

HERICOAST

Field visit related to the good practices Castilla Waterway

REPORT

VENUE: Castilla Waterway (Medina de Rioseco, Fromista and Herrera de Pisuergra) 4th May of 2017

39 people attended the field visit, the list of participants is in an annex to this report.



The group at the dock of Medina de Rioseco next to the Flour Factory of Saint Antonio by Benito Arnaiz.

The field visit includes the visit to three locations linked to the good practices provided during the workshop: Medina de Rioseco, Fromista and Herrera de Pisuergra.

- **1st visit to the dock of Medina de Rioseco in the branch of Campos.**

The Mayor of Medina de Rioseco Mr. Artemio Dominguez welcomed us and he told us that thanks to the acquisition of **the Flour Factory of Saint Antonio** of the dock, it has been preserved with its machinery and it was inaugurated as a museum in 2005, the beautification of the surrounding of the Castilla waterway and the recovery of the navigability through the Castilla waterway, they have got to become the Castilla waterway in a touristic place in which different activities are developed around the Castilla waterway such as Horse Fair, the arrival of the three Kings at Christmas, concerts, exhibitions . The Mayor of Medina de Rioseco told us that of all activities that are developed around the Castilla Waterway he was very proud of the celebration of arrival of the three Kings at Christmas where the participation of the population of the town is very important. They convert the Castilla waterway in a magic place where the little kids see their dreams come true.



The Mayor of Medina de Rioseco explaining the good practice in the Interpretation Center by Benito Arnaiz.

This visit also included a trip by boat “Antonio de Ulloa” through the Castilla Canal” to the lock number 7.



The boat trip through the Castilla Waterway in Medina de Rioseco by Benito Arnaiz.

- 2nd visit to the Lock Keeper's House in Fromista, the Crossroad of the Canal with the Way of Saint James in the North Branch.



Lock's keeper house in Fromista by Benito Arnaiz.

The Mayor of Fromista Fernando Diez Mediavilla told us that the Lock Keeper's House was transferred by the Duero Hydrographic Confederation to the Local Government of Fromista. This old Lock Keeper's House is part of the asset that constitutes the Castilla waterway declared of Cultural Interest with category of Set Historical. It is located in the crossing of the Way of Saint James with the Castilla waterway, it turns into a **point of touristic information** for the visitors and pilgrims who come attracted by the Way of Saint James, and by the Romanesque art of the town where some volunteers help pilgrims who pass by the Way of Saint James. More than 8,500 people came into the tourist information office looking for some information about the Castilla Waterway. The Mayor highlighted all this has been useful for an economic development of Fromista.



Pilgrims through the Castilla waterway in Fromista by Benito Arnaiz.

Thanks to the installation of a technology computer they know that more than 168,000 people have passed through there.

The City Council of Fromista carried out the repair of the roof with funds of the Provincial government, the building consists of a part which was destined for housing and it has rectangular form and a store where there is information material and rental bikes.

The building is rehabilitated and it is provided with infrastructure enough to take advantage of it to sociocultural events, place of exhibitions or conferences and which serves as a space for the needs of the waterway.

- **3rd visit to the walkway and bike parking in Herrera de Pisuergra in the North Branch.**

The Mayor of Herrera welcomed us and we gave a trip by boat **Marques de la Ensenada** where the council woman of tourism Ana San Millán explained us thoroughly the good practice related to the construction of the walkway over the Pisuergra river and the cross of the Castilla waterway.



Boat Marques de la Ensenada in Herrera de Pisuerga with the walkway by Benito Arnaiz

The walkway over the Pisuerga river in the cross with the Castilla waterway is the result of the collective and individual demands so that the towpath of the Castilla waterway could continue from the beginning to the end.

The most important obstacle of the route was that when reaching a point of the towpath in Herrera de Pisuerga, it was cut due to the crossing of the river Pisuerga with the Castilla waterway and the visitors (walkers or cyclists), who make the route of the Castilla waterway, were forced to take a long detour away from the waterway which in many cases leads to their being lost, having to circulate for national roads with heavy traffic or even crossing the river by the railway bridge and it was very risky for them.

Taking into account this situation, the Provincial Government of Palencia in coordination with the Hydrographic Confederation of the Duero, and the permission of the Ministry of Culture, it started the construction of the walkway for pedestrians and cyclists.

There has been constructed a suspension bridge that crosses the Pisuerga river from the towpath to the left margin of the river. It has been built through a non –aggressive process, without invading the waterway and respecting most of vegetation of the area.



Bike parking in Herrera de Pisuerga by Benito Arnaiz.

Linked to this, there arises the need to create a bike parking so that the visitors who travel the towpath by bicycle, they could leave their bikes in a safe place and enjoy the environment walking. Three modules have been placed with capacity for 9 bikes, they work as lockers with independent doors with their respective locking keys so that each user can keep their bikes independently.

CONCLUSIONS.

Participants were very interested in the management of the Cultural Heritage of the Castilla waterway and in the way the local authorities have managed to perform all these facilities and services.

The general Director of the Board of Castilla and Leon Heritage Mr. Enrique Sáiz accompanied us, he hold a press conference where highlighted the importance of the collaboration between the different institutions public and private to promote the Cultural Heritage in Castilla and Leon. It's significant the boost given by the administration in order to maintain the heritage and the importance of this meeting between European partners for the exchange of experiences to transmit the value that these places bring to the society, understanding of people and the understanding of Europe.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

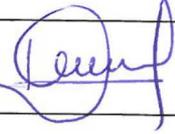
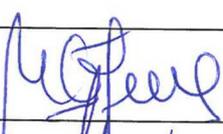
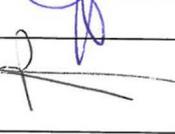
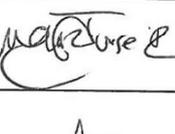
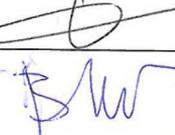
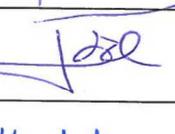
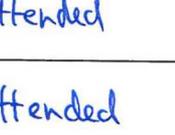
MANAGEMENT OF HERITAGE IN COASTAL LANDSCAPES- HERICOAST 4-05-2017

FIELD VISIT VALLADOLID (SPAIN)

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