

Mainland Spain Atlantic N-W-S Coasts



Atlantic North & West Coast

The gathered information at the Atlantic North and West Coast is from 2003 when we travelled with "SY Zeezwaluw" South from Holland.

Gijon marina, 43° 37'.7N 5° 40'.2W

The marina is near town and therefore you have to enjoy the loud disco's at the beach. During the night local people are fishing from the pontoons and (sometimes) make a lot of noise talking loud to each other. The standard of the marina is not too high. For 1 night we had to pay €30,-/night everything incl. It's convenient near the old beautiful town and beach.



Ria de Vivero anchorage, 43° 40'.5N 7°36'.2W

The anchorage is beautiful, near a quiet beach. We stayed 3 days at anchor before we went into the little marina a 100m upriver for repairs on the starter motor. Depths in the river and the marina are sufficient. The marina is small, 2 pontoons, but all facilities and a nice and welcoming staff. The town is in walking distance and has a large supermarket, called Supermarché. We paid for 5 nights (€176) and were allowed to stay 8! On the river shores grow delicious big fat mussels. On the opposite site of the bay is a very old quarry and loading dock, now a kind of museum. This is definitely worth while to see. We went on our bikes.

Sada marina in the Bay of Betanzos, 43° 21'.7N 8° 14'.6W

Sada marina was a perfect place to stay and a good starting point for a visit to La Coruna and Betanzos, an old fortified town on a mountain and easily to reach by bus. The marina is new; all facilities very clear water and a 15-min walk from the town with all kind of provisions. We paid €264 for 11 nights. On the pontoon legs in the marina grow mussels; we ate them and did not get sick! We used this place to visit the impressive town Santiago de la Compostella by bus. The huge bay may have opportunities for anchoring but we didn't.

Note: We choose Sada marina instead of La Coruna because an American couple told us the anchorage in La Coruna is windy, swell enters and is therefore very uncomfortable. The marina in La Coruna was told to be expensive and crowded and when you gain a place at the jetty, it's very noisy and even there you roll a lot due to the ferry's coming and going.

Camarinas anchorage, 43°12'.3N 9°13'.9W

Anchorage is inside the breakwater of Camarinas harbour in the Bay of Camarinas and stayed only for the night. There were a few other boats at anchor, the marina; a small pontoon was too small for us. We didn't go ashore so we don't know anything about the place.

Ensenada de San Francisco anchorage, 42°45'.4N 9°4'.2W

We only stayed one night at this nice anchorage in front of a sandy beach. The anchorage is situated in the Ria de Muros.

Portosin anchorage, 42°46'.03N 8°56'.7W

This anchorage is deeper into the Ria de Muros. We went there because of a forecasted strong wind. The anchorage is just north of the breakwater and entrance of Portosin marina. The holding in 7-8m is excellent (mud), we had a 6-7 Bft and were perfectly alright. We stayed at the boat for 2 days and saw a lot of fisherman in tiny boats around us during the day fishing for clams; it looked very hard work in rain and strong winds.

Vilagarcia marina, 42°36'.0N 8°46'.4W

The marina is at the very end of Ria de Arousa. This Ria is packed with mussel farms and you cannot sail here at night! We stayed 3 nights in the marina for €61,- it's a small marina with all facilities and friendly staff, near town. In the huge Ria are probably anchor possibilities as well.

Cangas anchorage, 42°15'6N 8°46'4W

Cangas anchorage is in Ria de Vigo opposite the town Vigo. We went into Vigo marina but it was very crowded. The only spot they had for us was near the entrance. We didn't like the spot, the mooring lines were too short and all the incoming and outgoing boats passed us causing a lot of waves. Therefore we anchored for 1 night on the other side of the Ria at Cangas and sadly did not visit the town Vigo. The anchorage is OK but too far away to go ashore by a slow dinghy.

Atlantic South Coast

La Linea marina

We have not been in this fairly new marina, but friends have spent there a few weeks in October 2015. SV Dutch-Link: Marina is spacy and has good toilet facilities. Fees for 15m in high season €31,=/night, low season half of it.

La Linea anchorage, 36° 09'.42N 05° 21'

Anchoring inside the breakwaters of La Linea is forbidden as of 2015, see the notice boards. Only outside the breakwaters is anchoring allowed, and you are more exposed to the prevailing winds. La Linea is just north of Gibraltar and is Spanish. We left dinghy in the tiny marina (left hand side, inside the breakwaters) at the first pontoon underneath the marina restaurant. For €5,=/a day (2010), pay at the desk at the entrance which you will reach by walking through the restaurant. On foot it's a 20 minutes' walk to the border to visit Gibraltar. Supermarket Mercadona is a 10 min walk from the marina, Lidl is a 30 min walk.

Cadiz marina, 36° 32'.5N 06° 16'.9W

Puerto America marina (Junta marina) Not a sophisticated one was €20,=/n in **2004** but €33,10/n in **2010**. All facilities available even e washing machine and drier. The town is a 20 minutes' walk away. Beautiful old town, worth a visit, especially the cathedral in the old centre is splendid.

Cadiz anchorage, 36° 31'.42N 6° 16'.21W

We found this spot with C-map in **2004**. A nice anchorage, good holding (gluttonous mud) and is opposite a tiny marina for small motorboats. In **2010** there was an on-going enormous building project of the new bridge of which one of the pillars was just outside the tiny marina. In **2015** the bridge work was finished and anchoring in or outside the line of yellow buoys was still allowed. There is no noise at the anchorage from the traffic on the bridge. We left the dinghy at the pontoon at the entrance of the marina, told the marinero we were shopping and everything was OK. We also were allowed to fill up the jerry cans with water from the tap at the pontoon. It was still possible in 2015. There are 3 floating pontoons (SB-side of the marina) with steps leading to the street, but we did not leave the dinghy there unattended. We only used it to go to the street water tap (good quality) near the pedestrian X-ing. Opposite is a "Cortes de Ingles" shopping mall with free Wi-Fi and a huge Hypercor supermarket is a 5 min walk from the marina. You see both from the anchorage. In 2010 a Mercadona

supermarket with high standard veggies' and fruits was nearby, leaving the marina, turn left and follow the promenade until you reach the supermarket.

Ayamonte marina, 37° 12'.6N 07° 24'.24W

Ayamonte marina is the most western marina of the "Junta de Puertos de Andalucia" marina's, situated 3 nm up the Guardiana river along the eastern side. Follow the Pilot's information upon entering the estuary of the Guardiana River to be sure to pass the sandbank in the entrance safely. Thereafter entering the marina is not a problem (2011) and beyond the narrow entrance there is enough space for manoeuvring and 8 floating pontoons for berthing. All pontoons have long fingers, electricity and water at every berth. The pontoon doors operate by card, only. A 24-hours security, there are no washing machines or Wi-Fi at the moment (although they advertise they have). Shower block near the office. As long as the marina Wi-Fi is not working, Wi-Fi is to obtain from the internet cafe opposite the marina, bring your laptop and/or Wi-Fi-antenna so the manager is able to give you access to the signal (from 1 day up to whatever you want and willing to pay) you pay in advance. Good signal on the boat! Walking from the marina to the internet shop, you pass the excellent chandler Ayamar (owners are a Dutch/English couple and both speak many languages), see at www.ayamar.eu lots on stock, is willing to order and they are a great help if you have broken parts (for example welding stainless steel, he knows where to go). When you want spare parts send to you in Ayamonte, the chandler will allow you to send it to this shop. To get your washing done, go to the chandler too, there is a washing machine to your convenience in the back of the shop. There are several supermarkets in town.

The ferry to Vila Real de St Antonio (Portugal), departs every hour from the quay north of the marina entrance.

Guardiana anchorage

The Guardiana River is used by many boats to anchor even up to Alcoutim. We didn't because we were there in February and the current was very strong due to heavy rainfall. When you anchor south of the marina entrance, you are out of the way of the ferry and fishing boats. For a visit to town whilst at anchor, you can leave the dinghy at one of the steps at the quay opposite the marina

Rota marina, 36° 36'.9N 06° 21'.1W

Junta marina with all facilities and the staff is friendly. A 15-min walk to the nice little town with a variety of shops. Internet (@) in library for free. Not too cheap but not too expensive either.

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