

Portugal-Spain – Cycling the Portuguese Coastal Way of St. James (2024-2025) 9 Days / 8 Nights Individual Self-Guided



Gorgeous green countryside, traditional villages and historical towns!

Cycling the Portuguese Coastal Camino to St. James (Santiago) is a sensational and unforgettable adventure. It's an invitation to discover the Atlantic's sandy beaches, ancient customs and welcoming people. From plateaus to mountains, from fields to coasts, monumental sites, works of art in the way of cathedrals, bridges, roads and monasteries, the route is full of pleasant surprises. The Coastal Way to Santiago is a route habitually taken by pilgrims coming from Portugal and by those choosing to cross the Miño River through A Guarda. The route, which heads northwards very close to the riverbanks, connects to the classic route that comes from Tui in Redondela.



Day By Day

Day 1- Arrival in Porto

Free day in Oporto.

Day 2 Porto-Vila Conde (35km / 21 Miles – 3/4 hours)

Follow the coastline on wooden boardwalks and pavements where you'll encounter a series of wide sandy beaches and local fishermen at work before you reach the historical seaside town of Vila do Conde.

Day 3 - Vila do Conde - Viana do Castelo 49km / 30,3 Miles - 5/6 hours)

Cut through the urban areas between Vila do Conde and the coastal resort town of Povoa de Varzim. Then cycle beside the coast and across beaches before heading inland through market gardens, woodland and villages. Admire the views as you cross the Cávado River to enter Esposende. This day offers a series of villages interspersed with delightful patches of forest and rivers with views of distant mountain ranges. The Eiffel bridge over the Lima River offers spectacular views along the valley and estuary and the attractive historical and contemporary architecture of Viana do Castelo.



Day 4 - Viana do Castelo – Oia (46 km / 28,5 Miles – 5/6 hours)

Leaving Viana do Castelo tere's a steady climb up one mostly forested hill before the descent to the seaside town of Vila Praia de Âncora.Follow the coastal path between Âncora and Moledo and then continue to the pretty town of Caminha. A short, scenic ferry journey takes you across the Minho River to the fishing town of A Guarda in Spain. Then follow the Way along coastal pathways, forest tracks and tarmac roads to the small but attractive beachfront village of Oia with its 12th century monastery.



Day 5 - Oia - Vigo (43 km / 26,7 Miles - 4/5 hours)

Continue cycling through a rural coastal landscape of small fields, scattered houses and a few villages then cut across the mountains towards Baiona. This rugged uphill section offers a change of scenery and terrain before the final descent into the pretty resort town of Baiona. The residential outskirts of Baiona gradually lead to more rural terrain and scattered villages interspersed with patches of woodland. A stint on a busy road ends with another series of villages before you reach Vigo where you'll cut through Castrelos Park to skirt around the edge of the city.



Day 6 -Vigo – Pontevedra (34 km / 21,1 Miles – 3/4 hours)

Leave Vigo via its main shopping street and follow one long road through a string of quiet hillside villages. After several kilometres you'll swap houses for trees and views of floating mussel farms, the Cíes islands and the city and port of Vigo before the descent into the town of Redondela. Cycle uphill through a forest then down to the riverside town of Arcade, renowned for its oysters. Ancient stone paths lead up through the woods and a scenic detour takes you along the River Tomeza. Pontevedra's historical city centre is a maze of atmospheric squares filled with tapas bars.

Day 7 - Pontevedra – Padron (41 km / 25,5 Miles – 4/5 hours)

Although fairly long, the journey to Padron is not difficult and is mostly through pleasant countryside including an attractive section of woodland. Bathe your feet in one of Caldas de Reis' thermal springs and continue for a gentle climb through a series of hamlets and the charming woodlands of Valga. You'll see several attractive churches and stone crosses on the way to Padrón, where St. James is originally said to have been buried.





Day 8 - Padron - Santiago (25 km / 15,5 Miles - 2/3 hours)

Leave Padron for the final stage of your Camino. Pass through a series of Galician villages and the magnificent sanctuary of Nossa Señora da Escravitute. After a delightful wooded area you'll begin to wend your way through the outskirts of Santiago and into the city centre. Enter the medieval streets that lead to Santiago Cathedral where your journey ends.

Day 9 – Departure





Route



Moderate 272 km total distance

Departure dates March 1 to October 31

- The Coastal Camino de Santiago by bicycle programme generally uses the same route that pilgrims follow on foot and there is no specific cycle route. The route is a combination of rural paths (asphalt, cobblestones or dirt), forest trails (dirt or gravel, uneven and sometimes rocky), secondary roads and some main roads (both on asphalt).
- Along the journey you may sometimes encounter some steep climbs and descents, so good advance physical preparation is necessary in order to do this trip.
- It is essential that clients have experience with mountain bikes and basic bicycle repair knowledge, especially how to change a tire as punctures may occur during the Camino.



Prices

Prices per person- all prices subject to confirmation on booking

Low season: March, April, May and October -In double room occupancy: 1090 euros -Single room supplement: 370 euros Mid season: June and September -In double room occupancy: 1140 euros -Single room supplement: 400 euros High season: July and August -In double room occupancy:1190 euros -Single room supplement: 450 euros Supplements

E-Bike upgrade: 220 euros

Extra nights in Porto or Santiago -on request

Airport and return transfers -on request

Included

- 8 Nights of accommodation with breakfast; 3*** hotels except night 4 which is 2**
- 7 Days MTB bike rental (MTB TREK Marlin 6 with 29" wheels + panniers + helmet)
- Luggage transfer between hotels (1 bag per person Max.15kg/bag)
- 24 hour emergency support
- Pilgrim Kit: Passport (Credencial) and shell (Vieira);
- Road book of the way with tips and information (in English).

Not Included

- Arrival & departure transfers
- Meals (where not listed as included in the itinerary)
- Optional additional tours or activities during free time
- Tips and items of a personal nature.

Assisting people in realizing their touring dreams worldwide is our passion.



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