



Culture and Memory Audio Guide

This is a journey through the places that speak of our culture and preserve our collective memory. The identity of a people lies not only in its landscapes, but also in the stories we keep, the words we write and the work of our people, which are our deepest expressions of identity.

*Literary culture is the first expression of this identity. We find it at the Neira Vilas Foundation, in Vila de Cruces, which treasures the legacy of Xosé Neira Vilas, the author of *Memorias dun neno labrego* (Memoirs of a Country Boy). His works bear witness to rural life and act as a mirror of our own history, where literature becomes an act of memory and dignity. We continue at the Casa do Patrón, in Doade, Lalín, a guardian of local ethnography and tradition. This space is a total immersion in the daily life of our grandparents. Through its rooms and tools, we will better understand what life in the fields, traditional crafts and popular architecture were like. It is not just a museum; it is the preservation of a way of being and living.*

Our deep history can also be felt in archaeological sites such as the Castro de Toiriz in Silleda, the Castro de Doade in Lalín and the Castro de Garellas in Forcarei. These sites bear witness to the lives of our ancestors and connect us to our most ancient origins.

Industrial heritage is also a crucial part of our history. At the Fontao Mining Museum in Vila de Cruces, we discover the mark left by the effort and labour of the mines, which once drove the region's economy and social life. Here, we can learn what daily life was like in the mining settlement and how techniques evolved over time, honouring the sacrifice and legacy of that activity.

But the cultural wealth of the region goes far beyond this. In Lalín, the Ramón María Aller Museum pays tribute to the distinguished astronomer and mathematician. For a broader historical perspective, the Museo do Pobo Estradense “Manuel Reimóndez Portela” (Museum of the People), in A Estrada, is essential. And for families—or to reconnect with our inner child—the Toy and Puppet Museum at the Pazo de Liñares, in Lalín, is a must-see.



Our memory also lives on in other places of interest, such as the Manuel Llamazares Cultural Centre in Rodeiro, and in celebrations such as the Gaiteiro (bagpiper) Festival in Soutelo de Montes, Forcarei—recognised as a Festival of Tourist Interest in Galicia—which honours Avelino Cachafeiro, named the best bagpiper in Galicia. Another highlight is the Callobre Folk Festival in A Estrada, a tribute to our traditional music for more than 24 years.

Literature, ethnography and industrial history form the foundation of our identity. But the cultural wealth of this region is much broader, sustained also by its history, science, music and the arts. We invite you to travel through this living legacy.