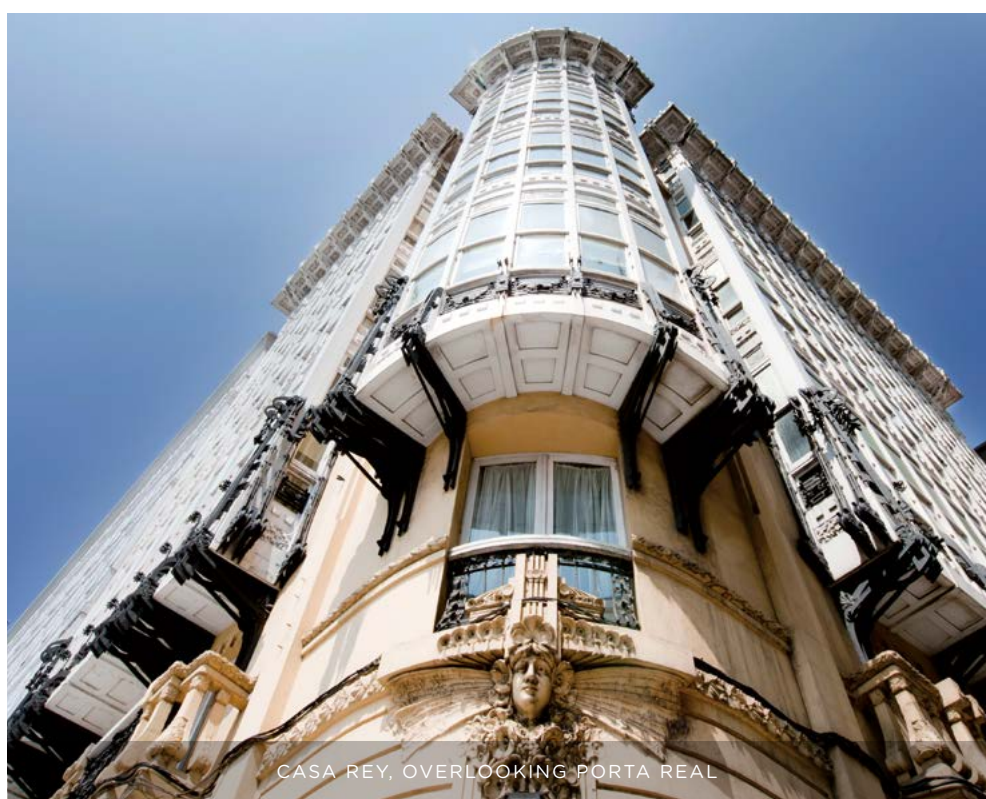


*Art Nouveau comes to town**



CASA REY, OVERLOOKING PORTA REAL

***1906**

This was a landmark year for A Coruña: José María Rivera Corral opened his brewery, **La Estrella de Galicia**, and architect Ricardo Boán y Callejas completed his Modernist building on Barrera Street, in the heart of the city. The former had emigrated to Cuba and Mexico, and Cuba was also the birthplace of the latter—a coincidence that reflects the influence America and the sea exerted on this bourgeoisie city, which, at the time was dotted with luxurious bath houses.

El ensanche

The expansion of A Coruña began in 1883 with the ensanche or 'extension' of the area which today is formed by the streets in and around the square known as Praza de Lugo.

It was in the districts known as Ensanche and Pescadería*, located outside the city walls, that a new middle class built majestic homes that flaunted their newly-found wealth, the result of thriving overseas business interests. A clear distinction could be drawn between these new homes and those of the city's aristocracy who resided in the noble mansions of the Old Town. Initially the homes were characterised by their simple eclectic style, and it was not until the early 20th century that architects began to introduce the first elements of the new and debonair style imported from Central Europe.

Modernism would transform A Coruña's traditional galleries, filling the façades with bright colours and decorative elements inspired by nature and female faces. The creation of the Wonenburger foundry in the city would embellish the balconies, doorways and decorative features with artistic designs in wrought iron, one of the hallmarks of A Coruña's 'Art Nouveau' style.

**Pescadería is the area between the Old Town, Orzán inlet, the port and the modern-day Juana de Vega Street.*

Welcome to the **Ensanche and Pescadería** districts and a journey back in time to the city in the early 20th century. Streets lined with houses displaying the luxurious façades of the two schools that defined this period: a more sober eclectic style and the Modernism that reflects the influences of **Art Nouveau** that had swept across Europe.

A stroll around the city's most popular shopping streets, situated between the beaches and the port, provides a fascinating insight into daily life in the centre of A Coruña both today and in its days of bourgeoisie splendour.

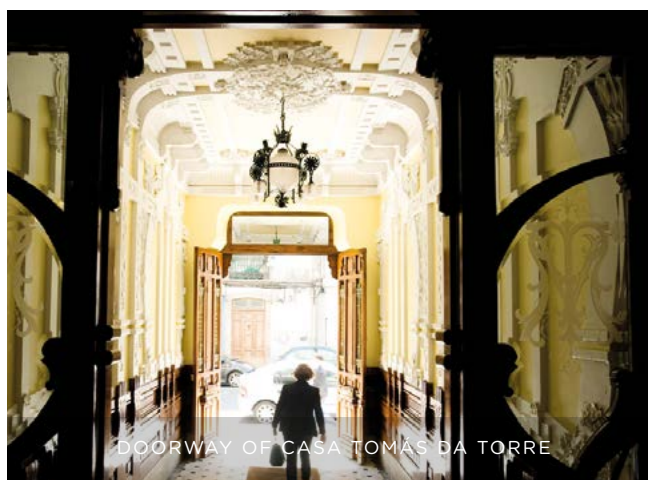
Join us on a tour of modern-day A Coruña and catch a glimpse of life as it was in the year 1900.



DETAIL OF A FAÇADE IN PRAZA DE LUGO



THE ARAMBILLET BUILDING IN PRAZA DE LUGO (RIGHT)



DOORWAY OF CASA TOMÁS DA TORRE



CASA CABANELA

...profiles:

Cuban-born **Ricardo Boán y Callejas**, the architect responsible for bringing Modernism to A Coruña.

Julio Galán y González Carvajal, born in Avilés, studied architecture in Madrid where he graduated in 1900. Chief Architect for the province of A Coruña, he is considered one of the pioneers of Modernism in Galicia.

Antonio López Hernández, spent part of his career in A Coruña, and it was here that he created his most outstanding Modernist works, inspired by the designs of architects such as Julio Galán.

Rafael González Villar, was one of the precursors of the Galician Official College of Architects. His first major work was the Kiosco Alfonso (1912), and his architecture gradually evolved towards a more regionalist style.

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CORUÑA
PROXIMA





1
CASA REY/1911
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Praza María Pita, 11
 The Art Nouveau movement that swept across Europe would transform A Coruña's traditional galleries, embellishing them with ironwork and female faces. The entrance hall stands out for the magnificent banisters produced in the Wonenburger foundry.



8
REAL 22/1908
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal y Antonio de Mesa
Rúa Real, 22
 An imposing arch tops the central gallery, flanked by decorative plants and leaves in cement and iron produced in the Wonenburger foundry.



2
CASA PALACIO MARQUÉS DE SAN MARTÍN/1912
 Juan de Ciórraga y Fernández de la Bastida
Rúa do Parrote, 14
 Adjacent to the 19th century mansion that stands out for the large galleries featuring curved designs in the joinery. The eaves jut out over corbels and railings featuring the 'Nouveau' style.



9
CAFÉ MODERNO/1908
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal y Antonio de Mesa
Rúa Real, 86
 This renovated building conserves the Modernist arch on the façade, decorated with floral elements and female faces.



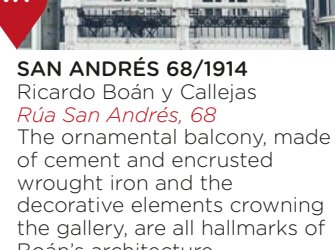
3
SAN NICOLÁS 11/1912
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Praza San Nicolás, 11
 The asymmetrical main façade boasts a wealth of elaborate decorative elements with clear Neo-Mudejar influences reflected in the brickwork and eye-catching wrought iron. This is Boán's most extravagant and fanciful work.



10
CASA CABANELA/1911
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Praza San Andrés, 1
 Inspiration for this building by Julio Galán reflects a shift in inspiration from French to Austrian Modernism, as reflected in the use of circles, vertical bands and framed plant and flower elements.



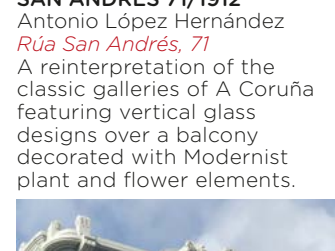
4
BARREIRA 23/1906
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Rúa Barreira, 23
 One of the earliest Modernist buildings, featuring a large brick arch and decorative elements on the gallery. The façade includes a series of eclectic designs.



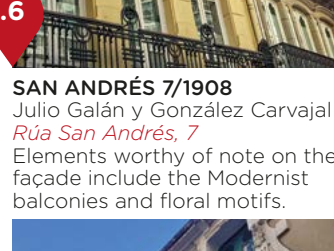
11
SAN ANDRÉS 68/1914
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Rúa San Andrés, 68
 The ornamental balcony, made of cement and encrusted wrought iron and the decorative elements crowning the gallery, are all hallmarks of Boán's architecture.



5
CASA LOS ELEFANTES/1909
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa Orzán, 8
 One of the first buildings in A Coruña to be built entirely in the Modernist style. The galleries mark a sharp break with tradition, supported by figures of diadem-decked elephants, a Hindu symbol of prosperity.



12
SAN ANDRÉS 71/1912
 Antonio López Hernández
Rúa San Andrés, 71
 A reinterpretation of the classic galleries of A Coruña featuring vertical glass designs over a balcony decorated with Modernist plant and flower elements.



6
SAN ANDRÉS 100/1912
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Rúa San Andrés, 100
 A French-inspired Baroque façade, central gallery and concrete bay windows with iron railings.



13
SAN ANDRÉS 7/1908
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa San Andrés, 7
 Elements worthy of note on the façade include the Modernist balconies and floral motifs.



7
GALERA 10/1908
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa Galera, 10
 Elaborate volutes and dramatic curved frame the windows of this Modernist building.



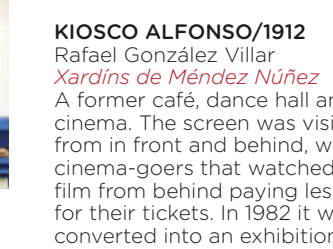
14
LA LLAVE/1911
 Antonio López Hernández
Rúa San Andrés, 118
 An eye-catching gallery and balconies supported by the spectacular metallic ground floor structure.



15
KIOSCO ALFONSO/1912
 Rafael González Villar
Xardíns de Méndez Núñez
 A former café, dance hall and cinema. The screen was visible from in front and behind, with cinema-goers that watched the film from behind paying less for their tickets. In 1982 it was converted into an exhibition space. The elaborate and original design of the façade has been carefully conserved, and features iron dragons cast in the Wonenburger foundry.



21
PRAZA DE LUGO 22/1911
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Praza de Lugo, 22
 The original traditional-style gallery was transformed using Modernist elements such as wrought iron balconies and lush autochthonous flora, whilst the attic floor features ceramic spheres.



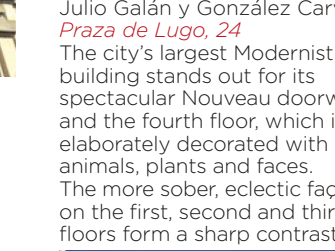
16
MONUMENT IN HONOUR OF CONCEPCIÓN ARENAL/1914
 Rafael González Villar
Xardíns de Méndez Núñez
 This monument reflects the European taste for Expressionism. Modernist influences can be seen in the ornamental decoration and symbolic figure of the chained eagle.



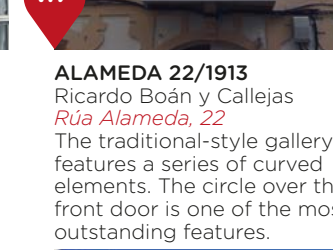
22
CASA TOMÁS DA TORRE/1910
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Praza de Lugo, 24
 The city's largest Modernist building stands out for its spectacular Nouveau doorway and the fourth floor, which is elaborately decorated with animals, plants and faces. The more sober, eclectic façades on the first, second and third floors form a sharp contrast.



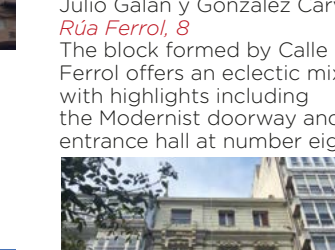
17
FERROL 8/1905
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa Ferrol, 8
 The block formed by Calle Ferrol offers an eclectic mix, with highlights including the Modernist doorway and entrance hall at number eight.



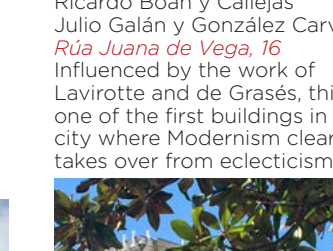
23
PADRE FEIJOO 7/1909
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Rúa Padre Feijoo, 7
 The influence of the French Modernist movement is clearly in evidence on the first two floors, whilst the third floor features elements from the Viennese breakthrough movement.



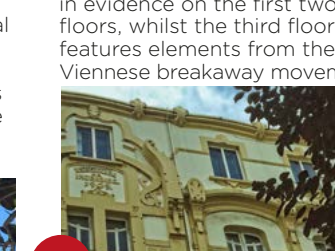
18
JUANA DE VEGA 16/1907
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa Juana de Vega, 16
 Influenced by the work of Lavirotte and de Grásés, this is one of the first buildings in the city where Modernism clearly takes over from eclecticism.



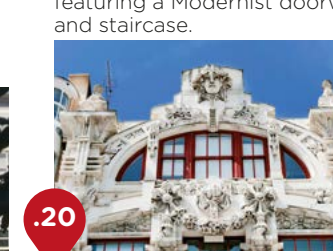
24
PADRE FEIJOO 7/1909
 Ricardo Boán y Callejas
Rúa Padre Feijoo, 7
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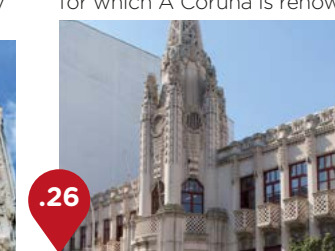
19
CASA SALORIO/1912
 Antonio López Hernández
Avenida de Rubine, 2
 An Eclectic style building featuring a Modernist doorway and staircase.



25
FERNÁN GONZÁLEZ 5/1908
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Rúa Fernán González, 5
 The mouldings on this façade are reminiscent of the French and Catalan Modernist styles in a building that does not feature the classic gallery-style windows for which A Coruña is renowned.



20
THE ARAMBILLÉT BUILDING/1912
 Antonio López Hernández
 Julio Galán y González Carvajal
Praza de Lugo, 13
 The finest example of the influence Central European Modernism exerted in the city. The goddess Flora presides over a façade featuring grandiose arches decorated with lavish garlands, flowers, birds and female faces.



26
ESCUELA LABACA/1912
 Leonicio Bescansa Casares
Rúa Juan Flores, 116
 Gaudí's influence can be seen in the design of this school, a mix of Modernist and Neo-Gothic styles. The Gothic-style cupola is decorated with pinnacles as well as geometrical and plant motifs. Also worthy of note are the cement latticework balconies and the Modernist railings enclosing the plot.

Have you enjoyed our Modernist tour of A Coruña?