



PALACE TOURS
Travel Like Royalty

PALACE TOURS

Costa Verde Express Luxury Train: Santiago de Compostela to Bilbao

5 Nights • Luxury Experience

 www.palacetours.com

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Overview

As you step aboard the Costa Verde Express Luxury Train, you shed the constraints of the everyday and don a cloak of curiosity and wonder. This journey between Santiago de Compostela and Bilbao is not just a passage through the lush landscapes of Northern Spain but a pilgrimage to a deeper understanding of yourself. You become a seeker of connection, your heart tuned to the whispers of history and the pulse of the present. Each dawn brings a new reflection of who you are becoming, as the train's gentle sway lulls you into profound introspection and joy. In Santiago de Compostela, you feel the weight of ancient pilgrimages, a reminder of your own path to discovery.

The coastal allure of Viveiro invites laughter and camaraderie, while the lush beauty of Asturias ignites a spark of awe in your soul. Gijón's vibrant landscapes inspire you to cherish the present, and Oviedo's historic streets offer a newfound appreciation for life's simple joys. As you savor Cabrales cheese in Llanes and explore the cobbled secrets of Santillana del Mar, you find your spirit renewed, each moment a testament to the transformative power of travel.

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

FERROL / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA / VIVEIRO

As you step into the enchanting streets of Santiago de Compostela, a wave of wonder washes over you, igniting a sense of connection to the rich history that surrounds you. Each cobblestone whispers tales of ancient pilgrims, and you find yourself enveloped in a profound serenity, allowing the beauty of the moment to seep into your soul.

In the coastal charm of Viveiro, laughter and joy bloom as you savor delightful culinary experiences and wander through vibrant markets. The warmth of local culture invites you to embrace new friendships and memories, transforming your journey into a tapestry of cherished moments that will forever echo in your heart.

DAY 2

LUARCA / RIBADEO / VIVEIRO

You awaken to the soft hues of dawn, feeling a profound sense of peace as the lush landscapes of Asturias unfold before you. Each moment spent in Ribadeo, with its enchanting coastal charm, fills you with wonder, igniting a spark of joy that reverberates in your heart.

As you wander through the historical tapestry of Os Teixois and Taramundi, a connection to the past envelops you, transforming your perspective. The laughter shared over local cuisine and the stories exchanged in Luarca's streets weave a rich tapestry of memories that you will carry forever, reminding you of the beauty found in discovery and connection.





DAY 3

GIJÓN / LLANES / LUARCA / OVIEDO

You awaken to the gentle embrace of dawn, the rhythmic sound of the train whispering secrets of the journey ahead. As you sip your morning coffee, the vibrant landscapes of Gijón unfold before you, igniting a spark of wonder within your soul. Each moment feels like a precious gem, a reminder of the beauty that surrounds you, urging you to cherish the present. In Oviedo, you stroll through historic streets, feeling a deep connection to the past and a newfound appreciation for life's simple joys.

The laughter shared with fellow travelers echoes in your heart, weaving memories that will forever illuminate your spirit.

DAY 4

CABEZON DE LA SAL / LLANES

As you step into the breathtaking embrace of the Picos de Europa mountains, a wave of tranquility washes over you, awakening a sense of wonder.

The rich aroma of Cabrales cheese envelops you, connecting you to the artisans who pour their souls into their craft, and you feel a deep appreciation for the beauty of tradition and the joy of discovery. Wandering through the charming streets of Llanes, the vibrant colors and warm smiles invite you to savor each moment.





DAY 5

CABEZON DE LA SAL / SANTANDER / SANTILLANA DEL MAR

You awaken to the gentle embrace of the morning light, the anticipation of adventure swirling within you as you sip your coffee. In the Medieval Village of Santillana del Mar, every cobblestone whispers tales of yesteryears, igniting a sense of wonder and connection to a history that feels both distant and intimately familiar.

As you explore the awe-inspiring Neo-cave of Altamira, the artistry of ancient hands stirs something profound in your soul, reminding you of the timelessness of creativity. In Santander, laughter and joy fill the air as you indulge in a delightful dinner, each moment weaving into the fabric of cherished memories that will forever color your journey.

DAY 6

BILBAO / SANTANDER

You awaken to the gentle sway of the Costa Verde Express, the morning light spilling into your cabin, igniting a sense of wonder and anticipation. As you savor each bite of breakfast, the landscape unfolds outside, a vivid tapestry of lush greens and coastal blues, awakening a deep connection to nature and the journey ahead.

Your heart swells with joy as you explore the charming old town of Laredo, where every cobblestone whispers stories of the past. In Bilbao, you find your spirit invigorated, embracing the vibrant culture and rich history, creating memories that will forever resonate within you, a beautiful reminder of the transformative power of travel.



Tips & Travel Guide

The Train:

What is the capacity of the train?

There are 24 suites on the train (4 rooms in each of the 6 suite coaches). The number of passengers depends on the occupancies sold in that departure. The maximum capacity of the train is 48 passengers.

Is there a dress code on board?

There is no official dress code on board, but we recommend comfortable shoes and clothes due to the nature of the visits and excursions.

What kind of food is served on the train?

Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria, the Basque Country and Castilla y León are, in the opinion of the most fastidious chefs and gourmets, the regions where you can still find the best cuisine in Spain. The cheeses, sausages, meat, vegetables, fish and seafood are all universally renowned.

The restaurants on our route not only select the highest quality raw materials and have them prepared by the greatest professionals; they are also the ideal setting for tasting the local cuisine. All of our menus include a careful selection of wines that blend harmoniously with the ingredients of each lunch and dinner. Coffee and liqueurs are also included.

How are the meals served?

Breakfasts are buffet-style and are served on board the train in the four lounge carriages. Lunches and dinners are either taken at restaurants in the cities as mentioned in each day's itinerary or in the Restaurant Cars on board the train.

Is there a laundry/dry cleaning service on the train?

Yes, laundry service is available at an additional charge. Please see the crew for details.

Is there internet or telephone accessibility on the train?

There is internet access on board the train and in cybercenters in several cities along the route. Your room on board is equipped with a telephone, which you may use for long distance calls (guest's own account). Phones will generally get reception, however sometimes this is a bit difficult due to the mountains and tunnels along the way.

Is the train accessible to wheelchairs / physical challenges?

Wheelchairs for sightseeing excursions are available upon request; kindly advise our office as soon as possible

for entering/exiting the train, and the train's corridors are too narrow to accommodate wheelchairs. For those with other physical challenges, please contact our office.

Is smoking allowed on board?

No. Since January 2006, it is forbidden by Law to smoke on board the train and in the train stations.

What facilities are available on the train?

The four lounge carriages on the train are the most unusual and beautiful places on the train. They are veritable rail treasures that are much admired owing to their exquisite design, their finish and the interior decorations. The "pub carriage" has a bar and dance floor and is decorated and lit like a small night-club, where lively entertainment is provided every night until the early hours of the morning. Another lounge carriage also has a bar where you can sit back and have a quiet drink. The other two lounges are for other types of entertainment, such as reading, enjoying a board game with your fellow passengers, talking or watching the passing scenery through the big picture windows. And wherever you are, you will always be served by our attentive waiters.

Passengers are offered daily newspapers, magazines, a thoughtful collection of books from the library, television and videos; all that you need to make your journey a pleasure.

The Rooms:

Are there different types or sizes of rooms on board the train?

Suites onboard the train are specially designed for rest and privacy. You can sleep in comfort as the train will be parked at a station each night. This means that your sleep will not be disturbed by moving and jolting and also gives those who enjoy nightlife an opportunity to go out and savor the atmosphere of each town.

24 Suites double/matrimonial bed (120cm x 185cm, or about 4ft x 6ft) The suites measure 64.8 square feet. The private en-suite bathroom has a hydro sauna, turbo massage and steam bath, and a hairdryer. The air-conditioning and heating, piped music and lights are all controlled individually. The electrical power is 220 volts. All suites are equipped with a luggage rack, minibar, safe deposit box, wardrobe, writing desk and a telephone with an outside line.

Are rooms pre-assigned or can you choose your own room?

The rooms are assigned on site. If you have any specific room requirements, please contact us at least one month prior to departure so that we can send your request to our Operations Team.

Is there a hairdryer in each bathroom? Are toiletries provided?

Yes, there is a hairdryer provided in every bathroom, along with a dental set, comb, eau de toilette, shaving set, shower cup, shoe polish and more.

Yes, bottled spring water is provided free of charge throughout the tour.

The Tour:

What is the weather like?

Northern Spain experiences a mild oceanic climate, with not too many extreme temperatures. Please bring along a jacket or coat for chilly evenings, and sun protection for warm afternoons.

Do I have to stay aboard all seven nights?

You are not required to stay aboard the train for seven nights. However, as the train follows a fixed itinerary, you will be responsible for your own transportation to/from your points of embarkation/disembarkation, for any hotels you use during the journey, for meals taken while separated from the group, etc. There are no refunds for unused portions of the tour. Therefore, should you choose to shorten the journey in any way, you are still required to pay for the full seven-night tour.

Are doctors available at all times?

The train carries a first aid kit, and El Transcantábrico has contacts with various health centers along the train route.

Expenses:

What expenses will I have during the trip?

Costa Verde Express is a very inclusive experience, so you will not need to pay for any meals, beverages during lunch/dinner, sightseeing, monument entrances or accommodations. You will incur additional cost if you choose to purchase any additional beverages on board; laundry services; camera fees at monuments; transfers, additional sightseeing, or other services in Leon or Santiago de Compostela; gratuities; and/or souvenirs.

How can I settle my expenses on the train?

You may settle your onboard expenses by paying in Euros or by major credit card.

How much should I expect to tip?

Tipping is not mandatory, and is left to the sole discretion of the traveler. This is a decision that should be made based on your enjoyment of the journey and the service.

What are the passport/visa requirements for travel to Spain?

Please ensure that your passport has at least three blank pages and that it is valid for at least six months beyond your departure date from Spain. Please check with your local embassy regarding visa requirements.

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Oct 3, 2026	Gran Clase Suite	€9,000	€5,000
May 22, 2027	Gran Clase Suite	€9,550	€5,300
Jun 5, 2027	Gran Clase Suite	€9,550	€5,300
Jun 19, 2027	Gran Clase Suite	€9,550	€5,300
Sep 25, 2027	Gran Clase Suite	€9,550	€5,300

Rates shown in Euro (EUR). Approximate USD equivalents available upon request.

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.



Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.

Visit <https://www.palacetours.com/tour/costa-verde-express-santiago-bilbao-regularjourney> for the latest information.

Terms & Conditions

PAYMENT TERMS:

15% of total tour cost due at the time of booking
85% or balance no later than 35 days prior to tour departure date

CANCELLATION FEES:

Up to 30 days before departure: refund less 15% of official price.

Between 30 and 15 days: refund less 25% of the total.

Between 14 and 5 days: refund less 50% of the total.

Between 4 and 1 day(s): refund less 80% of the total.

Less than 24 hours or failure to turn up: No refund, 100% of the total is payable.

A 5% Administrative fee will be charged from Palace Tours against any refunds. All cancellation fees and administrative fees is applicable for FULL Tour price before coupons.

All cancellation, change, or update requests must be submitted in writing by email to travel@palacetours.com. Please allow at least 48 hours (and in some cases longer) for us to review, confirm, and process the request and advise any applicable fees. A cancellation, change, or update takes effect only once we have received and processed the request, and we will confirm the outcome to you once it has been processed. Cancellation timeframes and the applicable fee are calculated by reference to the local time and normal business hours at the destination where the tour is provided; a request received outside those business hours (including evenings, weekends, and public holidays at the destination) is treated as received on the next business day at the destination, and a further processing period of at least 48 hours (and in some cases longer) then applies before the request takes effect.

CHANGE OF DATE/OCCUPANCY/NAME/SCHEDULE (not including changes to itinerary)

WITHIN SAME TRAVEL SEASON (September to August) may be possible if requested up to 120 days prior to the first scheduled service of the tour. For certain tours, change of date/name/occupancy/schedule will NOT be possible. No changes will be permitted within 65 days of the first scheduled service; any requests for such are not guaranteed and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Change of date/occupancy/name/schedule is subject to availability and at the sole discretion of TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS. There might be a cost associated with any changes to a booking and the same will be communicated before the time of such change being processed or confirmed. No changes will be done without a formal change request and confirmation and payment of any fees acceptance by the client.

The above times are based on local time of the destination where the tour is provided. In order to provide enough time for processing cancellation, guests need to add 3 business days to the above timeframes.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance to cover the losses incurred in case of cancellation. For information on available plans or to purchase travel insurance, please visit www.palacetours.com/insurance.

Frequently Asked Questions

How big are the suites?

The suites on the El Transcantabrico Clasico are 64 square feet, or about 6 square meters.

What size are the beds in the suites?

The size of the bed is dependent on the type of suite you reserve.

- A double/matrimonial bed is 1.2 x 1.85 m
- The bunk beds are 0.90 x 1.85 m
- The fold-down bed is 0.75 x 1.75 m

Will I have internet connection on the train?

The El Transcantabrico train does have wifi in the lounge of the train, although the signal is not strong and may not reach outside of the lounge car. (The signal is also best when the train is stationed.) You may use the computer in the lounge provided for guests' convenience, or you may connect to the train's wifi using your personal laptop, tablet or device.

How long is the Costa Verde Express journey from Santiago de Compostela to Bilbao?

This is a 6-day, 5-night journey that starts on a Saturday in Santiago de Compostela and ends on Thursday afternoon in Bilbao. Six departures are currently on sale, from 3 October 2026 to 25 September 2027.

Where and when do we meet on the first day?

Guests are received in Santiago de Compostela at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday for a visit of the city and lunch. In the afternoon a coach takes you to Ferrol, where the train is waiting, the crew is introduced and you settle into your suite before a visit to Viveiro.

Where and when does the journey end?

On Thursday the train continues to Treto during breakfast, you visit the old town of Laredo by coach and then travel by train to Bilbao. After lunch at a typical restaurant the trip ends around 4:30 p.m. in Bilbao.

What is the day-by-day route of this Costa Verde Express journey?

Saturday: Santiago de Compostela, Ferrol and Viveiro. Sunday: Ribadeo, Os Teixois and Taramundi, then Lueca. Monday: Gijon and Oviedo, then Llanes. Tuesday: Arenas de Cabrales in the Picos de Europa, then Cabezón de la Sal. Wednesday: Santillana del Mar and the Neocave of Altamira, then Santander. Thursday: Laredo and Bilbao.

Is the Costa Verde Express the same train as El Transcantabrico Clasico?

Yes. The original train cruise of Spain, El Transcantabrico Clasico, is now known as the Costa Verde Express. It follows

What do we see in Galicia on this route?

The journey begins with a visit to Santiago de Compostela and an evening in Viveiro. On Sunday a coach from Ribadeo takes you into the Oscos area to the Os Teixois ethnographic complex, the Castro de Taramundi and the knife museum, with lunch in Taramundi.

Which towns in Asturias does the train visit?

Asturias begins with Lluarca, known as the White Town of the Green Coast, on Sunday evening. Monday brings Gijón and the Asturian capital Oviedo, with free time, before the train continues to Llanes for dinner and the night. Llanes is visited again on Tuesday afternoon.

What is the Picos de Europa excursion?

On Tuesday a coach takes you from Llanes to Arenas de Cabrales, in the heart of the Picos de Europa mountains. You visit the Cabrales Cheese Cave-Museum, where the region's famous blue cheese is matured, and the town itself, with lunch in the area.

What are Santillana del Mar and the Neo-cave of Altamira?

Santillana del Mar is one of the best-preserved medieval villages in Cantabria. The Neo-cave of Altamira is a faithful replica of the Altamira cave and its prehistoric paintings, which visitors can see in detail. Both are visited on Wednesday before the train arrives in Santander.

What type of suite do we stay in and what does it cost?

Guests travel in a Gran Clase Suite. Fares start from EUR 5,000 per person sharing; the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page, so check the date that suits you.

Can I travel alone on the Costa Verde Express?

Yes. Single occupancy of a Gran Clase Suite is sold at a single fare, which is shown for each departure on this page. Solo travellers are welcome and share the excursions, meals and lounge cars with other guests.

What is included in the Costa Verde Express fare?

Your fare includes accommodation on board, daily breakfast, all lunches and dinners on the train or in selected restaurants with water, soft drinks, coffee and beverages, a welcome snack, a toiletries bag, mineral water in the minibar, on-board live music and entertainment, museum and attraction tickets, all excursions with a luxury coach following the train, a multilingual guide, taxes and services.

What is not included in the fare?

Not included are domestic or international airfare, travel insurance, visa fees, personal items such as laundry and souvenirs, and any extra hotel nights before or after the journey. Anything not listed as included is also extra, and we can help arrange hotels in Santiago de Compostela or Bilbao.

How much is the deposit and when is the balance due?

A 15% deposit confirms your suite and the balance is due 35 days before departure. Bookings made within 35 days of departure are paid in full at the time of booking.

How are children priced on this journey?

Children are priced in two bands based on their age on the departure date: under 12, and 12 to under 18. Add them in the booking form on this page and the applicable fare is shown for your date.

How do I get to Santiago de Compostela and home from Bilbao?

Airfare is not included. The fare does include a complimentary Spanish rail ticket from anywhere in Spain to Santiago de Compostela and another from Bilbao to anywhere in Spain, for the date closest to your journey. This rail offer may change without notice, so please confirm it when you book.

How do I ask a question or book the Costa Verde Express Santiago to Bilbao?

Palace Tours is the Official Representative / Authorized Renfe Sales Agent for Spain's luxury trains. Email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at <https://wa.me/17864080610>, answered by a travel specialist or our AI assistant. The departure list on this page is bookable directly.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

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