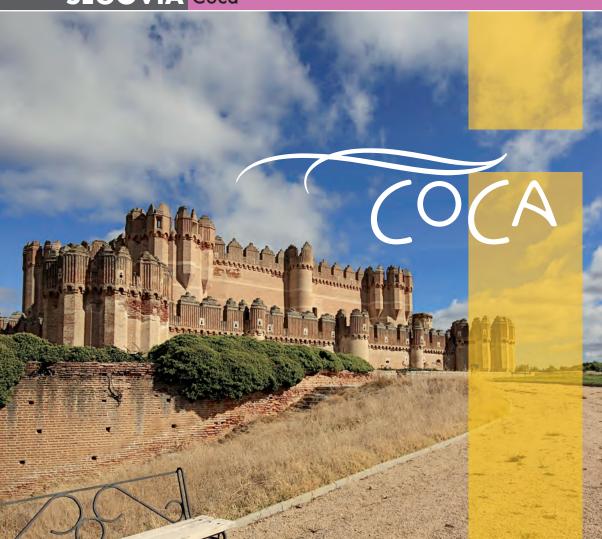


SEGOVIA Coca





PUBLISHED

Patronato Provincial de Turismo de Segovia

Plaza Mayor, 9 · 40001 Segovia Tel. 921 466 070 www.segoviaturismo.es info@segoviaturismo.es

DESING

Agenda Comunicación S.L. Tel. 921 447 176 www.agendacomunicacion.com

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DEPÓSITO LEGAL

SG-203/2013

PRINGTING

Industrias Gráficas GRAFO S.A.

Actualización NOVIEMBRE 2013

(C) De los textos y fotografías, sus autores.

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Fotografías: David Rubio Galindo

Textos: HISTARCO (Asociación para la investigación y el desarrollo cultural) / www.histarco.org

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Surrounded by imposing forest and silhouetted on the promontory formed by the Voltoya and Eresma rivers, Coca-Ciudad de Cauca is one of the oldest continuously populated settlements on the Iberian Peninsula. The site became inhabited on a permanent basis in the first years of the 8th century B.C. and it has witnessed peoples from first the Soto culture (8th-5th century B.C.), followed by Vaccaei (5th-1st century B.C.), Romans, it was here that Theodosius was born in the year 347, one of three Roman Emperors of Spanish origin, later-Visigoths, until the ancient city of Cauca, became the town of Coca, head of the Comunidad de Villa y Tierra (regional administrative division) a to which it gives its name, shortly after the reconquest (Alfonso VI, 1086). Coca-Ciudad de Cauca, in its fourth millennium, boasts an archaeological and artistic legacy of great magnitude: prehistoric boars, Roman frescoes, Romanesque towers, the Gothic-Mudejar mass of its castle, the purest of the Renaissance in the tombs of the Fonseca family or the simple yet majestic chisel work which can be seen on sculptures such as that of Santa Ana (St. Anna), in hard times such as those suffered by the people in the 17th century.





What to see

Castle

At the height of Gothic and Mudejar military architecture, the castle confronts the visitor with an impressive brick mass, protected by a moat more than twenty metres deep. Building work was started at the end of the 15th century, once the influential Fonseca family had entered the Castillian court, and were completed at the beginning of the 16th century. The castle is a real dream come true and at the same time a manifestation of power. Nothing was left to chance, being profusely decorated both on the exterior and the interior. Painted geometric patterns surround the perimeter, making each view unique. Similarly, each and every one of the merlons which crown the building are different. To top it all off is the, el pozo de escucha (the listening well), which can be seen at the base of castle from the gardens to the south, and which allowed the only non-guardable point of the fortress to be controlled, preventing attack with a system of underground passages. The ground plan is a little irregular as the defensive walls of the town were made use of on the southern and western sides. Inside is the bailey, formerly covered with colourful tiles and surrounded

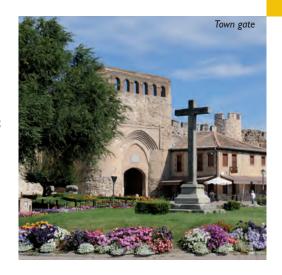
by marble columns of the Corinthian and Composite orders, according to the account of Pascual Madoz in the middle of the 19th century, and were sold by the Duke of Berwick's secretary. Inside, one cannot help but admire each and every one of the vaulted ceilings, master pieces of their designer, Alí Caro; a varied repertoire of solutions, of which even the most humble guard rooms of the castle were furnished. On the walls, continuing in the same vein as the bailey, geometric patterns in red, blue, white etc. imitate the tiling with which the family stunned even the most distinguished of visitors.

CASTLE OF COCA
Castle of Coca, s/n - 40480 Coca
www.castillodecoca.com
Tel. 617 573 554 - 921 586 622

Medieval wall and town gate

The town was walled, as was the earlier Vaccean Cauca before the arrival of the Romans. Demolished by various historical avatars, over





two hundred metres have been preserved in their original position, among which the Town Gate or Segovia Gate is noteworthy, one of the points of access to the complex in olden times. This gate, framed with a brick alfiz on the outside, possibly carried out centuries after the walls were built. Above the alfiz is a gallery of windows framed by semicircular arches, used for defence. On the inner side, a pictorial depiction on a stone tablet on the lintel, on the theme of the "Deesis", highlights the devoutness of the town in Medieval times. Two rectangular windows open on the upper part, which allowed light to enter when it was in use as a prison.

Vaccean Verracos

A border region in the centuries prior to Roman domination, the influence of the Celtiberians and the Vettones, bordering one another, put a distinctive stamp on the archaeology of Coca. The verracos, zoomorphic granite sculptures of mainly Vettonian charcteristics (who settled in parts of the provinces of Avila and Salamanca), would have been used as territorial landmarks and reflect the importance of cattle-herding in the region even in ancient times. Three remain in the town; one within the castle precinct, beside the southern face of the wall through which it penetrates, and two in the surroundings of the Town Gate. Each one is uni-

que in its craftsmanship, one of them retains a worn funeral inscription from the Roman era, signalling what would have been its final use, a funeral stone.

Church of St. Mary Major

Dominating the main square rises a large structure with brick walls and limestone buttresses, with simple lines on the exterior, broken only by the remains of a primitive Romanesque church: the lower part of the tower, in the same style as that of San Nicolás, and the walls of what once was the chapel of the Bishop of Cadiz, built in the 15th century. The inside is one of the most distinguished in the province from the beginning of the 16th





century, along the same lines as, for example, the church in the El Parral monastery in Segovia. It is of a single nave with ribbed vaulting, possibly the work of Juan Gil de Ontañón, who was in the town when the building work was carried out. The choir, at the foot of the nave, stands in contrast to the main altar and is an impressive work, with columns of the giant order. It was conceived as the funeral chapel of the Fonseca family and houses four tombs in the pure Itlaian style, crafted in quality Carrara marble, made in Spain by Domenico Fancelli and his Spanish apprentice Bartolomé Ordóñez, linking them to those of the Catholic monarchs, located in the Capilla Real in Granada. Also noteworthy are the sculptures of St. Nicholas, 13th century Romanesque from the former church of San Nicolás; St. Anna, from the beginning of the 16th century, the Stations of the Cross from the same period and which follows the parameters of Berruguete; and the tomb of Antonio de Fonseca.

Tower of St. Nicholas

This is the only visible remain of the Romanesque church of San Nicolás. Its building style, along with the tower of Santa María la Mayor, differs from the Segovian Romanesque: rows of blind arches on the first level, open on the

second, brick or masonry work on each of its four sides, terracing on the upper part with quality vaulting... and a notable function other than the religious: its position, near the Eresma valley, rendered it a powerful defensive watchtower from which northern access points to the town could be controlled.

Shrine of St. Rosalia

In the area known as las conejeras (the warrens), on the outside of the town walls, built in 1728, under the patronage of Gaspar de Sarabia, this rural shrine is of modest dimensions, but with profuse molded decoration on the barrel vaulting. The family coat of arms presides over the façade, in white limestone.

Mercy hospital

The town had three hospital during the central period of the Middle Ages. Of those, only la Merced is still standing. Although mentioned in written records in 1442, the hospital began its activity much earlier. It was built following hygiene standards of the time, with a main body with a chapel and two wings on either side. The original building was demolished at the end of the 19th century, when it was replaced by the current structure, built in brick and adobe, following the ground plan of the former.





Domus-Romana

Next to the Cinco Caños building, to the north of the river Eresma, lie the remains of what was possibly the residence of the town magistrate of the ancient Roman city of Cauca. The almost two hundred metres which have been preserved, display colourful frescoes with varying compositions, reaching up to two metres in height.

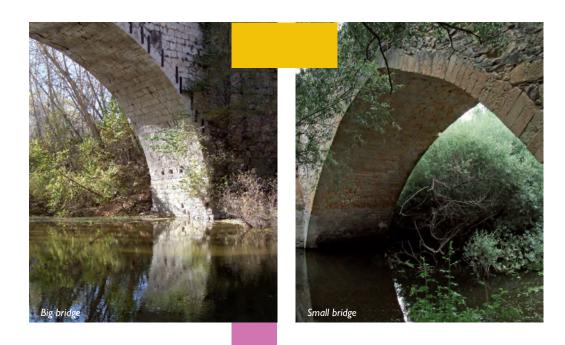
Bridges

Access to the town has always been through the crossing of a river. The puente Grande (large bridge), which spans the river Eresma, was built on the site of an earlier one, of Roman origin. Built in the 18th century by the community of Coca, it rises to more than twelve metres above the river, and is formed by one large, round arch. The puente Chico (Chico bridge) has its roots in the Middle Ages,

and displays traces of various reconstructions, giving it its current appearance. It initially had a single pointed arch, but it was necessary to build a second to prevent destruction caused by the river Voltoya when water levels rise.







The bridge over the Balisa, stream, of much smaller dimensions than the aforementioned two, was built in the 18th century in the brick factory tradition of Coca. Voussoirs have been preserved at its base which must be from a primitive Medieval bridge.

Vernacular architecture

The singular placement of roof tiles on the houses of Coca may surprise the visitor: rows of interwoven tiles placed in concave position. The distribution of typical houses consists of a ground floor, in which people carry out their day-to-day activities, an attic, a typical loft, visible from the outside through the small skylights and, in many cases, an underground wine cellar to produce,

in both Medieval and modern times, the famous wine of Coca. The emblazoned 17th century house of the Sarabia family, in Valdenebro street has been preserved. Its coat of arms, composed of a single field and five irises, shelters the door. Next to the house the brick labourers entrance completes the facade. It is finished with brick eaves in guarter circles, typical of the period. In the final years of the 18th century a peculiar system for finishing eaves was introduced, still visible in Coca, especially in General Mola street: slate slabs. The best preserved example of this system is in the aforementioned street, the former Real Fábrica de Cristal (crystal factory), in the confluence between the aforementioned street and Mesonero Mayor de Castilla street.

Eclecticism and Rationalism 20th Century architecture

Still in the Thirties there was room for architectural fantasy. The casa de Villa y Tierra (town and country house) dates back to this decade, designed by the architect Andrés Cevallos and which is faithful to the traditions of the town: brick, arches, slate... limitless architectural solutions distributed around the magnificent stained glass windows which illuminate the hall whose

Blasón



roof is a monument to the timber which forms the basis of the local economy. The current Fonseca Social Centre was originally a school. Its layout follows the criteria of the rationalist architecture of the Republican period, it is composed of two wings and an open courtyard, connected by a central, polygonal body.

SURROUDDIDG



Cuéllar

Castle-palace of the Dukes of Alburquerque, Mudejar churches: San Esteban (St. Stephen), San Andrés (St. Andrew), San Martín (St. Martin), etc., Mudejar art visitor centre, walls, arches, nature walks.

Martín Muñoz de las Posadas

I 6th century Palace of Cardenal Espinosa. Italian Neoclassical Town Hall. Brick Medieval bridge over the stream. Old fountain. Gothic church. Paintings by El Greco and other well known artists. River shrine and old stone mill and Gothic bridge.







Santa María la Real de Nieva

This town has one of the most complete historic-artistic groupings in terms of the elaborate reliefs on its capitals, borders and archivolts. Located in an old Dominican convent and its church whose façade and cloister from the beginning of the 15th century have been declared National Monuments.

Ciruelos de Coca

Parish church of San Cipriano (St. Cyprian) in whose interior there is a chalice from 1558.

Villagonzalo de Coca

Parish church dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is in the Mudejar style and inside there is a Romanesque wooden image known as the Virgin of Neguillán.



Environment

The 8,000 hectares of public, catalogued mountainside, with PEFC seal of certification, as well as other private areas, comprise an area of pine forest of stone pines and predominantly resinous pines. Coca produces the best quality resin in the world, with 27% turpentine. The town has been a pioneer in the demand for environmental services on the mountainside: oxygen, carbon fixation, climate regulation, leisure etc. It is also characterised by the installation of the largest number of kw/inhabitant in biomass capacity. Such projects have merited first place in the National Prize for Sustainable Development in Rural Areas 2010; or the Bandera Verde (green flag) in 2009 and 2010; The Courts of Castille-Leon sustainable development prize 2007 etc.



FEBRUARY

St. Agatha: February 5th.

Carnival: during carnival, the traditional festival of "los quintos" is celebrated.

MAY

Holy cross: 2nd-4th May.

JUNE

St. John: June 24th, festival organised by the "La Resinera" neighbourhood, with "cabezudos" (figures with large heads), dances, fire bulls and the traditional burning of the dummy with dancing around the bonfire.

AUGUST

Our lady and St. Roch: 15th and 16th August, main local festival, where there is the traditional running of the bulls, bullfights, fire bulls, fireworks and a long list of fun and entertaining activities.

SEPTEMBER

Festival of Villagonzalo de Coca: first weekend in September.

Festival of Ciruelos de Coca: Second weekend in September.

Where to sleep

HS* La Estación

Arturo Acosta, 3 y 5 - 40480 Coca Tel. 662 052 947 (9 rooms 13 capacity)

CTR La Resinería

Cinco Caños, 2 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 534 www.laresineria.es info@laresineria.es (7 rooms 14 capacity)

CRA Las Barricas

Calixto del Río, 4 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 681 - 600 461 481 www.casarurallasbarricas.es contacto@casarurallasbarricas.es casarurallasbarricas@hotmail.com (3 rooms 5 capacity)

CRA La Era

Avda. de Icona, 28 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 153 - 667 114 300 www.laera.org laeracasarural@yahoo.es (5 rooms 10 capacity)

CRAC Casa de la Paca

Doctor Apellániz, 3 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 622 - 617 937 579 www.casadelapaca.com casadelapaca@hotmail.com (5 rooms 10 capacity)

Apartament T. Las Casitas de El Blasón

Valdenebro, 11 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 260 - 617 565 755 elblasoncoca@hotmail.com Capacity: 7

Apartament.T. El sueño de Luisa

El Frontón, 8 - 40480 Coca Tel. 615 156 991- 615 276 728 www.elsuenodeluisa.com info@elsuenodelusia.com Capacity: 6

Camp. "El Cantosal"

Monte de utilidad pública, 104
"El Cantosal"
Plaza Mayor, 1 · 40480 Coca
Tel. 921 586 227
Capacity: 136

ADD DEARBY...

CRA La Casa del Molinero

Cantarranas, 14 40496 Ciruelos de Coca Tel. +34 679 132 448 www.lacasadelmolinero.es casadelmolinero@terra.es (5 rooms 10 capacity)

Where to eat

After visiting the town, one can sample its varied cuisine. With pine nuts, flat cake with pork scratchings, doughnuts and its cured meats and hams are exquisite. Coca is notable for its fine cuisine, typical roasts, calducho black pudding and mondejo (stuffed tripe) in sauce, dishes which can be found in the restaurants of the locality.

Rte. La Estación

Arturo Acosta, 3-5 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 851 - 653 734 302

Rte. La Muralla

Avda. de Icona, 5 - 40480 Coca Tel. 921 586 403

Rte. La Resinería

Cinco Caños, 2 - 40480 Coca Tel. 92 | 586 534 www.laresineria.es info@laresineria.es

BARS

Bar Pescuezo - Olmas, 2 Bar El Blasón - Valdenebro, 9 Bar El Castillo - Avda. Teodosio, 5 Bar Brooklyn - Hontanilla, 1 Bar Los Negrales - Eug. Alonso, 10 Bar El Arco - Avda. José Antonio, 1 Bar Pirique - Luis Finat, 15 Bar Cauca - Joaquina Ruiz, 4 Bar La Cabaña - Avda. de Icona, 95 Bar Salsipuedes - Hontalbilla, 95

Shopping

Dulces Artesanos Coca

Avda. de Icona, 20 Tel. 921 586 245

Artesanías Castilla

Plaza del Arco, 5 Tel. 615 180 164

Embutidos y jamones, Eresma

Pol. Ind. Las Salinas Tel. 921 586 335

HOW TO GET THERE

From Madrid take the A-VI, exiting in Adanero in the direction of Valladolid (N- 601) and at San Cristóbal de la Vega, towards Santiuste de San Juan Bautista.

From Segovia, take the C-605 to Santa María la Real de Nieva and from there it is only 17km.

There are several daily buses from Madrid, Segovia or Valladolid.

Line between Segovia and Coca:

LINECAR
Tel. 92 | 427 705
983 230 033
www.linecares
infosegovia@linecares
infovalladolid@linecares

Ermita de Santa Rosalia Edificio de los Cinco Canos Domus Romana Cloaca Romana Centro Cultura Torre de San Nicolás de Sta Maria la Mayor Casa de Comunidad de villa y tierra de Coca Hospital Ntra Sra de la Merced Murallas Medievales Puerta de la Villa Verracos Vacceos Castillo

Other information of interest

Distance from the capital: 50 kilometres.

Area: 98,50 square kilometres.

Altitude: 787 metres.

Population: 2,151 inhabitant.

Districts: Ciruelos de Coca and Villagonzalo de Coca.



IDFORMATIOD

Tourist office

Plaza Mayor, I - 40480 Coca - Tel. 921 586 011

Town hall

Plaza Mayor, I - 40480 Coca - Tel. 92 I 586 01 I www.coca-ciudaddecauca.org ayuntamiento@coca-ciudaddecauca.org

Segovia tourist board

Plaza Mayor, 9 - 40001 Segovia Tel. 921 466 070 www.segoviaturismo.es info@segoviaturismo.es

Aidescom

Tel. 92 | 595 006 www.aidescom.com



Archaeological tourism Corporate tourism Cycling through Segovia Cycling through Segovia map Eco tourism Emotions Horizon Events tourism Family tourism Gastronomic tourism Geocaching Health and Spa tourism Heritage city Industrial heritage tourism Map of the province Map of craft workshops Monuments Nature watching Opening hours of monuments Rambling Religious tourism Rural tourism Santiago trail from Madrid San Frutos trail Segovia. World Segovia in the movies

The Isabel the Catholic route

Aguilafuente Ayllón Cabañas de Polendos

Cantalejo

The San Medel route

Tourism for everybody

Tourism in Segovia

Carbonero el Mayor

Cuéllan

El Espinar Fuentidueña Maderuelo

Martín Muñoz de las Posadas

Navafría Pedraza Prádena

Real Sitio de San Ildefonso

Riaza Sepúlveda Turégano Villacastín

Provincial Tourist Board Plaza Mayor, 9 40001 Segovia

Tel.: 92 L 466 070

www.segoviaturismo.es / info@segoviaturismo.es



Tourist Office

Plaza Mayor, 10 40001 Segovia Tel.: 921 460 334 www.turismocastillayleon.com oficinadeturismodesegovia@jcyl.es

Visitor Reception Center

Azogueio, I 40001 Segovia Tels.: 92 | 466 720 / 2 | / 22 www.turismodesegovia.com info@turismodesegovia.com

Other tourist information points

Tourist Information Point in the City Walls

Plaza del Socorro, 2 y 3 4000 I Segovia Tel.: 92 I 46 I 297 / www.rediuderias.org Bus station

Po Ezequiel González, s/n 40002 Segovia Tel.: 92 i 436 569

informacion.estacion@turismodesegovia.com

AVE (high-speed rail) station

Estación Segovia-Guiomar / Tel.: 921 447 262 Ctra, de luarrillos, s/n 40195 Hontoria informacion.ave@turismodesegovia.com

Association of Official Tour Guides of Segovia Tel.: 691 117 197

www.guiasdeturismodesegovia.es guiasdeturismodesegovia@yahoo.es

Central Reservations Office of Rural Tourism in Castille and León

Tel.: 902 203 030

www.castillayleonesvida.com

Association of Rural Taxis in Segovia Tel.: 645 836 373 / www.segotaxirural.com

Ayllón

Palacio de Vellosillo, 1 40520 Ayllón Tel.: 921 553 916 www.ayllon.es / turismo@ayllon.es

Cuéllar

Plaza del Castillo 40200 Cuéllar Tels.: 921 142 203 / 140 014 www.cuellanes / turismo@avtocuellanes

El Espinar

Plaza de la Constitución. I 40400 El Espinar Tel.: 921 181 342

www.elespinar.es / turismo@aytoelespinar.com

Maderuelo

C/ de Arriba, 5-6 40554 Maderuelo Tel.: 921 556 089 www.maderuelo.com / aytomader@gmail.com

Pedraza

C/ Real, 3 40172 Pedraza Tel.: 921 508 666

www.pedraza.info / turismo@pedraza.info

Real Sitio de San Ildefonso

Paseo de los Dolores, I (Edificio del Ayto.) 40100 La Granja de San Ildefonso Tel.: 921 473 953

www.turismorealsitiodesanildefonso.com info@turismorealsitiodesanildefonso.com

Avda, de Madrid, 2 40500 Riaza / Tel.: 921 550 430 www.riaza.es / oficinaturismo@riaza.es

Sepúlveda

Museo de los Fueros / C/ Santos Justo y Pastor, 8 40300 Sepúlveda / Tel.: 921 540 425 www.sepulveda.es / turismo@sepulveda.es

HONORSE - Tierra de Pinares Tel. 921 143 422 / www.tierradepinares.es





Tel. 921 556 218 / www.codinse.com

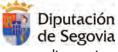


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www.dipsegovia.es 921 113 300





www.segoviaturismo.es 921 466 070













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www.coca.ciudaddecauca.org 921 586 011