



Galicia:

prestigious products





In Galicia, rural households traditionally grew their fruit and vegetables for their own consumption, and only a small proportion ever reached the market.

The village of Herbón in the Padrón local district grows a very distinctive crop. Here, the Padrón pepper plant produces a mass of small green peppers. Padrón peppers are sweet, wrinkled and ideal for frying. They are eaten simply in their own frying oil and a pinch of salt. They are a real delicacy and can give you a surprise or two: very occasionally, a Padrón pepper is hot rather than sweet. A growing tourist and culinary industry has developed around the pimiento de Padrón. An application is currently in process with the European Union for a protected designation of origin for this crop.

But today there are approximately 300 hectares of protected fruit and vegetable crops. 93% of the total surface area given over to fruit and vegetable growing in Galicia is taken up by cabbage, onion, tomato, lettuce, runner bean, peppers, garlic, peas, strawberry and cauliflower, and there is a strongly rising interest in local pepper varieties.

Pataca de Galicia

The Galician potato or pataca is recognised under a protected geographical indication and enjoys high esteem among consumers. Of the species *Solanum tuberosum*, var. Kennebec, the potatoes are selected to a very high standard, which takes account of their appearance, size, texture and other features. The potatoes are grown by traditional crop cultivation and rotation techniques. A given plot of land is never sown two years running, for example, and there is a maximum allowed yield. The special features of the climate, soil, and deep-rooted traditional growing practices in Galicia give these potatoes exceptional culinary value. Galicia potatoes are highly regarded by chefs and have a historic and natural link to the region. Potato growing was already widespread in Galicia in the seventeenth century.





PGI PATATA DE GALICIA, A PROTECTED PRODUCT

The only potato under the PGI Pataca de Galicia is the **KENNEBEC** variety.

The features of the Kennebec potato are:

- **Shape:** rounded to oval.
- **Presence of very superficial eyes.**
- **Smooth, fine skin.**
- **Colour of skin:** light yellow.
- **Colour of flesh:** white.
- **Texture:** firm and creamy on cooking; firm in the mouth.
- **Consumption quality:** Outstanding, because of their high dry-matter content and their keeping their colour, aroma and flavour even after cooking.
- **Analytical stats:**
 - Dry-matter content in excess of 18%.
 - Reducing sugar content under 0.4%.

Table potatoes under the protected geographical indication Patata de Galicia are marketed in new, clean packaging made from suitable materials to allow proper ventilation and transport of the products, as approved by the inspection body.

Authorised packaging include containers holding net weights of 15, 10, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 kg of potatoes.

As an exception, the inspection body may authorise 25 kg packaging for potatoes distributed to the restaurant and catering industry.



All these packages have a third-length front label bearing the PGI Pataca de Galicia logo and the legend **PATATA (O PATACA) DE GALICIA INDICACIÓN GEOGRAFICA PROTEGIDA**, and a numbered back-label issued by the Consejo Regulador (the inspection body).

All potatoes approved for distribution come under a strict monitoring system, starting in the crop fields themselves through to dispatch to the market.

REGULATIONS

The Order of 29 October 2001 (DOGA, official journal of the Galicia regional government, No 217, 9 November 2001) approves the regulations the PGI Pataca de Galicia and its inspection body.

The Order of of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food APA/1046/2002 of 24 April 2002 (BOE, official journal of the Spanish national government, No 113, 11 May 2002) ratifies the regulations the PGI Pataca de Galicia and its inspection body.

Finally, on 16 February 2007 there appeared in the Official Journal of the European Communities Commission Regulation (EC) No 148/2007 of 15 February 2007, including within the register of protected geographical indications PGI PATACA DE GALICIA or PATATA DE GALICIA.





XUNTA DE GALICIA
CONSELLERÍA
DO MEDIO RURAL



FEADER:
Europa inviste no rural.



Pataca de Galicia O CORAZÓN DA TERRA



Consello Regulador da
Indicación Xeográfica Protexida
Pataca de Galicia



**CONSELLO REGULADOR
DA INDICACIÓN XEOGRÁFICA PROTEXIDA
PATACA DE GALICIA**

FINCA DEvesa S/N 32.630
XINZO DE LIMIA - OURENSE

Tel./Fax: 988 462 650

E-mail: patacadegalicia@teleline.es