

EL TRANSCANTABRICO TRAIN TOUR



Enjoy an **unrivalled and unique** journey.

The El Transcantabrico is a very special journey that introduces the traveller to this unique area of Spain, known as the Green Spain.

The Lounges

The Transcantábrico has four lounge carriages, absolute rail gems due to their external design and internal decoration and finish. These are the common areas of the train, where many solid friendships have begun throughout the train's twenty years of history.

One lounge has a bar and a dance floor. This is the pub carriage, decorated and lit like a small night-club, where lively entertainment is provided every night until late.

Another lounge has a second bar where you can sit back and relax. You can go up to the bar if you want to have a drink otherwise the waiters serve the tables in all lounges. Travellers can relax enjoying the scenery, chatting, reading or playing one of the many board games provided.

Visitors are offered daily press, magazines and books from the library (in Spanish, English, German or French).



Gastronomy

As the Transcantábrico follows the Cantabrian coast and the Castilla lands, food will play an important part on the itinerary. Many of the most demanding Gourmets and Chefs maintain that Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria, Basque Country and Castilla y León offer the best cuisine of all the Spanish regions.

The restaurants not only select the highest quality raw materials to be prepared by great professionals, but are also genuine gastronomic centres, offering an excellent combination of regional dishes and international cuisine.

Accommodation

Travellers on the Transcantábrico enjoy a space especially designed for rest and privacy, sleeping in comfort as the train stops at the station overnight. This means sleep is not disturbed by jolting and gives those who enjoy night life an opportunity to go out and sample the atmosphere of each town.

Each suite compartment has a double bed or twin bunk, minibar, wardrobe, writing desk, telephone with an outside line, and large windows with curtains to contemplate the scenery. The floors are carpeted and the private bathroom has a hydro sauna, turbo massage, steam bath and hairdryer. Air-conditioning and heating are controlled individually.



The suite compartments were renovated in 2002 and 2003 to satisfy the requirements of the most demanding travellers. Each compartment is equipped with a complementary travel set, consisting of a bathrobe, slippers, and a selection of toiletries. The power rating is 220 volts.

Price guide: NZD 4,075pp share twin.

Information and rates based on information as at November 2005.

NZD Rates where given are a guide only, and are subject to tariff and exchange variance.



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EL TRANSCANTABRICO TRAIN TOUR

Itinerary 2006

León – Santiago de Compostela

Day 1, Saturday. (León -> Cistierna) León, fascinating city full of history. San Isidoro, the Cathedral, old quarter, and San Marcos. Lunch in León. Train trip to Cistierna, crossing the final part of the sickles that were dug by both the Curueño and the Torío rivers in limestone rock. Dinner in Cistierna.

Day 2, Sunday. (Cistierna -> Sotoscueva). During breakfast the train covers the journey between Cistierna and Guardo. Visit a Roman Villa and the Romanesque art of Palencia: Carrión de Los Condes, Villalcázar de Sirga and Frómista. Lunch in Villalcázar. By train we will reach Mataporquera and then on to Sotoscueva, bordering the fascinating swamp of the Ebro-river and the region of Las Merindades. There we can contemplate one of nature's wonders, the caves of Ojo Guareña. Dinner in the train.

Day 3, Monday. (Sotoscueva -> Santander) Through the land of Vizcaya we will arrive to Bilbao, a modern city, where the "ría" reaches the sea. Visit the city and the Guggenheim Museum (opened during July and August, rest of the year closed on Mondays), and lunchtime. In the afternoon the train continue to Santander, capital of Cantabria. This maritime city still conserves the charm of old times. Visit and dinner. If you wish you could visit the Casino after dinner.

Day 4, Tuesday. (Santander -> Ribadesella) During breakfast the train will arrive at Cabezón de la Sal. Coach to Santillana del Mar, visit the Altamira Neo-cave and this beautiful medieval town. Lunch in Santillana. In the afternoon we will travel by train to Asturias, and visit the charming maritime town of Llanes. Visit and dinner in Ribadesella.

Day 5, Wednesday. (Ribadesella -> Gijón) We reach the heart of Asturias. From Ribadesella, following the river Sella like the "Descenso Internacional del Río Sella", we will arrive at Ariondas. We will drive to the National Park "Picos de Europa", visiting lakes Enol and Ercina, the Sanctuary of Covadonga, and Cangas de Onís. The train will bring us to Gijón, the second city of Asturias par excellence. Lunch in Cangas de Onís. Dinner in Gijón.

Day 6, Thursday. (Gijón -> Luarca) From Gijón, we will reach Oviedo, capital of the Asturian Principality, where you could enjoy one of the most selective gastronomical demonstrations of the region in an incredible compendium, as well as the city, holder of unique pre-Romanesque monuments. The journey continues to Cudillero, a fishing village sheltered among the mountains. Afterwards, we will reach Luarca, the white town of the Green Coast. Lunch in Oviedo. Dinner in Luarca.

Day 7, Friday. (Luarca -> Vivero) The first enclave of Galicia which borders on Asturias is Ribadeo, where the mouth of the river Eo is located. The landscape of the "Rías Altas" is awe-inspiring. Boat trip by the Estuary of Eo. Lunch in Ribadeo. In the afternoon we will arrive by train into Vivero. Visit this beautiful walled town. Dinner in Vivero.

Day 8, Saturday. (Vivero -> Santiago) From Vivero, the train will reach Ferrol, from where the coach will approach us to our last destination: Santiago de Compostela, end of the pilgrimage route. Here the Obradoiro square waits as a jewel, as well as Platerías and the Cathedral. Lunch in Santiago de Compostela.

Santiago de Compostela – León

Day 1, Saturday. (Santiago-> Vivero) Santiago de Compostela, end of the pilgrimage route, where the Obradoiro Square waits as a jewel, as well as Platerías, and the Cathedral. From Santiago we will take the coach to Ferrol, where the train will be waiting for taking us to Vivero. Visit to this beautiful walled town. Lunch in Santiago, and dinner in Vivero.

Day 2, Sunday. (Vivero-> Luarca) Breakfast and train trip to visit Ribadeo, city located between Asturias and Galicia. Visit and boat trip in the Estuary of Eo. Lunch in Ribadeo. Afterwards, we will visit Luarca, the white town of the Green Coast. Dinner in Luarca.

Day 3, Monday. (Luarca -> Gijón) In Asturias we will go towards Cudillero, a fishing village sheltered among the mountains. From there, we will reach Oviedo, capital of the Asturian Principality, where you could enjoy one of the most selective gastronomical demonstrations of the region in an incredible compendium, as well as the city, holder of unique pre-Romanesque monuments. Afterwards we will visit Gijón, the other Asturian city par excellence. Lunch in Oviedo, and dinner in Gijón.

Day 4, Tuesday. (Gijón -> Llanes) We arrive in Ariondas, reaching the heart of Asturias: the National Park "Picos de Europa", visiting lakes Enol and Ercina, the Sanctuary of Covadonga, and Cangas de Onís. In the afternoon we will follow the river Sella like the "Descenso Internacional del Río Sella" until we reach Ribadesella, and from there we will go to the charming maritime town of Llanes. Lunch in Cangas de Onis, and dinner in Llanes.

Day 5, Wednesday. (Llanes -> Santander) During breakfast, the train will arrive in Cabezón de la Sal, from where we will go by coach to visit the Altamira Neo-cave, and Santillana del Mar. Lunch in Santillana. In the afternoon the train will travel to Santander. Visit, dinner, and if you wish you could visit the Casino after dinner.

Day 6, Thursday. (Santander -> Sotoscueva) After breakfast the train will arrive in Bilbao, a modern city where the "ría" reaches the sea. Visit of the city and the Guggenheim Museum. Lunch in Bilbao. In the afternoon the train will arrive in Sotoscueva where we could contemplate one of nature's wonders, the caves of Ojo Guareña. Dinner in the train.

Day 7, Friday. (Sotoscueva – Cistierna) In the morning we will arrive in Mataporquera. There, we will take the coach to visit the "Canal de Castilla" and the Romanesque art in Palencia: Villalcázar de Sirga, Carrión de Los Condes, and Frómista. Lunch in Villalcázar. Visit of a Roman Villa in the afternoon. From Guardo we will take the train to Cistierna. Dinner in Cistierna.

Day 8, Saturday. (Cistierna -> León) During breakfast, crossing the final part of the sickles that were dug by both the Curueño and the Torío rivers in limestone rock, the train will arrive in León, a town full of history. Visit of San Isidoro, the Cathedral, old quarter and San Marcos. Lunch in León.

Meeting Point and time

Departure from León

Parador de turismo de San Marcos, 12,00 o'clock
Plaza de San Marcos, 7 Tel. 34 + 981582200

Meeting Point and time

Departure from Santiago de Compostela

Parador de turismo de Los Reyes Católicos, 12,00 o'clock
Plaza del Obradoiro, 1 Tel. 34 + 987237300

DEPARTURES 2006

EI TRASCANTABRICO 1		EI TRASCANTABRICO 2	
08 April	León – Santiago de Compostela	20 May	Santiago de Compostela – León
15 April	Santiago de Compostela - León	27 May	León – Santiago de Compostela
22 April	León – Santiago de Compostela	03 June	Santiago de Compostela – León
29 April	Santiago de Compostela - León	10 June	León – Santiago de Compostela
06 May	León – Santiago de Compostela	17 June	Santiago de Compostela – León
13 May	Santiago de Compostela - León	24 June	León – Santiago de Compostela
20 May	León – Santiago de Compostela	01 July	Santiago de Compostela – León
27 May	Santiago de Compostela - León	08 July	León – Santiago de Compostela
03 June	León – Santiago de Compostela	15 July	Santiago de Compostela – León
10 June	Santiago de Compostela - León	22 July	León – Santiago de Compostela
17 June	León – Santiago de Compostela	29 July	Santiago de Compostela – León
24 June	Santiago de Compostela - León	05 August	León – Santiago de Compostela
01 July	León – Santiago de Compostela	12 August	Santiago de Compostela – León
08 July	Santiago de Compostela - León	19 August	León – Santiago de Compostela
15 July	León – Santiago de Compostela	26 August	Santiago de Compostela – León
22 July	Santiago de Compostela - León	02 September	León – Santiago de Compostela
29 July	León – Santiago de Compostela	09 September	Santiago de Compostela – León
05 August	Santiago de Compostela - León	16 September	León – Santiago de Compostela
12 August	León – Santiago de Compostela	23 September	Santiago de Compostela – León
19 August	Santiago de Compostela - León	30 September	León – Santiago de Compostela
26 August	León – Santiago de Compostela	07 October	Santiago de Compostela – León
02 September	Santiago de Compostela - León	14 October	León – Santiago de Compostela
09 September	León – Santiago de Compostela	21 October	Santiago de Compostela – León
16 September	Santiago de Compostela - León	28 October	León – Santiago de Compostela
23 September	León – Santiago de Compostela		
30 September	Santiago de Compostela - León		
07 October	León – Santiago de Compostela		

Visits and Tours

Cities: Santiago de Compostela - Ferrol - Vivero - Ribadeo - Luarca - Cudillero - Oviedo - Gijón - Cangas de Onis - Ribadesella - Llanes - Cabezón de la Sal - Santillana del Mar - Santander - Bilbao - Sotoscueva - Frómista - Villalcázar de Sirga - Carrión de los Condes - Cistierna - León.

Cultural Tours: Cathedral of Santiago - Asturian Pre-Romanic and the old town of Oviedo - Picos de Europa National Park – Covadonga’s Sanctuary - Santillana del Mar Collegiate Church – Altamira Neo-cave – Santander’s Casino– Guggenheim Museum (departing from León it is visited only in July and August) –Euskalduna Palace – Caves of Ojo Guareña - San Martin de Frómista Church - Church of Sta. María – Santiago’s Church - San Zoilo Monastery - Roman Villa - San Marcos - San Isidoro - Old town of León and León’s Cathedral.

Boat Trip: Yacht trip in the Ria of Eo (if the weather allows it).

The Transcantábrico trip includes

- ❑ Seven nights’ accommodation on board the train.
- ❑ Seven dinners and eight lunches of northern Spanish cuisine, wine and coffee included.
- ❑ Seven buffet breakfasts on board.
- ❑ Music and entertainment in the pub coach.
- ❑ Planned tours, including entrance to museums, churches, casino, and more.
- ❑ Luxury Coach during the complete trip.
- ❑ Security personnel.
- ❑ An excellent staff at your service.

Prices for Compartments 2006

Double Suite (for 2 people)	€ 4,400
Single Suite (for 1 person)	€ 3,000

Eurolynx can also assist with arrangements pre and post tour accommodation, rail, ferries and other travel arrangements.

This price is based on information, tariffs and exchange rates as at November 2005 and will be subject to change until a confirmed reservation is held and full payment is made.