Adventure Details

Camino de Santiago

Adventure in Northern Spain

Two Trip Dates:

May 23 – June 2 | June 6 – 16, 2027

Length of Trip: 11 days / 10 nights

from $6998 per guest

Based on double Occupancy

SAVE $300 - Early-booking price from $6998.00 USD
when your deposit is received on or before December 31, 2026.

Regular price from $7298.00 USD when deposited after December 31, 2026.
A $1,000 deposit is due with registration.

This trip begins in Bilbao, Spain (BIO) in the morning of May 23 or June 6, 2027
This trip ends in Santiago de Compostela, Spain (SCQ), on the morning of June 2 or June 16, 2027.
Pre and post-nights are available.

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FEATURE: Our private minibus means that there is flexibility to shorten walks, skip some entirely, or be picked up at midpoints along the way.

Guest Itinerary

Please note that the details of this itinerary, including the specific hotels, are subject to change. Many of the planned activities are organized according to availability, events or seasonal dates, appropriate weather conditions, or the discretion of our guides. We make every effort to provide the experience described in the itinerary, with the understanding that some details may change.

Day 1 - Pyrenees

Early morning arrival to Bilbao (BIO). Optional one- or two-night pre-stays are available. **See price and payments**.

Starting in Bilbao, we take a morning drive up into the foothills of the Spanish Pyrenees to Roncesvalles, the traditional start of the Camino in Spain. The landscape is one of lovely small villages set in the rolling pastures and forests of the Basque Pyrenees. Over the course of the day, you gradually descend through villages and woodland towards the village of Bizkarret, where you end today's walk.

You are then picked up for the short drive to your hotel in the heart of Pamplona's old city. Take time this evening to stroll around the heart of the city with your guides, following the route of the encierro, also known as the running of the bulls, made so famous by Hemingway. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner in a local restaurant.

Walk Options: For your first day's walk on the Camino enjoy an introduction to the week ahead. With very little elevation change, you can do an easy warm-up for just a few miles or trek up to 7 miles (11.5km). **Your choice!** With our own expert hiking guide leading the way, we will have access to a private vehicle and driver for flexibility.

Meals Included: Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Pamplona La Perla*

Day 2 – La Rioja

A short transfer from Pamplona brings you to the start point of today's walk. As you are now moving away from the mountains, the terrain changes to open, rolling landscapes punctuated by villages rich in history, including Puente de la Reina, one of the prettiest villages along the entire Camino. Cross Medieval and Roman bridges, passing olive groves and small vineyards as you continue your journey along the Camino towards the hilltop village of Cirauqui.

At the end of today's walk, you transfer for around an hour to the Rioja area, where we visit one of the famous wineries before settling in the Parador of the historical town of Santo Domingo de la Calzada.

Walk Options: Passing through various villages along the way, there will be several points where you have the choice to finish your walk and enjoy the local life. For those who would like to walk the full distance, your total for the day will be 9.25 miles (14.8km).

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: The Parador de Santo Domingo Bernardo de Fresneda

Day 3 – Burgos

Start the day with a one-hour transfer to the start point of today's walk in the Montes de Oca. In the olden days, the traverse of the Montes de Oca was one of the most feared stretches of the pilgrimage due to bandits. Follow a wide track to the forest until you reach the beautiful monastery, built by San Juan de Ortega to offer support to pilgrims.

Today's route finishes near Atapuerca, arguably the most important archaeological site on Earth. At the site, 1 million years of human presence is being excavated, the oldest evidence of humans in western Europe. Stay in the heart of Burgos, famous for its enormous Gothic Cathedral and its particularly good food. Enjoy an early evening city tour with our local guide before dinner. There is also a fantastic museum in Burgos that houses the world's largest hominid collection and an exhibit on Human Evolution.

Walk Options: Walk through varied terrain from bird-filled forests to more barren landscapes for a distance of 6.2 miles (10km).

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Palacio de los Blasones

Day 4 – Leon

From the old town of Castrojeriz, set off across the Tierra de Campos with its huge grain fields and enormous skies. The landscape is dotted with small villages and impressive churches, home to nesting storks. This really is deep Spain, leaving you with a fantastic sense of the vast emptiness of central Spain.

Spend the night in the town of Leon at a beautifully renovated parador, where you can enjoy the famous stained-glass windows of its Gothic Cathedral and the lively bars and restaurants of the El Humedo quarter.

Walk Options: With endless cereal hills stretching out before you, set out across the vast plains for a 7-mile (11km) walk. A shorter walk is available for those who choose.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Parador de Leon

Day 5 – Picos de Europa

From Leon, transfer north into the Cantabrian range to hike down into the Liebana Valley, admiring the high vertical peaks of the Picos de Europa as you follow the Camino Vadiniense. This route was historically used to visit the important relics hidden in the Liebana Valley in the 8th century, to keep them from the Muslims who were conquering the Peninsula from the South.

The Picos de Europa is the first National Park established in Spain in 1918, and a unique reserve of wildlife and traditional farming culture. Walk past mountain pastures and beech forests to arrive in Fuente De, a remote setting deep in the mountains. From here, a short transfer will deliver you to your cozy, family-run hotel.

Walk Options: Walk 7.15 miles (11.5km) along the Camino Vadiniense into the Picos de Europa National Park. For anyone who prefers not to walk today, our driver will transfer you to our next hotel, and you can enjoy an optional free day.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Del Oso

Day 6 – Three Caminos in One!

Walk on three different Caminos in one day. Start the day walking along the Camino Vadiniense, traversing forests, pastures, and villages under the towering Picos de Europa. Close to the town of Potes, you reach the Monastery of Santo Toribio de Liébana, where the famous relics of the Lignum Crucis have been kept since the 8th century. From this point, you join the Camino Lebaniego to finish your walk in the historic town of Potes.

Enjoy a walk around its cobbled streets and bridges and refresh yourself before you transfer to the Cantabrian Coast. Settle for the night in the picturesque fishing town of Llanes, one of the loveliest villages along the Camino del Norte and an excellent place for free time to dine on seafood at one of the numerous restaurants.

Walk Options: Our hike will take us along the Deva Valley and past the Santo Toribio Monastery on our way to Potes. If you opt for the full distance, you will cover 7 miles (11km). For a shorter walk, you can choose from two pickup locations along the way. Enjoy the walk your way!

Meals Included: Breakfast
Accommodation: Hotel Don Paco

Day 7 – Llanes

Enjoy a relaxed morning in Llanes with time for an early morning stroll along the Medieval town and port before taking the local narrow-gauge train for 10 km to the village of Pendueles. From here, walk back to Llanes along the Northern Camino de Santiago, passing small villages and enjoying great views of the rugged Cantabrian coastline. In the evening, explore the great options for dinner in town, ranging from local fish and seafood places to Michelin-starred restaurants.

Walk Options: We will be staying in Llanes for two nights, so you will have several options. Start walking today along the Camino del Norte and the rugged Cantabrian coast for a full day's walk of 10 miles (16km) with two possible pickup locations, or take a day off and enjoy Llanes on your own.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Hotel Don Paco

Day 8 – Astorga

Today we travel south across the Cantabrian range towards Leon to start hiking to the town of Astorga. Your starting point is Villares de Orbigo; you traverse holm oak forests and open fields.

In Astorga, you meet another historic path of Iberia as you reach the Via de la Plata, a branch of the pilgrimage that comes up from Seville following an old Roman road. In Roman times, Astorga was the administrative center of a region rich with gold deposits. As early as the 3rd century, the town was a bishopric, and this rich history is evident today in the sheer number of important religious buildings built here over the ages. Of particular note is the Episcopal Palace, designed by Antonio Gaudí.

Walk Options: Walking the Camino Frances, we will follow the way to the old Roman town of Astorga with a choice of a 1.5-mile or 6.2-mile (10km) walk.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch
Accommodation: Hotel Via de la Plata

Day 9 – Lugo

Prepare yourself for a big change in scenery as you cross into the lush greenery of Galicia, home to the city of Santiago. The walk today is relatively short, but all uphill as you leave the region of Leon. At the top of the hill is the village of O'Cebreiro, rich in Camino history and site of one of the oldest inns on the walk. It's been serving meals to pilgrims since the 9th century, so how could we pass up a warm lunch?

After lunch, we travel to the next hotel in the town of Lugo. An important stop on the Northern Camino, Lugo is famous for its fully preserved Roman wall circling the city center.

Walk Options: The scenery changes completely as you walk into Galicia -- Spain's greenest corner. This rewarding hike is an uphill climb with a total gain of 560 meters. Walk halfway for a village pickup at 2.5 miles (4km), or climb the rest of the way to complete the ascent with 4 miles (6.4km).

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Monumento Pazo de Orban

Day 10 – Santiago de Compostela

It is a short drive to the town of Sarria, where you will begin your walk. In this town, many pilgrims gather, as this is the starting point for those completing a shorter version of the Camino. The path follows ancient trails, passing through small hamlets and magical "corredoiras", traditional Galician pathways lined with oak and chestnut trees. You also enjoy views of the wide-open countryside.

At the end of your morning walk, you travel by road to Santiago to hike the last mile into town to reach the Cathedral. Take in the atmosphere in the Plaza del Obradoiro, watching as pilgrims finish their long journey, and celebrate yours. Settle into your comfortable small hotel near the city center and get ready for a very special farewell dinner.

Walk Options: Walk one of the prettiest stretches of the Camino, following ancient paths through the forests. Depending on time, there will be several options for short walks or a longer trek up to 8.14 miles (13.1km). For our final stage, we will walk 1 mile into Santiago de Compostela together.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Compostela (June 1 - 2), NH Collection Santiago de Compostela (June 15 - 16)

Day 11 – Depart or Stay!

Santiago is a very special city. Resolutely and obviously Spanish, it has welcomed visitors for millennia, so it has a relaxed, cosmopolitan feel, which is otherwise difficult to come by in Spain. The city is always full of pilgrims delighted to have just arrived, so it is hard not to be infected by their positivity.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: To fully enjoy and explore the ambiance of Santiago de Compostela and the pilgrims arriving from around the world, we advise adding one more night to your travel plans. If you have the time to stay a day or two after, we are happy to make hotel arrangements for you. See price and payments.

If you must go, a transfer to the Santiago de Compostela airport (SCQ) or train station can be made through our hotel.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Inclusions

This Walking Connection trip includes:

- Unique itinerary designed by Walking Connection co-founder, Jo Ann Taylor, in partnership with our local team in Spain
- Escorted by a Walking Connection team member.
- *Two expert local hiking guides and a transport driver for flexibility in the distance of daily walks
- 10 nights lodging at boutique hotels, as indicated in the itinerary.
- Daily meals, as indicated in the itinerary.
- Complimentary local wines with some meals.
- Wine tasting at a local winery in Rioja
- Visit to the Atapuerca archaeological site.
- Privately guided tour of the Gothic Cathedral in Burgos.
- Train tickets in Llanes
- Ground transfers throughout
- Transportation of luggage each day
- All activities and tours as detailed in the itinerary.
- Detailed *Know Before You Go* information, including recommended website, resource information for testing needed for entry and departure, reading lists, packing list, and weather forecast

Two local guides for eight guests or more. Pamplona La Perla with a minimum of 10 guests.

This Walking Connection trip DOES NOT include:

- Local guide and driver gratuities
- All international and domestic airfares with tax.
- Airport transfers at the beginning and end of the trip.
- All items of a personal nature, including beverages and shopping.
- All passport and visa application fees, vaccination, and medical consulting fees.
- Health testing is required for entry into Spain or returning to the country of origin.
- All international departure taxes are collected at the airport of departure.
- Additional hotel stay pre- or post- scheduled itinerary.
- Early check-in or late check-out of rooms.
- Optional tours.
- Photographs or phone calls
- Discounts/Refunds on any unused portion of the tour
- Travel Insurance
- Certificate of Compostela
- Anything that is not expressly stated in the itinerary or on the inclusion list above.

Price & Payments

Price per person:

- Double Occupancy: *from* $6998.00 USD if booked and deposited on or before December 31, 2026. After, $7298.
- Single Occupancy: *a limited number of single rooms are based upon double Occupancy*.
- Single Occupancy a*vailable for a $1250.00 USD supplement.*
- Optional pre-night hotel stays in Bilbao at a 5* hotel: 300 *EUR/ dbl room/night, 260 EUR/ sgl room/night*
- Highly Recommended - Optional post-night hotel in Santiago de Compostela: *280 EUR/dbl room/night, 240 EUR/sgl room/ night.*

Our tour prices are subject to change due to currency fluctuations at the time of final payment.

Deposits:

An initial deposit of $1000.00 USD per person is required to reserve your space. No space will be held without a complete deposit. (Deposits from postponed trips can only be transferred and not refunded.)

Payments:

Payments must be made according to the schedule & are subject to cancellation and penalty policy. Final payment is due on or before 90 days prior to the trip. We request that all final payments be made by check, wire transfer, WISE or credit card. Credit card and PayPal payments for the final amount due are subject to a 3.5% surcharge of the total due. Canadian (or other non-U.S.) credit cards are subject to a 4.5% surcharge. Payments can be made by mail, online or by phone.

Price Variation:

Prices are based upon the current government fees for park, concession fees and sanctuary entry and all taxes at the time of publication of this information. Should the government impose new taxes, raise current taxes, or increase entry costs to any park or sanctuary, the price increase will be passed along to you. If fuel surcharges are imposed, this increase will also be passed on. You will be notified of this increase when Walking Connection is notified. All payments received by Walking Connection are subject to the cancellation policy already published and in effect.

Cancellation, Penalty & Refund Policies:

Should you have to cancel your tour, the following terms will apply:
A refund of your deposit (less a $300 service fee) will be given if we are notified 6 months or more prior to this departure date. If your deposit was a credit from a previous trip postponement, it will be applied as a future credit. After that:

- For cancellations 91 days – 6 months, your $1000 deposit is non-refundable.
- For cancellations and no shows 90 days, 100% of the trip price is nonrefundable.

No refunds will be made for any unused portion of the tour.
All cancellations must be made in writing and delivered to Walking Connection via email. Your cancellation date is the date your notice is received and confirmed by Walking Connection, not the date sent.

Travel Arrangements

Travel Roommates and Single Supplements:

There is limited availability, and a supplement will apply. Please contact us for details. If you have registered for double Occupancy but don't have a travel roommate, you may be charged for a Single Supplement for any portion of the trip where you will be rooming as a single.

Trip Minimum and Maximum:

Minimum of 8 full paying guests. Walking Connection specializes in small-group travel. We often stay in boutique hotel properties, historical inns, private homes, and bed & breakfasts. For this and contractual related reasons, some trips may require a minimum number of guests traveling together to go. FOR THIS TRIP, an additional Small Group Surcharge of $300.00 USD may be assessed, or the trip may be canceled at the option of Walking Connection if sign-ups do not meet the 8-person minimum. This trip will be guaranteed to be conducted either when we have reached the minimum number of guests or evaluated 90 or 60 days before departure. Also, if the minimum is not met, Walking Connection may, in its sole discretion, elect to operate the trip without a Walking Connection host. **Please do not make your international or domestic air arrangements until the trip is confirmed.**

Maximum of 14 guests

Spain Passports/Visas:

Valid passports must have 3 blank pages and a minimum of 6 months remaining before expiration.
Entry Requirements: The European Union is implementing a new electronic travel authorization system (ETIAS) for visitors from visa-exempt countries. If required for your departure, we will notify you before your trip and provide instructions for the application.

For passport applications and renewals:

http://www.passportvisasexpress.com/?affId=992183579f5e584ff2a965b511618cc9

Air Arrangements:

Arrival airport: Bilbao (BIO), if you are arriving on May 23/Day 1 or June 6/Day 1, we request that you schedule an early arrival. We will be meeting at Hotel Carlton at 8:30 am and transferring out of Bilbao that morning. **Optional one- or two pre-night stays are available.**

Departure airport: Santiago de Compostela (SCQ), this trip ends on June 2/Day 11 or June 16/Day 11. If you would like to explore more of Santiago de Compostela, **we recommend extending your stay one more night.**

BEFORE you make your international airline arrangements, please contact Walking Connection by phone – +1 (623)-800-3649 to reconfirm the details of the trip. Walking Connection will provide you with recommended arrival and departure airports, times, and any additional information you may need **BEFORE** you book your flights.

More Details

Trip Grading – Moderate:

- Each day usually consists of 3-5 hours of activities, most centered around walking over various terrains
- Most days have a range of activity available-- we will be accompanied by a hiking guide and a driving guide, so there will be shorter hike options on most days.
- Terrain includes city streets, village cobblestone walkways, well-worn countryside paths with uphill and downhill components
- Your day pack will include a liter of water, snacks, rain gear, sunscreen, personal items, and a camera

Gear & Personal Items:

We will provide a detailed list of personal items you will need to ensure your journey is safe and convenient. No special gear is required for this trip, though you will receive a list of recommended items, including supportive hiking boots and socks. We can help with information on types, brands, and what to look for when purchasing new gear for the trip.

Special Supplier Gifts & Items:

As a local custom, vendors, suppliers, ground operators, restaurants, and hotel properties may offer complimentary beverages, some of which may or may not contain alcohol. Should you elect not to accept this gift, complimentary water may not be offered as a replacement and may cost extra. This is a local custom beyond Walking Connection's control.

Your Local Guides and Trip Host/Escort:

At Walking Connection, our philosophy is simple: Each trip is designed in partnership with locals and delivered by local legends. We work with a small number of trusted travel partners to deliver the best experiences in the safest way possible. During this trip, you and your small group will be accompanied and led by one of our highly trained professional guides. A Walking Connection team member will also be hosting this trip.

CONTACTS:

Jo Ann Taylor - +1 623.800.3649 info@WalkingConnection.com

QUESTIONS TO ASK? READY TO BOOK? If you want to get in touch, please email or call us. We accept bookings online, by email, or over the phone. A deposit of $1000 USD is required at the time of booking to secure the trip, with the balance payable 90 Days before departure. If booking less than 90 days before the trip start date, full payment of the adventure is due with registration.

Walking Connection – Person-to-Person Guest Hotlines: Info@WalkingConnection is your best way to ask and receive information about all departures. To chat directly, please call +1 623.561.0846.

We will do everything within our power to ensure that you have a great adventure.
Thank you for choosing the Walking Connection.

"We Know The Way"

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Travel Insurance Center

Discover Peace of Mind with Travel Insurance

Insure ALL Your Travels Through The Walking Connection

The Walking Connection proudly offers several great travel insurance options. Generali has been a preferred vendor with our company for more than 25 years. Allianz is a new preferred Travel Insurance Provider offering new benefits such as annual Travel Insurance for multi-trip travelers and a connected mobile app to assist you on the go. Click the logos below to receive a list of coverages and programs and to receive a personalized FREE QUOTE!

Why You Should Always Get Travel Insurance!

Protect Your Investment - Your trip is an investment. Don't let unforeseen circumstances jeopardize it. With travel insurance, you can safeguard your finances against trip cancellations or interruptions.

Ensure Adequate Health Coverage - Health emergencies can happen anywhere. If your health insurance doesn't cover you abroad, or if you're traveling to a country with expensive healthcare, travel insurance with medical coverage can be invaluable.

Emergency Evacuation Assistance - In the event of a medical emergency or natural disaster, travel insurance can cover the cost of emergency evacuation to the nearest suitable medical facility.

Reimbursement for Travel Disruptions - Unexpected delays, cancellations, or missed connections can throw your travel plans off course. Travel insurance reimburses you for additional expenses incurred due to travel disruptions, allowing you to navigate unforeseen challenges with ease.

Protection for Lost or Delayed Baggage - Lost, stolen, or delayed baggage can be a traveler's nightmare. Travel insurance offers coverage for replacing essential items or reimbursing necessary purchases, ensuring you're not left stranded without your belongings.

For Walking Connection Adventure Travel and Active Adventures.

Because they are active trips, often in remote areas of the world, medical facilities and services, if they are available, may be very limited and paid for in local currency before services are rendered. For these reasons, many countries and local governments **REQUIRE** visitors to have health and medical transport insurance to participate in adventure travel activities.

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