









HISTORY AND TRADITION

Padrón, municipality situated to the south of the province of A Coruña, in the limit with that of Pontevedra, lies in a wide valley between the rivers Ulla and Sar, natural gate to the Arousa estuary. The name of the town, probably comes from the "Pedrón". Roman altar stone which is kept underneath the high altar of the Church of Santiago



According to the Jacobean tradition, this is the place where the apostolic boat was moored; by which, guided by an angel, came from "Haffa" in Palestine to the port of Iria Flavia the Apostle Saint James' dead body (1st century), accompanied by his disciples Theodore and Athanasius. The origin of the town dates back to the 10th century, as a suburb of Iria Flavia, rising up by a river, the Sar, which until the Middle Ages was navigable.

Padrón, rises up at a crossroads, a place of Jacobean pilgrimages. The town-planning arrangement keeps a medieval lavout, the streets are narrow and are placed around a central axis, the Rúa Longa (Longa Street), from which the rest of the streets part across, intercalated by small squares. Until the Modern Age it had two ports: an outer one by the Ulla River, at the place of A Ponte, and an inner one at Murgadán on the banks of the

The forum that the King Fernando II of León (1164) granted it, because of being the place of the Apostle's arrival, changed the hamlet of Padrón into a town, getting Padrón tax concessions and political privileges in the kingdoms of the monarchy, confirmed by all the monarchs until the King Felipe V (1701) and kept in the Municipal Historical Archive

In the 15th century, Padrón suffered the ups and downs of the Revolta Irmandiña (struggle between the archbishopric and the knights); in the town an Irmandade was formed (1467) which would lead to the destruction of the fortress of the Rocha Branca at Iria Flavia (one of the most beautiful castles in the archbishopric) and of the Moucha Tower, defensive watchtower, next to the parochial church.

With the introduction of the textile industry in the 17th century an important protoindustrialization takes place in the town, which would last until the middle of the 19th century and in which local companies which traded with several European countries will take part. At the beginning of the 19th century Padrón suffers the consequences of the French Invasion, with sackings at the Convent of Carme, at the Herbón and at the Sanctuary of A Escravitude. From the 18th century it holds the name of very loyal and noble Town of Padrón. Administrative centre (3/2/1820) and Tourist Municipality (7/2/2000).



O Carme in the Background.

Cruceiro (Stone cross) of Fondo de Vila. 15th century. Pedestal with figures of the Passion: salamanders, tibias and skulls. Long pole with the images of the Apostle dressed as a pilgrim and Saint John. (foto 1)

The Espolón River promenade 19th century. covered artistically by plane trees and presided by the Statue of Rosalía de Castro to the north 1957 José María Mateos' work. To the south the one of Camilo José Cela, Ferreiro Badía's work. 2003. Every Sunday all the year round from the Middle Ages, a typical market takes place there; on it all kind of goods are sold, which attracts thousands of visitors.



Church of Saint James of Padrón, 1876, in Neo-classical style, by José Piquet, it was built on a Romanesque temple, under the patronage of the Archbishop Gelmírez (1123). It was altered in the 16th and 17th centuries. Inside we can find the Pedrón, Roman altar stone, a Gothic pulpit (15th century) from the times of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna, on which a beautiful image of Saint James the Pilgrim is sculpted. Two canvases. depicting the arrival of the Apostle Saint James in a boat (17th century), and two wooden relief carvings, recently recovered, where the baptism of Queen Lupa and the arrival of the Apostle Saint James in a boat to Padrón are represented.

Bridge of Saint James. 1904, Juan Peón's work, rebuilt on a medieval bridge.

MONUMENTS OF PADRÓN

Fountain of O Carme. 1577. Restored in 1789 and with Jacobean symbols, depicting the arrival of the Apostle to Padrón and the baptism of Oueen Lupa.

Convent of O Carme. 1752, ancient Carmelite monastery, today occupied by Dominican Fathers. The carvings of the Virgin of O Carme, work of Felipe de Castro (1704-1775), a Virxe das Angustias (the Virgin of the Anguish), Christ with the Globe, works of José Ferreiro (1738-1830) outstand. From its magnificent atrium, one enjoys a splendid view of the town.

Palace of Quito. 1666, Renaissance building by Melchor Velasco Agüero, it was commissioned by D. Alonso de la Peña y Montenegro, rector of the University of Santiago, Archbishop and general captain of Quito.



Palace of Quito

Townhall, Manor house, restored in 1794. work of the master don Francisco Domínguez On the facade, municipal stone coat of arms, face of English clock from the same time. In the assembly hall, image of Saint John Anteportam Latinam (popularly known as Saint John of the Lightning), a canvas from the 19th century, work of the local painter Balsa de la Vega, it represents the medieval friar and poet Juan Rodríguez

del Padrón, and on the last floor, rooms of the Municipal Historical Archive

Building of the Alfolí (salt warehouse). Warehouse for the selling of salt from the 12th cen-

Houses with coats of arms and galleries of the old town. Witnesses of a flourishing past. Historical Artistic Garden, 19th century, with

numerous species of trees, unique specimens: Senegal date palm, Californian redwoods, oak trees, Syrian hibiscus, etc. It was declared national artistic monument in 1946. Inside there are busts of the medieval poet Macías and of Alfonso Daniel Rodríguez Castelao, distinguished personage from Rianxo.

Way of the Cross leading to O Santiaguin From Padrón to the top of the mountain, 125 steps, 19th century work, under the patronage of the Maecenas from Padrón Vidal Cepeda.

Santiaquiño do Monte, Jacobean shrine. formed by the rocks, the house of the hermit. the fount and the hermitage. On the west gate a big coat of arms of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna (15th century): inside stony statue of the Saint and tomb of the canon Gregorio (15th century). According to the Jacobean tradition, the Apostle Saint James preached on the rocks and with his staff he made the spring appear.

Iria Flavia. From high antiquity it was a focal point irradiating culture. Old pre-Roman village, it was colonized by the Romans in the 1st century AD. Roman mansion of the Vía XIX. In AD 69-70 the Emperor Vespasiano grants it the *ius latii*. Episcopal See from the 5th century until 1095. Collegiate church until 1895, from that date on Main Parish Church, consecrated to Saint Mary. One of the first Marian churches in the world, rebuilt in the 18th century. On the main front, Gothic tympanum in which the Annunciation is represented. The pyramid-shaped bell tower

and the coat of arms of the Chapter of Iria. Inside, the sarcophagus of the Saint Body and of the Archbishop Rodrigo de Luna (15th century). The high altar in Churriqueresque style, with the image in slate of the Virgin and of the Apostle kneeling.

Baroque iron grille where the donors are sculpted. Side chapels of the Archbishop of Quito (17th century) and of the Virgin of Bethlehem. In the atrium, cemetery of Adina, where Rosalía de Castro was buried from 1885 until 1891 and to which she beautifully sang in her poems. The tomb of the Nobel Prize winning author Camilo José Cela (1916-2002) and two artistic cruceiros (stone crosses).



Church of Iria Flavia

Camilo José Cela Foundation. Old cannons House (18th century). The foundation shelter the important legacy of Nobe Prize in Literature 1989 and important works of art. The Museum of the Railway, in memory of the great-grandfather of don Camilo, builder of the first railway Cornes (Santiago)- Carril (Vilagarcía) in 1873, and the Sacred Art Museum

Rosalía de Castro's House and Museum, Historical Artistic Monument since 7 October 1946. House & Museum since 1972. In its rooms they make a journey through this poetess' life and work (1837 - 1885).

CHARM AND TRADITION OF RURAL PADRÓN

Landscape, art and culture constitute the countryside in Padrón.

Private manor houses of Torre do Monte (15th century) and do Vinculeiro (18th century)



Manor house of Vinculeiro at Extramundi.

Old trading quay until the end of the 19th century. River promenade and recreational area where the Sar river meets the Ulla.



Riverside walk at the place of A Ponte.

Parish of Saint Mary of Herbón

Romanesque church (12th century), it was commissioned by the Archbishop Gelmírez. Franciscan monastery of Herbón (14th century), old missionary school. In it the medieval poet Juan Rodríguez del Padrón lived: the church with a beautiful altarpiece, in which the main Galician

sculptors of the 18th and 19th centuries worked, outstands. The Roman "pesqueiras" (fisheries) for the lamprey in the Ulla river and the greenhouses for the peppers



Saint Mary of Herbón

Parish of Saint Peter of Carcacía Birthplace of the medieval poet called Macías o Namorado (Macías in love). Stations of the Cross in Xuane, 18th century. Fault of Lapido mount, dug into the rock by the Ulla river. Re-

serves of lamprevs and salmons at Sinde.



Reserve of salmon at Sinde (Ulla River)

Parish of Saint Mary of Cruces.

Sanctuary of A Escravitude, work of José San Martín; the origins go back to the 16th century, built for the most part in the 17th century and finished definively in 1885. Outside the high



The Ulla river crossing O Lapido

towers and the flight of steps outstand. Inside the altarpiece of the high altar. Parish church in Romanesque style, altered





Penners from Herhón

TYPICAL PRODUCTS

The fertility of the lowland area of Padrón is reflected in its typical products of the season: vegetables, potatoes, onions, peas, tomatoes... among these products the peppers from Herbón outstand. Fishing: Lamprey from the Ulla river, season between February and May.

CALENDAR OF FESTIVITIES

- Carnival of Carcacía, with the popular generals (February).
- Main Feasts of Pascua and Pascuilla (it coincides with Easter, months: March – April). San Xoán do Raio (Saint John of the Light-
- ning), patron saint of the town council, 6th
- Corpus Christi, sixty days after Pascua. Saint Peter of Carcacía (end of June)
- Romería (gathering at the local shrine) of Santiaquiño do Monte (24th and 25th July).
- Saturday of August). Our Lady and San Roque, parish of Iria (15th and 16th August).

Feast of the Pepper, place of Herbón (first

- Virgin of A Escravitude, 8th September. A Mercede, Bandín, Herbón 24th September.
- Rosary of Padrón, October.
- Rosary of A Escravitude, October The Traslatio (transferring) of the apostle Saint Jame's body.

FOUNDATIONS

Camilo José Cela Foundation

Telephone: 981 810 348 / Fax: 981 810 453

Telephone: 981 811 204

MUSEUMS TIMETABLES

Rosalía de Castro's house and museum Winter timetable: tuesday to saturday:

from 10:00 to 13.30 h, and from 16:00 to 19:00 h Summer timetable: tuesday to saturday: from 10:00 to 14:00 h. and from 16:00 to 20:00 h. Sundays and bank holidays: from 10:00 to 13:30 h. Closed on mondays Price of admission: 1,50€

Camilo José Cela's foundation

Winter timetable: Monday to thursday: from 10:00 to 14:00 h, and from 16:00 to 19:00 h. Fridays: from 10:00 to 14:00 h. Summer timetable: monday to friday from 10:00 to 14:00 h. and from 16:00 to 20:00 h. Price of admission: 8€

Parish church of Saint James of Padrón

Mornings: 10:00 to 12: 30 h (mass at 9:30 h) Afternoons: 16:30 to 20:30 h (mass at 21:00 h) Sundays: 11:00 to 11: 45 h (mass at 10:00 and at

Parish church of Saint Mary the greatest of Iria

Mornings: 11:00 to 13:30 h Afternoons: 17:00 to 19:30 h Convent of O Carme

19:30 to 20:00 h Convent of Herbón

Mornings: 9:00 to 13:00 h Afternoons: 16:00 to 20:30 h

Shring of A Escravitude

Mornings: 9:00 to 10:00 h Evenings: 18:30 to 21.00 h Mass at. 20:30 h (saturdays 20:00 h).

