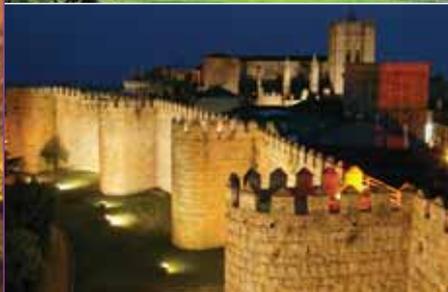
Inside the walls, the **cathedral**, the churches, **convents**, monuments and the narrow, winding streets all play their part in making this Castilian city a place where history and the **medieval lifestyle** are still alive today.

Ávila and mysticism are unquestionably related. The city was the setting for the experiences of **St Teresa de Jesús** and **St Juan de la Cruz**. The force and intensity of their religious and literary work has made them the indisputable reference point of this city, something which is still the case today. Buildings, establishments, cultural events, and so on, all take refer to these two great writers with pride.

**[01] CITY WALLS.** Constructed during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, this is the monument that best identifies the city. It served as a military defence, as a barrier to prevent the spread of disease, as a tax border and finally as a support for other buildings. It has a perimeter of 2.5 kms, 88 watch towers and 9 gateways. Many repairs and restorations have been carried out over the centuries in order to conserve these walls. In fact all the people from Avila participated in the wall maintenance, without taking their religion or social status into account. In this way, the aristocrats and noblemen did the rounds, the citizens and “good men” supervised, the peasants brought the necessary materials and cleaned the ditch, the Moslems carried out the labour and the Jews brought the iron.

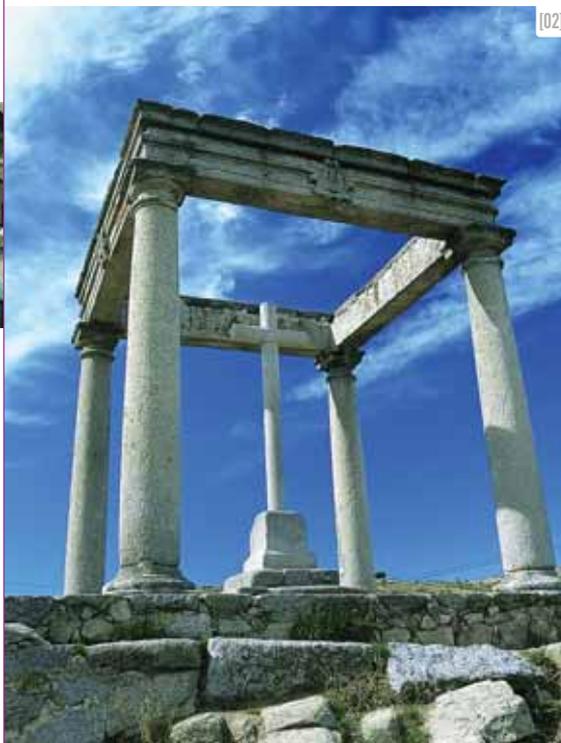


[01]





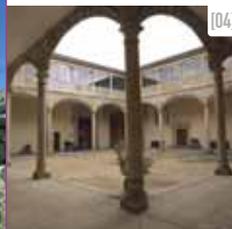
**[03] VELADA PALACE.** This palace located in the Cathedral square has now been renovated and converted into a hotel. Of particular note is its watchtower with bevelled coats of arms, its spacious arcaded courtyard and the Gothic doorway.



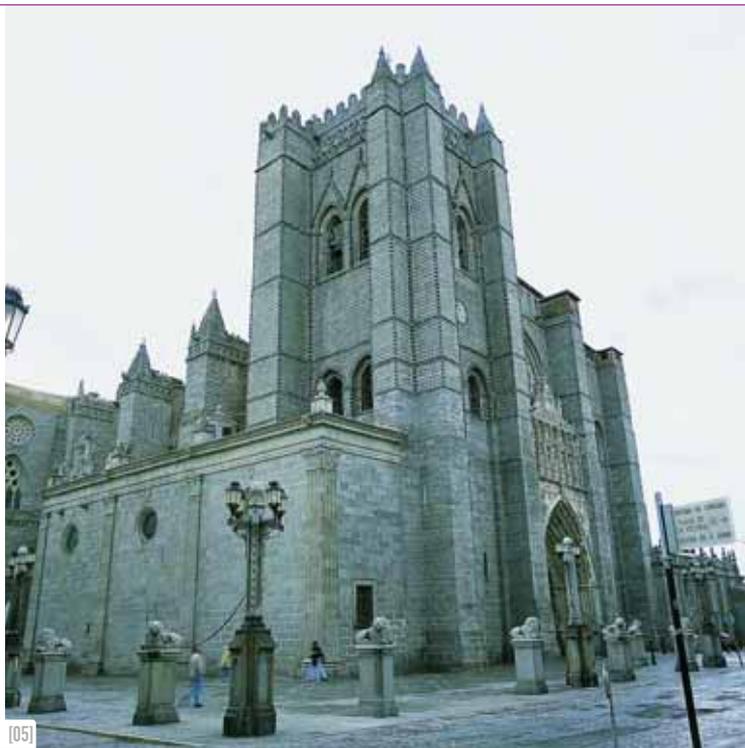
**[02] FOUR POSTS.** On the city outskirts, on the road from Ávila to Salamanca, there is a place called Los Cuatro Postes (the four posts). It is an excellent vantage point for obtaining one of the best views across Ávila. Miguel Delibes includes it on several occasions in his work "La sombra del ciprés es alargada" (the shadow of the cypress is extended).

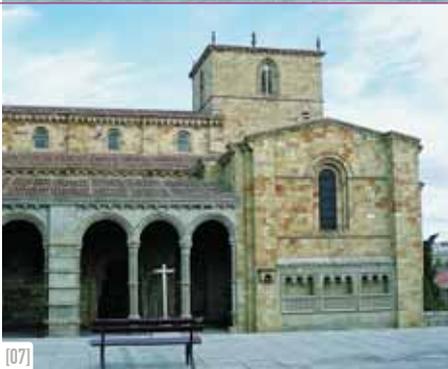
According to legend, here Don Pedro found his nephew and niece Teresa de Cepeda (Teresa de Jesús) and her brother Rodrigo when, as children, they fled the lands occupied by the moors in search of martyrdom.

**[04] BRACAMONTE PALACE.** This house, dating back to 1510, pertained to Alvaro Dávila, the marshal of Castile. It has two towers which go up one floor, and a courtyard formed by four arcaded galleries, which is one of the largest courtyards in the city. Today it is used by the Regional Government of Castile & Leon Department of Culture.



**[05] CATHEDRAL.** This is the clearest example of a fortress cathedral in Europe, given the fact that it forms part of the city walls, and is the strongest bastion in the walls. The cathedral is dedicated to St Salvador, and work commenced in 1091. Its history is inextricably linked to that of the city. Even its apse, which Alfonso VII climbed (a historic event) is the central motif of the Avila coat of arms. The cathedral has been the stage for several great events; it is here that the Holy Council of the *Comuneros* met before the rising against Charles I.





**[06] MONASTERY OF LA ENCARNACIÓN.** There is no doubt that, together with the Monastery of St José, this is one of the most emblematic places relating to St Teresa to be found in Avila. It was inaugurated on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1515, the same day that St Teresa was baptised. St Teresa took her vows here and went on to be prioress for three years. It was from this monastery that she planned the entire reform and many episodes of her mystic life took place within these walls. The other great mystic of Avila, Juan de Yepes (St Juan de la Cruz) spent five years at La Encarnación as a confessor.

**[07] CHURCH OF SAN VICENTE.** This is the best example of Romanesque architecture in Avila. It was one of the most important Churches of Purgation of Castile. It was constructed around 1130 and was finally completed at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

**[08] CONVENT OF SANTA TERESA.** Constructed by the Discalced Carmelite order over the birthplace house of the Saint between 1629 and 1636. It is a church with a single nave and two chapels, there is a gateway on the outside formed by three rounded arches. The whole church is erected over a crypt; unique in Hispanic architecture.

**[09] MONASTERY OF SAN JOSÉ.** This is the first foundation of St Teresa established according to the rules of her Carmelite reform, maintaining austerity and discretion as a symbol of the house. It comprised a series of buildings which were gradually grouped together and joined to form an architectural complex which even today conserves a small church which was replaced in 1608 by the current one.



## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

[10] **STA. TERESA.** Teresa de Cepeda y Ahumada, Santa Teresa de Jesús (1515-1582) is the focal point for mysticism in Ávila. St Teresa of Jesus wrote with great fluency and expressiveness, taking the Renaissance principle of “I write as I talk” to its very extreme.

[11] **SAN JUAN DE LA CRUZ.** Another great exponent of mysticism was Juan de Yepes, San Juan de la Cruz, (1542 – 1591). He was recognised as a Saint and Doctor of the Church and, in the literary field, he is considered patron saint of poets in the Castilian language.

[12] **MYSTICISM INTERPRETATION CENTRE.** The mark that these two writers left on Avila is evident in this centre, an interpretation centre which is unique in Spain, conceived as an innovative space to learn about mysticism.

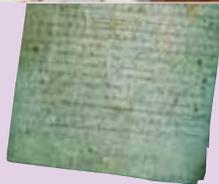
[12]



42



[13]



[13] **CELL AND MANUSCRIPT OF ST. TERESA**



[10]



[11]

## GASTRONOMY

■ The cuisine of Avila features a wide variety of pulse, meat and sweet dishes. Some of the most typical recipes are Barco de Avila Green beans, suckling-lamb, suckling-pig, oven baked trout with ham, "patatas revolconadas" - spicy, fried potato puree, "Yemas de St Teresa"- sweet egg yolk cakes...



### USEFUL INFORMATION

**> ÁVILA CITY  
COUNCIL**

[www.avila.es](http://www.avila.es)

**> CENTER FOR  
TOURISTS**

Avda. Madrid, 39  
Tel. 920 225969

**> TOURISTIC  
INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE CITY**

[www.avilaturismo.com](http://www.avilaturismo.com)

**> INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE WALL**

Tel. 920 255088

# Alcalá de Henares

San Millán de la Cogolla  
LA RIOJA

Santo Domingo de Silos  
BURGOS

Valladolid

Salamanca

Ávila

Alcalá de Henares  
MADRID



University facade



Illustration of "El Quijote"



Celebration in Alcalá

■ Alcalá de Henares, the former city of Complutum in Roman times, was declared a **World Heritage Site** in 1998 due to the importance of "the University and the Historic Precinct of Alcalá de Henares", thereby recognising its historical trajectory and the collective effort to recover this heritage and its role in disseminating the Spanish language and culture. As a cultural centre which has always been closely linked to the city, the Complutense **University** fills the city with life. Nowadays, its **Paraninfo** -the university assembly hall- is the venue for the presentation of the **Cervantes Literature Award**, the highest award in the Spanish language.

The streets of Alcalá have witnessed the presence of many important figures, such as Quevedo, Cisneros, Nebrija... however, Miguel de **Cervantes**, the most famous writer in the Spanish language, is indisputably the name which is universally associated with Alcalá. The marks of this author and his works are evident throughout the city; you only need to follow them to discover the history and heritage of a city full of charm.



[01]



**[01] PLAZA DE CERVANTES SQUARE.** This square was, and still is, the heart-beat of the city. It was formerly known as the Plaza del Mercado (Market square), being where the weekly markets were held. It is also the venue for other festivities such as bull fights and the most important fiestas.

Dominating the square is a statue in honour of Cervantes, with a series of reliefs alluding to the work of “El Quijote”. A bandstand dating back to 1898 is also located in the square.

**[02] COMPLUTUM – HOUSE OF HIPPOLYTUS.**

The origins of Alcalá de Henares date back to Roman times, when the place was named Complutum, a name which is now inextricably linked to Alcalá, as in the Complutense University, for example. Nowadays, the Roman ruins on the city outskirts still bear witness to these origins.

With regard to this archaeological complex, of particular note is the House of Hippolytus, a former School for the young people of Complutum. Here we would highlight a mosaic showing a fishing scene, created by Hippolytus, the artist who gave his name to this house.



[02]



[03]



**[03] CITY WALLS OF ALCALÁ.** In the 14<sup>th</sup> century, for city defence purposes, the archbishop Pedro Tenorio ordered a wall to be built around the city and which went as far as the present-day square of Cervantes. The walls were gradually extended over the centuries although, today, the only part of the wall still standing is the section encircling the Archbishop's Palace.



[04]



[05]



[06]

**[04] UNIVERSITY.** In 1499 Alexander VI signed the bull permitting Cardinal Cisneros to found the University of Alcalá. The institution went on to become one of the most important centres of the European intellectual life of the modern age. Today it continues to be the vibrant nerve centre of Alcalá.

**[05] PARANINFO.** The Paraninfo is the University Assembly Hall, the academic theatre, the place where the university's most important ceremonies are held; the most famous of these being the Doctorate exam. Nowadays, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April each year (International Book Day), this is the setting for the presentation of the Cervantes Award for Literature by the King and Queen of Spain. The room contains the names of all those writers that have received this award, accompanied by a bronze portrait of each one.

**[06] SAN ILDEFONSO CHAPEL – CARDINAL CISNEROS.** Located within the university premises, this chapel houses the cenotaph of Cardinal Cisneros, the person responsible for the foundation of the University and who exerted a great influence on the cultural life of Alcalá de Henares.



[07]

**[07] CORRAL DE COMEDIAS.** The comedy playhouse is also known as the “Corral de Zapateros” (shoemakers playhouse). This is a unique building in the West, a building in which public plays have been performed for more than four centuries. It was constructed in 1601 as an open-air playhouse, in 1769 it became a roofed coliseum and, in 1831, a Romanesque theatre. It always held the philosophy of being a place in which the works of the Golden Age authors could be enjoyed.

**[08] KING’S COLLEGE – CERVANTES INSTITUTE.** The seat of the Cervantes Institute at Alcalá de Henares is located in the Colegio del Rey or King’s College, the residence of Quevedo and other university students when studying at Alcalá.

**[09] ARCHBISHOP’S PALACE.** It was constructed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century as a fortress. During the 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries it was converted into a town residence, with a succession of styles: Mudejar, Renaissance and Baroque. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became the General Archive of the Kingdom and is currently the seat of the Bishop of Alcalá. The building was also the setting for the first interview between Christopher Columbus and the Catholic Kings.

**[10] OIDOR CHAPEL.** This is one of the few remaining vestiges of the Church of Santa María la Mayor. The chapel features a Mudejar-style arch and a baptismal font which is an exact replica of the one used to baptise Miguel de Cervantes (9<sup>th</sup> October 1547). Today it houses the Cervantes Interpretation Centre “Los Universos de Cervantes”.



[08]



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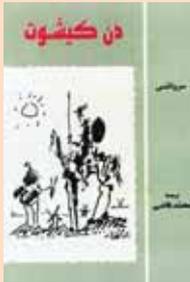


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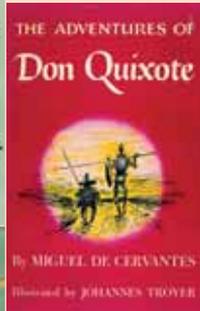
**[11] CERVANTES MUSEUM – BIRTHPLACE HOUSE.** Miguel de Cervantes was born in this house in 1547. It now operates as a Museum-House dedicated to the author of “El Quijote”. The rooms of this two-storey house with basement and central courtyard are decorated with old furniture and domestic items and which accurately reproduce the everyday life of those times. In two of the rooms there is an exhibition of a collection of the complete works of Cervantes, a collection of great bibliographic value.

## THE WRITERS AND THEIR MARK

[12] **MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA.** Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (Alcalá 1547 - Madrid 1616) could be said to be the most illustrious son of Alcalá de Henares. The famous writer penned poems, plays and novels and is one of the most outstanding authors in Spanish literature. However, his masterpiece is indisputably the novel of a knight-errant entitled "*El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha*" (the ingenious gentleman Don Quijote of La Mancha), the first part of which was published in 1605. This novel is second to the Bible as the most translated book, with more than 6,000 publications in over 90 languages. The mark of this famous writer is to be found in every corner of Alcalá.



[13]



[13] **BOOK COVERS.** Some books covers of "El Quijote" translated into foreign languages.



[12]

## GASTRONOMY



■ The cuisine of Alcalá offers the possibility of tasting dishes and stews that offer all the charm of a long-standing gastronomic tradition. Of particular note are the breadcrumbs with chorizo sausage; *"Duelos y quebrantos"* (bacon, cured ham and chorizo sausage with eggs); garlic soup; toasted bread with fried eggs, cured ham and tomato; stews; fresh vegetables (from Vega de Henares). And, for dessert, *"tartas costradas"* - custard-filled flaky pastry sprinkled with almonds and toasted in the oven (created by the royal pastry cooks of old) and the famous *"Almendras garrapiñadas"* - sugar-coated almonds.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

### > ALCALÁ DE HENARES CITY COUNCIL

[www.ayto-alcaladehenares.es](http://www.ayto-alcaladehenares.es)

### > ALCALÁ DE HENARES TOURISM

[www.turismoalcala.com](http://www.turismoalcala.com)

### > TOURISM OFFICES IN ALCALÁ DE HENARES

Callejón Sta. María, 1  
Tel. 91 8892694

Plaza de los Santos Niños  
Tel. 91 8810634

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