

## **DAY OF THE APOSTLE SANTIAGO**



The National Day of Galicia or Day of "Pátria Galega", is the official party of the Autonomous Community of Galicia. It is celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> July, day of the Apostle Santiago.

The origins of this celebration trace back to 919 when people decided to celebrate it. A lot of Spanish cities organize their proper party of Galicia in honour to Santiago, where all the people enjoy the music and food of Galicia.

This night we can see spectacular fireworks where a lot of people enjoy the night of Compostela, full of light and sound.





Fireworks in Santiago de Compostela 25<sup>th</sup> July of 2008

The next day in the Cathedral of Santiago begin the acts to commemorate the Day of Galicia, with the traditional gifts to the Apostle that include the spectacular flight of the "botafumeiro"-an enormous pot full of incense, which purifies people.



Botafumeiro inside the cathedral

During more of two weeks there are parties with musical acts, sportive and gastronomic events without forgetting the activities directed to the small children: theatres or the marionettes.



People who visit Santiago can taste its delicious food.



A lot of people come to Santiago as pilgrims. Many people want to end their pilgrimage on 25th July.





There are a lot of souvenirs of Santiago.





