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PLACES OF INTEREST

1 Torre de Hercules Lighthouse – was originally built during the reign of Trajan, a Roman emperor born in Spain in AD 98. Most of the structure however was rebuilt in the 18th-century. Feel free to climb the 242 steps to the top for a fabulous view of the city and coastline.

2 Plaza de Maria Pita – is a beautiful square with many open-air bars and restaurants. It is named after Maria Pita who in 1589 fired a cannon to warn the residence of the invasion by Sir Drake and his men.

3 Castle of San Anton – formerly a 16th-century fort, stands at the northeastern tip of the town and houses the Archaeological Museum.

4 Orzan and 5 Riazor Beach – are two sandy beaches located near the city center.

Beyond La Coruña

Betanzos – is a medieval town that actually dates from before Roman times. Once built on a seaside hill, it now sits well back from the coast where the Mendo and Mandeo rivers meet. The base of the hill is surrounded by medieval walls, above which rise a mass of twisting narrow streets. The highlights of this town are the 12th-century church of Santa Maria de Azogue and the attractive main square, Praza de Gracia Hermanos.

Pazo de Marinan – is a beautiful manor house built in Galician style. The feudal barons who controlled the peasant society of the kingdom of Galicia lived in pazos, or homes like this, once sprinkled throughout the region.

Santiago de Compostella – is the site of the famous cathedral said to contain the remains of St. James. It is the third holiest site in the Christian world next to Jerusalem and Rome. For centuries, people from all parts of the world made a pilgrimage to Santiago and the tomb of the beheaded apostle St. James. Aside from its religious connections, Santiago de Compostella is one of the most romantic and historic cities of Spain and has been declared a national landmark.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to La Coruña, we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For further information, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Manager at the Shore Excursion Desk.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Prices listed in shops are not negotiable. For the most part, the practice of bartering does not exist.

Tippling: In most restaurants, a 10% gratuity is acceptable. Taxi drivers should receive about 10% of the total fare with more for long rides and extra help for luggage.

Local Cuisine: The rugged coast line of Galicia is world famous for its quality of seafood. Specialties include vieiras (scallops whose shells became the symbol of St. James), mejillones (mussels), cigalas (crayfish), anguilas (eels), choquitos or chipirones (different kinds of small squid best served in its own ink), and the most popular, pulpo (octopus). The least expensive and traditional way of tasting these local favorites is at a tapas bar.

Drink Specialties: Some local wines, such as Albariño, are quite good as well as the local beer, Estrella Galicia. One famous Gallego custom is the queimada, a large bowl of aguardiente (aquavit liqueur) with fruit and sugar which is set alight and then drunk hot.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Shops are generally open from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm and 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday. El Corte Ingles remains open from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm.

The main shopping area is Cuatro Caminos. El Corte Ingles is a large department store and is located in the city center.

A Value Added Tax (VAT) is added to most purchases. Non-E.C. visitors who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to reclaim some or all the tax paid, however, regulations and conditions governing the refund VAT are subject to change. Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.[®] cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.

LOCAL CURRENCY The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. There are 8 euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State will decorate the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes. In different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.

There are limited opportunities to exchange money in La Coruña. Look for the word “Cambio” (Exchange).

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The main Post Office in La Coruña is located on Avda. de la Maina, near the pier. Opening hours are from 9:00 am – 8:00 pm weekdays.

There are a few different kinds of pay phones in Spain. Most take coins, but a few only take calling cards which can be bought at local tobacco shops. Long distance calls may be placed. You can also place a call with your personal calling card using the following access codes:

AT&T: 900-99-0011 / MCI: 900-99-0014 / SPRINT: 900-99-0013

TOURIST INFORMATION The Tourist Information Office is located in Jardines de Mendez Nuñez. Opening hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

TRANSPORTATION There will be a limited number of taxis at the pier. The town center is within walking distance from the ship.

USEFUL WORDS

Yes • Sí
No • No
Good Day • Buen Dia
Thank you • Gracias
You're Welcome • De nada

(Visitors will find a combination of Spanish and Gallego is used. The words listed above are in Spanish.)