



Parador de Santo Estevo

ENJOY PEACE AND TRANQUILITY IN A BEAUTIFUL MONASTERY

In the heart of the Ribeira Sacra region, a uniquely beautiful natural area in inland Galicia that is home to the Miño and Sil rivers, concealed within a great cloak of green woods stands Santo Estevo Monastery, which has been converted into the beautiful Santo Estevo Parador. The monastery's origins are believed to date back to the 6th and 7th centuries. It is easy to distinguish elements of the baroque and romanesque styles and the building has three incredible cloisters: one Romanesque, one Gothic and the third Renaissance, where you can spend a peaceful evening in a subdued atmosphere with the soft sounds of religious music as an accompaniment. Its beauty and historical features led the building to be declared a historic-artistic site in 1923. The 77 guest rooms, each unique, offer views of the green landscape and the amazing Sil River Canyon. At the Santo Estevo Parador you can also enjoy the restaurant terrace beside the chestnut wood or the terrace café in the porter's office cloister; beautiful, spacious function rooms perfect for celebrations. Set within peaceful gardens, tranquility awaits you in this beautiful place, which also features an exclusive spa with incredible views. The Parador is surrounded by a forest of oak and chestnut trees. As a result, one of the most important local ingredients is chestnuts, which you can sample in a variety of different recipes, including

fried eggs with sautéed horse chestnuts and apple chorizo sausage. The province of Orense is known for making the best octopus in Galicia. You won't want to miss San Estevo's restaurant house specialty, grilled octopus with sautéed turnip greens, or delicious desserts such as Bica de Trives (cinnamon topped sponge cake) or Bica de Castro Caldelas (traditional sponge cake). In a land where the culture of wine is ever-present, you will discover a cuisine based on ingredients from nearby rivers and mountains, and traditional Galician dishes. Starting from the Parador, you can follow a number of unforgettable, unique and beautiful routes in an area that is never overcrowded by tourism. On the Ruta de los Catamaranes (Route of the Catamarans), you will navigate the beautiful Sil River Canyon, which offers a spectacular explosion of colour in spring and autumn; the Ruta de los Miradores (Route of the Scenic Overlooks) has lovely picture postcard views of the riverbanks; and the essential Ruta del Románico (Route of the Romanesque) will take you to churches and monasteries dating from the late 12th and 13th centuries, surrounded by magical forests of oaks and chestnuts.

Parador de Santo Estevo,
www.paradores.es

