



YETAS · NERPIO
SIERRA DEL SEGURA · SPAIN

TENTH EDITION · 2015-2026 · DOSSIER

How does a village of *twelve residents* become a European stage?

12

PERMANENT RESIDENTS

970

ANNUAL ATTENDEES

10

EDITIONS

FEST·YN — FESTIVAL DE MÚSICA DE YETAS - WWW.FEST·YN.COM



02 THE CHALLENGE

A village on the edge of disappearance.

Yetas lies in one of Spain's most severely depopulated inland regions. Within three generations, a village of around six hundred inhabitants has become a community of only a handful of permanent residents — a striking example of the demographic decline affecting many rural areas across Spain and Europe.

1950S

600

inhabitants

TODAY · REGISTERED

27

on the census

TODAY · PERMANENT

~12

year-round residents

0

Train lines reach the village

0

Direct bus routes

1

Restaurant serving the territory

From a Local Initiative to a Regional Reference

There was no master plan. What began as a handful of summer concerts gradually evolved, edition by edition, into a project embraced and sustained by the wider territory.



ORIGIN · 2015

Since then,
we haven't stopped.

It began with two concerts on a summer evening — and a book our cultural manager, **José Ángel Martínez**, had written about this corner of Albacete.

What we saw in our neighbours' eyes that evening made one thing clear: this was never only about music. We couldn't quite explain why Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert or Chopin stirred such a reaction here — but we knew there was something worth protecting.

2015

Pilot concerts

A handful of recitals test whether anyone will travel to hear music in Yetas. They do.

2016

Festival founded

FEST·YN is formally established as an annual summer gathering rooted in the village.

2022

Las Eras expansion

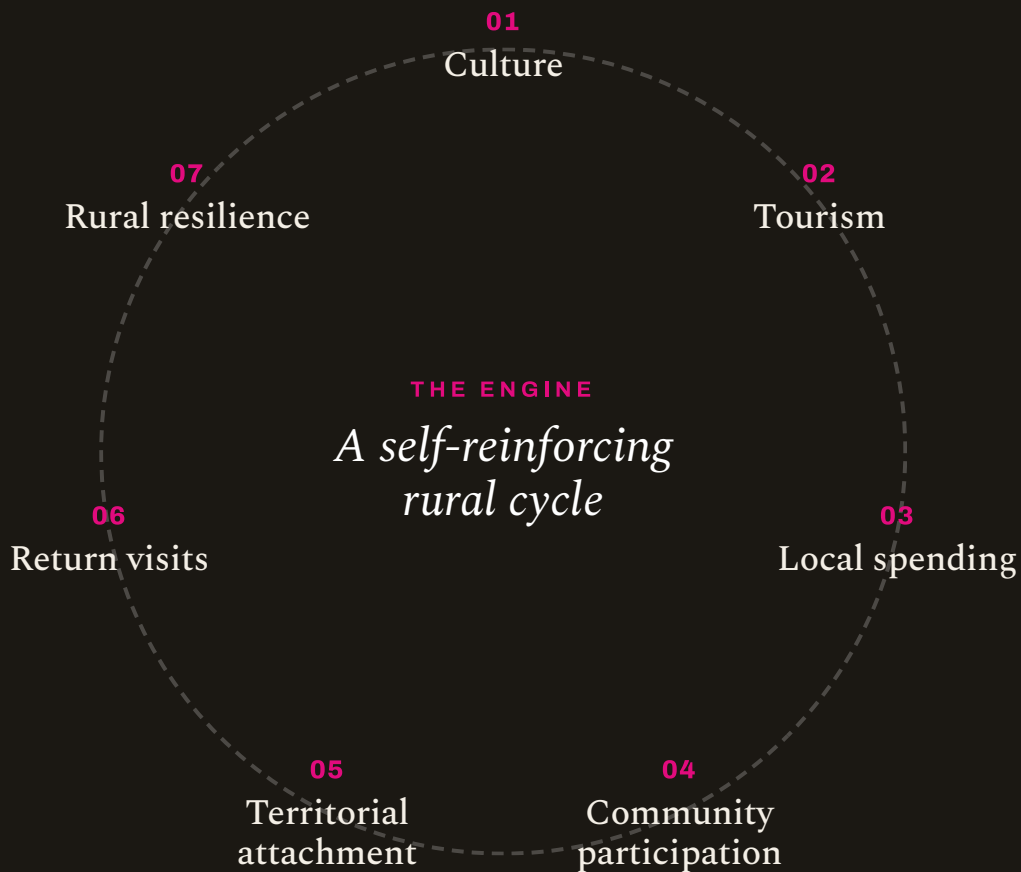
Concerts move into the open landscape of Las Eras, scaling capacity and ambition.

2026

Tenth edition

A decade in, the festival is a fixture of the regional cultural calendar.

How culture regenerates a territory.



Each edition leaves more behind than it takes. Culture attracts visitors; visitors support local businesses; participation strengthens community ties; and stronger ties deepen people's connection to place. Over time, that connection becomes a reason to return, helping a small village remain visible, valued and alive.



The village square becomes an auditorium at dusk

05 THE EXPERIENCE

What a visitor finds in Yetas.

Not a programme defined by musical genres, but a destination experience. Visitors do not come only for the concerts; they come for the setting in which they take place. Performances unfold in the church, the village square and the open-air Las Eras site, surrounded by the landscapes, traditions and hospitality of the Sierra del Segura. The setting becomes part of the experience, and the village itself becomes the venue.



Unexpected venues

Stages you find nowhere else

A geodesic dome, a traditional cellar and the open-air Las Eras site: performances take place in spaces that already belong to the life and heritage of the territory, making the setting itself part of the experience.



Intimacy of scale

Music within arm's reach

The scale remains intentionally human. Artists, residents and visitors share the same spaces, conversations and experiences, creating a level of proximity rarely found in larger cultural events.



Three generations, one bench — Yetas

— 06 THE COMMUNITY

Residents as partners, not audience.

The village does not *watch* the festival.
It *makes* it.

Residents host musicians, prepare communal meals and help transform everyday spaces into places of encounter. Local associations contribute to logistics, hospitality and the preparation of venues, while families, former residents and volunteers play an active role in welcoming visitors and sustaining the festival year after year. Their involvement extends well beyond attendance: they help shape the atmosphere, identity and character of each edition.

Who comes, and how many.



970

ATTENDEES
ACROSS THE
EDITION

FEST·YN — AUDIENCE · 2025 EDITION

323

AVERAGE
PER
CONCERT

274

OVERNIGHT
STAYS
GENERATED

98%

WOULD
RECOMMEND
THE VISIT

4.9/5

VISITOR
SATISFACTION

What €7,150 sets in motion.

A modest cultural budget behaves like seed capital. Each euro spent on the festival circulates through lodging, restaurants, local products and services across Yetas and Nerpio.

BUDGET EXECUTED	LOCAL IMPACT (EST.)	RETURN PER EURO
<p>€7,150</p> <p>2025 · 9th edition · 2024: €7,000</p>	<p>≈€51,400</p> <p>2025 · 2024: ≈€46,600</p>	<p>≈7.2:1</p> <p>2025 · 2024: ≈6.7:1</p>

WHERE THE ≈€51,400 LANDS · 2025 ESTIMATE

Accommodation		€22,500
Indirect / induced ×1.4		€14,600
Restaurant & hospitality		€10,200
Local products (wine, food)		€4,100

The festival does not extract value and export it. It concentrates outside spending into a few intense summer days — precisely when a depopulated village most needs the income.

Estimate based on the assumptions stated in the festival's Annual Report 2024–2025; not audited figures. Sources: festival accounts & municipal technical services.

A village coming back to life.

The clearest sign of regeneration is not measured in tickets. It is the slow return of life to houses that stood empty.



5

DWELLINGS REHABILITATED

One visible sign of this renewed connection is the restoration and reoccupation of up to five homes in and around Yetas in recent years. In a settlement with very limited residential activity, even a small number of houses returning to use represents a meaningful change in the life of the village.

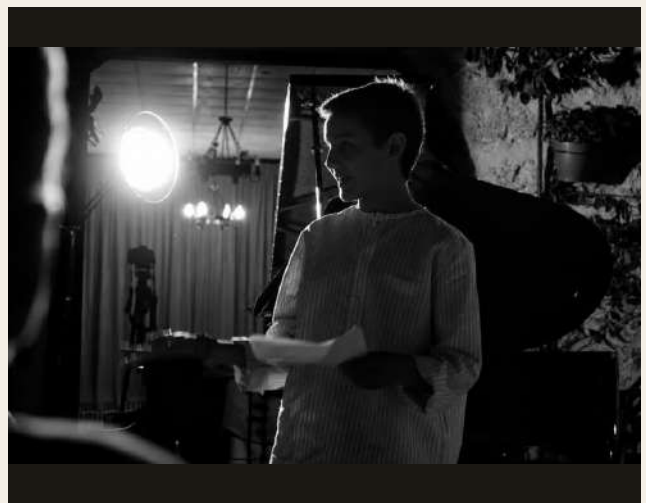
Renewal is never the result of a single initiative, but of many factors working together over time. FEST-YN does not claim sole responsibility for the changes taking place in Yetas; its contribution is to provide a recurring cultural reason to visit, return and remain connected to the village. In a place that welcomes hundreds of visitors each summer and has gained visibility far beyond its immediate surroundings, that contribution can be significant.

A classroom as much as a stage.

Masterclasses, workshops, youth performances and heritage activities make Yetas a classroom as much as a stage. Alongside musical training, initiatives such as Yeto's Tales introduce children to the stories, traditions and identity of the Sierra del Segura, connecting education with the cultural life of the territory.



Children take the microphone as concert presenters



Yeto's Tales — heritage of the Sierra, told for children

Children take visible roles as concert presenters, while older generations share stories, traditions and songs that help shape the cultural identity of the festival. The result is not simply a programme of events, but a collective experience created by the community itself.

100+

young musicians trained & programmed

300+

children engaged through the festival

10

editions of continuous education



Why this matters beyond Yetas.

Yetas is not an exception. Its challenges are shared by thousands of rural communities across Europe. What makes it distinctive is the way culture has helped make a small and largely unknown place visible again, connecting local heritage, landscapes and traditions with audiences far beyond the village itself.

DEPOPULATION

Keeping the inland alive

A replicable template for the thousands of emptying villages across Spain and Southern Europe.

RURAL INEQUALITY

Access to the arts

World-class culture delivered where it is least expected and most scarce.

HERITAGE

Memory that stays in place

Local songs, trades and stories preserved by being performed, not archived.

SUSTAINABILITY

Low-footprint, high-return

A small budget and small footprint producing outsized social and economic value.



SDG 8 · Decent work & growth

SDG 11 · Sustainable communities

SDG 4 · Quality education

From the Sierra to the world.



DOCUMENTARY

Echoes from My World

A documentary built around the festival carries the story of Yetas far beyond the Sierra — turning one village's survival into an image that travels.

International artists and cultural links — including exchanges reaching as far as **China** — bring the world to a village of twelve, and carry the village outward in return.



YETAS · NERPIO · SPAIN



A small place. A shared future.
www.fest-yn.com

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OFFICIALLY SUPPORTED BY
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