España en Claro

FREE · 6 PAGES GENERAL ELECTION · SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026

A practical guide to voting on 29N

What to bring, what time to go, how to vote for Congress and the Senate, and what blank and invalid votes are. Every fact, with its official source.

The essentials, in one minute

- Voting takes place on Sunday 29 November, from 9:00 to 20:00. (LOREG, art. 84.1)
- Bring your DNI (national ID card), passport or driving licence. Expired ones are accepted, but they must be the originals. (LOREG, art. 85.1; Ministry of the Interior)
- Congress: one white ballot paper in the white envelope, with nothing written or crossed out. (LOREG, art. 96)
- Senate: sepia ballot paper. Mark with a cross no more than 3 candidates in mainland provinces; 2 in Gran Canaria, Mallorca, Tenerife, Ceuta and Melilla; 1 on the other islands. (LOREG, art. 166.1.a)
- A blank vote is a valid vote. An invalid vote is not. (LOREG, art. 96)
- Not sure which polling station is yours? Check on the INE website or call the freephone number 900 343 232. (INE, Electoral Census Office)

España en Claro is an independent project. It is not linked to any party, list, institution or public authority, and does not recommend how to vote. This guide summarises public rules: if it differs from an instruction given by your polling station or the Electoral Board, the official one prevails. Unofficial translation: if there is any difference, the Spanish version prevails.

Before you leave home

You only need two things: to know your polling station and to bring a document that identifies you.

WHAT TO BRING AS ID

One of these three documents

DNI (national ID card), passport or driving licence showing your photograph.

LOREG, art. 85.1 [1]

Expired is fine, but originals only

An expired document is fine, but it must be the original: photocopies are not accepted.

Ministry of the Interior, "Voto presencial" [4]

Your DNI on your phone: the MiDNI app

Officials will have a device to check the app's QR code, which you must open in front of them. The driving licence in the miDGT app is not accepted: bring the physical one.

Central Electoral Board, Acuerdo 334/2026 of 5 November [5]

The polling card tells you where you vote

The Electoral Census Office sends it with your section and polling station. To vote, the law requires you to be on the electoral roll and to show one of the documents above.

LOREG, arts. 39.7 and 85.1 [1]

If you don't know your polling station

The INE's online lookup finds it from your province, municipality and the initial of your first surname, with no Cl@ve or certificate. Or call free on 900 343 232.

INE, guide to the functions of the Electoral Census Office [6]

Check your polling station before you go

Your section, polling place or polling station may have changed. The Electoral Census Office notifies the voters affected, and the INE lookup shows where you vote.

LOREG, art. 39.7; INE [6]

Voting hours

9:00 – 20:00

Sunday 29 November 2026

Voting starts at nine in the morning and continues without interruption until eight in the evening.

LOREG, art. 84.1 [1]

ON POLLING DAY

If you are in the queue at 20:00

Anyone who is in the polling place or at its entrance at that time and has not yet voted may do so. After that, nobody else is admitted.

LOREG, art. 88.1 [1]

Only at your polling station

You can only vote in the section and at the polling station where you are registered.

LOREG, arts. 4.1 and 86.2 [1]

If you are working that day

You are entitled to up to four hours of paid time off within your working hours to go and vote. If you work reduced hours, the time off is reduced proportionally.

RD 605/1999, art. 13.1 [3]

If you need help to vote

If you cannot read, or a disability prevents you from choosing the ballot paper, putting it in the envelope or handing it over, you can be assisted by a person you trust.

LOREG, art. 87.1 [1]

How to vote for Congress

You choose a complete list. The ballot paper is not filled in or altered.

STEP BY STEP

1. Take the ballot paper of the list you choose

The ballot papers and envelopes are in the booth or on a table next to it. Using the booth is optional.

LOREG, art. 86.2; RD 605/1999, art. 3.1 [1]

2. Put it in the white envelope

The Congress ballot paper is white and so is its envelope. Only one ballot paper per envelope.

RD 605/1999, art. 4.2 and 4.5 [3]

3. Say your name and show your document

You tell the presiding officer your full name. The officials check your identity and your right to vote against the electoral roll lists.

LOREG, art. 86.3 [1]

4. Put the envelope in the ballot box

You hand the sealed envelope to the presiding officer, who says your name aloud, adds “vota” (“votes”) and hands it back for you to put in the ballot box.

LOREG, art. 86.3 [1]

If you spoil a ballot paper

The polling place has enough envelopes and ballot papers available to voters, in the booth or next to it. Before handing over your envelope, you can take new ones.

RD 605/1999, art. 3.1 [3]

TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS

The order of the list cannot be changed

The seats a list wins are awarded to its candidates in the order in which they appear on the ballot paper.

LOREG, art. 163.1.e [1]

Do not write, cross out or add anything

A vote is invalid if the ballot paper has names changed, added or crossed out, the order altered, or any wording or expression on it.

LOREG, art. 96.2 [1]

Do not mix lists

An envelope containing ballot papers from different lists is invalid. If it contains several ballot papers from the same list, it counts as a single valid vote.

LOREG, art. 96.1 [1]

Only official ballot papers and envelopes

A vote in an envelope or on a ballot paper other than the official model is invalid, and so is a ballot paper without an envelope.

LOREG, art. 96.1 [1]

The vote is secret

No one can be forced or coerced when voting, or made to reveal their vote.

LOREG, arts. 5 and 86.1 [1]

How to mark the Senate ballot paper

Here you do not choose a list: you mark people. How many depends on where you vote.

WHERE YOU VOTE	ELECTED	YOU CAN MARK, AT MOST
Mainland provinces The 47 provinces on the mainland	4	☒ ☒ ☒ 3
Gran Canaria, Mallorca and Tenerife Each island is a constituency	3	☒ ☒ ☐ 2
Ceuta and Melilla Each city is a constituency	2	☒ ☒ ☐ 2
The other islands Ibiza-Formentera (together), Menorca, Fuerteventura, La Gomera, El Hierro, Lanzarote and La Palma, each one separately	1	☒ ☐ ☐ 1

LOREG, arts. 161.2, 165 and 166.1.a [1]

Sepia ballot paper and envelope

There is a single ballot paper with all the candidates in your constituency. If there are many, it may be printed on both sides: check the back too.

RD 605/1999, art. 4.2 and 4.5; LOREG, art. 172.3 [3]

Mark with a cross

Each name is preceded by a box. Put a cross in the box of the candidate or candidates you are voting for.

LOREG, art. 172.3.d [1]

You can spread your crosses

Senate candidacies are individual for voting purposes: you can mark candidates put forward by different parties.

LOREG, art. 171.1 [1]

The number is a maximum

You can mark fewer candidates than allowed. With a single cross the vote is valid.

LOREG, art. 166.1.a [1]

More crosses than allowed: invalid

If you mark more names than the maximum for your constituency, your Senate vote is invalid.

LOREG, art. 96.3 [1]

No crosses: blank vote

A Senate ballot paper with no marks is treated as a blank vote.

LOREG, art. 96.5 [1]

EXAMPLE IN A MAINLAND PROVINCE (MAXIMUM 3 CROSSES) · CANDIDATES A TO E



Valid. Two crosses: fewer than the maximum.



Valid. Three crosses, from the same party or from several.



Invalid. Four crosses: more than the maximum.

Simplified ballot papers. The real one carries a note with the maximum number of candidates you can mark in your constituency (LOREG, art. 172.3.e).

Blank votes and invalid votes

They are not the same. A blank vote is a valid vote; an invalid vote is not.

Blank vote

What it is

An envelope with no ballot paper inside. In the Senate, also a ballot paper with no crosses.

LOREG, art. 96.5 [1]

How it counts

It is a valid vote. It is added to the total of valid votes in the constituency, which is the basis for calculating the 3% a list needs to enter the allocation of seats in Congress.

LOREG, arts. 96.5 and 163.1.a [1]

What it doesn't do

It is not added to any list: seats are allocated only according to each list's votes.

LOREG, art. 163.1 [1]

Invalid vote

What it is

A vote cast without following the rules: unofficial envelope or ballot paper, ballot paper without an envelope, ballot papers from different lists in one envelope, ballot papers with crossings-out, additions or any text and, in the Senate, more crosses than allowed.

LOREG, art. 96.1 to 96.4 [1]

How it counts

It is not a valid vote: it is left out of the 3% calculation and the allocation of seats. The polling station announces the number separately, along with blank votes and each list's votes.

LOREG, arts. 96, 97.2 and 163.1.a [1]

AT A GLANCE

YOUR VOTE	IS IT A VALID VOTE?	DOES IT COUNT TOWARDS THE 3% CALCULATION?	DOES IT ADD VOTES TO A LIST?
For a list	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes, to the one you chose**
Blank	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**
Invalid	**No**	**No**	**No**

LOREG, arts. 96 and 163.1 [1]

A COMMON QUESTION

Two identical ballot papers in one envelope

They do not invalidate the vote: if they are from the same list, a single valid vote is counted.

LOREG, art. 96.1 [1]

Practical tips and official links

Postal vote: final dates

You can apply until 19 November, at a Correos post office or on its website with a digital certificate. The envelope with your vote can be handed in at Correos until 25 November.

LOREG, arts. 72.a and 73.3; Correos [7]

Saturday 28: day of reflection

The campaign ends at 24:00 on Friday 27. From then on, no campaign material may be distributed and no campaign events held; not in polling places or their immediate vicinity either.

RD 806/2026, art. 4; LOREG, arts. 53 and 93 [2]

If you've been picked for polling duty

Serving is compulsory. The presiding officer, members and substitutes meet at the polling place at 8:00. Principal officials receive an allowance of 75 euros.

LOREG, arts. 27.1 and 80.1; Orden INT/650/2026 [9]

Accessibility

Access to polling places and stations is guaranteed for people with disabilities, and officials must ensure they can vote as independently as possible.

RD 422/2011, arts. 3.1 and 4.3 [8]

The results

The count starts when voting ends and is public. That night's figures are provisional; the general count is carried out by the electoral boards on the fifth day after the vote.

LOREG, arts. 95, 98.2 and 103.1 [1]

OFFICIAL LINKS

Official 29N election website
Ministry of the Interior. How to vote, calendar and accessibility.
29neleccionesgenerales.es/

Find your polling station
INE, Electoral Census Office. Telephone 900 343 232.
sede.ine.gob.es/ce-mesas/?lang=es_ES

Central Electoral Board
Decisions and instructions for this election.
juntaelectoralcentral.es/cs/jec/eleccionesEnCurso/Elecciones_generales_2026

Postal vote
Correos. Application and deadlines.
correos.es/es/es/particulares/para-el-ciudadano/voto-por-correo

Voting from abroad
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
exteriores.gob.es/es/Paginas/Elecciones.aspx

Confirmed candidacies
Official State Gazette (BOE).
boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2026-23103

SOURCES (ACCESSED ON 17 NOVEMBER 2026) · GUIDE VERSION 1.0, OF 17 NOVEMBER 2026

1. Ley Orgánica 5/1985, de 19 de junio, del Régimen Electoral General (LOREG), texto consolidado. BOE. boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-1985-11672
2. Real Decreto 806/2026, de disolución de las Cortes y de convocatoria de elecciones. BOE. boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2026-20742
3. Real Decreto 605/1999, de regulación complementaria de los procesos electorales. BOE. boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-1999-8583
4. Web oficial de las elecciones generales del 29N: «Voto presencial». Ministerio del Interior. 29neleccionesgenerales.es/informacion-general/como-votar/voto-presencial
5. Acuerdo 334/2026, de 5 de noviembre, sobre el uso de MiDNI ante la Mesa electoral. Junta Electoral Central. juntaelectoralcentral.es/cs/jec/doctrina/acuerdos?anyosesion=2026&idacuerdoinstruccion=155594&idsesion=1120&template=Doctrina/JEC_Detalle
6. Elecciones generales de 29 de noviembre de 2026: guía de funciones de la Oficina del Censo Electoral. INE. ine.es/dyngs/CEL/index.htm?cid=1700
7. Voto por correo. Elecciones a las Cortes Generales, 29 de noviembre de 2026. Correos. correos.es/es/es/particulares/para-el-ciudadano/voto-por-correo
8. Real Decreto 422/2011, sobre la participación de las personas con discapacidad en los procesos electorales. BOE. boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2011-5714
9. Orden INT/650/2026, de regulación de la dieta de los miembros de las mesas electorales. BOE. boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2026-13948