# Full Via de la Plata





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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**



The Via de la Plata is a historic pilgrimage route in Spain that spans approximately 1,000km. It is also known as the Silver Way or the Camino Mozárabe. The route starts in the southern city of Seville and ends in Santiago de Compostela, the final destination of the famous Camino de Santiago.

The origins of the Via de la Plata date back to Roman times, when it served as a major trade route between the cities of Seville and Astorga. Over the centuries, the route gained significance as a pilgrimage path to Santiago de Compostela, joining the main Camino Francés in Astorga.

The Via de la Plata offers a unique experience to pilgrims, showcasing the rich cultural heritage and natural beauty across the whole of Spain. The route takes travellers through a variety of landscapes, including vast plains, rugged mountains, and charming villages. Along the way, pilgrims can explore Roman ruins, mediaeval bridges, and impressive cathedrals.

We offer customised holiday packages on the Via de la Plata to suit all budgets.

# Map



#### **Services**

#### Included in this package

- Specially Hand-Picked Accommodation
- Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack
- ∀ Virtual Face-to-Face Pre-Departure Briefing

# Add-On

- Premium Accommodation
- Airport Pick-Up
- Additional Nights
- Dinners
- Luggage Transfers from Hotel to Hotel

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

Day

1

km

#### **SEVILLA**

Capital city of Andalucia, Sevilla appeals to visitors with its rich architectural heritage, its year-round sunny weather, and incredible cultural atmosphere. Among the city's main attractions, don't miss the massive Gothic UNESCO World Heritage-listed cathedral, the Alcazar and , of course, the impressive Plaza de Espana.

Day

2

22.7 km

#### **SEVILLA -> GUILLENA**

After leaving the heart of the city, we pass through several industrial estates until we reach Santiponce and the ruins of Italica, an ancient Roman city. It is then a peaceful walk through flat landscapes, occupied by sunflowers, cotton fields, and olive trees.

Day

3

17.9 km

#### **GUILLENA -> CASTILBLANCO DE LOS ARROYOS**

After your transfer back to Guillena, the Camino leaves the whitewashed town of Guillena and quickly reaches Venta, a modern town nearby. Then, for the most part, it runs through the Andalusian countryside with orange and olive groves and other farmland alongside you. As we enter the National Park of Sierra Norte de Sevilla, the landscape becomes more dry and rocky. The last leg of the day is a steep climb up to the beautiful town of Castilblanco de los Arroyo.

Day

4

28.1 km

#### **CASTILBLANCO DE LOS ARROYOS -> ALMADEN DE LA PLATA**

We start this day with an uphill walk, passing by the shrine of Ermita de Santa de Escardiel, which is built on the site of a mediaeval settlement. A few kilometres further on, we enter Parque Forestal de El Berrocal where oak trees offer shelter from the sun. An undulating path leads us to Almaden de la Plata.

Day

5

13.4 km

#### ALMADEN DE LA PLATA -> EL REAL DE LA JARA

The route we follow today gives us a real feel for traditional Andalucia; black pigs, bulls, and horses can all be seen from the Silver Way route. The Camino does not pass through any village until we reach El Real de la Jara. A short transfer will take you to your hotel in Santa Olalla de la Calla.

20.2 km

#### **EL REAL DE LA JARA -> MONESTERIO**

After your transfer back to El Real de la Jara, the Camino leaves Andalucia and enters Extremadura. During the first half of the day the terrain is mostly flat. A gentle ascent will offer good views over the Sierra Morena. The landscape surrounding us is mostly occupied by cows and sheep as there are no villages (and little shade) along this stretch to Monesterio.

Day

7

20.7 km

#### **MONESTERIO -> FUENTE DE CANTOS**

Today the Camino can be quite exposed, walking on long undulating tracks with scattered oak holms and fig groves providinge shelter from the sun here and there. A few kilometres after Monesterio, don't miss the 5,000 year-old megalith, just 10m off the track. Grazing pigs will probably be the only inhabitants you will see along the way, as the Camino doesn't pass through any villages before reaching Fuente de Cantos, a pretty village.

Day

8

24.2 km

# **FUENTE DE CANTOS -> ZAFRA**

When leaving Fuente de Cantos, we follow an ancient Roman route and start to see the first planted vines of this section, a sign of changing soil. A few kilometres further on, we pass through Calzadilla de los Barros. After that, it is an isolated and peaceful stroll along undulating dirt tracks, bordered by vineyards and olive groves. The walking day ends in Zafra, a charming old town that is also known as 'Little Sevilla'.

Day

9

19.8 km

# **ZAFRA -> VILLAFRANCA DE LOS BARROS**

The first few kilometres after Zafra gently climb up before zig-zagging down to the whitewashed town of Los Santos de Maimona. Then, it is an enjoyable walk up and down through farmland, vineyards, and olive trees with smashing views over the surrounding countryside.

Day

10

14.8 km

# **VILLAFRANCA DE LOS BARROS -> ALMENDRALEJO**

Leaving Villafranca de los Barros, we find ourselves surrounded mainly by vineyards as the area produces a well-known wine enjoyed across Spain. The flat ground and short distance to Amendralejo makes today an easy and pleasant stroll through the gentle countryside.

28 km

#### **ALMENDRALEJO -> MERIDA**

After Almendralejo, we start to see mountains in the distance to our right and the crops also diversify as sunflower and cereal fields alternate with vines and olive groves. Toremegia is the only town we pass through today before continuing through the countryside. Getting back to civilisation, you will be stunned when approaching Merida and its rich historical heritage.

Day

12

16.6 km

#### **MERIDA -> ALJUCEN**

You leave Merida by crossing over the river via a 2,000 year-old Roman bridge, from which there are beautiful views of the impressive Roman Aqueduct. Then, we head towards the Proserpina dam, which once was the biggest water reservoir in the Mediterranean Roman Empire. The red-earth landscape becomes hillier and there are also more oak trees to provide you with shelter from the sun. After a short day's walking, we reach Aljucen – from where we will be transferred back to our hotel in Merida.

Day

13

19.8 km

# **ALJUCEN -> ALCUESCAR**

After your transfer back to Aljucen., we soon enter the National Park of Cornalvo, a landscape of scrubland, red earth tracks, pasture, and oak trees. Then the farmlands alternate between cork trees, vines, olive trees, and grazing livestock until you reach the first and last village of the day: Alcuescar.

Day

14

15.2 km

# **ALCUESCAR -> ALDEA DEL CANO**

From Alcuescar, it is at first an easy and peaceful walk to Las Casas de Don Antonio and its well-restored Roman bridge. Later, we walk on the original Roman road as we pass by what is known as 'miliario' (Roman milestone) and cross one more Roman bridge before reaching Aldea del Cano.

Day

15

23 km

#### **ALDEA DEL CANO -> CACERES**

On this last day of this section, we leave Aldea del Cano and continue through the flat and dry lands of Extremadura. We later cross a long Roman arched bridge at the entrance to Valdesalor. It is then a hilly landscape with scattered shade all the way to Caceres and its old town, perched on top of a hill.

10.9 km

#### **CACERES -> CASAR DE CACERES**

Leaving Caceres, we spend the first few kilometres walking along a main road, with flat crop fields on both sides of the road but no shelter from the sun. Fortunately, this is a short walking day so you will have all afternoon to relax at your hotel in Casar de Caceres!

Day

17

32.5 km

#### **CASAR DE CACERES -> CANAVERAL**

Soon after Casar de Caceres, we find ourselves walking along wide dirt tracks, through a flat landscape with endless skies and views. Along the Camino, we will also come across many 'miliarios', stone posts remaining from the old Roman road, which the Via de la Plata follows.

Day 18

28.9 km

#### **CANAVERAL -> GALISTEO**

Today can be seen as challenging as this is a long walk and there is also a steep climb a few kilometres after leaving Canaveral. However, this is a very enjoyable walk as we spend most of the day walking through both woods and farmland, offering a diversity of scenery not always seen on the Via de la Plata route.

Day 19

12.8 km

#### **GALISTEO -> PLASENCIA**

We leave Galisteo by crossing the town's beautiful 14th Century bridge. It is then an easy stroll to Carcaboso, through a greener landscape than the rest of the region, thanks to several canals cutting through the area. Once you arrive in Carcaboso, we will arrange a short transfer to your hotel in the nearby town of Plasencia.

Day

20

24.9 km

#### PLASENCIA -> ZARZA DE GRANADILLA

In the morning we will arrange your transfer to Carcaboso. Carcaboso is a charming town historically linked to the Via de la Plata as it still has some 2,000 year-old 'miliarias' (Roman stone posts) intact. When leaving Carcaboso, we follow the Canal del Jerte before starting a long climb uphill. Then we start to see evidence of the Roman times from the panorama as we walk through the magnificently 2,000 year-old Arco de Caparra. We'll pick you up at the Roman city of Caparra to transfer you to your hotel in Zarza de Granadilla.

20.7 km

#### ZARZA DE GRANADILLA -> BANOS DE MONTEMAYOR

We will transfer you back to the Roman city of Caparra, which will be your starting point for this day's walk. Soon after we start, the landscape becomes more arid and we begin to see the Sierra de las Candelaria ahead in the distance: we are leaving the Extremadura basin behind us. We spend most of the day walking gently uphill until we reach Banos de Montemayor, where you will stay overnight. After the day spent walking, you can treat yourself to the magical Roman-inspired spa and thermal waters of the town!

Day

22

12.2 km

# BANOS DE MONTEMAYOR -> CALZADA DE BEJAR

Leaving Banos de Montemayor, we start with a steep climb up a series of hills, at the top of which we can enjoy beautiful views of Banos de Montemayor. Further on, we go downhill on a well-preserved stretch of the Roman road, lined with chestnut, beech, and oak trees. The last leg to Calzada de Bejar is uphill, offering open views to the beautiful valley of Rio Cuerpo.

Day

23

20.2 km

# CALZADA DE BEJAR -> FUENTERROBLE DE SALVATIERRA

Today, you will come across more 'miliarias' and paved road segments - mementos of ancient Roman times. The landscape still looks arid as we go further into this high tableland but it is easy to find shade from oak trees along the wall-lined tracks. At the end of the day, we will arrange a transfer to a hotel in Guijuelo.

Day

24

27.7 km

# **FUENTERROBLE DE SALVATIERRA -> SAN PEDRO DE ROZADOS**

After your transfer from the hotel back to Fuenterroble de Salvatierra, we continue our way through the high plateau and find ourselves walking most of the day on good tracks through the countryside. The main difficulty of the day is climbing the Duena Peak (an elevation of 1,140m) but it is worth it as there are good views of the Meseta from the top. Then, we walk down through oak woods and farmlands to reach San Pedro de Rozados.

Day

25

23.9 km

#### SAN PEDRO DE ROZADOS -> SALAMANCA

The last day of this section offers little shade but the open landscape and great views over the countryside will surely distract you and help you to enjoy this final walking day before you reach Salamanca, a lively city full of history.

14.6 km

#### **SALAMANCA -> CALZADA DE VALDUNCIEL**

Leaving Salamanca, we enter what is known as La Meseta, the long high plateau of Central Spain. Shade is almost non-existant today as the Camino runs through flat crop fields split by red earth tracks. We have split this leg of the journe into a shorter stage, so it enables you to walk in the cooler first half of the day! At the end of the day, we will arrange a transfer to a hotel in Forfoleda.

Day

27

19.3 km

#### CALZADA DE VALDUNCIEL -> EL CUBO DE LA TIERRA DEL VINO

After you are transferred back from your hotel to Calzada de Valdeunciel, you'll notice that today is quite similar to yesterday's walk: crop fields and red earth tracks are the predominant views.

Day

28

31.3 km

# **EL CUBO DE LA TIERRA DEL VINO -> ZAMORA**

After you are transferred back from your hotel to El Cubo del Vino, you are back into a rural area with views of crop fields and red earth tracks. Towards the end of the day you will finally arrive in Zamora, a pleasant city known as 'The Little Salamanca' due to its lively atmosphere for a place of its size and rich Byzantine and Roman history.

Day

29

18.6 km

#### **ZAMORA -> MONTAMARTA**

For the first walking day of this new section of the Silver Way, the Camino runs through typical Castilla y Leon landscape: red earth crop fields cut across by endless flat and wide tracks that seem inhabited only by storks. There is little shade along the way, but the reasonable length of the day gives us a chance to get to Montamarta before the heat hits its peak. At the end of the day we will arrange a short transfer back to Zamora.

Day 30

22 km

#### **MONTAMARTA -> GRANJA DE MORERUELA**

We will arrange your transfer from the hotel back to Montamarta. On this day, we walk through the same background of red earth tracks and crop fields as on the previous day. The only difference on this day being that we come across the Elsa and river several times.

25.1 km

#### **GRANJA DE MORERUELA -> TABARA**

Today the landscape is a little bit greener with more trees and shelter from the sun than the previous day but the route keeps its flat shape and crisscrossing red earth tracks. Overall, it is an easy and enjoyable stroll to the small town of Tabara.

Day 32

28 km

TABARA -> CAMARZANA DE TERA

Day

33

16 km

**CAMARZANA DE TERA -> VILLAR DE FARFON** 

Day

34

15 km

#### **VILLAR DE FARFON -> MONBUEY**

We will arrange your transfer from the hotel back to Villar de Farfon. The first few kilometres after Villar de Farfon are through the peaceful countryside, home of wild boars and even shy Iberian wolves! The vegetation then starts to change to scrub and bush lands and, as we approach Mombuey, we have great views of the Sierra de la Cabrera in the distance.

Day

35

31 km

#### **MONBUEY -> PUEBLA DE SANABRIA**

As we leave Mombuey, the Camino heads to more open countryside (even though there are still many poplar and oak trees to provide us with shade). When passing the village of San Salvador de Palazuelos, you can climb up the bell tower of Iglesia de Santiago to enjoy magnificent views over the surrounding landscape. We then cross Rio Tera one last time.

11.2 km

#### **PUEBLA DE SANABRIA -> REQUEJO**

For the first walking day of this new section, we start with a short and quiet stroll to Requejo. When leaving Puebla de Sanabria, we cross over the Rio Castro. Later on we start to climb gradually onto natural paths through pine and oak woods, passing by the Romanesque Iglesia de Santiago de Terroso. Then there are some great views of the mountains before you reach Requejo. At the end of the day we will arrange a short transfer to your hotel in Puebla de Sanabria.

Day

37

18.4 km

#### **REQUEJO -> LUBIAN**

In the morning, we will arrange a transfer from your hotel back to Requejo. As soon as you leave Requejo, you will feel the transition into Galicia even though you will only enter it the following day. Indeed, the peace of the countryside and the lovely route through oaks and brackens will undoubtedly bewitch you, even though the rocky and sometimes muddy paths can sometimes make this up- and downhill walk a little challenging.

Day 38

31.4 km

#### **LUBIAN -> A GUDINA**

Soon after leaving Lubian, you reach the Baroque church of Santuario de la Virgen de la Tuiza. Then, it is a challenging day as the Camino undulates through wood and farm lands with steep ups and downs all day long. It also runs through charming villages and offers a beautiful last stretch of walk before entering A Gudina.

Day 39

19.6 km

#### A GUDINA -> CAMPOBECERROS

When leaving A Gudina, we follow the wonderful scenic route that leads us to Campobecerros. We will also pass through remote Galician hamlets, often offering magnificent views over the mountains, such as Venda Teresa or Venda Capela. This is not an easy stage, but the views you get during the day are among the most enjoyable of the whole Via de la Plata. One of the highlights of the day is probably when the Camino overlooks the Las Portas Ddam, and soon after it, a steep descent brings you down to Campobecerros. From here, its just a short transfer to your hotel.

Day 40

14.7 km

#### **CAMPOBECERROS -> LAZA**

We will arrange your transfer back from your hotel to Campobecerros. As you go up and down through the Galician mountains, once again the Via de la Plata route will surprise you with great views, passing through pretty hamlets such as Portocomba or the gorgeous As Eiras. Then, a shady paved road leads you down to Laza, offering spectacular views over the valley and the surrounding mountains. We will arrange a transfer from Laza to your hotel.

41

19.3 km

#### LAZA -> VILAR DE BARRIO

We will arrange the short transfer from your hotel back to Laza. The first few kilometres after Laza run through the valley, passing through Soutelo Verde and past its old church. Then, it is a long climb up through low pines and heather, until you reach Albergueria and its incredible stone balconies. Then you will start a gentle walk down on the other side of the mountain (much flatter, greener, and more populated) before reaching Vila de Barrio, a village located on a large plain at the foot of the mountains. From here, you will be transferred to your hotel.

Day

42

13.9 km

# **VILAR DE BARRIO -> XUNQUEIRA DE AMBIA**

We will arrange the short transfer from your hotel back to Vila de Barrio. Today, we leave the mountains behind us and spend the day walking through the plain, which has more farmlands and modern villages than those seen up in the mountains. From Bobadela, the scenery alternates between oak woods and open landscapes before we arrive in Xunqueira de Ambia with its 12th Century monastery.

Day 43

21.5 km

# **XUNQUEIRA DE AMBIA -> OURENSE**

When leaving Xunqueira de Ambia, we also leave the quietness of the isolated mountains behind. Indeed, as we walk towards Ourense, we come across many hamlets that merge one into another and as the Camino mostly follows the main national road, we also walk through a few industrial areas before reaching the final destination of this section: Ourense.

Day

44

35.4 km

#### **OURENSE -> CASARELLOS**

As we leave Ourense by crossing the Puente Viejo, we use a 12th Century bridge over Rio Mino. Then we follow a main road for a few kilometres, keeping the river to our right. After Cachaxuas, we start one of the steepest uphill parts of this section but there are some great views all along the climb up. We then continue along natural shady paths through the countryside, walking through the village of Cea before getting to Monasterio de Oseira. We will arrange the sShort transfer to your beautiful 'casa rural' in Casarellos.

Day

45

18.2 km

#### **CASARELLOS -> ESTACION DE LALIN**

In the morning, we arrange the transfer back to Monasterio de Oseira. We start the day with a climb to the top of a hill where the views over the agricultural valleys are a nice reward. Then, the Camino runs up and down through farmlands, passing through hamlets such as Gouxa or Vidueiro.

However, after Castro Dorzon, it meets up several times with the busy N-525 road over a couple of kilometres. We will then be back to the countryside to reach Estacion de Lalin.

Day

46

14.9 km

#### **ESTACION DE LALIN -> SILLEDA**

Today is a short stage made up of mainly gentle ups-and-downs through farmland, woodland, and small villages. As we leave Estacion de Lalin, we start the day by a climb to Botos and we then continue to walk through several other villages. At the end of the walk we enter Silleda, a modern town with all the facilities you should need.

Day

47

19.4 km

# **SILLEDA -> PONTE ULLA**

This day first starts with an easy stroll towards Bandeira, a town well-known for its empanadas (Galician pasties). As the day goes on, the Camino continues downhill through farmlands and villages. Just before descending to Ponte Ulla, the old castle is worth a visit. In Ponte Ulla, have a closer look at the Iglesia de Santa Maria de Magdalena and its very detailed Romanesque facade.

Day

48

20.1 km

#### **PONTE ULLA -> SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**

Today is special, not only because it is the last day of this section, but also because it is the finishing line of the whole Camino Mozárabe route! As you leave Ponte Ulla, we first walk up towards Pico Sacro with its Ermita de San Sebastian and wonderful scenic views. The last kilometres to Santiago reflect the rural atmosphere of Galicia and it is sometimes difficult to believe you are so close to such an attractive city. Finally you reach Santiago De Compostela and its world-famous cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Day

49

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!

