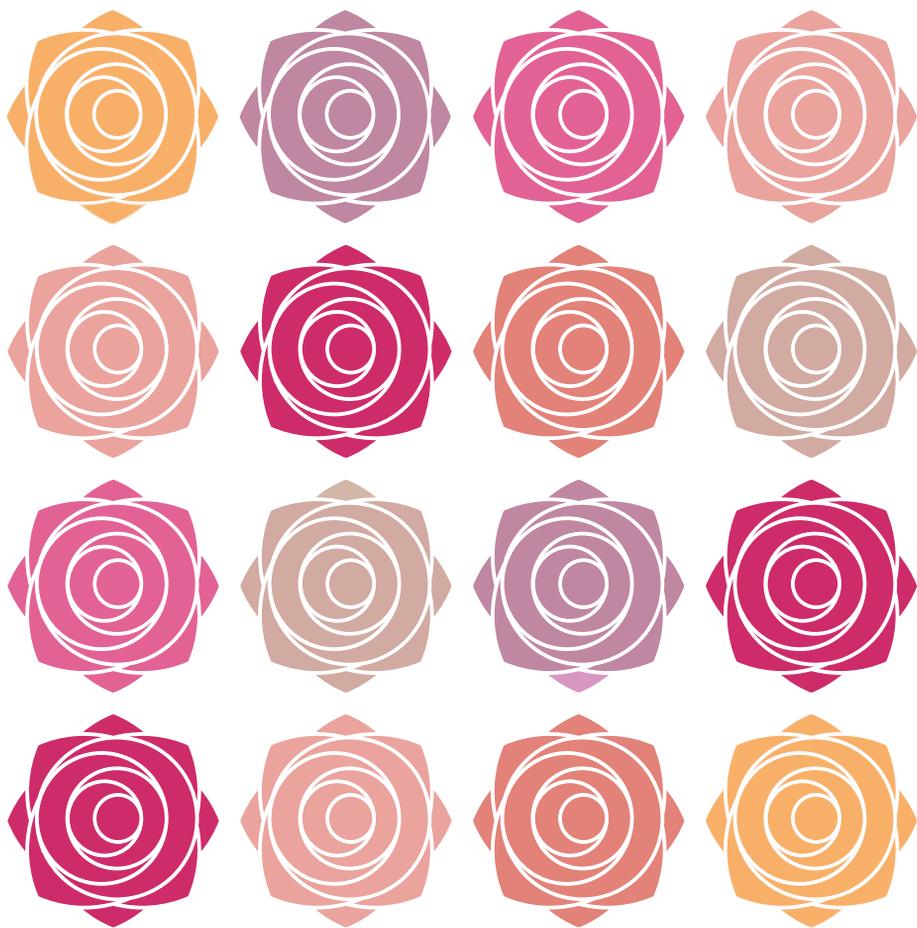


# INSPIRING

Camellia Gardens

EXPERIENCE RÍAS BAIXAS



DEPUTACIÓN  
PONTEVEDRA



ríasbaixas



Published by: Turismo Rías Baixas - Diputación de Pontevedra

Photography by: Archivo Turismo Rías Baixas

Design and Layout by: Anónimo Advertising

Legal Deposit: VG 414-2017



**DEPUTACIÓN**  
PONTEVEDRA





# Inspiring and magical beauty

CAMELLIA GARDENS **RÍAS BAIXAS**

The **Rías Baixas is a sprawling camellia garden** that puts on a dazzling display in the autumn, winter and spring seasons. These small trees or shrubs accompany us as we stroll along the streets, squares and gardens, past manor houses, castles and monasteries... We can take pride in saying that the beautiful camellias **are part of our history and culture**. Camellias are ornamental trees whose serene beauty catches the eye of the beholder. **Native to the Orient, they were introduced in Pontevedra in the 17<sup>th</sup> century from Portugal**. They adapted extremely well to the cultivation conditions of the Rías Baixas: well-drained acid soils with a certain degree of humidity in the air. There are **80 species and 30,000 different varieties**, depending on the size, shape, colour, petals, leaves, etc. We invite you to come and gaze closely at these delicate flowers and discover the unique beauty of each one – the beauty that is at once so inspiring and magical.



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X riasbaixas



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## 1 Pazo de Rubianes

### VILAGARCÍA DE AROUSA

This 18<sup>th</sup> century manor house was built on the site of a 15<sup>th</sup> century tower, belonging to the Caamaño family, founders of Vilagarcía de Arousa. The estate has been dedicated to agroforestry cultivation since time immemorial. The most outstanding area is the French style garden which boasts over seventy varieties of Camellias. The gardens contain several camellia species such as the “sasanqua, reticulata and the japonica”. The gardens have won Gold and Silver Awards at a number of different international shows and are included on the Route of the Camellia. International Camellia Garden of Excellence.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.pazoderubianes.com](http://www.pazoderubianes.com)

42°34'41"N 8°43'59"W

#### VISITS: By appointment

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Jul. Aug. and Sep. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

#### GUIDED TOURS

##### Small groups or individuals:

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 11:00 am  
Saturday, Sunday and Holidays at 11:30 am

##### Groups of more than 10:

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm



## 2 Pazo de O Cuadrante

### VILANOVA DE AROUSA

The Pazo de O Cuadrante, famous as the birth home of playwright Ramón M<sup>º</sup> del Valle-Inclán, is an example of traditional Galician manor house architecture which houses the Birthplace-Museum of the writer.

The vast garden is dotted with leaf-bearing trees, some of which are over a hundred years old. Standing out among these is the group of old “japonica and sasanqua” camellias which continue to thrive in the shade of an ancient magnolia tree.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.museocuadrante.com](http://www.museocuadrante.com)

[www.vilanovadearousa.com](http://www.vilanovadearousa.com)

42°33'44"N 8°49'41"W

#### VISITS

Tuesday - Sunday

Winter 10:00 am – 2:00 pm / 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Summer 10:00 am – 2:00 pm / 5:30 – 9:30 pm

### 3 Pazo Quintero da Cruz

## RIBADUMIA

Built in 1790 in the parish of Lois, this manor house is a true example of the Neoclassical architecture of the Galician nobility. The grounds, evoking a romantic atmosphere, date from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and cover an area of 7 hectares. The gardens, lined by vineyards of the Albariño grape variety and surrounded by native forest, include 1500 camellia varieties such as “assimilis, caudata, cuspidata, fluviatilis, nitidisima, granthamiana, sasanqua and lasinensis”. The most outstanding are the specimens of the “japonica and reticulata and higo” species, which have won the Golden Camellia award at the international camellia show on several occasions.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

[www.pazoquintero dacruz.es](http://www.pazoquintero dacruz.es)

42°31'49.19"N 8°43'45.19"W

**VISITS:** By appointment.

### 4 Pazo de Lourizán

## PONTEVEDRA

On the outskirts of the city of Pontevedra, it is a magnificent example of a manor house dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, now dedicated to forestry research and conservation. This manor house has a lovely, large-sized garden containing unusual botanical species like the Dutch elm, a magnolia-lined avenue, and a metasequoia specimen that had previously only been known in fossil form. However, what strikes us about this garden are the specimens of ancient camellia “japonica Alba Plena”, that bloom from November to February.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

[info@cameliagalicia.com](mailto:info@cameliagalicia.com)

42°24'34.9"N 8°39'52.9"W

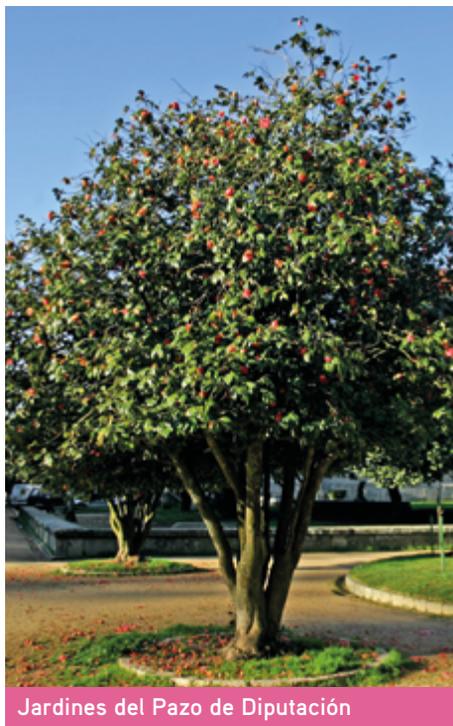
**VISITS:** By appointment.



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Jardines del Pazo de Diputación



Palacete de las Mendoza



Pazo de Gandarón

## Other points

In the city of **Vilagarcía de Arousa**, camellias can be found in many of the local manor houses (such as **A Gopelleira**). They also line virtually all of the streets and plazas.

In the centre of **Pontevedra** the gardens surrounding the pazo or manor house where **Pontevedra's Provincial Government** is located contain over 30 camellia japonica trees with flowers of different shades of pink that bloom until the end of April.

Also in **Pontevedra**, in the garden of the **Palacete de las Mendoza**, housing the Rías Baixas Tourist Services Office of the Provincial Government of Pontevedra, there are several specimens of old japonica camellia trees.

Moreover, the capital city of Pontevedra has many streets and squares where we can see some very interesting specimens of camellia: **the gardens of the Liceo Casino of A Caeira, Pazo de Gandarón in Salcedo, Plaza de la Herrería, Rúa de la Oliva, and even San Mauro's cemetery.**



## 5 Pazo de Oca

### A ESTRADA

The Pazo de Oca exhibits several different types of baroque style gardens of excellent quality, which earned it the title of the “Galician Versailles”. Every one of its elements is outstanding: the water treatment system and the pools with their stone boat sculptures, the fountains, water jets, mills, cisterns and canalisation network, making the estate especially pleasing to the eye. Some of the most beautiful spots are the romantic and geometric gardens, the maze, the topiary work, the representations of noble coats-of-arms and military order emblems created using plants, the horticultural garden, the kiwifruit grove, etc.

The estate boasts a specimen of camellia “reticulata Capitain Rawes”, which was considered to be the oldest camellia tree in Europe. It is 12 metres tall with large red flowers that blossom from the end of February until early April. It is indisputably the crown jewel of the Rías Baixas camellias. Visitors can marvel at the 107 species of camellia, as well as vast botanical arrangements consisting of 28 camellias of different species, 277 white camellias and 17 other different camellia species.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.fundacionmedinaceli.org](http://www.fundacionmedinaceli.org)

42º79'74.17" N 8º38'30.26" W

#### VISITS

November - March:

Monday - Sunday 9:00 am - 6:30 pm

April - October:

Monday - Sunday 9:00 am - 8:30 pm

#### GUIDED TOURS

Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 am



## 6 Park – Botanical Gardens

### CALDAS DE REIS

The popularity of thermal baths starting in the 19<sup>th</sup> century propelled the growth of the Alameda de Caldas de Reis and later the Park – Botanical Gardens of the city. Declared a Scenic Site and Historical Gardens and classified by Galicia's Autonomous Government, the Xunta de Galicia, as a Site of Cultural Interest, the estate currently contains a collection of selected living plants identified and recorded following scientific methods and criteria. The park and garden area is one of the most beautiful spots in the province, a place where you can see a variety of exotic trees and a number of different camellia species.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

[www.caldasdereis.com](http://www.caldasdereis.com)

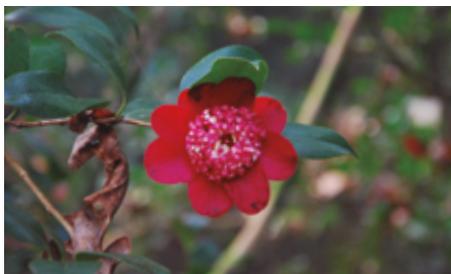
42°60'34.62"N 8°64'14.85"W

**VISITS:** Free visit.

## 7 Pazo de la Saleta

### MEIS

This pretty manor house lies in the very heart of the O Salnés region, among autochthonous species including oriental, Australian, New Zealand, South African and South American varieties. It also holds one of Spain's most important private botanical gardens and forms a part of both the Route of the Camellia and "Les Belles Maisons", an exclusive collection of privately owned houses for special events.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

[www.pazodelasaleta.com](http://www.pazodelasaleta.com)

42°51'93.75"N 8°71'68.72"W

**VISITS:** By appointment.



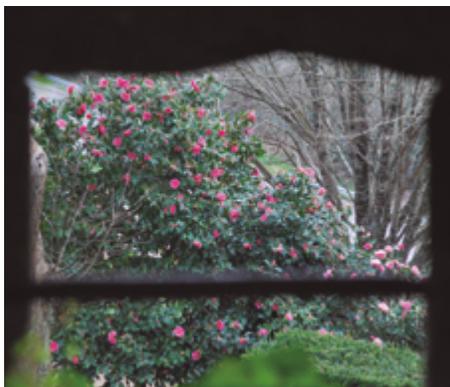
## 8 Castillo de Soutomaior

### SOUTOMAIOR

This castle, the hub of Galician feudal life in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, fulfilled a number of different functions until it became a summer residence at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It later became the property of the Provincial Government of Pontevedra.

Its 25-hectare estate shows a renowned arboretum with unusual specimens that reach unparalleled sizes: towering sequoias and palm trees, cedars of Lebanon, ancient chestnut trees, magnolia trees, European silver firs, not to mention the over five hundred monumental camellia trees, the most outstanding of which is the camellia "japonica" having the largest perimeter of Spain.

In 2012 the estate was awarded the International Camellia Garden of Excellence granted by the International Camellia Society, the first gardens in Spain to receive such an award.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT**

[www.depo.es](http://www.depo.es)

[www.turismoriasbaixas.com](http://www.turismoriasbaixas.com)

42°32'96.32"N 8°56'79.23"W

**VISITS:** Free visit to the gardens.



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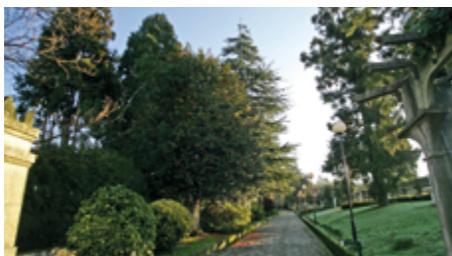


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## 9 Pazo Torres de Agrelo

### REDONDELA

Dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this manor house was constructed on the site of an old Franciscan monastery. Some of its interesting features are the period decoration including suits of armour and sculptures as well as the many decorative elements from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The Pazo Torres de Agrelo is surrounded by lovely gardens overlooking the Ría de Vigo. The gardens pride themselves of a hundred-year-old specimen of camellia “sasanqua the Baron of Soutelinho”, having huge aromatic flowers considered to be the largest in Europe.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.torresdeagrelo.com](http://www.torresdeagrelo.com)

42°29'18.78"N 8°60'04.87"W

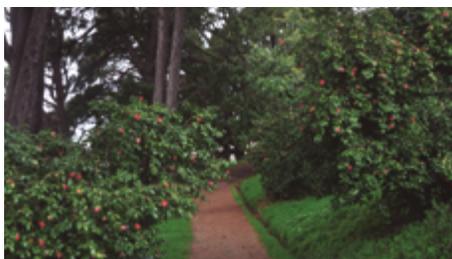
#### VISITS:

Closed to the public. For guests only.

## 10 Parque Monte do Castro

### VIGO

The park of O Castro, located in the centre of the city of Vigo, boasts an exceptional botanical garden, containing large-sized exotic species of great ornamental value as well as the remains of a hill-fort settlement showing what life was like in Vigo in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C. The camellias, most of which are of Portuguese origin, are found scattered all over the gardens, which offer a sweeping panoramic view of the ría de Vigo and its port.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.turismodevigo.org](http://www.turismodevigo.org)

42°23'22.35"N 8°72'61.95"W

**VISITS:** Free visit.

## 10 Pazo-Museo Quiñones de León

### VIGO

The origin of this construction dates back to the old Pazo de Lavandeira, built around the year 1670. After belonging to different families, in 1924 it was donated to the people of Vigo to be converted into a museum and public park. In 1927, it opened its doors to the public as the Municipal Museum with one of the best collections of Galician painting. But one of the most outstanding features of this manor house – museum is the garden with its magnificent camellia specimens, As well as a delightful labyrinth, where the “Methuselah” of the camellias, at more than 150 years old one of the oldest in Galicia, can be found.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[www.museodevigo.org](http://www.museodevigo.org)

[www.turismodevigo.org](http://www.turismodevigo.org)

42°21'43.75" N 8°72'74.86" W

VISITS: Free visit.

### Other points

**Vigo** offers a number of different places where you can delight in these exquisite flowering trees that seem to be racing against time. For instance, the **Avenida das Camelias**, **Avenida García Barbón**; **calle Marqués de Valladares**; the **Alameda gardens** and the **hills of A Guía**.



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## INLAND-SOUTH

### 11 Pazo do Barreiro

#### CRECENTE

This manor house is a defensive fortress located on a hillslope overlooking a landscape dotted with vineyards and villages. With its thick walls, lateral wings, colossal balcony, arrow slits, closed patio, chapel, etc., this construction was clearly intended for use as a strategic stronghold.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[www.pazodobarreiro.com](http://www.pazodobarreiro.com)  
42°16'65.84"N 8°24'67.48"W

VISITS:  
Closed to the public. For guests only





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[www.turismoriasbaixas.com](http://www.turismoriasbaixas.com)

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