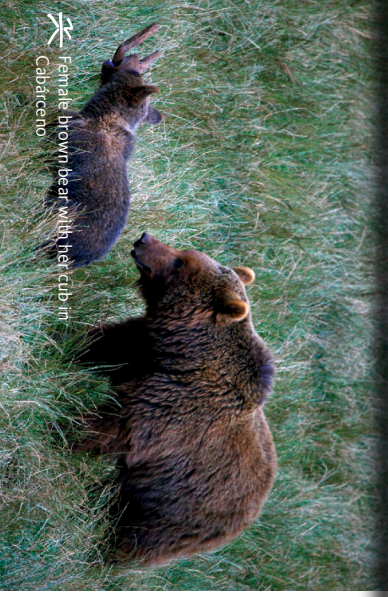




Church of Astillero and La Planchará park



Female brown bear with her cub in Cabárceno



Sunset at Liaño

In the inside of the church, the 18th century altarpiece in the aisle on the Gospel side, in a Churrigueresque style, which was originally in the first church, is especially noteworthy. Attention must be paid also to the sculpture of the dead Christ in the tomb, by the artist from Santoña Víctor de los Ríos.

CABARCENO NATURE PARK

Located within the Natural Park of Peña Cabarga, this unique space houses animals from all five continents. Animals live in semi-liberty within large premises where they co-exist with one or several species.

Therefore it is not an ordinary zoo, but a place that also offers a unique environment surrounded by karst formations brought about by former iron mining in the area.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

The St. Joseph Church is located on the town of El Astillero, where the Villaseca Natural Trail comes to an end. It was built in 1720 and enlarged in 1746 with two chapels on the wall opposing the tower. This original chapel was demolished in 1890, and on the same place a larger church with an octagonal plan was built. This building was also demolished in 1947 and a new church was built, featuring a central nave and two aisles in Romanesque Revival style and a ceiling in Mudéjar Revival Style, as well as a bell tower for two bells.

1. The Villaseca Nature Trail starts at the Cabárceno Nature Park, runs through the town of Obregón and goes on along a paved road, surrounded by green meadows, up to an intersection. At this point, the route turns right and runs along an uphill path that flattens out further on.
2. As the route skirts some houses, it enters a small forest with oaks, maples, ash trees, chestnut trees and strawberry trees. Once past the forest, the first houses of the town of Villanueva can be seen.
3. The trail leads to the old train station of La Concha, now refurbished to house municipal facilities, and goes on along a meadow area surrounded by maples, laurels, oaks, chestnut trees and holm oaks. Further on, it crosses the La Concha road and then it moves ahead, now surrounded by cornfields and pastures and running past a small resting area near the town of Liaño.
4. As the trail continues, it crosses the busy S-432 municipal road and the old premises of a brick factory.
5. The Solía sea inlet is then crossed through an iron bridge, where the trail enters the industrialised town of Astillero.
6. Here, the route runs through the La Planchará park and ends next to the mineral loading bay of Orconera. To round off the hike, this spot offers sweeping views of the Solía sea inlet which flows into the Bay of Santander.

SECTOR
NORTHWESTERN PENINSULAR
NATURE TRAIL
VILLAESCUSA

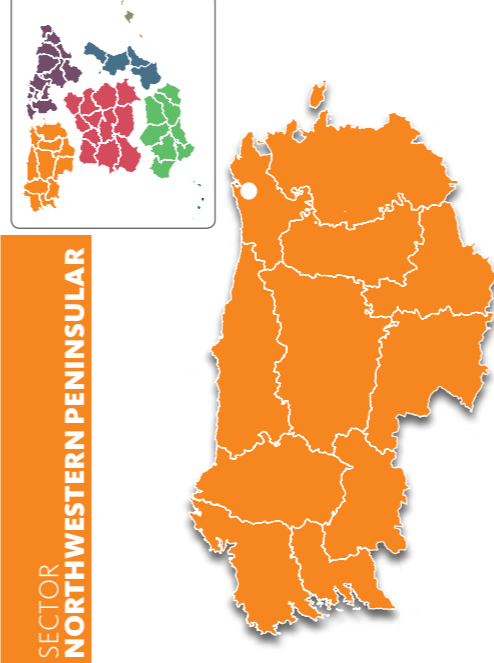


MEADOWS AMIDST WILD FAUNA AND THE SEA

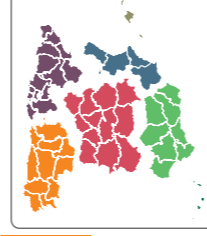
This nature trail is located to the North-East of Cantabria, in the vicinity of the Bay of Santander. It is 7.5 km in length and follows the old railway track between Astillero and Ontaneda.

The municipality of Villaseca stretches at the foot of the mountains within the Natural Park Macizo de Peña Cabarga and comprises the towns of La Concha, Liaño, Obregón and Villanueva.

The long-standing mining tradition in this area has brought about a spectacular landscape of reddish calcareous pinnacles scattered between Villaseca and Penagos.



SECTOR
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Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and the Environment's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

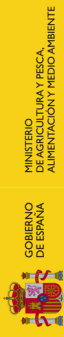
These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

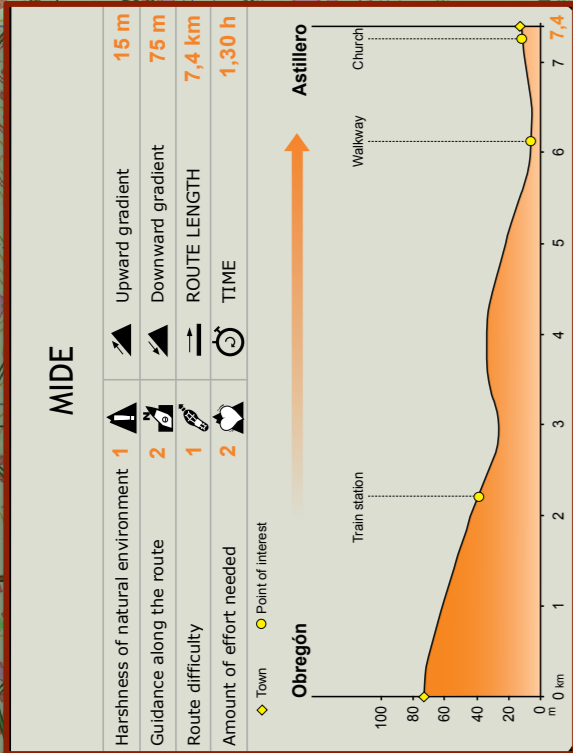
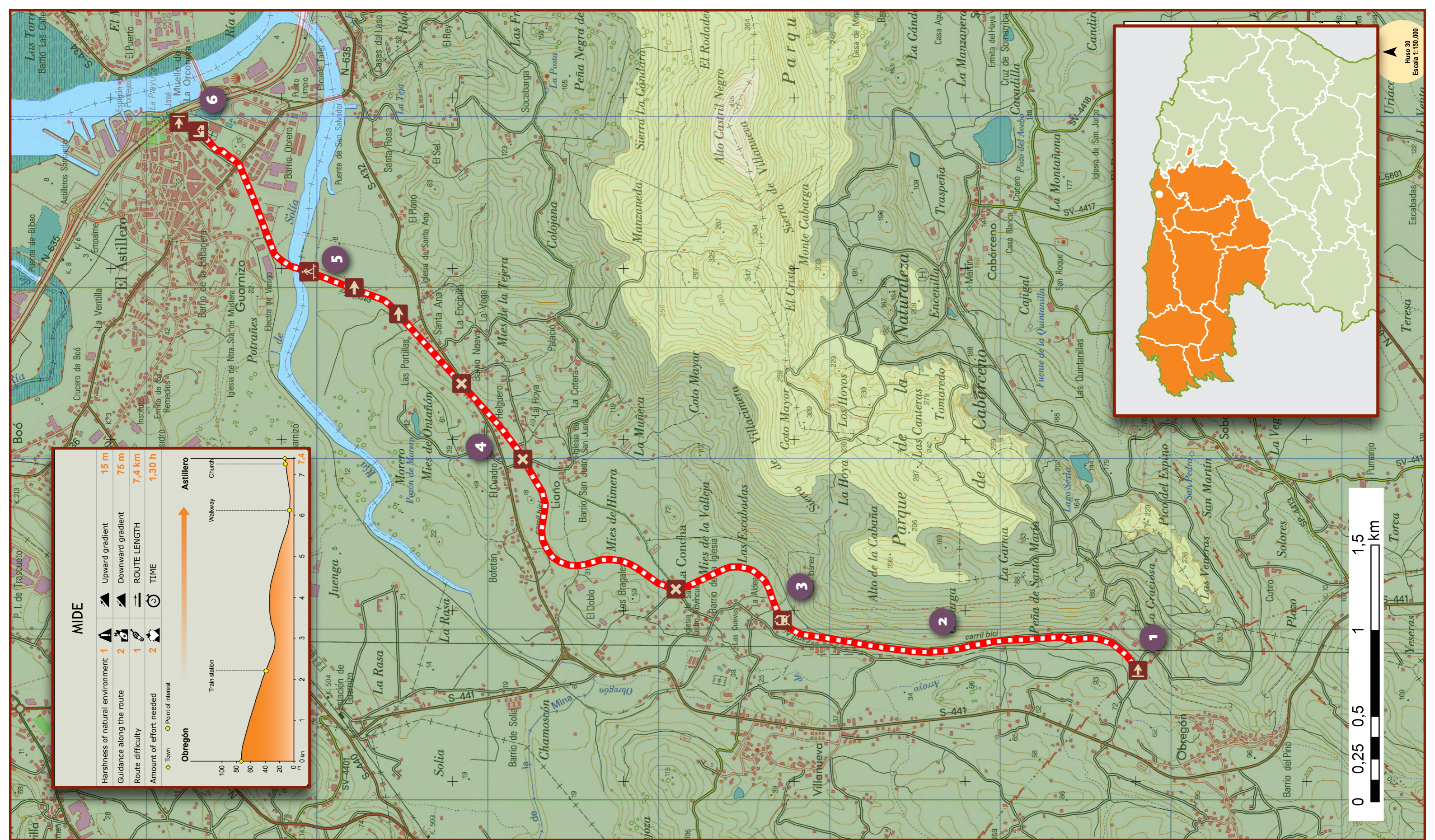
We invite you to visit them and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. In this brochure you will find a brief description of Villaseca Nature Trail and the map for the journey, along with recommendations to make the most of this experience. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

TELEPHONES OF INTEREST:

- City Council of Villaseca: 0034 942 55 50 47
- City Council of Astillero: 0034 942 54 00 18

**NATURE TRAIL
VILLAESCUSA**





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NATURE TRAIL VILLAESCUSA

- Starting point
- End of trail
- Train station
- Junction
- Walkway
- Underpass