

## About Baiona and the University of Vigo



**Baiona** ([www.baiona.org](http://www.baiona.org)) is a fishing town considered a gem of Galicia. It was the most important Galician harbour in ancient times, and the first place in the Old World to hear of the discovery of the "New World" when the caravel "La Pinta", captained by Martin Alonso Pinzon, put into port on the first of March 1493. Baiona is 20 kms from Vigo, the biggest and most populous city of Galicia and the most active fishing port in Europe. Baiona is about 100 Kms from Porto, Portugal, and almost the same distance from Santiago de Compostela. Another historic attraction of Baiona is a Middle Age fortress built on a peninsula to protect Baiona and the Val Miñor coast, with further additions in the XV and XVI Centuries. The fortress was recently restored as the hotel "Parador Conde de Gondomar" and now enchants both locals and visitors alike with its strength, beauty and style. This renovated historic castle echoes with memories of a great personage, Diego Sarmiento de Acuña, the 1st Count of Gondomar, one of the most brilliant Spanish politicians of the XVII Century.



**The University of Vigo** is a young University created in 1990 by segregation of several Schools and Faculties from the University of Santiago de Compostela, one of the oldest Universities in Spain with a five hundred year history. The Department of Analytical and Food Chemistry is one of the four Chemistry Departments within the Faculty of Chemistry. The research areas of interest of this Department deal with Analytical Chemistry, Nutrition and Toxicology both in Environment and Food fields.