

A Caridá/La Caridad - Ribadeo

You leave **A Caridá/La Caridad** from Avenida de Asturias up to **El Franco**, past the chapel of San Pelayo and the church of Valdepareas. A footpath takes you down to the River Porcia, and you have to cross it to reach the municipality of **Tapia**, where there is a surfing competition during Easter week.

If you wish to spend the night at Tapia de Casariego, you must follow the sign at the fork and walk for 5 kilometres. If you want to follow the Camino, you will have to continue walking for 6 kilometres to Brul amidst agricultural fields most of the time. In **Tol**, the sign for the Camino leads you to **A Veiga/Vegadeo**, a path that was followed before the bridge over the Eo existed. Nowadays, most pilgrims continue to Ribadeo on the road past Barres and As Figueiras/Figueras.

The original way started at Puerto de Porcillán, where boats with pilgrims crossing from Asturias used to moor; they used to climb up to Plaza de España and from there they continued along Calle San Francisco towards the Chapel of San Lázaro and then towards Ove and Vilela. Nowadays, most pilgrims enter **Ribadeo** through the bridge of Los Santos.

Ribadeo's old town includes the interesting architecture that earned the town a place on Spain's list of cultural heritage sites in 2004.

Some remarkable buildings are A Aduana Vella (18th c.), the Castillo de San Damián (18th c.), O Cargadoiro (20th c.) and the Plaza de España, the heart of town where the town hall, formerly a neoclassical palace that belonged to Ibáñez, and the Torre dos Morenos are located. The latter is not in a proper condition though you can still admire its past grandeur. The sober but well-preserved convent of Santa Clara and the parish church of Santa María del Campo (which used to be an old Franciscan convent in the 13th century) complete the list of attractions you cannot miss.

El consejo del cartero

“Once you reach Ribadeo and after a short break, you should take a look at the old town and get to the Plaza de España to have something to drink or eat on the terrazas. You can go down to the harbour to admire the Ría do Eo with Figueras and Castropol on the background, and enjoy a wonderful meal in any of the restaurants in this area. If you have some time, you should get to the Praia das Catedrais and the Harbour of Rinlo, with one of the oldest fishermen's associations in Spain, where you can have a lovely arroz caldoso. Back to Ribadeo and before you go to sleep, I recommend a walk along the streets of San Roque, Villafranca del Bierzo or Clemente Martínez Pasarón with their impressive villas of indiano architecture.” **Elisa Iglesias, Correos of Ribadeo.**

Teléfonos de interés

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