



One Week Spanish Coastal Camino to Santiago de Compostela



The magnificent cathedral of Santiago de Compostela

Grade:	Gentle/moderate		
Trip duration:	8 days, 7 nights	Average daily altitude gain:	400ft / 130 metres
Walking days:	6 days	Average daily walk:	13 miles / 20 km
Minimum numbers:	From just a single walker		
Dates & price per person	1 March to 31 October. See our website for prices		

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TRIP OVERVIEW:

This is the final section of one of the wonderful historical camino walks, which routes from the Spanish town of Baiona, just north of the border with Portugal, to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, showing off the best of the coastal scenery, and inland rural towns and villages of Galicia with stunning scenery, ancient settlements, wooded valleys and sandy beaches.

There are a number of pilgrimage walks (caminos) to Santiago de Compostela, the Spanish resting place of the Apostle St. James. This camino has lovely scenery, is varied and uncrowded. You will make friends with other companions along the route, and on reaching Santiago be joined by scores of pilgrims who have taken different routes to the city.

You will be staying in a contrast of accommodation from hand-picked hotels to rustic village houses, and dine on the delicious cuisine of Galicia, with its emphasis on the best seafood and locally produced wines.

We offer this as an 8-day self-guided hike of 120km/75 miles starting in Baiona, with a welcome pack, all accommodation booked for you, comprehensive walk notes, luggage transfers every day, and with help available 24/7 should you need it.

We will give you advice on travelling to Baiona, and back from Santiago – the trains and buses are reliable and regular.

If you have time, we strongly recommend an extra day exploring historic Santiago to take in the atmosphere and relax with your fellow pilgrims in the satisfaction of completing your own journey through this lovely ancient landscape.



OUTLINE ITINERARY

Walking and journey times are approximate

Important Note:

The following itinerary is to be taken as a guide only. Whilst we expect that the trek will run as per the itinerary, participants should accept that there is a possibility of changes being necessary subject to local conditions.

Day 1 Arrival at your hotel in Baiona.

There is a good bus service from the airport to Baiona. At your hotel, you will be given extensive route notes in our 'Roadbook' and the "Pilgrim Passport" to certify your achievement on completion of the camino.

Accommodation: 2* or 3* hotel in Baiona.



Day 2 Walk from Baiona to the city of Vigo. 15.5 miles/25km.

Leaving Baiona you walk northwards through a very rural woodland area with ancient villages before approaching the vibrant port city of Vigo. The path carefully leads you to the centre via the Castrelos Park.

Accommodation: 3* hotel.

Meals: breakfast



Day 3 From Vigo via Redondela to Arcade. 13 miles/22km.

You will start by heading out of Vigo along the city's shopping street towards the hillside villages away from the busy coast road. There are great views of the coast and estuary. Redondela is a great place to find lunch, then you will go back into woodland before reaching Arcade.

Accommodation: 2* hotel.

Meals: breakfast

Day 4 From Arcade to Pontevedra. 8 miles/13km.

Cross the river from Arcade over the beautiful Ponte Sampiao, then take ancient stone paths to enter Pontevedra by a quiet route

Accommodation: 3* hotel.

Meals: breakfast



The medieval bridge at Ponte Sampiao

Day 5 Walk from Pontevedra to Caldas de Reis. 14 miles/22km.

14 miles/22km.

You now leave the coast, walking from Pontevedra through pretty countryside and forests to the spa town Caldas de Reis, on the Rio Barosa. There is a thermal spring in the main square to bathe your feet, as thousands of pilgrims before you.

Accommodation: 2* hotel.

Meals: breakfast

Day 6 Walk from Caldas to Padron.

11.5 miles/19km.

With a gentle ascent away from the roads, walk through a number of small villages and their beautiful churches and into the Valga forest descending to Padron.

Accommodation: 3* hotel.

Meals: breakfast

Day 7 Complete your camino by walking from Padron to Santiago de Compostela, 16 miles/25km.

It's a long day, but the miles will pass quickly as you see the end in sight. Get your camino passport stamped and receive your scroll, and mix in with other

tired but happy *peregrinos* in the Plaza del Obradoiro in front of the majestic cathedral. Visit the cathedral to admire the architecture and interior.

Accommodation: 3* hotel.

Meals: breakfast

Day 8 Departure for Porto, or spend a day in Santiago.

Meals: breakfast

To return to Porto there is a good train service, or stay an extra day in Santiago absorbing the atmosphere and the history of the faithful St. James.

Extra nights can be arranged in Santiago – please contact us for details.

Pre-tour briefing: Most people choose to meet with a member of the Portugal team online before departure. However, if you prefer to have a personal Welcome Briefing on arrival this can be arranged for you for an additional charge. During the briefing, the member of our staff will be delighted to answer any questions that you have before starting your holiday.

Whichever briefing method you choose, you will receive your Welcome Pack both by email prior to your departure and physically on arrival at your first hotel. Your Welcome Pack contains all the materials you'll need as a walker: a roadbook with maps and route descriptions, a tracking App for your smartphone, plus a few other goodies for the trail!

Accommodation: A combination of village cottages, farmhouses and charming hotels. All rooms have their own bathrooms. We've chosen these accommodations for their hospitality, comfort, and location.

Meals: All breakfasts are included with your accommodation. We also include packed lunches for walking days where buying lunch on the trail is not an option. Let us know if you have any dietary restrictions and we can ask our hotels to accommodate these.

Luggage transfers: We will arrange for the transfer of 1 suitcase/piece of luggage per person between your hotels on your walk.

Travel: The best airport to fly into is Porto, which many European airlines use.

No flights or fixed travel arrangements should be booked until you have received written confirmation from the trekMountains office that your holiday is guaranteed to run.

The Price Includes:

- Accommodation as shown in the itinerary above in a double or twin room
- Meals as shown in the itinerary above
- Luggage transfers between your hotel accommodation (1 bag per person)
- Excellent route guide with maps
- The Camino Pilgrim Passport (to be stamped at every place you stay)
- 24-7 phone emergency support

Not Included:

- International flights
- Transfers to and from Porto Airport (payable locally)
- Transfer back from Santiago to Porto (there is a good train service)
- Meals not shown in the itinerary above
- Tourism taxes
- Insurance
- Any costs incurred by any deviation from your itinerary
- Any items not mentioned in "Included" above