

World Heritage City

Salamanca

The city of Salamanca has 160,415 inhabitants, or 45 percent of the entire province's population (350,984). There is also an important floating population in the form of students from elsewhere who come to attend universities totalling 35,000 places, along with some 20,000 foreign students taking courses at Spanish language schools. In addition, the metropolitan area of Salamanca is made up of five municipal districts with a total population of 22,627. In short, Salamanca provides homes, jobs and education for an approximate total of 225,000 inhabitants.

As far as inland Spain goes, Salamanca is one of the most popular choices among tourists. Its humanist tradition, its rich historical and artistic heritage, the colour of its Villamayor stone and its lively atmosphere earned the UNESCO title of World Heritage City in 1988. In 2002, it was chosen as European Capital of Culture and is currently a key destination on the inland tourism route.

Much of Salamanca's life revolves round the university, its students and a variety of peculiar characteristics endowing the city with a cosmopolitan, contemporary atmosphere. This is further enhanced by the arrival of people from all over the world with an interest in learning Spanish; the city's relationship with Latin America; and the non-stop, throbbing pace of life: 24 hours of vibrancy and action. There are two universities in Salamanca: the State-run Universidad de Salamanca, with 30,446 places; and the private Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca, with 4,251.



Museums

Museo de Arte Sacro (sacred art)

Open every day from 10.00 to 13.00/from 16.00 to 18.45
Admission: €1.50/€0.75 (groups of more than 20); free of charge for children up to the age of 12.
Free on non-holiday Mondays from 9.30 to 12.00.

Palacio de la Salina

C/San Pablo, 24
Tel.: 34 923 293 100
Mondays to Thursdays: from 9.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 18.30.
Fridays: from 9.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 21.00.
Saturdays and Sundays: from 10.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 21.00.

Church. Iglesia de la Purísima

Plaza de las Agustinas
Tel.: 34 923 212 738
Tuesdays to Sundays: from 11.30 to 13.30/16.30 to 20.00.

Colegio Arzobispo Fonseca (Irish)

Plaza de Fonseca, 4
Tel.: 34 923 294 570
Mondays to Saturdays: from 10.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 20.00.
Sundays and holidays: from 10.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 20.00.

Convento y Museo de las Úrsulas

C/ Las Úrsulas, 2
Tel.: 34 923 219 877
Open every day from 11.00 to 13.00/from 16.30 to 18.00.
Admission: €2. Closes one Sunday a month.

Convento de Santa Clara

C/Santa Clara, 2
Tel.: 34 923 269 623
Mondays to Fridays: from 9.30 to 14.00/from 16.15 to 19.15.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 9.30 to 15.15.
Admission: €2. Groups of more than 20 people: €1. Children: €0.50

Casa de Santa Teresa de Jesús

Plaza de Santa Teresa
Tel.: 34 923 217 023
Tuesdays to Saturdays from 11.00 to 12.30/from 16.30 to 19.00.
Admission: a donation at the visitor's discretion.

Museo de Art Nouveau y Art Deco (Casa Lis)

C/ El Expolio, 14
Tel.: 34 923 121 425
Tuesdays to Fridays: from 11.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 20.00.
Admission: €3. €2 for pensioners, students and groups of more than 10 people. Free on Thursdays from 11.00 to 14.00.

Museo de Salamanca (fine arts)

C/ Patio de Escuelas, 2
Tel.: 34 923 212 235
Tuesdays to Saturdays: from 10.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.
Sundays and holidays: from 10.00 to 14.00. Closed on Mondays.
Admission: €1.20. Students: €0.60
Admission free on Saturdays and Sundays.

Casa-Museo de Unamuno

C/ Libreros, 25
Tel.: 34 923 294 400 (ext. 1196)
Tuesdays to Fridays: from 9.30 to 13.30/from 16.00 to 18.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 10.00 to 13.30.
Admission: €3. Groups: €1.50

Huerto de Calixto y Melibea (Medieval gardens)

Open every day from 10.00 to sunset.
Admission free.

Bullfighting Museum

C/ Doctor Piñuela, 5-7
Tel.: 34 923 219 425
Tuesdays to Saturdays: from 11.30 to 13.30. Admission: €3
Pensioners: €2 Children up to the age of 12: free.
Groups (more than 20 people): €1.20.

Logia Masónica

(Masonic Lodge)
C/ El Expolio, 2
Tel.: 34 923 212 535
Tuesdays to Fridays: from 17.00 to 20.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays:
from 12.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 20.00.
Admission free.
Guided group tours by appointment (15 to 25 people).

Artulugios para Fascinar. Castilla and León Film Library

(Collection of film-making equipment)
C/ Gonzalo Santana, 1 Tel.: 34 923 212 516
Mondays to Fridays: from 11.00 to 14.00/from 17.00 to 20.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 14.00.
Admission free.

Los Sonidos del Ayer (Collection of old radios)

Mercado de San Juan Plaza Julián Sánchez Tel.: 34 923 283 835
Mondays to Fridays: from 11.00 to 14.00/from 17.00 to 19.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 14.00.
Admission free. Guided group tours by appointment.

La Medida del Tiempo (Collection of popular timepieces)

Calle Compañía, 43
Mondays to Fridays: from 11.00 to 14.00/from 17.00 to 20.00.
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 14.00.
Admission free.

Museo de la Fábrica de Harinas

(Flour Mill Museum) (Old Salamanca mill)
Casino del Tormes
C/La Pesca, 5 (by the Roman bridge)
Tel.: 34 923 281 628
Open every day from 12.00 to 24.00. Admission free.

Museo de la Historia de la Automoción

(car museum) Plaza Mercado Viejo
Tel.: 34 923 260 293
Tuesdays to Fridays: from 10.30 to 14.00/from 16.30 to 20.00.
Admission: €3 Students, pensioners and groups: €2

Domus Artium 2002. DA2

Avda. de la Aldehuela
Tel.: 34 923 184 916
Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 21.00.
Closed on Mondays. Admission free.
Guided tours: Fridays at 19.00. Saturdays and Sundays at 13.00, 18.00 and 19.00.

Cueva de Salamanca

Cuesta de Carvajal
Mondays to Sundays: from 10.00 to sunset.
Fridays and Saturdays: Audiovisual: from 18.30 to 21.00.

Museo del Comercio

Tel.: 923 23 84 02
Mondays to Saturdays: from 10.00 to 14.00/from 17.00 to 20.00. Sundays: from 11.00 to 15.00.

Church of San Marcos

C/Puerta Zamora
Tuesdays to Sundays: from 10.30 to 13.30/from 16.30 to 19.30.
Admission free

Church of San Martín

Plaza del Corriollo
Tuesdays to Sundays: from 11.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.
Admission free

Church of Sancti-Spiritus

Cuesta de Sancti Spiritu
Tuesdays to Sundays, from 11.00 to 13.00/from 18.00 to 19.30.
Admission free

Please note that information as to times and prices is provided solely as a guide.



Monuments

Casa de las Conchas

C/ Compañía, 2

Tel.: 34 923 269 317

Mondays to Fridays: from 9.00 to 21.00.

Saturdays: from 9.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.

Sundays: from 9.00 to 14.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.

Admission free

Clerecía and Universidad Pontificia

C/ Compañía

Tel.: 34 923 277 100

Tuesdays to Fridays: from 10.30 to 12.50/from 16.00 to 17.50.

Saturdays and holidays: from 10.00 to 13.20/from 17.00 to 18.20.

Sundays: from 10.00 to 13.30.

Admission: €2. Groups (min.eight people): €1.50

Clerecía: open during servives.

(Sundays and holidays: 12.30).

University

C/ Libreros

Tel.: 34 923 294 400 (ext. 1150) Mondays to Fridays: from 9.30 to

13.00/from 16.00 to 19.00. Saturdays: from 9.30 to 13.00/from

16.00 to 18.30.

Sundays and holidays: from 10.00 to 13.00. Admission: €

Pensioners, students and groups: €2

Admission free for children under 12 and on Monday mornings

*Admission is restricted during academic ceremonies.

New cathedral

Plaza de Anaya

Tel.: 34 923 217 476

Open every day from 10.00 to 18.00. Admission free.

Old cathedral

Plaza de Anaya

Open every day from 10.00 to 19.30. Closed on Sunday afternoons in November, December, January and February.

Admission: €3.50. Groups of more than 20 people: €2.75.

Spanish schoolchildren: €2.

Spanish nationals: free on Tuesday mornings until 12.00.

Ieronimus Exhibition

(entrance through Puerta de la Torre, Plaza de Juan XXIII) Open every day from 10.00 to 19.15.

Admission: €2.50. Groups of more than 20 people: €2.

Spanish nationals: free on Tuesdays from 10.00 to 12.00.

Convento de las Dueñas

Plaza del Concilio de Trento

Tel.: 34 923 215 442

Open every day from 10.30 to 12.45/from 16.30 to 17.30.

Sundays and holidays: from 11.00 to 12.45/from 16.30 to 18.45.

Admission: €1.50. Groups of more than 20 people: €0.75

Convento de San Esteban (Dominicans)

Plaza del Concilio de Trento

Tel.: 34 923 215 000

Monumental site: open every day from 9.00 to 13.00/from 16.00 to 19.00.

Handicrafts

Arts and crafts abound in Salamanca, ranging from leather goods (wineskins, saddles, chaps and bags) to embroidery and ceramics, where floral and animal motifs are very much in evidence. Delightful filigree work in silver and gold, used in the making of the famous buttons, earrings and shells, also forms a part of Salamanca's traditional handicrafts, a list of which would not be complete without a mention of stone-carving, cowbells and basketry.





Routes

Salamanca

AROUND THE CITY

Religious buildings

The beautiful, old, Romanesque cathedral; the spectacular, new, Gothic cathedral, designed for major events; Santo Domingo, Gothic and Dominican; La Clerecía, Jesuit and baroque: beside these, Salamanca's great spiritual centres, we come across secluded havens, charged with charm and significance and indifferent to the hustle and bustle of everyday life; places that form part of this picturesque city's reality.

Women in the spiritual world

In some of those places, seven centuries ago, a sizeable group of women who sought communication with God and liberation from an oppressive society set about laying their own path towards understanding and experiencing the spiritual side of life. As a result, a number of convents appeared, including Santa María de las Dueñas, Casa de Santa Teresa de Jesús, Santa Clara and las Úrsulas.

The small churches: the city's origins

In the course of time, districts started to spring up round the small Romanesque churches; parish churches that once gave the local people a sense of belonging and identity. Little by little, the churches were surrounded by squares, communal facilities for celebrations and houses joined by interior patios or yards.

The austere aspect of small, solid, stone churches, so common at a time when defence was of paramount importance, was offset by rounded apses and the mysterious symbolism of their sparse decoration; Late Romanesque churches reflecting a new Christian culture on its way down from the north, bringing with it a new religious ritual (Roman or Gregorian) which would put the

Mozarabic and the Visigothic to rest. We are speaking of churches like San Cristóbal, San Benito, San Martín, San Marcos, Santiago, San Juan Bautista de Barbalos and Santo Tomás Canturiense.

Modernity in Salamanca

Salamanca possesses a fine collection of machines and they are all connected with the early twentieth century, when the city was rousing from its lethargy. It was a time when, here as elsewhere, everything seemed possible thanks to the arrival of progress.

It was then that the radio made its appearance, filling our ears with the strange, rhythmic sounds of the cha-cha-cha and the Charleston. Meanwhile, we could hear the distant, constant rumbling of the flour mill, immersed in its relentless activity.

The measurement of time. Colección Andrés Santiago

The possibility of measuring time was a challenge for mankind and a necessity of the modern era.

The sounds of yesterday. Colección Agustín de Castro

The radio's arrival in households enabled many people to gain access to information and to new forms of understanding.

Casa Lis. Fundación Manuel Ramos Andrade

Beauty did confine itself to museums but found its way into people's homes to be contemplated and enjoyed.

Artículos para fascinar. Colección Basilio Martín Patino

The physical principles on light and movement, so cold and concrete, turn into excitement and racing pulses.

Museo de Historia de la Automoción. Fundación Gómez Planche

Lovely cars brought from the past to be carefully repaired tell us of an era when people would stop and turn, their hearts throbbing, on seeing a car drive past at the incredible speed of 40 km per hour.

Museo Molino.

Bread has fed man throughout his history and this flour mill, looking defiantly across at the modern Eiffel Bridge, is the visible memory of part of the city's history.

And if the heat is too much, then take a rest in the city's old gardens and leisure parks, in the shade of the many and varied trees; take a stroll by the river, play at La Aldehuela, relax in the Jesuits' garden, visit the wood, Bosque de los Olmos Secos, sit a while in Huerto de Calixto y Melibea, in Campo de San Francisco, La Merced ...

The Silver Route

Salamanca's traditional connection with St. James (Santiago) goes back to the times of the Mozarab pilgrims and their routes: the Road to Santiago by Vía de la Plata (the Silver Route) and the Road to Fonseca (from Salamanca to Santiago de Compostela). The roads owe their existence to Vía de la Plata, built by the Romans to link the northern and southern regions of the Iberian Peninsula by covering a route which, then as now, was indispensable.

During our tour, we shall be reminded of Santiago and the Archbishop of Fonseca as we go along the streets leading to the most noteworthy constructions: Puerta de Anfal, Tentenecio, Libreros, Patio de Escuelas, Rúa Antigua, Compañía, Campo de San Francisco, Úrsulas, Prior and so on; the Roman bridge (part of Vía de la Plata); the Church of Santiago (recorded in the Salamanca Charter as a Mozarab parish church); the old cathedral (the Mozarab-style mass is still held today); Casa de las Conchas, built by Don Rodrigo Maldonado, Knight and Chancellor of the Order of Santiago; La Clerecía, founded by Philip III and Margaret of Austria in the times of Fonseca (seventeenth century) to house Colegio Real de la Sociedad de Jesús; Colegio del Arzobispo de Fonseca, founded by the Archbishop of Fonseca as Colegio Mayor Santiago and noted for the huge medallion on the façade, bearing the apostle's image; Convento de las Úrsulas co-founded by Fonseca, whose tomb is inside the convent; Casa de las Muertes (the façade was dedicated to Fonseca, as shown by the medallion bearing his bust); Plaza Mayor, where the arch on Calle Zamora is still in place, beneath City Hall; and Palacio de Fonseca, or La Salina, now the seat of the Provincial Government.

We also pass the pilgrims' hostel, Albergue de Peregrinos, housed in the former Casa de la Calera. With all modern comfort, the hostel provides accommodation for up to 22 pilgrims.

Moreover, the urban section of Vía de la Plata is signposted with bronze mosaics indicating the original route through the city.

Tourism within easy reach. Salamanca stimulates the five senses

Getting to know a city requires more than looking and admiring; we have to touch it, feel it on our skin, discover its texture, recognise its music, its silence; smell it, identify its scent and enjoy it with all five senses. But that is not all. We have to put ourselves in the place of its people, observe it with their eyes, weigh it with their hands and so understand it as it really is: a living being in a state of constant change, a complex reality formed by a host of perceptions and experiences.



As we make our way through the city, we realise that Salamanca is also an outward-looking place, unrestrained and borderless; a place to be enjoyed to the full by anyone who happens to be there.

Route

Plaza Mayor, Plaza del Corriollo, Calle Rúa Mayor, Casa de las Conchas, Clerecía, Calle de los Libreros, Universidad de Salamanca, Calle Latina Tavera, Plaza de Juan XXIII, the new cathedral, the old cathedral, Plaza de Anaya, Calle Cardenal Plá and Daniel, continuing to Plaza Mayor along Calle Rúa Mayor; or along Calle Compañía, calling at Universidad Pontificia, Plaza de San Benito, Plaza de las Agustinas and Calle Prior.

Historical route

Part of Salamanca's heritage is to be found in the old quarter, where we come across examples of every architectural movement that has left its mark on the town through time. We see how the many changes blend in with one another to perfection, emanating life and a light that embraces the entire spectrum of shades as it falls on the golden Villamayor stone.

By taking the following route, we shall gain a true insight into the World Heritage City of Salamanca:

Plaza Mayor. Baroque. C18. Main features: the north side (City Hall) and the east (Royal Pavilion).

Church of San Martín. Romanesque. C12. Romanesque on the north frontispiece and plateresque on the south.

Seashells' House. C15, the period of the Catholic Sovereigns. Spanish Gothic grilles and a superb patio. Now a public library.

Church of la Clerecía. Commenced by Philip III. Midway between neoclassicism and baroque.

Church of San Benito. C15. Frontispiece, a combination of Gothic and the style prevalent in the times of Isabella II.

Universidad Pontificia. Baroque patio and a majestic staircase.

University. Founded by Alfonso IX of León in 1218, it is the oldest in Spain. Plateresque façade, bearing a bust of the Catholic Sovereigns and the coat of arms of Charles V. Interior: lecture rooms dedicated to Fray Luis de León and Miguel de Unamuno.

Chapel and library. Relief on the staircase and a rich coffered ceiling over the upper cloister.

Garden of Calixto and Melibeia. The setting of *La Celestina* by Fernando de Rojas. Gothic remains in Jardín del Visir.

Escuelas Menores. Plateresque frontispiece. Patio with arches in a mixture of styles, in true Salamanca tradition. Inside, a collection of

paintings, *Cielo de Salamanca*, and archaeological pieces.

Museo de Salamanca. A C15 building in the style prevalent in the times of Isabel II. Display of archaeological pieces, sculptures and paintings from C15 to C17.

Casa-Museo Unamuno. The furniture and personal effects of Miguel de Unamuno.

New cathedral. Commenced in 1513 by Gil de Hontañón and completed in 1733. Main façade brimming with decoration and ornamental motifs.

Old cathedral and Patio Chico. Romanesque. Commenced in C12. C15 altarpiece. Torre del Gallo. Archive and Diocesan Museum.

Palacio de Anaya. Formerly the School of San Bartolomé, it is now the Philology Faculty. Neoclassical. Commenced in 1760. Bust of Miguel de Unamuno.

Fonda Veracruz. Formerly a mansion, it was built in the characteristic Salamanca style. Used as a boarding house in C20. Now a catering school.

Church of Santiago. C12. Romanesque-Mudéjar. Built in 1956.

Bull and Roman bridge. The bull is quoted in the picaresque novel, *Lazarillo de Tormes*, and forms part of the city's coat of arms. The bridge is on the Roman Vía de la Plata.

Casa Lis. Old private mansion in the modernist style. Now the Museum of Decorative Arts (Art Deco and Art Nouveau).

Masonic Lodge. Houses the Civil War Section of the National History Archive.

Cueva de Salamanca. Formerly the Church of San Cebrían. Renowned for the magic rituals once performed there.

Convent of San Esteban. Plateresque frontispiece. Late Gothic interior. Altarpiece by Churriguera. Once belonged to the Military Orders..

Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury. Romanesque.

1175. The first church in the world to have been dedicated to St. Thomas Becket. Interesting tombs.

Convent of Las Dueñas. 1533. Plateresque frontispiece. Renaissance cloister.

Convent of the Order of St. Clare. Enclosed. Founded by the Franciscans in C13.

Torre del Clavero. Ancestral home of the guardian of the Order of Alcántara. C15.

Palacio de Orellana. Ancestral home midway between Late Renaissance and early baroque.

Palacio de la Salina. 1538. Patio interesting for its arches and capitals. Now the seat of the Provincial Government.

Bullfighting Museum. Collection of pieces belonging to local masters; sculptures and paintings donated by bullfighters and cattle breeders from the region.

Church of San Marcos. Romanesque. Circular. Casa de Santa Teresa. Austere in appearance. The only decoration is the Ovalle coats of arms. Residence of Santa Teresa when she came to Salamanca in 1570.

Ursuline Convent and Museum. First half C16.

Convent noted for its turret. Museum worth a visit.

Palacio de Monterrey. Characteristic Renaissance palace. Built in 1539.

Colegio Mayor Arzobispo Fonseca (Irish). C16. Church with an altarpiece by Alonso Berruguete.

Delightful Renaissance patio.

Iglesia de la Purísima. C17 church. Interior in the Italianising vein. Here we can see *La Inmaculada Concepción* by José de Rivera.

Urban route: Salamanca-the Americas

Consisting of four stages, this route brings out the close connection existing between Salamanca and Ibero-America.

Cueva de Salamanca. Considered to be so representative of a form of knowledge that many of the caves on the American subcontinent that were associated with magic, myth, initiation and witchcraft became known as Salamancas.

Convent of San Esteban. Of incalculable value from the point of view of Salamanca's heritage, the convent has strong associations with Christopher Columbus, the Catholic Sovereigns, Francisco de Vitoria, Bartolomé de las Casas and the Dominican Friars.

Universidad Civil. The University of Salamanca stands for knowledge, the search for truth and the use of language as a vehicle of communication.

La Clerecía. Point of contact between the Jesuits and their missionaries.

Salamanca at night. Legends and tales

This route enables the tourist to experience the city from a remote point in time but not so far removed from reality. We discover another world concealed in the city's streets: an exciting, fascinating, absorbing world that comes alive when the sun goes down. Mysteries, learning, superstitions, miracles, feats, rituals, damsels, heroines, nuns, witches, saints, and a boundless store of legends and tales that give us a different view on Salamanca's history. Palaces like La Salina and Arias Corvell, convents, ancestral homes, the Roman bridge, Casa Lis, Orchard of Calixto and Melibeia, Cave of Salamanca, University courtyard, House of Deaths and, of course, the cathedral.

Literary route

Salamanca may be interpreted from various points of view, as if it were a literary text. By taking this route, we may see its more emotive side, a closer connection with our feelings, an aura of nostalgia and wisdom. Every single corner on this route gives us a clear indication of part of the life of some literary figure.

We will start this route in *Plaza Mayor*, the very centre of the town. Here the medallions on Lienzo de Petrineros (on the façade of the Municipal Tourist Board building) portray most of the literary figures who were of special relevance in the city: Miguel de Cervantes, Unamuno, Fray Luis de León... We will follow visiting *Clavero Tower*, *Calatrava College*, founded in 1552; *Palacio de Monterrey*; *Agustinas Convent*; *La Clerecía*; *Church of San Martín*; *Plaza de los Bandos* (the birthplace and home of the writer Carmen Martín Gaité); *Garcí Grande Palace*; House of Doña María la Brava; *Church of El Carmen*; *Palace and Church of Plaza San Boal*; *Seashells House*; *Roman bridge and gate* (Puerta de Aníbal); *Patio de Escuelas*: university (*Escuelas Mayores*, *House-Museum of Miguel de Unamuno*; *Patio de las Escuelas*; *Hospital del Estudio* (rectorate) and *Escuelas Menores* (University Museum); *La Salina Palace*; *old cathedral* (here, there is a room where students used to sit exams and do some swotting the night before); *Patio Chico* and *the new cathedral*; *Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury* (1175); *Plaza de Anaya*; *House of Deaths*; *Church of Sancti Spiritus*; *Arzobispo Fonseca College* (Irish). Founded by Alonso de Fonseca y Acevedo). *Úrsulas Convent*, *Saint Mary of the Knights* and *Chapel of the la Vera*; *Convent of San Esteban*; *Convent of Santa María de las Dueñas* (Dominican); *Casa Lis*; *Art Deco and Art Nouveau Museum and Café Novelty*. In this cafeteria, situated in Plaza Mayor, stands the statue of the novelist Torrente Ballester,

who used to spend hours there, writing. This route affords us the opportunity to see buildings associated with the lives of Diego de Torres Villarroel, Carmen Martín Gaité, Gonzalo Torrente Ballester, Fray Luis de León, Miguel de Unamuno, Santa Teresa de Jesús ...

The historical garden route

There is yet another way to acquaint ourselves with the city, depending on the season. In spring, we see how nature comes to life; in summer, we cool off at the fountains and in the shade of the trees; in autumn, we overcome our sense of melancholy by gazing at the naked trees and kicking our way through the rustling leaves; and in winter, the icy cold of the gardens is relieved by the warm heartedness of the people passing by. In short, each season of the year draws its own picture of this fascinating city.

We will start this route in Plaza de la Libertad, close to Plaza Mayor and will follow going round Plaza de los Bandos, Campo de San Francisco, Paseo de Carmelitas, Plaza de los Caídos, Plaza de Fray Luis de León, Plaza de la Merced, Vaguada de la Palma, Huerto de Calixto y Melibeia, El Zurguén, Parque Fluvial, Bosque de Olmos Secos, Plaza de Anaya, Plaza Colón, Plaza de los Basílios, Plaza de San Justo, Plaza de Santa Eulalia, Parque la Alamedilla, Parque Pablo Picasso, Plaza de Castilla y León, Parque Huerta de los Jesuitas, Parque de la Aldehuela, Parque de Garrido, Parque Plaza Madrid, Parque Würzburg, Plaza de Castrotrafe, Plaza de Burgos, Parques Avenida Salamanca, Parque Plaza Barrio Vidal, Parque de San Juan Bosco, Parque Villar y Macías and Salas Bajas.

ROUND THE PROVINCE

Religious route

Covering the north-eastern part of the province, this route takes us to a number of towns of great religious significance. It was here that Santa Teresa did her work, as we shall see if we visit Alba de Tormes, Peñaranda de Bracamonte, Macotera and Santiago la Puebla.

The Road to Fonseca/Vía de la Plata

This old Roman road from Emérita Augusta (Mérida) to Astúrica Augusta (Astorga) was largely responsible for the urban and

commercial development of the western peninsula from the second century B.C. down to well into the nineteenth century, when it was still used for transhumance. As a result, it became known as the Cañada Real (the Royal Cattle Path). From Extremadura, the road enters Salamanca via Puerto de Béjar and then runs through the Cuerpo de Hombre river valley towards the town of La Calzada. In route, we should make a point of stopping to visit the historical sites at Béjar, Candelario and Montemayor del Río.

The route continues towards Valdelacasa and Fuenterroble de Salvatierra, where there is a hostel which provided accommodation for pilgrims coming along the road, used as a branch of the Road to Santiago. On one side stands the town of Guijuelo, known near and far for its cured ham. This itinerary runs through San Pedro de Rozados and crosses the Roman bridge into Salamanca. It carries on towards Calzada de Vandunciel and the province of Zamora.

The Duero route

The last section of the River Tormes and the River Duero make for a unique landscape studded with reservoirs and canyons. There is a brusque change of altitude between the lands of the Meseta and the area round the Spanish-Portuguese border, near Vega de Terrón in La Fregeneda.

This part of the province is blessed with a Mediterranean microclimate which favours the cultivation of olive trees, prickly pears, orange tree... The route takes us to towns built on riverbanks that gradually make their way upwards to disappear into the Duero's characteristic escarpments. Here, we can enjoy breathtaking views of the Duero and its tributaries. Ledesma marks the start of a route that takes us to the Almedra Reservoir; and from there, to Villarino de los Aires. Another option is to make a tour of the vantage points or miradores at Aldeadávila de la Ribera, where we can also go on a boat ride along the River Duero. Then, on to Mieza, Vilvestre, Saucelle and Hinojosa del Duero and down to the river port of Vega de Terrón in the town of La Fregeneda.

On the way, we pass cascades like Pozo de los Humos, between Pereña and Masueco, and Cachón de Camaces. If we feel like a break, we might stop at the Pre-Roman fortified hamlet of Yecla de Yeleles, or visit mediaeval sites such as San Felices de los Gallegos and the fortress at Sobradillo. Lumbrales and Vitigudino also form part of this amazing route.



Historical sites

A must for history-lovers, these towns and villages are bursting with vestiges of the past while a remarkable artistic heritage embellishes their streets and squares. Different ways of life and long-standing traditions have blossomed into a popular culture abounding in festivities of all kinds. No less than 12 towns have received the Historical Site Award in recognition of the peculiar characteristics of the layout of their houses and popular architecture. The 12 towns are: Ledesma, San Felices de los Gallegos, Peñaranda de Bracamonte, Ciudad Rodrigo, San Martín del Castañar, Sequeros, La Alberca, Mogarraz, Miranda del Castañar, Montemayor del Río, Béjar and Candelario.

The fortress route

The name of this route refers to a borderland lying in the west of the province of Salamanca, where a number of fortress towns were built for the purpose of warding off the enemy. The main architectural feature is to be found in the bastion, a common way of defending cities, enclaves and forts in seventeenth and eighteenth-century Europe. Starting out from Ciudad Rodrigo, we head for the mediaeval fortress at San Felices de los Gallegos; and then, for the fortified hamlet of Yecla de Yeltes, where we come upon a defensive construction dating back to the Iron Age. To continue the route, we have to go back towards the south, in the direction of Villar de la Yegua and Villar de Ciervo. At the archaeological site of Siega Verde, we have the chance to see magnificent cave engravings from the Upper Palaeolithic. Aldea del Obispo is the location of the fort, Fuerte de la Concepción, dating back to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. And lastly, to Ciudad Rodrigo, where we can take a walk along the walls whilst observing ditches, ravelins, bridges ... We end our tour at Centro de Interpretación de las Fortificaciones, where we can acquire information about the fortresses.



The Charles V route

On this route, we trace Charles V's last journey to the seclusion of la Vera. The itinerary runs from Medina del Campo to Peñaranda de Bracamonte, a town with colonnaded squares, a sixteenth-century church and a vast collection of works of art safely guarded at the Carmelite Nuns' Museum.

From here, the route runs on to the town of Macotera, whose salient feature is the fifteenth and sixteenth-century Parish Church of Santa María del Castillo. At Alaraz, we notice how the land is gradually blanketed in forests of oak trees.

Gastronomy

In the capital, we have the chance to savour the very best of the local cuisine: hornazo, a pasty filled with pork sausage, minced pork seasoned with paprika; and the famous stew, known as chanfaina, to name but a few. However Salamanca is best known for its sausages, guijuelo ham, beef and lamb, not forgetting pulses such as lentils from La Armuña, beans and chickpeas. When it comes to dessert, we find nougat from La Alberca, alongside *bollo maimón*, *floretas*, *repelaos* and many more.

Cultural Events

- Lunes de Aguas (the first Monday after Easter)
- San Juan de Sahagún (June 12)
- Mercado Colombino (September)
- Cattle Fair (the first week in September)
- *Fiesta*. Virgen de la Vega, the patron saint of Salamanca (September 8)
- *Fiesta*. San Mateo (September 21)
- *Fiesta*. El Mariquelo. Climb to the top of the cathedral tower (October 31)

Oficina Municipal de Turismo de Salamanca

Plaza Mayor, 32
Tel.: 34 902 302 002
34 923 218 342
Fax: 923 21 83 42
informacion@turismodesalamanca.com
www.salamanca.es

Information Office and Shop

Tel.: 923 28 10 70
merchandising@turismodesalamanca.com

Oficina de Turismo de la Junta de Castilla y León

Casa de las Conchas
Compañía, 2
Tel. 34 923 268 571
Fax: 923 26 24 92

Patronato Provincial de Turismo de Salamanca

Plaza Mayor, 32, 1º, 8
Tel. 34 923 272 408
Fax 34 923 272 407

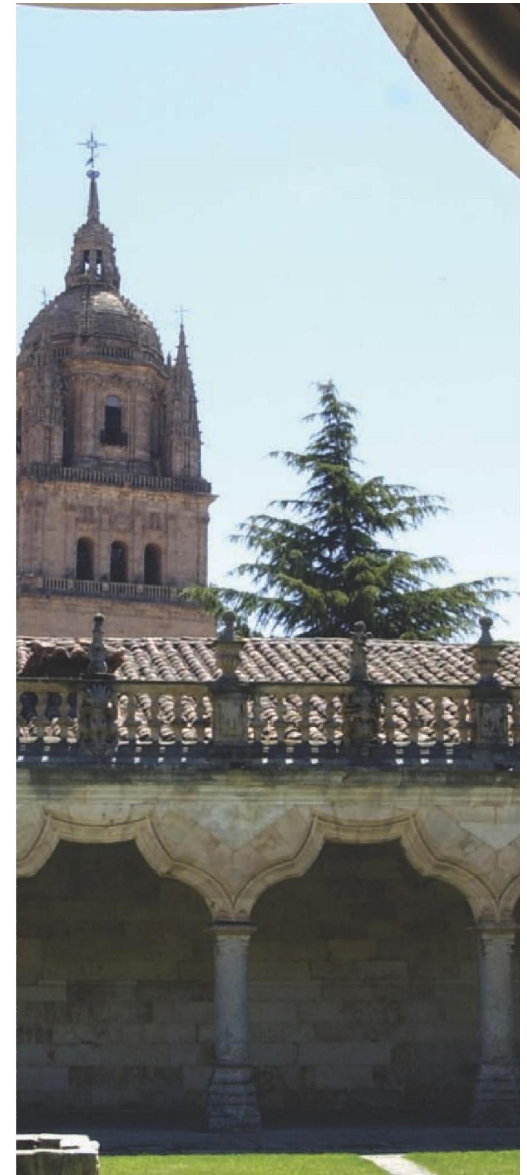
Temporary Tourist Information Point

(at the bus station)
Filiberto Villalobos, 71

Temporary Tourist Information Point

(at the railway station)
"Vialia" Paseo de la Estación

Centro de Iniciativas Turísticas
Plaza de los Sexmeros, 2
Tel.: 34 923 211 797 (Ext. 109)



1 Plaza Mayor
2 Casa de las Conchas
3 Salamanca University
4 New cathedral
5 Old cathedral. Museum
6 Convent. San Esteban
7 Church. San Marcos
8 Church. San Juan de Sahagún
9 Church. San Juan Bautista de Barbalos
10 Casa de Santa Teresa de Jesús
11 Palacio de Garcigrande
12 Church. San Boal
13 Palacio de San Boal. San Eloy Exhibition Room
14 Casa de doña María la Brava
15 Church. Carmen de Arriba
16 Palacio de los Solís
17 Tower. Torre del Aire
18 Chapel. La Veracruz
19 Convent. Las Úrsulas
20 Palacio de Rodríguez Figueroa. Salamanca Casino
21 Church. Santa María de los Caballeros
22 Casa de las Muertes
23 Casa del Regidor Ovalle
24 Church. Sancti Spiritus
25 Colegio del Arzobispo Fonseca. Cultural Centre
26 Church. San Blas
27 Convent. San Francisco el Real y los Padres Capuchinos
28 Palacio de Monterrey
29 Church. La Purísima
30 Convent. Agustinas Recoletas
31 Casa de los Sexmeros de la Tierra
32 Church. San Julián
33 Casa de la Caridad de las Viejas. Castile and León Film Library, Artilugios para Fascinar. Permanent exhibition.
34 Convent. Madre de Dios
35 Universidad Pontificia
36 Casa de los Solís y de Maldonado Rivas
37 Church. San Benito
38 Church. San Martín
39 Church. San Cristóbal
40 Clerecía Colegio Real de la Compañía de Jesús
41 Palacio de la Salina/Fonseca
42 Tower. Torre de Clavero
43 Palacio de Orellana

44 Tower. Torreón de los Anaya
45 Church. San Pablo
46 Gallery. Palacio del Conde de Francos
47 Convent. Santa Clara
48 Casa de los Álvarez Abarca. Museum of Salamanca
49 Escuelas Menores
50 Patio. Escuelas Mayores
51 Casa Rectoral. Miguel de Unamuno Museum
52 Church. San Sebastián
53 Palacio de Anaya
54 Hospedería de Anaya
55 Convent. Las Dominicanas/Las Dueñas
56 Bishop's Palace
57 Colegio Santa María de los Ángeles
58 Church and convent. San Millán
59 Fonda Veracruz
60 Colegio de San Ambrosio. General Archive of the Civil War. Masonic Lodge
61 Casa Lis. Art Nouveau and Art Deco Museum
62 Colegio de Carvajal
63 Cueva de Salamanca
64 Church. St. Thomas of Canterbury
65 Colegio de la Orden de Calatrava
66 Garden of Callisto and Meliboea
67 Wall
68 Roman bridge
69 Parque de la Alamedilla
70 Campo de San Francisco
71 Archaeological park. San Vicente
72 Parque Fluvial
73 Theatre. Caja Duero
74 Theatre. El Liceo
75 Convention and Exhibition Hall
77 Theatre. Juan de la Encina
78 Exhibition hall. Santo Domingo
79 Museum. History of automotion
80 La Medida del Tiempo. Permanent exhibition
81 Museum. Bullfighting
82 Centro de Artes Escénicas y de Música (scenic arts and music)
83 Domus Artium 2002. DA2
84 Museo del Comercio (trade)
85 Museo-Molino de la Fábrica de Harinas (flour mill museum)

Transport

Bus Station
Filiberto Villalobos, 71
Tel.: 34 923 236 717

Railway Station

Paseo de la Estación Tel.: 34 902 240 202
www.renfe.es

Matacán Airport

Carretera de Madrid, km. 14
37893 Machacón
Tel.: 34 923 329 600
www.aena.es

Contact details

Turismo de Salamanca
Plaza Mayor, 32, 1º, 8
Casa de Postas
37002 Salamanca www.salamanca.es
Tel.: 34 923 21 83 42
34 923 27 24 08
Fax: 34 923 21 83 42
34 923 27 24 07

Location

Salamanca is the capital of one of the nine provinces making up the Autonomous Community of Castile and León. Situated in the Community's western part, it lies between the broad plains in the centre of the Duero Basin and the rough, granite and slate flatlands of the western peninsula.

Climate

Salamanca's climate is of the cold Mediterranean type, with warm summers and long, harsh winters. The average annual temperature is 11.6°C, hitting a minimum in January (3.7°C) and a maximum in July (21°C). Average annual rainfall is 388 mm, most of which comes in November, with 45 mm. August is the driest month, with 10 mm.



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CARMELITAS

PASEO DE LOS

CAMPO DE S. FRANCISCO

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