

# Guide to Cultural and Traditional Festivals in Galicia 2026

---

## Galicia Cultural 2026

Galicia is a land rich in traditions and celebrations. While food festivals are famous, today we focus on the **cultural and traditional festivals** that define the character of our cities and towns. This comprehensive guide for 2026 will help you plan your visit.

---

## Major Festivals in the 7 Main Cities

---



### A Coruña - María Pita Festivals

- **When:** Throughout the month of August.
- **What to expect:** Concerts in María Pita Square, book fairs, and events honoring the heroine who defended the city in 1589.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Don't miss the seaside promenade at sunset and the traditional taverns in the Old City.



### Vigo - Reconquista Festival

- **When:** March 28th (Key day).
- **What to expect:** Historical reenactment of the expulsion of Napoleonic troops in 1809, with markets and soldiers roaming the streets to the sound of bagpipes.
- **Antonio's Tip:** The atmosphere in the Casco Vello is magical; try fresh oysters in the Berbés neighborhood.



### Santiago de Compostela - Saint James Festivals

- **When:** Second half of July (Main day: July 25th).

- **What to expect:** Spectacular fireworks (night of the 24th), concerts, and the traditional offering to the Apostle.
- **Antonio's Tip:** The city gets very crowded; if traveling with children, it's better to stay on the outskirts of the old town. The fireworks are best viewed from Belvís Park.

### Pontevedra - La Peregrina Festivals

- **When:** Second week of August.
- **What to expect:** Processions, national and international concerts, and a bustling atmosphere in the medieval squares.
- **Antonio's Tip:** It's the perfect festival to enjoy Albariño wine in the taverns of the historic center.

### Lugo - San Froilán Festivals

- **When:** Week of October 5th.
- **What to expect:** Livestock fair, typical products, and an unmatched traditional atmosphere.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Walking along the Roman Wall is a must. Bring a jacket, as Lugo gets chilly in October.

### Ourense - San Martiño Festivals

- **When:** November 11th.
- **What to expect:** The famous "magosto" (roasted chestnuts and new wine) and traditional fairs.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Ideal for a family plan. End the day at the open-air thermal baths.

### Ferrol - Holy Week (Semana Santa)

- **When:** March 29th to April 5th, 2026.
- **What to expect:** Processions of International Tourist Interest with impressive solemnity and scale.

- **Antonio's Tip:** The Magdalena neighborhood is transformed; be prepared for the emotion and bring a warm coat.
- 

## Festivals of International Importance in Towns

---

### Viking Landing (Catoira)

- **When:** August 2nd, 2026.
- **What to expect:** Reenactment of the pirate assault on the Torres do Oeste with Viking ships and simulated battles.

### Rapa das Bestas (Sabucedo)

- **When:** First weekend of July.
- **What to expect:** Ancient tradition where “aloitadores” wrestle wild horses to trim their manes.
- **Antonio's Tip:** You must wake up very early. Buy your ticket for the “curro” in advance on their website.

### Arde Lucus (Lugo)

- **When:** June 18th to 21st, 2026.
- **What to expect:** The city returns to Roman times with markets, gladiators, and military camps.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Rent or bring a tunic to live the full experience.

### Entroido (Xinzo, Laza, and Verín)

- **When:** February/March (Variable dates).
- **What to expect:** Spain's longest carnival with traditional masks like Pantallas, Peliqueiros, and Cigarrones.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Don't just be a spectator—dress up and participate!

## A Arribada (Baiona)

- **When:** First weekend of March.
- **What to expect:** Reenactment of the arrival of the caravel Pinta with news of the New World.
- **Antonio's Tip:** The medieval market is one of the best; stay until night to see the bay illuminated.

## San Xoán (A Coruña)

- **When:** Night of June 23rd to 24th.
- **What to expect:** Thousands of bonfires on Riazor and Orzán beaches, grilled sardines, and magical rituals.
- **Antonio's Tip:** Arrive early at the beach to get a spot and don't forget to jump over the bonfire.

---

## 2026 Calendar Summary

Month	Main Festival
Feb-Mar	Entroido (Various), Arribada (Baiona), Reconquista (Vigo)
Mar-Apr	Holy Week (Ferrol)
June	San Xoán (A Coruña), Arde Lucus (Lugo)
July	Rapa das Bestas (Sabucedo), Saint James
August	María Pita (A Coruña), Vikings (Catoira), Peregrina (Pontevedra), History (Ribadavia)
Oct-Nov	San Froilán (Lugo), San Martiño (Ourense)

---

## Local Tips

---

1. **Book in advance:** Especially for July and August.
2. **Public transport:** Use the train or bus to avoid parking issues.
3. **Proper clothing:** Weather in Galicia changes quickly; always bring a light jacket.

Need a break between festivals? Stop by our burger joint in Santiago. We'll tell you more about the festivals that aren't in the tourist guides.

**Visit us at:** <https://hamburgueseriasenaris.com> Quiroga Palacios, Santiago de Compostela.