

A CORUÑA PORT OF DESTINATION IN ATLANTIC SPAIN



Port of A Coruña
Port Authority of A Coruña





GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

LONGITUDE 8° 23' W | LATITUDE 43° 21' N



DISTANCE FROM THE PORT OF A CORUÑA TO THE MAIN TOURIST DESTINATIONS (IN MILES)

BILBAO.....	256	CASABLANCA.....	638	LE HAVRE.....	556	PLYMOUTH.....	453
BORDEAUX.....	409	CHERBOURG.....	504	LISBOA.....	338	SANTANDER.....	226
BREST.....	352	LA ROCHELLE.....	357	MADEIRA.....	783	SOUTHAMPTON..	551
CÁDIZ.....	565	LEIXOES.....	182	MÁLAGA.....	679	TENERIFE.....	999

THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION of the port of A Coruña makes it an ideal call port for ships travelling between the north of Europe and the Mediterranean. It is also the first stopping point for transatlantic liners crossing from the USA, as it is the closest European port to New York.

More and more cruise liner companies have decided to include A Coruña on their routes, offering itineraries that include calls for ships coming from northern European ports such as Southampton, Le Havre or Dover, or for those travelling from ports in the south who have already visited Lisbon, Leixões, Madeira, or Cádiz, Gibraltar, the Canary Islands or Casablanca.



GROWTH OF CRUISE LINER TRAFFIC



CRUISE LINERS IN A CORUÑA

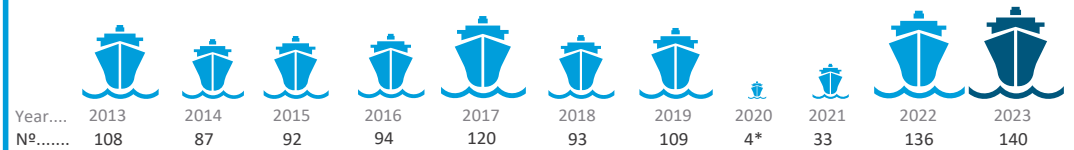
THE COMMITMENT BY THE PORT AUTHORITY of A Coruña to attract cruise liner traffic and an efficient business strategy have resulted in a significant increase in the number of cruise calls in the port, as well as in the number of passengers arriving in increasingly larger vessels.

Up until just a few years ago, some 50 cruise liners docked in A Coruña each year, with less than 60,000 passengers.

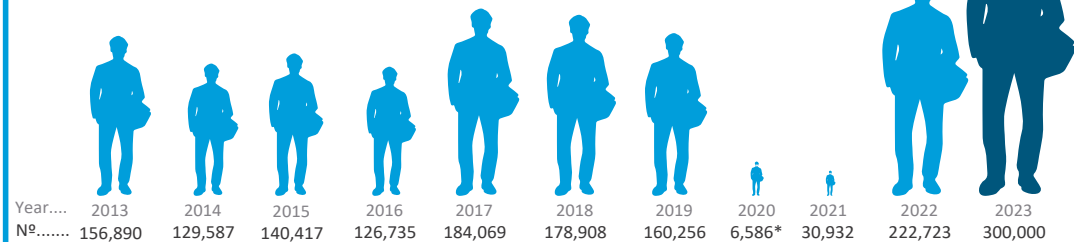
Since 2011 there has been a significant increase in cruise liner traffic, and we are now one of the leading ports on the Atlantic seaboard, with record figures in 2022: 136 calls and more than 222,000 passengers.

A number of Cruise companies have selected A Coruña as the port of embarkation for cruises heading to the north of Europe during the summer months, or for positioning vessels heading towards other destinations, such as the Baltic or the Caribbean.

Calls



Passengers



* Traffic data during Covid Pandemic

Est.

ACCESS TO THE CRUISE LINER DOCK



ACCESS TO THE CITY. A Coruña is well communicated at both national and international level. The airport is 8 kilometres from the city centre, and the train station is 5 minutes away by car.

The AP-9 Atlantic Motorway connects A Coruña with the cities of Santiago de Compostela, Pontevedra, Vigo, and the Portuguese frontier. The A-8 Cantabrian Motorway connects the city of A Coruña with the Northeast of Spain as far as the frontier with France, while the A-6 Northwest Motorway connects A Coruña with Madrid.

The Port of A Coruña has a dock that is exclusively used for cruise liners. It is 484 metres long with a draught of 11 metres, allowing cruise liners with a capacity for more than 4,000 passengers to dock, with direct access to the terminal in the Transatlantic dock, equipped with the necessary resources for controlling passengers and luggage that meet international safety and security regulations.

On days when multiple calls occur, with several cruise liners in the port, the Calvo Sotelo South and North docks are also used and in some occasions the San Diego commercial dock can be used to accommodate cruise vessels, providing a shuttle service to transfer passengers to the terminal when disembarking and embarking.

In 2014 A Coruña celebrated its busiest cruise day at date, six cruise vessels berthed at the port on 2nd May, with all operations in an effective and satisfactory manner.





CITY CENTRE

María Pita Square

Méndez Núñez Gardens

Lugo Square
Zara flagship store

Batería dock










Trasatlánticos dock
Length 485m draft 11m

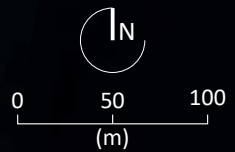
Calvo Sotelo Sur dock
Length 420m draft 6-9m

Paléxco

Cruise Terminal

Cruise Terminal

-  ISPS perimeter fence
-  Restricted access zone
-  Public area
-  Tour bus parking
-  Entrance gates
-  Check point
-  Bus access & cruise operations
-  operations
-  Pedestrian access



FEATURES OF THE TERMINAL

CRUISE LINERS IN THE HEART OF A CORUÑA

Two dedicated Cruise Berths in the heart of the city

Cruise activity is deployed in two dedicated berths that welcome passengers to the city in port facilities that offer quality services to satisfy cruise lines' demands as they trust the port of A Coruña calling in their Atlantic itineraries.

Cruise guests have just a short walk distance from the terminal and are a stone's throw away from main tourist venues.



VIDEO



THE NEW URBAN FAÇADE OF A CORUÑA



The area close to the cruise berths in the very heart of the city has been renovated, the port-city project aimed at integrating the seafront of the city centre through an area that faces out onto the sea, mainly pedestrianised and dedicated to uses such as sport, leisure, culture and walking.

The redevelopment of “O Parrote” area has made it possible to reconfigure one of the most important parts of the city with a large surface area that not only connects with the Old Town and Quayside Promenade, but which also serves as a space to be enjoyed by local residents and visitors alike.

In addition the opening of Bateria dock to citizen uses gives a new boost for cruise liners to take advantage of all of the competitive benefits offered by the port of A Coruña, thanks to the position of the docks in the very heart of the city, with all of its modern facilities, with easy reach to the main tourist venues.



Meisel 93 Photographic Exhibition

TOURIST MAP OF A CORUÑA



TOWER OF HERCULES

AQUARIUM FINISTERRAE

DOMUS

HISTORIC CENTRE








TOMB OF SIR JOHN MOORE



CASTLE OF SAN ANTÓN

MARÍA PITA SQUARE

CRUISE TERMINAL

PLANETARIUM

-  CRUISE TERMINAL
-  MONUMENTS & MUSEUMS
-  CITY BEACHES
-  TOURIST OFFICES
-  POLICE
-  CUSTOMS
-  POST OFFICE
-  BICYCLE LANE
-  SHOPS, BARS & RESTAURANTS
-  HISTORIC CENTRE

-  SEAFRONT PROMENADE (TOURIST ROUTE)
-  ACCESS TO BEACHES FROM THE TERMINAL



A CORUÑA A CITY OPEN TO THE ATLANTIC

On the shores of A Coruña, a city that faces out onto the Atlantic, landed Celts, Phoenicians and Romans. In the second century AD, the Romans built the Tower of Hercules, the only remaining Roman lighthouse still in operation in the world, declared a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO in June 2009, and the city's pride and joy. It is located in a landscape that is wild, magic and mythical, surrounded by a sculpture garden that captivates visitors.

THE TOWER OF HERCULES has always been a source of myths and legends, tales that have passed down through generations over the centuries.

Legend tells that a giant called Gerion once lived in the area, who terrified all of its inhabitants. Hercules, son of the god Zeus came to their aid, and fought the giant for three days. After a terrible combat, Hercules defeated Gerion and killed him by cutting off his head, over which he ordered a tower to be built to commemorate his victory.

THE CITY OF A CORUÑA. During the Middle Ages, the city gradually grew around the Old Town, receiving its charter with the name of "Crunia" from King Alfonso IX.

The city underwent major economic, cultural and urban growth in the nineteenth century, and by the twentieth century it had become a focal point of culture, progress and development



Tower of Hercules Sculpture Garden



María Pita Square (Town Hall)



Castle of San Antón (Archaeology & History Museum)

VIDEO





Glass Galleries. Avenida de la Marina



Church of Santa María del Campo

CULTURE, HISTORY & LANDSCAPES

THE OLD TOWN. Full of picturesque corners overflowing with history, such as the Gardens of San Carlos, home to the tomb of Sir John Moore, the British General who fought against the French at the Battle of Elviña, where he was killed by a cannonball; the old town of A Coruña is well worth a visit.

ARCHITECTURE. A Coruña has a wealth of attractive monuments and churches, such as Santo Domingo, the Dominican monastery or the Collegiate Church of Santa María, quaint squares such as Las Bárbaras or Azcárraga, with centenary trees and a mediaeval atmosphere, through to large, modern infrastructures.

MUSEUMS. These include the Castle of San Antón, built in the sixteenth century on a small rocky island as a fortress to defend the port of A Coruña. It was used as a prison until the middle of the twentieth century, and is now home to the city's Archaeology and History Museum. Other museums of interest are the Museum of Fine Art or the Home and Museum of Picasso, the city's aquarium

(the Aquarium Finisterrae), the Domus (Museum of Mankind), or the Planetarium, with interactive spaces for young visitors and to be enjoyed with the family; the Barrié de la Maza or Afundacion Foundations, with exhibitions for art lovers, or the new National Museum of Science and Technology, which includes exhibits as spectacular as the front section of a Boeing 747.

THE URBAN LANDSCAPE. A Coruña is a city surrounded by sea, which looks out over the Atlantic through a long façade of glass galleries that make it quite unique. It is proud of its seafront promenade, the longest and most attractive in Europe, offering thirteen kilometres for walking, cycling on the special bicycle lane, or skating.

The city is also proud of its large urban beaches, such as Riazor and Orzán, together with other smaller beaches that are perfect for sunbathing or simply enjoying the sea breezes and beautiful Atlantic landscapes.



Lookout point on Mount San Pedro



Las Bárbaras Square



09 Museum of Science & Technology (Muncyt)



Museum of Mankind (Domus)



The House of Fishes (Aquarium Finisterrae)



Riazor Beach



LOCAL CUISINE & TAPAS

ENJOY THE TASTE OF CORUÑA. A Coruña is a delicious destination in every way, with local cuisine famed for the quality of its fish and shellfish. Early each morning the city’s fish market buzzes with activity as fishermen and restaurateurs bargain over the prices of their catch, which comes ashore at Spain’s largest fresh fish port.

The city has a large number of restaurants where you can enjoy a wide variety of dishes, ranging from shellfish, meat and fish, through to regional cheeses and wines.

All tastes are catered for, from traditional octopus with potatoes and meat or fish pies, through to the most innovative, contemporary dishes, washed down with excellent Galician wines from the regional designations of origin of Valdeorras, Rías Baixas, Ribeiro and “Vino da Terra de Betanzos”, or the typical local beer, Estrella Galicia. Authentic, traditional flavours to make every visit an experience for the

The streets where the city’s typical wine bars are located are the best way of enjoying the true essence of A Coruña. The city is full of little bars and taverns full of life where visitors can mix with the locals and eat and drink at excellent prices. The most typical tapas in A Coruña are octopus, squid, scallops, prawns, meat or fish pies and omelettes. Other local favourites include Galician broth, ham hock with turnip greens and stews.

For those with more refined tastes, A Coruña has exquisite restaurants, several with Michelin stars for the excellence of their cuisine.

Wine and tapas bars in the centre of A Coruña

OPEN AIR & SPORTS



OPEN AIR ACTIVITIES. Sailing and other water sports, golf, tennis, horseriding and football are just some of the attractions of the city of A Coruña, together with an extensive range of active tourism activities. The city has a regular programme of regattas and nautical events throughout the year, such as the Regatta of Her Royal Highness the Infanta Elena, rowing competitions, and the Tall Ships Race.

Sports such as tennis or golf, at the A Zapateira Golf Club or Municipal Club near the Tower of Hercules, one of the most widely used by golf lovers in A Coruña, are also possible in the city.

Just a short distance from the city centre are the beaches of Riazor, Orzán, Matadero, San Amaro, As Lapas and Oza. A Coruña has more than two kilometres of beaches in the city, making it the ideal location to enjoy all kinds of nautical sports, such as surfing, sailing, windsurf, diving, rowing or canoeing.

Walking, pedalling along the bike lane or running, the city's seafront promenade continues to grow, leading to beaches, coves and cliffs, from the Castle of San Antón along the port, going past the sculpture park next to the Tower of Hercules, an open-air museum in a legendary setting, continuing on to the beaches of Orzán and Riazor.

Visitors can also enjoy one of the most important aquatic leisure centres in Europe, the first salt-water therapy centre in A Coruña and the largest in Galicia, the "Casa del Agua."



Comercial street in the heart of the city



Obelisk Zone



Picasso District shopping area



The first ZARA store



SHOPPING IN A CORUÑA

A TREND-SETTING CITY. As soon as visitors arrive in A Coruña, they have the opportunity to enjoy strolling through the very heart of the city: the Obelisk Zone, the Picasso District and the historic centre. Bustling pedestrian streets full of shops with displays showing off world-renowned Galician fashion, together with leading national and international labels.

An open air shopping centre, where visitors can combine making purchases with visiting some of the city’s most interesting sights and enjoying its excellent cuisine in restaurants, wine and tapas bars or cafés. Visitors seeking souvenirs are well served by the streets around Maria Pita Square, with small crafts and souvenir shops, while a little further away, the Old Town offers the possibility of buying unique items that can only be found in its antique shops.

The bustling markets, such as Santa Lucía, Plaza de Lugo or San Agustín, in the heart of the city, offer tourists stalls full of exquisite delicacies, fruit, vegetables, cheese, bread and every imaginable kind of fresh fish and shellfish.

A Coruña is an important fashion centre, the home of major designers and home to the multinational Inditex company, with the first Zara store in the world (in Juan Flórez Street, one of the city’s major shopping streets). There are other shopping centres outside of the city which are equally interesting, such as Marineda City, one of the largest in Europe, with shops, restaurants and a cinema complex.

Marineda City Shopping Centre





SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA. Its cathedral and the pilgrims' route known as the Way of St. James attract large numbers of cruise liner passengers wishing to discover the monumental city and its ancient traditions.

Santiago, only 60 km from A Coruña, is one of Spain's most monumental cities, a treasure trove of mediaeval architecture. It is also one of Europe's best preserved monumental cities, and in 1985 it was declared a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO, for its beauty and state of conservation, as well as the spiritual significance of the city as the most important religious and cultural destination of the Middle Ages.

At the heart of Santiago is its magnificent cathedral, surrounded by four large squares. Its architecture is a combination of Romanesque and Baroque, and it is similar in size to Notre Dame in Paris or Westminster Abbey in London. The cathedral took three centuries to build, and was finally completed in 1128. The cathedral that visitors see today is actually the third to have been built over the legendary tomb of the Apostle St. James.

Religious belief is one of the main reasons for travelling in pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, but not the only one. On arriving at the majestic cathedral, pilgrims pray before the Apostle's remains and then climb a flight of steps behind the altar to embrace his image. The "Compostela", a certificate written in Latin, is given to every pilgrim who has travelled along the Way for religious or spiritual reasons.

Another reason is to enjoy the different cultural elements along the most famous routes. The best known is called the "French Way", although there are other routes, including the Cantabrian Coastal Way and the Way of the Sea, the "English Way" that starts in the port of A Coruña and leads towards Santiago. At the end of the journey, pilgrims unanimously agree that this is a truly enriching personal experience.

During the "Holy Years", the Holy Door of the cathedral is opened, offering visitors a unique opportunity to pass through it. Santiago is as important a pilgrimage site as Rome or Jerusalem.



Platerías Square (Santiago de Compostela)



Pilgrims on the Way of St. James



The different Ways of St. James

Houses with traditional balconies (Betanzos)



Church of San Francisco (Betanzos)



Andrade family tomb (Betanzos)



Pasatiempos Park (Betanzos)



SHORE EXCURSIONS. BETANZOS

THE MOST POPULAR EXCURSIONS. Betanzos, just 24 km from A Coruña, the pottery factory of Sargadelos, or a visit to the “Coast of Death” are just some of the most popular choices for excursions by cruise liner passengers.

BETANZOS. Also known as the “City of the Knights,” it was named “Brigantium” by the Romans. Built on the site of a former hill-fort, it was declared a Historic-Artistic Site in 1970.

An integral part of the city’s character are its mediaeval churches: Santiago, Santa María do Azogue and San Francisco, the last of which contains the most impressive mediaeval tombs, such as those of Pérez de Andrade, supported by the two animals that were the symbol of his family, the boar and the bear. Other places of interest include the manor houses of Bendaña, and the surprising Pasatiempo Park, whose builders, the García Naveira brothers who had emigrated to America at the end of the nineteenth century, anticipated the idea of the modern theme park.

Betanzos is on the English Way, the pilgrims’ route that connects Ferrol to Santiago de Compostela.

The route passes through countless areas of natural beauty, especially the Estuary of Betanzos and the two rivers that flow into it: the Mandeo and the Mendo.

MANOR HOUSES. Close to Betanzos is the majestic Manor of Mariñán, declared a Historic-Artistic Site in 1972, with gardens laid out in the French style with a wide variety of plants, while near to Sada, in A Coruña, is the Manor of Meirás. Both of the manor houses are open to the public.

In the Galician language, manor houses are known as “pazos”, which literally means “palace”, although a Galician “pazo” is a very specific type of country estate associated with the Galician nobility, built between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, mainly consisting of a stately home made of stone with one or more gardens, sometimes with a chapel and dovecote, together with other adjacent farm buildings, surrounded by a wall with a large gate.

The “pazos” are frequently emblazoned with the family’s coat of arms.



Manor of Meirás (A Coruña)



Manor of Mariñán (A Coruña)

Cape Vilano on the "Coast of Death"



Cliffs on the "Coast of Death"



Ezaro Waterfall on the "Coast of Death"



Lago Beach, Muxia



THE "COAST OF DEATH"

SARGADELOS. Before reaching Betanzos, we find the "Castro de Sargadelos" pottery factory, one of the first porcelain design and creation companies in Europe. Unique designs that are hand made in Galicia, using a highly complex process down to the very tiniest detail.

Sargadelos pottery stands out for its unique designs, based on traditional shapes and motifs from Galician culture. All of its creations are easily recognised by their colours, original lettering and exclusive moulds.

THE "COAST OF DEATH". Just one hour from A Coruña is Finisterre, on the tip of the "Coast of Death". This coastal region occupies the north-west part of Galicia, with fishing towns such as Malpica, Camariñas or Muxía, with kilometres of deserted beaches, coves, cliffs and capes, such as Cape Fisterra, Touriñán and Vilán.

The "Coast of Death" received its name as a result of the countless shipwrecks that once occurred on this harsh stretch of coastline. The English Cemetery is the last

resting place of the sailors who died as a result of the sinking of the "Serpent" in 1880. It is a land of mystery, myths and legends, and has one of the highest concentration of megalithic remains in all of Europe. A visit to the dolmen of Dombate or Borneiro hill-fort, unique historical remains, will take visitors back thousands of years into the past, with a landscape full of natural beauty.

The "Coast of Death" maintains the traditions of its ancient trades and crafts, including lace-making, especially in the town of Camariñas, carried out by the women of the region. Skillfully crafted with ornamental designs that traditionally reproduce Galician Romanesque architecture, it is very popular in Spain and America.

The town of Buño is famous for its traditional pottery, characterised by its dark, glazed finishes. Numerous craftsmen continue this tradition, in workshops where it is possible to watch them create pottery with a character all of its own.

Sargadelos Pottery



Buño Pottery



Lace-making. Camariñas



Mediaeval Fair (Betanzos)



Recreation of the Battle of Elviña (A Coruña)



Balloon launch (Betanzos)



FESTIVALS WITH A TOUCH OF MAGIC



Midsummer bonfires on the night of San Juan. Riazor Beach (A Coruña)

IN A CORUÑA

Carnival, when the city's streets fill with life, is the starting point for an intensive agenda of festivals that reach their peak in the summer. June is the month of the **Bonfires of San Juan**, declared a Festival of National Tourist Interest. The most magical night of the year is celebrated in truly traditional style with bonfires, fireworks, sand and the sea. On the night of 23 June, over 100,000 persons light up the beaches with bonfires, offering an atmosphere that has to be experienced at least once in your life.

The festivities continue on into August, with the **Festivals of María Pita**, marking the start of the busiest, most enjoyable month in the city. Events take place every single day, including parades, exhibitions, traditional music, comic fairs, historical reenactments, a mediaeval fair, fireworks, concerts in the streets and beaches, and street parties. A Coruña becomes a city of entertainment, where there is no time for boredom.

IN BETANZOS

In tandem with these celebrations are the festivals in Betanzos of San Roque, between 14-25 August, including the Balloon Launch and "Os Caneiros", declared as events of cultural interest.

The Balloon is launched at midnight on the patron saint's day, 16 August. Twenty-five metres tall, it has been made by hand since 1875, and is decorated with pictures by famous artists.

Os Caneiros is a festival held between 18-25 August, when boats decked out in garlands of flowers and full of revellers travel along the River Bando to enjoy celebrations that last all day. When they return at night, there is a firework display over the river. This popular festival dates back to the end of the nineteenth century.

Festival of Os Caneiros (Betanzos)



VIDEO



CONTACT DETAILS

SHIPPING AGENTS

Antón Martín (Shipping), S.L.
Tel: +34 981 351 480
agency@antonmartin.com

A. Pérez y Cía, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 133 583
lacoruna@perezycia.com

Bergé Marítima, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 293 777
consignacion.lcg@berge-m.es

Ceferino Nogueira, S.A.
Tel: +34 981 121 888
agent.coruna@nogar.es

Finisterre Agencia Marítima, S.A.
Tel: +34 981 170 000
fam@finismar.es

Incargó Galicia, S.L.
Tel: +34 986 918 256
lacoruna@incargo.es

Kaleido Logistics, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 350 048
ferrol@kaleidologistics.com

Marítima Consiflet, S.A.
Tel: +34 981 175 690
agency@mconsiflet.com

**Marítima y Comercial Gallega, S.A.
(Macogasa)**
Tel: +34 981 177 752
administracion@macogasaddy.com

Next Maritime, S.L.U.
Tel: +34 977 234 777
support@nextmaritime.com

Pérez Torres Marítima, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 294 388
lacoruna@pereztorresmaritima.com

Rubine e Hijos, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 173 217
operations@rubine.net

Tejero Marítima, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 173 688
romeroagency@tejerom.es

Transportes Marítimos y Fluviales, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 235 058
jvazquez@gruposicar.es

SPORT SERVICES & OTHERS

Mooring
Maritime Global Services, S.L.
Tel: +34 981 226 489
mgs@mgser.es

Pilotage
Coruña Pilots, S.L.P.
Tel: +34 981 222 277
practicos@corunapilots.es

Tugboat services
UTE Sertosa Norte - Carsa
Tel: +34 981 225 734
sertosa.norte@ibaizabal.org

Harbourmaster's Office
Tel: +34 981 220 455
npramos@fomento.es

CRUISE TERMINAL

Corunna Cruise Terminal
Tel: +34 981 976 821
corunna@corunnacruiseterminal.com

TOURISM & CONFERENCE CONSORTIUM OF A CORUÑA

Calle Sol s/n
15003 A Coruña - España
Tel: +34 981 184 344
infoturismo@coruna.es
www.turismocoruña.es

PORT AUTHORITY OF A CORUÑA

Avda. de la Marina, 3
15001 A Coruña - España
comercial@puertocoruna.com
Tel: +34 981 219 621

WWW.PUERTOCORUNA.COM



Port of A Coruña
Port Authority of A Coruña



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MINISTERIO DE TRANSPORTES, MOVILIDAD Y AGENDA URBANA

