



camino - sarria to santiago

explore europe your way

At UTracks, it's all about u + the tracks you want to explore, be it walking the scenic tracks of the Austrian Alps, a leisurely cycle along the backroads of Tuscany, or trekking the famous Compostela Trail. We are specialists in active walking, cycling, barge & bike, walk or cycle and sail, winter trekking and snowshoeing tours throughout Europe and Morocco, with creative itineraries that feature the best of each region at the greatest possible value to you. There are more than 200 different self guided and small group guided itineraries on offer, lasting as few as four days or as many as 15 days throughout France, Germany, Portugal, Iceland, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, England, Romania, Belgium, Czech Republic, Holland, Spain, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Greece, Turkey, Sweden, Montenegro, Italy, Scotland, Ireland and Morocco. The physical demands of the tours range from introductory to challenging - yet all offer unique opportunities to discover the 'untrodden' Europe, spanning postcard landscapes, centuries-old culture, rural lifestyles and tempting culinary delights. In short, they're flexible, unique adventures of 'undiscovered' corners that offer you a great deal of independence yet provide support when you need it. Best of all, they start on virtually any day of the week, so you can combine any tour to create exactly the holiday you want. Compare the price and you will see that we offer great value active programs that are virtually all-inclusive, giving you more time to enjoy the wonders you've come to experience.

TRIP COST

Joining Sarria from : **\$870**

Trip Concludes:
Santiago de Compostela

All prices are per person

OPTIONS & SUPPLEMENTS

- **Fisterra Day Trip - 09:00 to 17:30:** \$42
- **upgrade to superior hotel in Arzua - twinshare pp:** \$60
- **excess luggage (per piece, max 20kg in weight):** \$70
- **Upgrade to superior hotel in Arzua and Santiago - twinshare pp:** \$70
- **Single Supplement - 7 day:** \$210
- **Single Supplement:** \$230
- **Single Traveller Surcharge - 7 day:** \$240
- **Single Traveller Surcharge - 8 day:** \$260

As the trip price is based on twinshare, a single supplement is payable if

TRIP NAME:	CAMINO - SARRIA TO SANTIAGO
TRIP CODE:	CT6
TRIP DURATION:	8 DAYS
GRADE:	MODERATE - 3 1 2 3 4 5
ACTIVITY:	SELF GUIDED WALKING
ACCOMMODATION:	7 NIGHTS IN A COMBINATION OF QUALITY HOTELS, FARMHOUSE B&BS AND GUESTHOUSES
DATE DETAILS:	DAILY



highlights

- Experience the history of the trail marked by crosses, statues and grain silos
- Walk the last 115km of the Camino to the tomb of St James in Santiago and qualify for the pilgrims certificate
- Reach Santiago on foot and experience the famous pilgrims mass
- Enjoying the camaraderie of fellow hikers and pilgrims

the trip

The last six days of the famous Camino pilgrimage route offers the chance for time starved travellers to walk the final 115kms into Santiago and gain a wonderful appreciation of the historic significance of the route. To be eligible for the official Compostela certificate of completion, which is issued by the Pilgrim's Office in Santiago de Compostela, walkers must walk at least 100kms of the iconic pilgrim route. Walking through mixed landscapes, there are numerous reminders of the pilgrims past who travelled the route including crosses, statues and grain silos. The gates of Galicia lead on to the fabled Santiago de Compostela with its famous cathedral, site of the tomb of St James.





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you are not sharing with a friend / family member - or a single traveller supplement if you are travelling solo*. Please refer to the price options for costs or ask our office for details. Note regarding single rooms - The single supplement guarantees the privacy of your own room, however, rooms can at times be small and in some places may not enjoy the same facilities as double/twin rooms.

*The single traveller surcharge is only available on trips deemed suitable for solo travellers. It is usually more expensive than the single supplement due to the extra cost for luggage transfers and organisation.

IMPORTANT NOTES

DN1 - A 7 day option is available with the stage from Palas de Rei to Arzúa reduced to one days walk - 30km or around 9hrs. Discount applies. A festive season surcharge may apply from 23 Dec to 2 Jan. Ask our office for details.

DN2 - Departures from November to February are likely to experience wetter and colder conditions than at other times with snow possible.

Winter can be a magical time to experience the Camino with fewer people and more local encounters, but the walking day is shorter. In addition, hotel closures are possible which may require a change in overnight towns.

DN3 - Subject to availability over the Xmas and New Year period

itinerary at a glance

Day 1	Arrive in Sarria
Day 2	Walk through the hills of Galicia to Portomarin (6hrs, 22km/13.7mi)
Day 3	To Palas de Rei (6-7hrs, 24km/14.9mi)
Day 4	Leave Lugo province to enter La Coruña and on to Melide (4.5hrs, 14km/8.7mi)
Day 5	To Arzúa (4hrs, 14km/8.7mi)
Day 6	Continue to Rúa or Pedrouzo (5-6hrs, 18km/11.1mi)
Day 7	Arrive Santiago (5-6hrs, 21km/13mi)
Day 8	Trip concludes Santiago de Compostela

detailed itinerary

DAY 1	Arrive in Sarria Make your own way to the first hotel in Sarria. Sarria is located on a hilltop with a river on either side affording you great views of the region. meals: D
DAY 2	Walk through the hills of Galicia to Portomarin (6hrs, 22km/13.7mi) We recommend before leaving town that you take the time to visit the Church of the Convent of La Magdalena. Over the "Meseta Lucense", the Lugo Plateau, you will pass through many hamlets dotted along areas of cultivated land, grazing pastures and woodlands and view the first "horreos", typical raised grain silos. A relatively easy walk until your descent, crossing the Dam of Portomarin, where you can see ruins of the ancient flooded village, and on into the town for your accommodation. meals: B,D
DAY 3	To Palas de Rei (6-7hrs, 24km/14.9mi) The route takes you through the brooms, with their magnificent fragrance. Along the path you will pass charming hamlets and calvaries. Over this stage you will pass through Ventas de Naron where you can fill your water bottles, over the gentle Sierra de Ligonde, then downhill through Previsa, Lameiros and Ligonde where you will find a church dedicated to the apostle St James. Emperor Charles V stayed here in the modest village of Ligonde, on the 24th of March 1520. meals: B,D
DAY 4	Leave Lugo province to enter La Coruña and on to Melide (4.5hrs, 14km/8.7mi) Walk today to Melide through the small towns of Coto and Leboeiro. Melide is one of the larger towns along the Galician section of the Camino Trail. We recommend you try the local speciality, 'Pulpa a Feira', octopus usually served boiled and cooked with red pepper and paprika. meals: B,D
DAY 5	To Arzúa (4hrs, 14km/8.7mi) The terrain becomes much easier today as you walk through the villages of Carballal, San Xuilan do Camino and Lebereiro, and past Eucalyptus trees. You can stop at one of many villages along the way for lunch. Crossing over the River Seco on the Magdalena Bridge you will reach Furelos and continue on to Arzúa, in the province of La Coruña. meals: B,D
DAY 6	Continue to Rúa or Pedrouzo (5-6hrs, 18km/11.1mi) Today's walk will bring you to the small town of Rúa which has a population of only 50 people. The walk today is lovely, as you pass large green fields and rural landscapes. meals: B,D





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DAY 7 Arrive Santiago (5-6hrs, 21km/13mi)

Today you will pass many ancient sites including monuments, chapels and bridges – all have a story to tell. Follow country lanes and forest paths through increasingly populated countryside. The last day on the trail is always a special one. Continue downhill to the city. Arriving in the fabled Santiago de Compostela there is plenty to see and do – or simply relax and celebrate the end of the journey. Dinner is not included tonight so you can try one of the many restaurants in town.

meals: B

DAY 8 Trip concludes Santiago de Compostela

Trip arrangements conclude after breakfast. If you'd like to add an extra night, please ask for our rates.

meals: B

inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 dinners (no dinner in Santiago): Breakfasts are usually continental inclusive of breads, cheese, ham, tea, coffee & juices. Dinner will consist of 3 courses, usually starting with a salad, followed by chicken, red meat, fish or a pasta dish & finishing with a dessert of fruit or cakes.
- 7 nights in a combination of hotels & farmhouse B&Bs on a twin share basis generally with ensuite facilities (upgrade to superior hotel in Arzua (recommended) and Santiago - supplement applies)
- Information pack including route notes & guidebook per room booked
- Luggage transfer (1 bag of 20kg max pp - additional bags and excess weight will attract a surcharge)
- Visitor tax
- Emergency hotline
- Pilgrim's Passport

items not included

- Travel to Sarria and from Santiago
- Drinks and lunches
- Items of a personal nature
- Entrance fees
- Guide - this is a self guided tour
- Transfers
- Travel insurance - mandatory
- excess baggage charges - please advise us if you will have more than one bag weighing a max of 20kgs as extra charges will apply for additional pieces of luggage. Please do not tie smaller bags onto your main luggage as we only include one bag and they will be charged as an extra bag. Charges will be higher if not paid when final balance for your trip is due.
- Accommodation upgrade to superior hotel in Arzua (supplement applies)
- Accommodation to superior hotel or Parador in Santiago (supplement applies)

suggested extensions

FISTERRA DAY TRIP -

Guaranteed departures:

- daily from 15 April to 30 June and from 1 September to 3 November

- Mon, Wed & Fri: 1 July to 31 August

Complete your Camino experience with a day trip to Fisterra, on Cape Finisterre, the final destination for many pilgrims on the Way of St James. Led by expert guides, discover spectacular sites along the dramatic and rugged coast of Galicia. Picturesque fishing towns like Muros, scenic landscapes such as the waterfall in Ezaro and Mount Pindo, and magical places like the Sanctuary of Muxía.



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ITINERARY

09:00 Depart Santiago (Bus Terminal La Salle)
10:30 Muxía
11:30 Fisterra
13:00 Ézaro
14:00 Muros (free time to have lunch at leisure)
16:00 Return to Santiago
17:30/17:45 Arrive Santiago

getting there

BY CAR

Driving routes can be accessed via the following websites: www.viamichelin.com

BY TRAIN

Sarria is on the train line and can be reached with one train change from Santiago. From Madrid the train takes approximately 6 hours with direct services twice a day and from Barcelona there is a direct train a couple of times a day taking between 11 and 12 hours. If travelling from Santiago it is better to go by bus as the train connections are usually poor and the bus travels from the airport (with one change - see below for details). For train timetable information throughout Spain see the Spanish rail website <http://www.renfe.com/EN>, Rail Europe www.raileurope.com.au/, or ask our consultants for assistance.

BY AIR

The closest airport to Sarria is Santiago de Compostela. There are a number of airlines with services to this airport including Ryanair, Iberia, British Airways and Aer Lingus. Spanair is another option from points through Europe. From the airport you need to take a bus to reach Sarria (see below). For international travellers we recommend flying into Madrid and then travelling by air to Santiago or by train to Sarria. We are happy to assist you with your flight arrangements or speak with your travel agent for more details.

BY BUS

In order to reach Sarria from Santiago de Compostela you need to take two buses (if travelling from the airport). Cost of the two buses is approximately 15 Euros and the process is quite simple. Firstly you take a bus from the airport direct to Lugo which takes around 1 hour 50 mins. see www.empresafreire.com which has details in English of the 7 buses most days. Another option is to take the bus from Santiago bus station (20 minutes from the airport) where there are extra services to Lugo (note that there are less options on the weekend). From Lugo you need to change onto the Monbus service (www.monbus.es). This website is not in English but you can still find out the timetables by clicking on "Horarios" on the left then entering Lugo (estacion de autobuses) in the first box, Sarria on the next and choosing your date of travel on the following box and clicking enter. You will see that there are regular services between the two towns (taking 35 minutes). Alternatively there is also a direct bus (6pm) between Santiago bus station and Sarria which operates Monday to Friday and takes 3 hours. *Timetables are subject to change. Make sure to check the relevant websites before your departure. If you need further details please speak with your UTracks consultant.



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trip grading - moderate

The walking is graded moderate (3). Daily walks are between 14 and 24km on well marked trails over diverse terrain – from relatively flat to mountainous. This is a well worn path where route finding will be reasonably straight forward (refer below for further details on self guided adventures). The main areas to concentrate on route finding are arriving and leaving towns and cities. The accent is on keeping a steady pace to take in all of the attractions, with time to stop and take photos. You will need a good level of fitness to participate fully in this adventure.

dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

a note on our self guided adventures

Self guided walking or cycling requires individuals to use problem solving skills, be adaptable and have a keen eye. On self guided cycling tours it is expected that you will know how to repair punctures and make minor adjustments to gears, handlebars and seats. For anything more serious, our local partner will be able to assist. It is recommended that you are comfortable map reading, referring to route notes and that you have a good sense of direction (or are willing to work on improving this!) Sometimes route finding, losing your way, finding it again and asking the locals for help is all part of the adventure. If you've never been on a self guided trip, after the first couple of days you will get the hang of it as the vast majority of our first time travellers attest. Please be assured that our written material issued to you for route finding is updated regularly and we provide a 7day service hotline in the event of any problems. Using directions and maps can be more difficult for solo travellers as often two heads are better than one when it comes to finding your way. There is a certain level of the unknown that comes with self guided trips, however with a methodical approach potential problems will be averted. The freedom of a self guided trip is something that, once experienced, is sought time and time again.

joining instructions

Three weeks prior to your departure you will receive your hotel list and guide book. On arrival at your first hotel you will receive all the necessary documentation for your tour. This will include:

- Detailed route notes
- Maps

the region

The walk takes you through the Spanish region of Galicia, known as “green Spain”, due to its lush green countryside. Located in the northwest Iberian Peninsula, the region is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the west, the bay of Biscay to the north, Portugal in the south and Asturias in the east. Galicia is made up of four different provinces, la Coruña, Pontevedra, Ourense and Lugo, and its capital is Santiago de Compostela. The Galician's have their own language - Gallego - but do also speak Spanish.

fast facts

COUNTRIES VISITED Spain





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VISAS

Visas not required for citizens of Australia, Canada, USA and New Zealand for up to 90 days in a period of 180 days for all Schengen countries (see www.schengenvisainfo.com/schengen-visa-countries-list/ for countries part of the Schengen). Please ensure your passport is stamped on arrival in the Schengen area. For all other nationalities and for longer stays in countries covered by the Schengen Agreement (Australian New Zealand, Canadian and US passport holders), please contact the relevant embassy. Stays of longer than 90 days in the Schengen area require a long stay visa for the country you are spending most time in. However long stay visas are unlikely to be issued unless there is a valid reason (eg. studying in country). Unfortunately we cannot assist in obtaining visas for long stays due to individual country visa requirements.

CLIMATE

Oceanic climate in Galicia: less warm in summer but more humid. This itinerary also comprises some hilly stages: it can be windy and cold.

MIN GROUP SIZE

1

MOBILITY REQUIREMENT

This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

SPECIALIST GEAR REQUIRED

Wet weather gear, sunscreen, good walking boots / shoes, sun hat and walking poles. A comprehensive gear list is included in the pre-departure information provided on booking.

special notes

MEALS: Breakfast is served from 8am which is not always conducive to an early start, particularly required in the summer months. You may choose to skip breakfast and take a bread roll and cheese from the breakfast buffet. Dinner is served late in traditional Spanish style starting from 9-9:30pm. An afternoon siesta may be required!

Santiago Cathedral - restoration works 2020

Restoration works are continuing at the cathedral and are expected to be completed by November, ready for the 2021 Holy Year. The cathedral is open from 9am to 8pm and is accessible to pilgrims and visitors, with some spaces not accessible. Until further notice, there will be no Botafumeiro ceremony. Work is currently underway on the restoration of the baldachin – at least 6 months of works. Various other works are underway both inside and outside the cathedral. The Museum and the Pórtico de la Gloria can be normally visited - bookings are recommended. The Cathedral roofs cannot be visited.

Worship however will take place in other churches in the city.

The pilgrims's mass will be celebrated:

-daily at 12:00 noon in the church of S. Francisco, just 350m from the Obradoiro Square.

-Saturdays and Sundays – 19:00 San Fiz de Solovio church

Celebration of the Eucharist will be celebrated:

-Daily at Iglesia de las Huérfanas

how to book

To book a UTRACKS trip, complete our booking form which is found at the back of our brochure or can be downloaded from our website www.utracks.com. On completion, fax or post the form to your nearest UTRACKS or World Expeditions office along with full payment by cheque or credit card (note: surcharges apply for credit card payments). World Expeditions/UTRACKS has access to competitive airfares to Europe. Call your nearest UTRACKS/World Expeditions office or travel agent for assistance with your travel arrangements including flights, travel insurance & additional accommodation.

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There's even more tips and ideas on our blog at <http://www.utracks.com/discover>

slide shows

UTracks invites you to attend our inspiring adventure travel slide shows. These special evenings are designed to inform and entertain and are hosted by our most experienced and passionate adventure travellers. Ask our staff for a slide show schedule or register on our website – www.utracks.com. Shows can fill early so it is important to register your attendance so we know to save a seat, or two!

e-newsletter

To keep up to date with our new and exciting adventure opportunities, special promotions and adventure news, subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter! You can do this on line through our website, www.utracks.com or contact our office.

IMPORTANT NOTE

THESE TRIP NOTES REPRESENT THE MOST CURRENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR THIS ITINERARY, AND SUPERSEDE ANY INFORMATION DETAILED IN THE CURRENT BROCHURE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ITINERARY AND PRICE.

talk to us

If you require any further assistance regarding this trip or any other adventure, please contact your nearest UTRACKS or World Expeditions office.



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