# Cycle the Camino Portugues Coastal Route from Porto to Santiago





Your Camino Agent since 2007

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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** 











\*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.

#### 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.

#### 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!!!!

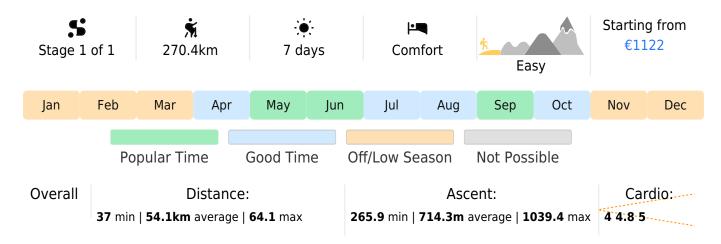
#### GRETA O.



#### 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**



Starting in Porto in Portugal, you'll follow the road less travelled to the city of Santiago de Compostela. You'll cycle along some of the most amazing sandy beaches of in the north Portugal and Spain, such as those near Povoa de Varzim. Go for a dip in the clear waters of the Vigo estuary to cool off after a day of cycling and cross one of the most culturally rich and historic areas of Portugal and Spain with mediaeval Camino towns like Pontevedra. Our cycling packages are not suitable for novice bike riders – your bike will come presented in a box which you need to be able to assemble yourself. You will also need to be familiar with fixing a flat tyre / loose chain. The cycling tour packages are aimed at experienced riders.

### Map



#### **Services**

#### Included in this package

- Specially Hand-Picked Accommodations

- Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack

#### Add-On

- Premium Accommodation
- Airport Pick-Up
- Additional Nights
- ① Dinners
- Day Tours to Local Sites of Interest

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

Day

1

km

#### **PORTO**

The entire old city of Porto became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996 and there's plenty going on here to warrant that title. Set on the bank of the Douro River near the Atlantic Ocean, the city is perhaps best known globally for its famous Port wine, wine that goes down very well on the countless terraces and restaurants in Porto!

Day

2

37 km

#### **PORTO -> POVOA DE VARZIM**

Leaving central Porto, you'll head west along the Douro River to reach the Atlantic coast, then follow the shoreline north through peaceful beach resorts and seaside promenades. You can shorten the day by taking the metro to the coast, reducing the walk to about 27 km; otherwise, walking the full way from the city centre adds 10 km, though it's a mostly pleasant route. Along the way, you may be tempted to pause and dip your toes in the ocean. By the end of the stage, you'll arrive in the charming coastal villages of Vila do Conde and Póvoa de Varzim.

Day 3

44.7 km

#### **POVOA DE VARZIM -> VIANA DO CASTELO**

As you make your way to the market town of Barcelos for your last night in Portugal, enjoy the change of scenery from beach to quiet country lanes screened by eucalyptus and pine woods. Have a picnic or even a swim in the Rio Este and visit a parish church dedicated to St Peter and reputedly ordered by St James himself on his evangelisation of the peninsula.

Day 4

┱

63.2 km

#### **VIANA DO CASTELO -> BAIONA**

Today we continue along the coast of Portugal. You are following a boardwalk for a while before cycling parallel to the coast road on a very safe cycling path. Take advantage of the small villages you are crossing as well as the seaside viewpoints to use your camera, have a bite to eat, or simply relax. You will cross the border to Spain on a ferry and arrive in Baiona via the cycle path again. Baiona is a jewel of a town, small enough to be quiet yet big enough to have plenty to do and see.

Day

5

61.4 km

#### **BAIONA -> PONTEVEDRA**

The first part of the day coming out of Baiona is again marvellous, with wild coast cycling along the cycle path. You will be passing through Vigo, the largest town of the region and while the busy roads will provide a contrast to the previous days, you will be in and out in 1 hour 30 minutes, then heading to the classic Camino Portugues inland at Redondela. You finish today in the lovely town of Pontevedra. There is a great historical centre and a vibrant atmosphere.

Day 6

64.1 km

#### PONTEVEDRA -> SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Your final day of cycling on this section of the Camino will see you pass through chestnut groves, and pine and eucalyptus woods. A statue of James in Ponte Cabras with his staff will show you the way. Stop in Caldas do Rei for a dip in its hot springs and visit the ruins of the Castro Lupario Fort. Along your journey you will see some of the oldest wayside crosses of Galicia. And as you make your way towards Agro des Monteiros you will be able to see the spires of the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela. In the afternoon, you will arrive in the City of the Apostle itself, where you can complete your journey with a visit to the Cathedral, a stroll around the old town, and tapas in one of the city's many charming bars.

Day 7

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:

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 <a href="mailto:info@followthecamino.com">info@followthecamino.com</a> 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!

