

# Via Francigena from Canterbury to Wisques



**Follow  
the  
Camino**

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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 1 of 16

 139.5km

 8 days

 Comfort

 Easy

Starting from  
**€1015**

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Popular Time

Good Time

Off/Low Season

Not Possible

Overall

Distance:

**10.1 min** | **23.2km** average | **48.5 max**

Ascent:

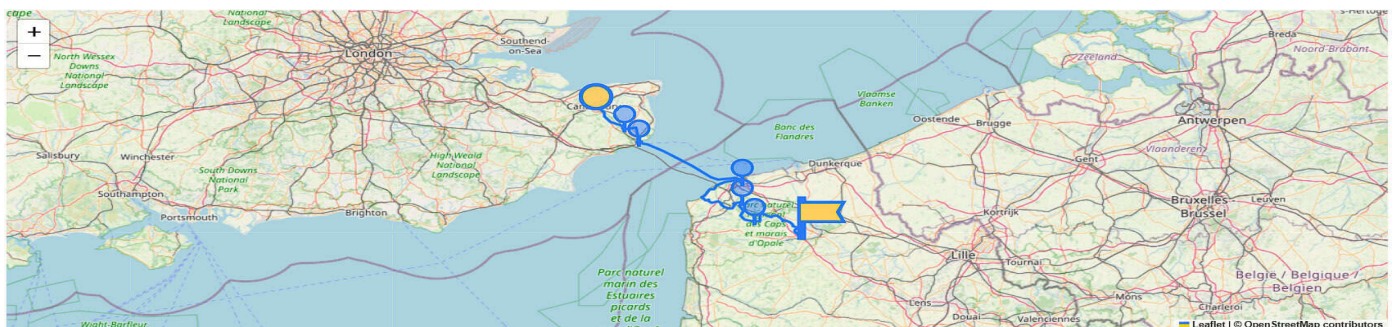
**63.5 min** | **228.8m** average | **603.7 max**

Cardio:

**1 2.5 4**

The first section of the Via Francigena consists of walking through the countryside and passing quiet villages. During this section, experience the quintessentially English south-east coast of England and the north-western coast and charming countryside of France. You cross on the ferry from Dover to Calais, a unique experience for pilgrimage routes in Europe.

## 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

### **CANTERBURY**

Canterbury is a popular tourist destination in England due to its historic cathedral set in the centre of this hallowed mediaeval town. Canterbury has also been an important place of pilgrimage for centuries. This importance goes beyond those heading on to Rome and merely passing through but also for those visiting the shrine of Thomas Becket, who was martyred in the Cathedral in 1170. In the cathedral, you can receive a pilgrim's blessing and stamp for your Pilgrim Passport; simply inquire at the Welcome Office.

Day  
2  
17.5 km

### **CANTERBURY -> SHEPHERDSWELL**

Leaving Canterbury, you will follow the North Downs Way through the English countryside. You will visit the small quintessentially English hamlets of Patricbourne and Womenswold, before coming to your stop for the night, Shepherdswell. Canterbury is the only place you will pass today with a shop, so we would advise having provisions for this short day's walk. Shepherdswell has an excellent village pub where you will be able to experience the charm of small-town England.

Day  
3  
10.1 km

### **SHEPHERDSWELL -> DOVER**

Leaving Shepherdswell you will make your way to the coast and Dover, your last stop in England. Your walk today is through the English countryside and woodlands, and you will pass by Waldershare House, set in sweeping green hillside, before heading onto Ashley. After Ashley, you will head south, reaching Charlton Cemetery on the outskirts of Dover before following the road down into town. As with yesterday, there are no places to stock up on provisions along this section, so it would be best to have some drinks and snacks to keep you going till you get to Dover. In Dover, you can visit the castle or even see the White Cliffs.

Day  
4  
48.5 km

### **DOVER -> CALAIS**

Today, you will take the ferry from Dover to Calais, covering 34 km (21 nautical miles) across the English Channel—this distance should be deducted from your walking route. The crossing takes approximately 1.5 hours. Upon arrival in Calais, take the opportunity to visit the Town Hall, with its 74m-high belfry offering breathtaking views, and admire Rodin's famous bronze statue, *Les Bourgeois de Calais*, a tribute to the city's rich history.

Day  
5  
12.7 km

### **CALAIS -> GUINES**

Today's walk will be a short one following the Canal de Calais to Guines. This is a scenic route through typical French countryside, following the path of the canal the entire way. An alternative option is available if you want to

add an extra day of walking here. Instead of going directly to Guines you can walk along the coast to Wissant (a detour of 21 km). Then the following day you can walk east across to Guines (a total of 15 km).

Day  
6

15.7 km

### GUINES -> LICQUES

Today's walk from Guînes is a gentle uphill and through the countryside, woodlands, gravel paths, and small country lanes. Passing small farmhouses, you will be able to appreciate the tranquillity of this area while surrounded by sweeping views of grassy fields with forests in the distance. Ending the day, you will descend into the farming village of Licques, which will be visible for some distance before you arrive. From here, you will be collected and taken to your accommodation for the night in the nearby Tournehem Sur La Hem.

Day  
7

34.9 km

### LICQUES -> WISQUES

You will be transferred from Tournehem Sur La Hem back to Licques this morning. Leaving Licques, you will walk through undulating countryside and villages such as Alquines, Bouvelinghem, and Acquin-Westbécourt. Take a break here to visit the cafés and bars for a welcome bite to eat. Passing through the last village before your walk finishes, Leulinghem, you will step into open countryside with panoramic views in all directions. Finally, you will wind your way down into the village of Wisques, which has two Benedictine abbeys.

Day  
8

km

### WISQUES

After breakfast, we bid you farewell. The Benedictine abbeys in Wisques are well worth visiting, as is a 'Grand Château' in the town dating from the 14th Century. Otherwise, you can simply rest and reflect on your amazing trip.

## 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:

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

## ABOUT US

At Follow the Camino, we are 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](mailto: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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