

French Camino

Guided Walking Tour 2026



Sarria to Santiago de Compostela

5 Walking Days 115 km

September 14th to September 21st, 2026.

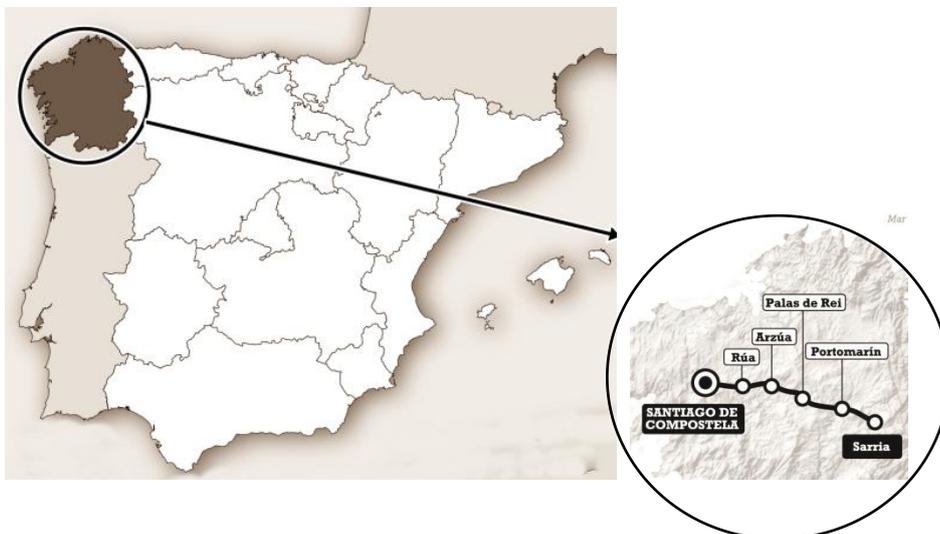
8 days/7 nights

Introduction

This route marks the final section of the famous Camino route known as the French Way. Sarria, situated 115 km from Santiago de Compostela, is the ideal starting point for a journey that culminates with the tired traveller receiving their pilgrim's certificate, or *Compostela*. Our path takes us along country lanes and dirt trails through forests, farmlands and rustic villages. Wonderful examples of medieval architecture and Galician cuisine are our final reward when we arrive in Santiago de Compostela.

Highlights

- Winding our way through the beautiful Galician landscape dotted with charming villages
- Finding out about the many historic churches and monasteries along the way
- Soaking up the Camino's unique atmosphere of friendship and solidarity
- Reflecting on our journey in the famous Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela



Itinerary

Sept 14th Arrival at Santiago de Compostela Airport and introduction to Guides.

After arriving at the airport, our private transfer will take us to Sarria, a modern town with a lovely old quarter and a popular starting point for the Camino de Santiago. Many pilgrims choose to depart from Sarria because the distance from this point to Santiago de Compostela spans the necessary 100 kilometres required to receive a Pilgrim's Certificate, or *Compostela*.

Overnight: Sarria.

Sept 15th **WALK.** Sarria – Portomarín (23 km)

Time to set off. We leave Sarria and enter a classic Galician countryside of meadows, woods and farmsteads. Our walk takes us along shaded trails, footbridges and country lanes lined with wild flowers. Along the way, we'll spot many traditional Galician *hórreos* (elevated granaries) and lots of pretty villages where we can stop for water or assess our progress. A lovely descending trail takes us to our final stop, the town of Portomarín, where we will be transferred back to Sarria.

Overnight: Portomarín

Sept 16th **WALK.** Portomarín – Palas de Rei (25 km)

The Camino weaves in and out of forests and scrubland. Today we cross the river Miño, Galicia's longest river, and ascend steadily towards the Sierra de Ligonde. We will pass charming hamlets such as Gonzar and Ventas de Narón, as well as more raised granaries and traditional stone crosses. By today, we will also start to feel the spirit of generosity and solidarity that accompanies every Camino walk. We will have a typical Galician dinner in a lovely family-run restaurant that evening.

Overnight: Palas de Rei

Sept 17th **WALK.** Palas de Rei - Arzúa (28 km)

The Camino continues along shrub-lined tracks and byroads, passing Leboeiro, a quintessential Galician village with a beautiful stone cross in the middle of its small main plaza. We'll come to the lively market town of Melide, where you will find many restaurants serving octopus, Galicia's most classic dish. Next, the Camino crosses several streams and follows a forest trail, bringing us to the village of Boente, the pretty medieval hamlet of Ribadiso and finally the town of Arzúa, famous for its local cheese. By now, one has become used to the rhythms of the Camino, the quiet moments of reflection interwoven with exuberant discussions that so often shorten the journey.

Overnight: Arzúa

Sept 18th **WALK.** Arzúa – Pedrouzo (20 km)

Getting closer! After our night in Arzúa, the Camino will take us through hamlets and farmlands, up and down shallow river valleys, and through forests of eucalyptus, pine and deciduous trees. Along these final stretches of the Camino, the number of walkers increases, and it is always nice to meet pilgrims from every corner of the world. Follow a mix of country backroads and forest tracks as far as Pedrouzo.

Overnight: Pedrouzo

Sept 19th WALK. Pedrouzo – Santiago de Compostela (19 km)

Our last day! We leave Pedrouzo and pass through more woods, before descending a country track towards the hamlet of Amenal. The Camino continues along quiet roads and rivers until a path lined with rows of tall eucalyptus trees leads us to the pilgrim complex overlooking Santiago de Compostela known as Monte do Gozo (Mount of Joy). We descend through the outskirts of the city, then weave through the narrow streets of the old town until we reach Plaza do Obradoiro and beautiful Santiago Cathedral. Our walking might be over, but the adventure certainly is not; now it's time to relax and explore this magnificent spiritual and cultural city.
Overnight: Santiago de Compostela

Sept 20th Free day in Santiago de Compostela

Time to relax and enjoy all the things this wonderful city has to offer. Pilgrims may like to reflect on their journey in the magnificent Cathedral, where they can also visit the shrine containing the relics of the Apostle Saint James. Exploring the narrow cobbled streets of the old town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is another popular activity and a fitting reward for all that walking.
Overnight: Santiago de Compostela

Sept 21st Transfer to Santiago Airport. Flight back home

Price

€990 per person sharing	Single Supplement €295
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Price based on minimum of 15 people. Booking Subject to Availability

What's Included

- . 7 nights' en suite hotel accommodation
- . Breakfast every day
- . Evening dinners the first 5 nights
- . All Private Transfers
- . Daily luggage transfer (1 bag per person)
- . Pilgrim passport and shell
- . Detailed information prior to start
- . Experienced guiding services
- . Pilgrim Certificate (*Compostela*)

Optional Extras:

- . Flights and travel insurance

Bookings

Once you have decided to travel, it is then time to book your flights. Once your flights are booked, we will arrange all the services provided in your Camino package.

Our agent will then contact you to explain our straightforward booking process.

All bookings are handled by J. Barter Travel, a fully licensed and bonded travel agent (License no. TA 0720).

- A deposit of €150 per person is required to confirm booking
- Balance of payment is due eight weeks before date of Arrival

The following cancellation charges apply:

Period before Departure	Cancellation Fee Per Person
120-70 days	Loss of Deposit
69-45 days	50% of total cost
44-31 days	75% of total cost
30 days or less	100% of total cost



About CaminoByTheWay

- We have led groups comprising people of **all ages**, from adolescence right up to late seventies. So far everyone who has ever walked the Camino with us has arrived safely in Santiago de Compostela. We are very proud of that fact.
- While initially a walk of over 20km may seem daunting, it is important to remember that nobody is expected to complete a day's walk in one go. We split our walks into two carefully selected **breaks**, where people can relax, grab a tea or coffee, or catch up with the rest of the group. For longer distances, we incorporate a third stop for lunch into our stage. It is worth noting that it is common to have a stage completed by lunchtime, thus giving pilgrims an opportunity to explore the town in which they are staying that evening.
- **Our record.** We have many years' experience of guiding walking groups of all sizes along the Camino and other hiking trails. These include national charities such as the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind, the Irish Hospice Foundation and Diabetes Ireland, as well as diocesan groups, hillwalking clubs and schools such as St Angela's College, Cork.
- **Our guiding method.** Our system is simple, efficient and designed to make sure everyone is monitored and escorted safely along the correct path. There is always a guide in front of the group and another at the back. We are in constant contact with each other to assess the group's progress, energy levels and general well-being.
- In the event of a walker getting into difficulty, we have a **strict safety response protocol** designed to ensure that the person in question is treated quickly and correctly. Rest assured that professional medical attention is never far away on the Camino.
- Camino guides also take care of all post-walking **logistics** such as coordinating hotel check-ins, assisting at evening meals, etc.
- After breakfast, we have a **clinic** to treat the most common ailment to befall a Camino pilgrim—namely, blisters. Having guided groups for many years, we are well used to attending to these and other minor walking-related injuries such as cramps or soreness.
- In addition to navigation and safety concerns, we are responsible for creating a sense of **solidarity and generosity** among a group—in keeping not only with the true spirit of the Camino de Santiago, but also with the philosophy of our company.
- **CaminoByTheWay** operates in partnership with **J. Barter Travel**, 92 Patrick Street, Cork, Ireland..