

a Vila de Redondela

visit guide



English

The existing framework of streets and squares has its origin in the medieval ages. The Camino de Santiago and the coastline were the two arteries which set the urban development. A great fishing district is formed by the port, outside the walls of the main urban centre where you could access by different doors and gates. The presence of the wall is at least documented from the 14th century.



PREGO DE MONTAOS

Lineage of medieval origin whose coat of arms appear in most of the emblazoned houses of the vila. They were Castilians of the Castrizan Fortress and in the 16th century they founded the Vilavella Convent.

Notes:



From 2017, in the Casa da Torre there is an exhibition of crockery of the Real Fábrica de Sargadelos. The collection belongs to Adriano Marques de Magallanes.



- Vilanova
- Fishing District
- Former Marsh
- Former Wall
- Camino de Santiago
- Historical Construction
- Viaducts
- Hórreo (Granary)
- Cruceiro (Cross)
- Seafaring House
- Tourism Information

1. Viaduct to Madrid

Built in between 1872 and 1876 by Parent Schaken Hovel & Caillet (later called Compagnie de Fives - Lille). For a long time it was known as the "El Viaducto de Redondela".

2. Pazo de Petán or Santa Teresa

It has the coat of arms of the Prego de Montaos. It already existed in the 17th century and it was formerly known as "La granja de Vilavella". In the 20th century it was reformed by the textile industrial José Regojo, who gave the name to the "Pazo de Santa Teresa".

3. Royalty House

From the beginning of the 20th century, in Art Nouveau style, it is attributed to the Frenchman Michel Paczevich for Justo Tojeiro's family. The stonework and the forging of the balconies give it its elegant character of that period.

4. Former Hotel España

Of an eclectic style, it still preserves its original facade where you can see the typical decoration of this style. At the beginning of the 20th century it was an elegant lodging place.

5. Casa da Torre

Built in the 16th century by the family Prego de Montaos, attached to a medieval tower, which gives it its name. Also known as "Casa del Conde de San Román y Maceda", as it was his home. In the 20th century it was home to the municipal offices.

6. Casa da Alfóndiga

It was known as "Torre de Reboreda", because of its link to the entailed estate of the Casa de Reboreda of the Prego de Montaos. Its current name was given by the former seed market, which was developed in this street for centuries.

7. Santiago Church

It already existed in the 13th century, although the current building has the style of the 15th and 16th centuries, with further additions.

8. Cruceiro do Carballo (Cross)

It was built in 1790. It had on its cross a small oil lamp paid for by the guild of fishermen who lit it up before they went out to sea. There was an old oak tree there, and at least in the 17th century the so-called "Concejos Abiertos" (reunions of neighbours to make decisions) took place there.

9. Traditional whitewashed house

Small, with a medieval urban touch, although its construction was made later. It preserves the thick walls whitewashed as was customary.

10. House of Casto Sampedro

House in the vila, probably from the 18th century, where in 1848 one of the most important scholars of galician arts and culture was born. Casto Sampedro was the founder of Archaeological Society of Pontevedra and a member of the Royal Galician Academy (RAG).

11. Former Town Hall

Built in 1788 over what before it had been a salt storage. It was whitewashed and in its facade the shield of the vila stood out.

12. Art Deco House

Built in the first third of the 20th century it preserves the original structure. It has a mixture of elements which are typical in this style, like the geometrisation of decorative shapes, with elements of traditional Galician architecture.

13. House of the family Bujones Gándara

Also eclectic in style, it was built in 1889. It has a fun combination of volumes. The set was formed by a house and a garden.

14. Hórreo da Esfarrapada (Granary)

Located in the former Plaza da Leña, in the middle of the seafarer district, it still preserves its original doors. It's a typical model of the area of Pontevedra, circular tornarratos and built in stone and wood.

15. Houses of the arches

Sailor houses, with arcades used to store fishing gears and as a shelter from bad weather. Typical in fishing vila's squares and streets.

16. Typical fishing vila house

Typical two story house with a corridor, where big corbels outstand. It has thick whitewashed walls, as is typical in most of the constructions of the area.

17. Viaduct towards Pontevedra or New Viaduct

Built in between 1881 and 1884 by the Compañía Maquinista Terrestre y Marítima of Barcelona, and designed by the architect Mariano Canderera.

18. O Mouro Fountain

Its name comes from a reused sculpture of an old set and placed on top of a pipe. Back then, its water was credited to have curative properties.

19. Chapel of Santa Mariña

The current construction is from 1870, built over an old one, also dedicated to Galician Santa Mariña. It holds inside several religious images from the beginning of the 20th century from the prestigious sculptor Ramón Núñez, educated at the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando.

20. Noble house

House linked to the noble Soutomaior family. Casto Sampedro called it "Casa de los Fensi de Florencia". It used to have a little chapel attached to it which was supposed to be dedicated to San Telmo, patron saint of fishermen. It was all just few meters away from the former Cabo dos Fumeiros, a place where fish was also smoked for its preservation.

21. Os Canastros (The Granaries)

Group of stone baskets or granaries which years ago was bigger, located in the upper part of the vila, taking *advantage of the currents of air for a better preservation of the harvest.*

22. Vila house of urban style

Probably built in the 18th century, with whitewashed walls, revealing the decoration of plaques. The second story was added in the 20th century.

23. Santiago Fountain

It may have been built on an unknown date, using an old embossment of Apóstol Santiago, which belonged to a missing collection. It was known as "Fonte das Regateiras", because it was where women fishmongers took their "patelas", baskets in which they transported the fish, in front of the former shore.

24. House of the family Criado

Bourgeois house with an eclectic style, built in 1884. The stonework and the original gallery stand out.

25. Indiana house

Built for Avelino Giráldez at the beginning of the 20th century. It has the typical elements of these constructions, adapted to the tropical American architecture, such as the viewpoint and the handrails. In its garden, exotic species, like the palm tree and the big magnolia, stand out.

26. Os Eidos Cemetery

Old cemetery built in the 19th century following the rules of that period, which dictated to be placed far away for health reasons. In the place rest the remains of illustrious characters such as the Irish noble John O'Dogherty, hero of the War of Independence.

27. Regojo Chimney

Witness to the former shirt factory which was located in that place. Regojo was known internationally for producing the famous Dalí Shirt.

28. Vilavella Convent

Founded by the 16th century by the Prego de Montaos, using allegedly an old tower. In the 20th century it was adapted into a house by the owner of Conservas JOB.

The Origins

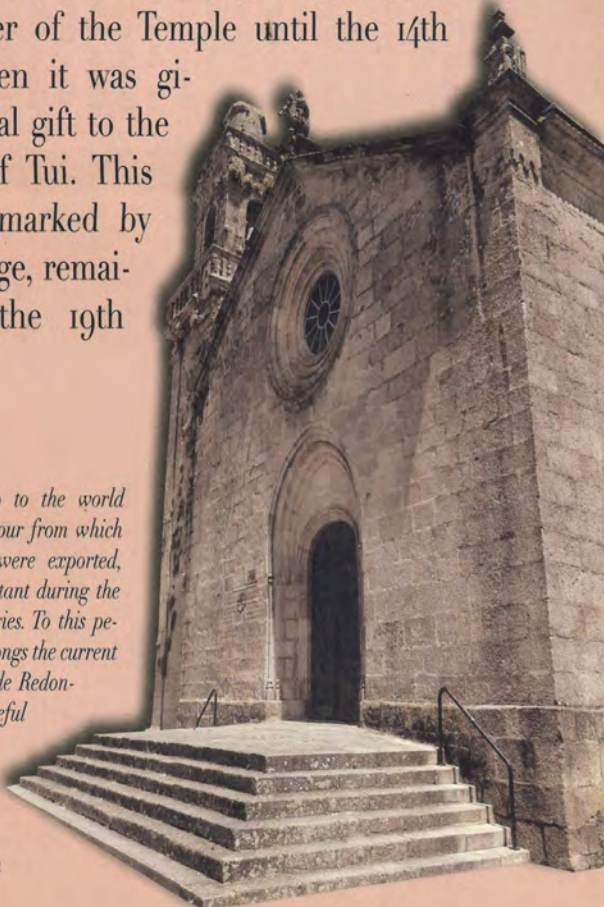
Although the primitive origin of the current village is unknown, everything points out to a progressive occupation of the valley, taking into account the appearance of remains of Chalcolithic and Bronze Age settlements in the highest area, in the surroundings of Mount Carrascal, where in addition, remains of a Roman settlement were found.

Vilanova de Redondela

In the 13th century, the Archbishop of Santiago established Vilanova de Redondela to open their territories to the sea and keep the control over the Jacobean route that crosses the territory following the ancient Roman road.

The new vila would be independent of a previous one called Vilavella, which was under the domain of the Order of the Temple until the 14th century, when it was given as a royal gift to the Cathedral of Tui. This separation, marked by a small bridge, remained until the 19th century.

Vilanova opened up to the world through a little harbour from which tonnes of sardines were exported, this catch was important during the 15th and 16th centuries. To this period of splendour belongs the current church of Santiago de Redondela, with its graceful ribbed vaults and the tomb of Don Vasco Machado, a nobleman who was buried in the 16th century.



The Fishing Vila

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On the one hand, the vila was surrounded by a wall (at least since the 14th century) and you could access it by various doors and gates. There are only remains of this wall around the church of Santiago.



On the other hand, the fishing district, outside the walls and developed from a little tidal port and the Jacobean route. Even nowadays in the local toponymy there are testimonies of this past associated with the sea: Rúa das Regateiras, Cabo dos Fumeiros, Campo das Redes, Ribeira... It was extended from "Porta da Vila" up to Santa Mariña. It went up to the Alto da Esfarrapada, where there was a chapel dedicated to the Holy Spirit. It went down to the shore area, and from there to the shipyard, the current Praza da Constitución.

The fishing houses, with their gable roofs, their whitewashed walls and the fishing gear at the door, the space distributed between the granaries to keep the harvest, and some noble house like the house of Soutomaior in Cabo dos Fumeiros. John O'Dogherty, Irish nobleman considered one of the heroes of the War of Independence, lived and died in Loureiro Street in the 19th century. Some years ago the Town Hall was in this district.

The Modernity



No doubt the arrival of the railway had a lot to do with the transformation of the old village. At the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries a new society linked to the business world appeared. They built their houses according to their modern and eclectic style. Eclecticism dominates these constructions, although there are also some examples of art nouveau. In this period, the rich returned and the emigrants also built their colonial style houses.



With the channeling of the river in the 20s, the spaces gained to the sea and the sedimentation of the area, the harbour falls into disuse. In the 60s, with the construction of the pier in Cesantes, the port activity in the vila comes to an end.



The economic engine throughout the 20th century was mainly the textile industry, especially from the second half, when the Regojo factory employed the great majority of the population. From this period we still have the ornamental chimney of the factory and the memory of the

famous *Camisa Dalí* (Dalí Shirt), produced in cooperation with the brilliant artist, of which they sold about 10 million units. Redondela was then internationally known.

CANNED FOOD

Although the tradition of preserving fish is secular in the village, the production of canned food in Redondela at the beginning of the 20th century, ironically being the furthest part of the sea, Vilavella, where small family enterprises are settled. In the 30s the brand *Conservas JOB* is founded. The boom of shellfishing on the beach of Cesantes was closely linked to the demand of the factory, to which they sold almost everything they caught.

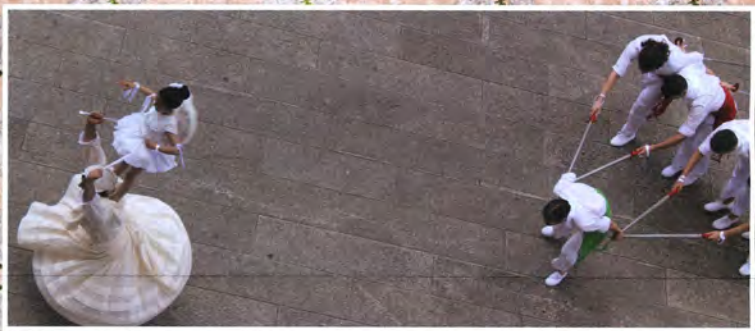


The Viaducts

The construction of both train viaducts in the second half of the 19th century was the beginning of the transformation of the old fishing vila. They were the image of progress and modernity.

A Coca

It's the image of a demon which, in the shape of a dragon, was defeated by Saint George in the representation that formerly took place during the Corpus Christi procession. Even nowadays it goes through the streets during the festivities. It's the oldest one preserved in Galicia. It's so famous that the celebration is also called *Festa da Coca*.



The Dances of As Espadas and As Penlas

They are guild dances which take place during the Corpus Christi procession. The "As Penlas" dance at least since the sixteenth century. It was linked to the bakeries and "cuartilleras". It is the only one of its kind that is preserved in the world. The "As Espadas" dance depended on the brotherhood of fishermen, who also danced it on the festivity of their patron, San Juan.

Imprenta Amador Perez



AS VIEFAS: QVEN: SEMPRE: FAS:
AQUI: FAS: QVEN: SEMPRE: VELA:
AQUI: FAS: XAN: CARALLAS:
FUNDADOR: DE: REDONDELA

Xan Carallás

An inscription on the facade of the former town hall attributed him the foundation of Redondela. Castelao draw him like a rough and sardonic seaman. It was his particular vision of an almost unknown character, even though his origin could be linked to the Corpus festivities.

Os Canastros (The Granaries)

Used to preserve the harvest mainly of corn. Nowadays they are witness of both a peasant and fishing society, which existed until the middle of the 20th century.



Redondela still preserves today the spirit of the old seafaring vila which existed at least until the 13th century. Its alleys and cobbled squares with granaries, crosses and fountains in front of the sea caught the attention of travellers during centuries. Landfills at the beginning of the 20th century to channel the river were used by the vila to keep on growing over the sea. Well-known are the viaducts, cuttlefish, camellias in Pazo Torres de Agrelo, Penlas (two little girls dancing on the shoulders of two women), the Danza das Espadas (a traditional dance with swords) and the Coca of the Corpus festivities (a dragon). Also famous were the Dalí shirts, which placed Redondela in an important position in fashion all over the world in the middle of the 20th century. This guide will help you discover how this village has evolved throughout history, thanks to the notes Casto Sampedro y Folgar took in the past.

Casto Sampedro y Folgar

He was born in Redondela in 1848. Lawyer, architect and folklorist, he is a peculiar figure of our culture because of his work recovering and spreading Galician heritage, ethnography and culture. His Cancionero Musical de Galicia (a collection of songs) is a reference of the recovery of Galician music heritage.



Arquivo Museo de Pontevedra.



CONCELLO DE
REDONDELA

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