



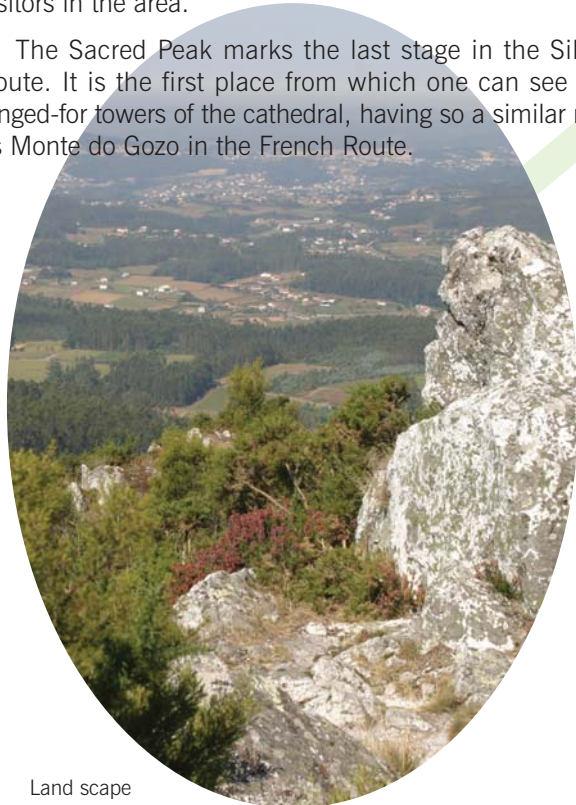
The Holy Peak (Pico Sacro)

We can find next to Compostela one of the most well-known and mythic hills of Galicia : the Sacred Peak.

Elegant and dominant over the valleys of the river Ulla, source of countless legends and popular tales, this mont was worshiped by the inhabitants of the area, before and after Chistianism, fulfilling a main role during the moving of the body of Apostle Saint Jacques myth.

Its sharp-pointed shape, able to stop and destroy a gale storm, its singular morphology based on rock of cristallized quartz, and its height, nearly 600m. above sea level, constitute an outline that works as a natural lighthouse for visitors in the area.

The Sacred Peak marks the last stage in the Silver Route. It is the first place from which one can see the longed-for towers of the cathedral, having so a similar role as Monte do Gozo in the French Route.



Land scape



Tradition and Legend

According to the legend collected from the Códice Calixtino, which tells the arrival of the body of the Apostle to Galicia, famous deeds took place in the Sacred Peak.

In those times the Queen Lupa, a mithic character allied of the Romans, ruled the area. The apostle´s disciples asked her to provide them with a cart and some oxen to carry the body till the Field of Stars (Compostela). The legend says that the Queen Lupa sent the newly-arrived to the Holly Peak, expecting that the dragon and the wild bulls living there would kill them.

The disciples, being about to be killed by the dragon, gardian of the Peak, made the sign of the cross bringing about the dragon´s death and the bulls´ tameness.

These marvellous deeds made the Queen and her vassals to convert to Chistianism.

In addition to this important legend there are some others coming directly from the people of the environs and whose protagonists are characters from the traditional Galician mythology such as the moors or the snakes that inhabit the mysterious caves near the sun mit.



Caves
Sacred Peak



History

The relationship between Compostela and the Holly Peak favoured that, after the rediscovery of the Apostle´s tomb in the IX century, the bishop Sisnando I founded a monastery near the summit of the Peak. Romanic parts of reconstructions that took place in the XI a XII centuries, remain in the present chapel devoted to Saint Sebastian.

At few metres from this chapel one can see, stope down, the parish A Granxa and its church dedicated to Saint Lourenzo. Its origin comes from the times when the monks of Saint Sebastian´s monastery needed a place to cultivate. The main chapel of important historical and artistic value, dates grom the XII century.

A medieval tower rose up in the summit of the Peak, that protected the entry of Compostela on the Silver Route and from which we can still see some remains.



Chapel of
San Sebastián

Gastronomy

Boqueixon, placed on the fertile banks of the river Ulla, has excellent wines, firewater and the well-known cheese cake from Lestedo. Moreover, one can taste the most traditional Galician food in our typical restaurants: pies, octopus, barbecued meat, pork's ear...

- Bar A Picotiña**, speciality: octopus and pork's ear (Lestedo)
- Bar Lino**, different menus (Lestedo)
- Bar Fachal**, speciality: barbecued meat (Lestedo)
- Bar Fontes**, speciality: octopus and barbecued meat (Lestedo)
- Restaurant Don Sancho**, speciality: cod (Ponte Ledesma)
- Café bar restaurant Nervioso**: home made food (Camporrapado)
- Café bar restaurant A Chave** (Camporrapado)
- Restaurant O Imprevisto**: speciality: tripe and boiled meat (Boqueixón)
- Parillada Casa Castro** (Sergude)
- O Portugués** (Rodiño-Sergude)
- Pulpería Rosende** (A Gándara-Sergude)
- Café bar A Barreira**, speciality: barbecued meat (Sergude)
- Parillada A Cruz** (Vigo)
- Varillada Brea** (Lamas)
- Lodeiro**, different food (Ponte Ledesma)

Boarding House

Rural Tourism Accommodation "Casa Casal"

Cachosenande (Lestedo)
Food must be ordered
Telephone: 981 503227

Lodgings house "Casa Agra Devesa"

Sergude
Food must be ordered.
Telephone: 981 589085 / 696845681

Sacred Peak's Interpretation Centre

Placed at the bottom of the Peak, in the village of Cachosenande (Lestedo) at some metres from the Silver Route. This centre allows us to get to know different aspects related to the peak: history, legends, geological composition...

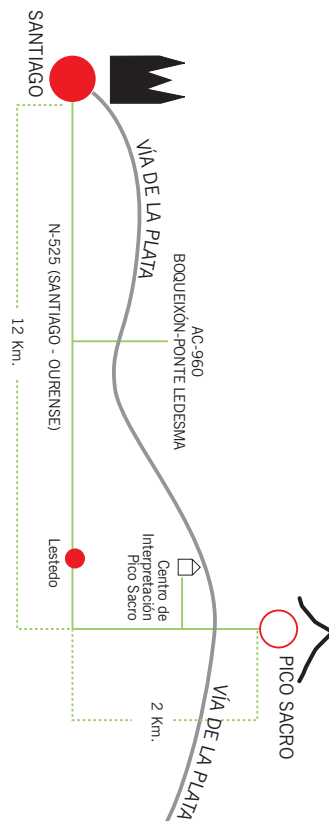
It has explanatory panels, a photographic exhibition room and another room with a model and a video which shows the culture of the area and the meaning of the Peak.

Ramblers can walk from this centre to the Peak through a route that lasts about an hour.

Timetables: From Monday to Friday 9:00-14:30 / 16:00-20:30

Telephone: 981 513061 / 981 513434

Localition



The Sacred Peak lies at 14 Km from Santiago. To come here you can take the N-525 which connects Compostela with Ourense. In Lestedo there is a diversion which allows the access to the Peak through a made-up road that takes you directly.

Public transport timetables Santiago-Lestedo (company Monbús).

Departure from bus station: From Monday to Friday 8:00, 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 18:00, 18:30, 20:00, 21:00 and 22:00. Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays: 10:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 18:00 and 20:00.

Public transport timetables Lestedo-Santiago:

Monday to Friday 7:55, 8:25, 9:40, 10:40, 11:55, 13:25, 15:25, 17:40 and 19:40. Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays 10:40, 11:55, 15:25, 17:40 and 19:40.



O Pico Sacro

Traditions, legends, history, landscape, culture, gastronomy...

Come to know the most mythic hill of Galicia and the Sacred Peak's Interpretation Centre in Lestedo (Boqueixón) at for 14 Km. from Santiago.