

Hiking the route of Santiago de Compostela

The Way of St. James or St. James' Way, often known by its Spanish name, el Camino de Santiago, is the pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in northwestern Spain, where the remains of the apostle, Saint James the Great, are said to be buried. The Way of St James has existed for over a thousand years. It was one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during medieval times. It was considered one of three pilgrimages on which all sins could be forgiven; the others are Rome and the pilgrimage to Jerusalem.



Hiking Program

5 or 6 day's that cover the last 100 kms. of the century famous Camino de Santiago de Compostela (St. James' Way). A minibus will transport your equipment, meeting up with the group every 5 kms. During the hiking excursion: hotels in double occupancy; transport Madrid – Galicia – Madrid; 3 meals; insurance, guide, visits to sites on route i.e. wine cellars, monasteries, archaeological sites. The Camino de Santiago tours program include an intensive Spanish language course. The first two weeks of the program you will attend Spanish classes from 9:30 to 13:00 daily from Monday to Friday. In the afternoons there are optional activities which are either free or low-cost. One paid activity is included in your program fee.

Equipment

Bring the most comfortable and logical equipment for hiking: footwear and socks, rainwear, change of clothing, thermos, small backpack, camera, sun protection cream, etc.



Hiking Route Itinerary

Day 1 - Departure by coach from Madrid at 5 pm. Dinner on route, Hotel

Day 2 - Departure by coach to kilometre 100 on the Camino de Santiago. 30 kilometres is our goal. Minibus takes us to hotel. Dinner at hotel.

Day 3 - Departure in minibus to Km. 70. 30 kilometres is our goal. Minibus takes us to hotel. Dinner at hotel.

Day 4 - Departure in minibus to Km. 40. 28 kilometres is our goal. Minibus takes us to hotel. Dinner at hotel.

Day 5 - Departure in minibus to Km. 12. Arrival in Santiago for the Pilgrims' mass at 12 noon. Lunch and return to Madrid at 3:30 pm by coach.

Note: Distances and timings are approximate and can vary according to weather conditions and the participants' needs.



HIKING THE ROUTE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA AT A GLANCE

QUICK FACTS

- 1 Small groups: 6 to 12 participants
- 2 Commencing first Monday of month (except July, August and December)
- 3 Duration 3 weeks
- 4 No language requirement.
- 5 8 levels of language classes from complete beginners to composition classes for advanced speakers
- 6 Designed for active travellers who prefer around 50/50 organized activities with free time

INCLUDED

- 1 Transfers from and to Madrid's Barajas airport
- 2 Transport Madrid - Galicia - Madrid
- 3 50/50 balance between organized activities and time to explore on your own
- 4 Options for lodging in Madrid in shared apartments with Spanish family or other program participants
- 5 Two weeks intensive Spanish language course daily from 9:30 to 1 pm, 40 classes
- 6 Three meals included during excursion
- 7 Visit sites on route, i.e. wine cellars, monasteries and archaeological sites
- 8 Full-coverage health and accident insurance
- 9 Orientation and information pack
- 10 One group cultural activity (concert, excursion, exhibition, et al)
- 11 Optional cultural activities coordinator for those who want more with free and small fee activities
- 12 Bilingual staff
- 13 Free Internet access at Spanish school
- 14 Testing, materials, certificates, value-added taxes
- 15 Activities as stated in description
- 16 Low bureaucracy

Not included: Transportation, normal meals, communication costs, personal expenses and lodging costs. If the minimum number of participants is not covered we will join our group with another to guarantee participation. Dates can be customized for walking tours throughout the year

START DATES

- July 9 - 28, 2007
- July 30 - August 18, 2007
- August 6 - 27, 2007
- August 27 - September 12 – 16, 2007
- September 24 - October 11 – 14, 2007 (4-day excursion)
- October 15 - October 31 to November 5, 2007
- November 19 - December 5 – 9 10, 2007