

By La Pèlerine

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THE EXPERT FOR THE WAYS OF ST JAMES

The Way of Saint James of Compostela (spanish part) CAMINO FRANCES

From Burgos to León



rom Burgos as far as León, the distinctive landscape of the Meseta stretches to the horizon. This wide, dry, stony plateau imposes on the pilgrim a sense of its vastness...

Every step taken strongly evokes the history of this pilgrimage which stretches back over 1000 years ... It is in this part of deepest Castile that the difference between the St James Way and other long-distance footpaths.

Your journey takes you through some charming Castilian villages: Castrojeriz, Frómista (with its beautiful San Martín church), Carrión de los Condes containing the monastery of San Zoilo...

Immerse yourself, step by step, in the culture of the Iberian peninsula and allow yourself to be amazed by the Camino Francés, which is without any doubt the most cosmopolitan long-distance walk in the world...



9 Days - 8 Nights - 7 Hiking days.

DAY 1 : BURGOS 860 m

Arrival at your hotel in Burgos, at the end of the afternoon. Overnight stay and half board.

DAY 2 : (BURGOS) RABE DE LAS CALZADAS - CASTROJERIZ 808 m

Here we organise transport to allow you to avoid the tedious walk out of and to shorten this long 40km stage. The taxi will set you down at Rabé de las Calzadas, after which you walk as far as Castrojeriz, a pretty village of Romanesque origin perched on a hilltop, which owes its pre-eminence to the history of the pilgrimage. Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: ≈ 7h, 28 km.

DAY 3 : CASTROJERIZ - FRÓMISTA 783 m

From Castrojeriz to Frómista, you walk a typical stage through a sea of wheat. The arrival into Frómista is very pleasant, you can relax in a magnificent setting as you approach the San Martín church. Overnight stay and half board. *Walking time:* \approx 6h40, 26 km.

DAY 4 : FRÓMISTA - CARRIÓN DE LOS CONDES 839 m

You walk to Carrión de los Condes, a large village situated on the Way. The village has kept all its old charm with many historical features: beautiful houses, churches and the San Zoilo monastery. Overnight stay and half board. *Walking time:* \approx 5h30, 22 km.

DAY 5 : CARRIÓN - TERRADILLOS DE LOS TEMPLARIOS 860 m

For this day's walk you cross the Meseta de Carrión de los Condes until you reach Terradillos de los Templarios. Overnight stay and half board. *Walking time: ≈ 6h3, 26 km.*



DAY 6 : TERRADILLOS - BURGO RANERO 881 m

You pass through Sahagún, known as the Spanish Cluny. Then you follow the camino (pilgrims' way) to El Burgo Ranero, whose main street is the St James Way. Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: ≈ 6h, 26 km.

DAY 7 : BURGO RANERO - MANSILLA DE LAS MULAS 799 m

After you pass through the village of Reliegos, the track takes you to Mansilla de las Mulas, a charming little old-world village. Little transfer to go to your accommodation in Villacelama. Overnight stay and half board. *Walking time:* ≈ 5h, 21 km.

DAY 8 : MANSILLA DE LAS MULAS - LEÓN 838 m

Little transfer to Mansilla, the walk takes into the city of Léon, which has a number of attractive features: la Casa de los Botines (a work of the Catalan architect, Gaudí), the splendid cathedral, the church of San Isidoro and even the hospice of San Marcos. Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: ≈ 5h, 19 km.

DAY 9 : LEÓN

End of your stay after breakfast.

Note:

1 - It will not be possible to alter the places where you are accommodated or the order of the walking stages etc (for obvious organisational reasons). Once the day's walk has started, you are expected to continue the day's programme as arranged, except where exceptional circumstances intervene (for example, safety issues linked to adverse weather conditions.

2 - If you wish to shorten a walking stage, you will need to contact and pay for any taxis used when the occasion arises.

> DATES

From April 1 to October 31, at your convenience and subject to hotel availability.



Please indicate on the booking form any other dates that would suit you (e.g.: possibility of postponing the tour by one or more days before or after...); this is in case one or more accommodations are fully booked on the chosen dates, as well as your dietary requirements.

We also ask you to **book as early as possible**. We don't have any reserved places in the accommodations, and some of them may be fully booked several months in advance.

> PRICE COVERS

- Half-board for all accommodation
- Luggage transfer between each walking stage
- Topo-guide available (1 topo-guide per room booked)
- The transfer between Burgos et Rabé de las Calzadas (day 2).

> PRICE DOES NOT COVER

- Picnic lunch
- Insurance,
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Transfers from your home to the meeting point and dispersal
- Registration fees (+15€ per person)
- Shipping costs abroad (+20€ per file)
- The priority processing fee for any registration on D-15 (+45€ per file)
- Shuttles or cabs to pick up your car or to shorten certain stages
- Parking fees.

> ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

Check-in at your hotel in Burgos in the late afternoon, the day before your first day of walking. For those arriving by car, paid guarded public parking 300 m from the hotel (Plaza de España). For those coming by train, cab from the station to the hotel (10 min and around €20).

Your stay ends in León the day after your last day of walking.



> LEVEL

al

From 5h to 7h per day on trail. The difference in altitude is slight and the path is well-marked.

> ACCOMMODATION

In 1*, 2 ** and 3*** (Spanish tourist classification) hotels and "casas rurales". In some accommodations (rare and exceptional cases), the shower and WC may be on the landing. We will inform you. Dogs are not allowed.

When accommodation is very busy:

Some accommodations may be fully booked on certain dates. In this case, and for your comfort, accommodation / stages may be modified with your agreement.

> MEALS

Breakfast is served relatively late by French standards, usually from 8:30 am. If you wish to have breakfast earlier, check with each hotel the day before if this is possible.

Be aware that Spanish culinary habits are sometimes quite different from French ones. And meals are delayed by up to 2 hours on the French schedule (breakfast around 8.30am-9am and dinner around 9pm).

> LUNCH

Packed lunches are not included in our prices. You'll find plenty of food and drink along the way.

> LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

Only your gear for the day and a picnic lunch. Luggage is transported by vehicle. We ask you to bring only one piece of luggage per person, NOT EXCEEDING 13kg; beyond this number (1 bag) and weight (12kg), the transporter may charge you a supplement at the end of the tour, or categorically refuse to transport your luggage if it is too bulky.



If you are part of a group, we ask you to indicate on your luggage tags the NAME of the person responsible for the group (the person who booked the tour).

> ACCESS

As train and bus timetables are subject to variations throughout the year and depending on the day of the week, we invite you to contact the various public transport operators directly to prepare your journey to and from the meeting point.



Private shuttle: please contact us.

> TRAVEL FILE

A topoguide is provided on payment of the balance (1 copy per room booked): it contains descriptions of the paths (the entire route is signposted) and comments on villages, monuments, etc. As well as the travel pack containing all the documents you need for your tour: luggage tags, practical information sheet with logistical details and accommodation addresses.

If you would like an additional travel pack, you will be charged + 20€ / pack.



TAKEOUT LIST

- a small rucksack for a picnic and the day's essentials
- a small first-aid kit (plasters, double skin, eosin, alcohol....)
- a pair of "medium mountain" walking shoes (beware of new shoes)
- sunglasses, sun cream and hat
- rainwear
- Light shoes for the evening
- a water bottle: it's important to drink 1.5 to 2 litres of water a day
- a knife
- torch (not essential)
- a pair of binoculars (optional)
- newspaper for your shoes if they get wet
- tissues
- a needle, a small amount of thread and one or two safety pins
- Masks
- hydro-alcoholic gel.

> FORMALITIES

Identity card or passport required.

European health insurance card

You are traveling to a country in the European Union, the European Economic Area (EU/EEA) or Switzerland.

Before you leave, get a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This will enable you to prove your entitlement to health insurance and to have your medical expenses covered, in accordance with the legislation and formalities in force in the country where you are staying.

Nominative and individual, the form should be requested from www.ameli.fr.

Finally, if you're coming to Spain by car, it's compulsory to have 2 warning triangles in your vehicle and 1 reflective warning vest. Failure to comply with these regulations can result in heavy fines, which must be paid locally.

To call France

To call France from Spain, dial the international dialing code 00, then the French dialing code 33, then your phone number, minus the first 0.

To call Spain, dial the international dialing code 00, then the Spanish dialing code 34, then your phone number, minus the first 0. EXAMPLE : how to call the Pèlerine : 00 33 4 71 74 47 40.

MORE DETAILS AT THE SUBSCRIPTION