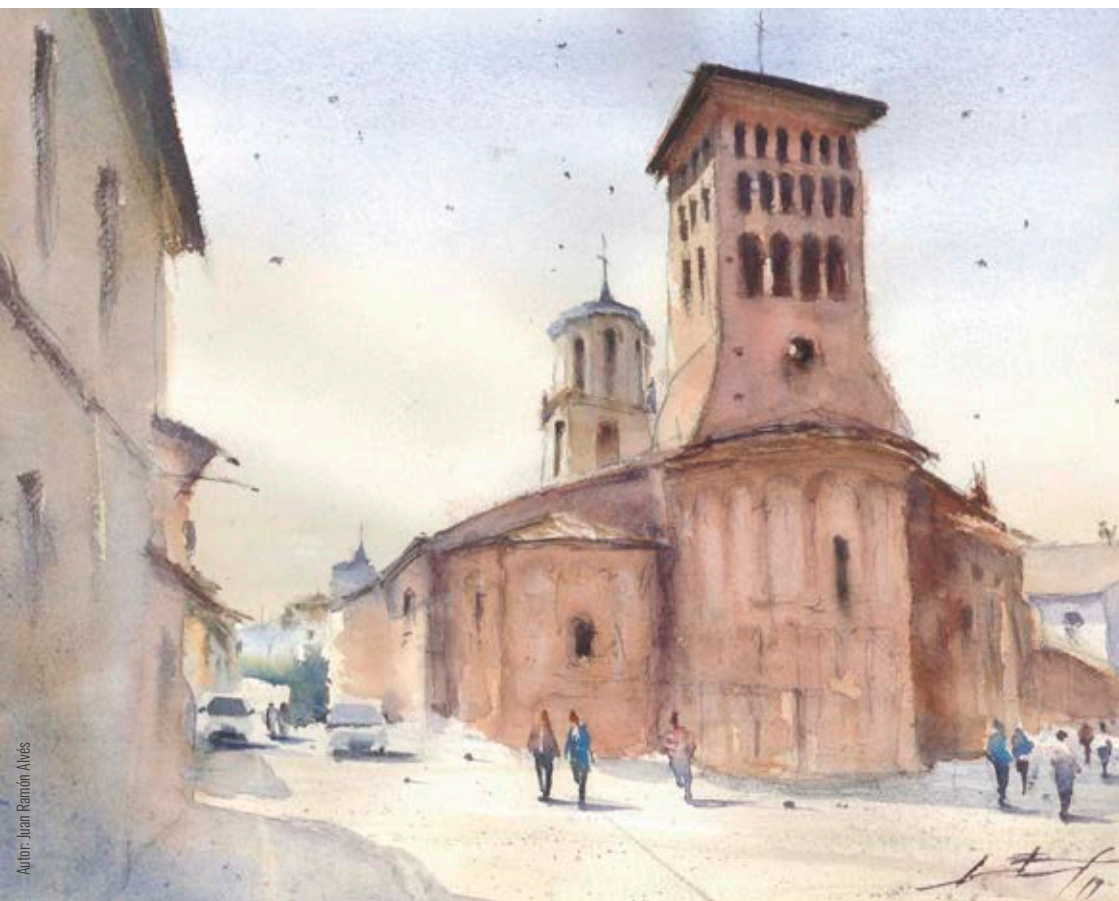




SAHAGÚN...

MORADA



Autor: Juan Ramón Avés



Ayuntamiento de Sahagún

Edit: Ayuntamiento de Sahagún

Texts: Ana Fontano y Olga Ibáñez · Sahagún (León), 2015

Photography: Grupo "Mundi", TX - USA (página 3), sahundigital.com, Ana Fontano, Álex González Andrés, Yolanda Rodríguez, María Luna, Sergio Cuevas, Hostal-Restaurante "El Ruedo II", Brandea.es, Editorial MIC

Publishing process: Editorial MIC · www.editorialmic.com



Editorial MIC



... llena tus sentidos



▲ *The ruins of Saint Facundus and Saint Primitivus Monastery. Declared Heritage of Cultural Interest on 3rd of June 1931.*



▲ Church of San Juan, 17th century

HISTORY

The vitality of Villa of Sahagún, located close to Via Traiana, dates back to Roman times. The current settlement, however, is a consequence of the worship of the remains of two Christiann martyrs: Saint Facundus and Saint Primitivus. Their beheaded bodies were thrown into the waters of the River Cea, from where their remains were recovered and placed in a tomb that became a primitive sanctuary.

Historical chronicles attribute the establishment of the new church to Alfonso III around the year 872. His main role was in fact, to complete or restore the existing structure, destroyed by a Muslim expedition (as compiled in the Codex Albeldensis of the year 883). The complex was rebuilt by the king and revitalized by Abbot Alfonso and his Benedictine monks. Thereafter, Sahagún was to receive the favour of princes and nobles alike, its golden age culminating during the reign and patronage of Alfonso VI, and the concessions granted by the Fuero de Sahagún (Edicts of Sahagún) in 1085, one of the oldest in Spain. Alfonso VI was responsible for opening up Spain to the rest of Europe, the Cluniac reform and the implementation of Ro-

man Rite, as well as for boosting the French Route of St. James' Way to Santiago. Alfonso VI, king and emperor, expressed his desire to be buried upon his death in the monastery sanctified to the Saints of Facundus and Primitivus.

Sahagún is also the birth place of many illustrious characters: John of Sahagún (Patron Saint of the Villa and of Salamanca, a renowned preacher and intellectual of his day); Friar Bernardino of Sahagún (the father of American Anthropology); Captain Pedro Ansúrez (founder of La Plata, in 1538, with licence by Francisco Pizarro); Pedro Ponce de León (sign language pioneer) and Mr. Fernando de Castro y Pajares (Doctor of Theology, professor at the Royal Academy of History and a liberal preoccupied with the dispossessed, female equality, abolition of slavery and an advocate of Education)

HERITAGE ROUTE

Taking the French Route to Santiago as a reference point, the route through Sahagún's architectonic heritage can be started at the Ermita de la Virgen del Puente Sanctuary, 3 kilometres from the city centre. Built in the 13th century and located at the geographical centre of the St. James' Way, the sanctuary features ornaments typical of the Mudejar architecture of the region in its unique apse.

Once in the town, you are welcomed by the old Church of La Trinidad, which today contains a hostel and the Carmelo Gómez Concert Hall. Built with bricks in the 13th century, the current appearance of the church is the consequence of different transformations carried out in the 16th century. Next to it is the Church of San Juan. Built in the 17th century over the birth house of the saint, the church houses some interesting items such as the chest with the remains of the martyrs Facundus and Primitivus, or the two marble pulpits from the Benedictine Monastery. Here, you can also admire other interesting examples of local architecture, like the houses with brick or adobe porticos and wooden structure.

Venture through Street del Arco and you will find the Church of San Lorenzo, a magnificent



▲ Sanctuary of La Virgen Peregrina. 13th century. Declared Heritage of Cultural Interest on 3rd of June 1931.

example of the 13th-century Mudejar architecture. The ornamental diversity of its apses, which shows a knowledgeable handling of the brick, as well as its pyramid-shaped tower, which looks extremely

light in spite of its great dimensions, are worth pointing out here. Attached to the western wall you will find the Chapel of Jesús, built in the 17th century. The chapel currently houses the 'pasos



▲ Church of San Tirso 12th century Declared Heritage of Cultural Interest on 3rd of June 1931



▲ *San Benito Arch made by Felipe Berrojo in 1662. Declared Heritage of Cultural Interest on 3rd of June 1931*

procesionales' (elaborate floats made for religious processions) used during Easter in Sahagún, as well as an interesting altarpiece with reliefs by Guillem Doncel and Juan D'Angers, disciples of Juan de Juni.

Follow Street de la Alhóndiga to reach the Plaza Mayor, meeting point for social and commercial

activities that still maintains its charm in spite of its transformations. Nearby you will find the Church of San Tirso, one of the finest examples of Mudejar architecture in the Peninsula, dating back to the 12th century. Like the Church of San Lorenzo, San Tirso maintains a basilica-shaped layout with three naves completing each apse, out of which the most interesting is the central nave,



▲ *Sanctuary of Virgen del Puente, 13th century*

where stone has been used as a substitute for brick, probably to reinforce the construction. As well as the architecture, other pieces of furniture, like the 13th-century Gothic tomb brought from Sahagún Monastery, can also be found inside.

Next to San Tirso you will find the ruins of San Benito Monastery. The monastery was carefully improved by Alfonso VI, thanks to whom it became a religious and cultural reference of Spain. Several artistic influences can be distinguish within the current set, including constructions from the 12th century (Chapel of San Benito), 17th century (the southern Baroque façade), 18th century (Chapel of Nuestra Señora), or 19th century (the Ionic façade and the clock tower).

Next, you can visit the Monasterio de las Madres Benedictinas Monastery, founded in the 16th century. The museum of the Monastery houses important art works such as Enrique de Arfe's Processional Custodia, a Churrigueresque altarpiece from the Trianos Convent and the tombs with the remains of Alfonso VI and his wives. Take Avenue Bermejo y Calderón towards the outskirts of the town to find the Sanctuary of La Virgen Peregrina, a former Saint Francis convent founded in the 13th century. Once again, the construction is

an example of the Gothic Mudejar style, emphasised not only in its architecture, but also in the plasterwork found in the Chapel of Los Sandoval, which dates back to the mid-15th century.

Before leaving Sahagún, cross one of its landmarks: the bridge of Puente Canto. This old crossing of the Roman roads and previously of the Vaccaeí paths, is located over the waters of the River Cea, whose course continues up to San Pedro de las Dueñas, 5 kilometres from Sahagún. Its Benedictine Monastery combining stone and brick is a good example of the Romanic Mudejar style. Inside, the magnificent set of stone capitals and the Christ by Gregorio Fernández stand out.



▲ *Capital in San Pedro de las Dueñas*

MUSEUMS



▲ *Virgen Peregrina, a work by 'La Roldana', 17th century*

MADRES BENEDICTINAS MUSEUM

Located in the present-day monastery of the Madres Benedictinas de la Santa Cruz, the monastery was founded in the 16th century and it is currently the headquarters of the museum of

the town. The museum has three galleries and one church, where you can find a marble bathtub from the Late Roman Period, the Baroque image of the Virgen Peregrina (during winter months) or the Processional Custodia by Enrique de Arfe, amongst others. The 1711 altarpiece by Benito Churriguera, recovered from Santa María la Real de Trianos convent, can be found in the high altar. Next to it are the tombs of Alfonso VI and four of his six wives. **Telephone 987 780 078**

MUSEO DE LA SEMANA SANTA.

Built around 1660 to host the Jesús Nazareno Brotherhood, the chapel is attached to the western wall of the Church of San Lorenzo. It houses the 'pasos procesionales', polychromed sculptures mostly from the 17th century, used during Sahagún Easter. Some are of outstanding quality, such as the Crucified Christ, the Saint Longinus' Horse, the Holy Sepulchre known as the Urn which contains a jointed Christ, and the locally called 'Rodapelo' Christ. You can also find a magnificent Late Baroque retable from the 18th century with reliefs by Juan D'Angers and Guillem Doncel from 1545.

Telephone: 661 874 146



▲ *Pargetting*



▲ *Pardina Lentil*



▲ *Leeks from Sahagún*

GASTRONOMY

Awarded the Quality Assurance Seal, the leek is particularly tasty in this region and stands

out from all the other produce. Be it raw, grilled or jarred, leeks can be cooked in infinite ways. Try the 'pardina' (brown) lentil, one of the most widely sown in Castilla y León. Thanks to the clayey soil of the 'Tierra de Campos' (Land of Fields), the lentil has acquired the outstanding quality that has granted it the Protected Geographical Indication. Honoring the 'Gran Cuba' (Big Cask) of the Benedictine Abbey, one of the biggest in Christianity during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the local grapes called Prieto Picudo (Tight Pointed) produce a distinguished, special and peculiar wine with D.O Tierra de León. We cannot forget to mention the local confectionery, including typical sweets like the 'amarguillos' (almond pastries) or the 'canutillos' (cream-filled pastries) prepared by the nuns of Sahagún and San Pedro de las Dueñas respectively, or the 'galletas de hierro' (vanilla waffles) traditionally homemade in Sahagún and that can be found in any of the pastry shops in the town.





▲ *Spanish Waffles lemon cookie*



FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

Easter. Declared of Regional Touristic Interest in Castilla y León. It starts two weeks before Easter Sunday, on the 'Domingo Tortillero' (Omelette Sunday).

Romería de San Marcos Pilgrimage

(25th of April). The peculiar 'Tantáriga' or 'Tantárida' dance is performed.

San Juan de Sahagún Patron's Saint Day

(12th and 13th of June). The bull calves run the streets of Sahagún.



Virgen Peregrina Festival (2nd of July). Mass and procession to honour the Virgin in the old Franciscan convent.

Troubadour Encounters (July).

Multi-sectoral Fair of Saint Simon

(last weekend of October).

Voto de la Villa (the Town's Vow). (Last Sunday of November).

A weekly market takes place every Saturday of the year.



ACCOMODATION CAMPING MUNICIPAL

'PEDRO PONCE'

Surrounded by greenery, it allows you to camp in a spacious area and have free access to recreational zones, swimming pools and sports fields. It offers cosy facilities for the enjoyment of over 500 people. Address: Avda. Tineo

Telephone: 987 780 415.

ALBERGUE MUNICIPAL DE PEREGRINOS 'CLUNY'

Located in the old Church of La Trinidad, the hostel only accommodates pilgrims trailing the St. James' Way. It has room for up to sixty four of them. Address: Travesía del Arco, 87

Telephone: 987 781 015



Church of La Trinidad, currently a hostel and Carmelo Gómez Concert Hall.

OTROS ALOJAMIENTOS.

- **Hotel 'Puerta de Sahagún' ****.**
Ctra. Burgos, S/N **Telephone: 987 78 18 80**

- **Hostal – Restaurante 'La Codorniz'.**
Avda. Constitución, 99
Telephone: 987 78 02 76

- **Hostal – Restaurante 'El Ruedo II'.**
Plaza Mayor, 1 **Telephone: 987 78 18 34**

- **Hostal 'Alfonso VI'.** C/Antonio Nicolás, 4
Telephone: 987 78 11 44

- **Hostal 'Escarcha'.** C/Regina Franco, 12
Telephone: 987 78 18 56

- **Hostal 'La Bastide du chemin'.**
C/Arco, 66
Telephone: 987 78 11 83 - 690 76 80 40

- **Hostal – Albergue – C.T.R. 'Viatoris'.**
Ctra. De Cea, s/n. **Telephone: 987 78 09 75**

- **C.T.R. Arturo I y II.** C/Arco, 72
Telephone: 987 78 09 12 – 686 78 91 37

- **C.T.R. El Jardín de la Huerta.**
C/ El Molino, Galleguillos de Campos
Telephone: 987 78 59 18

- **Casa Rural 'Los Balcones del Camino.**
C/ Juan de Guaza, 2
Telephone: 676 83 82 42

- **Albergue Monasterio de Santa Cruz.**
Cl. Antonio Nicolás, 40
Telephone: 987 78 11 39 - 650 69 60 23

- **Albergue El Labriego.**
Cl. Doctores Bermejo y Calderón, 9
Telephones: 674 82 68 85 - 677 22 03 06



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Sahagún Town Hall	987 780 001
Municipal Security Guard	669 886 718
Tourist Information	987 781 015
Post Office	987 780 207
Heath Centre	987 781 291
Ambulance	987 780 444
Guardia Civil	987 780 845 – 062
Buses.....	987 211 000
Airport (León)	902 404 704
Emergencias	112
RENFE	902 240 202
ALSA	902 422 242

Taxi Services

Taxi ÁLVAREZ	669 797 769
Taxi FEDE	639 943 349
Taxi M ^a VICTORIA ..	659 563 390 • 630 437 921

Farmacias

José Luis Vázquez	987 780 349
Rosario Acero	987 700 066
M ^a José Gamasa	987 780 753



ALFONSO VI

(León, 1040/41 - Toledo, 1109)

Alfonso VI was responsible for opening up Spain to the rest of Europe, the Cluniac reform and the implementation of Roman Rite, as well as, for boosting the French Route of St. James' Way to Santiago and the construction of the Cathedral of Santiago. Alfonso VI expressed his desire to be buried upon his dead in Sahagún.



URRACA I

(León, 1081 - Saldaña, 1126)

She was the first Queen in Spain. She took refuge several times in the town of Sahagún. Queen Urraca conceded minting rights to the Monastery of San Benito.



FRAY BERNARDINO DE SAHAGÚN

(Sahagún, 1499 - México, 1590)

The Franciscan Friar Bernardino de Sahagún was the 'father' of American Anthropology. His work 'La Historia General de la Nueva España' has been included in UNESCO Memory of the World Register in 2015.



PEDRO PONCE DE LEÓN

(Sahagún, ? - San Salvador de Oña, 1584)

He was a benedictine monk considered sign language pioneer. All over the world there are Special Education Schools carrying the name of Pedro Ponce de León.



SAN JUAN DE SAHAGÚN

(Sahagún, 1430 - Salamanca, 1479)

Priest and an Augustinian hermit. Patron Saint of Sahagún and of Salamanca, a renowned preacher and intellectual of his day.



FERNANDO DE CASTRO Y PAJARES

(Sahagún, 1814 - Madrid, 1874)

Doctor of Theology, professor at the Royal Academy of History and liberal preoccupied with the dispossessed, female equality, abolition of slavery and an advocate of Education.

SAHAGÚN TOWN



Sahagún Town Hall

Obra de Fray Bernardino



Tezcatzóncatl, dios azteca del vino o pulque al cual se le culpaba de los pecados cometidos por los borrachos. Códice Florentino obra de Fray Bernardino de Sahagún .UNESCO Memoria del Mundo 2015.



Ayuntamiento de Sahagún