

SEPTEMBER

SAN MATEO

It is celebrated on 21 st September. He is the patron of people who can't hear well. People go on foot to a sanctuary in a small village, 4kms from Monforte. In the past, people used to go to church to ask the Saint for protection to their ears.



Nowadays people build provisional huts with a plastic or canvas roof, in case it rains. Some young people sleep in these huts. They take a lot of food and drink to spend the whole day on these fields, near the river.



There they cook, they have lunch , visit the people from other huts, dance ,and... some of them drink "too much". Sometimes, drunk people fall to the river and get hurt.

Some people have a bath in the river to have a good time . A lot of people eat octopus in their huts.



HARVEST OF GRAPES

It's the collecting of grapes to make wine. We are in a famous wine area called Ribeira Sacra.



People have been collecting grapes in the Sacred Riverside since Roman times. People collect grapes, make wine, and celebrate a party with their family and friends involved in this task. Very good wines of this area are Mencía and Godello.



A lot of people collect grapes to sell them to other people. Normally it takes place in September but depending on the weather it can take place in October.



Romería de Nosa Señora da Barca. (Muxía)

It is an important celebration which is considered of National Touristic Interest. Lots of people go to this town in "Costa da Morte" to repeat a ritual, which is done every year to venerate the Virgin around a rock where she is said to have appeared: the Virgin arrived there to talk to Santiago Apostle, on an ancient stone boat. This rock is what remains of the boat, and people can crawl under it to improve their health, specially their back.



Virgin of Guadalupe. Rianxo (A Coruña)

In Rianxo, a small town by the sea, by the Atlantic Ocean, a typical party has been taking place on the 8th September for more than 150 years: there is a parade on boats, one of them carrying the Virgin Image. People pray and go with the Virgin till they arrive to the church. There is a very famous Galician song in honour of this Virgin.