ArrivalGuides



Santander

Photo: Willian Justen de Vasconcellos/unsplash



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Manuel Alvarez/Shutterstock.com

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.

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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 also some interesting museums to be discovered.

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.

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: Calle Rubio 6, Santander
Phone: +34 942 23 45 34
Internet: www.bibliotecademenendezpelayo.es
Email: biblioteca-mp@santander.es

Playa Somo



The beach across the bay from Santander is much-loved for its soft sand and relative tranquillity. There is a surf school–the first of its kind in Spain–on the beach, too (Escuela Cántabra 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
Internet: www.escuelacantabradesurf.com

Forestal Park



TirolinasGo Santander 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, or simply enjoy an active day outdoors with different games and circuits available for the whole family.

Photo: ER_09/Shutterstock.com
Address: Avenida del Faro, Santander
Phone: +34 608 11 71 16
Internet: www.tirolinasgo.com/santander
Email: santander@tirolinasgo.com

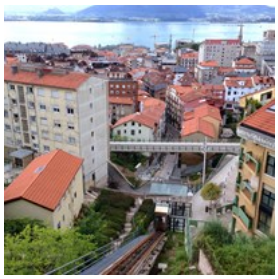
Magdalena Peninsula



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 also a small animal corner with live seals and penguins.

Photo: Manuel Alvarez/Shutterstock.com
Address: Magdalena Peninsula, Santander

Funicular del Rio de la Pila



If you find yourself by Río de la Pila street, do take a quick (a mere 3 minutes) ride up on the funicular to the Mirador Río de la Pila, from where spectacular views over the city below and the ocean waters unfold. The ride is free of charge, and the elevator has a maximum capacity of 20 people.

Photo: Andrew Nash/Shutterstock.com(image cropped)
Address: Calle Río de la Pila 36, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 6am–midnight

Paseo Marítimo



This one-kilometre-long boardwalk stretches from the Estación Marítima (Ferry Station) to Puerto Chico and features several points of interest including the Palacete de Embardadero 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 & Puerto Chico

Puerto Chico



Puerto Chico 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. Take a 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 the area. Many locals come here on the weekends for a meal or an evening stroll.

Photo: Tomás Fano/Flickr(image cropped)
Address: Puerto Chico, Santander

Cuevas de 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.
Internet: cuevas.culturadecantabria.com
Email: redes@srecd.es

Museo Marítimo del Cantábrico



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. If after your visit you get hungry, there's a on-site restaurant with bay views.

Photo: Gema Rodrigo/Flickr(image cropped)
Address: Avenida de Severiano Ballesteros, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun 10am–6pm
Phone: +34 942 27 49 62
Internet: www.museosdecantabria.es

Club Náutico La Horadada



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

Photo: Todd McLennan/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle la Horadada 10, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun 10am–6pm
Phone: +34 609 04 33 97
Internet: www.clubnauticolahoradada.es
Email: clubnauticolahoradada@gmail.com

Playa del Sardinero



This beach is the largest and the most popular one in Santander. It is divided into three parts: Playa de la Concha to the south, Primera Playa, and Segunda Playa to the north. A short walk from Segunda Playa is the 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 & Contemporary Art of Santander & Cantabria



This 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: Calle Rubio 6, Santander
Phone: +34 942 20 31 20
Email: museo@santander.es

Santander Cathedral



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

Photo: Andres Garcia Martin/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Somorrostro, Santander
Phone: +34 942 22 60 24

Cabárceno Natural Park



Cabárceno Natural Park is a nature reserve and zoo situated in Penagos–17 kilometres south of Santander. Consisting of 750 hectares, the park is located in a former open-pit iron mine on a karstic landscape. It is home to animals such as brown bears, elephants, tigers, gorillas and lions–to name a few.

Photo: evantravels/Shutterstock.com
Address: Carretera Obregón, Obregón
Opening hours: Daily 9:30am–6pm
Phone: +34 942 56 37 36
Internet: www.parquedecabarceno.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. Besides 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, 5, Santander
Opening hours: Open 24/7

Museum of Prehistory & Archaeology of Cantabria



This compact yet informative museum details the history of Cantabria with artefacts from prehistoric times to the Middle Ages, plus interactive exhibits. Explanations are provided in both English and Spanish.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Bailén, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun 10am–2pm / 5pm–8pm
Phone: +34 942 20 99 22
Internet: www.museosdecantabria.es

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

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 pm to 5 pm for siesta each day.

Photo: Piqsels

Centro Botín



This first-rate arts centre was designed by Pulitzer Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano. The west block is dedicated to art, while 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, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Fri 10am–2pm / 4pm–8pm; Sat & Sun 10am–8pm
Phone: +34 942 04 71 47
Internet: www.centrobotin.org
Email: info@centrobotin.org

Las Dunas de Liencres Natural Park



This sprawling parkland featuring pine forests and dunes is 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 specialities 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 long-standing, upscale restaurant serving seafood dishes and regional Spanish classics in a stylish setting. Reservations are highly recommended.

Photo: 54613/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Casimiro Sainz 15, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Sat 1:30pm–4pm / 9pm–11:30pm; Sun 1:30pm–4pm
Phone: +34 942 21 30 28
Internet: www.labombi.com

Casa Lita



Casa Lita is a popular tapas bar offering a huge array of northern Spanish pincho appetizers –approximately three hundred different types–made daily and with the best quality produce. Plus, a selection of cheeses, Iberian sausages, tuna from the north, and some artisan anchovies from Santoña to be enjoyed in a lively atmosphere, with a bayside terrace.

Photo: bezikus/Shutterstock.com
Address: Paseo de Pereda 37, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun noon–midnight, Mon closed
Phone: +34 942 36 48 30
Internet: www.casalita.es

Cañadío



Right in the centre of Santander, you'll find Cañadío, one of Santander’s most renowned restaurants, which specializes in Cantabrian cuisine. There is also an array of mouth-watering tapas and pinchos at the bar.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Gómez Oreña 15, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Sat noon–1am, Sun closed
Phone: +34 942 31 41 49
Internet: www.restaurantecanadio.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, grilled sardines, lobster,

deep-fried calamari, squid with onions, and the fish of the day, among other excellent dishes.

Photo: Seqoya/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Marqués de la Ensenada 35, Santander
Opening hours: Sun–Thu 1pm–4pm; Fri & Sat 1pm–4pm / 8pm–midnight
Phone: +34 942 22 94 45
Internet: www.lospenucas.es

Frida Street Food



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

Photo: Dani Vincek/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Santa Lucía 5, Santander
Phone: +34 634 41 73 90

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: Calle de Vargas 23, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun 10am–midnight, Mon closed
Phone: +34 942 23 00 24

Restaurante Tatami



If you're craving Japanese food while in Santander, this restaurant might be something for you. Enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine as well as some Chinese fare, such as sushi, sashimi, tempura dishes, and fried rice with shrimp, in a modern dining room or sitting down in the tatami seats.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza Doctor Fleming 3, Santander
Opening hours: Daily noon–4pm / 8pm–midnight
Phone: +34 942 76 06 66

Pizzeria Mamma Mia



As the name reveals, this one is an Italian restaurant that serves pizza (and not only–the menu also lists antipasti, salads, and pasta). 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: Calle Inés Diego de Noval 39, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sun 1pm–3:30pm / 8pm–11pm; Mon closed
Phone: +34 942 39 22 40
Internet: www.pizzeriamammamiasantander.es

El Serbal

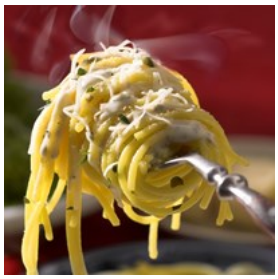


El Serbal is an elegant restaurant overlooking the beach offering northern Spanish food with a modern touch. Dishes are prepared with market-fresh ingredients to satisfy the most

discerning of palates. Try the tasting menu with wine pairing.

Photo: Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com
Address: Avenida Manuel García Lago 1E, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Sat 1:30pm–3:30pm / 8:30pm–11pm; Sun 1:30pm–3:30pm
Phone: +34 942 22 25 15
Internet: www.elserbal.com
Email: elserbal@elserbal.com

La Tagliatella



La Tagliatella is a restaurant chain with currently more than 140 restaurants and counting. The Santander instalment serves Italian cuisine, the main specialities being thin-crusted pizza and fresh pasta.

Photo: fotohavran.eu/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza Remedios 1, Santander
Opening hours: Sun–Thu 1:30pm–4pm / 8pm–11pm; Fri & Sat 1:30pm–4pm / 8pm–midnight
Phone: +34 942 36 39 78
Internet: www.latagliatella.es
Email: cliente@latagliatella.com

Marucho



Marucho is a very casual seafood restaurant with an overwhelming selection of fresh fish and seafood, such as hake, spider crab, mussels, and the catch of the day on display in the glass casings for guests to see.

Photo: Linda Hughes/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Tetuan 21 Santander
Opening hours: Mon & Thu–Sun 1pm–4pm / 8pm–11pm; Tue 1pm–5pm; Wed closed
Phone: +34 942 27 30 07
Internet: www.restaurantemarucho.es
Email: maite.marucho@gmail.com

CAFES



IAKOBCHUK VIACHESLAV/Shutterstock.com

The selection of cafes in Santander is very decent, ranging from the ubiquitous tapas bars to bakeries and ice cream parlours serving high-quality homemade 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).

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: Calle Castelar 27, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 8:30am–9:30pm
Phone: +34 942 94 65 80
Internet: www.valor.es/en/valor-chocolate-shops
Email: chocolaterias@valor.es

Café Suizo



Located directly on the city's main promenade, Café 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.

Photo: Jan Knop/Shutterstock.com
Address: Paseo de Pereda 28, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Fri 7am–1am, Sat & Sun 9am–1am
Phone: +34 942 21 58 64

Mercado del Este



This market isn't known for its shops as much as its selection of pleasant cafes ideal for a short break or a people-watching session. Sit down and enjoy authentic tapas with a nice glass of wine — get a bottle from one of the wine shops to bring back with you if you wish.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Hernán Cortés 4, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 8am–11:30pm

Gallofa&Co



Gallofa&Co is a wildly popular local bakery offering an overwhelming array of tasty bread, pastries, and cakes.

Photo: karnavalfoto/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Hernán Cortés 7, Santander
Internet: www.gallofa.com
Email: info@lagallofa.com

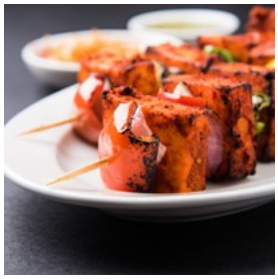
Heladeria Via Mazzini 43



Popular ice cream shop in central Santander offering artisanal ice creams and mouthwatering crepes.

Photo: Slawomir Fajer/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Castelar 9, Santander
Phone: +34 942 94 17 15

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 —Siboney is a great pick for those looking for sit-down dining in the area.

Photo: espies/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Castelar 7, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Thu & Sun 8:30am–midnight; Fri & Sat 8:30am–2am
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, and 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 centre of it all with regards to nightlife, 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: Calle del Sol 20, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Thu & Sun 4pm–2am; Fri & Sat 4pm–3am
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 and tonic poured here. Music played normally features local and international top charts. The vibes are stylish yet rather casual.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com
Address: Pasaje Jesús Revaque Garea, Santander
Opening hours: Thu midnight–3:30am, Fri & Sat 11pm–4:30am
Phone: +34 942 31 33 93

La Rana Verde



This is not a place to go for a formal meal, but a lively joint that is popular with a 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 in the Cañadío bar district.

Photo: Nejron Photo/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Daoiz y Velarde 30, Santander,
Opening hours: Mon–Fri 6pm–11:30pm; Sat & Sun 1pm–1:30pm / 6pm–11:30pm
Phone: +34 942 22 24 02

Terrace Lounge BNS



This waterfront venue on la Concha beach in el Sardinero is 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: Avenida de la Reina Victoria 46, Santander
Phone: +34 942 29 09 19
Internet: www.balneariodelaconcha.es

Stop



With one of the best front-row seats to the Cantabrian sunset, Stop has grown to become a local favourite for an evening drink in a relaxing environment. It offers an excellent array of tapas as well as an impressive assortment of gins and tonics.

Photo: GDmitry/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Castelar 13, Santander
Opening hours: Mon & Wed–Sun noon–1am, Tue closed
Phone: +34 636 94 03 20

Bar Caribe



A local bar scene classic, 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. 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: Calle Joaquin Costa 47, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 12:30pm–midnight
Phone: +34 942 78 54 11

Bar Canela



One of the little bars in the oh-so-popular-by-night Plaza de Cañadío, Canela is one of the best 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: Plaza Cañadío 5, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 6:30pm–4am

La Barruca de Calderón



Bar and grill known for its juicy burgers offered at very reasonable prices. La Barruca de Calderón is, perhaps, more of an eatery than a watering hole, but it is certainly fit for a pleasant evening drink.

Photo: Ramon L. Farinos/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Calderón de la Barca 10, Santander

Opening hours: Mon–Thu 7am–11pm, Fri 7am–midnight, Sat 9am–midnight
Phone: +34 942 07 85 85
Internet: www.labarruca.com
Email: info@labarruca.com

Gran Casino del 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 de Italia, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 2pm–4am
Phone: +34 942 27 60 54
Internet: www.grancasinosardinero.es
Email: info.sardinero@grupocomar.com

Moondog



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

Photo: alexpro9500/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle del Sol 52, Santander
Opening hours: Daily 6pm–3am

Discoteca Amarras



The Amarras disco is popular with the local 40-and-above crowd. Nights 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: Calle Joaquín Costa 28, Santander
Opening hours: Tue–Thu 8:30pm–1:30am, Fri 8:30pm–4:30am, Sat 11:30pm–5am, Sun 7pm–midnight
Phone: +34 667 43 85 72

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 centres in Santander, both located a short drive out of town — Valle Real and the well-known Spanish department store chain instalment El Corte Inglés.

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

El Corte Inglés



The nationwide department store chain enjoys a well-deserved good reputation. The Santander instalment is located a short drive outside the city centre. 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: Avenida Nueva Montaña, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Sat 9am–9:30pm
Phone: +34 942 32 84 00

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 also several restaurants onsite.

Photo: Billion Photos/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Alday, Maliaño
Phone: +34 942 26 18 19
Internet: www.centrovallereal.com

Gómez Pastelerías



Those with a sweet tooth will certainly be delighted to find out that Santander is famous for its sobaos (a popular sponge cake from Cantabria) and quesada cakes (another dessert typical of the Cantabrian region). One of the best places to buy them is Gómez Pastelerías, which has several branches in the city.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle San José 22, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Sat 9:30am–2pm / 5–8pm; Sun 10am–2pm
Phone: +34 942 21 12 86
Internet: www.gomezpastelerias.com
Email: gomez@gomezpastelerias.com

Nuks



This colourful candy shop 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. The end cost is calculated by weight. Sugar-free varieties are also available.

Photo: Vorobyeva/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Cádiz 17, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Sat 10am–9pm, Sun closed
Phone: +34 942 07 00 52

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 bread.

Photo: sunlover/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Alta 133, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Wed 8:30am–2:30pm; Thu & Fri 8:30am–2pm / 5pm–8pm, Sat 8:30am–3pm

TOURIST INFORMATION



Francisco Javier Gil/Shutterstock.com

Santander Airport (SDR)

Seve Ballesteros-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 7 am to 11 pm. Taxis leave from outside the terminal building. Car rental companies are represented at the airport.

Photo: Juan Garces
Address: Calle Aeropuerto, Maliaño
Phone: +34 913 21 10 00
Internet: www.aena.es/en/seve-ballesteros-santander.html

Boat

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

The ferry terminal for longer journeys is at Estación Marítima.

Photo: ArrivalGuides
Address: Paseo Marítimo, Santander
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. The 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.net

For further away destinations by train, visit: www.renfe.com

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair
Internet: www.transportedecantabria.es

Taxi



Santander has 16 taxi ranks from where you can pick up a cab. Central locations include outside Banco de Santander on Paseo de Pereda 22, outside the Correos on Avenida Alfonso XIII, on Plaza de las Estaciones, and at various places along Vargas, General Dávila, and Juan de Herrera.

Photo: ArrivalGuides
Address: Pidetaxi Cantabria
Phone: +34 942 33 33 33
Internet: www.pidetaxicantabria.es

Post



Look for yellow signs and mailboxes. 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.

Photo: Andy Fuchs
Address: Main Post Office, Calle Alfonso XIII 2, Santander
Opening hours: Mon–Fri 8:30am–8:30pm
Phone: +34 942 36 55 19
Internet: www.correos.es/es/es/particulares

Pharmacy



There are several pharmacies throughout the city centre. Farmacia GPalacios Calle Lope de Vega, 7, Santander
Mon–Fri 9am–9pm, Sat 10am–2pm

Farmacia Compostizo
Calle Sta. Lucía, 32
Mon–Fri 9am–9:30pm, Sat 9am–2:30pm

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
172,000 (2021)

Currency
1 Euro = 100 cents

Opening hours
Shops are open from 9/10 am to 2 pm, and from 5/5:30 pm until 8/8:30 pm. Banks are open Monday to Saturday from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm.

Newspapers

El País, ABC & El Mundo (Spain's main national newspapers)
Crónica de Cantabria — www.cronicadecantabria.com
El Diario Montanés — www.eldiariomontanes.es

Emergency numbers
Emergency 112
Fire 080
Civil Guard 062

Tourist information
Oficina de Turismo de Santander
Paseo de Pereda, Santander
+34 942 20 30 00
Mon–Fri 9am–7pm, Sat & Sun 10am–2pm


Océano Atlántico
Santander
Galinza
Noja
Villaverde de Pontones
Santona
Costa Vasca
San Vicente de la Barquera
Orena
Santillana del Mar
A67
San Miguel de Meruelo
148
Gama
Laredo
Tares
E70
N634
A8
Castro-Urdiales
Plentzia
634
N634
Pesués
Solorzano
Colindres
Getxo
Portugalete
Sestao
Colombres
Unguera
La Revilla
Torrelavega
Barreda
N623
Solares
La Cavada
Limpias
Sámano
El Puente
Somorrostro
Ortuella
Barakaldo
Bilbo/
Bilbao
Bielba
E70
Campuzano
La Herrán
Ampuero
Panes
Cabezon de la Sal
Vargas
N634
531
N629
Riva
Ramales de la Victoria
N621
Puentenansa
180
Arredondo
261
Villaverde de T.
Zella
282
Cantabria
630
Lanestosa
636
Sodupe
La Hermida
Valle de Cabuerniga
San Vicente de Toranzo
Ugao-Miraballes
Vinon
Lebena
Veguilla
Balmaseda
Gordexola
Tama
Potes
Barcena Mayor
Hornedillo
Entrambas-mestas
Vega de Pas
Puerto de los Tornos
Areta
Laudio/
Llodio
Artziniega
184
N611
N623
624
625
Bercedo
Espinosa de los Monteros
Amurrio
Abiada
625
San Miguel de Aguayo
Corconte
6318
El Ribero
Reinosa
171
Embalse del Ebro
Puerto del Escudo
Quincoces de Yuso
Orduna
San Salvador de Cantamuda
Cilleruelo de Bezana
629
La Cerca
Branosera
Olea
Arroyo
Soncillo
Villarcayo
Medina de Pomar
Quintanilla de la Ojada
E5
N622
Barruelo de Santullán
N232
Villanueva Carrales
Berberana
Acebedo
E805
Cervera de Pisuerga
Aldea de Ebro
Incinillas
Lalastra
625
A68
Salinas de Pisuerga
212
N629
Mataporquera
Valdenoceda
Río Ebro
Subijana
Emb. de Aguilar de Campoo
Villanueva de la Nia
Ruerrero
Escalada
Espejo
E80
Annez
Dehes de Montejo
Trespaderne
Quintana Martin Galindez
N I
627
Aguilar de Campoo
Pesadas de Burgos
La Puebla de Arganzon
Frias
Puentelarra
Ona
N611
Sedano
Terminon
La Aldea del Portillo de Busto
Basconcillos del Tozo
Cornudilla
Berantevilla
Lavid de Ojeda
Alar del Rey
629
Salas de Bureba
Miranda de Ebro
N627
Portillo del Fresno
N232
Busto de Bureba
Cubo de Bureba
Oron
Herrera de Pisuerga
La Piedra
Masa
N124
Brinas
E5
A68
San Vicente de la Sonsierra
Sotresgudo
La Nuez de Arriba
N623
Rublacedo de Abajo
N1
E80
Treviana
Haro
Sotobanado y Priorato
627
Río Pisuerga
Briviesca
Casalarreina
Tirgo
Briones
Villadiego
111
N232
Zarraton
E804
Tobar
Temino
Monasterio de Rodilla
Villaescusa La Sombria
Melgar de Fernamental
Sasamon
Sotopalacios
Santo Domingo de la Calzada
Nájera
Osorno
A231
Villanueva de Argano
Mansilla de Burgos
Quintanapalla
Belorado
Villasandino
Rubena
Villafranca Montes de Oca
N120
Berceo
113
San Mames de Burgos
Pradoluengo
Ezcaray
Castroviejo
N611
Lantadilla
Buniel
Burgos
Arlazon
Bobadilla
Castrojeriz
Iglesias
Ibeas de Juarros
Fromista
Pedrosa del Principe
Estepar
Arcos
Sarracin
Sierra de la Demanda
Villaldemiro
Támara
Pámpliega
Presencio
Brieva de Cameros
Astudillo
Cogollos
Tinieblas
Barbadillo de Herreros
Riocavado de la Sierra
Cuevas de San Clemente
Quintanilla de las Vinas
Villanueva de Cameros
617
Santa Maria del Campo
Barbadillo del Pez
Quintanan del Puente
Zael
E5
Vizcainos
Huerta de Arriba
Montenegro de Cameros
Escuderos
Villahoz
113
0
30 km


A
B
C
D
1
2
3
4
Calle de la Autonomia
Calle de José de Esrañi
Calle de Consuelo Bergés
Avenida de Concha Espina
Calle de Valdenoja
Calle de Matilde de la Torre
Calle de Jorge Sepúlveda
Avenida de Cantabria
Calle el Ingenio
Av del Faro
Avenida de la Constitucion
Autovia Bezana-Sardinero
Bajada de la Cerezada
Bajada de Juan Blanco
Bajada de Media Luna
B de Polio
Palacio de Deportes
Real Racing Club
Lamera
Calle del
Avenida Pontejos
Avenida del Stadium
C del Real Racing Club
Palacio de Congresos
Parque de Mesones
Plaza Doctor Fleming
Alcalde Vega
Avenida de Los Castros
Conservatorio de Musica
C Via corneta
Avenida del General Dávila
C de Blas Carrera
Parque de la Teja
Calle de Honduras
C de Fernando de Los Rios
C de Augusto G Linares
Bajada de Ruamayor
B de la Teja
Avenida de los Castros
C de la Braña
C de Juan José Pérez del Molino
C de J del Castillo
Calle de José Simón Cabarga
Calle de Juan XXIII
Calle de Visia Alegre
C de R Sevilla
C de M Cristina
P de San Roque
Avenida del General Dávila
C de la Universidad
Calle de Trasmiera
Av de Los Infantes
Los Caños
C de Acebedos
Calle de Cisneros
Museo de Bellas Artes
Casa Museo M Pelayo
Plaza de la Lena
C de Convento
C de San Sebastián
C de Celedonio
Parque de Jado
Prado de San Roque
C de Fernando Calderón
Av de Antonio Maura
Calle de Magallanes
Calle de San Luis
C de Burgos
Calle de Rubio
C de Cervantes
Calle de Guevara
C de Tantin
C de A Ercilla
A de Cabezón
C d L Aguayos
St Teresa
C de Fransisco Palazuelos
Tunel de Tetuan
Avenida del General Dávila
Balada de la Encina
Calleja del Junco
C de Jesús de Monasterio
Plaza Esperanza
Ayuntamiento
C de San Jose
Plaza Rio de la Pila
Calle de Carmen
C de Valviciergo
Calle de la Menéndez Playo
Av de Los Infantes
C de Calleja Norte
C Alcazar de Toledo
Calle de Fernandes de Isla
C de J de Herrera
C Rualasal
C de San Francisco
Av de C Sotelo
Paseo de Pereda
C d Medio
Plaza Porticada
Plaza de Cañadio
C de Daoiz y Velarde
Calle de Santa Lucia
Calle de Tetuan
Calle de Joaquin Costa
Calle de Alta
Parlsamento de Cantabria
Estacion Renfe
Calle de Bonifaz
Peña Herbosa
Calle de Hernan Cortés
Calle del General Mola
Casimiro Sainz
Museo de Prehistoria
Calle de la Montañesa
C de Plaza Alhucemas
Calle de Rocio
Catedral
Plaza Pombo
Jardines de Pereda
Paseo de Canalejas
C d Gerona
C de Rio Cubas
Estacion Fevé
Calle de Cádiz
Calderón de la Barca
C de Isabel II
C de Leandad
C de Alfonso XIII
C de S M de Sautuola
C de San Martin
C de Juan de la Cosa
Paseo de Pereda
Calle de Castelar
Paseo de Pérez Galdos
C de Calatayud
Calle de Castilla
Calle de Rodriguez
Palacetet del Embarcadero
C de Progreso
C de Madrid
C de Federico Vidal
C de Ruiz Zorrilla
C de Leopoldo Pardo
Calle de Antonio Lopez
C de León Felipe
C de Nazaret
C de Francisco Salazar
C de Mozart
C de Manzanela
C de Don Daniel
Palacio de Festivales
Avenida de Reina Victoria
Plaza de la Bahia
Bahia de Santander
Museo Maritimo del Cantabrico
0
250 m

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 Valliciergo 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 Linares C2	Calle de la Montañesa C3	Calle el Ingenio D1
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 Barca A4 B4	Calle de León Felipe C4 D4	Plaza de Cañadio B3
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	