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*Centro de recepción de visitantes  
de Burgos*

 **BURGOS**  
AYUNTAMIENTO

Disfruta,  
es Burgos.



Museum of Human Evolution's exterior

# Burgos **24** hours



Although 24 hours is a short period of time to get to know Burgos, we suggest a tour around its most significant sites as first contact with this history-rich city to which you will want to return.



When thinking of Burgos, perhaps the first thing that comes to mind is the famous Cathedral, and more recently you may have heard about the Atapuerca Sites "Yacimientos de la Sierra de Atapuerca" and the Museum of Human Evolution "Museo de la Evolución Humana".

To make the most of your stay in the city and to coordinate the short amount of time you have available with the monuments' visiting hours, we suggest the following itinerary.

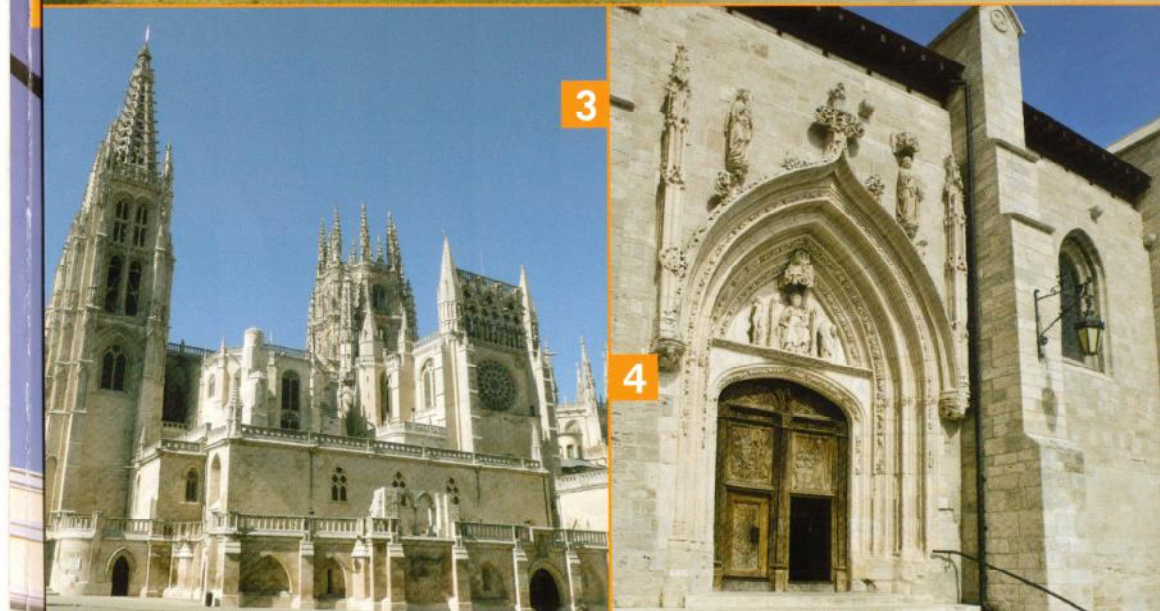
## Morning

Many travellers who arrive to this city for the first time go directly to the Cathedral, which will be our first point of reference on this tour, but we suggest another monument to start with: **The Royal Monastery of Las Huelgas "El Real Monasterio de las Huelgas"** **1**, located in an area with a medieval flavour. The Monastery is part of a residential complex founded in 1187 by Alfonso VIII of Castile and his wife Leonor Plantagenet. Designed for the Royal Pantheon in the medieval period, it was entrusted to the Order of the Cistercian. Apart from its rich architecture that features a great symbiosis of Christian and Muslim art, it has a superb collection of the Monarchy's apparel, with fabrics decorated with Oriental and Christian motifs, exhibited in the Museum of Rich Fabrics "Museo de Ricas Telas".

Heading back to the old quarter, following the River Arlanzón "Río Arlanzón", we find **St. Mary's Arch "Arco de Santa María"** **2**. It used to be the main entrance of this medieval city and was adorned with statues of distinguished figures of Burgos in the XVI century in order to commemorate the visit of the King Charles V, who was depicted in the centre of the group of sculptures. Today, the Arch's rooms and Pharmacy Museum are opened to the public and invites visitors to enter and enjoy one of the most beautiful views of the Cathedral.

**The Cathedral of Burgos "La Catedral de Burgos"** **3** was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1984 and is one of the first examples of gothic art in Spain. We suggest you enjoy the outside surrounding its perimeter. From King St. Fernando's Square "Plaza del Rey San Fernando" go up to Saint Mary's Square "Plaza de Santa María" to admire the impressive main façade and its characteristic spires.

While walking up the street "Calle Fernán González" you'll arrive at a vista where you can appreciate the grandeur of the Cathedral. The end of the steps lead you to the door of **the church of Saint Nicolas de Bari "Iglesia de San Nicolás de Bari"** **4** which stone altarpiece deserves a visit along the cathedral's tour. Here you'll find two more beautiful vistas. The first is next to Castilfalé Palace "Palacio de Castilfalé", from where you can observe the beautiful spires and the dome's filigree. Located a bit further down from here, you'll find the second vista where you can observe the Constable Chapel "Capilla de los Condestables" and the door of the Pellejería "Puerta de la Pellejería".





From this point, located at the bottom the staircase you'll find Llana de Afuera Street "Calle de la Llana de Afuera" and rounding the cathedral is Paloma Street "Calle de la Paloma". Following the wall of the cloister, you'll arrive once again at King Saint Fernando Square "Plaza del Rey San Fernando" and the entrance of the cathedral - the gothic door of the Sarmental. The cathedral contains so many chapels and treasures that they are difficult to enumerate on a short list, however the beautiful altarpiece of St. Anne's Chapel "Capilla de Santa Ana", the originality of the golden staircase, the grandeur of the Contestables' Chapel "Capilla de los Condestables" and the beauty of the fine work of the dome won't go unnoticed.

The surroundings of the Cathedral still have their original medieval charm. Its pedestrian streets invite you to go for a peaceful walk and enjoy the shops and the "tapas" bars of the streets all of which meet in the **Main Square "Plaza Mayor"** **5**, the nerve centre of the city; known as the Square of the Lower Market due to the activities that once developed there.

This would be a good moment to take a break and get your strength back. Burgos offers a great variety of foods that will surprise you.




## Afternoon

From within the Main Square "Plaza Mayor" near the City Hall "Casa Consistorial", you'll find an arcade that leads to the tree-lined promenade of **Espolón Way "Paseo del Espolón"** **6**, a place where visitors and Burgaleses meet. It's worth a walk to enjoy the magnificence of the gardens, the many trees with their shaded spaces and the historic buildings. At one end you'll find Saint Mary's Arch "Arco de Santa María" and on the other the Regional Council Hall "Palacio de la Diputación" and the Main Theatre "Teatro Principal". The theatre's front façade is located in the square of the Mío Cid "Plaza del Mío Cid" where you can see the **equestrian statue of the Cid** **7**, whose figure became a legend thanks to the pens of writers and minstrels.

Near the plaza Mío Cid you'll find the late fifteenth century **Cordón House "Casa del Cordón"** **8** in Liberty Square "Plaza de la Libertad", which owes its name to the Franciscan cord that lines its main façade. It served as accommodation to kings and a stage of visits like that of Christopher Columbus upon returning from his second trip to America, and the tragic event of the death of Philip the Handsome "Felipe el Hermoso" in 1506.





Returning to the Plaza Mío Cid and crossing the sculpture-lined bridge of St. Paul "San Pablo" you'll find the Human Evolution complex "Complejo de la Evolución Humana", the architectural work of Juan Navarro Baldeweg. **The Museum of Human Evolution "Museo de la Evolución Humana"**  occupies the centre building wrapped by two others, the National Centre of Investigation of Human Evolution "Centro Nacional de Investigación de la Evolución Humana" and the Conference Centre and Auditorium "Palacio de Congresos y Auditorio".

The museum shows the complex in visual form, simple and didactic, and amazing advances in research on the origin and evolution of man on our planet. Its visit is essential and perfectly complements the nearby sites declared a World Heritage Site. Without doubt, it's the best starting point to commence on the exciting world of human evolution.

For more information: [www.museoevolucionhumana.com](http://www.museoevolucionhumana.com)



The Visitor Reception Centre of Burgos welcomes you and offers all the information you need to schedule your stay in our city.

In its interpretation room you'll discover the rich heritage and history of the city as well as routes to walk its streets and unique corners.

*Don't forget to plan your visit by consulting the schedules on the web:*

**[www.aytoburgos.es](http://www.aytoburgos.es)**

We hope this tour of Burgos has been to your liking and that you have discovered that there are many more reasons to be attracted to our beautiful city.

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