



The Camino de Santiago Hiking Adventure

9 Days

Day 1 | Touchdown in Lugo

Tempting Tapas

Our Wild Women pilgrimage begins! Double-knot those shoelaces! Lugo (formerly known as Lucus Augusti) is the only city in the world to be surrounded by still-intact third-century Roman walls.

We meet in the hotel lobby at 6 p.m. and ease into the Spanish panoramas—it's a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site of Gothic churches, cloisters, dramatic towers and iconic gates. At a lively local cafe, we discover the irresistible side of Spain: the edible one! Yes, we're talking tempting tapas and *vino tinto* (red wine). To acclimate, it's best to absorb the colorful atmosphere of this cosmo city by people-watching and tasting what lies ahead.

Included Meals

Dinner

Accommodations

Hotel Mendez Nuñez



Day 2 | Sarría

Following Scallop shells and Arrows

We meet at 9 a.m. and board a bus for a 40-minute ride to Sarría, where we will officially begin our Camino de Santiago pilgrimage together. Our eyes will soon be alert and adept at finding the sometimes surreptitious yellow arrows and scallop shells that indicate the Camino route through the storied Galicia region. The last 62 miles (100 km) of the 491 mile-long (790 km) Camino is well populated as pilgrims must walk at least 62 miles to qualify for the coveted Compostela stamp.

The Camino knows no age, gender, geography, race or skill level. Different languages and landscapes converge in the energy of “The Way” and the fever pitch is palpable! A support van will be available if you would like assistance on any part of this journey. Emotional baggage can be heavy enough; let us help you with your physical load!

Included Meals

Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

Casa Roan or similar

The Hike

11 miles (18 km)



Day 3 | Portomarin to Airexe

A Summit for Our Vibram Soles

Starting in Portomarin, we marvel at the relocation of the entire city! When the Miño River was dammed in the 1960s, the original village location was flooded and larger buildings were moved higher up the mountain. And we think moving to a new house or apartment is a big deal!

Later, we leave the urban rumbles and congestion behind as we cut through the magical woods and to the high point (and possibly highlight of the day): Sierra Ligonde. History seeps in as the Camino passes by ancient pilgrim hospices (back when a horn of wine cured all). Summit in Airexe where we can pull off your merino wool socks for the day. Our work here is done!

Find a seat on the group shuttle back to our hotel for an evening of reflection and relaxation.

Included Meals

Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

Casa Roan or similar

The Hike

10.5 miles (17 km)



Day 4 | Airexe to O Coto

Hamlets and Hamstrings

We begin our day royally! The town of Palas de Rei was trendy once-upon-a-time for Galician nobility and the likes of an eighth-century Visigoth king. After a good dose of caffeine and perhaps a divine slice of the famous *tarta de Santiago*, get ready for the twists and turns of the day. We will walk through San Xulian, a distinct Camino hamlet with a traditional 12th-century church and trail shaded by tree canopy over two river valleys.

At day's end, we will be magically transported to your hotel for an indulgent shower, restorative dinner and dreamy sleep.

Included Meals

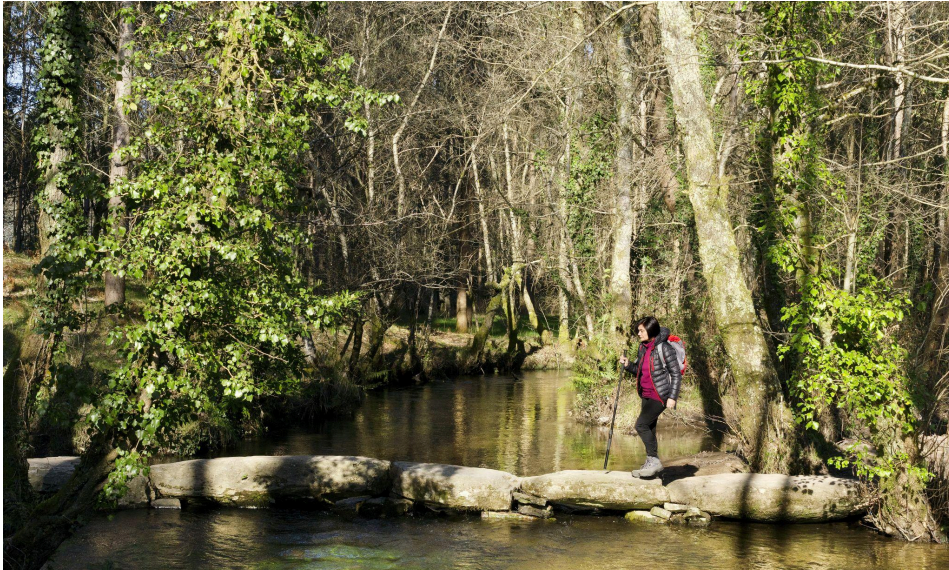
Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

Casa Roan or similar

The Hike

10 miles (16 km)



Day 5 | O Coto to Castañeda

Pints and Pulpo

After breakfast, the sun will be on our shoulders onward to Leboeiro. This village and the medieval hamlet of Furelos are both showstoppers with their storybook bridges. Artists and poets would kill for inspirational views like these!

Later, in Melide, we can drop our daypacks and experience the famous *pulperia*. Galicia has many gourmand specialties but the *pulpo Gallego* (steamed octopus) is a rite of passage. After lunch, the Camino rises and falls, splitting through tiny villages and skyscraper forests until Castañeda. Here, limestone was carried from Triacastela and fired in the kilns before being taken to Santiago to build the mighty cathedral. If your pack is feeling heavy, be glad it's not limestone you're carrying!

Included Meals

Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

La Casona de Nene/Casa do Cabo or similar

The Hike

10.5 miles (17 km)



Day 6 | Castañeda to Salceda

Bosom-shaped Cheese

Rising and shining is easy with the magnetic pull of Santiago under our feet. After a shuttle back to the trail, we lean into a challenging climb and descent. Located on the banks of the River Iso, Ribadiso is home to the oldest *albergue* (hostel) on the Camino (formerly a 15th-century pilgrim hospital). After a History 101 lesson, climb to the town of Arzua, famous for Tetilla, a bosom-shaped cheese. Really! We can also ask our guide about the tall tale of Tetilla.

In the afternoon, we walk through sweet hamlets, inhale the fragrance of eucalyptus forests and run our hands along ancient moss-covered stone walls.

We can rest our Fitbits in Salceda, where the shuttle will take us back to our hotel and pillow.

Included Meals

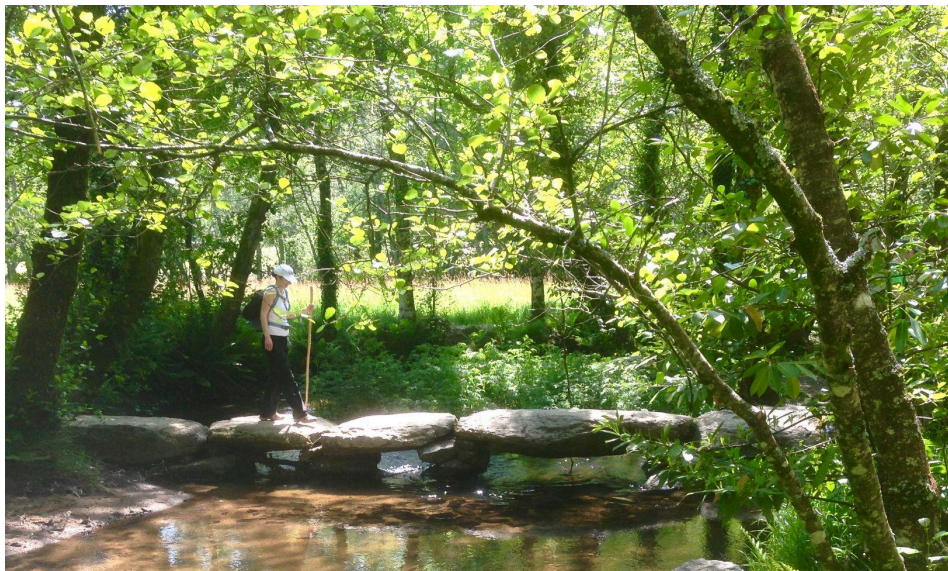
Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

La Casona de Nene/Casa do Cabo or similar

The Hike

11.8 miles (19 km)



Day 7 | Salceda to Lavacolla

In the Shadow of Santiago

As the Pet Shop Boys sang in 1993, “Go West!” Descending westward from Alto de Santa Irene, through a sentry of eucalyptus trees and the villages of Rua and Amenal, we get charged up for the final climb of the route!

Skirting around the airport below the jetstream-streaked sky, we will arrive in Lavacolla. Legend has it that pilgrims would bathe in the shallow stream to arrive in Santiago clean in spirit and body.

Santiago is just around the corner and an evening spent swapping stories and laughs together will elevate the anticipation!

Included Meals

Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

Xan Xodo or similar

The Hike

10.5 miles (17 km)



Day 8 | Lavacolla to Santiago de Compostela

Take It in Stride

The last day of the Camino is always one of mixed emotions. We take it all in stride and let our minds revisit all the colorful days behind us.

Today we climb from Lavacolla to the famed “Mount Joy” (Monte del Gozo) where, if we are lucky and not daydreaming or busy gabbing, we will catch our first tingle-inducing glimpse of the cathedral of Santiago’s towers.

Unbelievably, our Camino journey ends at the steps of the cathedral today.

Shine up your hiking boots, sniff around for your freshest-smelling dry-fit shirt, charge your phone and get ready to gather for a well-deserved celebratory dinner with your fellow Wild Women pilgrims.

Included Meals

Breakfast and dinner

Accommodations

San Francisco or similar

The Hike

6.8 miles (11 km)



Day 9 | Tour End

Walking Ahead

After a leisurely breakfast of recounted stories and laughs, a local tour guide and historian will probably ask us to “*shhh*” for a while as she shows us the most impressive sights of the city and cathedral on a two-hour guided walking tour. It might be difficult to believe, but we are going to miss spending our days simply walking!

Say goodbye to your newfound friends and start planning your next walk around the world together!

If you're not extending your stay (which is highly recommended), you should book your flight out of Santiago-Rosalía de Castro Airport (SCQ) after 3 p.m. today.

Included Meals

Breakfast



Trip Details

Know Before You Go

For all of the logistical details you'll need to know prior to departure—including the packing list, arrival and departure details and suggested tipping information, click [HERE](#).

Itinerary version as of March 22, 2024.