

Santander

Photo: Jose Angel Astor Rocha/Shutterstock.com



Simonetta Di Zanutto/Flickr

Santander is famous for its fabulous beaches and its elegant holidaymakers: King Alfonso XIII used to spend his summers here nearly a hundred years ago, and the town is still popular among fashionable madrileños who like to be seen sauntering along the El Sardinero seafront with its belle époque architecture. When the sun goes down, the town is busy, with great restaurants and a lively bar scene. It is also a good place from which to explore the pristine countryside of Cantabria.



Lukasz Janyst/Shutterstock.com



James/Flickr

QUIZ
*What Type of Traveller
Are You Based on
Your Travel IQ?*

TAKE THE QUIZ

Top 5



Magdalena Peninsula

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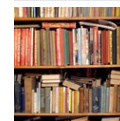
Club Nautico La Horadada

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Cuevas del Monte Castillo

Check out the magnificent caves at Puente Viesgo (24 kilometres from Santand...



Menéndez Pelayo Library

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Museo Marítimo

With exhibits ranging from model boats to fish skeletons and sixteen aquariu...



THE CITY



Jose Angel Astor Rocha/Shutterstock.com

Santander is an upmarket beach resort where kings have rubbed shoulders with fishermen, and where university students in flip-flops kick back with well-heeled holidaymakers. The most popular of its beaches is El Sardinero, which, with its fine white sand and elegant architecture, lies a couple of kilometres from the town centre. Playa de la Magdalena, on the southern side of the headland, has a water sports centre while Playa del Bikini is good for snorkelling. If they are all too crowded, visitors can take a boat over to the long stretches of sand at Somo.

Away from the seafront, the city centre is lively, especially after dark. Many of the older buildings were lost in a huge fire in 1941, but there is still some beautiful architecture from bygone times. The elegant cathedral has been restored, and there are some interesting museums.

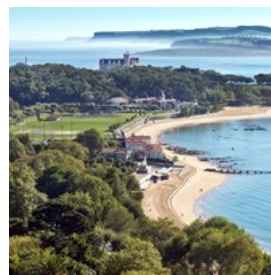
DO & SEE



baranq/Shutterstock.com

Santander is a city favoured by Spanish holidaymakers - the abundance of beautiful sandy beaches, natural parks, and dramatic cliffs make it perfect for the outdoorsy. However, a lively nightlife and curious museums (one that certainly deserves attention is the Cantabrian Prehistory and Archaeology museum) ensure there is something for everyone. For a day-trip out of town, head to the scenic village of Santanilla del Mar or the prehistoric caves at Puente Viesgo.

Magdalena Peninsula



The well-maintained Magdalena Peninsula is the city's most attractive area for a pleasant walk, enjoying the views over Santander's two scenic bays, and taking some memorable photographs. The Magdalena Castle is located here, too. There is a small animal corner with live seals and penguins.

Photo: Manuel Alvarez/Shutterstock.com

Address: Magdalena Peninsula, Santander

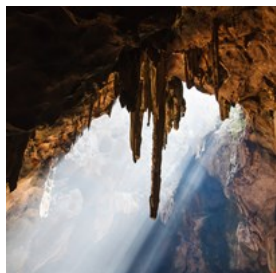
Club Nautico La Horadada



This yacht club on the Playa de la Magdalena offers a wealth of water sports for the active beach-goer, including windsurfing, surfing, sailing, water-skiing and canoeing. Courses in multiple water sporting activities are offered to beginners (from body board to kayaking).

Photo: Todd McLennan/Shutterstock.com
Address: Avenida de la Reina Victoria, Santander
Phone: +34 606 707 194
Internet: www.clubnauticolahoradada.es
More Info: Playa de la Magdalena

Cuevas del Monte Castillo



Check out the magnificent caves at Puente Viesgo (24 kilometres from Santander), where stalactites and stalagmites stretch among incredible prehistoric paintings. The village itself is also worth a look around. Tours start at the visitor centre 1.5 kilometres above the village.

Photo: iSiripong/Shutterstock.com
Address: Puente Viesgo, Santander
Public Transport: Buses run to Puente Viesgo from Santander's main bus station.
Phone: +34 942 598 425
Internet: www.cuevas.culturadecantabria.com

Menéndez Pelayo Library



The impressive collection contains 41,500 volumes gifted to the town by writer and thinker Menéndez Pelayo. The building right behind the

historic (early 20th century) library used to be the former home of this celebrated scholar.

Photo: Rev Stan/Shutterstock.com
Address: Rubio 6, Santander
Phone: +34 942 234 534
Internet: www.bibliotecademenendezpelayo.org

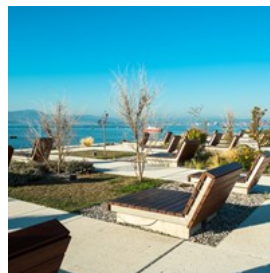
Museo Marítimo



With exhibits ranging from model boats to fish skeletons and sixteen aquariums, this is a superb museum about all things nautical. Look out for the two-headed sardine and the famous 60-ton whale skeleton.

Photo: Gema Rodrigo/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: San Martin de Bajamar, Santander
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-6pm
Phone: +34 942 27 49 62
Internet: www.museosdecantabria.com

Paseo Marítimo



This one-kilometre loang boardwalk stretches from the Estación Marítima (Ferry Station) to Puerto Chico, and features several points of interest including the Palacete de Embaradero and sculptures of the raqueros - children who used to dive naked into the sea to gather coins thrown by passers-by.

Photo: Olaf Speier/Shutterstock.com
Address: Estación Marítima, Santander
More Info: The seafront between the Estación Marítima and Puerto Chico

Playa Somo



The beach across the bay from Santander is much-loved for its soft sand and relative tranquillity. There is a surf school on the beach, too (Escuela Cantabra de Surf, Calle Isla De Mouro, 12). The best way to get there is by regular boat service run by Los Reginas on the Paseo Marítimo.

Photo: Juan Rios/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Playa De Somo, El Somo
Phone: +34 609 482 823
Internet: www.escuelacantabradesurf.com

Playa del Sardinero



This beach is the largest and most popular in Santander. It is divided into three parts: the Playa de la Concha to the south, the Primera Playa, and the Segunda Playa to the north. A short walk from the Segunda Playa is Cabo Mayor lighthouse, perched on picturesque, towering cliffs.

Photo: Xavier Fargas/Shutterstock.com
Address: El Sardinero, Santander

Santillana del Mar



Enjoy a day trip to this sensationally pretty village, 26 kilometres west of Santander. Santillana del Mar is a historic Spanish town with some interesting architectural treasures. To get there, take one of the Autobuses La Cantabria buses from the main bus station in

Santander.

Photo: Adwo/Shutterstock.com

Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art



The museum of modern and contemporary art features works by Goya, including his portrait of Fernando VII, and Zurbarán, as well as lesser-known modern pieces. There are more than 225 pieces including paintings, sculptures, photographs, drawings, prints, video creations and sound art.

Photo: Comaniciu Dan/Shutterstock.com
Address: Rubio 6, Santander
Phone: +34 942 203 120
Internet: www.museosdesantander.com

Santander Cathedral



This Gothic building was restored after the 1941 fire and now welcomes visitors to its renovated interior. Relics include the skulls of Santander's patron saints and the tomb of legendary local writer Menéndez Pelayo's.

Photo: Andres Garcia Martin/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza de Obispo José Eguino y Treco, Santander
Internet: www.diocesisdesantander.com

Nature Park Cabárceno



This extensive natural park is home to animals such as brown bears, elephants, tigers, gorillas and lions (to name a few). It is a beautiful area and the park is huge so visitors usually drive between

the animal enclosures. There are also some restaurants and cafés around the park.

Photo: evantravels/Shutterstock.com
Address: Park Cabárceno, Santander
Phone: +34 942 563 736
Internet: www.parquecabarceno.es

City Sightseeing Santander



Discover Santander from an open-top bus. Hop on and hop off at your favourite points along the route to make the most of your experience. The entire journey takes about 60 minutes.

Photo: Daxiao Productions/Shutterstock.com
Phone: +34 9021 01081
Internet: www.city-sightseeing.com

Jardines de Piquío



Stroll around this garden park located between two beautiful beaches in Santander. Here you can admire the views over the Cantabric Sea. Beside tree-lined alleys and flowers there are lots of play areas for children as well as well-maintained, lush green lawns.

Photo: Ana del Castillo/Shutterstock.com
Address: Avenida Castañeda, Santander

Puerto Chico



Take a lovely walk by the harbour and watch local fishermen arrive with the catch of the day. There are some good value bars, restaurants and cafés in this area. Many locals of Santander come here

on the weekends for a meal or an evening stroll in good company.

Photo: Tomás Fano/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Zona Maritima, Santander

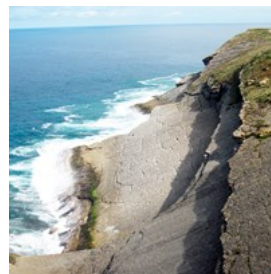
Forestal Park



Forestal Park is an adventure park with fun outdoor activities, located in a pretty setting in the woods. Here you can slide down 220 metre-long zip lines, cross some rope bridges and walkways, and simply enjoy an active day outdoors with pursuits available for the whole family.

Photo: ER_09/Shutterstock.com
Address: Avda del Faro, Santander
Phone: +34 608 117 116
Internet: www.forestalpark.com/santander

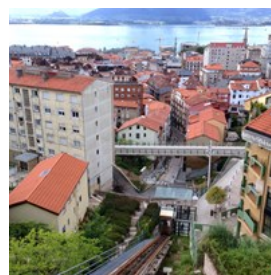
Parque de Cabo Mayor



The area around Cabo Mayor lighthouse is a spectacular sight to behold - on stormy days, waves scenically break against the cliffs leading up to the lighthouse. Entry to the lighthouse is free of charge.

Photo: Javier Cantero/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Avenida Faro, Santander

Funicular del Rio de la Pila



If you find yourself by Calle de la Pila, do take a quick (a mere 3 minutes) ride up on the funicular to the Mirador Rio de la Pila, from where spectacular views over the city below and the

ocean waters unfold. The ride is free of charge, and the compact cabin is designed to hold up to 8 people.

Photo: Andrew Nash/Shutterstock.com (image cropped)

Address: Rio de la Pila, Santander

Opening hours: Daily 6am-12am

Puerto Chico



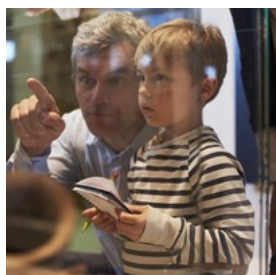
The Puerto Chico (or "little port") is one of Santander's liveliest areas, with a waterside promenade and several curious statues. Once a

busier port, Puerto Chico is still home to sea vessels coming in and out. Come here for people-watching and taking in views of the scenic bay.

Photo: Tomás Fano/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Puerto Chico, Santander

Museo de Prehistoria y Arqueología de Cantabria



The compact, yet informative museum details the history of Cantabria from the metaphoric "beginning of time" (when the area first

became populated by prehistoric people) in an engaging, interactive manner. Explanations are provided in both English and Spanish.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Bailén, Santander

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-2pm & 5-8pm

Mercado de la Esperanza



This large indoor market is a profusion of high-quality, fresh local produce. Best known for its seafood, the market also stocks artisan foods, meats, cheese, fruit and veg. An authentic establishment, this market is devoid of tourist shops, and closes from 2-5 for the siesta each day.

Photo: Piqsels

Address: 39002 Santander, Cantabria, Spain

Opening hours: 08:00-14:00 and 17:00-19:30

Phone: (+34) 942 20 30 87

Internet: www.mercadodelaesperanza.com

Centro Botin



This first-rate arts centre was designed by a Pulitzer-Prize winning architect. The west block is dedicated to art, and the east block is for cultural and educational activities. The rooftop terrace offers breathtaking views of Santander and its Bay.

Photo: Angel De Los Rios/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Muelle de Albareda, Paseo de Pereda, s / n, 39004 Santander, Cantabria, Spain

Opening hours: 10:00-14:00 and 17:00-21:00

Phone: (+34) 942 04 71 47

Internet: www.centrobotin.org

Las Dunas de Liencres Natural Park



This sprawling parkland featuring pine forests and dunes, said to resemble something from another planet. This is a protected area and wild birds are

abundant. There are also lovely beach areas for those interested in surfing.

Photo: Armando Gonzalez Alameda/Wiki Commons (image cropped)

Address: Cantabria, Spain

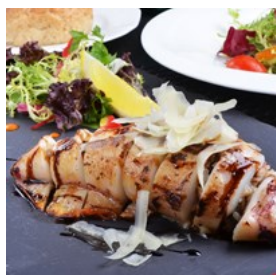
DINING



Magdanatka/Shutterstock.com

Cantabrian cuisine is as varied as its landscapes - fish and seafood turn up alongside game, veal and beef on local restaurant's menus. Some specialties typical of the region include rice cooked Santander-style (with milk and salmon), hake fish in green sauce, fried calamari rings (rabas), tuna pot (sorropotun), anchovies, sardines, and hearty stews (try the venison stew or the so-called "mountain-stew" - cocido montanes - with beans, chorizo sausage bits, greens, and black pudding).

La Bombi



La Bombi is a longstanding, reputable local establishment. It serves excellent Cantabrian seafood, fish and meat dishes. If you

were to pick a single restaurant to treat yourself to an exquisite meal, do go with La Bombi. Reservations highly recommended.

Photo: 54613/Shutterstock.com

Address: 15 Caimiro Sainz, Santander

Opening hours: Daily 1pm-4pm & 9pm-12am

Phone: +34 942 213 028

Internet: www.labombi.com

Los Peñucas



This place is located down by the fishing port, and offers wonderfully simple food straight from the sea. The menu features mouth-watering seafood paella, seafood platters, deep-fried calamari, squid with onions and marinated clams - among other excellent dishes.

Photo: Seqoya/Shutterstock.com

Address: 35 Marqués de la Ensenada, Santander

Opening hours: Daily 1pm-11.45pm

Phone: +34 942 229 445

Internet: www.lospenucas.com

More Info: Barrio Pesquero

Casa Mariano



Casa Mariano is an off-the-beaten-path, hugely popular with locals homely restaurant serving traditional dishes such as stews, sausages

and so on. It is especially known for its good-value fixed daily lunch menu, which includes two courses and a glass of wine.

Photo: wrangler/Shutterstock.com

Address: 23 Calle de Vargas, Santander

Phone: +34 942 230 024

Restaurante Cañadío



This is one of Santander's most renowned restaurants. Cañadío specializes in Cantabrian cuisine. For those whose wallets cannot stand a formal meal, there is an array of mouth-watering snacks (excellent tapas and pinchos the establishment is know for) at the bar.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: 15 Gómez Areña, Santander
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11am-12am
Phone: +34 942 314 149
Internet: www.restaurantecanadio.com
More Info: Plaza de Cañadío

Restaurante Tatami



If you are craving Japanese food, this restaurant might be something for you. The well-presented food is prepared with high-quality fresh ingredients and the prices are very reasonable. Enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine - sushi, tempura dishes, and fried rice with shrimps.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: 3 Calle Doctor Fleming, Santander
Phone: +34 942 760 666
Internet: www.restaurante-tatami.com

Casa Lita



The very popular waterside tapas/pinchos restaurant only offers standing room, but is worth a drop in regardless - the mere array of tiny snacks on offer is a curious sight in

itself, and trying some is certainly highly recommended. The bar is a venue popular among locals in-the-know.

Photo: bezikus/Shutterstock.com
Address: 37 Paseo Pereda, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 12pm-12am
Phone: +34 942 364 830
Internet: www.casalita.es

Pizzeria Mamma Mia



As the name reveals, this one is an Italian restaurant that serves pizza (and not only - the menu lists antipasti, salads, pasta, etc.). The highly qualified chefs have ample experience when it comes to Italian food. If you are craving something sweet, there is a tempting menu with homemade desserts.

Photo: jazz3311/Shutterstock.com
Address: 39 Calle Inés Diego del Noval, Santander
Phone: +34 942 392 240
Internet: www.pizzeriamammamia.es

Bodega Antonio



This family-owned Mexican restaurant is located in the city centre, close to major tourist attractions and shopping areas. The menu features authentic Mexican fish and meat dishes such as chicken enchiladas, quesadilla and tuna-stuffed peppers. Order an authentic Mexican beer to go along.

Photo: Foodio/Shutterstock.com
Address: 2 Rubio, Santander
Phone: +34 942 23 11 15
Internet: www.bodegaantonio.es

El Serbal



El Serbal is an elegant restaurant that serves north Spanish food with a modern touch. Dishes are prepared with market-fresh ingredients

to satisfy the most discerning of palates. Try the tasting menu with wine pairing. The menu features dishes like roasted ox sirloin served in port-wine sauce.

Photo: Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com

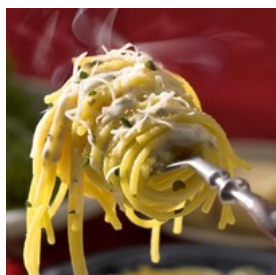
Address: 7 Andrés del Río, Santander

Phone: +34 942 22 25 15

Internet: www.restaurantesdesantander.es

Email: elserbal@elserbal.com

La Tagliatella



La Tagliatella is a restaurant chain with currently more than 140 restaurants (and counting). The Santander installment serves Italian

cuisine, the main specialties being thin-crust pizza and fresh pasta. This is a great place to dine with friends and family.

Photo: fotohavran.eu/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Remedios, 1, Santander

Opening hours: Daily 1pm-4pm & 8pm-12am

Phone: +34 942 36 39 78

Internet: www.latagliatella.es

Marucho



Marucho is a very casual seafood restaurant with an overwhelming selection of fresh fish and seafood, with the catch of the day on display in the

glass casings for guests to see. The eatery is very

popular with locals for its unbeatable quality to price ratio.

Photo: Linda Hughes/Shutterstock.com

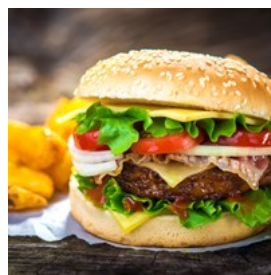
Address: 21 Calle Tetuan, Santander

Opening hours: Wed-Mon 1pm-4pm & 8pm-12am

Phone: +34 942 273 007

Internet: www.maruchorestaurante.es

Frida Street Food



Frida Street Food serves creative Tex-Mex in a very casual setting, and at very decent prices.

Some of the menu items include stuffed jalapeños,

burritos, enchiladas, chili con carne, burgers, and a pleasant selection of drinks (beer and cocktails).

Photo: Dani Vincek/Shutterstock.com

Address: 7 Lopez Doriga, Santander

Phone: +34 634 41 73 90

El Diluvio



El Diluvio is a popular gastrobar whose main draw is the excellent selection of small "pinchos" at incredibly affordable prices. Try the

miniature hamburgers, choose from 6 different tortilla varieties, or select a pincho with your topping of choice - from shrimp and chicken to vegetables.

Photo: Ozphotoguy/Shutterstock.com

Address: 14 Calle General Mola, Santander

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7.30am-12am

Phone: +34 942 21 85 63

CAFES



IAKOBCHUK VIACHESLAV/Shutterstock.com

The selection of cafes in Santander is very decent, ranging from the ubiquitous tapas-bars to bakeries and even ice cream parlours serving high-quality home made gelato. Many cafes double as bars in the evening, when beer and wine come to replace the daytime "lungo" and "cortado". Santander is also famous for its pastries and delicious cheesecakes (quesadas pasiegas).

El Solecito



El Solecito is a tiny casual restaurant serving simple pizzas along with salads, pastas, meat dishes and even fondues. The establishment has been recently renovated, and is somewhat of a local classic.

Photo: Fanfo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle La Albericia, 11-13, Santander

Phone: +34 942 360 633

Internet: www.elselecito.com

Chocolatería Valor



To enjoy a quintessential Spanish dessert, try the very popular waterside Chocolatería Valor. The menu features, of course, freshly-made churros (long, deep-fried sticks of special dough) with hot chocolate to serve as a dip. The menu also features other desserts, such as pancakes and tea cakes.

Photo: catmanc/Shutterstock.com

Address: 27 Castelar, Santander

Phone: +34 942 31 42 94

Internet: www.valor.es

Café-Bar El Sol



The neighbourhood cafe-bar El Sol has been in operation for over 70 years. This place is known for its quality, professionalism and customer-oriented approach. Serves tapas (appetizing canape-style sandwiches, for example) and full-sized meals at decent prices.

Photo: Mikhail_Kayl/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Sta. Lucía, 32, Santander

Phone: +34 942 215 805

Internet: www.instagram.com/barelsol_santander

Suizo



Located directly on the city's main promenade, Suizo is a local institution and longstanding cafe with a view. It offers outdoor seating and serves great value breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and very decent coffee. Prices are more than reasonable, so an outing here will certainly not

break the bank.

Photo: Jan Knop/Shutterstock.com

Address: 28 Paseo de Pereda, Santander

Phone: +34 942 21 58 64

Mercado del Este



The market isn't known for its shops as much as the selection of pleasant cafes ideal for a short break or a people-watching session.

Try the very reasonably-priced wines (get a bottle from one of the wine shops to bring back with you if you wish) and authentic tapas.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: 4 Calle Hernan Cortes, Santander

La Gallofa



La Gallofa is a wildly popular local bakery and cafe chain, a perfect spot for a breakfast or coffee break. The sheer array of breads, pastries, and cakes may prove overwhelming to some, but the agony of choice is certainly a small price to pay for La Gallofa's unbeatable quality/cost ratio.

Photo: karnavalfoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Hernán Cortés, Santander

Internet: www.lagallofa.com

Heladeria Via Mazzini 43



The ice-cream shop in central Santander enjoys a great popularity among locals and visitors for the artisan ice creams and mouthwatering crepes it serves (sweet and savoury flavour available).

Magnificent ice-creams are freshly made directly on-site.

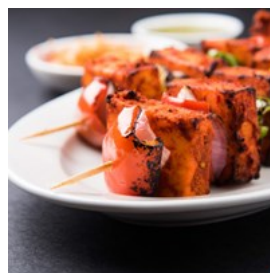
Photo: Slawomir Fajer/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Castelar, 3, Santander

Opening hours: Mon, Wed & Thurs 9.30am-11pm, Fri-Sat 9.30am-1am

Phone: +34 636 15 39 09

Siboney



This cafe/restaurant in Puerto Chico is a good choice for lunch or dinner. With its outdoor seating and a great array of delicious foods (pizza, patatas bravas, meat and chicken skewers, etc.), Siboney is a great pick for those looking for sit-down dining in the area.

Photo: espies/Shutterstock.com

Address: 7 Calle Castelar, Santander

Opening hours: Mon-Thurs 8.45am-1am, Fri-Sat 8.45am-3am, Sun 9am-1am

Phone: +34 942 22 14 83

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Kichigin/Shutterstock.com

Santander is a university town and, as such, boasts quite a busy nightlife. The Plaza de Cañadío, Calle de Santa Lucía, Calle Río de la Pila (and surrounding streets) all teem with bars that remain crowded well into the morning hours. As with everywhere else in Spain, plan on

going out after 11 o'clock or so, otherwise you run the risk of finding yourself drinking alone. On weekend nights, the Spanish like to party late. If you are going out to a club after some evening drinks only do so at around 2 or 3 am, and prepare to stay up till dawn.

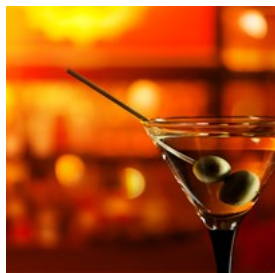
Plaza de Cañadío



The center of it all with regards to nightlife, the Plaza de Cañadío is a bustling town square that really comes to life at night, when crowds pour into the many small bars around the perimeter. Pick a standing table for some banter with the locals, and be ready to stay well into the wee hours.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza de Cañadío, Santander

Little Bobby Speakeasy



The bar's elaborate, Prohibition-inspired interior stands in stark contrast to the vibes of most other Santander bars. Marvel at the curious pieces found within its walls, enjoy the two areas with different music styles played and try the not-so-prohibitionist cocktails from the bar menu.

Photo: Igor Normann/Shutterstock.com
Address: 20 Calle Sol, Santander
Opening hours: Tue-Thurs & Sun 4pm-2am, Fri-Sat 4pm-4.30am
Phone: +34 690 99 25 27
Internet: www.littlebobby.es

Malaspina



This wildly popular bar tends to get a little cramped up, party-goers of all ages filling the dance floor holding on to generous servings of Gin-Tonic poured here. Music played normally features local and international top charts. The vibes is stylish yet rather casual.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com
Address: 18 Pasaje de Jesús Revaque Garea, Santander
Opening hours: Fri-Sat 11pm-4.30am, Thurs 12pm-3.30am
Phone: +34 942 31 33 93
Internet: www.malaspinasantander.com

La Rana Verde



This is not a place to go for a formal meal, but a lively joint that is popular with young clientele grabbing a bite before embarking on a long night out. La Rana Verde is famous for its patatas bravas, but also serves hamburgers and sandwiches. Located by the Cañadío bar district.

Photo: Nejrón Photo/Shutterstock.com
Address: 30 Daoiz y Velarde, Santander
Phone: +34 942 222 402
Internet: www.laranaverde.es

Terrace Lounge BNS



This waterfront venue on la Concha beach in el Sardinero is one rather popular with students and local party-goers. Music beats fill the air till dawn, when guests often choose to end the night by taking a dip in the ocean. Live music shows are hosted frequently.

Photo: Rawpixel.com/Shutterstock.com
Address: 46 Avda. Reina Victoria, Santander
Phone: +34 942 270 882
More Info: Playa de la Concha - El Sardinero

Rocamboles



Enjoy live music, stand-up comedy and have a good, well-crafted drink at this nightlife venue - one of the most popular for those looking to dance

the night away after most bars in towns close. Music played ranges from rap to rock, electronic, and even folk and Celtic (depending on the night).

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com
Address: 35 Hernán Cortes, Santander
Phone: +34 646 79 50 89
Internet: www.salarocamboles.wixsite.com/salarocamboles

Pub Stop



With one of the best front-row seats to the Cantabrian sunset, the Pub Stop has grown to become a local favorite for an evening drink in a

relaxing environment. The assortment of gins and tonics is rather impressive. Plays good music and serves tapas.

Photo: GDmitry/Shutterstock.com
Address: 13 Castelar, Santander
Phone: +34 677 400 897

Bar Caribe



A local bar scene classic, the Caribe is a great spot for a very low-key evening drink. Its location in el Sardinero just behind the Casino is hard to miss - pick and choose from the multiple varieties of gin on display behind the bar, or order one of the many "copas" with snacks to go along.

Photo: Yellowj/Shutterstock.com
Address: 47 Calle Joaquín Costa, Santander
Phone: +34 942 27 33 06

Black Bird



The venue's underground quality attracts party-goers in-the-know, an alternative crowd that fills the trendy space of this culture and music

club almost nightly. Live bands perform here regularly, weekends being booked for a show or two most of the time. Wednesdays are reserved for Latin music.

Photo: melis/Shutterstock.com
Address: 13 Calle Vista Alegre, Santander

Canela



One of the little bars in the oh-so-popular by night Plaza de Cañadío, Canela is one of the good spots to grab a drink and take your place by one of

the tall standing tables in the square. If the pub proves too crowded, there is no need to look too far for a watering hole.

Photo: bogdanhoda/Shutterstock.com
Address: 21 Plaza de Cañadío, Santander
Public Transport: www.canelabar.com

La Barruca



The bar is known for its incredibly affordable sandwiches and pinchos that are a real steal. The establishment is, perhaps, more of an eatery than a watering hole, but it's certainly fit for a pleasant evening drink. Multiple great value deals are available.

Photo: Ramon L. Farinos/Shutterstock.com
Address: 5 Calle Ruamayor, Santander
Phone: +34 942 21 58 25
Internet: www.labarruca.com

Gran Casino Sardinero



If trying your luck at roulette or one of the card games sounds more like your kind of fun, do check out Cantabria's finest casino located right across from the city beach. The elegant venue offers not only endless gambling, but also excellent dining at the in-house restaurant.

Photo: stux/Pixabay.com
Address: Plaza Italia, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 2pm-5am
Phone: +34 942 27 60 54
Internet: www.grancasinosardinero.es

Moondog



Moondog is a bar on the classier side, attracting a slightly older clientele (aged above 30 or even 40, on average). Serves quality drinks and places special emphasis on playing good music (DJs hosted frequently for that reason). The bar is especially known for its well-crafted cocktails.

Photo: alexpro9500/Shutterstock.com
Address: 52 Calle del Sol, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 7pm-3am

Disco Amarras



The Amarras disco is popular with the local 40-and-above crowd. Night here are filled with Latin beats and couples livening up the dance floor with salsa, rumba, and cha-cha moves. Events such as dance shows and live music performances are often hosted.

Photo: ARENA Creative/Shutterstock.com
Address: 28 Joaquin Costa, Santander
Opening hours: Fri-Sat 11.30am-5am, Sun 7pm-11.30pm
Phone: +34 942 274 847
Internet: www.discoamarras.es

SHOPPING



EpicStockMedia/Shutterstock.com

Santander's shopping district is in its bustling centre. The streets around the Ayuntamiento - Artigas, Juan Herrera, Burgos and Cubo, for example, are good for everything from clothing to shoes to sportswear, as are Vargas and San Fernando. For boutiques and upmarket clothing, take a stroll along the Avenida de Calvo Sotelo. There are two large commercial centers in Santander, both located a short drive out of town - Valle Real and the well-known Spanish department store chain installment El Corte Ingles.

Mercado del Este



Once a busy marketplace, Mercado del Este retains little of its lively commercial past (apart from a few wine, gourmet, and flower shops on premises). There is a helpful Tourist Information Office here, along with quite a few inviting cafes for a perfect break.

Photo: Minerva Studio/Shutterstock.com
Address: 4 Calle Hernan Cortes, Santander

Mercado de la Esperanza



This covered market is housed inside a late 19th-century building on the street just behind the Ayuntamiento, aptly named Calle El Mercado.

Here you can join the locals browsing stalls selling freshly caught fish, local cheese and sausages, as well as fruit, vegetables and flowers.

Photo: Ingrid Balabanova/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza de la Esperanza, Santander
Phone: +34 942 20 31 14
Internet: www.comerciosantander.com

Nuks Santander



The colorful candy boutique offers visitors endless freedom of choice - sweets come in all shapes, flavours, and sizes, and shoppers are free to browse around filling bags with candy to their liking. End cost is calculated by weight. Sugar-free varieties available.

Photo: Vorobyeva/Shutterstock.com
Address: 22 Paseo Pereda, Santander
Opening hours: Mon-Thurs 10am-11pm, Fri-Sun 10am-11.30pm
Phone: +34 942 07 84 84

Santander es Mundial



For unique, non-generic local souvenirs, try the Santander es Mundial gift shop. No tacky fridge magnets here, but unique T-shirt and bag designs, as well as other local souvenirs bearing the name of the nautical city. Greta spot to pick up

souvenirs for friends and family.

Photo: Ariwasabi/Shutterstock.com

Address: 18-B Cadiz, Santander

Phone: +34 942 07 40 79

Internet: www.santanderesmundial.com

El Corte Ingles



The nationwide department store chain enjoys a well-deserved good reputation. The Santander installment is located a short drive

outside the city center. Apart from a large hypermarket, it contains a multiple-screen cinema, as well as a wide selection of local and international brand stores.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: 635 Ctra. Nacional, Santander

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-10pm

Phone: +34 942 32 84 00

Internet: www.elcorteingles.es

More Info: Polígono Nueva Montaña

Mercado de México



The Mercado de México on Calle Alta hosts vendors selling everything from leather to ceramics to olive oil.

The second floor is mostly given over to produce vendors, selling fresh vegetables, seafood, deli items, pastries and breads.

Photo: sunlover/Shutterstock.com

Address: 133 Calle Alta, Santander

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am-2pm & 5-8pm, Sat 8.30am-3pm

Gómez Pastelerías



Those with a sweet tooth will certainly be delighted to find out that Santander is famous for its sobaos and quesada cakes. One of the best places to buy

them is Gómez Pastelerías, which has five branches in the city including at Calle San José, 22, Calle Honduras 2, and Calle Cádiz 7.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com

Address: 22 Calle San José, Santander

Phone: +34 942 21 12 86

Internet: www.gomezpastelerias.com

Centro Comercial Valle Real



A short ride outside Santander lies the Centro Comercial Valle Real, one of the largest shopping centres in the area. Here you can shop for

everything you need, ranging from clothes and make-up to books and toys. There are several restaurants onsite.

Photo: Billion Photos/Shutterstock.com

Address: Alday, Maliaño, Camargo

Opening hours: Daily. Long hours

Phone: +34 942 26 18 19

Internet: www.centrovallereal.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



Francisco Javier Gil/Shutterstock.com

Santander Airport



Santander Airport is located five kilometres from the town centre. A bus runs between Santander's main bus station and the airport. It departs every 30 minutes from 7am to 11pm, the first bus at 06.40.

+34 942 211 995

www.transportedecantabria.es

Taxis leave from outside the terminal building.

Radiotaxi:

+34 942 333 333

www.radiotaxisantander.es

Car rental companies are represented at the airport.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Santander Airport, Santander

Phone: +34 942 211 995

Internet: www.aena-aeropuertos.es

Boat



around the bay.

For boat trips between Santander, Pedreña and Somo, go to Los Reginas at the Paseo Marítimo. Los Reginas also runs one-hour excursions

The ferry terminal for longer journeys is at the Estación Marítima.

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Address: Paseo Marítimo, Santander

Phone: +34 942 216 753

Internet: www.losreginas.com

Public Transport



Buses run throughout the city every 15 minutes. You can take buses number 1, 4, 7, 9, 13 and 14 that run from the city hall to El Sardinero beach stopping at Plaza de Italia and Piquio Gardens. You can also take bus number 15 which runs from RENFE train station to El Sardinero beach. Santander Bus Station is located on Calle Navas de Tolosa.

There are two bus companies that link Santander with other destinations:

ALSA is for long- and short-haul destinations.

www.alsa.es

La Cantábrica runs services mostly for destinations within Cantabria.

www.lacantabrica.com

There are two train stations.

FEVE runs regional trains, while RENFE trains

normally go to further away destinations.

www.renfe.com

+34 942 240 202 (RENFE)

www.feve.es

+34 942 211 687 (FEVE)

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Phone: +34 942 211 995

Internet: www.transportedecantabria.es

Taxi



Santander has 16 taxi ranks from where you can pick up a cab. Central locations include outside the Banco de Santander on Paseo de Pereda 22,

outside the Correos on Avenida Alfonso XIII, on the Plaza de las Estaciones, and at various places along Vargas, General Dávila, and Juan de Herrera.

Radio Taxi:

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Phone: +34 942 333 333

Internet: www.radiotaxisantander.es

Post



Look for yellow signs and mail boxes. The main post office is located on Calle Alfonso XIII. There are other offices on Calle Vargas 73-75, and on Las

Cruces 6, both closed on Sundays.

Main Post Office:

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: Alfonso XII, Santander

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8.30 am-8.30 pm, Sat 9.30 am-1 pm.

Closed on Sundays

Phone: +34 900 506 070

Internet: www.correos.es

Pharmacy



There are several pharmacies throughout the city centre. G. Palacios 7 Calle Lope de Vega +34 942 215 960 Farmacia Compostizo

Sañudo

32 Calle de Santa Lucía

Photo: Gemma Garner

Telephone



Country Code: 34 Area Code: 942

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



220 V/50 Hz; plugs have two round pins

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

178,465

Currency

1 Euro = 100 cents

Opening hours

Shops open from 9/10 am to 2 pm, and from 5/5.30 pm-8/8.30 pm. Banks are open Monday to Saturday, 8.30 am-2.30 pm.

Newspapers

El País, ABC and El Mundo (Spain's main national newspapers)

Crónica de Cantabria (www.cronicadecantabria.com)

El Diario Montañés (www.eldiariomontanes.es)

Emergency numbers

Emergency 112

Fire 080

Civil Guard 062

Tourist information

Tourist Information

Jardines de Pereda, Santander

+34 9422 0300

turismo@ayto-santander.es

Océano Atlántico





Alcalde Vega Lamera	D1 D2	Calle de Cádiz	A3	Calle de Plaza Alhucemas	D3
Autovia Bezana-Sardinero	C1	Calle de Daoiz y Velarde	B3	Calle de Prado de San Roque	B3 C3
Avenida de Antonio Maura	D3	Calle de Don Daniel	D4	Calle de Progreso	A4
Avenida de Calvo Sotelo	A3 B3	Calle de Federico Vidal	A4	Calle de R Sevilla	A3
Avenida de Cantabria	B1 C1 D1	Calle de Fernandes de Isla	A3	Calle de Rio Cubas	D3 D4
Avenida de Concha Espina	C1 D1	Calle de Fernando Calderón	D3	Calle de Rocio	D3 D4
Avenida de la Constitucion	A1	Calle de Fernando de Los Rios	B2 C2	Calle de Rodriguez	A3 A4
Avenida de Los Castros	A2 C2 D2	Calle de Francisco Salazar	D3 D4	Calle de Rualasal	B3
Avenida de Los Infantes	D3	Calle de Fransisco Palazuelos	C3	Calle de Rubio	A3
Avenida de Pontejos	D1 D2	Calle de Gerona	C4 D3	Calle de Ruiz Zorrilla	A4
Avenida de Reina Victoria	D4	Calle de Guevara	A3 B3	Calle de San Celedonio	B3
Avenida del Faro	D1	Calle de Hernán Cortés	B3 C4	Calle de San Francisco	A3 B3
Avenida del General Dávila	A2 B2 C3 D3	Calle de Honduras	B2 C2	Calle de San José	B3
Avenida del Stadium	D2	Calle de Isabel II	A3 A4	Calle de San Luis	A3
Bajada de Juan Blanco	A1 A2	Calle de Jesús de Monasterio	A3	Calle de San Martin	C4
Bajada de la Calzada	A1 A2	Calle de Joaquin Costa	D3	Calle de San Sebastián	B3
Bajada de la Encina	D3	Calle de Jorge Sepúlveda	B1	Calle de Santa Lucia	B3 C3
Bajada de la Teja	C2 C3	Calle de José de Esrañi	B1 C1	Calle de Santa Teresa	B3 C3
Bajada de Media Luna	A1 A2	Calle de José Simón Cabarga	D2 D3	Calle de Tantin	B3
Bajada de Ruamayor	B2	Calle de Juan de Herrera	A3 B3	Calle de Tetuan	C3
Bajade de Polio	B1 B2	Calle de Juan de la Cosa	C3 C4	Calle de Trasmiera	D3
Calle de A de Cabezón	B3	Calle de Juan del Castillo	B2	Calle de Valdenoja	D1
Calle de Acebedos	A3	Calle de Juan José Pérez del Molino	A2	Calle de Valliciengo	B3 C3
Calle de Alcazar de Toledo	A3	Calle de Juan XXIII	A2 A3	Calle de Via Cornelia	A2
Calle de Alfonso XIII	B3 B4	Calle de L Aguayos	B3	Calle de Vista Alegre	A3 B2
Calle de Alonso Ercilla	B3	Calle de la Autonomia	D1	Calle del General Mola	B3 C4
Calle de Alta	A3	Calle de la Braña	D2	Calle del Medio	B3
Calle de Antonio Lopez	A4	Calle de la Menéndez Playo	C3 D3	Calle del Real Racing Club	D1 D2
Calle de Augusto Gonzallez	C2	Calle de la Montañesa	C3	Calle el Ingenio	D1
Linares					
Calle de Blas Carrera	B2	Calle de la Peña Herbosa	B3 C3	Calleja del Junco	D3
Calle de Burgos	A3	Calle de la Universidad	C2 C3	Paseo de Canalejas	C3 C4
Calle de Bónifaz	B3 C3	Calle de Lealtad	A3 A4	Paseo de Pereda	B3 B4 C4
Calle de Calatayud	D3 D4	Calle de Leopoldo Pardo	A4	Paseo de Pérez Galdos	D4
Calle de Calderón de la	A4 B4	Calle de León Felipe	C4 D4	Plaza de Cañadio	B3
Barca					
Calle de Calleja Norte	D3	Calle de Los Caños	A2 A3	Plaza de la Bahia	D4
Calle de Carmén	B3 C3	Calle de M Sanz de Sautuola	B3	Plaza de la Lena	A3
Calle de Casimiro Sainz	C3 C4	Calle de Madrid	A4	Plaza Doctor Fleming	D2
Calle de Castelar	C4	Calle de Magallanes	A3	Plaza Esperanza	A3
Calle de Castilla	A4	Calle de Maria Cristina	B3	Plaza Pombo	B3
Calle de Cervantes	A3	Calle de Marianela	D4	Plaza Porticada	B3
Calle de Cisneros	A3	Calle de Matilde de la Torre	A1	Plaza Rio de la Pila	B3
Calle de Consuelo Bergés	C1 D1	Calle de Mozart	D4	Tunel de Tetuan	C3
Calle de Convneto	B3	Calle de Nazarin	D4		