

SAYALONGA

UNIQUE PROVINCIAL TOURIST FEAST

Day of the Medlar 🍷

First Sunday in May

The medlar, which was imported from the East, became a very popular fruit, which was cultivated in very few places in Spain. This fruit has become so important in Sayalongo that its feast has now been declared an Andalusian Feast of Interest to Tourists.

At the beginning of May, when spring starts in the Axarquía, the inhabitants of Sayalongo pay tribute to its principal product with a feast that is based on the tasting of the sweet fruit and the jam produced with it; all this is washed down by the excellent local wine and the medlar liqueur. All the small yet charming bars and restaurants do their utmost to look after visitors.

Meanwhile, roving musicians, choirs and dance groups perform on a stage set up in Plaza del Ayuntamiento,

where visitors can listen to fandangos and watch typical dances.

OTHER FEASTS OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS

Día of Andalucía

28 February

This is the first feast of the year in the town. There are performances by bands and dance groups to celebrate this great day. The Town Hall presents all the young people in the town who turn 18 with a memento to mark this important day in their lives.

Holy Week

End of March or beginning of April

Mass is celebrated on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at 9 p.m. in the church of Saint Catherine. After this, the processions leave to wind their way through the main streets of the town; there is a massive following of faithful followed by the Sayalonga Band.



MEDLAR JAM

Ingredients:

1 kilo of medlars, juice of 1 lemon, ½ kilo of sugar.

FOR THE JAM:

Various 200 ml. jars which can be sealed.

METHOD OF PREPARATION:

- 1.- Peel and seed the medlars. Place them in a pan over a low heat along with the juice of the lemon.
- 2.- When it boils for several minutes, pour in the sugar. Stir frequently until it takes on color, and then wait.
- 3.- This jam can be kept for some time if, once

made, it is placed in clean glass jars which are sealed and then heated up in a bain marie for an hour.



On Easter Sunday, the mass is held at midday, and this is followed by an emotional procession, which includes the band.

Art Day

September

Sayalonga's great love for art led to the creation of a day dedicated to art in the town. It attracts over 50 artists who exhibit around 200 works. This exhibition also includes sculptors, wrought iron craftsmen and other artists.

The Art Day's Exhibition is held in Plaza D. Rafael Alcoba, where visitors can see the magnificent Works of art from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

This cultural event is becoming increasingly established and attracts a greater number of visitors every year.

Pilgrimage of the Virgin of the Rosary

7 October

The day's most spectacular event is the Marian Procession, during which the statue of the Virgin is taken on a pilgrimage, hailed by the local inhabitants and accompanied by fireworks from the church to a spot next to the river Algarrobo, a place known as El Lavadero (the Wash Place). There, the traditional paella competition, the wine tasting and the open air dance take place. The Virgin bids farewell at sunset, amidst traditional singing. ■

FEASTS & FESTIVALS

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