Camino De Santiago: The Scenic Portuguese Route

11 DAY TOUR FROM PORTO TO PORTO

Tour: 5380

Rediscover the wonders of nature and the stillness of the mind on this scenic blend of the Portuguese and the Spiritual routes of the Camino de Santiago. The walk will cover a total of approximately 75 miles. Take time to reflect, contemplate, meditate, and give this challenge the meaning you prefer, whether spiritual, religious, physical, or just an opportunity to meet like-minded people. After landing in Porto, start your journey by walking across the Portuguese-Spanish border on the bridge over the Minho river. Drive to the coastal town of Baiona and walk the Portuguese Way skirting the Atlantic Ocean to Pontevedra. From there, join the Spiritual Variant towards the Ulla River in Cambados and experience a boat cruise to Padrón.

The Spiritual Variant is the name given to the route that joins the Camino Portugues, both the Coastal and Central route, with the Traslatio (or Transfer) route. It ends in Santiago de Compostela following the route taken by the remains of the Apostle James, from Jerusalem to Iria Flavia, near Padrón. Discover spectacular landscapes and seascapes, and seize the opportunity to discover historical places, and enjoy the authentic cuisine of the Galician region.

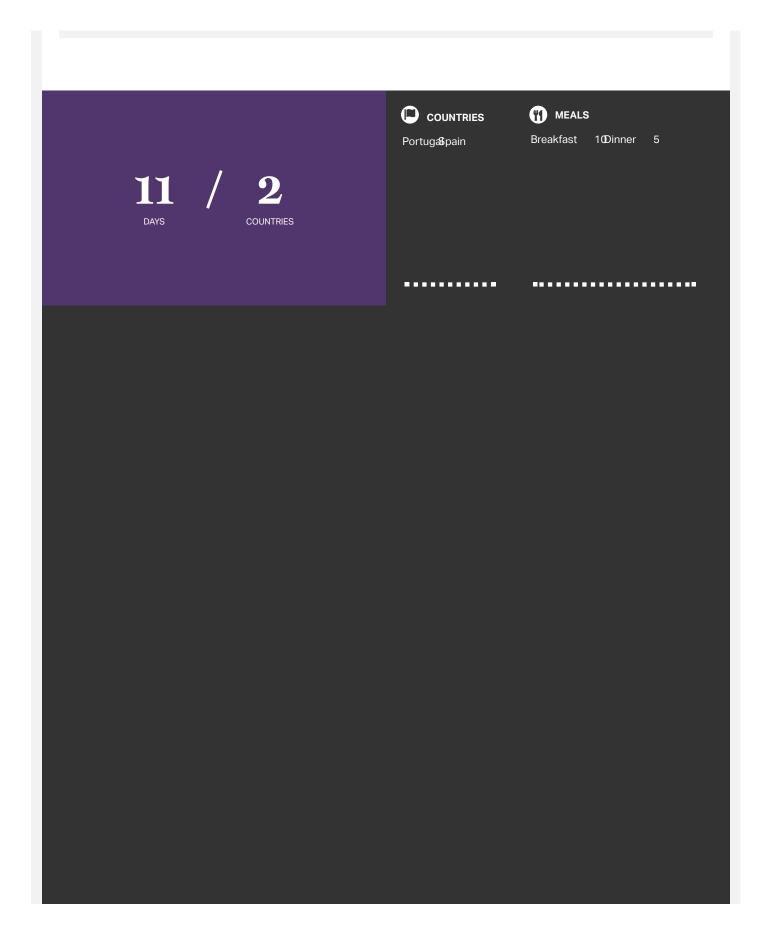
Evening Mass will be available in most towns for those who wish to attend. In Santiago de Compostela you can attend Pilgrim Mass. You will receive the Compostela Certificate upon completion of the entire route on foot.

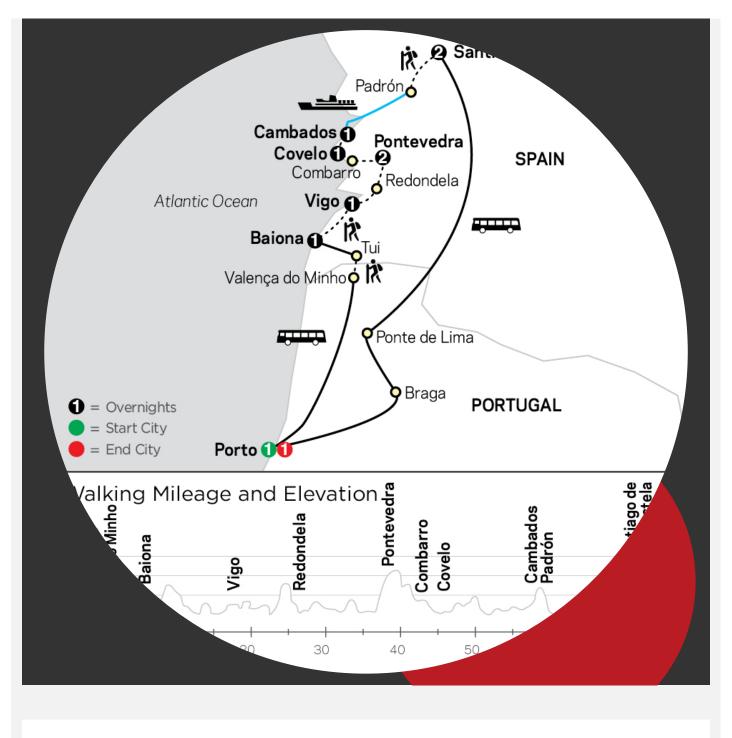
All this. Included.

Your walking and spiritual experience is best enjoyed in small groups, and therefore the group size is limited to a maximum of 20 participants per departure, plus, of course, your Tour Director who will assist along the way. Hiking is much easier without luggage; one piece of luggage per person, not exceeding 20 kg/44 lbs, will be transferred during your walk, from the lobby of your overnight hotel to the next overnight accommodation.

A pleasant catamaran cruise, as well as transportation by coach from Porto to Baiona and from Santiago de Compostela to Porto, allowing for some additional exciting visits, are all taken care of.

Occasionally, transfers by minivan will be provided when accommodation is not directly at the end of a stage.





Day <u>M</u> Day Itinerary

https://www.cosmos.com/tour/camino-de-santiago-the-scenic-portuguese-route/5380/?season=2024

1

ARRIVE IN PORTO, PORTUGAL

Check into your hotel and, if you have time, start exploring this lively city on your own with the help of the CosmosGO app. In the late afternoon, meet your tour companions and your Tour Director, who will explain the dos and don'ts of the walk and give you some important advice. Take a pleasant stroll to a nearby restaurant for an included welcome dinner.

📥 Dinner

2

PORTO-VALENÇA DO MINHO-TUI, SPAIN-BAIONA

Approximately 3 km/2 mi - avg 40 min - difficulty 1/3.

Time this morning for a quick guided orientation through Porto's bustling city center with views over the Douro River, followed by free time or the opportunity to attend A Mass in the Cathedral. After lunch, transfer by coach to Valença do Minho to walk a section of the Camino de Santiago into Spain across the Minho river towards Tui. Rejoin the coach to Baiona, on the Atlantic coast. Fun fact: Baiona was the first town in Europe to receive news of America's discovery in 1493. We recommend touring the medieval fortress on the Monterreal peninsula, visiting the replica of Columbus' ship la Pinta and discovering this beautiful beachside town.

Today's distance (by coach): 89 mi / 143 km

┢ Breakfast 🔺 Dinner

3 BAIONA-VIGO

Approximately 25 km/15.5 mi - avg 5 hrs - difficulty 2/3.

This is the real start of your journey. May every step be a thought on peace and an extension of loving kindness. Leave Baiona behind, and follow the coast across the Rías Baixas through the beach town of Nigrán. Walk along long pristine beaches and admire the magnificent Cíes Islands from a distance. Vigo is Galicia's most important harbor and busiest city. If you wish, attend A Mass at Vigo Cathedral.

Breakfast

VIGO-REDONDELA-PONTEVEDRA

Approximately 16 km/10 mi – avg 3 hrs – difficulty 2/3.

Take in the stunning views of Vigo Bay, the Atlantic Islands, the Morrazo Peninsula, and Rande Bridge. After a pleasant walk on an unpaved path through woodlands, reach Redondela. Our driver will take you to the hotel in the centre of Pontevedra, where you will spend the next two nights. You may wish to visit the stunning Sanctuary of the Virgin Pilgrim and attend Mass.

Today's distance (by coach): 12.5 mi / 20 km

┢ Breakfast 🔺 Dinner

5

PONTEVEDRA-REDONDELA-PONTEVEDRA

Approximately 19 km/12 mi–Average 4 hrs, 30 min. – Difficulty 3/3.

After a short transfer back to Redondela, continue your journey; first uphill by the coast with stunning views over the Vigo Bay and across the infamous Ponte Sampaio bridge, where Napoleon's Army suffered one of the greatest defeats during the War of Independence. Continue then mostly downhill, through peaceful oak forests and along the river to the center of Pontevedra, the city founded by the Romans and dedicated to the Virgen Peregrina (the Pilgrim Virgin). Your A Mass option tonight is at Saint Francisco Convent. Take advantage of the vast choice of restaurants to immerse yourself in the local culinary culture.

Today's distance (by coach): 12.5 mi / 20 km

┢ Breakfast

PONTEVEDRA-COMBARRO-COVELO

Approximately 14 km/8.7 mi – Average 3 hrs – Difficulty 1/3.

Leave the inland Portuguese Camino to take the Spiritual Variant, which follows St. James' final journey. Legend says that a stone vessel carried the Apostle's remains from Jaffa in Israel to Padrón along the River Ulla some 2000 years ago. Today, you will walk past the Monastery of San Juan de Poio and the beautiful town of Combarro, famous for its many horreos (traditional granaries on pillars). After Combarro, continue another two miles along the coast to reach the hotel.

┢ Breakfast 🔺 Dinner

7 COVELO-CAMBADOS

Approximately 20 km/12.5 mi–Average 4 hrs 30 min.–Difficulty 3/3.

Expect a beautiful walk today, through vineyards and alongside refreshing streams in the forests. Stop at the 12th Century Cistercian Monastery of Armenteira, founded by the knight Ero in 1168. Follow the relaxing "Ruta da Pedra e da Agua"(the rock and water route), a forest path next to a water stream with over 30 medieval water mills. The destination today is Cambados, considered to be the capital of Albariño, one of the best white wines in the world. A Mass is available at the impressive Santa Mariña Dozo Church.

Breakfast

8

CAMBADOS-CATAMARAN CRUISE TO PADRÓN-PONTECESURES-SANTIAGO DE COMPO...

Approximately 24 km/15 mi–Average 5 hrs–Difficulty 3/3.

Start the day on a high note: a one-hour catamaran cruise on the Ulla River, following the journey of the legendary stone boat that carried the remains of St. James. See the remains of the Catoira towers, which used to protect Santiago de Compostela from Viking attacks. Disembark on the outskirts of Padrón, famous for its "pimientos," small, mild green peppers, usually served fried and salted.

Only a few more miles to Santiago de Compostela! Enjoy a celebratory dinner upon completing your Camino de Santiago, served in a local restaurant in the old town. If you have walked all stages of the Camino, you will receive your Pilgrim Certificate.

┢ Breakfast 🔺 Dinner

9 SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Enjoy a full day to rest and to discover Santiago after your Camino. Follow the Tour Director on a guided tour of the Santiago Cathedral and its squares, and attend the Pilgrim A Mass in the Cathedral. You can join your Tour Director for a more detailed tour of the old town in the afternoon, go shopping, explore on your own, or just enjoy a well-deserved rest. Discover Santiago's culinary specialties on your own tonight, and take in the special atmosphere of this historic town.

┢ Breakfast

10

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA-PONTE DE LIMA, PORTUGAL-DOM JESUS DO MONTE-PO...

The Camino has come to an end, but there are more hidden gems to discover. Depart Santiago de Compostela by bus and explore Ponte de Lima, the oldest riverside town in Portugal, featuring an impressive Medieval bridge with an ancient Roman section over the Lima River. Next stop is the Sanctuary of Dom Jesus do Monte, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See the unique zigzag stairway dedicated to the five senses: sight, smell, hearing, touch, and taste—and the three theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity. Continue to Porto. Today's Distance by coach: 165 mi / 265 km.

Breakfast

11 **PORTO**

Take home with you the spiritual growth and appreciation for simple things. This is your most important souvenir of the Camino. Your vacation ends with breakfast.

┢ Breakfast

Hand-Picked Hotels

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After a day of traveling, you want to relax at a comfortable, clean, and attractive hotel. We select hotels with the best guestrooms (always with a private bathroom), service, and food for the money.

PORTO

Jaguar

Rua da Constituição 211 Porto Portugal

💎 First-Class Hotel as shown or similar

🛜 WiFi

The Hotel Jaguar Oporto is situated just minutes away from the heart of Porto and its busy "Rua de Santa Catarina" shopping street, there is a cozy restaurant serving breakfast and dinner and a funky bar for drinks. All of the 66 air-conditioned guest rooms are elegantly decorated, soundproofed and come with a kettle, safe, minibar, a flat-screen TV, hairdryer and complimentary toiletries. Free Wi-Fi internet access is available throughout the property.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- 24 Hour Electricity
- Laundry Available
- Bar/Lounge
- Currency Exchange

Room Features

- Air Conditioning
- Coffee Maker
- Climate Control
- Television
- Room Service
- In-Room Safe
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

BAIONA

- Elevator
- Hot Tub
- Restaurant On-Site
- Luggage Storage
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Internet Access
- Hair Dryer
- Iron/Ironing Board
- Mini-Bar
- Cable/Satellite

Bahia Baoina

Avenida de Santa Marta 13 Baiona Spain

♥ SuperiorTourist-Class

🛜 WiFi

The Hotel offers a great beachfront location in Baiona. All rooms have simple and modern decor and include TV, desk and safe box. Bayona Restaurant offers traditional Galician Cuisine, alternatively, other restaurants and bars can be found just a short stroll away along the sea promenade.

Hotel Amenities

- Laundry Available
- Bar/Lounge

- Restaurant On-Site
- Luggage Storage

Room Features

- Phone
- Hair Dryer
- In-Room Safe

Internet AccessTelevision

VIGO

Sercotel Baia De Vigo

Canovas del Castillo 24 Vigo Spain

♥ First-Class

🛜 WiFi

The Hotel is located between Vigo's old town and Cies Island's departure pier, offering accommodation with a great view of the Vigo Estuary. All guest-rooms are equipped with hot tubs, flat screen tv and minibar. A restaurant with traditional Galician cuisine and a Cafe' Bar are available.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- Hot Tub
- Gift Shop
- Restaurant On-Site
- Bar/Lounge

Room Features

- Air Conditioning
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Hair Dryer
- Desk
- In-Room Safe

- Elevator
- Laundry Available
- ATM
- Business Center
- Luggage Storage
- Phone
- Internet Access
- Television
- Mini-Bar
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

PONTEVEDRA

Rias Bajas

Castelao, 3 Pontevedra Spain

SuperiorTourist-Class

🛜 WiFi

Located in the financial and commercial center of Pontevedra, the hotel is 100 m away from the old town. Restaurant offer local cuisine. All rooms come with Free Wi-Fi, air conditioning and heating.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- Restaurant On-Site
- Bar/Lounge
- Concierge Desk

Room Features

- Air Conditioning
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Climate Control
- Television
- Desk
- In-Room Safe

COVELO

- Laundry Available
- Business Center
- Luggage Storage
- Phone
- Internet Access
- Hair Dryer
- Iron/Ironing Board
- Mini-Bar
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

Villa Covelo

Av. Covelo, 37 Pontevedra Spain

SuperiorTourist-Class

🛜 WiFi

This Hotel is placed along one of the alternative routes of the famous Camino de Santiago (Portuguese Route). The 50 different type of rooms provide accommodation overlooking the sea or the Estuary of Ria de Pontevedra. The on-site restaurant offers typical Galician gastronomy. A snack bar, outdoor swimming pool and a relax area are also available.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- Fitness Room
- Business Center
- Pool

Room Features

- Air Conditioning
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Climate Control
- Television
- In-Room Safe

CAMBADOS

- Elevator
- Restaurant On-Site
- Bar/Lounge
- Phone
- Internet Access
- Hair Dryer
- Desk
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

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Casa Rosita

Avenida de Vilagarcia 8 Cambados Spain

SuperiorTourist-Class

🛜 WiFi

Hotel Casa Rosita combines traditional architecture and decor with modern facilities. Guest-rooms are equipped with television, air conditioning and have a balcony. Ancient Saint Mary Church in Cambados is just 2 km, while Ruinas de Santa Marina is a short drive away.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- Restaurant On-Site
- Bar/Lounge

Elevator

Pool

Business Center

- Room Features
- Air Conditioning
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Climate Control
- In-Room Safe

- Phone
- Internet Access
- Television
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Compostela

Horreo, 1 Santiago de Compostela Spain

First-Class Hotel as shown or similar

ᅙ WiFi

This hotel is perfectly positioned in the heart of Santiago de Compostela and is housed in an historic building with a beautiful façade and modern interiors in the famous Plaza de Galicia. The air-conditioned rooms are decorated in soft organic colors with hardwood floors and include Free Wi-Fi, satellite TV and private bathrooms with a hairdryer. The bar-cafeteria serves a complete buffet breakfast every morning and there are plenty of bars, restaurants and artisan shops to be discovered within walking distance of the property.

Hotel Amenities

- Free WiFi
- Laundry Available
- Restaurant On-Site
- Business Center
- Luggage Storage
- Currency Exchange

Room Features

- Wake-Up Calls
- Phone
- Complimentary Toiletries
- Climate Control
- Hair Dryer
- Iron/Ironing Board
- Room Service
- Alarm Clock
- In-Room Safe

- Elevator
- ATM
- Concierge Desk
- Air Conditioning
- Non-Smoking Rooms
- Internet Access
- Window Opens
- Television
- Desk
- Mini-Bar
- Disabled Access / Rooms
- Air Conditioning (Seasonal)

- Parking/ValetBar/Lounge