

Your Pilgrimage Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare
- All Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- 10 Nights Accommodation at Classic and Quaint Hotels and Inns along the Camino: (or similar)
 - 1 night: Sep 5 6: Hotel Santa Maria, Fatima, Portugal
 - 1 night: Sep 6 7: Catalonia Porto, Porto, Portugal
 - 3 nights: Sep 7 10: Hotel Alfonso IX or Parador de Tui, Sarria, Spain
 - 2 nights: Sep 10 12: Hotel Rias Bajas, Pontevedra, Spain
 - 1 night: Sep 12 13: Hotel Pazo de Lestrove by Pousadas de Compostela or Casa Antiga Do Monte, A Coruña, Spain
- 2 nights: Sep 13 15: San Francisco Hotel Monumento, Santiago De Compostela, Spain
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- 7 Lunches (a few could be picnic lunches)
- Wine and Mineral Water with Dinners
- Transfers by Air-conditioned Coach
- Camino Local Tour Escort
- Transfers as per Itinerary
- Catholic Priest, Mass Daily & Spiritual Activities
- Whispers at Visits
- Hotel Taxes and Service Charges



Group Leader: JoAnne Von Zwehl



Sample Daily Itinerary

Day 1 | Wed, Sept. 4: Departure from the USA

Make your way to your local airport where you will board your overnight flight(s). Your meals will be served on board.

Day 2 | Thu, Sept. 5: Arrive in Lisbon and Depart to Fatima

Upon arrival in Lisbon, you will collect your luggage in the baggage claim area and continue to the Arrival's Hall where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. Make your way to the bus where your group will transfer to Fatima. In the afternoon, we will visit and pray at one of Our Blessed Mother's apparition sites. Follow with a visit to the stunning neoclassical Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. You will also experience Christ's unconditional love by participating in the Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacra. Your night will conclude with private devotions and a candlelight procession, requested by Our Lady (1917). Enjoy dinner and a comfortable night's rest in Fatima.

Day 3 | Fri, Sept. 6: Fatima-Porto

Today, we will head to Porto. In the afternoon, we will visit Sao Francisco Church with beautiful Gothic interior. Following Mass, we visit the Clerigos Church with an iconic bell tower, continue panoramic view of the Dom Luís Bridge, Church of Saint Ildefonso, a baroque style church with tile façade and the Maria Pia Bridge. Return to your hotel for dinner and a restful overnight in Porto before your walking tour begins!

Day 4 | Sat, Sept. 7: Porto – Braga – Bom Jesus Shrine – Tui-Sarria

This morning, you will enjoy breakfast, followed with a transfer to Braga. Braga is a lively city, one of the oldest in the country. Visit the Shrine of Bom Jesus do Monte ("Good Jesus of the Mountain") to celebrate Mass. In 1722 the Archbishop of Braga authorized the construction of a Sacred Way, for the faithful to walk the Stations of the Cross for penance and contemplation. In the afternoon, walk a brief 3-4 miles. Continue to the cathedral town of Tui in Galicia. Tui is seperated from Portugal by the River Minho. Your group will transfer to Sarria for dinner and overnight.

Day 5 | Sun, Sept. 8: Tui – O Porriño-Sarria (WALKING DAY, 11.8 MILES / 19KM)

Today is the day that your walking pilgrimage (El Camino) to Santiago de Compostela officially begins! Following breakfast, your group will be walking across tranquil woods, farmland and peaceful hamlets. With the guidance of Our Lord, and through the spirit of St. James the Apostle, you will become an authentic pilgrim by journeying along the physical road, as well as the spiritual one. Your first official day of walking will culminate in O Porrino. Group will transfer to Sarria for dinner and an overnight.

Day 6 | Mon, Sept. 9: O Porriño – Redoncela-Sarria (WALKING DAY, 9.9 MILES / 16KM)

This morning, you will enjoy breakfast at your hotel and journey from O Porrino, through the woods to the Rendoncela. Known for its famous railway viaducts built in the nineteenth century. Due to these infrastructures Redondela is known under the nickname "Village of the viaducts." Group will transfer to Sarria for dinner and overnight.

Day 7 | Tue, Sept. 10: Redondela – Pontevedra (WALKING DAY, 11.8 MILES / 19KM)

Breakfast will be served at your hotel. Your pilgrimage continues as you will travel from Redondela to Pontevedra, historically famous, culturally rich and has a significant number architectural attractions worth seeing. It has a very well-preserved medieval town center along with many small and popular squares. View the "Capela da Virxe Peregrina", a highly unusual building situated in the square of the pilgrim. This chapel is unique and distinctive. It was built in 1778 and is positioned on the main pilgrim's route that leads to Santiago de Compostela from Galicia's neighbor Portugal. As you explore Pontevedra, you will notice joy etched in the faces of the pilgrims. Although they have traveled a long distance, they are not weary. With God and St. James guiding their paths, excitement and anticipation continues for their arrival in Santiago. Dinner and overnight.

Day 8 | Wed, Sept. 11: Pontevedra – Caldas de Reis – Pontevedra (WALKING DAY, 14.3 MILES / 23KM)

After breakfast we will continue our journey to Caldas de Reis. Today we will pass through the villages of Alba, A Portela and Briallos. In Alba the Church of Santa Maria de Alba is beautiful, in A Portela you will find the church of San Mamede and in Briallos, a small village of 400 people where there is an albergue. Arrive in Caldas de Reis. This town is well known for its hot springs and it sits at the confluence of Bermaña and Umia rivers. Your group will then transfer to Pontevedra for dinner and overnight.

Day 9 | Thu, Sept. 12: Caldas de Reis – Padron (WALKING DAY, 11.8 MILES / 19KM)

This morning, you will enjoy breakfast. Today's route passes through San Miguel de Valga, Cimadevila, Fontelo and the river Ulla. The church of Santiago de Padron is a very important stop for pilgrims. Inside the church, under the altar, we can find the Pedrón, a granite block that was tied to the boat that carried the Apostle, St. James. Tonight we're staying at Padron, which is significant as this is where St. James first preached the word of the Lord. Enjoy dinner followed by a good night's rest.

Day 10 | Fri, Sept. 13: Padron – Santiago De Compostela (WALKING DAY, 15.5 MILES / 25KM)

Today, you will culminate the walking portion of your journey! The walk continues in the same direction as the previous day. You leave Padrón and go past the church of Santiago towards the Colegiata of Iria Flavia, where Nobel Literature Prize Camilo José Cela is buried. The day continues through Osebe, on paths and main roads, through villages and woodlands, until you reach O Milladoiro, here you will know that you are approaching Santiago because at this point, you will be able to see the spires of the Cathedral. Following lunch, you will complete your walking journey and arrive at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. Upon arrival, feel free to say a small prayer in thanksgiving to Our Lord for keeping you safe throughout the walking pilgrimage. At this time, you will check-in to your hotel and enjoy free time to explore Galicia's capital, Santiago. This evening you will enjoy a marvelous dinner, followed by a very restful overnight in Santiago de Compostela.

Day 11 | Sat, Sept. 14: Santiago De Compostela

This morning you will awaken in the beautiful city of Santiago de Compostela! Formed by Galician granite, this Cathedral is one of the finest architectural examples in Europe as it encompasses Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque styles. Additionally, the Cathedral contains numerous and valuable pieces of art that truly captivate the eye. Upon entering the Cathedral, tradition will lead as you will hug the dazzling statue of St. James. Following this intimate embrace, you will descend into the crypt where the Patron Saint of Pilgrims' relics are kept. Following your visit, you will enjoy free time for lunch on own before your sightseeing tour of the city. Some stops on your tour include the Obradoiro Square, Fonseca Palace, Gelmirez Palace, Franco Street, and much more. Your evening will be free to spend at your leisure until a final dinner with your group. You will spend a final overnight in Santiago de Compostela.

Day 12 | Sun, Sept. 15: Return Home

Your last day in Spain will begin with breakfast at your hotel, followed by a transfer to the Santiago Airport for your return flight(s) home.

*206 Tours Disclaimer: Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits.