



GAIÁS, CITY OF CULTURE

The City of Culture presents itself as a driver to promote innovative projects in the field of culture, entrepreneurship and technology, and a point to connect Galicia to the rest of the world. Built on the top of Mount Gaiás, one of the hills surrounding Santiago de Compostela, this city that seems to emerges from the earth stands as an architectural icon of modern Galicia, in dialogue with the centuries-old Compostela, a World Heritage site and destination of the Way of Saint James.

Open to the public since the year 2011, the City of Culture of Galicia was inaugurated by the then Prince and Princess of Asturias, now their majesties King Felipe de Borbón and Queen Letizia, of Spain. This powerful infrastructure, surrounded by nature areas, houses these four buildings:



GAIÁS CENTRE MUSEUM

Its beauty and versatility render this the perfect venue to host temporary exhibitions, performing arts shows and largescale events.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE OF GALICIA

They preserve the bibliographical and documentary memory of Galicia, and they act as the head of the public network of libraries and archives.



GAIÁS CENTRE FOR ENTREPRE-**NEURSHIP**

It hosts the Galician Agency for Cultural Industries (AGADIC), which aids in the development of the cultural sector, a space for co-working, a business incubator and an area for state-of-the-art technology enterprises.

CENTRE FOR CULTURAL INNOVATION (CINC)

Headquarters of the Foundation for the City of Culture and of the Agency for Technological Modernisation of Galicia (Amtega), centralising the technical services of the Galician Administration.

GREEN AREAS

On the slopes of Mount Gaiás grows the Forest of Galicia, with over nine thousand native trees. The Literary Garden, Lake Park and Whale Park offer green spaces for visitors to enjoy.

FUNDACIÓN CIDADE DA CULTURA DE **GALICIA**

The complex is managed by the Foundation for the City of Culture of Galicia, a public sector institution dependent on the Galician Department for Culture. The presidency of honour of the Board of Trustees corresponds to the president of the Xunta. Its cultural program is supported by the Gaiás Fund for Galician Business, comprised of financial contributions by major Galician companies.



ARCHITECTURE

The Xunta called for an International Architecture Award in 1999 in order to build the City of Culture of Galicia. Twelve proposals by renowned national and international architect teams were submitted, and finally. eleven entered the competition after Santiago Calatrava withdrew. The participants were: Ricardo Bofill, Peter Eisenman, Manuel Gallego Jorreto, Annette Gigon and Mike Guyer, Steve Holl, Rem Koolhaas, Daniel Libeskind, Juan Navarro Baldeweg, Jean Nouvel, Dominique Perrault and César Portela. The design by Eisenman Architects was selected, according to the jury, due to its conceptual and visual uniqueness and y its exceptional attunement with the site.

Eisenman conceived the project as a city in itself. Inspired by the historic centre of Compostela and the five pilgrimage routes in the medieval city leading to the cathedral, the architect overlapped this grid on the top of the hill. Starting from this concept, the original project consisted of series of buildings connected by means of streets and a plaza as a point of union evoking the motif of a scallop shell, the symbol of pilgrimage.

PETER EISENMAN

A renowned international architect and a member of *The New York Five*, Eisenman's career has earned him the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2004, the Wolf Prize in Arts and the Medal of Honour of the American Institute of Architects in New York. As a teacher, he has taught at some of the world's most prestigious universities, such as Harvard, Cambridge, Princeton and Yale.















IN FIGURES

Each year

Since the opening

+2M

More than two million visitors since the opening

500

people working at the complex

200

cultural activities

participants in cultural events

80

activities to foster entrepreneurship

6.000

participants in activities at the Centre for Entrepreneurship

100

Support to 100 entrepreneurship projects

300

business, institutional and group events

40.000

attendees to external events

5.000

participants in didactic visits

GAIÁS CENTRE MUSEUM









The 43-metre high façade, like a powerful wave of glass and quartzite rising to the sky, and the architectural strength of its inner spaces render this building a work of art in itself. Its programming combines exhibitions, shows, performing arts and family entertainment; as well as other large-scale events and trade fairs.

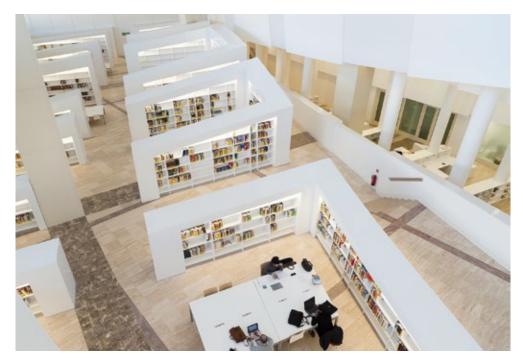
The aim of its programming is to provide visibility to Galicia's cultural and artistic expressions, connecting Galician creators to the rest of the world. Ever since it opened in 2012, it has hosted exhibitions such as 'Gallaecia Petrea', 'Orinoco. Journey to a lost world', 'Fresh Water. When Water Becomes Art', 'Codices. Medieval Jewels from Galician Cathedrals', 'The Way. The Origin', 'Con-fío en Galicia. Dressing Galicia, Dressing the World', 'José Suárez. Living Eyes That Think', 'CineGalicia 25', 'Camilo José Cela (1916-2016). The centennial of a Nobel Prize', and 'From Tree to Chair'.

Despite its short history as of yet, the Gaiás Centre Museum has collaborated with prestigious international cultural institutions, including the MoMA in New York, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Amsterdam Rijksmuseum, the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, The Prado, Thyssen-Bornemisza and Reina Sofía museums in Madrid, among other important centres in Spain and abroad.

As well as exhibitions, the museum also hosts performing arts shows, such as 'Escenas do Cambio. Festival de Inverno de Teatro, Danza e Arte en Acción; and WOMEX, the most important world music festival; as well as Spin, the largest university entrepreneurship event for Spain, Portugal and Latin America.

Famous artists such as Paquito D'Rivera, Noa, Gregory Porter, Silvia Pérez, Cruz, Chick Corea, Carlos Núñez, Cristina Pato and the Real Filharmonía de Galicia, among many others, have performed at the Gaiás Centre Museum.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE OF GALICIA





Head of the network of Galician public libraries, the Library of Galicia gathers, preserves and disseminates all the bibliographical heritage of the Community and facilitates its access, either on-site or in a virtual format. A key element for cultural activities related to books, reading and libraries, it functions as a legal deposit, preserving a copy in its installations of everything published in Galician, Galicia or by Galician authors.

Its modern facilities make it the right place to preserve high-quality documentary and bibliographical collections, such as the cultural legacy left by Isaac Díaz Pardo, works and prints by Luis Seoane, Basilio Losada's library, works by Carlos Casares and the complete Cartography of Galicia, among other collections. It regularly organises exhibitions and provides its facilities as a showcase to give visibility to prestigious bibliographic collections, such as the incunabula of ABANCA.

The Library of Galicia shares this building with the Archive of Galicia, a reference for the Community's

archive system. Its mission is to receive, guard and make available to citizens all public or private documents in any type of format which must be preserved for their value. In addition, the Archive of Galicia safeguards documents issued from the activities of the Xunta and its dependent bodies, ensuring citizen access thereto.

The building of the Library and Archive of Galicia offers a study room open to the public, equipped with a powerful wifi network and a digital consultation service. In addition, it hosts the 'Xosé Neira Vilas' auditorium in which an extensive programming of events is developed centred on the letters.

The Library and Archive of Galicia are also home to research and working teams from institutions such as the Real Academia Galega or the Consello da Cultura de Galicia.

CINC. NEW TECHNOLOGIES BUILDING









This building houses the headquarters of the Foundation for City of Culture of Galicia, the institution responsible for the management of the complex, and also hosts the Agency for Technological Modernisation of Galicia (AMTEGA), which makes it the 'technopole' of Mount Gaiás.

The CINC operates as the 'digital heart' of Galicia, the point from which a team of 200 technologists manage Galicia's digital administration. The Integral Data Processing Centre of the Xunta de Galicia (CPDI) is located on the building's premises, serving 1,400 educational centres, 600 social and healthcare centres, 322 judicial entities, 1,500 pharmacy offices, more than 90,000 public employees, as well as other administrations and universities of Galicia.

AMTEGA, which is dependent on the Presidency of the Xunta, is the public agency whose basic objectives are the definition, development and implementation of policies in the field of information and communication technologies and innovation and technological development.

This 'technopole' in the City of Culture is completed by the presence of leading companies which have set up units to develop innovative projects on Mount Gaiás.

With an area of 7,500 square meters, the CINC building consists of seven levels which house offices, a staff cafeteria, two multi-purpose rooms and a large conference hall for multiple events.

CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CEM)







This building offers a creative environment for entrepreneurs to develop their projects with the advice of experts and a network of professional contacts. The City of Culture offers them a mentoring and accompaniment program to implement business models and identify opportunities, providing financial advice, networking and showrooms.

In order to adapt to the different needs, the CEM offers two formulas:

- **Coworking Gaiás.** It offers entrepreneurs a place to work in individual stations. Coworking favours the use of synergies, alliances, and generates a dynamic and cooperative space that fosters the implementation of projects.
- Gaiás Incubator. Aimed at entrepreneurs with fledgeling business structures that start to need further spaces.

In addition to services aimed at entrepreneurs located in Gaiás, the CEM aims to become a focus to stimulate entrepreneurial culture in Galicia, to which purpose it organizes a specific program throughout the year, with events such as Spin, the largest university

entrepreneurship event in Spain, the TEDxGalicia talks and the Emprende Gaiás-Sixto Seco awards.

The CEM building also houses a technological area where companies such as Telefónica, HP and Vodafone are developing pioneering projects in the area of creative and social entrepreneurship.

AGADIC: Cultural Industries

The CEM also hosts the headquarters of the Galician Agency for Cultural Industries (AGADIC), a public institution that aims to promote the business community in the cultural sector. This body develops actions aimed at providing greater stability to the sector, optimising business management in the production and distribution processes, boosting the internal market and promoting the outward projection of Galician culture.

HEJDUK TOWERS AND OUTDOOR SPACES







Inspired in the historic centre of Compostela, the City of Culture is articulated through streets, arcades and a large central plaza that communicates the entire complex. In this environment, the Hejduk Towers deserve special mention. They were designed in 1992 by the architect John Hejduk (New York, 1929-2000) as botanical towers for Compostela's Belvis Park, but they were never actually built there. After Hejduk passed away, Peter Eisenman decided to recover the project of his friend and colleague in The New York Five – the group that best represents the spirit of architectural Neo-rationalism - and proposed they be erected in the City of Culture.

Currently, these towers are used as an unconventional exhibition space, and they have hosted interventions by artists such as Irma Álvarez-Laviada, Sonia Navarro, Félix Fernández, Ana Soler, Alejandra Sampedro and Pamen Pereira, together with the projects of the winners of the contest held each year within the framework of the Meeting of Young Artists.

With its own personality, there is also the work referred to by visitors as 'The Ball of Books'. It is the intervention called 'Singularidade', by Alicia Martín, installed originally as a temporary exhibit and, with the passage of time, eventually becoming one of the symbols of the City of Culture. Made up of thousands of books, this sculptural work seeks, as conceived by its author, to reflect on the excess of information lived in today's society. The piece was rehabilitated in 2016 with the collaboration of the Provincial Council of A Coruña.

FOREST OF GALICIA AND GREEN AREAS









On the slopes of Mount Gaiás grows the Galician Forest, in which more than nine thousand birches, chestnuts, oaks, willows and other native Atlantic trees were planted between 2015 and 2017. This green area offers a network of paths lit with a low-consumption LED system, with beautiful views and viewpoints to watch the sunset over Santiago.

In addition to the Forest of Galicia, the City of Culture has other green areas, such as Lake Park and the Literary Garden, dedicated to Galician writers and poets. On the outside, the complex offers original spaces for children's leisure, such as the Whale Park, with a huge cetacean inspired by the marine monsters of the Galician artist Urbano Lugrís.

CULTURAL PROGRAM





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The City of Culture develops a cultural program throughout the year directed to a diversity of audiences, with an average of two hundred activities.

In addition to the exhibitions of the Gaiás Centre Museum, the program presents an offer aimed at families, such as the festival 'Imaginary City' or the events 'Christmas at Gaiás', 'Carnival at Gaiás' and 'Magosto at Gaiás'. The performing arts are also very present, with 'Escenas do Cambio. Festival de Inverno de Teatro, Danza e Arte en Acción', as well as music, with cycles that have become a reference in the Galician agenda, such as 'Evenings at Gaiás', offering free, open-air concerts during the summer months.

The cultural program also opens a space for the letters, with cycles dedicated to the analysis of contemporary cultures, such as 'Nexos', and for the visual arts, with

special attention to supporting emerging artists, with the 'Meeting of Young Artists'.

The World Environment Day, International Dance Day and International Museum Day are also important celebrations in the cultural program, as well as the Galician Literature Day.

The program has the financial support of the companies integrated into the Gaiás Fund for Galician Business.

EVENTS





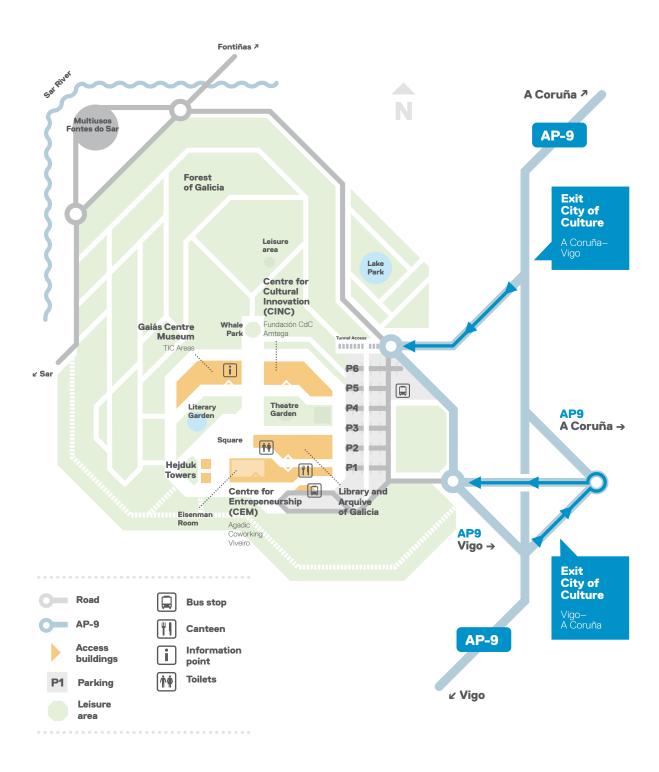




The architectural singularity and the facilities of the City of Culture turn its spaces into scenes of manifold events organised by institutions, businesses and social groups. Every year, the Gaiás hosts more than 300 events of this nature, among which are conferences, galas, awards, seminars, lectures, training activities, trade fairs, etc. Outstanding dates in the institutional calendar of the Community are the ceremonies of the

Galician Medals and the Culture Awards, which take place in Gaiás. The visual power of these installations also attracts the look of the world of cinema and advertising, which find in the complex attractive sets for their audiovisual projects.

MAPA



GAIÁS CIDADE DA CULTURA



