



## The Camino Experience

The Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route has been travelled for more than a thousand years and is a UNESCO world heritage site. The Camino is not only for people of faith, just as many secular walkers make this journey. It offers adventure, challenge, an escape, beautiful countryside for walking, meeting new friends, enjoying good food, making great memories, while supporting a special cause close to your heart.

## The Compostela Certificate

Walking the last stage of the Camino Portuguese entails hiking 102 km from the Galician port of Vigo to the World Heritage site of Santiago de Compostela over 5 days. You will have a Camino passport to be stamped along the way, recording the details of your journey. This "credencial" entitles you to receive the coveted Compostela certificate. When you arrive in Santiago, you will receive your own decorative parchment inscribed with your name from the Pilgrim Office.

This Camino walking tour is a 6-night trip with 5 days of walking between 10 and 16 miles per day. Our tour representative will assist throughout the trip. A walkers support vehicle is available every day, should you require an early pick up or to shorten your day's walk. The walk is unguided to allow you flexibility with full back up from the Walk The Camino team.

## Includes:

- 6 nights lodgings in Camino hotels
- Breakfast, dinner and picnic lunch provided each day
- Luggage transfers
- Dedicated support vehicle for walker assistance
- Services of WTC Camino Specialist Rep, fluent in Spanish
- Transfers from and to the airport in Santiago de Compostela
- Credencial, Scallop Shell & Compostela Certificate



## CAMINO ITINERARY

### Day 1 - Arrival in Spain and Transfer to Vigo

The port city of Vigo has a lively atmosphere and your hotel in the old town is close to the promenade with its cafe bars, gardens and sea views. A welcome dinner and orientation will set you up for the exciting journey ahead.

### Day 2 - Vigo - Redondela, 10 miles

Today's fairly short and easy walk takes you out of the city alongside the estuary. You walk on quiet country roads and natural tracks to the small town of Redondela. Tonight, the group is split between two small family run hotels, both close to Cesantes beach on the Ria de Vigo.

### Day 3 - Redondela - Pontevedra, 12.6 miles

A day of varied country terrain with two short climbs of about 500 ft, and the village of Arcade in between providing a good rest stop. You pass through farmland, vineyards and some forest along this ancient pilgrim path marked by fountains, chapels and elevated views across the estuary. Across the medieval bridge of Pontesampaio, you'll take the wooded, riverside path into Pontevedra with its charming centre and must-see Church "Capela da Virxe Peregrina de Pontevedra".

### Day 4 - Pontevedra to Caldas de Reis, 14 miles

The path mainly follows the river valley today, starting with a slow gradual climb to Mount Amaro. You're walking on a mixture of wooded paths and minor roads into Caldas de Reis, a thermal spa town since before the Roman times, long famed for its hot sulphurous waters. There's a spring in the town centre with hot water to bathe your feet and cold water to quench your thirst.

### Day 5 - Caldas de Rei - Padron, 12.6 miles

A gentle climb for the first third of today's path, mainly through a mixture of woodland and on dirt footpaths to Padron. Again, you're following a river valley to one of the most historic Camino towns.

### Day 6 - Padron - Santiago de Compostela, 15,4 miles

Today's walk is a mostly gentle, uphill path, often through woods and getting busier as you near the outskirts of Santiago. Following the traditional route of the Portuguese Way, as you enter the old town centre, along narrow medieval streets to finally arrive at the magnificent Cathedral. This is a special moment and it's an experience to savour. The atmosphere in the great square, Plaza de Obradoiro, is filled with celebrations of those who have travelled here from the four corners of the world.