



## THE EXPERT FOR THE WAYS OF ST JAMES

# CAMINO PRIMITIVO

## From Oviedo to Santiago de Compostela



The city of Oviedo marks the beginning of the Camino Primitivo which leads you to the much-admired Santiago de Compostela. The stages of this long-distance walk take you through the little-known region of Asturias and the surprising one of Galicia. This last-named area is well-known for its food, its Celtic history and its cultural heritage. There is no lack of scenic interest either, thanks to the green hills and charming valleys of the district. And the entry into Santiago de Compostela itself, the final destination of this pilgrimage, will be a crowning moment which stays in your memory for ever.



16 days - 15 nights - 14 hiking day

### DAY 1 : OVIEDO (alt : 240m)

Arrive and check in at your hotel in Oviedo.

Take the opportunity to have a stroll round the historic centre of this town.

### DAY 2 : OVIEDO – GRADO – SAMA DE GRADO (alt : 304m)

D+400m / D-580m

On leaving Oviedo you begin the Camino Primitivo, following in the footsteps of Alfonso II who was the first king to follow this ancient route out of Oviedo. On the way, you see a number of little villages and hermitages until you come to Grado. From here you will be provided with transport to Sama de Grado.

**Walking time: ≈ 6h30, distance 25 km.**

### DAY 3 : GRADO – SALAS (alt : 250m)

D+660m / D-490m

You will be given a short lift from Sama de Grado to Grado. After this you walk through the peaceful, flower-filled countryside of Asturias. On the way you see the Monastery of Salvador de Cornellana, and then the rich historical centre of Salas.

**Walking time: ≈ 6h30, distance 23 km.**

### DAY 4 : SALAS – TINEO (alt : 670m)

D+680m / D-200m

This stage of the walking holiday takes you into the mountains of Asturias and the city of Tinéo.

**Walking time: ≈ 5h, distance 19 km.**

### DAY 5 : TINEO - POLA DE ALLANDE (alt : 540m)

D+690m / D-870m

A beautiful stage of the walk in the Asturian mountains. You pass through the col de Piedratecha, and see the monastery of Santa María Real de Obona.

**Walking time: ≈ 8h, distance 29 km.**



**DAY 6 : POLA DE ALLANDE – BERDUCEDO (alt : 910m)****D+870m / D-500m**

This is a splendid and wild stage of the walk. It takes you to the Col du Palo, the highest point of the Camino Primitivo.

**Walking time: ≈ 6h, distance 18 km.**

**DAY 7 : BERDUCEDO – GRANDAS DE SALIME (alt : 250m)****D+720m / D-1070m**

The day's walk begins with a long descent towards the Salime dam, before climbing up to Grandas de Salime and its beautiful collegiate church\*.

**Walking time: ≈ 6h30, distance 20.2 km.**

*\*For information, there is only one accommodation at Grandas de Salime, so you may have to sleep at Vistalegre (6 km before). In this case, we can organize two transfers for you (on D7 at the end of the day and on D8 in the morning, for a supplement of €25).*

**DAY 8 : GRANDAS DE SALIME – FONSAGRADA (alt : 950m)****D+910m / D-510m**

This stage of the walk takes you into Galicia by way of the col del Acebo.

**Walking time: ≈ 8h, distance 26.2 km.**

**DAY 9 : FONSAGRADA - CADAVO BALEIRA (alt : 720m)****D+680m / D-920m**

This day's walking takes you through moorland and forest, and enables you to see some of the architecture of rural Galicia.

**Walking time: ≈ 7h30, distance 27 km.**

**DAY 10 : CADAVO BALEIRA – LUGO (alt : 480m)****D+490m / D-740m**

On this day's walk you will see many religious monuments testifying to the history of the old pilgrims' route. This day's walk takes you to Lugo, which has a historic centre surrounded by Roman walls dating back to the 3rd and 4th centuries.

**Walking time: ≈ 8h30, distance 31 km.**



**DAY 11 : LUGO – FERREIRA (alt : 539m)****D+510m / D-450m**

You leave Lugo and walk into the Galician countryside, passing through San Roman de Retorta.

**Walking time: ≈ 7h30, distance 27 km.**

**DAY 12 : FERREIRA – MELIDE (alt : 460m)****D+320m / D-400m**

At the end of this day's walk, the camino primitivo joins up with the camino francés at Melide. **Walking time: ≈ 5h30, distance 20.2 km.**

**DAY 13 : MELIDE – ARZUA (alt : 390m)****D+250m / D-310m**

During this day's walk you can explore some delightful historical settings, and see some interesting relics of the old Way of St James. You are now getting near to Compostela!

**Walking time: ≈ 4h, distance 14.3 km.**

**DAY 14 : ARZUA - A RUA (alt : 300m)****D+250m / D-290m**

This is your penultimate day's walk before reaching Santiago de Compostela. This stage of the walk takes you to A Rua.

**Walking time: ≈ 4h30, distance 18 km.**

**DAY 15 : A RUA - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (alt : 260m)****D+370m / D-470m**

This last stage, rich in emotion, is crowned by your arrival in Santiago, a UNESCO World Heritage site. You go over the Monte de Gozo which gives you a view of the whole town. After that you go through the outskirts of the town, seeing many interesting sights on the way, such as the cathedral and the Plaza de Obradoiro, the Hostal de los Reyes Catolicos, the cloisters and the Archbishop's Palace : the Palace of Raxoi.

**Walking time: ≈ 6h30, distance 22 km.**

**DAY 16 : SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (alt : 260m)**

End of trip after the 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

- Overnight stays on a half-board basis
- Luggage transfers between each walking stage (depending on the option chosen)
- Travel book with a topo-guide (1 topo-guide per room booked)
- Tourist tax
- The transfer of person the day 8 after the breakfast from Vistalegre to Grandas de Salime.

## > PRICE DOES NOT COVER

- Lunch
- Day 7 transfer supplement, if you choose to do the full stage (+25€ per file)
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Insurance



- International shipping costs (+20€/file)
- Registration fees (+15€/person)
- Priority processing fee for registrations received by D-15 (+45€ / file)
- Transfers from your home to the meeting point and dispersal, shuttles or cabs to collect your car and to shorten certain stages.

## > ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE


### Beginning of the trip :

Arrival and set up in your hotel in Santillana del Mar late in the afternoon , the day before your first hiking day.

### End of the trip :

In Oviedo after the breakfast, the day after your last hiking day .

## > LEVEL

 Between 5h and 8h walking per day on average, over distances ranging from 17 km to 31 km, on hilly terrain with gradients in the Asturias region (medium mountains).

## > ACCOMMODATION

In hotels, guesthouses and casas rurales.

### When accommodation is very busy :

It may happen that your stay has already been booked by other hikers.

In this case, and for your comfort, some accommodations will be modified ; cab pick-up times and locations may also be altered. **Additional charges may apply.**

## > LUNCH

Packed-lunch are not included in the price.

## > LUGGAGE TRANSPORT

Your luggage will be transported between each stage of the walk.



## ATTENTION :

We ask you to leave your luggage in the hall of each accommodation in the morning, and to **IMPERATIVELY** bring **ONLY 1 LUGGAGE PER PERSON NOT EXCEEDING 13KG**; beyond this number (1 bag) and weight (13 kg), the transporter may charge you a supplement at the end of the hike, or categorically refuse to transport your luggage if it is too bulky.

Please bring a small backpack to carry your personal belongings for the day. 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

### \*GO



- by train or bus



-by plane



-by car

### \*RETURN



-by train



-by bus



-by car



-by plane

A transfer of your vehicle can be organized during your walking trip, so that you can pick it up at the end of your stay (please contact us).

## > TRAVEL FILE

The month before your departure, after having paid your trip, we will send you a travel file with all the documents you need to your hike : a topoguide and maps, luggage tags, addresses of your accommodations and also contractual documents



(invoice, insurance certificate). In the topoguide you will find the description of the paths (all the way is well-marked) and comments upon the villages, the monuments ... We give 1 topoguide per reserved room.

**If you want an additional travel file, you be invoiced +20€/file.**

## > TAKEOUT LIST

- 1 soft travel bag; avoid suitcases, which are bulkier, and keep the weight and bulk of your belongings to a reasonable 10 kg maximum.
- 1 small rucksack (minimum 30 liters) for your day's essentials
- 1 pair of previously used hiking boots
- 1 waterproof, breathable jacket (Gore-Tex type)
- 1 fleece or 1 pullover
- 1 rain cape (poncho)
- 1 pair of loose-fitting walking pants (canvas or jogging pants)
- 1 pair of thin gloves
- 1 hat
- 1 pair of shorts
- 1 bathing suit + towel
- several pairs of socks (not too thick)
- underwear
- 1 pair of tennis shoes
- 1 tracksuit or loose-fitting evening suit
- sunglasses, sun cream and lip protection
- 1 hat
- 1 water bottle (2 to 3 liters per person per day in summer)
- 1 Tupperware-type plastic bowl for picnics + cutlery
- 1 small personal first-aid kit (gauze, elastoplast, painkiller, double skin for blisters, earplugs...).
- your camera, and why not a novel, watercolors or other...
- your papers; see "Formalities".

Don't forget your good mood and your curiosity!

## > 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](http://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](#)

