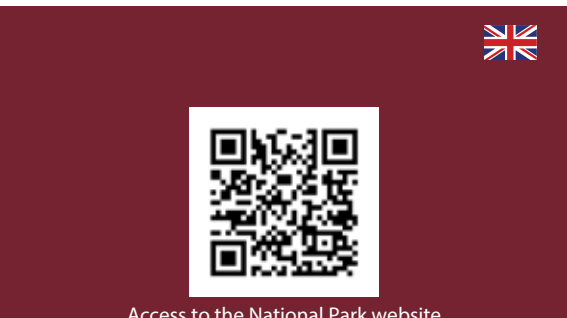


- Don't forget that it is not allowed:
- Camping
  - Hunting
  - Throwing away garbage
  - Disturbing fauna and damaging flora
  - Paragliding and hang-gliding
  - Swimming in rivers and lakes
  - Having a picnic
  - Making fires
  - Making very loud noises
  - Using drones



# PICOS DE EUROPA

PARQUE NACIONAL



Access to the National Park website

**Data sheet**

Name: PICOS DE EUROPA  
Protection figure: National Park  
Autonomous Communities: Principality of Asturias - Cantabria - Castilla y León  
Provinces: Asturias - Cantabria - León  
Surface: 67.455 has  
Creation date: P. N. Montaña de Covadonga July 22, 1918  
P. N. Picos de Europa May 30, 1995

**Addresses**

Headquarters  
C/Arquitecto Reguera, 13 - 33004 Oviedo (Asturias)  
Tel. 985 24 14 12 - Fax: 985 27 39 45 - E-mail: registro@pnpeues

Administrative and information office "Casa Dago"  
Av. De Covadonga, 43 - 33550 Cangas de Onís (Asturias)  
Tel. 985 84 86 14 Fax: 985 84 86 99

Administrative and information office of Posada de Valdeón  
El Ferial s/n - 24915 Posada de Valdeón (León) - Tel. 987 74 05 49

Administrative office and visitor center of "Sotama"  
Av. Luis Cuevas, 2A - 39584 Tama, Cillorgo de Liebana (Cantabria) - Tel. 942 73 81 09

National Park website: [www.parquenacionalpicoseuropa.es](http://www.parquenacionalpicoseuropa.es)  
National Parks Network website: [www.mapama.gob.es](http://www.mapama.gob.es)  
/es/red-parques-nacionales/nuestros-parques-picos-europa/  
Reservation Center (to participate in Guided Summer Routes): [www.reservasparquesnacionales.es](http://www.reservasparquesnacionales.es)

**Recognitions**

Organismo Autónomo Parques Nacionales  
Depósito legal: XXXXXXXX NIPO: XXXXXXXX

**Tips and safety**

The transit through the Park implies respect for the peace and conservation of these places:

- Do not disturb domestic or wild animals or alter any other natural element.
- As far as possible, return waste to the city, limiting the use of bins, and never dump or abandon waste outside the areas reserved for it.
- Storms are frequent.
- Avoid ridges or prominences exposed to lightning, as well as flooding rivers or streams.
- Prepare the excursions in detail. Bring the right gear for each activity.
- Find out about the weather forecasts. Attention to sudden changes in weather.
- Do not overrate your own strength. Go accompanied. Calculate the return time.
- Wet surfaces, especially rocks, are very slippery.
- If you get lost due to fog or other cause, keep calm and ask for help. Do not try to move at night or through unfamiliar terrain.
- For rescue or emergencies call 112.

- Signposted routes**
- | WALKING TRAILS                             | LONG DISTANCE                          | HIGH MOUNTAIN                    |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 PR1 Ruta de Frassinelli                  | 23 PR23 Horcados Rojos                 | 34 PR34 Sierra de Cocón          |
| 2 PR2 Ruta de Los Lagos                    | 24 PR24 Puertos de Áliva               | 35 PR35 La Farfada               |
| 3 PR3 Ruta del Cares                       | 25 PR25 Vega de Liordes                | 201 GR201 Senda del Arcediano    |
| 4 PR4 Vega de Ario                         | 26 PR26 Hayedo de Las Ilces            | 202 GR202 Ruta de la Reconquista |
| 5 PR5 Vegarredonda - Ordiales              | 27 PR27 Brez - Canal de las Arredondas |                                  |
| 6 PR6 Orandi                               | 28 PR28 Macizo de Ándara               |                                  |
| 7 PR7 La Jocica - Carombo                  | 29 PR29 El Picayo                      |                                  |
| 8 PR8 Demués - Los Lagos                   |  |                                  |
| 9 PR9 Soto - Vegabano                      |  |                                  |
| 10 PR10 Pueblos de Sajambre                |  |                                  |
| 11 PR11 Pandrueadas - Posada de Valdeón    |  |                                  |
| 12 PR12 Vega de Llos                       |  |                                  |
| 13 PR13 Cueva de Santibañas                |  |                                  |
| 14 PR14 Montó (Valle de Prada)             |  |                                  |
| 15 PR15 Senda del Mercadillo               |  |                                  |
| 16 PR16 Cordiñanes - Collado Jermoso       |  |                                  |
| 17 PR17 Entorno de Tresviso                |  |                                  |
| 18 PR18 Jou de los Cabrones                |  |                                  |
| 19 PR19 Canal de Camburero                 |  |                                  |
| 20 PR20 Monte Camba (Tielve - Sotres)      |  |                                  |
| 21 PR21 Vega de Urriellu                   |  |                                  |
| 22 PR22 Peña Oviedo (El Cable - Mogrovejo) |  |                                  |



THE NATIONAL PARK

Picos de Europa, located north of the Iberian Peninsula, also include the Western Massif, which made up the old Covadonga Mountain National Park, the Central and Eastern Massifs and the valleys of the Sella rivers (in its section in León) and Cares (in León and Asturias), and the right bank of Upper Deva (in Cantabria). The Central Massif is the one with the highest altitude and steepest reliefs. Here it is find the maximum height of the entire Cantabrian Mountains, the Torrecerredo Peak with 2.648 m, as well as other peaks such as Llambrión, Peña Vieja and Picu Urriellu (or Naranjo de Bulnes). The Western Massif is the most extensive, and has a softer relief towards the north slope, where the Enol and La Ercina lakes are located, which are accessed by road from the Sanctuary of Covadonga. The highest peak of the Western Massif is the Peña Santa de Castilla with 2.596 m. The Eastern Massif is the smallest, of which its southeast slope stands out, which rises imposingly over the Cantabrian region of Liébana. La Morra de Lechugales, with 2.444 m is its highest altitude. The rest of the National Park is made up of the valleys that surround the limestone mass of the Picos de Europa, with thickets and Atlantic forests of beech and oak on its slopes and small villages at the bottom of the valleys. It is a humanized space, in which traditional uses have contributed to the formation of its unique landscape. However, human activity has not prevented it from being preserved.



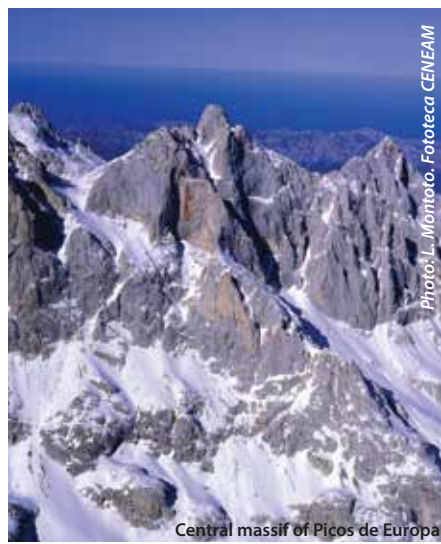
SOCIOECONOMIC AREA OF INFLUENCE

CANTABRIA: Municipalities of Camaleño, Cillorgo de Liébana and Tresviso.  
CASTILLA Y LEÓN: Municipalities of Oseja de Sajambre and Posada de Valdeón.  
PRINCIPALITY OF ASTURIAS: Municipalities of Amieva, Cabrales, Cangas de Onís, Onís, Peñamellera Alta y Peñamellera Baja.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF NATIONAL PARK HISTORY

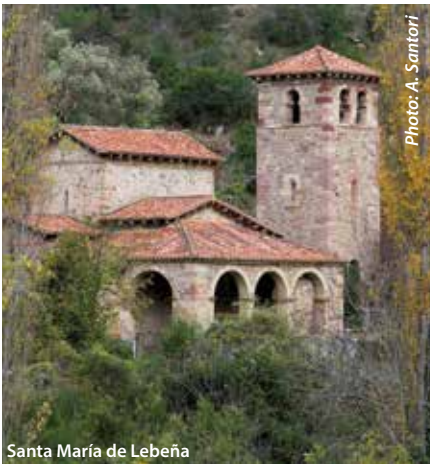
On July 22, 1918, the Covadonga Mountain National Park was declared, giving protection to the Western Massif of the Picos de Europa. It is the first protected natural area to be declared in our country, just a month before the Ordesa Valley National Park. On May 30, 1995, the Declaration Law of the Picos de Europa National Park was published, including the three massifs and the adjacent valleys. And in 2015 the last expansion of the National Park took place, incorporating lands of Peñamellera Alta and Peñamellera Baja, in Asturias. The peaks of the Picos de Europa were the "Mons Vindius" for its original inhabitants, where it was said that "before the waves of the sea will rise than the hosts of Rome". The rediscovery of the Picos de Europa took place in the 19th century, the fruit of the romantic and adventurous spirit of some illustrious foreign visitors, such as the mining engineer Guillermo Schulz, the paleontologist and geologist Hugo Obermaier, the architect, naturalist and draftsman Roberto Frassinelli, the mountaineer and cartographer Aimar D'Arlot (Count of Saint Saud) or the geologist Gustav Schulze. But it was a Spaniard, D. Pedro Pidal and Bernaldo de Quirós, who, from his position as senator, promoted the declaration of what was the first Spanish National Park. One hundred years later, the Picos de Europa National Park is a reality, and constitutes one of the best valued natural spaces in our country.

NETWORK OF NATIONAL PARKS



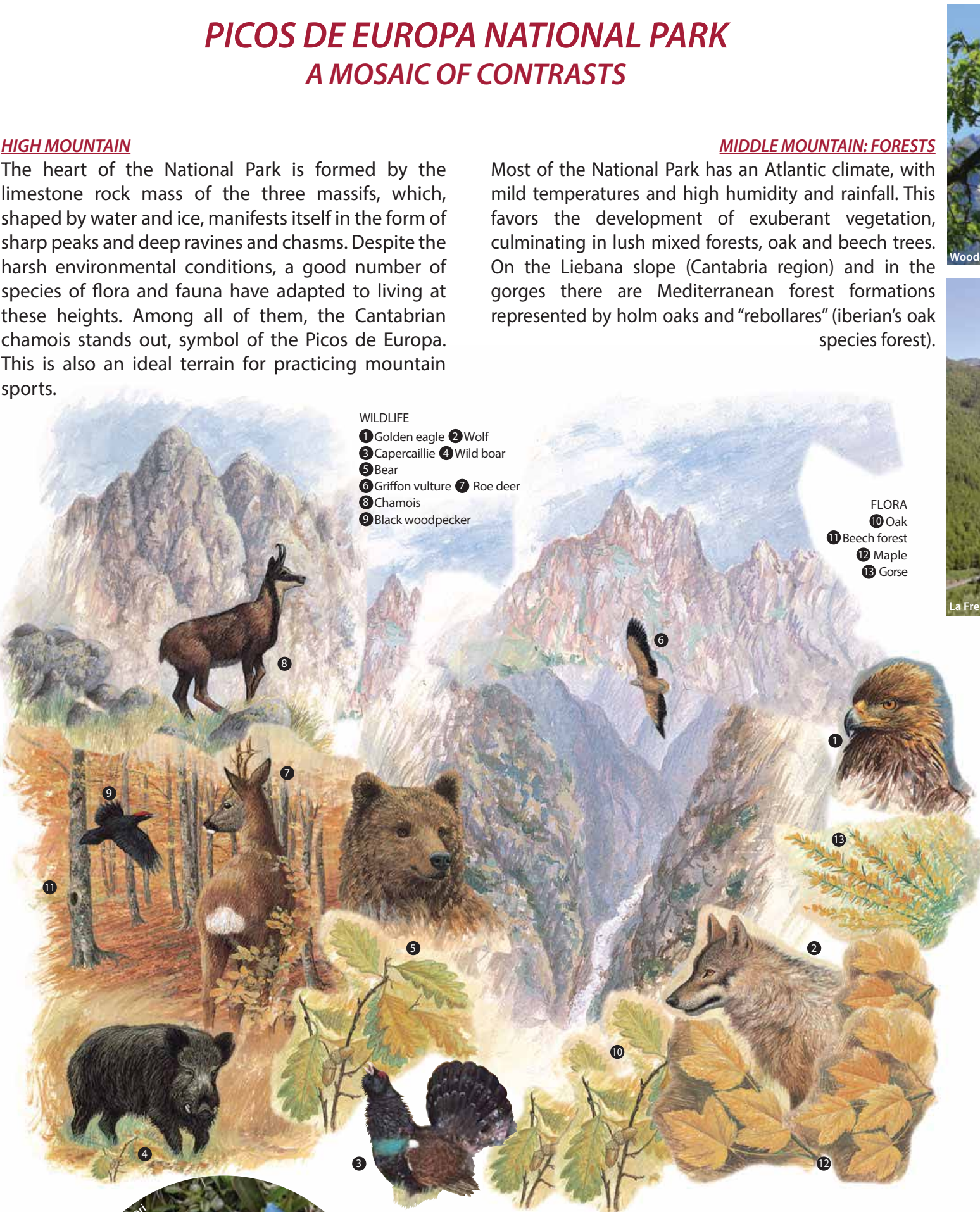
HISTORY AND CULTURE

The environment of the Picos de Europa has been the scene of some of the most important chapters in our history. In Covadonga took place the battle that gave rise to the Reconquest. Other places like Santo Toribio de Liébana, keep treasures that are worthy of important pilgrimages. Churches such as Santa Eulalia de Abamia or Santa María de Lebeña represent magnificent artistic manifestations of remote times.



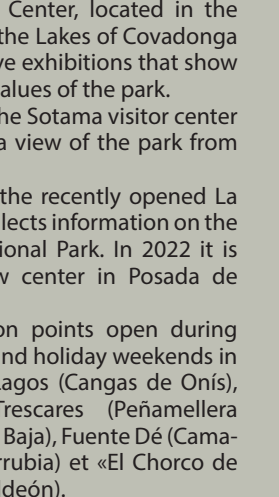
VILLAGES, WINTER SHELTERS AND "MAJADAS" (Temporary high altitude settlements)

If something defines the Picos de Europa National Park, it is its character as a humanized space. Twenty inhabited nuclei, and three municipal areas included entirely in its interior are proof that it is possible to reconcile traditional uses and conservation. The use of high altitude pastures has left a legacy of constructions such as winter ones and the port cabins in the sheepfolds, as a testimony of an activity that is gradually declining.



FLORA AND FAUNA

In the Picos de Europa National Park, 212 species of vertebrates have been cataloged, a third of those present in all of Spain, of which there are 65 species of mammals (55% of those present in Spain) and 117 of birds (32 % of those present in our country). The representation of amphibians is also relevant, with 9 of the 25 species present in Spain. Of the invertebrates, butterflies stand out, with a total of 137 species, more than 60% of the Iberian - Balearic area. Regarding the flora, about 1,750 flora taxa (22% of the Spanish vascular flora) have been inventoried. Among them, we find 157 endemic taxa, which represents 10% of the total iberian - balearic endemic species. According to the methodology of the Atlas of Endangered Flora of Spain, it is a "Very Important Area for Flora".



PICOS DE EUROPA NATIONAL PARK  
A MOSAIC OF CONTRASTS

HIGH MOUNTAIN

The heart of the National Park is formed by the limestone rock mass of the three massifs, which, shaped by water and ice, manifests itself in the form of sharp peaks and deep ravines and chasms. Despite the harsh environmental conditions, a good number of species of flora and fauna have adapted to living at these heights. Among all of them, the Cantabrian chamois stands out, symbol of the Picos de Europa. This is also an ideal terrain for practicing mountain sports.

MIDDLE MOUNTAIN: FORESTS

Most of the National Park has an Atlantic climate, with mild temperatures and high humidity and rainfall. This favors the development of exuberant vegetation, culminating in lush mixed forests, oak and beech trees. On the Liebana slope (Cantabria region) and in the gorges there are Mediterranean forest formations represented by holm oaks and "rebollares" (iberian's oak species forest).



MIDDLE MOUNTAIN: BUSH AND GRASSLANDS

The use that has been made of the territory for millennia has favored the development of pastures that are used by livestock. The scrub, as an intermediate stage between the grassland and the forest, provides protection for birds and small mammals.



RIVERS, LAKES, GORGE AND PEAT LANDS

Water and ice have been the main modeling agents of the landscape. As vestiges of glacierism there have been two lakes, such as the well-known Enol and La Ercina, and some lagoons. The rivers run around or through the limestone massifs at the bottom of deep gorges. Other formations related to water are peat bogs, which keep a rich and varied flora.



ACCESSES AND VISITING AREAS

To the north slope of the Western Massif from Covadonga by the CO-4 road to Los Lagos, and accesses on foot from Demués (Onís) by the Belbin sheepfold.  
To Poncebos from Arenas de Cabrales, and from there on foot to the Ruta del Cares, by funicular to Bulnes, and by car through the AS-264 road to the towns of Tielve, Sotres and Tresviso, from where you can access the Central and East Massifs from the North.  
To Océño from Mildón on the PA-3 road.  
To San Esteban de Cuñaba from the N-621 road by the AS-175 road.  
Walk to Tresviso from Urdón (N-621 road).  
To Bejes from the N-621 road by the CM 22/03 road, and from there walking to the Eastern Massif.  
To the towns of Cosgaya, Espinama, Pido and Fuente Dé from Potes by the CA-185 road, as well as to the towns located on the southern slope of the Eastern Massif. From these points you can access the southern slope of the Central and Eastern Massifs.



To the Valdeón valley through the mountain pass of Pandetrave, from Portilla de la Reina through the LE-2703 road, and through the mountain pass of Panderruedas through the LE-2711 road. From Posada to Cain to access the Cares route, as well as to the Central and Western Massifs.  
To the Sajambre valley through the Pontón pass and through the Beyos gorge on the N-625 road. In Sajambre the southern slope of the Western Massif is accessed through Soto de Sajambre and Vegabaño.  
To Amieva from Ceneya on the N-625 road, and from Amieva to the Angón valley and Senda del Arcediano.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE TO THE PARK AND REGULATION OF ACCESS TO THE LAKES OF COVADONGA

The National Park can be accessed using the existing taxi services in the towns of the area of influence. In order to protect the Picos de Europa National Park, the Access Plan to Los Lagos de Covadonga is launched annually, which regulates access by public transport on the days of maximum influx at Easter, summer and national holiday bridges. The rest of the year can be accessed by private vehicle without any restriction on access. Access to the Sanctuary of Covadonga is free all year round, although it is conditional on the existence of free parking spaces.



VISITORS' CENTERS

The "Pedro Pidal" Visitor Center, located in the Buferrera service area in the Lakes of Covadonga (Asturias) offers interactive exhibitions that show the natural and cultural values of the park. On the Cantabrian side, the Sotama visitor center (located at Tama) offers a view of the park from the Liébana region.  
In Oseja de Sajambre is the recently opened La Fons-ya center, which collects information on the Leonese side of the National Park. In 2022 it is planned to open a new center in Posada de Valdeón.  
The Park has information points open during Easter, summer months and holiday weekends in Santillán (Amieva), Los Lagos (Cangas de Onís), Poncebos (Cabrales), Trescares (Peñamellera Alta), Panes (Peñamellera Baja), Fuente Dé (Camaleño), La Hermida (Peñarrubia) et "El Chorro de los Lobos" (Posada de Valdeón).