

LUXURY TOURIST TRAINS

El Transcantábrico
***** CLASICO
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EL TRASCANTÁBRICO CLÁSICO
Itineraries and Departures



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El Transcantábrico

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Step on board El Transcantábrico Clásico and enjoy the delights of travelling aboard the oldest of our luxury tourist trains.

An evocative and pleasant atmosphere, a first-class crew and a tour through the picture-perfect landscape and vast culture of northern Spain, accentuated with superb cuisine. These are the pillars that make every trip on El Transcantabrico Clasico a real pleasure for the senses.

Synonymous of elegance and comfort from the beginning, El Transcantabrico Clasico takes travelers back to the Golden Age of the great railway journeys, accompanied by all comforts and services of the 21st century.

Its lounges are used to serve à la carte and buffet breakfast such as fine dining and three-course meals designed by our well-known

chefs. Magical and evocative areas, in which you can also enjoy a drink, join in on fun activities or chat with your fellow-travelers, while you are transported back in time.

Each cabin of El Transcantabrico Clasico is fully equipped to enjoy a comfortable stay on board, with all the elegance and charm of vintage trains.

El Transcantabrico Clasico makes the trip unique on the whimsical course of the meter width track, by combining the Cantabrian coast and Castile and Leon. Magnificent scenery, rich cuisine, art and culture are added in this hard-to-match tour aboard the oldest Spanish Luxury Tourist Train.



LEÓN - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Let yourself be carried away by El Transcantábrico Clásico on a unique 8 day/7 night journey through Cantabrian and Castilian lands, following the meandering narrow tracks. A complete and intense trip to enjoy each moment, scenery and destination.

DAY 1 SATURDAY LEÓN - CISTIerna
Rendezvous in León (*). Reception and tour of the old town, home to some of the most important monuments in Spain: the Gothic Cathedral, the Romanesque frescoes in the Basilica of San Isidoro and the impressive Plateresque facade of the Hospital of San Marcos. After lunch, board our luxury coach for a short trip to San Feliz, where our train El Transcantábrico will be waiting for us. The crew will offer a welcome drink and we can settle into our suites onboard while the train heads to Cistierna for dinner and overnight onboard.

DAY 2 SUNDAY
CISTIerna - GUARDO - VILLASANA DE MENA
Just as every day, we begin the journey with a delicious buffet and a la carte breakfast. The El Transcantábrico will travel to Guardo station, from where we will board our coach to visit the Roman villa of La Olmeda in Saldaña and its superb collection of mosaics. Next we

will see the best collections of Romanesque Art in Europe, located in the Palencia villages of Carrión de los Condes, Villalcázar de Sirga and Frómista. Return to the train and trip while enjoying the stunning scenery of the valley of Villasana de Mena, surrounding part of the Ebro reservoir. Dinner and overnight in Villasana.

DAY 3 MONDAY
VILLASANA DE MENA - BILBAO - SANTANDER
Train trip to the dynamic city of Bilbao, the largest in the Basque Country that has managed to reinvent itself after the decline of its heavy industry. City tour. If you travel in July, a ticket to Guggenheim Museum is included (it is closed on Mondays the rest of the year), epitome of a new Bilbao. Lunch onboard while travelling to Santander, the elegant capital of Cantabria. City sightseeing tour and free time. After dinner, you may choose to visit El Gran Casino at your own pace (admission included). Overnight in Santander.

DAY 4 TUESDAY
SANTANDER - CABEZÓN DE LA SAL - SANTILLANA DEL MAR - ARRIONDAS
The El Transcantábrico will travel to Cabezón de la Sal, from where our coach will take us to visit the town of Santillana del Mar with its beautifully preserved medieval town. Next stop at the Neocave of Altamira, the finest realistic example of Upper Palaeolithic cave art. After lunch we will travel into Asturian territory, visiting the village of Ribadesella and its charming promenade. Dinner and overnight in Arriondas.

DAY 5 WEDNESDAY
ARRIONDAS - OVIEDO - CANDÁS
Today we will visit the heart of the Principality of Asturias, driving up to the Picos de Europa National Park. First stop will be at Lake Enol, followed by the Shrine of Covadonga, where our guide will tell us a bit about this sacred place's stories and legends. Back onboard for lunch and trip to the region's capital,



COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF SANTILLANA. CANTABRIA



CATHEDRAL. OVIEDO



ENOL LAKE
(Photo: Tourism of Asturias)

Oviedo, exponent of Asturian Romanesque art featuring gems such as the basilica of San Julian de los Prados. City tour and free time. Dinner onboard and overnight in Candás.

DAY 6 THURSDAY

CANDÁS - AVILÉS- GIJÓN - LUARCA

We begin the day discovering Avilés, an ancient city with a precious old town, and Gijón, a city that opens up to the Cantabrian Sea and is alive with cultural events. After visiting both towns, return to the El Transcantábrico to continue our journey to Luarca, known as the White Town of the Green Coast. Visit this charming town, where will also have dinner and stay overnight.

DAY 7 FRIDAY

LUARCA - RIBADEO - VIVEIRO

Train trip to the historic town of Ribadeo, in Galician lands, bordering Asturias. Our coach will take us to the Las Catedrales Beach, one of the most spectacular beaches in the world. City

sightseeing in Ribadeo and free time. Back to the train we will head towards Viveiro, with city tour and free time. Dinner and overnight in Viveiro.

DAY 8 SATURDAY

VIVEIRO - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

While enjoying our last breakfast onboard, we will arrive in Ferrol. Coach trip to Santiago de Compostela. Enjoy a city tour in this historical town, goal of devotees for over a thousand years, and admire its countless artistic jewels. End of trip after the tour.

(You can consult the timetables and meeting point at +1 800-724-5120 or www.palacetours.com. Palace Tours reserves the right to change the trip meeting point, circumstance that will be duly informed to passengers or travel agency.*



SEAPORT OF GIJÓN
(Photo: Tourism of Asturias)



Photo: Tourism of Asturias

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - LEÓN

DAY 1 SATURDAY

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - VIVEIRO
Meeting point in Santiago de Compostela at 12:00 am at hotel Parador de los Reyes Católicos (*). Reception of travelers, who will then enjoy a city tour in this historical town, goal of devotees for over a thousand years and home of countless artistic jewels. After lunch, our luxury coach will take us to Ferrol, where El Transcantábrico will be waiting for us. Upon arrival, the crew will offer you a welcome drink onboard while we smoothly start our train journey to Viveiro. After dinner, visit the city old town and overnight in Viveiro.

DAY 2 SUNDAY

VIVEIRO - RIBADEO - LUARCA - CANDÁS
Just as every day, we begin the journey with a delicious buffet and a la carte breakfast. Train trip to the historic town of Ribadeo, in Galician lands, bordering Asturias. Our coach will follow the coast to take us to the Las Catedrales Beach, one of the most spectacular beaches in the world. City sightseeing in Ribadeo and free time. Back to the train, El Transcantábrico glides in Asturian lands, reaching the town of Luarca, visiting this place known as the White Town of the Green Coast. We will return to the train, now travelling towards Candás, where will also have dinner and stay overnight.

DAY 3 MONDAY

CANDÁS - AVILÉS - GIJÓN - OVIEDO - ARRIONDAS

We begin the day discovering Avilés, an ancient city with a precious old town. Next is Gijón, a city that opens up to the Cantabrian Sea and is alive with cultural events. Enjoy the city tour and lunch before our trip to the region's capital, Oviedo, the highlight of Asturian Romanesque art, featuring gems such as the basilica of San Julian de los Prados. City tour and free time before returning to the train. Onboard dinner while the train moves to Arriondas, where we will spend the night.

DAY 4 TUESDAY

ARRIONDAS - LLANES

Today we will visit the heart of the Principality of Asturias. Driving up to the beautiful Picos de Europa National Park, first stop will be at Lake Enol, followed by the Shrine of Covadonga, where our guide will tell us a bit about this sacred place's stories and legends. After lunch, our train will border the famous river Sella where kayaks yearly compete on its famous International Descent. Arriving at Llanes, a charming fishing village on the east of Asturias, visit and enjoy free time in town. Dinner and night in Llanes.

DAY 5 WEDNESDAY

LLANES - CABEZÓN DE LA SAL - SANTANDER
Crossing the border into Cantabria, our train will take us to Santillana del Mar with its beautifully preserved medieval town. Next stop at the Neocave of Altamira, the finest realistic example of Upper Palaeolithic cave art. After lunch we will travel to Santander, the elegant capital of Cantabria. City sightseeing tour and free time. After dinner, you may choose to visit El Gran Casino at your own pace (entrance included). Overnight in Santander.

DAY 6 THURSDAY

SANTANDER - BILBAO - VILLASANA DE MENA
Train trip to the dynamic city of Bilbao, the largest in the Basque Country that has managed to reinvent itself after the decline of its heavy industry. City tour including admission to Guggenheim Museum, epitome of a new Bilbao that blends tradition and modernity. After lunch, enjoy free time. Dinner and overnight in Villasana de Mena/Mercadillo.

DAY 7 FRIDAY

VILLASANA DE MENA - CISTIerna

Our first visit today will be in Castilian lands, enjoying the stunning scenery of the valley of Villasana de Mena, surrounding part of the Ebro reservoir. The morning highlight will be the Romanesque Art in the Palencia villages of Villalcázar de Sirga, Carrión de los Condes and Frómista. Enjoy a traditional lunch and continue to visit the Roman villa of La Olmeda in Saldaña and its superb collection of mosaics. Return to the train and trip to Cistierna, having dinner and spending the night.

DAY 8 SATURDAY

CISTIerna - SAN FELIZ - LEÓN

Enjoy the last breakfast onboard while we arrive at San Feliz, where El Transcantábrico's coach will comfortably drive us to León. Tour of its old town, full of tradition and home to some of the most important monuments in Spain. End of trip after the tour.



SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

(* Palace Tours reserves the right to change the trip meeting point, circumstance that will be duly informed to passengers or travel agency.



NIEMEYER CULTURAL CENTER IN AVILÉS
(Photo: Tourism of Avilés)



BILBAO

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - SANTANDER

5  days
4  nights

Meeting point in Santiago de Compostela at 12:00 am at hotel Parador de los Reyes Católicos (*). End of the trip at 12:00 h., with transfer to Santander by taxi. In addition, you can extend the trip, at no extra cost, with the excursion to Santillana del Mar (lunch included) and transfer to Santander after lunch.

SANTANDER - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Meeting point and reception in Santander FEVE train station at 08:00 am (*). Accommodation in the train cabins after lunch. End of trip in Santiago de Compostela after the tour, before lunch.



LEÓN. INTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL



SANTANDER. PALACE OF LA MAGDALENA

4  days
3  nights

LEÓN - SANTANDER

Rendezvous in León (*). End of the trip at 12:00 h., with transfer to Santander by taxi. In addition, you can extend the trip, at no extra cost, with the excursion to Santillana del Mar (lunch included) and transfer to Santander after lunch.

SANTANDER - LEÓN

Meeting point and travelers' reception in Santillana del Mar (*) (travelers may also start the journey at 18.00h at Santander train station). On board accommodation in the evening. End of trip after the tour in León.

() You can consult the timetables and meeting point at +1 800-724-5120 or www.palacetours.com. Palace Tours reserves the right to change the trip meeting point, circumstance that will be duly informed to passengers or travel agency.*

THE TRIP INCLUDES

The trip in El Transcantábrico Clásico includes an extensive brochure of services and activities to make our customers enjoy an experience as unique as unforgettable.

GRAND CLASS ROOM

- Accommodation onboard in Grand Class Room.
- A la carte and buffet breakfasts every day.
- All dinners and lunches, with the finest cuisine aboard the train or in top restaurants (including wine, water, soft drinks and coffee).
- Welcome drink and snack.
- Farewell party.
- Traveling toiletries bag courtesy of Renfe Viajeros (with amenities and slippers).
- Free mineral water available in the cabin's minibar.
- Activities on board: music and live performances, parties in the pub car, show cooking and cocktails, dancing, etc.
- Tickets to museums, attractions and shows.
- Excursions and scheduled tours.
- Luxury coach accompanying the train along the trip.
- Two Renfe train tickets with a 50% discount: one to the starting point and the other back from the end of the tourist trip.

- Taxes and services.
- Newspapers and magazines on board.
- Security service.
- Multilingual guide throughout the tour.
- Excellent crew available (Expedition Leader, guide, waiters, cooks, technicians, etc).

OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE AT CLIENT'S EXPENSE

- Laundry service.
- Bar service.
- Door to door luggage: pick up and delivery of luggage and belongings from customer's home and the train. Information and conditions in www.palacetours.com and by phone +1 800-724-5120.

GROUPS AND CHARTER TRIPS

You can also hire El Transcantabrico Clasico exclusively for groups up to a maximum of 46 people. Business trips, leisure conferences, incentives, product launches and filming are only some of the many activities that you can do on board.

More information at <http://www.palacetours.com> or by calling +1 800-724-5120.

INFORMATION AND BOOKING FOR RENFE'S TOURIST TRAINS

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www.palacetours.com