

Via Francigena from Besançon to Lausanne



**Follow
the
Camino**

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



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 7 of 16

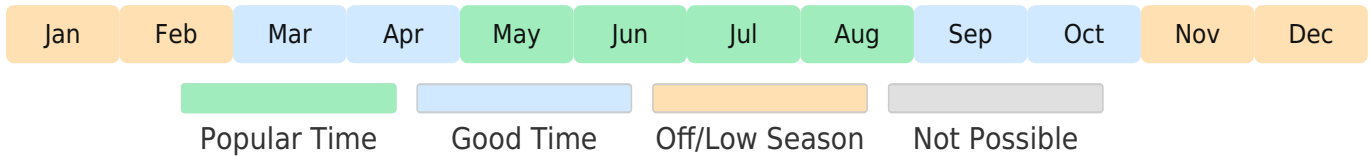
 120.3km

 9 days

 Comfort

 Easy

Starting from
€1508



Overall

Distance:

20.4 min | **24.1km** average | **27.6 max**

Ascent:

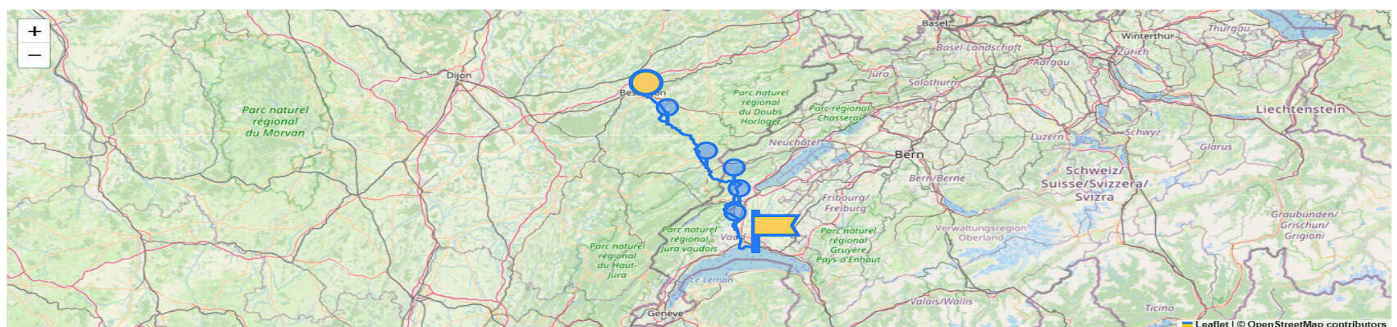
299.1 min | **569.4m** average | **810.2 max**

Cardio:

3 3.4 4

Passing from France to Switzerland, this section of the Via Francigena will take you through Alpine villages and towns, where you will also have the opportunity to sample local wines and food typical of this mountainous region. Since this is a very scenic route, there are numerous photographic opportunities for everyone.

Map



Services

Included in this package

- ✓ Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ Specially Hand-Picked Accommodation
- ✓ Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack
- ✓ 24/7 On-Call Support
- ✓ Virtual Face-to-Face Pre-Departure Briefing

Add-On

- ⊕ Premium Accommodation
- ⊕ Airport Pick-Up
- ⊕ 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

BESANCON

Arrive into Besançon. This ancient city is one of the best-preserved cities in France and has many tourist attractions such as the Citadel, the local museums, or even just wandering around the city itself. While here, take the opportunity to sample the locally produced Comté cheese and the Saucisse de Morteau (a type of smoked sausage). Wash it down with some 'vin jaune', the most renowned wine from this region.

Day
2
27.6 km

BESANCON -> ORNANS

From Besançon you will leave the city and climb over the wooded ridge. At the top of this ridge, you can take a short detour to visit the Notre-Dame de la Libération monument which has some spectacular views over the region on a clear day. Descending from the ridge, you will traverse farmland and woods over rolling hills with welcoming villages along the way to La Veze. This is a lovely place to stop for a break before heading on to Tarcenay and then your destination for today, Ornans. The town of Ornans is perched on the river La Loue.

Day
3
km

ORNANS -> MOUTIER-HAUTE- PIERRE

Walk along the valley floor, today you will be following the river La Loue to the village of Vuillafans. From this village, you will be walking on a country track on the side of the hill, meandering your way around to the village of Lods. Lods is officially classified as one of Les Plus Beaux Villages de France (the most beautiful villages of France). With its petite tumbling waterfalls and old stone cottages, this quiet village is a must for a break. After, you will wind along the valley floor until you arrive at your stop for the night, Mouthier-Haute-Pierre. Nestled at the foot of the steep cliffs of Haute-Pierre, the scenery surrounding this picturesque village is beautiful. Here you can sample local produce, such as the renowned Kirsch.

Day
4
km

MOUTIER-HAUTE- PIERRE -> PONTARLIER

From Mouthier-Haute-Pierre you have two options: a shorter route following the road to the village of Ouhans or the more scenic route, which is slightly longer but takes you past the source of the Loue River. There is a visitor centre here worth a visit. Arriving into Ouhans, you will wind over forested hills and through fields before coming to your destination for today, Pontarlier. This ancient town has many attractions and is the last town in France before you cross over into Switzerland. Famous for its absinthe production until it was banned in 1915, it produces this drink on a smaller scale since the repeal of the ban in the 1990s. Les Misérables fans will recognise the name of this town as where Jean Valjean was to report for his parole.

Day

5

21.2 km

PONTARLIER -> SAINTE CROIX

Leaving Pontarlier flanked by forested hills, you will pass through a small collection of hamlets where you can stop for a picnic or early morning break. Drink in the breathtaking view of mountains and valleys and the imposing 1,000-year-old castle, Château de Joux. After walking along the valley floor for a while, you will climb up a forested hillside to the village of Les Fourgs, before crossing the border into Switzerland. In Switzerland, you will follow the Grand Rue before ascending one final wooded ridge to arrive at Sainte Croix, your stop for the night. With panoramic views of the Alps, this Swiss town is the home of Dream Makers, the craftsmen who create music boxes and to which a museum is dedicated.

Day

6

20.4 km

SAINTE CROIX -> ORBE

Starting in the charming mountain town of Sainte-Croix, the trail winds down through lush forests and scenic valleys, offering breathtaking views of the Jura mountains. As you descend, the path takes you past traditional Swiss villages and serene countryside, leading to the historic town of Orbe. Along the way, you'll encounter ancient Roman ruins, vineyards, and stunning panoramas.

Day

7

25.3 km

ORBE -> COSSONAY

From Orbe, the walk undulates over large open crop fields and through small alpine towns and villages. Many buildings here look like they are straight out of a fairytale book. Your stop for tonight will be Cossonay. Here, you can wander around the town and enjoy some local cuisine in one of the many café's or restaurants. Be sure to visit the picturesque Church of St Pierre and St Paul.

Day

8

25.9 km

COSSONAY -> LAUSANNE

Starting from Cossonay, enjoy the countryside and small villages as you walk down towards the outer suburbs of Lausanne. The walk continues through the urban areas leading into Lausanne. This French-speaking city has many cultural attractions such as a beautiful Gothic Cathedral and the Château Saint-Maire. For those with a head for heights they can climb the Sauvabelin Tower for a 360° panoramic view over the city and surrounding area.

Day

9

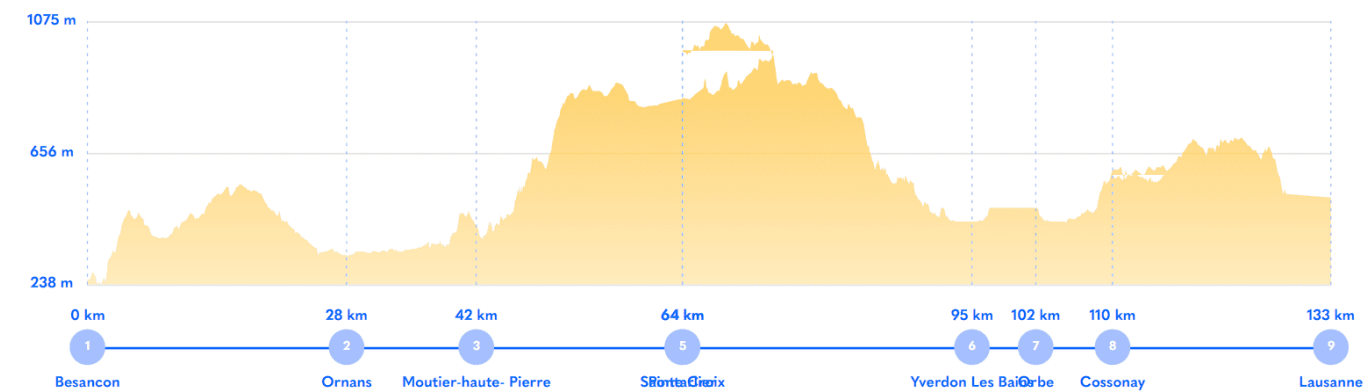
km

LAUSANNE

After breakfast, we bid you farewell. This French-speaking city has many cultural attractions such as a beautiful Gothic Cathedral and the Château Saint-Maire. A walk around this city will provide many opportunities for budding photographers to capture not only the architecture of the city but

also the panoramic views over the lake. Lausanne is also home to the Olympic Committee and also has an Olympic Museum.

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 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 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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