

CONFERENCE SITE: GIJÓN (Asturias)

ASTURIAS (officially the Principality of Asturias), is an autonomous community in north-west Spain characterized by its green landscape, impressive mountains, spectacular beaches, excellent food and hospitable local people. Almost the 30% of the community's territory are protective areas and there are 6 Biospheres Reserves designated by UNESCO. *A veritable Natural Paradise!*

GIJÓN is the largest city in Asturias with 280,000 inhabitants. The city is located in the impetuous Bay of Biscay (practically in the centre of the Asturian coastline), which embraces the city and has marked its history for over 5,000 years.

The city is distinguished by the peninsula of Cimavilla (the original settlement) which separates the beach of San Lorenzo and adjacent neighbourhoods to the east, from the beaches of Poniente and Arbeyal, the shipyards, and the recreational port and the Port of El Musel to the west.

Gijón is famous by its beaches, seaport, local gastronomy and landmarks such as roman terms, Santa Catalina's hill, San Pedro's church and Laboral University.

More info at: <http://en.turismo.gijon.es/> and <https://www.turismoasturias.es/en/home-en>



VENUES

Conference Venue: Laboral City of Culture

Laboral Culture City is the result of transformation project taken on by the Government of the Principality of Asturias since 2001 in order to provide new life to monumental set of the old Laboral University of Gijón.

Built between 1946 and 1955, Laboral University of Gijón is the most important architectural work built in the 20th century in Asturias and is considered, with its 270,000 m², the biggest building in Spain. On 19 May 2016 the Laboral University of Gijón was declared Heritage of Cultural Interest.

The construction follows the ideals of classical architecture, although a clear eclecticism dominates the entire work. The great central square acts as the organisation focal point for some of the most prominent and singular buildings such as the Church, the Tower or the Theatre.

More info at: <http://www.laboralciudaddelacultura.com/en/>

Technical visit: PRODINTEC Foundation

PRODINTEC is a private non-profit entity created in 2004 with the mission of fostering the competitiveness of industrial firms by applying technological advances both to their products and to their manufacturing and management processes.

PRODINTEC headquarters (5,000 sq m) are situated in the INTRA area of expansion of Gijón Science and Technology Park, in a representative building of the valuable industrial heritage of both Gijón and Asturias: the Laboral University's old tobacco drying facility.

PRODINTEC is specialized in industrial design and production. Since its creation, PRODINTEC has been working on the development of additive manufacturing technologies. The advanced manufacturing area focuses on AM designs, processes, equipment, production and post-processing. Its equipment allow the center to produce parts in a wide variety of materials: metals (aluminium, titanium, Inconel, stainless steel, tool steel, chrome-cobalt, etc.), polyamide (pure and filled with aluminium), resins (with varying degrees of springiness), ceramics, etc. PRODINTEC has one of the larger additive manufacturing facilities in number, capacity and range of materials in Europe.

More info at: <http://www.prodintec.es/en/>

HOW TO ARRIVE



By plane

Asturias international **airport** (OVD) is located in Castrillón, 40 Km from Gijón.

The following airlines operate regular scheduled to and from Asturias:

- AIREUROPA
- VUELING
- EASYJET
- IBERIA
- ORBEST
- VOLOTEA
- TAP PORTUGAL

There are **direct flights** to/from London, Paris, Munich, Venice, Lisbon and Geneva. Connections with other European destinations are possible via Madrid or Barcelona. More info at: <http://www.aena.es/es/aeropuerto-asturias/index.html>

Ground transport to transfer from airport to Gijón:

- Road: The airport is a 30 minutes drive from Gijón by the A-8 motorway. Car rental services are available at the airport (AVIS, EUROPCAR).
- Taxis: A taxi rank in continuous service is available at the airport. Estimated journey time and price: 30 min, 48 €.
- Bus: ALSA coach company (www.alsa.es, telephone number +34 902 422 242) offers service between the airport and Gijón. Daily departures from the airport at 07:00, 08:00, 09:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 17:00, 18:00, 19:00, 20:30, 22:00 and 23:20. These times may be delayed by up to 15 minutes if information about an arriving flight appears on the information panel when it is due to leave. Estimated journey time and price: 45 min, 8 €.



By rail

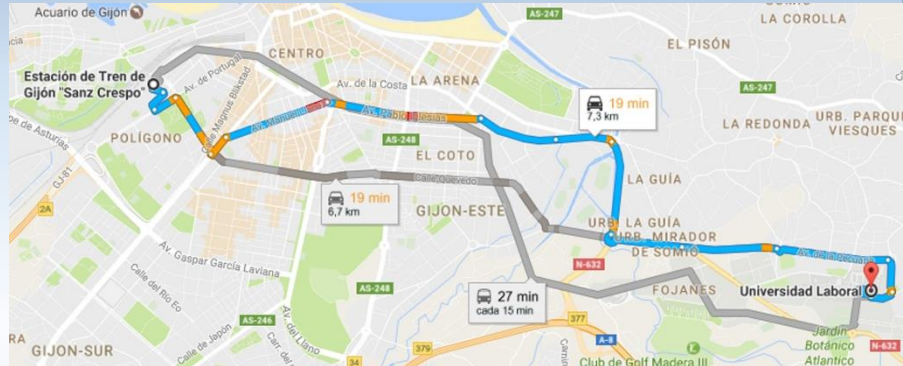
The Railway Company RENFE (www.renfe.es) links the town with the rest of Spain. RENFE has daily connections with Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante and combinations with other Spanish cities. The railway station is located 10 minutes from the city centre (C/ Sanz Crespo, s/n).



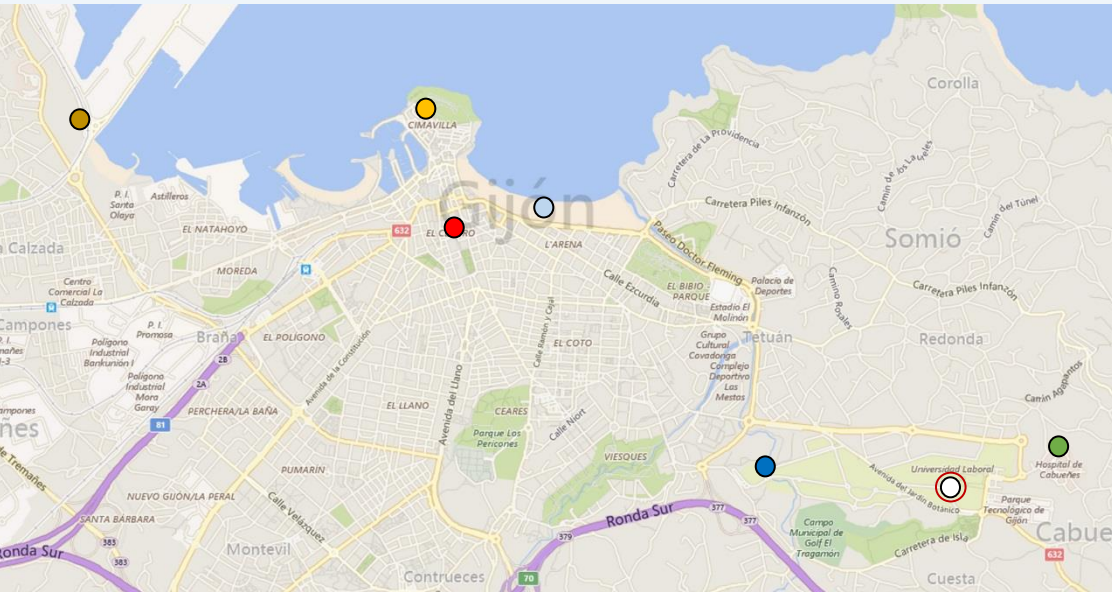
FROM AIRPORT TO
LABORAL CITY OF
CULTURE
40km



FROM GIJON TRAIN STATION TO
LABORAL CITY OF CULTURE
2km



GPS Venue Coordinates:
Lat.: 43.524246586135
Long.: -5.613676407410



- Universidad Laboral (City of Culture)
- PRODINTEC Foundation
- Hospital de Cabueñes
- City Center
- Touristic attraction area
- San Lorenzo beach
- Port of Gijón

ACCOMODATION

Most recommended (special prices and free transfer to the venue):

Parador de Turismo de Gijón****

The **Parador de Gijón** is situated in the residential area of Gijón, in the **Isabel La Católica park**, next to the **El Molinon** football stadium and the Gijón Trade Fair and **Congress Centre**.

Address:

Avenida Torcuato Fernández Miranda, 15
33203 Gijón
T. +34 985 370 511
www.parador.es

Room rates:

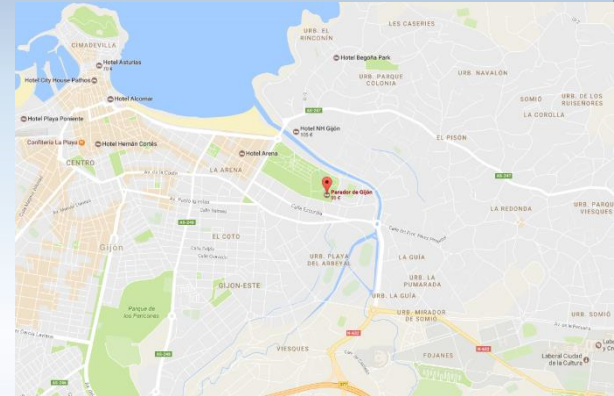
Double for single use, breakfast included: 90 € + VAT per night/per room
Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 100 € + VAT per night/ per room
40 rooms available until July, 15th After that date upon availability.

Bookings:

Booking are to be made by contacting directly through the hotel website, www.nh-hotels.com entering the code "AM Exhibition".

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without any charge up to ten days prior to arrival date.



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Tryp Gijón Rey Pelayo****

At the **Tryp Rey Pelayo Hotel** we suggest things to do with a different perspective.

100 metres from **San Lorenzo beach**, ideal for getting to know Gijon.

Address:

Av. Torcuato Fernández Miranda, 26
33203 Gijón
T. +34 985 199 800
www.tryphotels.com

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 84 € per night/per room
Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 93 € per night/ per room
20 rooms available. Rooms upon availability at the moment of booking.

Bookings:

Booking are to be made by contacting directly the hotel by phone (+34 985 199 800) or email ana.diaz@melia.com, indicating "AM Exhibition Participant". A credit card will be required to guarantee the reservation.

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without any charge up to 18:00 on the arrival date. After that time or in case of No-Show, the hotel will charge one night as cancellation fee.



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Abba Playa Gijón****

On the beachfront, with fabulous views over **San Lorenzo Bay**. A walk away from the Conference Centre, the Trade Fair Centre and the **Molinón Stadium**.

Address:

Paseo Dr. Fleming, 481
33203 Gijón
T. +34 985 000 000
www.abbagijonhotel.com

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 95 € per night/per room
Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 105 € per night/ per room
50 rooms available until July, 31st After that date upon availability

Bookings:

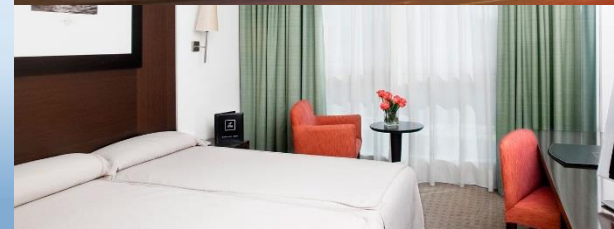
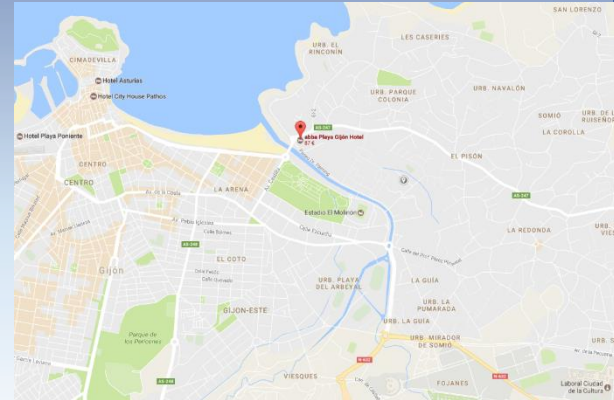
Booking are to be made by contacting directly through the hotel website, www.abbagijonhotel.com entering the code "AM Exhibition".

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without any charge up to 30 days prior to arrival date.

If the reservation is cancelled in a period between 30 days and 48 hours prior to arrival date, the hotel reserves right to charge participant's credit card for 1 night stay.

If the reservation is cancelled within less than 48 hours or in case of No-Show, the hotel will charge in the given credit card for total period of stay.



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NH Gijón****

Opened in 2009, it is located next to **San Lorenzo Beach** and the **Trade Fair**. All its rooms are outward facing, with views of San Lorenzo Bay and Hermanos Castro Park.

Address:

Paseo Dr. Fleming, 71, 33203 Gijón

T. +34 985 195 755

nhgijon@nh-hotels.com

www.nh-hotels.com

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 145 € per night/per room

Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 130 € per night/ per room
10 rooms available until June, 26th. After that date upon availability.

Bookings:

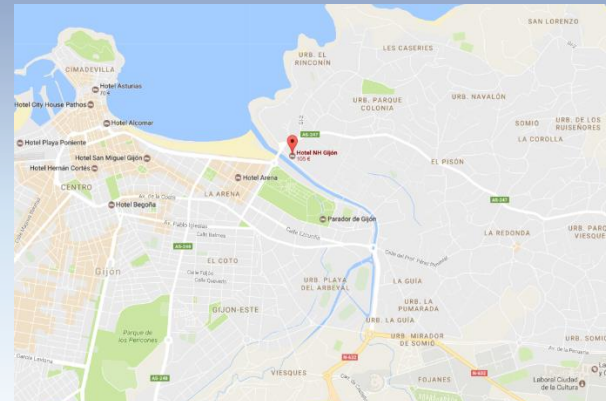
Booking are to be made by contacting directly the hotel by phone (+34 985 370 511) or email gijon@parador.es, indicating "AM Exhibition". A credit card will be required to guarantee the reservation.

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without any charge up to 30 days prior to arrival date.

If the reservation is cancelled in a period between 30 days and 48 hours prior to arrival date, the hotel reserves right to charge participant's credit card for 1 night stay.

If the reservation is cancelled within less than 48 hours or in case of No-Show, the hotel will charge in the given credit card for total period of stay.



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Other options

- **BAL Hotel & Spa*******

The **Bal Hotel Spa** is located 7 km. from Gijón and its beaches www.balhotel.com

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 82 € per night/per room

Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 90 € per night/per room

20 rooms available until August, 11th. After that date upon a availability.

Bookings:

Booking are to be made by contacting directly through the hotel website, www.balhotel.com entering the code "AM Exhibition".

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without a ny charge up to 7 days prior to arrival date.

- **Oca Palacio de la Llorea******

Situated 7 km. from Gijón and its beaches, in the heart of the La Llorea golf course and very well connected with the Cantabrico dual carriageway. www.oca-hotels.com/palacio-llorea

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 99 € per night/per room

Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 109 € per night/ per room

40 rooms available until July, 15th. After that date upon a availability.

Bookings:

Booking are to be made by contacting directly the hotel reservas.palaciodelallore@oca-hotels.es indicating "AM Exhibition".

Cancellation policies:

Reservations can be cancelled without a ny charge up to 72 hours prior to arrival date. After that time the hotel will charge one night as cancellation fee.

- **Silken Ciudad Gijón******

Silken Ciudad Gijón is situated 2 km. from Gijón and its beaches. www.hotelciudadgijon.com

Room rates:

Double for single use, breakfast and VAT included: 85 € per night/per room

Double Room, breakfast and VAT included: 95 € per night/per room

Upon availability.

Bookings:

Booking are to be made by contacting directly the hotel by phone +34 985 176 112 or email reservas.ciudadgijon@hoteles-silken.com indicating "EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY 11-12, September, 2017".



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Other options:

- **AC GIJON BY MARRIOTT ****** <http://www.espanol.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ovdgi-ac-hotel-gijon>
acgijon@ac-hotels.com
- **HOTEL ASTURIAS ****** <http://hotelasturiasgijon.es/>
info@hotelasturiasgijon.es
- **HOTEL BEGOÑA PARK ****** <http://www.hotelbegonapark.com/>
begonapark@hotelesbegona.com
- **HOTEL DON MANUEL ****** <http://www.hoteldonmanuel.com/>
hoteldonmanuel@telecable.es
- **HOTEL HERNAN CORTES ****** <http://www.hotelhernancortes.es/>
info@hotelhernancortes.es
- **HOTEL PRINCIPE DE ASTURIAS ****** <http://www.hotelprincipeasturias.com/>
hotel@hotelprincipeasturias.com
- **HOTEL VILLA DE GIJON ****** <http://www.hotelvilladegijon.com/>
info@hotelvilladegijon.com

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Time zone: GMT+1.

Climate: Gijón has a temperate oceanic climate typical of the Atlantic coast of Spain, with cool summers and mild winters. The climate is wet and cloudy by Spanish standards, but is indeed drier than other locations on the Atlantic in the country. Humidity is high year-round. Average daily temperature in September is around 20 °C.

Currency: The official currency in Spain is the Euro. The greater part of banks offer the currency exchange service, but without the obligation of providing this: they are free to do so or not. Banks open from Monday to Friday, from 08.30 to 15.00. Currency exchange can also be carried out in El Corte Inglés department stores (Customer Care department) from 10 to 22 h, it being mandatory to present one's passport. Major credit cards are generally accepted in hotels, restaurants and shops.

Insurance: LABORAL City of Culture, EDA or PRODINTEC Foundation do not take responsibility for damaged, lost or stolen items, i.e. laptop computers, cellular phones, etc. Please make sure that you have an adequate personal insurance policy. However, the city is one of the safest of the country, with an extremely low accident rate. One of the attractions of its lively nightlife is that you can enjoy yourself without any problems until very late at night. Just take the same basic precautions as for any other trip.


Electricity supply: 230 Volts/50Hertz. Type C plug (two round jacks).

Telephone: The international dialing code for Spain is +34. Phone Cards can be purchased at several places (airport, rail station, newsagents).

Local Coordinator and Point of Contact:

 Paula Queipo – Fundación PRODINTEC

 pqr@prodintec.com

 +34 984 390 060

Must do's...

1. “Eulogy of the Horizon” and Santa Catalina Headland

At the highest point of the headland, the ancient vantage point from where whales were sighted, stands one of the favourite works of artist Eduardo Chillida, Prince of Asturias Award for the Arts. The Basque sculptor confessed that he had travelled the European Atlantic coast in search of possible locations. On receiving the invitation from Gijón and following his visit to Santa Catalina Headland, he knew that it was the perfect location. Raised in 1990, in the town's former fishing quarter, the sculpture was met with suspicion by the ironic spirit of its inhabitants. Today, it is one of the symbols of the city and a must visit. The sculpture gives rise to different impressions depending on the viewpoint. What's more, it also surprises due to its seashell effect –altogether unexpected by the author– which captures the sound of the sea as you step inside it. The walk up the hill affords a panoramic view that helps you to understand the city, its double bay and backdrop of hills enclosing it to the south.



2. Roman Baths

Gijón's public baths are considered one of the most important Roman sites in northern Spain. Built between the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, they were unearthed in 1903, but were not opened to the public until 1965. The present-day museum was built in the 1980s following the excavations and restoration of Roman Gijón. Each area boasts a computer graphic reconstruction of the *thermae*. Coloured lights are used to evoke the cold rooms, warm baths, hot rooms and furnaces, and the Roman heating system is also explained. The visit allows you to discover the development of the oldest town in Asturias, founded more than 2,000 years ago. The baths are undoubtedly a good starting point to visit other fascinating archaeological museums in Gijón, such as Campa Torres Archaeological and Nature Park and the Roman Villa of Veranes.



- **Gijón’s “Universidad Laboral”**

The largest building constructed in Spain in the 20th century is a great unknown. It is surprising for the magnitude of the complex of buildings, occupying more than 130,000 square metres, raised in the post-war period. In appearance, it follows the ideals of classical architecture, although the visit reveals its more innovative aspects. Closed in on itself, it is laid out around a large central square or courtyard, measuring 150 by 50 metres, reminiscent of the style of Castilian *plazas*, although its main source of inspiration is the Piazza San Marco in Venice. Set around the courtyard are the chapel, covered by the largest elliptical dome in Europe, the theatre, with its Hellenistic façade, and the tower, the tallest building in Asturias and the highest stone construction in Spain. It was originally conceived as a miners’ orphanage. However, when building work commenced in 1948 under the supervision of architect Luis Moya Blanco, it was decided that it was to become the country’s first *Universidad Laboral* (vocational training university). Today, under the name of Laboral City of Culture, it plays a key role in Gijón’s “Mile of Knowledge”.



- **Atlantic Botanic Gardens**

Those who expect traditional botanic gardens are in for a surprise! At Gijón’s Botanic Gardens, you can lose yourself in a centennial oak wood – a listed natural monument–, walk in silence through an alder grove or take a stroll through historical gardens dating from the 19th century. There is also an educational area showing the native vegetation on both sides of the Atlantic. Without the need to leave the city, the gardens allow you to discover the enchantment of natural areas characteristic of Asturias. In summer, concerts with unique formats are held in the magical setting of the Botanic Gardens.



5. Cimavilla

Right in the heart of Asturias' most cosmopolitan city, the old town transports you to an authentic fishing quarter. Ever since the Romans left the first settlement on Cape Torres to found *Gigia*, in the 1st century AD, the city was restricted to this peninsula that divides San Lorenzo Bay. The move further inland did not take place until the 18th century, resulting in the city's present-day layout. Roman remains coexist in Cimavilla alongside the memories of its maritime past, of whalers and the women who rolled the cigars in the tobacco factory. It is also home to the birthplace and tomb of Jovellanos, traces of the Way of St James and the city's nightlife, a hallmark of the neighbourhood. At its feet is to be found the marina, the former domain of sailors and trade with the Americas. Overlooking the marina stands one of the finest baroque palaces in the region, as well as the city's shopping area.



6. Cider Culture

Cider, which the Romans discovered when they arrived here two thousand years ago, is more than just a drink: it is a way of relating to others, of conversing and of making merry. It is never drunk alone or in silence; it is always shared with friends, family or workmates. Or, if you are actually on your own, with the cider tavern's patrons. You don't order a glass, you start off with *una botellina* (a "wee" bottle)... and something to eat to accompany it!

There are numerous options to experience cider culture in Gijón. Enter any cider tavern in town or head to the bars overlooking the marina when the weather is fine. You can visit the cider mills located in the surrounding countryside or make for to the *merenderos* (picnic restaurants) just outside town. If you are lucky, you can also enjoy an informal buffet-style banquet held in a cider mill, known as an *espicha*, usually organized to celebrate a family or work event, such as the end of a congress. Technically speaking, the word *espicha* refers to the action of opening a barrel for the first time by knocking an *espita* (spigot) into it. In popular culture, it is a traditional feast held in a cider mill. Cider is served directly from the barrel at such events, the food is home cooked and eaten up standing up so that the participants can mix freely.



7. The Cantabrian Sea (Bay of Biscay)

In the 1990s, Gijón rediscovered (and regained) its coastline. To enjoy the spectacle of the Cantabrian Sea—as this part of the Bay of Biscay is known—is simple—practically inevitable—in a city that has three beaches and one of its marinas right in the town centre. In order to understand the fascination of the residents of Gijón for San Lorenzo Beach, you need to pay a visit at night to the promenade they refer to as “*El Muro*” (The Wall), which includes a three-kilometre vista of that part of the bay. The promenade’s name alludes to the “retaining wall for water” built in the 18th century to protect the city. In the harbour area in winter, you can enjoy the spectacle of crashing waves, which often break over the harbour wall. To discover the sheer Asturian coastline without leaving the city, you can follow the promenade between the River Piles Bridge and El Rinconín and then take the Cervigón Pathway, which overlooks the open sea on its way to Peñarrubia Beach and La Providencia hilltop.



If you have more time to spare, be sure to:

- Look out for the sculptures that dot Gijón, the result of the commitment to transform the urban landscape using contemporary works of art. You will find them on the course of your walks around the town.
- Ask about the route devoted to the Enlightenment scholar and statesman Gaspar Melchor de Jovellanos and discover the reason behind the following saying: “Gijón owes the sea to God and the rest to Jovellanos.”
- Look upwards and discover the unexpected Modernist buildings that make up an unexpected urban route.
- Discover which of the theme museums is the one you are most interested in: there are museums dedicated to ethnography, industrial heritage and fine arts.

More info: <http://en.turismo.gijon.es/>