



A Guarda Becomes the National Capital of Philately with the Arrival of FILATEM 2026

The town of A Guarda (Pontevedra) will host a new edition of the National Thematic Philately Exhibition from October 8 to 12. This unmissable event breaks participation records this year and features the highly anticipated debut of a youth section.

The world of collecting has a major date marked on the calendar. From **October 8 to 12**, the coastal town of A Guarda (Pontevedra) will transform into the epicenter of Spanish philately with the celebration of **FILATEM 2026**. Jointly organized by the Sociedade Filatélica e Numismática Guardesa and the Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies (FESOFI), the exhibition is backed by the Deputación de Pontevedra, the Concello de A Guarda, the Galician Federation (FEGASOFI), and Correos (the Spanish postal service).

The grand official opening will take place on **Thursday, October 8, at 12:00 PM**, marking the start of a fascinating cultural journey through history, art, and science captured on tiny, perforated pieces of art.

High-Level Exhibits and New Generations

This edition of FILATEM stands out for gathering an impressive variety of themes competing at the highest level. In total, the exhibition will host **18 adult collections**. Among them, the *Official Class* features José Ramón Rumoroso Rodríguez (Asturian Federation) with his display *“From Wood to Steel. From Sail to Nuclear Propulsion: Navigation Since the 18th Century,”* spanning a total of 8 display frames.

In the *Competition Class*, the jury and visitors will enjoy an astonishing thematic showcase: from the mysteries of cartography and the history of Habsburg Spain, to collections dedicated to wine, cinema, field hockey, the digital revolution, Antarctica, and the Camino de Santiago routes in Galicia.

However, the big news this year is the **debut of the youth section**, which enters the scene with **18 collections** divided into three age groups. These promising young philatelists—many from the youth academy of the Sociedad Filatélica de Miño—will surprise the public with collections centered on dinosaurs, winter sports, the violin, firefighting, and the world of motorsports.

A Program Packed with Events and Renowned Authors

FILATEM 2026 goes far beyond the exhibition space. The organization has put together an intense schedule of events to bring the town to life over the five-day period:

- **Official Acts:** On Thursday the 8th, the official FILATEM stamp will be unveiled, while on Saturday the 10th, the commemorative postmark and the "Tu Sello" (custom stamp) dedicated to Celso García de la Riega will be presented.
- **Education and Outreach:** Friday the 9th will be highlighted by local school visits, bringing this hobby closer to younger generations. On Sunday morning, October 11, the panel discussion *"How to Improve Our Thematic Philately Collection Through the Score Sheet"* will offer a golden opportunity for exhibitors.
- **The Main Event:** Sunday evening will bring one of the most emotional moments of the event with the presentation of the **FEGASOFI Gold Medal for Philatelic Merit to José A. Gándara Rodríguez**, leading up to the traditional Awards Dinner (Cena de Palmarés).

To top off this exceptional event, the exhibition will feature an official collector's catalog backed by an Honorary Committee **chaired by the King and Queen of Spain**. The publication will include articles written by highly reputable cultural and philatelic figures such as **Rafael Acuña and Paco Piniella**.

A Guarda is ready to stamp its mark on a historic edition. The exhibition and its activities will offer the perfect plan for the October long weekend, blending culture, history, and the unmistakable charm of Galician heritage.

