

galicia

Lamprey Route



XUNTA DE GALICIA



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Introduction

The Lamprey in Galicia

THE LAMPREY IS A FISH WHICH HAS INHABITED THE RIVERS OF GALICIA FOR MORE THAN 500 MILLION YEARS.

KNOWN AS THE 'VAMPIRE OF THE WATER' OR THE 'QUEEN OF THE RIVER', THE LAMPREY IS ONE OF THE EARLIEST VERTEBRATES ON EARTH OF WHICH WE HAVE EVIDENCE.

IT HAS LIVED ON THE PLANET SINCE BEFORE THE EXISTENCE OF THE HUMAN SPECIES, EVEN BEFORE THE DINOSAURS.

It has a long body ending in a tail. There are seven pairs of unusual openings which look like eyes arranged in a row on either side of the head. Two dorsal fins and one tail fin enable it to swim upstream more agilely. Its most unusual feature is that it feeds on the blood of other fish, attaching itself to its victims, and even river stones, by a circular mouth filled with teeth.

The lamprey's life cycle takes place in both fresh and salt water. After its birth in the river, it migrates to the sea, where it remains for three years, until it reaches maturity. It then travels thousands of kilometres across the ocean to swim back up the river where it was born. The journey is not an easy one, as it will encounter obstacles along the way which will make it more difficult to spawn. This will be its final great feat before dying.

Historians have left us accounts of the importance of this fish since the time of antiquity. There is evidence that in imperial Rome, the emperors had lampreys shipped live from Galicia to Italy, where the fish were kept in fish nurseries until being served. Today, the lamprey can be found on three Galician rivers: the Tambre, Ulla and Miño.

Galicia's Lamprey Trail offers you the opportunity to learn more about this extremely unique species. We present a different way of exploring the history, culture, nature and cuisine associated with this animal.



The art of fishing...

The international fame enjoyed by the lamprey can be attributed not only to the quality of the product, but also the artisanal fishing methods used to catch it. Depending on the river and the location along its course, different fishing techniques are used. These include *pesqueiras*, *rodeiros*, *gamelas* and *estacadas*. A range of fishing tackle is associated with them, including *butrones*, *cangallas*, *nets*, *nasas* and *figas*. Immerse yourself in this world and learn all about the methods used in each situation!

PESQUEIRAS ARE STRUCTURES FROM WHICH FISHERMEN CATCH LAMPREYS USING DIFFERENT TYPES OF NET. They are made up of stone walls which remain in place without any fixing devices, also known as *pescos*. *Pesqueiras* appear in records dating from as early as the 11th century, although it is possible that many date from the Roman period. You can see them on the Miño River, throughout the municipalities of Crecente, Arbo, As Neves and Salvaterra de Miño. On the Ulla, they are located in the municipalities of Teo, A Estrada and Padrón. And on the Tambre, you will find them in Brión, as well as Noia and Outes, where they are also known as *rodeiros*.

THE TEA RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE MIÑO, IS A DIFFERENT CASE. THERE THEY USE ESTACADAS, WOODEN STRUCTURES WITH A WALKWAY WHERE THE FISHERMEN STAND. This allows them to spot the lampreys swimming upstream and spear them with a *figa* or *francada*. Lots are drawn each year to decide which fisherman is assigned to each *estacada*.

IN CONTRAST, IN ESTUARY AND RIVER MOUTH AREAS, WE FIND BOATS SUCH AS GAMELAS OR BALEIROS from which nets or traps are used to catch the fish. This technique can be seen on the Ulla River in the municipalities of Pontecesures, Valga and Catoira; or in the Baixo Miño district in the municipalities of Tui, Tomiño, O Rosal and A Guarda. In the latter area, the nets used are known as *lampreeiras*.

LAMPREY IS A SEASONAL PRODUCT WHICH CAN BE FISHED FROM APPROXIMATELY JANUARY TO JUNE. It lends itself to a wide variety of cooking methods, and each place painstakingly preserves its secrets. The truth is that once you try lamprey, it is easy to understand why it is so popular. Come and see for yourself!

THE WORLD OF THE LAMPREY AND ITS VOCABULARY

FISHING METHODS AND TACKLE

RIVER	MUNICIPALITY	STRUCTURE / BOAT	FISHING TACKLE
TAMBRE	Noia and Outes	<i>Rodeiro</i> ¹	<i>Net or Cangalla</i>
	Brión	<i>Pesqueira</i> ²	
ULLA	Teo and A Estrada	<i>Pesqueira</i> ³	Butrón style Ulla ⁴
	Padrón		
MIÑO	Pontecesures, Valga, Catoira	<i>Baleiro</i>	<i>Nasa</i> or Net
	Crecente		
	Arbo	<i>Pesqueira</i>	Butrón
	As Neves		
	Salvaterra de Miño		
	Pontearreas (Tea River, tributary of the Miño)	<i>Estacada</i>	<i>Fisga</i> or <i>Francada</i>
	Tui, Tomiño, O Rosal and A Guarda	<i>Gamela</i>	<i>Lampreeiras</i>

1 In his 2008 book *Lampreas e Pesqueiras. Historia, artes de pesca e recetario* (Lampreys and Pesqueiras: History, fishing tackle and recipes), Miguel Piñeiro refers to these structures as *pesqueiras*.

2 In *A pesca de la lamprea no río Tambre. Historia, artes e gastronomía* (Lamprey Fishing on the Tambre River: History, tackle and gastronomy) (2010), Clodio González and Manuel Ces use both *pesqueiras* and *caneiros* to refer to this type of structure.

3 In his 2008 book *Lampreas e Pesqueiras. Historia, artes de pesca e recetario* (Lampreys and Pesqueiras: History, fishing tackle and recipes), Miguel Piñeiro refers to these structures as *canais*.

4 Servando Duro, Ulla River fisherman, refers to this piece of tackle as a *cangalla*.



> Tambre

- 01 Rodeiros on the Tambre

> Ulla

- 02 The *pesqueiras* of O Xirimbao
- 03 Lamprey and Padrón peppers
- 04 *Baleiros* on the Ulla

> Miño

- 05 Crecente, overlooking the Miño
- 06 Lampreys and *pesqueiras* in Arbo
- 07 Arbo, water and magical stone
- 08 As Neves, Condado's sunny spot
- 09 Salvaterra, a garden on the Miño
- 10 *Estacadas* on the Tea River
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THE LAMPREY ON THE

TAMBRE

Over hundreds of years, the presence of lampreys on the Tambre River produced heavy fishing activity. Using *pesqueiras* or *rodeiros*, fishermen caught huge quantities of the fish, which were then sold in the town of Noia. They were also shipped to other parts of Galicia and the rest of the peninsula, where they were highly prized.

Lamprey fishing areas on this river extended from A Ponte Maceira, between the municipalities of Ames and Negreira, to A Ponte Nafonso, located between the municipalities of Noia and Outes, close to the river mouth.

This situation would change significantly with the construction of a dam in the mid-20th century, which produced a progressive decline in the species. As a result, lamprey fishing has been banned on the Tambre since 1990.

Today, following construction of a new power station at the foot of the dam, the situation has improved considerably. It gave the river an environmental flow which increased the presence of lampreys. These new circumstances include important research into the recovery of this species in the waters of the Tambre.

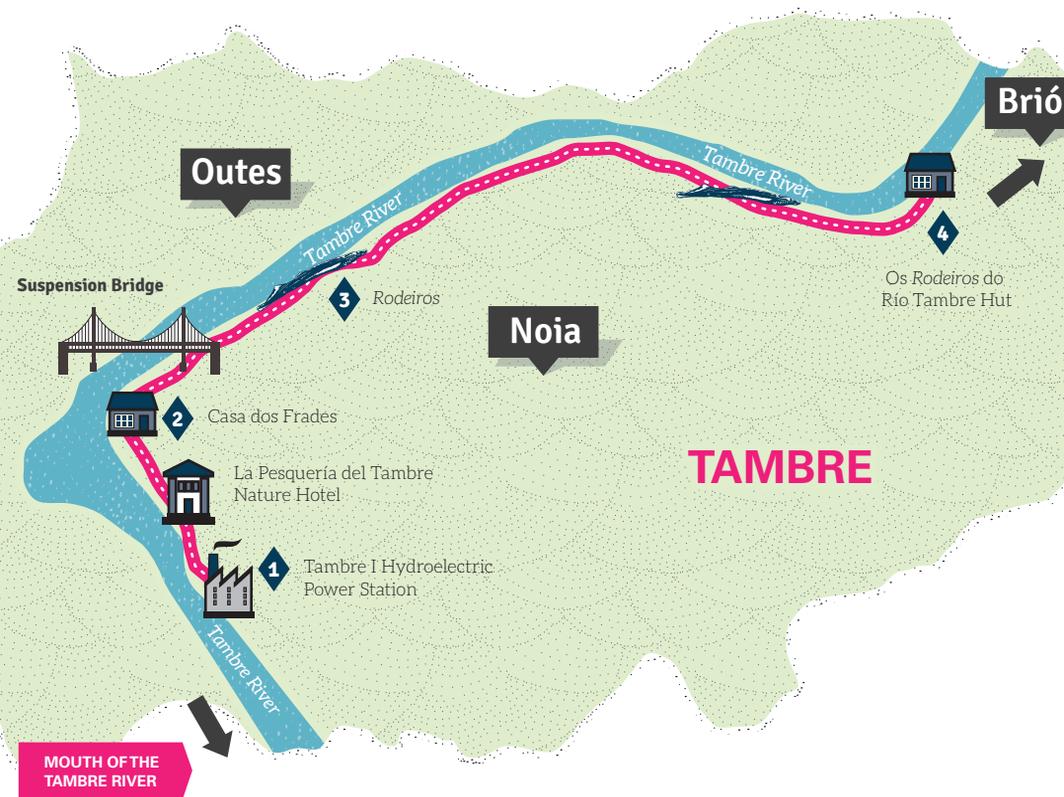
Evidence of the abundant activity once seen in the region can be found in the *pesqueiras*, made of large rocks with spaces between them, allowing the lampreys to pass through and swim upstream. Nets known as *cangallas* were positioned over these gaps, trapping the fish.

On the Tambre, the *pesqueiras* are located in two different areas. One group is heavily concentrated in the parish of Santa María de Ons in the municipality of Brión, where they are also called *caneiros*; and others are located in the Noia and Outes fishing area, where they are known by the name *rodeiros*.



the Tambre River offer a truly beautiful path with a scenery, the Devesa do Nimo Trail. In and out, the trail is long. It runs from the foot of the Tambre I hydroelectric station, designed by Antonio Palacios, to the municipality of

The sound of the river accompanies us along the en well as the enormous rocks, water slipping over them. discover the famous *rodeiros* of the Tambre River. In there appears an Atlantic forest of oak, laurel, hazel, and wild pear trees, along with a wide variety of ferns and



t

Route length: approx. 7 km **in and out**

Hydroelectric Power Station



3 min



4 min



8 min

1 **TAMBRE
HYDROELECTRIC
POWER STATION**

42.83555, -8.84912

Located beside the Tambre River, the power station is known as 'Galicia's Cathedral of Industry'. It was built in 1925 on the site of a 13th-century Cistercian fishery, which once supplied salmon and lampreys to the friars at Toxosoutos Monastery, now gone.

Nearby are several buildings which used to house both the engineer/director and workers at the power station.

Today, they form part of the lovely La Pesquería del Tambre Nature Hotel.

2 **CASA
DOS FRADES**

42.83758, -8.85075

Continuing along the trail, we come to a suspension bridge. Beside it is a building known as Casa dos Frades (House of the Friars). It was built in the 16th century, commissioned by Toxosoutos Monastery, of which the baroque church still remains today. The monastery's cloister was purchased by the Viscount of Santo Alberto. It can be visited at the Pazo de A Pena de Ouro, a country house in Noia.

Casa dos Frades was built to monitor fishing activity and collect *foros*, the taxes paid by farmers who did not own their own land. Payment was made either in coin or based on lampreys, which gives an idea of just how much the fish were valued.

The current owner of the building, a major energy industry business group, is considering a project which would create an interpretive centre on lamprey-related culture in this location.

3 **RODEIROS**

42.83934, -8.84734

This is the name given to *pesqueiras* on the Tambre River. These structures have several parts: a natural base of stones from the river, a fixed wooden section and another moveable piece, also made of wood, to which the *cangalla* (net) where the lampreys are trapped is attached.

The nets were set up in the evening and left in place overnight, when this species is most active.

One of the *rodeiro* has been refurbished for visitors. Others are used for research into variations in lamprey counts on the Tambre. The fish are caught and then released back into the water, as fishing is prohibited on the river.

4 **OS RODEIROS
DO RÍO TAMBRE HUT**

42.84016, -8.83781

This hut was used for shelter by fishermen on the Tambre, who spent their nights there while waiting for a bountiful catch. It was also used to store fishing tackle and equipment.

Inside, interpretive displays and a miniature reproduction of a *rodeiro* allow visitors to understand the wealth of cultural heritage surrounding lamprey fishing on the Tambre.

Continuing upstream on the Devesa do Nimo Trail offers the opportunity to enjoy the dense native vegetation along a narrow path leading to the ruins of San Gregorio Hermitage and the municipality of Brión.

AND THERE'S

**The *pesqueiras*
of Brión**



Up the Tambre River in the municipality of Brión, more specifically, in the parish of Santa María de Ons, there is a trail known as the Tambre River Trail, which runs through a wood filled with oaks, chestnuts and birches.

When the river is very low, it is possible to see the *pesqueiras* at Pazos, Pouso, Pedreira, Latedo and Cornedo from a distance.

Where to eat lampreys



Noia

Restaurante Alborés
Restaurante Elisardo
Restaurante Ferrador
Restaurante Marico
Restaurante Tío Manolo

Outes

Restaurante Casa Peto

Brión

Restaurante Hotel Gastronómico Casa Rosalía

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Stewed lamprey...



Take a seat at the table and sample the exquisite meat of this prehistoric animal.

Even though it has not been caught on the Tambre, you'll want to give it a try. The traditional recipes preserved in the region are sure to delight!





THE LAMPREY ON THE

ULLA

Since ancestral times, the lamprey has glided through the waters of the Ulla, sharing them with salmon and several varieties of trout. Various sections of the river are set up for lamprey fishing, including the O Xirimbao area and the *pesqueiras* at Herbón and Carcacia-Lapido in the municipality of Padrón. Along the lower stretch of the Ulla, fishing is primarily concentrated in the municipality of Pontecesures.

The *pesqueiras* are believed to be Roman in origin, although the first record we have of them is a 9th-century document interpreted by one of the friars from the Franciscan monastery at Herbón. These structures are laid out across the river, diverting the water towards *cangallas*, nets in which the lampreys are caught at night. During the day, these nets are removed, allowing the fish to swim upstream and continue their life cycle.

Near the mouth of the Ulla, in Pontecesures, the *pesqueiras* give way to *baleiros*; a group of boats from which fishermen catch the fish using nets called *nasas* and *butrones*. In terms of catch size, this method is more profitable than the *pesqueiras*. However, the lampreys caught upstream are higher quality and have firmer meat, due to the effort made to swim up the river through waters filled with obstacles and against powerful currents.



of the Ulla River includes the O Xirimbao Recreation
sion bridge, popularly known as Mariola Bridge.
e location of the famous Couso fishing preserve, highly
d for salmon fishing aficionados.

is region, when the river became the natural boundary
provinces of A Coruña and Pontevedra, there was

heavy fishing activity, with a lot of boat traffic. There w
pesqueiras along both banks of the river as far as Pon
the only ones still in use are those located in the C
preserve. If you're in luck, you'll be able to spot lam
through the water or, as the fishermen would say,
attached to the Ulla River salmon!



Route length: approx. 2 km



7 min



1 min



4 min

1

BUMIO AND LAMPREEIRO PESQUEIRAS

42.74682, -8.56064

The *pesqueiras* along this stretch of the Ulla are characterized by their proximity to the riverbanks.

Another typical feature in this area is the metallic net known locally as a *cangalla*, which is placed in front of the gaps in the *pescos*, as the sections of the *pesqueira* are called.

Oriented with the flow, today just four *pesqueiras* are still in operation: at Bumio in the municipality of A Estrada and at Lampreeiro in Teo. Although there are more throughout the fishing preserve, they are not currently in use.

2

FERNÁNDEZ ROCK

42.74578, -8.55777

This unusual rock with a number of eroded holes is one of the most popular spots for salmon fishermen to cast their lines.

The local story has it that the holes are the product of the many hours the fishermen spend waiting for their prized salmon.

3

A CROEIRA AREA

42.74594, -8.55689

In addition to being a much sought-after salmon fishing spot, A Croeira is one of the locations most favoured by lampreys for spawning.

These animals are capable of moving stones weighing up to one kilo with their mouth, in order to prepare their own individual nest.

The fish can spawn upwards of 250,000 eggs, of which an estimated 30% survive.

4

O XIRIMBAO AND MARIOLA BRIDGE

42.74611, -8.55656

We come to O Xirimbao Recreation Area, where it is said that the largest *pesqueira* on the Ulla River was once located.

The suspension bridge makes it possible to cross from the province on A Coruña to Pontevedra.

It was built in 1960 and is commonly known as Mariola Bridge.

Paths continue along the river, running parallel to its banks, accompanying the waters of the Ulla on their route to the sea.



Where to eat lampreys



Teo

Restaurante Armando Blanco - A Casa das Tortillas

Restaurante Cierito Blanco

Restaurante Orballo - Hotel Congreso

Restaurante Pórtico

➔ *More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US*





LAMPREY AND PADRÓN PEPPERS



Padrón is a land of literature and poetry. And it tastes of peppers and lamprey. This trail along the banks of the Ulla River will allow you to discover some of the locations described in the poems of Rosalía de Castro. You can visit the Franciscan monastery of Santo Antonio de Herbón and walk among centuries-old oaks. With each step, you will be surrounded by examples of our Romanesque heritage, as well as

farmland, especially the green fields of Herbón peppers, of which the local saying goes: 'Some are hot and some are not.'

And what better food to accompany them than lampreys caught at any of the *pesqueiras* still in use in the municipality (Herbón and Carcacía-Lapido).



On foot

Route length: approx. 5 km

- 1_ Santo Antonio de Herbón Franciscan Monastery
- 2_ Ancient Oak Wood
- 3_ Herbón and Carcacía-Lapido *Pesqueiras*



1 min



35 min

1 **SANTO ANTONIO DE HERBÓN FRANCISCAN MONASTERY**

42.73257, -8.63092

This religious structure is located in the parish of Herbón, by the Ulla River. It is a symbol of the Franciscan presence in Galicia.

This is where the first peppers to thrive in these fertile lands were brought from the Americas by the monks. And they have now achieved great fame in the national and international culinary scene, so much so that Herbón peppers have received a Protected Designation of Origin.

2 **ANCIENT OAK WOOD**

42.73265, -8.63150

The wood is located on the grounds of the Franciscan monastery, which was listed as an Asset of Cultural Interest in 2013.

On the first Saturday in August, this oak wood with views of the Ulla River is the venue for the Herbón Pepper Festival, which has been declared a Galician Tourist Attraction.

3 **HERBÓN AND CARCACÍA-LAPIDO PESQUEIRAS**

42.73166, -8.62706

In the municipality of Padrón, the *pesqueiras* are also known as *canales*. Here they are built along the flow of the river. There are a total of fourteen in the area, many of which can be visited on foot along a lamprey fishing trail.

Today they belong to the local residents, whereas until the 20th century, they were operated by the Iria Council.



Where to eat lampreys



Padrón

Restaurante A Casa dos Martínez

Restaurante Asador Reina Lupa

Restaurante Casa Eduardo

Restaurante Chef Rivera

Restaurante O Fogar de Breogán

Restaurante O Pazo - Hotel Scala

Restaurante O Santiaguíño

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Another way to discover the lamprey!



Savour and expand your knowledge of Ulla lampreys at the culinary and educational events "Padrón, sabor a lamprea" held in the months of February and March. You will learn more about this unique species through exhibitions, workshops and informative lectures for both school children and the general public.





BALEIROS ON THE ULLA



The final section of the Ulla River offers an opportunity to travel back in time, from the Roman bridge at Pontecesures to Torres de Oeste, a fortress in Catoira which for centuries held back Norse armies in their attempts to conquer Compostela.

Get a first-hand look at the work of the *baleiros*, the fleet of boats which fishermen sail along the river in search of lampreys. Whereas in the past, this fleet was made up of 200 to 300 sail- or oar-driven boats known as *gamelas*, today it is significantly less, some 15 boats. Additionally, modern motor boats are now primarily used, rather than the traditional vessels.

To catch the lampreys, fishermen use a type of pot trap known as a *nasas*, which they make by hand.

They are lowered from the boats around dusk and left on the bottom of the river overnight. The next day, after a wait of around twenty hours, the fishermen collect the catch and the process starts all over again. This continues during the entire fishing season for this species, which runs from approximately January to April.

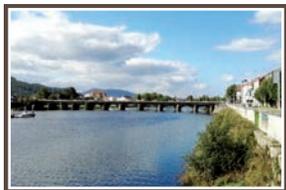
Bear in mind that in this final section of the Ulla, depending on the municipality, there are certain restrictions and areas specifically established for this activity. In the municipalities of Pontecesures and Catoira, there are demarcated fishing areas, and in Valga there is a high environmental protection area where only sport fishing is allowed.



By car

Route length: approx. 36 km

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1_ Bridge between Padrón and Pontecesures | 5_ Monte Beiro Viewpoint |
| 2_ Ulla River Walk, Pontecesures | 6_ Torres de Oeste |
| 3_ O Galiñeiro Viewpoint | 7_ Ulla River Walk, Catoira |
| 4_ Vilarello River Beach | 8_ Monte Xiabre Viewpoint |



1 min



4 min

1

**BRIDGE BETWEEN
PADRÓN AND
PONTECESURES**

42.72558, -8.65466

This bridge over the Ulla River links the provinces of A Coruña and Pontevedra. It was built by the Romans in the 1st century.

It has been refurbished several times over the centuries, concealing its original appearance. Some even attribute the design of various modifications to Master Mateo, creator of the 12th-century Pórtico de la Gloria (Portico of Glory) at Santiago Cathedral.

2

**ULLA
RIVER WALK**

42.72061, -8.65505

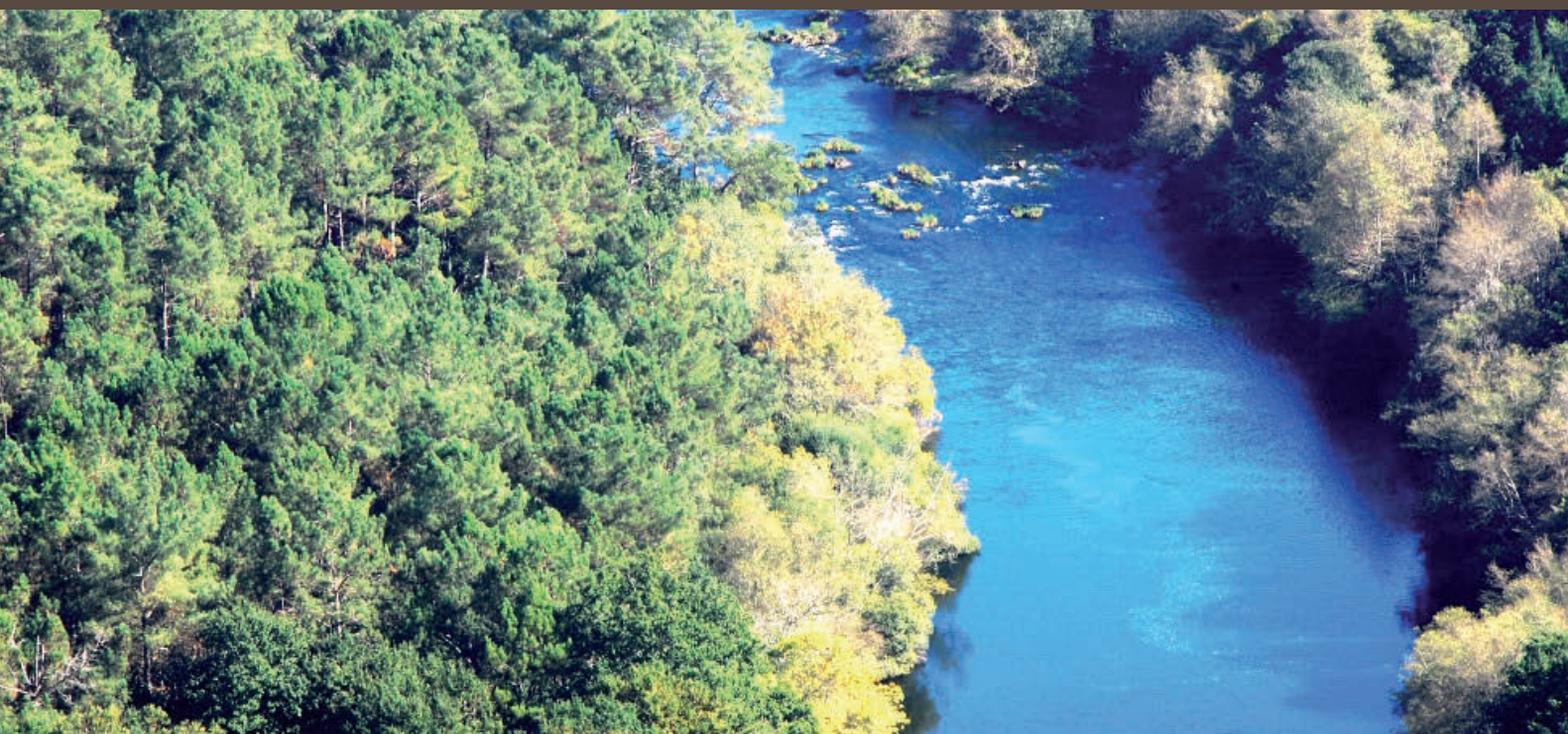
This is a one-kilometre path along the riverbank. Walkers can watch the *baleiros* del Ulla, at work on the Ulla, dropping and collecting their *nasas* during the entire lamprey season.

3

**O GALIÑEIRO
VIEWPOINT**

42.72752, -8.64233

This viewpoint offers an excellent view of the confluence of the Ulla and Sar rivers near the mouth of the former, creating a landscape and vegetation that are pure art.





8 min



11 min

4

**VILARELLO
RIVER BEACH**

42.70382, -8.71172

Located in the municipality of Valga, amid large sections of marsh and gallery forest, the river beach at Vilarello is perfect for leisure activities. There is even a small jetty.

The Pilgrim Festival is held here during the month of July. Participants in this symbolic pilgrimage celebration sail upriver to Pontecesures, following the Route of the Sea of Arousa and River Ulla.

5

**MONTE BEIRO
VIEWPOINT**

42.69166, -8.68832

From the top of this mountain, you will enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of the Ulla River all the way down to its mouth.

There is also a restored windmill, botanical trail and play area.



If you've got a little extra time...

Os Mouros Market

This is the name given to a small archaeological site discovered in Valga, which contained shards of pottery and tiles from the Roman period.

However, it is believed to be a former Moorish storage depot with a small port located beside the river, which long ago may have been used for trade along the Ulla.



10 min



4 min



26 min

6 TORRES DE OESTE

42.67641, -8.72576

Located in the municipality of Catoira, these towers are the vestiges of one of the most important fortresses in medieval Galicia, now listed as a national heritage site.

The towers were part of a defensive network that prevented Norse pirates on sacking and pillaging expeditions from advancing up the Ria of Arousa and the Ulla River to Santiago de Compostela.

If you visit during the first weekend in August, you can witness one of the most unique festivals in Spain, the Romería Vikinga (Viking Pilgrimage), which has been declared an International Tourist Attraction.

7 ULLA RIVER WALK

42.67205, -8.72651

Enjoy this foot path linking the recreation area at the Catoira river beach with the Torres de Oeste site, a three-kilometre route ending at the border of the municipality of Valga.

8 MONTE XIABRE VIEWPOINT

42.62361, -8.70304

This natural viewpoint, located on the boundary between the municipalities of Vilagarcía de Arousa, Caldas de Reis and Catoira, offers gorgeous views of O Barbanza, the district of Ulla and O Salnés.

Pesqueiras in the Santiago de Compostela Cathedral Archive

The cartographic collection of the Compostela Cathedral Archive contains a very important document concerning the Ulla River *pesqueiras*.¹

The 1798 map, signed by José Benito Malvárez, is the first drawing of Torres de Oeste on record.

The map also identifies the location of the 27 *pesqueiras* situated between Carcacía-Lapido and Torres de Oeste. They were all leased and owned by the Santiago Council, among others.

(1) Taín Guzmán, Miguel. "Planos de tenencias del Cabildo de la Catedral de Santiago dibujados por sus arquitectos (siglos XVIII y XIX)". *Semata: Ciencias Sociais e humanidades*, Nº 9 (1997) Santiago de Compostela, pp. 472–503.

Where to eat lampreys



Pontecesures

Restaurante Carabela

Catoira

Restaurante Casa Emilio

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Unique flavour!



If there is one typical recipe in Pontecesures, it is lamprey timbale. The outside is similar in appearance to a large bread roll, but the inside is filled with a fried lamprey mixture.

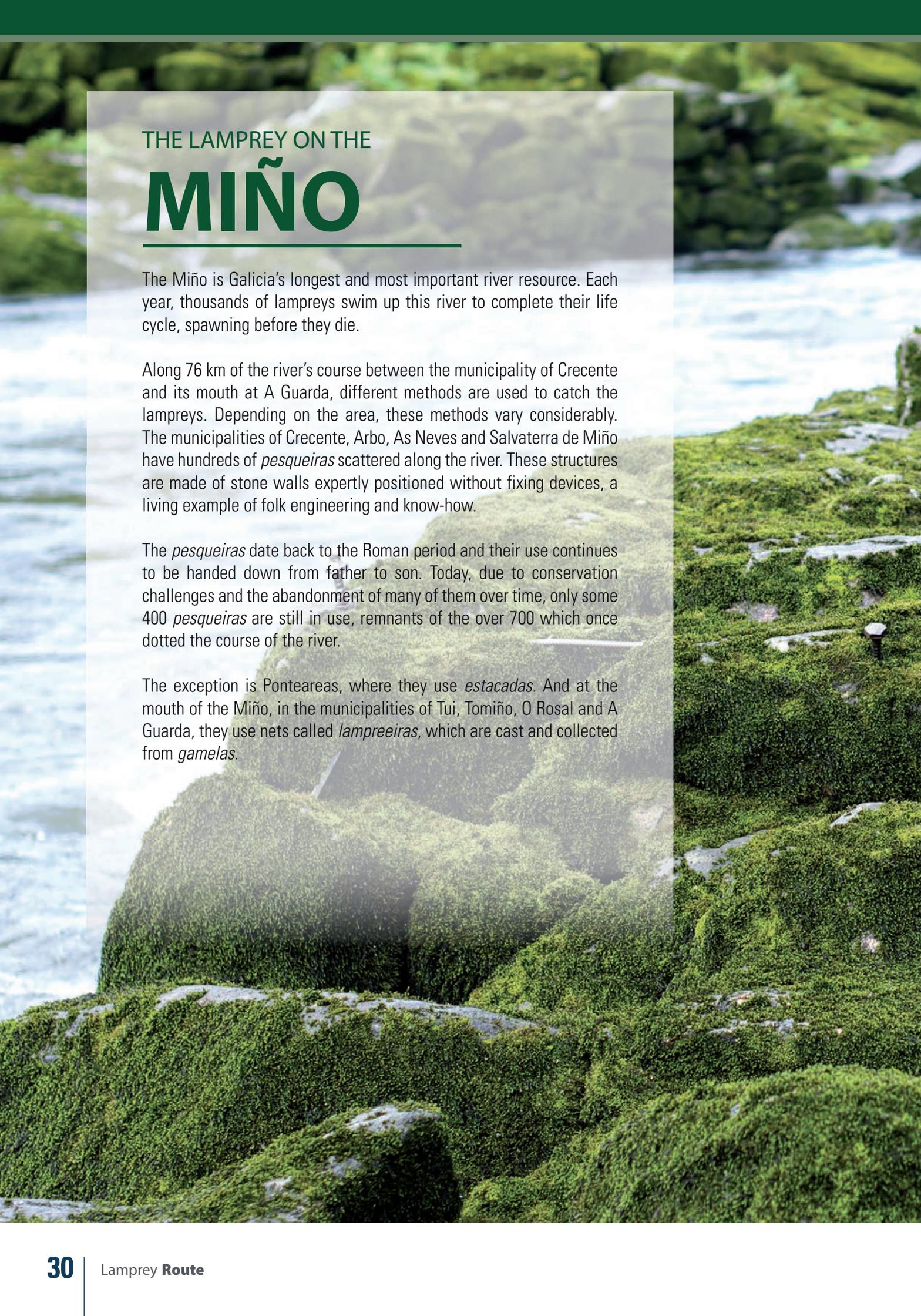
Satisfy your appetite with an age-old delicacy and a very special flavour.





For lamprey addicts

You can sample Ulla River lamprey at the culinary festival known as Tapea Lamprea, which is held in Pontecesures around Holy Week!



THE LAMPREY ON THE **MIÑO**

The Miño is Galicia's longest and most important river resource. Each year, thousands of lampreys swim up this river to complete their life cycle, spawning before they die.

Along 76 km of the river's course between the municipality of Crecente and its mouth at A Guarda, different methods are used to catch the lampreys. Depending on the area, these methods vary considerably. The municipalities of Crecente, Arbo, As Neves and Salvaterra de Miño have hundreds of *pesqueiras* scattered along the river. These structures are made of stone walls expertly positioned without fixing devices, a living example of folk engineering and know-how.

The *pesqueiras* date back to the Roman period and their use continues to be handed down from father to son. Today, due to conservation challenges and the abandonment of many of them over time, only some 400 *pesqueiras* are still in use, remnants of the over 700 which once dotted the course of the river.

The exception is Pontearreas, where they use *estacadas*. And at the mouth of the Miño, in the municipalities of Tui, Tomiño, O Rosal and A Guarda, they use nets called *lampreeiras*, which are cast and collected from *gamelas*.



CRECENTE, OVERLOOKING THE MIÑO



The Pontevedra municipality of Crecente is located on the boundary with the province of Ourense, and also forms the border between Spain and Portugal. This is where the Baixo Miño District Lamprey Trail begins. Hundreds of *pesqueiras* are scattered along some 25 kilometres of the river, from Crecente to Salvaterra.

The point of departure is the Guillade Viewpoint, an ideal spot for beautiful vistas of the river. Following the suggested route, you will

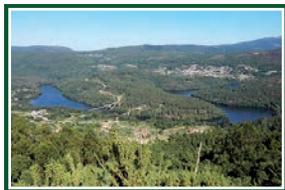
pass the *pesqueiras* located on the river. The easiest to see are Larga de Barxelas, Malicioso and Nova, representing some of the curious names given to many of these structures. They often refer to anecdotal stories, the effectiveness and productivity of the barriers, or the name of the spot where they are located. These names emphasize the uniqueness and ethnographic value surrounding lamprey fishing culture. Come discover them!



By car and On foot

Route length: approx. 30 km

- 1_ Guillade Viewpoint
- 2_ Longa de Barxelas, Malicioso and Nova *Pesqueiras*
- 3_ Three Chapels Trail
- 4_ Church, tower, country house and monastery



12 min



20 min



25min

1 **GUILLADE VIEWPOINT**

42.21744, -8.18783

From this overlook, you will enjoy a panoramic view of the meanders of the Miño River as it flows towards the Atlantic Ocean. In Filgueira, there are two bridges across the river, one old and abandoned and the other modern, built to allow travel between the provinces of Pontevedra and Ourense. You will find two more in the same parish, at As Cabras and Barxelas. The second is not to be confused with another of the same name which is used by the Ourense–Vigo rail line.

From this town, the Miño path continues on to O Freixo, the location of Pazo de Queimadelos, a 17th-century country house.

2 **LONGA DE BARXELAS, MALICIOSO AND NOVA PESQUEIRAS**

42.14218, -8.20599

A short walking trail makes it possible to get a closer look at these three *pesqueiras* on the Miño.

This is but a small sampling of the many that have been preserved along its banks. You will find that they are all different, due to the variety of sizes, as well as the strategic placement of each based on water flow.

The lampreys caught in this upper section of the river are prized for their excellent quality. In their individual struggle against the current, these animals exert an enormous amount of effort, making their meat smoother, darker and more flavourful. This special texture and the intensity of their flavour give them added culinary value.

3 **THREE CHAPELS TRAIL**

42.15152, -8.21972

Continuing along the route, you can visit three chapels, examples of Galicia's wealth of religious heritage. The first stop is Virxe do Camiño Chapel, located on an old route of the Way of St. James. The second chapel is Cruceiro Quebrado, dedicated to the Christ of the Afflicted. Its location is noteworthy for being a crossroads of different routes of the king's highway.

The last is Fátima Chapel, one of the first in Spain dedicated to that Virgin. The carving of the Virgin was brought from Leiría, Portugal in 1948, on the shoulders of the faithful. It travelled by boat to Salvaterra de Miño and continued its pilgrimage through the different parishes along the way, spending the night in the parish churches amidst great devotion and fervour among the people.

4 **CHURCH, TOWER, COUNTRY HOUSE AND MONASTERY**

42.153387, -8.223167

Highlights in the capital of the municipality include the church and Fornelos Tower. The first was founded in the 14th century as a collegiate church, becoming a parish church in the 17th century. It is home to a relic of the True Cross, complete with a bull issued in Rome, its document of authenticity. Fornelos Tower (12th century) is noted for its historical importance, linked to the conflicts between Alfonso VII (king of Galicia) and his cousin Afonso Henriques (king of Portugal), which led to the independence of the latter country.

This route ends in the parish of Albeos, where you will find the ruins of San Paio Monastery. Tradition has it that its namesake, St. Pelagius, was born in the A Carballosa neighbourhood in 911. The Romanesque monastery was built in memory of the martyr in the early 10th century.

Pazo da Fraga marks the end of the route. The origins of this fine looking baroque manor house date to the late 16th century.

If you've got a little extra time...

Overlooking the Miño Hiking Route

Enjoy this 9.5-kilometre circular route, which runs along part of the old king's highway. You will see stone crosses, wayside shrines, mills, chapels, bridges and streams. A unique trail overlooking the Miño.

Where to eat lampreys



Crecente

Restaurante Gerardo

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Bordelaise Style Lamprey



The most typical and traditional recipe. The fish are cooked in their own blood and served accompanied by white rice and fried bread.





ture are key features of the small municipality of Arbo. The southern part of the province of Pontevedra, this is not only situated on the banks of the Miño River, but is also defined by the life growing within it. The river is closely linked to the town's history, culture and cuisine, forming an enduring landscape.

Wines from these waters are the most famous in all Galicia. If you are curious about the life of this species and how to enjoy it, we invite you to visit the municipality's *pesqueiras* (trout streams) and Lamprey Interpretive Centre. The association was created due to the fact that the district of Condado do Tea

is also wine-growing country. This sub-region of the Denominación de Origen extends along the right bank of the Miño River, encompassing the municipalities of Salvaterra de Miño, Arbo, Crecente, Salceda de Caselas and Pontearreas. For more information about the wineries producing Condado wine at <http://www.rutadelvinoriasbaixas.com/en>

These wines are an excellent accompaniment to lamprey, which can be enjoyed in any manner of ways. And to enjoy the flavour of this fish, there are two culinary events celebrating it: the Lamprey Festival in the month of April and the Exaltation of the Dried Lamprey in





9 min



11 min



4 min

1 PESQUEIRAS DE SELA INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

42.09172, -8.35608

This trail along the course of the river will allow you explore these stone structures. They face the current, acting as a sort of trap, allowing fishermen to capture the lampreys.

The oldest *pesqueiras* date from the Roman period, with the most recent probably being built some 150 years ago.

There is no uniformity to their appearance. Each *pesqueira* has its own unique characteristics: number of *poios* (sections), height, length, position with regard to the river channel.

In fact, some of them are made of a single section or wall. These are known as *pesqueiras de cabeceira*. They are used with a net called a red *cabaceira*, one end of which has two weights at the bottom to pull it down, while the other end is kept on the surface of the water thanks to a float.

2 "ARABO" WINE AND LAMPREY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

42.11293, -8.30793

This museum focuses on two of the municipality's most important enogastronomic products: Rías Baixas Designation of Origin wine and lampreys.

Through information panels, videos and a range of interactive materials, visitors can explore the culture that has developed around these two products.

You can also view documentaries on the municipality's cultural and scenic heritage, accompanied by a tasting of local wines.

3 INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE BETWEEN ARBO AND MELGAÇO

42.10809, -8.29630

This modern bridge replaced the boat which for years linked the municipality of Arbo with the neighbouring Portuguese town of Melgaço.

Today, the boat is history and the new International Bridge not only facilitates passenger and goods traffic between the two countries, but it has also made the town of Arbo a strategic socioeconomic point of connection between Galicia and Portugal.

4 MIÑO RIVER WALK AND INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PESQUEIRAS

42.10794, -8.29817

Walking this path will allow you to get a closer look at the side of the river located in neighbouring Portugal. You will also have a fine view of the traditional *pesqueiras* located under the bridge.



In the works!

Very soon, you will be able to enjoy a new trail some 6 kilometres long running beside the Miño River. The plan is to connect the *pesqueiras* at Sela with the International Bridge, thus extending the length of the river set up for foot traffic.

ARBO, WATER AND MAGICAL STONE



Arbo boasts a wealth of intangible heritage, filled with legends, beliefs and rituals of a mystical and religious nature.

This trail will allow you to explore a past in which stone, water and the relationship between both elements and the lamprey will transport you back in time.



By car

Route length: approx. 20 km

- 1_ Mourentán Bridge
- 2_ Os Muíños da Rocha Ethnographic Park
- 3_ Mount San Fins and San Fins Chapel
- 4_ O Calvario Square



10 min



16 min



29 min

1 MOURENTÁN BRIDGE

42.11972, -8.29572

This 18th-century bridge over the Deva River bore witness when the residents of Arbo defended their homes and families against attacks by French troops during the Peninsular War.

A monolith commemorates this struggle between neighbours, which ended with the victory of the French army.

Near the bridge there is an old water mill, now fully restored.

2 OS MUÍÑOS DA ROCHA ETHNOGRAPHIC PARK

42.11971, -8.326

The park features a group of four restored mills: O Coto, A Cuca, El Medio and El Cubo, which from the mid-19th century were responsible for grinding grain for local residents.

They fell into disuse as a result of the drop in cereal production, experiencing a slow, gradual decay. However, today they have been fully restored.

3 MOUNT SAN FINS AND SAN FINS CHAPEL

42.1234, -8.35352

Mount San Fins is an excellent spot from which to get a view of the course of the Miño River from Crecente to A Guarda.

Its chapel is the destination of the San Fins pilgrimage, held on the first Sunday of every August. The tradition is becoming more popular and thousands of parishioners attend each year, seeking a cure to their hearing problems.

4 O CALVARIO SQUARE

42.09788, -8.33534

This square offers a glimpse into the remnants of pagan rituals, giving visitors some indication of the local tradition of mysticism.

Next to Milagros Chapel there is a calvary and a monolith with an image of the Mater Dolorosa. An unusual street lamp and a wayside shrine complete the scene.

This spot was no doubt visited by Arbo residents to leave offerings, asking for a good grape harvest and abundant lamprey catches.



Where to eat lampreys



Arbo

Mesón da Lamprea

Restaurante A Rula

Restaurante Asador Os Pirús

Restaurante A Vila

Restaurante Castro

Restaurante Churrasquería La Almuíña

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

And if you're a lamprey addict... *Try it dried!*



Grilled, stewed with vermicelli noodles and snow peas, stuffed and more. Dried lamprey offers any number of possible recipes!

You can sample them all at Arbo's Lamprey Festival in the month of August.

If you have the opportunity to visit Arbo in the month of April, don't miss the Lamprey Festival, which has been declared a National Tourist Attraction.





AS NEVES, CONDADO'S SUNNY SPOT



The municipality of As Neves is known as 'Condado's sunny spot' because of its favourable climate, which provides excellent conditions for wine growing. An old trail runs along the river. Today, it is still used by fishermen to transport the lampreys caught in their *pesqueiras* during the night.

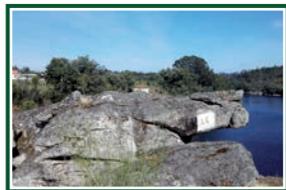
Visit Casa da Auga (House of Water), a parsonage which has been converted into an ethnographic park, allowing you to discover first-hand the importance of water to the local way of life, as well as interesting facts about the life cycle of the lamprey.



By car

Route length: approx. 8 km

- 1_ Casa da Auga
- 2_ Peneliña 21 and Varandoiro *Pesqueiras*
- 3_ Fishermen's trail



7 min



30 min

1 CASA DA AUGA

42.09114, -8.37702

This old parsonage dates from the 17th century, when it was associated with the Order of the Knights Templar. Today, it has been converted into an ethnographic museum. In the interior courtyard, you will discover how water is used in the parish of Vide and learn about the life of the lamprey, through a range of informative displays and a documentary on the flora and fauna of the Miño River.

2 PENELIÑA 21 AND VARANDOIRO PESQUEIRAS

42.149444, -8.627778

Various white squares painted on the rocks stand out in the river landscape. They contain the numbers that identify each one of the *pesqueiras*, although the majority are known by their popular names, whose origins are often lost in time. This is the case of the two along this route, which were christened Peneliña and Varandoiro.

One of the most characteristic features of the *pesqueiras* is that they are a sustainable fishing method, with moderate catches, allowing the fish to complete their life cycle. The size of the catch is automatically regulated based on the number of lampreys that succeed in swimming upstream. The more fish there are, the bigger the catch, and vice versa.

3 FISHERMEN'S TRAIL

42.08244, -8.43661

In As Neves, the land descends in terraces to the Miño River, forming a harmonious combination which gives the landscape its unique character.

The fishermen's trail runs 3.5 kilometres through this area to the municipality of Arbo. You will discover a typical gallery forest accompanied by a scattering of *pesqueiras* along the banks of the river.

There are also viewpoints, recreation areas such as Santa Mariña, fountains, chapels and even the ruins of an old border post, where guards kept watch for black market trade with Portugal.

If you've got a little extra time...

Os Frades Trail

(42.137778, -8.648333)

Don't miss the chance to do this 15-kilometre trail on foot or bicycle. You will discover a great wealth of cultural and artistic heritage: churches, chapels, stone crosses, medieval bridges, wayside shrines and more.

A bit of history: this was the route followed by St. Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal, on her pilgrimage from Portuguese territory to Santiago de Compostela.

Where to eat lampreys



As Neves

Restaurante Casa Calviño

Restaurante Casa O Frenazo

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Take a chance on some lamprey pie!



If you decide not to opt for Bordelaise style or dried lamprey, try it in a savoury pie.

Some say that the secret is in the dough, which may be true, but what we do know for sure is that there is absolutely nothing like the flavour of lamprey pie.

Bon appétit!





SALVATERRA, A GARDEN ON THE MIÑO



The historic and cultural capital of the district of Condado and an ancient town, Salvaterra de Miño grew up around the fortress, the town's set of defensive structures. With a history filled with struggles, many of them the result of its strategic location on the border with neighbouring Portugal, today it boasts a cultural legacy replete with traditions that spill over into its customs and daily habits.

This route will introduce you to a place that once bore stony witness to intense noble and territorial disputes. You can visit a botanic garden with a wide variety of floral species, and walk along a river path leading to the A Canuda Park and the *pesqueiras* of Salvaterra.



On foot

Route length: approx. 5 km

- 1_ Mon, Bucheira and Maximina *Pesqueiras*
- 2_ Salvaterra Fortress
- 3_ A Canuda Park and River Walk
- 4_ Fillaboa Island



15 min



12 min



21 min



1 MON, BUCHEIRA AND MAXIMINA PESQUEIRAS

42.08122, -8.47394

There are three main *pesqueiras* in the municipality of Salvaterra: Mon, Bucheira and Maximina.

Traditionally, their use was handed down within families through inheritance. This legacy is linked to transmission of an exhaustive knowledge of the river and its flow.

Fishermen face the dangers of this job from a very young age. It is surprising to see how surely and quickly they move over the rocks, placing their foot in the perfect spot to avoid slipping.



2 SALVATERRA FORTRESS

42.08054, -8.49607

Listed as an Asset of Cultural Interest in 1949, this is the town's most distinctive feature. Located beside the Miño River, the fortifications were built in the 10th century to protect inhabitants from the many attacks they suffered over the centuries.

Inside the walled area, you can visit San Lourenzo Church, Casa del Conde (House of the Count), Oliva Bridge and Queen Doña Urraca's Castle.

Legends abound, including one which speaks of a well that allowed access to a passageway used by Queen Doña Urraca to cross the river into Portuguese territory.



3 A CANUDA PARK AND RIVER WALK

42.07957, -8.50537

Like a wonderful garden overlooking the Miño, A Canuda Park extends along the bank of the river as it passes through Salvaterra.

This large green space has sports facilities, a bird enclosure, an auditorium, a playground, an exercise circuit and even an orchid greenhouse.

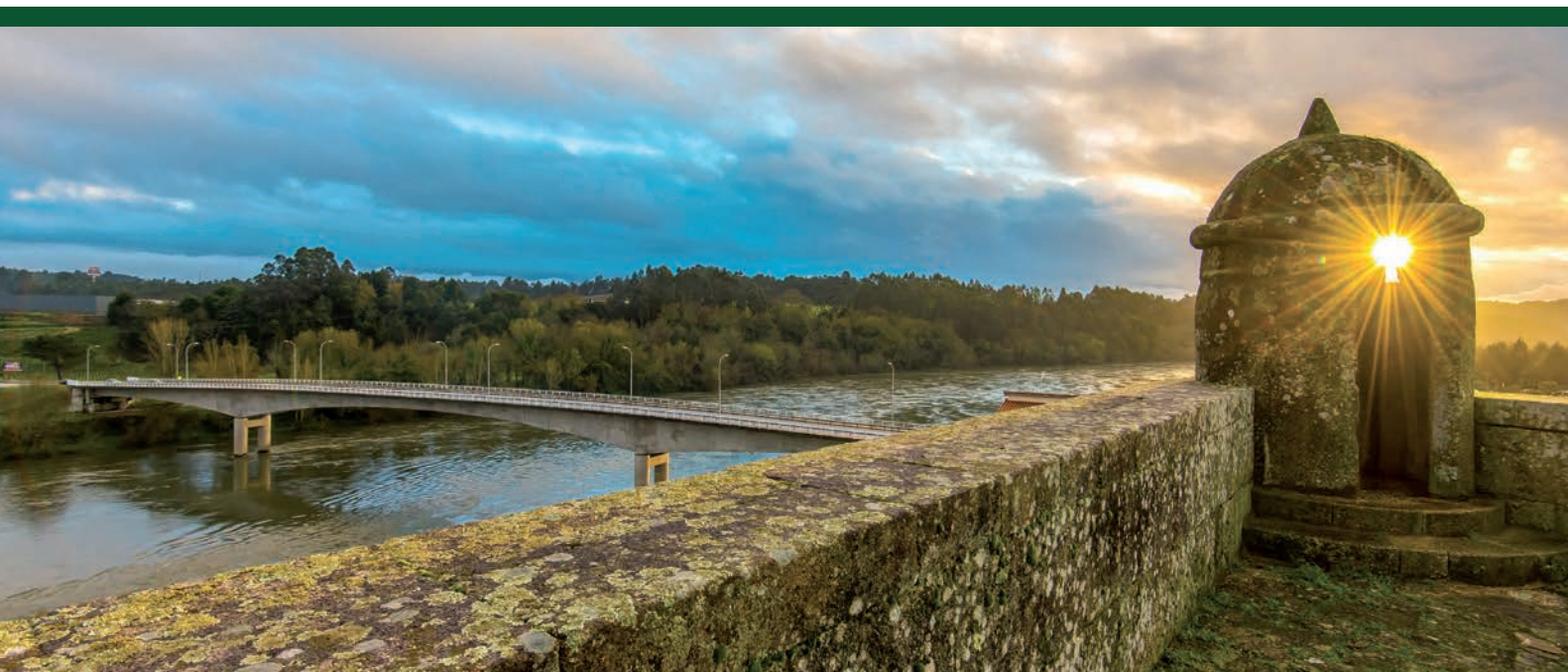
There is also a nature centre where you can learn about the flora and fauna of the Miño and the life and reproductive cycle of the lamprey.



4 FILLABOA ISLAND

42.07866, -8.51852

This is the larger of the two islands located at the confluence of the Miño and Tea rivers. To reach the island, you can walk along a nature trail connecting A Canuda Park with the mouth of the Tea River, when the water level permits.



Where to eat lampreys



Salvaterra de Miño

Mesón O Noso Eido

Restaurante A Canuda

Restaurante Asador A Miña Lareira

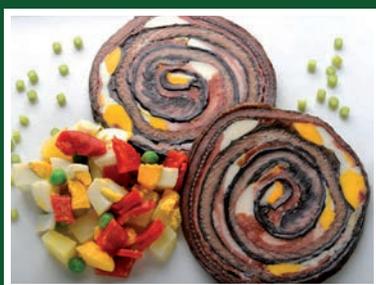
Restaurante Casa Lino

Restaurante El Retiro

Restaurante Grandal

➔ More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Lamprey with Russian salad



In season, from January to April, and out of season, lamprey can be enjoyed stuffed, baked and in empanada (savory pie).





ESTACADAS ON THE TEA RIVER

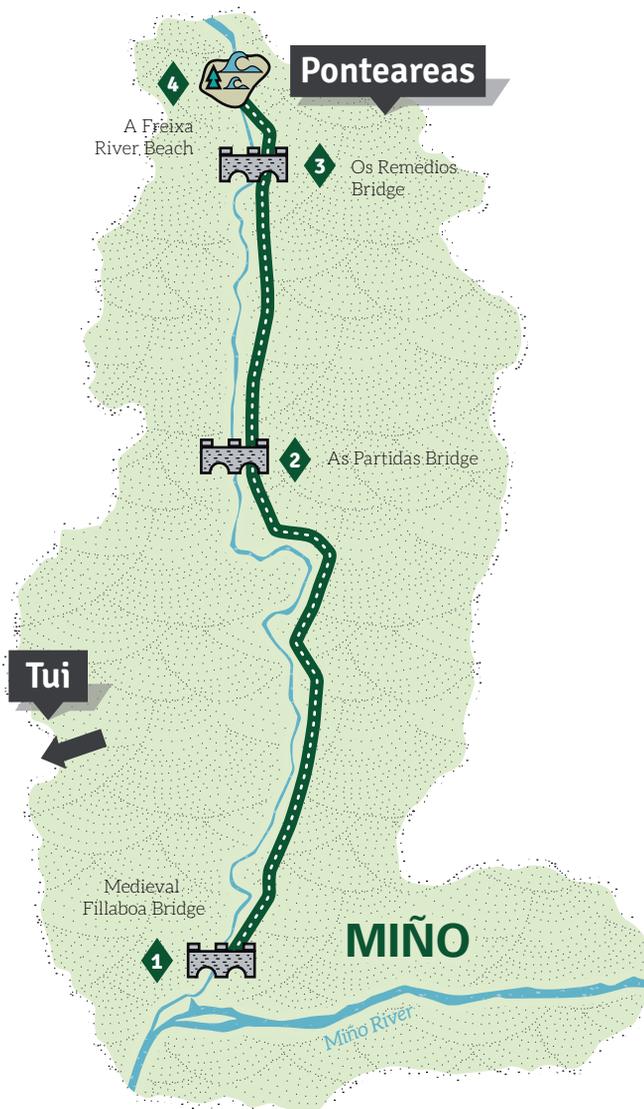


The method used to catch lampreys on the Tea River, where it runs through Ponteareas, is known as an *estacada*. Very different from the technique used in other areas, it consists of a sort of bridge or scaffolding over the river, on which the fishermen stand. The most traditional structures are made of eucalyptus or pine, although today people use metal frameworks which even have a drawbridge. From atop these structures, the lampreys are caught at night, using implements known as *figas* or *francadas*, large sticks with prongs at one end. These are thrust into the fish by hand, an extremely precise task.

These unusual constructions standing above the river can be found along the Tea from Salvaterra de Miño to Ponteareas. The right to use them is allocated every January by drawing lots among the fishermen who have applied. Once lamprey season is over, they are taken down until the following year, meaning that it is only possible to see them during fishing season.

This unique scene can be viewed from a walking trail along the Tea, following a route some 14 kilometres in length, from medieval

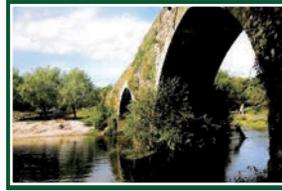
Fillaboa Bridge, in the municipality of Salvaterra de Miño, to A Freixa river beach in Ponteareas.



On foot

Route length: approx. 14 km

- 1_ Medieval Fillaboa Bridge
- 2_ As Partidas Bridge
- 3_ Os Remedios Bridge
- 4_ A Freixa River Beach



60 min



45 min



10 min

1 MEDIEVAL FILLABOA BRIDGE

42.08449, -8.51788

The Tea River trail begins at medieval Fillaboa Bridge, located very close to the mouth of the Miño River.

Over the years, it witnessed numerous military conflicts between Spain and Portugal. These events made it necessary to rebuild the bridge a number of times.

2 AS PARTIDAS BRIDGE

42.14601, -8.51297

For centuries, this bridge has connected the two banks of the Tea River.

A number of legends are associated with the bridge. One of the most curious tells how women who had difficulty conceiving a child would go to the bridge at midnight. They would then ask the first walker to cross the bridge to pour river water over them, among other rituals.

If this 'prenatal baptism' enabled the woman to become a mother, the passer-by would have to be the godparent to the newborn.

3 OS REMEDIOS BRIDGE

42.1769, -8.51107

This bridge, which dates from the Middle Ages, is one of the symbols of the municipality of Pontearreas.

The town, which grew up in the area of the bridge (*ponte*), even owes its name to the structure.

According to some scholars, it is believed to lie on the route of the Roman road which linked Bracara Augusta (Braga) with Lucus Augusta (Lugo), continuing on to Asturica Augusta (Astorga).

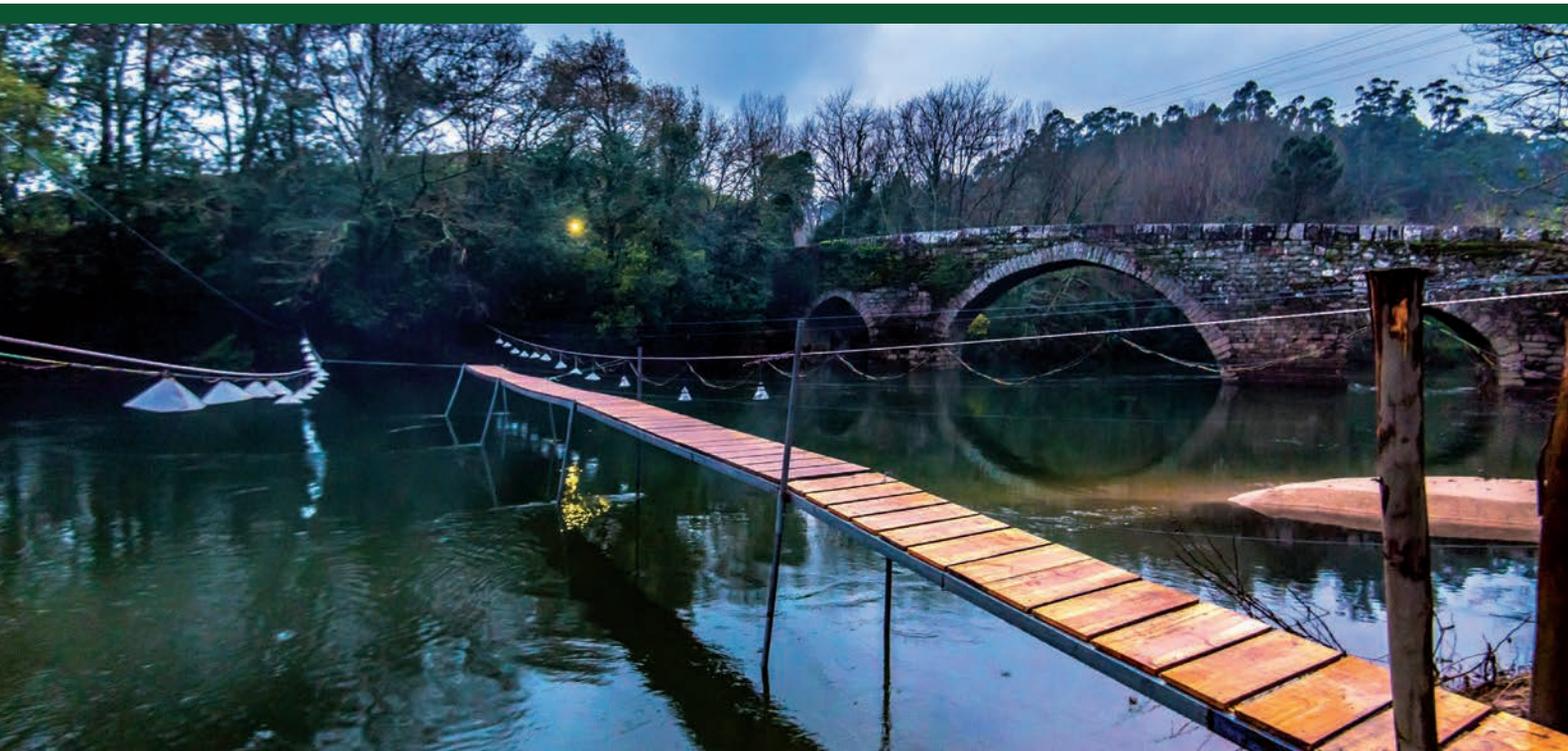
The bridge dominates the river beach of the same name, a natural and recreation area.

4 A FREIXA RIVER BEACH

42.18802, -8.51426

This is the best known river beach in the municipality, offering the most services. There are bathrooms, picnic areas, tennis courts and lifeguards during the summer months.

You can pick up the Tea River Trail at A Freixa. It runs along the river for which it is named, offering a wealth of scenery and ethnographic interest.



Where to eat lampreys



Ponteareas

Restaurante Catavento

Restaurante Etxe Eder

Restaurante O Rei do Bacalao

Restaurante Punto e Textura

➔ *More info at: www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US*





LAMPREY FISHING ALONG THE FINAL STRETCH OF THE MIÑO



Due to the width of the river at the estuary which forms at the river mouth in A Guarda, unlike other municipalities upriver, between the municipalities of Tui, Tomiño, O Rosal and A Guarda, lampreys are fished from boats.

This fishing method is determined by the unusual behaviour of the fish in this area of the river mouth. The lampreys require some time to become acclimatized to the fresh water before beginning their journey up the Miño. The best time for fishing is at high tide, when the sea water enters the river.

Fishermen continue to use a traditional boat called a *gamela* to catch the lampreys. The framework of this wooden boat enables it to withstand the pounding of the powerful currents at the dangerous mouth of the Miño River.

Taking advantage of the tides, the fishermen capture the lampreys by casting a type of net known as a *lampreeira* into the water.

The net consists of three sections of different sizes. In the past, they were usually made of hemp or cotton, but today nylon is generally used.

Fishing season at the mouth of the Miño begins in January and ends in April. During this period, it is possible to see dozens of fishermen in their boats engaged in this challenging task, throwing the *lampreeira* and raising it, while the river currents move the boat here and there.



By car

Route length: approx. 30 km

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1_ Ribeira de Caldelas Recreation Area | 5_ A Guarda Museum of the Sea |
| 2_ Tui Cathedral and Historic District | 6_ Miño Estuary |
| 3_ Monte Aloia Nature Reserve | 7_ Mount Santa Trega |
| 4_ Fishermen's trail | 8_ Miño River Mouth Trail |



21 min



20 min



20 min

1 RIBEIRA DE CALDELAS RECREATION AREA

42.05391, -8.56605

This natural area beside the river is an ideal spot to enjoy views of the Miño.

From here, we can watch the fishermen catching lampreys using nets known as *lampreiras*.

2 TUI CATHEDRAL AND HISTORIC DISTRICT

42.04605, -8.64458

Listed as an Area of Artistic and Historical Importance in 1967, Tui was the capital of one of the seven provinces in the former Kingdom of Galicia. Today, it still has its own episcopal diocese, Tui-Vigo.

The town's short name conceals a long history of cross-border coexistence, plagued by disputes over interests relating to the Miño.

The historic district near the ruins of the city walls has a number of important monuments. These include the cathedral, which has the only remaining Gothic cloister of the five Galician cathedrals; Santa Clara Convent; and the Túnel de las Encerradas (Tunnel of the Confined), the name by which the nuns were known.

It is impossible to forget Tui's links to the Way of St. James. From the medieval period, it had a Hospital for the Poor and Pilgrims, today the Tui-Vigo Diocesan Museum. Another important site is Santo Domingo Monastery, which houses the Portuguese Route Interpretive Centre.

3 MONTE ALOIA NATURE RESERVE

42.07995, -8.66975

This was first nature reserve in Galicia, created in 1978. The vantage point 700 metres above sea level offers a beautiful panoramic view of the Miño River.

This enormous woodland botanic garden is located in the O Galiñeiro Mountains. It contains a large number of plant species, the result of the reforestation project carried out by forestry engineer Rafael Areses.

Visit the Nature Interpretive Centre, located in the former forestry house, which has an unusual design. If you enjoy walking, you can choose from a number of hiking trails that depart from the point.

4 FISHERMEN'S TRAIL

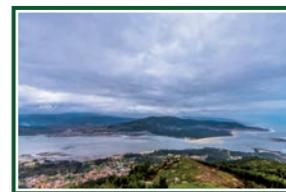
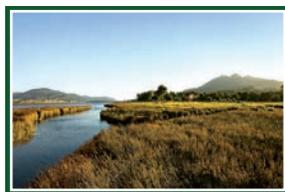
41.922755, -8.825694

This 7.2 km trail is located entirely in the municipality of O Rosal. It begins at Eiras Beach and runs parallel to the river, through riverbank vegetation, rushes and reedbeds, offering an excellent example of the valuable biodiversity of the Miño estuary.

It is part of the Natura 2000 Network. There is also a wide variety of birds, creating a habitat of great ornithological interest.

The path briefly enters an urban environment as it runs through San Miguel de Tabagón. It then continues on towards the mouth and final kilometres of the Carballas-Tamuxe River, ending at As Aceñas Mill natural area, the largest structure of this type in O Rosal.





5 min



53 min



2 min



16 min

5 A GUARDA MUSEUM OF THE SEA

6 MIÑO ESTUARY

7 MOUNT SANTA TREGA

8 MIÑO RIVER MOUTH TRAIL

41.902567,-8.880194

41.88752,-8.87156

41.89244,-8.86963

41.88161,-8.88118

A Guarda also has an interesting fishing port. The Museum of the Sea is located at the end of the promenade. The building is a watchtower, a reconstruction of a military fortification. The museum has two collections: one ethnographic, with displays on age-old human labours on the sea and river at A Guarda, and the other malacological, with a selection of sea shells from around the world. It is open to visitors on weekends and holidays.

The mouth of the Miño River at A Guarda offers a number of natural attractions.

In the final kilometres before it reaches the sea, the river forms an estuary of great ecological importance, produced by the confluence of two ecosystems: river and sea.

The Miño estuary has been included in a number of protection initiatives. It is a Special Protection Area (SPA) for birds, forming part of the European Natura 2000 Network, and is also on the list of Wetlands of International Importance.

Mount Santa Trega is an excellent natural viewpoint overlooking the Miño estuary, Portugal and the Atlantic Ocean. From the top, it is possible to see the boats fishing at the mouth of the Miño River.

It is also the location of the Castro of Santa Trega, the most important example of the castro culture in the northwest part of the peninsula. Visitors can see the structure of the settlement and two reconstructed houses.

Santa Trega Archaeological Museum (MASAT) houses the artefacts found during excavations.

Highlights include the latest addition to the collection: the Trega head, a carved head found during the 2015 excavation campaign.

The PR-G160, a signed, official trail begins near San Lorenzo Church in the parish of Salcidos.

Along the almost nine-kilometre route there are two bird hides, as the river's reedbeds are home to the largest concentration of birds inhabiting the Miño estuary.

The trail continues along the riverbank to O Muíño Beach, ending at the Atlantic coast.

Lanzo da Cruz

Parishes such as Tabagón and As Eiras in the municipality of O Rosal; and Goián, Forcadela and Currás in the municipality of Tomiño, also have the tradition of fishing for lamprey on the Miño.

In the parish of Sobrada (Tomiño), the ancient ritual known as Lanzo da Cruz is also linked to this activity. Every Easter Monday, the priest from Torrán boards a boat with the fishermen, carrying the parish cross, to bless their nets and the waters of the Miño. They cross over to the parish of Cristelo Covo (Valença do Minho) on the Portuguese side.

The parish priest from the Portuguese town offers the same blessing, crossing over to the Tomiño riverbank. Once the nets have been brought in, the priests are given the lamprey caught in them as a gift.



Where to eat lampreys



Tui

Restaurante Don Sancho
Restaurante El Molino
Restaurante O Cruceiro do Monte
Restaurante O Novo Cabalo Furado
Restaurante O Pote
Restaurante Silabario

Tomíño

Restaurante Hermanos Cuña
Restaurante Novo Arroio
Restaurante Os Predregales

O Rosal

Restaurante As Brasas
Restaurante Eiras
Restaurante Juan
Restaurante Paradela

A Guarda

Restaurante Alborada
Restaurante Area Grande
Restaurante Bitadorna
Restaurante Cangrexal
Restaurante Casa do Outeiro
Restaurante Marusía
Restaurante O Couto
Restaurante Os Remos
Restaurante O Xeito
Restaurante Pizzicata
Restaurante Porto Guardés
Restaurante Xantar

➔ More info at:
www.turismo.gal/portada?langId=en_US

Try some lamprey small plates!



If you visit A Guarda during Holy Week, you can sample the culinary delights on offer along the Miño Lamprey Small Plate Culinary Trail!





Another way to enjoy lampreys any time of year

Tradition and innovation, working hand in hand!

Companies such as Conservas de Cambados S.L. (www.conservasdecambados.com) and Obrador de Lamprea S.L.U. (www.obradordelamprea.com) serve lovers of this fantastic product. They package and sell lampreys in a variety of forms, allowing customers to enjoy them any time of year.



RESTAURANTS ON THE LAMPREY ROUTE

ROUTE	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
RODEIROS ON THE TAMBRE	Restaurante Alborés	Calle del Escultor Ferreiro, 28, 15200 Noia, A Coruña	981 82 01 52
	Restaurante Elisardo	Calle Ferrador, 15, 15200 Noia, A Coruña	981 82 01 30
	Restaurante Ferrador	Calle Ferrador, 11, 15200 Noia, A Coruña	981 82 00 80
	Restaurante Marico	Rúa de Galicia, 32, 15200 Noia, A Coruña	981 82 32 37
	Restaurante Tío Manolo	Rúa Outonil, 1, 15200 Noia, A Coruña	981 82 28 50
	Restaurante Casa Peto	Cruceiro de Roo, 24, 15287 Outes, A Coruña	981 76 50 24
	Restaurante Hotel Gastronómico Casa Rosalía	Calle Soigrex, 19, 15280 Brión, A Coruña	981 88 75 80
THE PESQUEIRAS OF O XIRIMBAO	Restaurante Armando Blanco - A Casa das Tortillas	Travesía de Cacheiras, 56, 15886 Teo, A Coruña	981 80 71 28
	Restaurante Cierto Blanco	Carretera N - 550, Lugar de Ameneiro, 15866 Teo, A Coruña	981 54 83 83
	Restaurante Orballo-Hotel Congreso	Rúa Mámoas de Montouto, 4, 15883 Teo, A Coruña	981 81 90 80
	Restaurante Pórtico	Travesía de Cacheiras, 72, 15886 Teo, A Coruña	981 80 75 64
	Restaurante A Casa dos Martínez	Rúa Longa, 7, 15900 Padrón, A Coruña	634 98 05 36
	Restaurante Asador Reina Lupa	Carretera N - 550, A Escravitude, s/n, 15980 Padrón, A Coruña	981 80 31 44
	Restaurante Casa Eduardo	Carretera N - 550, A Escravitude, 14, 15980 Padrón, A Coruña	981 80 33 44
	Restaurante Chef Rivera	Calle Enlace Parque, 7, 15900 Padrón, A Coruña	981 81 04 13
	Restaurante Fogar de Breogán	Carretera N - 550, Pazos s/n, 15917 Padrón, A Coruña	981 81 11 34
	Restaurante O Pazo-Hotel Scala	Carretera N - 550, Pazos s/n, 15917 Padrón, A Coruña	981 81 13 12
BALEIROS ON THE ULLA	Restaurante O Santiaguíño	Praza de Macías, 8, 15900 Padrón, A Coruña	981 81 00 23
	Restaurante Carabela	Rúa San Luis, 28, 36640 Pontecesures, Pontevedra	986 55 75 08
CRECENTE, OVERLOOKING THE MIÑO	Restaurante Casa Emilio	Rúa da Estación, 1, 36612 Catoira, Pontevedra	986 54 60 13
	Restaurante Gerardo	Lugar Mosteiro, nº 39, Albeos 36429 Crecente, Pontevedra	986 66 65 07
LAMPREYS AND PESQUEIRAS IN ARBO	Mesón da Lamprea	Calle Iglesia, s/n, Cabeiras, 36436 Arbo, Pontevedra	986 66 54 89
	Restaurante A Rula	Calle Reguengo, 6, 36430 Arbo, Pontevedra	986 66 51 81 / 627 51 64 18
	Restaurante Asador Os Pirús	Rúa Antonia Tovar, s/n 36430 Arbo, Pontevedra	986 66 34 71 / 605 91 98 22
	Restaurante A Vila	A Vila, s/n 36430 Arbo, Pontevedra	986 66 34 70
	Restaurante Castro	Calle Turbela, 53, 36430 Arbo, Pontevedra	675 41 97 28
	Restaurante Churrasquería La Almuíña	Almuíña, 6, 36430 Arbo, Pontevedra	986 66 51 91
AS NEVES, CONDADO'S SUNNY SPOT	Restaurante Casa Calviño	Calle Marquesa do Pazo, 34 - Bajo, 36440 As Neves, Pontevedra	986 64 80 40
	Restaurante Casa O Frenazo	Rúa Esperanza, 9, 36440 As Neves, Pontevedra	986 64 84 42
SALVATERRA, A GARDEN ON THE MIÑO	Mesón O Noso Eido	Rúa da Fraga, 5, 36450 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 65 83 13
	Restaurante A Canuda	Rúa do Miño, 6, 36450 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 66 40 07

* Because lamprey is a seasonal product, at some of these restaurants it must be ordered in advance.

SALVATERRA,

A GARDEN ON THE MIÑO

ESTACADAS ON THE TEA RIVER

LAMPREY
FISHING ALONG
THE FINAL STRETCH
OF THE
MIÑO



Restaurante Asador A Miña Lareira	Calle Fias, 7, 36450 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 65 81 39
Restaurante Casa Lino	Pedrafurada, 2, Oleiros, 36457 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 65 82 09
Restaurante El Retiro	Rúa do Miño, 4, 36450 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 65 80 83 / 615 65 90 00
Restaurante Grandal	Castelao, 33, 36450 Salvaterra de Miño, Pontevedra	986 65 94 16
Restaurante Catavento	As Cachadas, s/n, Carretera a Mondariz, km 0,5, 36860 Pontearreas, Pontevedra	986 66 18 68 / 656 25 53 48
Restaurante Etxe Eder	Avenida de Galicia, 19, 36860, Pontearreas, Pontevedra	986 66 13 75
Restaurante O Rei do Bacalao	Ponte das Partidas, s/n Urcela-Moreira, 36863, Pontearreas, Pontevedra	986 64 92 52 / 649 70 94 05
Restaurante Punto e textura	Avenida de Galicia, 6, 36860, Pontearreas, Pontevedra	691 01 91 98
Restaurante Don Sancho	Rúa Colón, 25, 36700 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 21 47
Restaurante El Molino	Rosa Bahamonde, s/n, 36700 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 30 12
Restaurante O Cruceiro do Monte	Calle Cruceiro, 23, 36713 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 75 75
Restaurante O Novo Cabalo Furado	Praza do Concello, 3, 36700 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 12 15 / 986 60 22 63
Restaurante O Pote	Estrada Baiona, 15, 36700 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 01 28
Restaurante Silabario	Calle de Colón, 11, 36700 Tui, Pontevedra	986 60 70 00
Restaurante Hermanos Cuña	Casal, 2, 36748 San Salvador de Tebra-Tomiño, Pontevedra	986 62 41 54
Restaurante Novo Arroio	Carretera general Tui-A Guarda, Vidancelle,2, 36730, Tomiño, Pontevedra	986 62 31 22
Restaurante Os Pedregales	Calle Lago, 1-Figueiró, 36792 Tomiño, Pontevedra	986 62 01 27
Restaurante As Brasas	Calle Cruceiro, 13, 36760 San Miguel de Tabagón, O Rosal, Pontevedra	986 61 09 66
Restaurante Eiras	Primeira travesía Picones, baixo, 36760 As Eiras-O Rosal, Pontevedra	660 16 68 15
Restaurante Juan	Calle Couso, 18, 36770 O Rosal, Pontevedra	986 62 50 85
Restaurante Paradela	Carretera de As Eiras, 15, 36760 San Juan de Tabagón, O Rosal, Pontevedra	671 831 332
Restaurante Alborada	Rúa do Porto, 34, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 03 21
Restaurante Area grande	Praia de Area Grande, s/n, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 30 91
Restaurante Bitadorna	Rúa do Porto, 30, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 19 70
Restaurante Cangrexal	Rúa do Porto, 1, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 11 07
Restaurante Casa do Outeiro	Carretera O Castro, 75, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 15 00
Restaurante Marusia	Rúa do Porto, 29, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 38 09
Restaurante O Couto	Carretera de Camposancos, 110, 36788 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 62 72 36
Restaurante Os Remos	Rúa do Porto, s/n, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 37 31
Restaurante O Xeito	Calle Fernández Albor, 19, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 04 74
Restaurante Pizzicata	Calle Galicia, 55, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 15 34
Restaurante Porto Guardés	Rúa do Porto, 1, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 34 88
Restaurante Xantar	Calle de Colón, 11, 36780 A Guarda, Pontevedra	986 61 18 14

** This guide only includes restaurants that are registered as such with the Galician Tourist Information Register.



GLOSSARY

Butrón or Biturón: Type of fishing tackle used on the Ulla River and in the Baixo Miño district. It is a conical net two metres long. There is a second, finer, net inside and an iron hook at the end.

Placement is extremely important and varies depending on the river. On the Miño, the mouth of the net is positioned towards the river mouth, while on the Ulla it is oriented in the opposite direction. The mouth of the net is hooked to the *poio* (section of the *pesqueira*) by a chain, which is later used to lift it. This requires one to three people, depending on the weight of the catch.

Cangalla: Type of fishing tackle used on the Tambre River, although some fishermen on the Ulla also use this name. It is made up of a conical net placed over a square wooden framework oriented along the flow of the river.

Estacada: Wooden or metal walkway running across the river, supported by several uprights. Fishermen stand on top waiting for the lampreys to swim upstream. They then spear the fish using a *figsa* or *francada*.

The length of the *estacada* depends on the width of the river, with 15 metres being the most common. These structures are found only on the Tea River where it passes through the municipality of Ponteareas.

Unlike *pesqueiras*, the right to use the *estacadas* is not handed down within families. Instead, lots are drawn every January among the fishermen who have applied. The structures do not have individual names, although in some cases, they are referred to based on the stretch of river or the location where they are erected.

Fisga, Francada or Tridente: Long stick or rod with a number of sharp points at one end, used to spear lampreys from *estacadas*.

Gamela: Small boat used in the municipalities of Tui and A Guarda. The type of net known as a *lampreeira* or *trasmallo* is cast from the boats.

Nasa: Cylindrical net placed on the bottom of the river. These traps are utilized in estuaries and river mouths. Today they lowered from the *baleiros* on the Ulla River in the municipalities of Pontecesures, Valga and Catoira.

Pesqueira: Structure made of blocks of stone, placed perpendicular or at an angle to the river current.

The entire structure is made up of several sections known as *poios* or *pecos*. There are narrow passages between them, where a type of conical net known as a *butrón* or *biturón* is placed.

Pesqueiras are common in the upper stretches of rivers. Some even date from the Roman period or are upwards of 1000 years old. Today, the only ones still in relatively good condition are found on the Tambre, Ulla and Miño rivers. Many have their own names and the right to use them is handed down from father to son as a family legacy.

Rodeiro: The name given to *pesqueiras* on the Tambre River. They have several parts: a natural base of stones from the river, a fixed section made up of several pieces of wood and a movable piece, a framework also made of wood to which the fishing net is attached.

Lampreeira: Type of fishing tackle used at the mouth of the Miño in the municipalities of Tui and A Guarda. This type of net is used primarily at night. It is made up three overlaid sections. The largest net is called a *bitana*. Once the net is in position, the current flows through it, trapping the lampreys who encounter it in their path.

Baleiros: Moderately sized fleet of small traditional sail- and oar-driven boats used by fishermen in the municipalities of Pontecesures, Valga and Catoira at the mouth of the Ulla River. Over time, they have been replaced by modern, functional motor boats, which are preferred today. At dusk, nets known as *nasas* are dropped from boats, then collected after some twenty hours.

