

TOURIST GUIDE

A TRIP TO THE NORTH OF PORTUGAL

Valença is as far north in Portugal and is deep within the lush Minho region of Portugal. The town is set in an idyllic location, surrounded by craggy mountains and wide rivers, and the Rio Minho forms the natural border with Spain.



The Valença Fortaleza is one of the most impressive fortifications in northern Portugal, and the multilayers of battlements and bastions encompass the entire historic centre. This historic centre is scenic and characterful, while the newer residential section of the city is drab and best simply avoided.

Viana do Castelo is a delightful and characterful city, which is steeped in history, surrounded by beautiful scenery and contains many outstanding tourist attractions, including the magnificent Santuario de Santa Luzia.

The city is situated in a picturesque setting, nestled between the slow flowing Rio Lima and the steep Santa Luzia hills.



Braga is regarded as the religious centre of Portugal, and is a fantastic tourist destination. The city boasts an extensive variety of religious buildings and historic monuments, all set within the traditional streets and charming plazas of the historic centre.

Braga may be the third-largest city of Portugal, but it has a calm ambience and compact historic centre, also the Bom Jesus do Monte, an expansive religious complex, and one of the finest monuments in northern Portugal.



Aveiro is a popular tourist destination, famed for its canals, Nouveau architecture and colourfully painted Moliceiros boats. The city lies on the edge of the Ria de Aveiro, an expansive saltwater lagoon that was historically farmed for its seaweed, salt and bountiful fish.

Aveiro is frequently described as the Venice of Portugal. This is easy to understand why, with its three canals and traditional Moliceiros boats that transport tourists along the waterways.



Porto, the second-largest city of Portugal is an outstanding tourist destination that effortlessly combines history and heritage, in a progressive and welcoming city.



The best sights in Porto are:

1. The Ponte Luís I bridge
2. Igreja de São Francisco
3. The Serralves art museum
4. Livraria Lello bookshop
5. Sao Bento train station

The best activities:

1. The Port tasting and tours cellar tours
2. Douro River cruise
3. Eating a Francesinha
4. An evening in the Ribeira district
5. The Avenida dos Aliados
5. The tram ride to the Foz district
6. Shopping at the Mercado do Bolhão
7. The Mercado Bom Sucesso food hall

Arcos de Valdevez and Ponte de Lima are two scenic towns of northern Portugal and is a wonderful destination for a day trip. This pretty little town lies on the banks of the slow-flowing Rio Lima, and was the original crossing point of the river, with a bridge here since the Roman era.



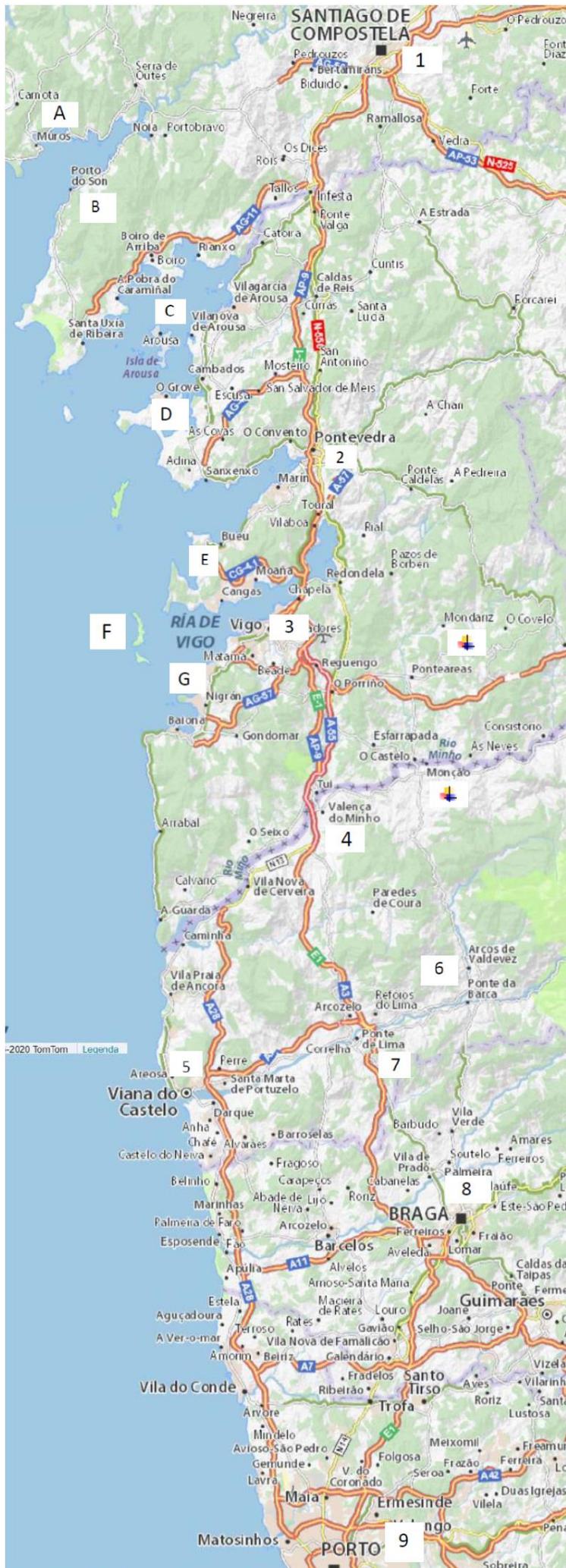
- The Ponte Medieval bridge
- Centro do Vinho Verde
- The Festival Internacional de Jardins (May to October)
- A riverside walk
- Soajo
- Nossa Senhora da Peneda

GALICIA COAST HOLIDAY: THE BEST BEACHES

White sandy beaches, epic Atlantic scenery and supreme seafood combine to great effect on Spain's most beautiful coastline



Lush green valleys and rugged mountains, sheer cliffs and wild, frothing, slate-grey seas. Bagpipes, baroque cathedrals and the smell of grilled seafood. The architectural grace of Santiago de Compostela and the industrial churn of Vigo. Galicia, the north-west corner of Spain, is a diverse region, but amid the variety there are two constants: first, it's one of the best places to eat seafood in the world; and, second, its wild landscape, seemingly more Scottish than Spanish, is the most beautiful on the Iberian peninsula.



CITIES

- 1.- Santiago de Compostela: 1 hora 30 minutos
- 2.- Pontevedra-Combarro: 50 minutos
- 3.- Vigo: 40 minutos
- 4.- Valença do Minho: 15 minutos
- 5.- Viana do Castelo: 1 hora
- 6.- Arcos de Valdevez: 50 minutos
- 7.- Ponte de Lima: 50 minutos
- 8.- Braga: 1 hora 15 minutos
- 9.- Porto: 1 hora 40 minutos

BEACHES

- A.- Carnota – Muros: 1 hora 50 minutos
- B.- Porto do Son: 2 horas
- C.- Isla de Arousa: 1 hora
- D.- A Lanzada, Grove, Sanxenxo: 1 hora
- E.- Nerga – Bueu – Cabo home: 1 hora
- F.- Island: Cies by Ship: Vigo + 1 hora
- G.- Playa America, Patos: 45 minutos

AIRPORTS

- Porto: 1 hora 40 minutos
- Vigo: 30 minutos
- Santiago de Compostela: 1 hora 40 minutos

SPAS

- 🚗 Balneario de Mondariz: 30 minutos
- 🚗 Hotel Nagari (Vigo): 45 minutos
- 🚗 Termas de Monção: 10 minutos