



# SPAIN COSTA VERDE EXPRESS: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA TO BILBAO (TOUR CODE: 13897)

**STARTS AND ENDS** Santiago de Compostela to Bilbao TRAVEL PERIODS 17 May 25 - 04 Oct 25 EXPERIENCE Luxury Cultural Rail **TRAVEL STYLE** Rail Journeys

Experience the ultimate fusion of culinary delights and cultural exploration as you journey through Spain's Basque Country, Cantabria, Asturias, and Galicia aboard the luxurious Costa Verde Express. Transport yourself to the golden age of grand rail adventures while indulging in the modern comforts and amenities of the 21st century. Over six unforgettable days, the Costa Verde Express invites you to fully immerse yourself in this captivating experience, engaging all your senses along the way.

## Highlights

- Indulge in a gastronomic journey with expertly crafted dishes featuring fresh, local ingredients. From traditional Spanish fare to international cuisine, relish exquisite meals complemented by fine wines, all while enjoying stunning views from the dining car.
- Relax in the lounge car, offering a space to mingle with fellow travellers, savour a cocktail, or admire the passing landscapes.
  Discover the onboard entertainment, ranging from live music and cultural performances to informative lectures about the regions you'll be traversing.
- Luarca captivates with its tiered layout nestled between natural promontories, offering breathtaking vistas. Often referred to as the "Villa Blanca" of the lush Asturian coastline, it owes its nickname to the pristine white hue of its buildings.
- Viveiro showcases a harmonious blend of natural splendor and cultural treasures. Explore architectural marvels like the Gate of Charles V, the Bridge of Mercy, the House of Lions, and the Franciscan convent. Don't miss the awe-inspiring Church of Santiago, recognised as a National Monument, adding to the city's allure.
- A cosmopolitan and welcoming city, boasts stunning natural surroundings and remarkable landmarks such as "La Laboral ciudad de la Cultura," the Aquarium, the Botanical Garden, and Talasoponiente. Have lunch and explore this magnificent city.
- A place of profound importance to Asturians, where nature, history, and religion converge harmoniously, is marked by the Basilica of Covadonga and the Holy Cave.
- Nestled in the heart of the Picos de Europa National Park in northern Spain, Lake Enol stands as a serene gem amid the rugged beauty of the Cantabrian Mountains. A tour to Lake Enol promises a tranquil escape into nature's embrace, offering visitors a glimpse of breathtaking landscapes and a tranquil atmosphere.
- A faithful reproduction of the original Altamira cave in Santillana del Mar, created using state-of-the-art technology and scientific knowledge. Visitors can explore the three-dimensional recreation to learn about the life, art and environment of Europe's earliest settlers.
- The capital of Biscay, Bilbao Basque Country A vibrant cosmopolitan hub, this city pulsates with life while embracing modernity without losing its traditional identity. Renowned for its Cathedral of Santiago, recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015.

Embark on an enchanting journey through the breathtaking landscapes and rich cultural heritage of Green Spain aboard the Costa Verde Express. This luxurious train seamlessly blends the nostalgic charm of vintage rail travel with the modern comforts of the 21st century. As you traverse the picturesque regions of the Basque Country, Cantabria, Asturias, and Galicia, prepare to indulge in a gastronomic and cultural odyssey like no other.

Over six remarkable days, the Costa Verde Express promises an immersive adventure that will awaken your senses to the vibrant history, delectable cuisine, and awe-inspiring vistas of this captivating region.



# INCLUSIONS

- · Private ensuite accommodation in Grand Class Suites onboard the train
- Complimentary standard Renfe train travel both before and after your tour. Please be aware that this service is not a private transfer & seat reservations are allocated automatically
- · Onboard the train, enjoy a welcome beverage and snack to commence your journey
- · Every day, enjoy a buffet-style breakfasts served on the train
- Exceptional dining experiences for all dinners and lunches, whether served on board the train or in esteemed first-class restaurants, complete with inclusive offerings of wine, soft drinks and coffee
- · Each guest will be provided with a toiletry bag containing amenities and slippers
- · All entrance fees to museums, monuments, and shows, as well as scheduled excursions and guided visits
- · Engage in a variety of onboard activities such as live music, performances, bar car parties and dancing
- · A memorable dinner and an end-of-trip celebration

# ITINERARY

# Santiago de Compostela Viveiro

Your journey commences with a warm reception at the Parador Reyes Católicos in Santiago de Compostela at 10 a.m. Following a delightful tour of Santiago and a scrumptious lunch, guests will embark on a scenic bus ride to Ferrol, where the train is waiting. Get acquainted with the crew and settle into your accommodations before venturing out to explore Viveiro at your leisure. Enjoy dinner and spend the night in Viveiro.

Lunch, Dinner

### 2 Viveiro Oviedo

As the sun rises, indulge in a delicious breakfast aboard the train as you arrive in Ribadeo for a captivating visit, free time, and a delightful lunch. Later, journey to Luarca, renowned as the 'White Town of the Green Coast', for an immersive tour. Return to the train for dinner and an overnight stay onboard the train in Oviedo.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### 3 Oviedo Llanes

After a hearty breakfast, embark on a bus tour to the charming city of Gijón. In the afternoon, explore the capital of the principality, Oviedo, at your leisure before boarding the train bound for Llanes. Enjoy dinner on board and spend the night in Llanes.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## **4** Llanes Cabezón de la Sal

Following breakfast, guests will journey by bus to the heart of the Picos de Europa, visiting the Covadonga Sanctuary, Lake Enol, and Cangas de Onís, the first capital of the Kingdom of Asturias. After lunch, explore the picturesque village of Llanes before continuing your adventure into Cantabrian lands. Enjoy dinner on board as guests will overnight in Cabezón de la Sal.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# Solution 5 Cabezón de la Sal Santander

Begin the day with a visit to the Neocave of Altamira and the Medieval Village of Santillana del Mar before your train journey to Santander. Explore the city, enjoy some free time, and savour dinner in a typical restaurant. Spend the night in Santander.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### 6 Santander Bilbao

While relishing breakfast aboard the train, your journey continues on to Bilbao, the vibrant capital of Biscay. Spend the day exploring the city's rich cultural offerings and indulging in a delightful meal. As the afternoon approaches, return to La Concordia station, marking the end of our journey.

Breakfast, Lunch

# ACCOMMODATION

Costa Verde Express

#### GRAND CLASS DOUBLE SUITE:

The 24 Suites on the Costa Verde Express are meticulously designed to ensure a comfortable and luxurious onboard experience. The Grand-Class Suite, adorned with exquisite wood panelling, exudes a cosy and inviting ambiance. It boasts adjustable air-conditioning, a double bed, and additional amenities for your enhanced comfort, including a writing desk, wardrobe, luggage closet, minibar, and a safe. Each suite comes with a private, well-appointed bathroom featuring a shower, hairdryer, and a selection of welcome items and toiletries. Large windows allow you to immerse yourself in the picturesque scenery and the train's internal connectivity enables seamless movement throughout its length.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE** Spanish

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#### 2025 Departure dates:

- 17 & 31 May
- 14 & 28 June
- 12 & 26 July
- No departures in August
- 6 & 20 September
- 4 October

## Excluded

- · International airfares and taxes
- · Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- · Visa expenses, processing, and issuance fees
- · Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- · Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package

LOCAL CURRENCY

Euro