Galicia: Where Green Meets Ocean Breeze, the Soul of Atlantic Flavors

Hosted by Anna & Michael Olson

SEPTEMBER 15–22, 2027 · SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN



Discover Galicia's Atlantic Charm

There are places in the world where geography and palate share the exact same breath, and Galicia is their purest expression.

Conceived as a tribute to the senses, this bespoke private journey invites travelers into a timeless sanctuary of verdant valleys, dramatic river canyons, and pristine Atlantic waters that nurture the most coveted seafood in Europe.

It is an experience curated for those who believe that true luxury lies in unhurried moments, authentic encounters, and dishes rooted deeply in their origin.





The Soul of Atlantic Flavors

Throughout the route, centuries of cultural heritage blend effortlessly with a passionate devotion to the table. The echoes of history whisper through the granite arches of rural Romanesque monasteries and the monumental majesty of Santiago de Compostela, while the calm expanse of the estuaries reveals an ancestral maritime rhythm.

From the vibrant ritual of sampling freshly shucked oysters and gathering for a lavish seated shellfish feast, to savoring heroic wines among terraced hillsides and donning an apron for a private cooking class, every day offers a unique discovery. Galicia is never merely witnessed; it is an enduring, generous banquet waiting to be lived and remembered.

SEA. SOIL. CELEBRATION.

Your Journey at a Glance

15–22 SEPTEMBER 2027 · 8 DAYS · HOSTED BY ANNA & MICHAEL OLSON

1. Arrival and welcome dinner
2. Santiago de Compostela
3. Finisterre
4. Ribeira Sacra · Sil River
5. Lugo
6. Rías Baixas
7. Vigo
8. Departure



A private journey paced between landmark moments, local encounters and breathing room, supported throughout by personalized service.

HOSTED BY

Anna & Michael Olson



Anna & Michael are with you for the full eight days – at tastings, in kitchens, at meals, and during every curated experience.

Their deep knowledge of Spanish food culture, their connections to local artisans and producers, and their genuine warmth transform each day into something personal and unforgettable meals with local masters of their craft.

Luxury and authenticity, woven together.



Santiago de Compostela

Santiago de Compostela stands not merely as the triumphant culmination of the ancient Camino, but as one of the most evocative cultural and spiritual landmarks in the Western world. Honored as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the city unfolds like a living monument sculpted in golden granite, where centuries of history harmonize with a warm, timeless Atlantic spirit. Its monumental heart beats in the Plaza del Obradoiro, crowned by the soaring towers of the Santiago Cathedral.

Wandering beyond the cathedral reveals a seamless succession of historic squares and granite avenues. The quiet majesty of A Quintana, home to the sacred Holy Door, transitions into the sculpted elegance of Platerías, distinguished by the basilica's original Romanesque facade and ornate fountain. A stroll beneath the stone arcades of Rúa do Vilar or Rúa Nova uncovers stately noble mansions, secluded courtyards, and the delicate legacy of traditional silversmiths and jet-stone artisans.

This cultural tapestry finds its ultimate expression at the table, where the bounty of the Atlantic waters and the fertile Galician countryside unite to create an extraordinary culinary tradition celebrated for fresh shellfish, indigenous wines, and the heritage of the beloved almond-scented Tarta de Santiago.

Finisterre & Costa da Morte

Nestled within the rugged contours of the storied Costa da Morte (Coast of Death), the historic fishing town of Fisterra carries an unmistakable allure born from dramatic Atlantic vistas, Celtic lore, and centuries of maritime heritage.

Long before modern navigation traced the continents, ancient Roman and Celtic civilizations stood upon these cliffs believing they had reached the literal end of the Earth.

Today, it remains a place of profound atmosphere, timeless seafaring traditions, and quiet contemplation.

Highlights & Sense of Place:

- The Lighthouse & Cape Finisterre
- The Harbor & Seafaring Life
- The Historic Quarter & Heritage
- The Ézaro Waterfall
- Coastal Landscapes of Contrasts





Ribeira Sacra & River Cruise

A breathtaking natural gorge where the Sil River winds through monumental granite cliffs rising more than 1,600 feet above the water. Shaped by geographic isolation and an enduring monastic heritage, this dramatic landscape is home to world-renowned "heroic viticulture"—a millennia-old craft of hand-built stone terraces defying gravity on near-vertical slopes. Cruising these serene waters on an exclusive sailing offers an intimate view of a singular terroir, where slate soils, river mists, and generous sunlight yield characterful wines celebrated worldwide for their minerality and depth.

Santo Estevo de Ribas de Miño: The Pinnacle of Rural Romanesque Art

Perched on a forested hillside overlooking the Miño River in O Saviñao, the church of Santo Estevo de Ribas de Miño stands as one of the most remarkable architectural treasures of 12th-century Galicia. Formerly a Benedictine monastery, the edifice was built atop a substantial vaulted stone crypt conceived to conquer the mountain slope, lending the sanctuary an imposing, fortress-like silhouette surrounded by ancient woodlands and terraced vines.

The monument's defining masterpiece crowns its western facade: a spectacular openwork granite rosette exceeding thirteen feet in diameter, widely celebrated as a pinnacle of Iberian medieval stone sculpture. Its intricate geometric and floral carvings, along with the richly sculpted portico archivolts, show the direct stylistic influence of Master Mateo's workshop, the visionary behind Santiago Cathedral’s Pórtico de la Gloria. Stepping inside reveals a serene sanctuary where ancient acoustics, raw masonry, and quiet contemplation evoke the monastic mystique that gave the Ribeira Sacra its name.



A Faragulla: Artisanal Open-Fire Gastronomy in Chantada

Set in the historic quarter of Chantada, A Faragulla represents one of the most compelling dining destinations in the Galician interior. Helmed by chef Toño Lorenzo, this refined eatery elevates primal live-fire cooking into an art form, masterfully blending traditional regional flavors with modern culinary vision and seasonal terroir.

At the core of the experience lies the open grill, where prime indigenous Galician meats, heritage vegetables from local micro-growers, and select seasonal fare are kissed by smoke and flame.

The setting is warm and understated, pairing contemporary aesthetic touches with historic granite walls, complemented by a meticulously curated cellar spotlighting small-scale artisanal winemakers across the Ribeira Sacra. A memorable culinary stop where time-honored ingredients meet technique, nuance, and character.



Galicia, Served Generously:

LUGO

Founded as Lucus Augusti, Lugo stands as the oldest city in Galicia, a place where imperial Roman heritage remains vibrantly intertwined with daily life. Its crowning jewel is the formidable 3rd-century perimeter wall – a UNESCO World Heritage site and the only completely preserved Roman fortification circuit in the world. Walking atop its high parapet offers a singular vantage point over a city that gracefully blends classical antiquity with medieval quietude.

Within these ancient stones lies an atmospheric historic center woven with cobbled lanes, granite arcades, and tranquil, leafy squares. Anchoring the old quarter is the Cathedral of Santa María, an architectural landmark featuring a striking dialogue between Romanesque, Gothic, and Baroque artistry.

Complemented by its vibrant culinary tradition, time-honored taverns, and unhurried charm, Lugo offers an intimate immersion into the enduring spirit of inland Galicia.





VIGO

Opening boldly onto one of Galicia’s most fertile and sweeping ocean estuaries, Vigo is the region's quintessential maritime capital – a city whose very essence has been carved by oceanic tides, salt mist, and seafaring trade. Its true heart belongs to the ria, a deep natural harbor sheltered by the wild Cíes Islands, dotted with wooden mussel rafts (bateas) and animated by the daily return of fishing boats bearing some of the finest seafood in Europe.

This authentic maritime character comes alive in O Berbés, the historic granite-arcaded fishermen’s quarter connecting to one of the most vibrant working ports in the world.

Ascending the cobbled stepped lanes of the historic Casco Vello reveals the city's spirited charm: lively seaside taverns fragrant with fresh shellfish, the timeless tradition of savoring local oysters freshly shucked at A Pedra market, and panoramic Atlantic vistas from the crest of Monte do Castro. Vigo represents maritime energy at its most genuine – a living homage to seafaring life and the ocean's bounty.

Quinta de San Amaro

DAY TRIP · 21 SEPTEMBER

A boutique winery estate immersed in Rías Baixas. Hands-on Galician cooking class, tasting lunch and leisure time in the vineyards, with the group returning to Santiago that evening.



Arrival & Santiago

DAY 1 · 15 SEPT

A warm Galician welcome

Santiago de Compostela

- Arrival & Private Transfers: Upon landing at Santiago de Compostela Airport (SCQ), private chauffeured transfers will take you directly to your hotel, tailored around each traveler's flight schedule.
- Time at Leisure: After checking in, the remainder of the day is yours to enjoy entirely at your own pace. Settle in, unwind from your journey, and ease gently into the local rhythm with an unhurried first glimpse of this storied city.
- Welcome Dinner: In the evening, gather for an exclusive welcome dinner at a curated local restaurant in Santiago de Compostela, offering an elegant first taste of Galicia’s rich gastronomic traditions to mark the beginning of your journey.
- Overnight.

DAY 2 · 16 SEPT

Cathedral & ceremony

Santiago de Compostela

- Breakfast.
- Private Guided Monumental Tour: Joined by an expert private official guide, explore the city’s landmark UNESCO World Heritage sites on foot.
- Admission to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela followed by an exclusive experience with the ceremonial swinging of the Botafumeiro dedicated to the group, including reserved premium seating in the high altar area.
- Traditional Galician Shellfish Feast: Gather at a handpicked restaurant in the historic center to savor an authentic Atlantic banquet: a Grand Galician Seafood Feast served at the table, showcasing the finest catches of the rías.
- Afternoon at Leisure: Following lunch, enjoy the remainder of the afternoon completely at your own pace to stroll through the stone streets, browse artisan shops for traditional silver filigree and jet stone jewelry, or unwind at the hotel.
- Overnight.

Finisterre, Costa da Morte & Ribeira Sacra

DAY 3 · 17 SEPT

To the edge of the world

Finisterre

- Breakfast.
- Journey to the Ancient Edge of the World: Depart in the morning toward the rugged Costa da Morte. The day begins at the Ézaro waterfall to admire the striking sight of a freshwater river tumbling directly into the Atlantic Ocean. The route then continues to legendary Cape Finisterre for a visit to its iconic lighthouse, set atop sheer cliffs that classical antiquity revered as the edge of the known world.
- Traditional Galician Lunch: Gather at O Fragón restaurant to savor an exquisite gourmet lunch of signature Atlantic cuisine, framed by sweeping panoramic views over the coast.
- Return & Evening at Leisure: After lunch, private road journey back to Santiago de Compostela. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to enjoy the city's historic ambiance or unwind at the hotel.
- Overnight.

DAY 4 · 18 SEPT

History, Wine and open fire cooking

Ribeira Sacra and Sil River

- Following breakfast, depart by private minibus toward the dramatic river valleys of the Ribeira Sacra.
- Board the private vessel Brandán II for an exclusive one-hour sailing along the Sil River canyon.
- Sacred Romanesque Heritage: Upon docking, your private official guide leads a curated overland tour featuring some of Europe’s finest rural Romanesque masterpieces.
- Exclusive Winery Tour & Tasting: Leading up to lunch, visit an acclaimed D.O. Ribeira Sacra winery terraced into the steep riverbanks. Discover the heritage of "heroic viticulture" followed by a private tasting.
- Lunch in Chantada: a curated dining experience at A Faragulla, celebrated for its refined treatment of seasonal Galician ingredients and artisanal open-fire cooking.
- Return & Evening at Leisure: Following lunch, return directly to Santiago de Compostela.
- Overnight.

Lugo: Imperial Legacy & Timeless Stone

DAY 5 · 19 SEPT

River, vines & Romanesque stone

Lugo

- Journey to Ancient Lucus Augusti: After breakfast, depart by private minibus toward Lugo, one of Galicia's oldest and most historically storied cities.
- Private Guided City Discovery: Accompanied by a private official guide, explore the city’s extraordinary and iconic Roman walls - a UNESCO World Heritage site and the only completely intact Roman circuit standing in the world today.
- Lunch at Restaurante Campos: Just steps from the Roman ramparts, enjoy a curated Galician Seafood & Prime Produce Tasting Menu with paired wines included.
- Return & Evening at Leisure: After lunch, return directly by road to Santiago de Compostela. The remainder of the afternoon and evening is at leisure to unwind, shop, or stroll through the historic quarter at your own pace.
- Overnight.

Rías Baixas & Cooking with Anna & Michael

DAY 6 · 20 SEPT

Rías Baixas & Albariño

- Journey to Isla de La Toja & Private Guided Tour: Following breakfast in Santiago de Compostela, board your private minibus for a scenic drive toward legendary Isla de La Toja. Upon arrival, enjoy a private guided walking tour through this storied island enclave, discovering its thermal heritage, lush natural pine groves, and the iconic shell-encrusted chapel.
- Arousa Mussel Boat Cruise: Embark on a scenic boat journey navigating the calm waters of the Ría de Arousa, Galicia's largest and most productive estuary. Sail alongside traditional floating platforms (bateas) cultivating mussels, oysters, and scallops while watching local fishermen at work. The boat will make a stop to peer through the underwater viewing windows, discovering the diverse marine life thriving beneath the cultivation ropes. From the deck, take in sweeping vistas of local shellfish banks, the islet of A Figueira with the medieval ruins of San Sadurniño Tower, the coastline of Illa de Arousa with its Punta Carreirón nature reserve, and the wine town of Cambados. The cruise concludes on board with freshly steamed local mussels paired with Galician wine.
- Paco & Lola Winery Tour with Artisan Cheese Pairing: Disembark and travel by road to this avant-garde D.O. Rías Baixas estate, celebrated for its modern design in the O Salnés valley. Tour the state-of-the-art winemaking facilities to discover the nuances of Atlantic Albariño viticulture, followed by a curated wine tasting paired with a selection of artisanal Galician cheeses.
- Hands-On Galician Cooking Class at Quinta de San Amaro: Following the winery visit, journey to the charming Quinta de San Amaro estate to take part in an exclusive, hands-on masterclass in traditional Galician gastronomy with **Anna & Michael Olson**.
- Tasting Lunch & Leisurely Afternoon: Gather around the table to savor the regional specialties prepared during the workshop for a relaxed celebratory lunch. Enjoy time at leisure to stroll through the estate's grounds before continuing the day's journey.
- Return Journey to Santiago de Compostela: Following a relaxed afternoon at the estate, rejoin your private driver for the return road journey to Santiago de Compostela.
- Evening at leisure to unwind at your hotel or enjoy the historic streets at your own pace.
- Overnight.

Vigo & Farewell

DAY 7 · 21 SEPT

The Pulse of the Atlantic & Seafaring Soul

Vigo

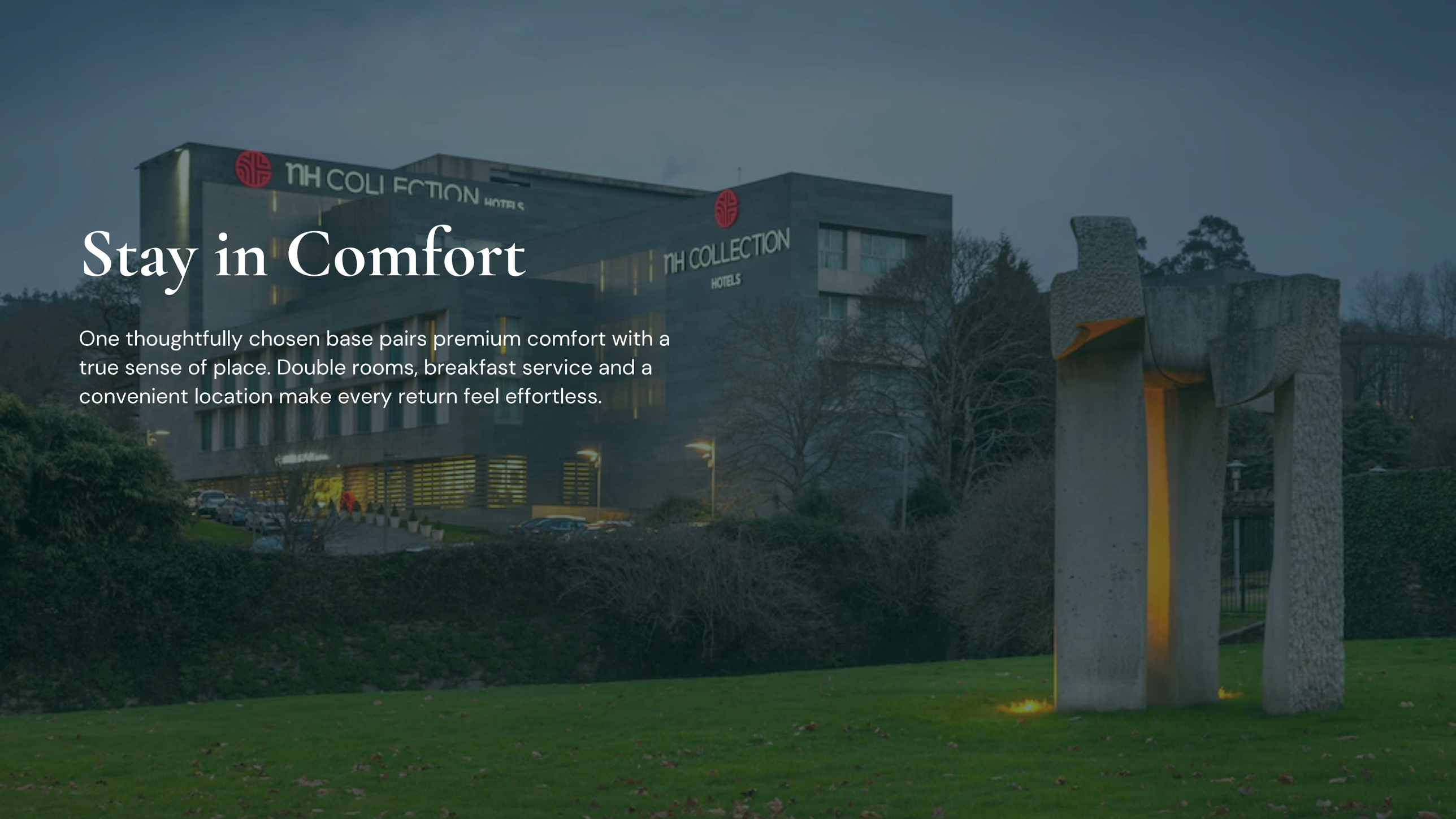
- Following breakfast, board your private minibus and begin the journey toward the vibrant port city of Vigo.
- Casco Vello & Mercado da Pedra: Upon arrival, enjoy time at leisure to explore the pedestrian stone alleys of Vigo’s historic quarter and the celebrated Mercado da Pedra. Stroll down the legendary Rúa da Pescadería (famously known as Oyster Street), where traditional oyster shuckers prepare pristine local oysters opened live on the street, with time to sample them at the outdoor tables (lunch and tastings at clients' own expense).
- At the agreed time following your discovery of Vigo, meet your private driver for the journey back to Santiago de Compostela.
- Gather for your Farewell dinner at a handpicked traditional restaurant in Santiago de Compostela, savoring authentic regional flavors.
- Overnight.

DAY 8 · 22 SEPT

Departure Day

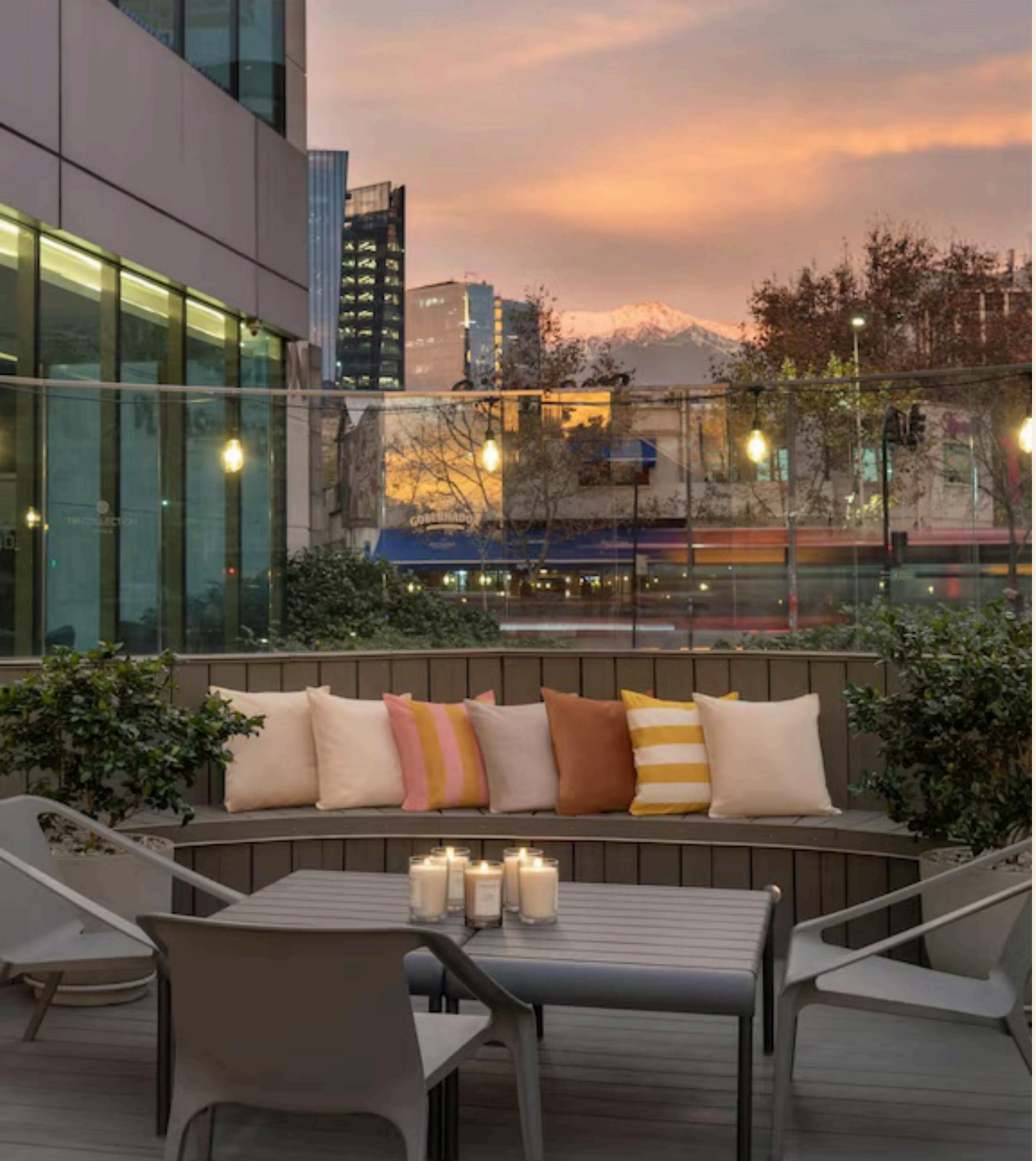
Santiago de Compostela

- Breakfast.
- Private Airport Transfer: At the designated time, coordinated according to departure flight schedules, meet your driver for a private minibus transfer to the airport for check-in and boarding.



Stay in Comfort

One thoughtfully chosen base pairs premium comfort with a true sense of place. Double rooms, breakfast service and a convenient location make every return feel effortless.



NH Collection Santiago de Compostela

7 NIGHTS · 15–22 SEPTEMBER

Nestled in a peaceful residential setting surrounded by lush parklands, the NH Collection Santiago de Compostela delivers the perfect blend of modern sophistication and easy access to the historic center, just a leisurely stroll away.

This distinguished five-star hotel stands out for its bright architecture and refined, minimalist interiors. Designed as serene sanctuaries after a day of discovery, its spacious guest rooms offer thoughtful comforts, warm finishes, and sweeping views of the surrounding gardens or the distant cathedral towers. The property's premium amenities include a heated indoor pool, a seasonal outdoor pool, a sauna, and a fully equipped fitness center, alongside a curated dining experience that highlights the very best of contemporary Galician cuisine in a relaxed, sophisticated atmosphere.

One Base. One Seamless Journey.









SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

All seven nights are based in Santiago, a cultured city base for the cathedral, the Atlantic coast and every northern excursion - Finisterre, Ribeira Sacra, Lugo, Vigo and Rías Baixas all return to the same door each evening.

Ready for Galicia?

INCLUDED

- Seven nights at NH Collection Santiago de Compostela, or similar, with daily breakfast
- Private arrival and departure transfers from Santiago de Compostela Airport
- Private transportation for all scheduled touring
- Private English-speaking guides and listed admissions
- Botafumeiro experience with premium reserved seating
- Private Sil River cruise with wine tasting
- Winery visits and tastings in Ribeira Sacra and Rías Baixas
- Ría de Arousa mussel-boat experience with tasting
- Exclusive hands-on cooking class led by Anna and Michael Olson, plus tasting lunch
- Five lunches and four dinners, including welcome and farewell dinners with wine pairings
- Travel and assistance insurance coverage within Spain
- 24/7 in-destination English-language support

NOT INCLUDED

- International or domestic airfare
- Meals and beverages not specifically listed
- Optional activities, personal expenses, and discretionary gratuities
- Transfers to or from airports other than Santiago de Compostela Airport
- Anything not specifically listed under What's Included

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