# **TRAVEL PLAN**

# Guided 2024: St Jean Pied de Port to Logrono





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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.



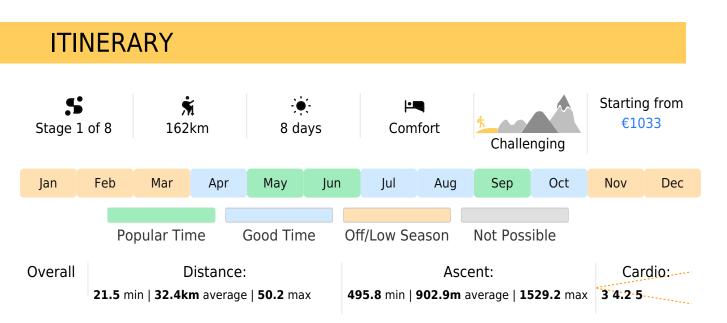
eviews from millions of Tripadvisor travellers place this winner in the top 10% worldwide.



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

#### LARA K. LIZ F. Walking the french camino is one of Wonderful all round experience the best experiences of my life. Follow The Camino delivered on everything they promised with accomodation selection great I was a bit anxious before starting my Camino and transfer of luggage seamless. The actual walk but once I was into it , I had a brilliant time. walk was wonderful and matched or exceeded Follow the Camino planned my trip and my expectations. Wouldn't hesitate to use them everything went seamlessly , so all I had to do again for my next Camino. Loved it!!!! was concentrate on walking ! Il be back for sure. RANDY R. GRETA O. $\star \star \star \star$ **Follow the Camino Frances** Follow the Camino with an eighty The Camino Frances was the best vacation year old experience l've ever had. Fitness, new friends, Follow the Camino was excellent. Hotels and fantastic country. Highly recommended. included dinner and breakfast. Clean and good food. Luggage transfer seamless. Well done.

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This specific route is the starting point of the Camino Frances. It begins in France at St-Jean-Pied-de-Port and finishes in Logrono – Stage 2 of the French Camino. You will cross Pamplona, the town famous for its Running of the Bulls festival in San Fermin, described by Ernest Hemingway in his novel The Sun Also Rises. At first, it follows the Route de Napoleon over the Roncesvalles Pass (1500m) in the Basque country, and then crosses into more gentle terrain in the great region of Navarra. You will finish in Logrono at the heart of the Rioja wine region. Enjoy an attractive hike in hilly Navarra with its 12th-century castles, picturesque villages, and vineyards.

#### Мар



#### Services

#### Included in this package

- ⊘ Luggage Transfers from Hotel to Hotel
- ⊘ 7 Breakfasts and 7 Dinners
- ${igodot}$  Specially Hand-Picked Accommodations
- ⊘ 24/7 On-Call Support
- $\odot$  Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack
- $\bigcirc$  Experienced Bilingual Guide (available when the minimum number of passengers is reached)

#### Add-On

- Premium Accommodation in Santiago
- Additional Night in Santiago
  Additional Night
  A
- Day Tours to Local Sites of Interest

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



#### SAINT JEAN PIED DE PORT

You'll be booked into a hotel in the heart of the small town. While in town, you should visit the 14th Century Gothic church, Notre-Dame-du-Bout-du-Pont, the hilltop citadel (remodelled in the 17th Century), and follow the cobbled Rue de la Citadelle downhill and over the river for views back over St-Jean-Pied-De-Port.



#### SAINT JEAN PIED DE PORT -> RONCESVALLES

The first day of the Camino is considered the most challenging as it crosses the Pyrenees. The "Camino Napoleon" starts with a steep climb, passing through orchards and later, Alpine-style meadows. The path weaves alongside leafy beech woods until you reach the Spanish border. Alternatively, the Valcarlos Camino follows the road through the valley, running along the River Nive or River Valcarlos. Don't miss the Collegiate Church as you descend into Roncesvalles.

If you prefer a more relaxed pace, we offer three options:

- Stay at the Refuge Orisson: This is basic but welcoming accommodation halfway along the route, which splits the day into two parts.
- 2. **Stay 2 nights in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port:** You can use a taxi to/from Refuge Orisson to avoid the entire walk in one day.
- 3. **Take the Valcarlos Route:** This alternative route splits the day into two stages (12km and 14km), staying in a 2-star hotel. However, this route follows the main road and is not as rewarding as the Camino Napoleon.

**Important:** The Napoleon Route is closed for pilgrims from November 1 to March 31. During this period, pilgrims must use the Valcarlos route. Traveling on the Napoleon Route during these months is forbidden, and any pilgrim needing rescue from the Pyrenees may be fined €5,000.



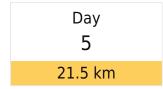
#### **RONCESVALLES -> PAMPLONA**

Leaving the Pyrenees behind us, we head towards Pamplona through the undulating terrain of the Basque Country via woodlands and hilly cultivated lands. One section of this route today ascends an elevation of nearly 500m. This can be tough going but is ultimately very rewarding when you arrive in Pamplona.



#### **PAMPLONA -> PUENTE LA REINA**

When leaving Pamplona behind, you are also leaving behind the Atlantic area of Navarra. From here onwards, the landscape will be dominated by cereal crops, Holm oaks and Mediterranean brushwood. The Pamplona basin is left behind too when you cross the Alto del Perdon (Hill of Forgiveness), so-named because of the centuries old pilgrim tradition of travellers forgiving others, and asking forgiveness for themselves, with each step up the hill.



#### **PUENTE LA REINA -> ESTELLA**

As you leave Puente La Reina you will cross the 'Puente Románico', a sixarched Romanesque bridge over the Arga River. The Camino to Estella is very uneven and quite agricultural. Small towns and villages are dotted amongst cereal fields, vineyards and olive trees. This is one of the quieter sections of the Camino Frances.



#### ESTELLA -> LOGRONO

Today is another beautiful day, travelling through vineyards and red earth crop fields. We also pass by a few famous landmarks of the Camino de Santiago such as the Monasterio of Irache and its bodega, and the steep climb up to Villamayor de Monjardin. Shade also decreases as we get closer and closer to Logrono, capital city of the well-known wine producing region of La Rioja.



#### LOGRONO

Logrono is a city rich in traditions that have been preserved since the Middle Ages. The pilgrim's route to Santiago de Compostela made this one of the most important towns on the Camino Frances. On this day you can visit a local winery for a winery tour and tasting! You will be spending an additional night here before we bid you farewell!



#### **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:


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

### **ABOUT US**

At Follow the Camino, we are re not just a tour operator; we are **passionate Camino enthusiasts** who have been guiding pilgrims **since 2007** As the firs 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 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!

#### **START PLANING NOW**

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