



THE EUROPEAN
ROUTE OF
HISTORIC
THERMAL
TOWNS

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

European Route of Historic Thermal Towns



International Congress on Thermal Tourism

Summary

EHTTA, a UNWTO Affiliate Member, was selected to organize an International Congress on Thermal Tourism as part of the UNWTO's Work Programme for 2022.

The Province of Ourense in Galicia was selected as the destination for the Congress, not only because of previous thermal tourism conferences held in 1999 and 2011, but also because of:

- A new high speed line connecting Madrid and Galicia
- The Jacobean Holy Year 2021-2022. Ourense Province is crossed by two of the official pilgrimage routes to Santiago de Compostela – the first Cultural Route of the Council of Europe.
- The 200th Anniversary of the Ourense Province, now governed by the Deputación de Ourense, which maintains a strong commitment to thermalism as a tool for sustainable development.

The International Congress on Thermal Tourism was developed around three major themes: Tourism, Heritage and Experience, with renowned speakers making up panels on each of these subjects. Workshops were also given and there was a programme of events surrounding the Congress, including celebrations of World Tourism Day, the launch of the Ourense "Bathrobe Addicts", the Termatalia Exhibition, and the opportunity to undertake a "thermal pilgrimage" from Ourense to Santiago de Compostela.

More information:

<https://historicthermaltowns.eu/thermal-tourism-events/>

Main objectives

The organisation of an International Congress on Thermal Tourism to continue lines of research initiated in 1999 and 2011, focusing on how thermal tourism can contribute to achieving sustainable development goals.

Fields of action

- Co-operation in research and development
- Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage
- Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans
- Contemporary cultural and artistic practice
- Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

Type of Best practice

Conference

Contact information

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www.historicthermaltowns.eu

Date and Venue

27-29 September 2022
Province of Ourense, Spain

General Assembly Meeting

5 May 2022
Caldes de Montbui, Spain

10 November 2022
Online