

# Variante Espiritual Oia and Boat Journey



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the  
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# YOUR CAMINO JOURNEY STARTS HERE

This travel plan provides a **day-by-day outline** of a sample trip, giving you a clear idea of what to expect. Keep in mind that this package can be fully **tailored** to your preferences. As a **2024 Traveler's Choice Award winner** on **TripAdvisor**, we're proud to be trusted by hundreds of travelers who praise our **seamless service**, expert **guidance**, and unforgettable **experiences**. Before you set off, take a moment to read some of their stories.



Follow The Camino



Reviews from millions of Tripadvisor travellers place this winner in the top 10% worldwide.



\*There is a Camino for everyone! Photos are for inspiration and may differ from your selected itinerary.

**LIZ F.**



**Walking the french camino is one of the best experiences of my life.**

*I was a bit anxious before starting my Camino walk but once I was into it , I had a brilliant time.*

*Follow the Camino planned my trip and everything went seamlessly , so all I had to do was concentrate on walking ! Il be back for sure.*

**LARA K.**



**Wonderful all round experience**

*Follow The Camino delivered on everything they promised with accomodation selection great and transfer of luggage seamless. The actual walk was wonderful and matched or exceeded my expectations. Wouldn't hesitate to use them again for my next Camino. Loved it!!!!*

**RANDY R.**



**Follow the Camino Frances**

*The Camino Frances was the best vacation experience I've ever had. Fitness, new friends, and fantastic country. Highly recommended.*

**GRETA O.**



**Follow the Camino with an eighty year old**

*Follow the Camino was excellent. Hotels included dinner and breakfast. Clean and good food. Luggage transfer seamless. Well done.*



# ITINERARY



Stage 1 of 1



183.9km



9 days



Comfort



Easy

Starting from  
€940

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Popular Time

Good Time

Off/Low Season

Not Possible

Overall

Distance:

17.5 min | 26.2km average | 35.2 max

Ascent:

293 min | 500.4m average | 746.9 max

Cardio:

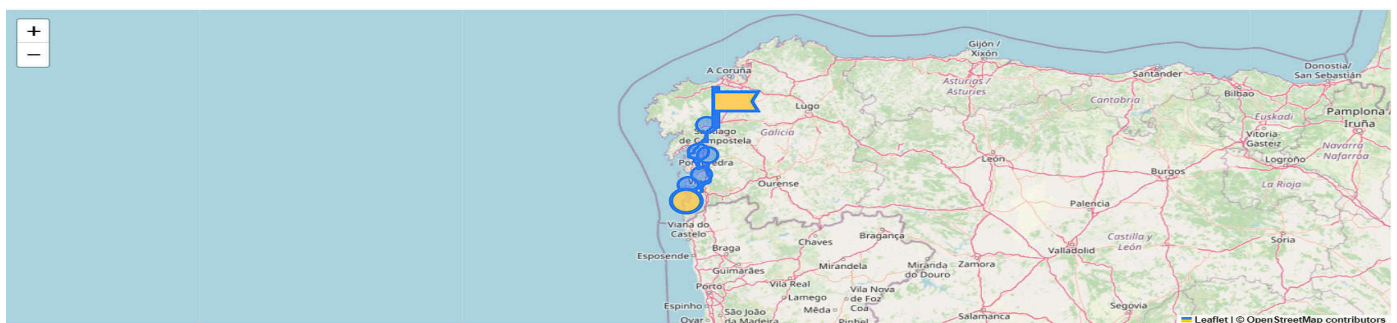
2 3.4 4

The Variante Espiritual de Camino de Santiago from Oia is a lesser-known yet profoundly rewarding pilgrimage route that diverges from the traditional Camino Portuguese trail. Starting in the charming coastal town of Oia, situated in the Galicia region of Spain, this trail offers pilgrims a spiritually enriching experience.

The journey begins amidst the quaint beauty of Oia, where the sound of crashing waves and the salty breeze of the Atlantic Ocean create a serene and contemplative atmosphere. As pilgrims set forth on this path less traveled, they leave behind the bustling crowds and embark on a more secluded and introspective adventure. The route meanders through picturesque landscapes, lush forests, and rolling hills, providing pilgrims with ample opportunities to connect with nature and find solace in its beauty.

The route's origins stem from the execution of the Apostle James in the year 44 AD. Following his death, a group of Spanish disciples clandestinely placed his body in a boat made of stone and, guided by angels, sailed to the mouth of the Ulla River and landed at Iria Flavia (present-day Padrón). From there, the disciples carried the body of the Apostle James to the site of what is now Santiago del Compostela.

## Map



## Services

### Included in this package

- ✓ Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ Specially Hand-Picked Accommodation

### Add-On

- ⊕ Premium Accommodation
- ⊕ Airport Pick-Up

- ✓ Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack
- ✓ 24/7 On-Call Support
- ✓ Virtual Face-to-Face Pre-Departure Briefing
- ⊕ Additional Nights
- ⊕ Dinners
- ⊕ Luggage Transfers from Hotel to Hotel
- ⊕ Day Tours to Local Sites of Interest

Not included: Flights/trains, Insurance, Drinks/Lunch

Day  
1  
km

### **OIA (Spain)**

Relax on your first night in this beautiful coastal village, which is also home to the Royal Monastery of Santa Maria de Oia and typical Galician restaurants and cafes.

Day  
2  
17.5 km

### **OIA (Spain) -> BAIONA**

From Oia, you will walk along a coastal footpath away from the main road. After 10km, you will continue along gorgeous coastline on boardwalk with stunning views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Cies Islands.

Day  
3  
27.5 km

### **BAIONA -> VIGO**

The way out of the stunning town of Baiona will have you alongside a sandy beach for most of the day. You will have regular opportunities to stop in cafes along the beach. You will then enter the very active city of Vigo, which will reach after a 3km walk through the harbour.

Day  
4  
34.2 km

### **VIGO -> PONTEVEDRA**

On this trip, we will transfer you from Vigo to the start of your walk today in Redondela (10km from Vigo). Once dropped in Redondela, you will join the traditional Portuguese Way. You will start seeing more pilgrims along the Camino. You will pass through typical Galician landscape with rural areas and lush green Eucaliptus forests. Before the halfway mark, you will cross Ponte Sanpaio where Napoleon's troops were defeated. The arrival into Pontevedra offer a slightly shorter but along the road option or a slightly longer shaded option. Your final stop of the day has a lovely center with pedestrian streets and lovely cider bar/restaurant behind the church.

Day  
5  
20.7 km

### **PONTEVEDRA -> ARMENTEIRA**

One of the highlights along this stretch is the town of Combarro, renowned for its unique Galician architecture and the presence of 'horreos' (traditional granaries). Exploring the narrow cobblestone streets and admiring the horreos against the backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean offers pilgrims a taste of the local culture and heritage. Approaching Armenteira, the landscape opens up to reveal breathtaking vistas of vineyards and olive groves. Armenteira itself is a tranquil village, featuring the impressive Armenteira

Monastery. The monastery offers a sense of spiritual refuge and has played a significant role in the region's religious and cultural heritage.

Day  
6

23.8 km

### **ARMENTEIRA -> VILANOVA DE AROUSA**

From the peaceful village of Armenteira, the path leads through vineyards and verdant landscapes, creating a picturesque setting for walkers to enjoy. Continuing on, the path eventually approaches the coastline of the Ria de Arousa, one of Galicia's stunning coastal inlets. As the journey progresses, walkers will reach the town of Vilanova de Arousa, a coastal town known for its maritime. Pilgrims can experience the town's coastal ambiance, explore its charming streets, and savour the local seafood delicacies.

Day  
7

35.2 km

### **VILANOVA DE AROUSA -> PADRON**

Starting from the coastal town of Vilanova de Arousa, pilgrims embark on a boat journey that embraces the essence of the Camino. After a short 2km walk, pilgrims will board a boat to sail the Ria de Arousa, relishing the mesmerising views of sparkling waters and lush landscapes before navigating the Ulla River. Their boat journey concludes at Pontecesures, where they set foot on land once more. From there, pilgrims follow well-marked trails and country roads to reach the town of Padrón. This town holds a special place in the annals of the Camino de Santiago. Notably, Padrón is believed to be the landing site of the Apostle St James' boat. Additionally, it is the birthplace of the renowned poet and clergyman, Rosalía de Castro. The combined weight of religious, historical, and cultural significance makes Padrón an enriching stop for every pilgrim.

Day  
8

24.8 km

### **PADRON -> SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**

The Camino passes through many small hamlets before arriving at the Baroque sanctuary of A Esclavitude. On a hilltop to the left stands the mysterious ruins of the hillfort Castro Lupario. A few kilometres later, we come to the oldest wayside crossing in Galicia. As we near Agro dos Monteiros, it's now possible to see the spires of the cathedral in Santiago. Finally, the Camino passes by the ruins of a castle known as A Rocha Vella, before entering the city of the Apostle.

Day  
9

km

### **SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**

After breakfast, we bid you farewell. If you wish to stay in the area, we recommend that you: - Take your time and visit the magnificent historic centre of Santiago. - Continue with us along the wild Camino Fisterra (Finisterre Way), and stay overnight at the hotel in the lighthouse! - Or take a bus to Fisterra to visit the unspoilt sandy coves and beaches of the west coast. With very few tourists, you are guaranteed a very special experience. Buses depart from Santiago Bus Station at 9am and 10am. Buses return to

Santiago at 4:45pm and 7pm. The journey takes 3 hours.

## Elevation Chart



# NOTES & QUESTIONS FOR MY CAMINO PLANNER

We know that planning your Camino is a personal journey, and we want to make sure everything is just right for you. Use this space to **jot down your thoughts, questions, and preferences**. Here are some ideas to discuss with your Camino planner:

- Are the daily distances suitable for me, or should I split them into shorter walking days?
- Where would you recommend taking a rest day?
- Would I like to add a tour or special experience along the way?
- Do I need transfers to and from the airport?
- Are there any accommodations I would like to upgrade?
- Would I like luggage transfers for lighter walking days?
- Are there any dietary preferences or special requests I should mention?

Feel free to write down any other thoughts or questions below:

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Your Camino planner is here to help make your journey as smooth and enjoyable as possible!

## ABOUT US

At Follow the Camino, we are not just a tour operator; we are **passionate Camino enthusiasts** who have been guiding pilgrims **since 2007**. As the first tour operator in Ireland to coordinate walks on the Camino de Santiago, we offer unrivaled expertise in designing **life-changing adventures**.

Don't hesitate to contact us at [info@followthecamino.com](mailto:info@followthecamino.com) to request your **personalized itinerary**. We can add rest days or split days to suit your pace, as well as include special day tours or unique activities to **enhance your Camino experience**. Let us help you create the perfect journey tailored to your needs!



# Follow the Camino

**START PLANING NOW**

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